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US Secretary of State Reaffirms strength of US – Japan alliance



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Tokyo, January 07 (QNA) – US Secretary of State Antony Blinken today reaffirmed the strength of the US – Japan alliance, despite recent tension over President Biden’s decision to block Nippon Steel’s acquisition of US Steel.

In remarks following a meeting with his Japanese counterpart, Iwaya Takeshi, Blinken explained that his visit to Tokyo not only shows the importance and centrality that the US attaches to the alliance, indicating that the alliance remains stronger than ever.

He stressed the need for coordination in addressing the threats posed by North Korea, which launched a ballistic missile toward the Sea of Japan on Monday while Blinken was in Seoul.

Blinken, who will be replaced by Marco Rubio upon the inauguration of President-elect Donald Trump on January 20, also pointed to the strength of US – Japan economic relations, although he did not address the dispute regarding US Steel.