

February 22, 2010

Toshinori Narahara, Mayor of the City of Kurume

Dear Mayor Narahara,

I would presume you have been very committed to your work for the city.

Recently I have heard that PAC3, the ground-based interceptor system is soon to be deployed in the City of Kurume.

It is well known that PAC3 is part of the so-called Missile Defense system, operated along with SM3 on the Aegis-outfitted destroyers.

That is, PAC3 is part of what constitutes, in the excuse of 'defense', a system of waging war from space, all of which used to be called 'Star Wars'.

This kind of space militarization will never contribute to peace, and also it runs counter to the spirit of the Article 9 in our Constitution. From my standpoint with which I am opposed as a scientist to the utilization of science and space technology for military purposes, I am gravely concerned about this situation.

I would like to ask you from the bottom of my heart for the full and deliberate consideration on accepting this scheduled deployment in the light of your responsibility as mayor for protecting the safety of the citizens.

Sincerely yours,

Toshihide Maskawa
Prof.of Physics
Kyoto Sangyo University