

# Press Releases: Kiribati National Day

Press Statement  
Michael R. Pompeo

Secretary of State

Washington, DC  
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On behalf of the Government of the United States of America, please accept my best wishes as you and the people of Kiribati celebrate your National Day.

The United States and the Republic of Kiribati share a close partnership based on mutual respect and common interests. Later this year our citizens will come together to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Tarawa, a pivotal event in the history of both our nations. I appreciate the warm cooperation from the government and people of Kiribati in repatriating the remains of U.S. Marines fallen in that Battle. I likewise look forward to deepening the strong relationship between us as we work together to achieve our shared goals, including the protection of a free and open Indo-Pacific, for many more years to come.

I offer my congratulations on the occasion of your Independence Day and wish the people of Kiribati a joyous and prosperous year.

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