

OPERATIONAL MEMORANDUM NO. 376

2 September 1955

*NO duplicate no.*

SIP 10/2/55

NO : [ ]  
ATTN : [ ]  
FROM : Chief of [ ]  
SUBJECT: Future Disposition of STRAW-1

1. At the suggestion of China Base, [ ] discussed with STRAW-1 the possibility of the latter and his family being sent to the United States for a period of study and training. STRAW-1's initial reaction was one of excited acceptance; however, when the agent was told that he might have to retain his Chinese identity in order to qualify as a stateless person under the terms of the Refugee Relief Act (Public Law 203) STRAW-1's attitude underwent an immediate change. STRAW-1 stated that he would like to drop his present Chinese identity and to resume his true Japanese name. STRAW-1 declared that he wanted to go to the United States very much and he would be willing to do almost anything to see his dream fulfilled; however, the agent made it clear that he was not anxious to continue living his present Chinese identity. The case officer explained the many reasons why it would be necessary for the agent to be documented as a Chinese but all to no avail. STRAW-1 countered the case officer's arguments by explaining how impossible it was for him to force a Chinese name onto his wife and children and how he personally wished to again live under a Japanese name. The case officer had the opinion that the agent is determined to resume his Japanese identity wherever he might end up, either in Japan or the United States.

2. At a second meeting with the agent STRAW-1 asked the case officer if he had considered his position regarding his desire to regain his former identity. The case officer stated that he could not see any way to avoid the necessity of STRAW-1 keeping his Chinese identity. STRAW-1 then proposed a very complicated plan involving his being married under true name in Japan. There is no need to review STRAW-1's suggested plan in this paper in that the plan itself and the manner of implementation are set through with security risks. This plan of STRAW-1's did bring several questions to the case officer's mind. Mainly, would it be possible to have STRAW-1 surfaced in Okinawa and documented as an Okinawan of Japanese ancestry after which he could be sent to the United States under the sponsorship of some US citizen or educational institution? This plan was discussed to some extent in FCMA-996, dated 1 July 1954, paragraph five, and at that time the [ ] seemed to think that such a plan could be implemented.

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This suggested plan is herein revived in that it is this detachment's opinion that STERN-1 will not agree to being sent to the United States as a witness, and if the [ ] could see its way clear to reconsider this plan it would allow STERN-1 to regain his long lost Japanese identity and still have the basic objective of sending the agent to United States accomplished. It is also our opinion that allowing STERN-1 to regain his true identity will make the future handling of the case much easier, this obstacle having been removed.

3. It is requested that this detachment be advised of [ ] decision in order that that decision can be used as guidance in the future handling of STERN-1.

[ ]

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