



2017

**JAPAN MISSILE
DEFENDER *of the* YEAR
AWARD CEREMONY**

*February 9, 2017
Tokyo, Japan*



SEQUENCE OF EVENTS
JAPAN MISSILE DEFENDER OF THE YEAR

Welcome Drink

Call to Order and National Anthems (Japan & United States)

Welcoming Remarks by Riki Ellison

Introduction of Guest Speaker Lt Gen Maehara

Introduction of Guest Speaker MG Pasqualette

Presentation of Awards

Group Photo on the Stage

Social Time

Closing Remarks by Riki Ellison

AWARD HISTORY



Japan Missile Defender of the Year Award

January 14, 2011 marked the inaugural Defender of the Year Award Ceremony, recognizing and honoring members of our military who command fully operational and deployed missile defense systems. Each year the award is given to a United States Armed Forces service member from each branch that currently deploys a U.S. missile defense system for their outstanding work in the previous year. These select individuals represent the best in leadership and personal effort, demonstrating their commitment to excellence and their critical role in missile defense. They are an inspiration to their subordinates, peers, and superiors.

The purpose of this award is to recognize exceptional individuals and their role in defending our homeland, armed forces, and allies. Recognizing them helps to educate the American public and inspire those they work with to defend our nation.

The Defenders of the Year are selected by their peers and commanding officers from the United States Army, United States Navy, United States Air Force, and the United States National Guard.

We want to thank all those who have supported MDAA for over a decade to fulfill its mission to educate the American public on the need for our nation to develop and deploy missile defense.

ABOUT MDAA



The Missile Defense Advocacy Alliance

MDAA's mission is to make the world safer by advocating for the development and deployment of missile defense systems to defend the United States, its armed forces, and its allies against missile threats.

MDAA is the only organization in existence whose primary mission is to educate the American public about missile defense issues and to recruit, organize, and mobilize citizens to advocate for the critical need of missile defense. We are a non-profit organization that does not advocate on behalf of any specific system, technology, architecture, or entity.

MDAA was founded by Riki Ellison in 2002 to generate public support through education for the continued testing, development, and deployment of missile defense systems.

JAPAN



**Lieutenant Colonel
Ri Harada**



**Lieutenant Commander
Makoto Miyake**



**First Lieutenant
Taichi Kuramochi**

UNITED STATES

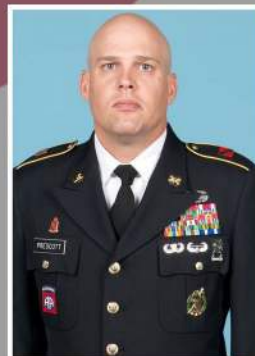
**Lieutenant Colonel
Karen Carmichael**



**Lieutenant
Anthony MelendezDiaz**



**Master Sergeant
Lester Prescott**



UNITED STATES

**Sergeant First Class
Michael Perry**

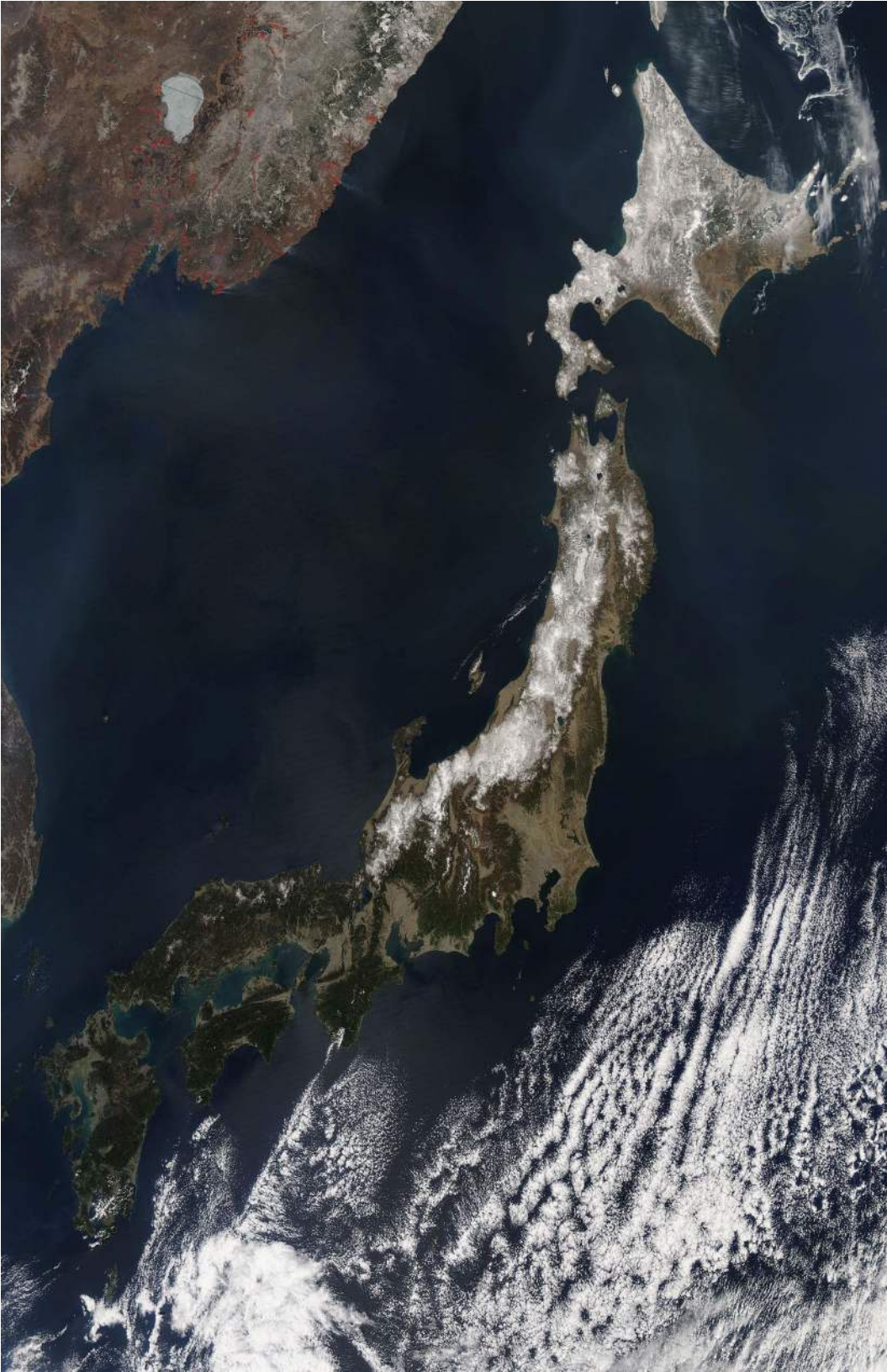


**Specialist
Arjun Sharma**



**Fire Controlman First Class
Carl Morinville**





A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU

To the Japanese Ministry of Defense and the United States
Department of Defense

