

LTG Mixon
Closing Remarks
Pacific Armies Management Seminar XXXIII
28 August 2009

LTG Morotomi, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to congratulate and thank you for your contribution to the 33rd Pacific Armies Management Seminar. I sincerely appreciate your participation in this enriching event and value this opportunity to develop our strong partnerships.

Throughout the past week, we carefully considered the experiences and opinions of others in an effort to develop solutions to limit the impact of natural and human induced disasters. Our guest speakers made presentations that facilitated serious discussions based on lessons learned and personal experiences. We renewed friendships and forged lasting relationships with our partner armies across the Pacific. What we accomplished here this week will no doubt reap dividends well into the future as we continue to face the array of challenges associated with multinational cooperation in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations.

I would also like to especially thank all those who contributed to the success of this event, the professionals of the Japan Ground Self Defense Force led by LTG Morotomi, COL Kudo, and an outstanding team of dedicated professionals. This event surpassed all expectations.

I also appreciated our shared occasions to enjoy the culture and splendor of Tokyo. It is truly a wonderful city. Rhonda and I look forward to our return visit in December.

As we look ahead, we must work together to implement many of the ideas discussed throughout the seminar. PAMS will continue to be an important forum for the leaders of Pacific armies to exchange views, ideas, and establish and cultivate strong interpersonal relationships in the interest of preserving the security, stability, and freedom upon which enduring prosperity in the Asia Pacific Region depends. I look forward to future opportunities to collectively address the challenges of the 21st century.

I wish you a safe and pleasant journey home and I look forward to seeing you in Chile.

Thank You.