

Guards shoot one White House intruder, nab other 2A

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## Japanese tour Bay counties

From staff and wire reports

**EASTON** — A Japanese government official said yesterday that he will encourage Japanese business leaders to consider the Eastern Shore for future expansion.

Takeshi Nakamura, deputy general of the Japanese consulate, said he would return to New York today and "try to encourage Japanese business leaders to come here and see Chesapeake Country. I'd hope there'd be a follow-up among Japanese business people."

Nakamura's comments came after a day in which representatives from Chesapeake Country, the regional development consortium, flew a delegation of eight Japanese officials over and around development sites in six Eastern Shore counties. The delegation is expected to tour Annapolis this morning before returning to New York in the afternoon.

Chesapeake Country hosted the three-day visit in the hope that Japanese business can help spur economic development in an area with some of the worst unemployment in Maryland.

Nakamura made no promises that any new Japanese businesses would join the 24 already located in Maryland. He said he would recommend that Japanese business leaders visit the Shore to see it for themselves.

"The conditions are very favorable for the Japanese businessmen to invest in this region," he told reporters after a seafood reception at the Tidewater Inn last night. He said the Shore has land, favorable weather, water and "well-qualified and good workers."

He warned against expectations of any immediate Japanese expansion, however, saying it can take

three years for a business to decide on expanding in the U.S.

"We'd advise the Chesapeake Country people to be patient," he said. Japanese business take time to make such decisions, "but when they decide they move very quickly."

More than 100 area business leaders and elected officials, including 1st District Rep. Roy Dyson and Frank DeFrancis, Maryland's new secretary of economic and community development, attended the reception. They listened as James C. Perkins, Chesapeake Country's president, spoke Japanese (with an accent the Japanese described as "French") and presented to Nakamura a citation naming him an "honorary member of the loyal order of watermen, crab pickers and oyster shuckers."

Dyson said Japan and the U.S. were entering an "unprecedented era of good feeling. DeFrancis offered Japanese businesses the state's help in making "a positive decision about coming to Chesapeake Country."

"You've seen the best that Maryland has to offer when you've seen the Chesapeake Country," DeFrancis said.

Nakamura said there are more possibilities for businesses to locate in the region than on the western shore.

"There is enough land and space and there is highly qualified manpower eager to work on the Shore, rather than relocate to Washington or Baltimore," he said.

The Shore's major drawing card is its seafood industry and agriculture, he said, adding he would also like to see Japanese businesses introduce new technologies to the region.



Larry Miles, right, a Royal Oak man revered in Japan for his theories, is seen with Moriga, Japan's vice consul in New York, during a reception held at the Tidewater Inn last night. Moriga, other Japanese dignitaries and business leaders were present to discuss business possibilities.