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TRANSLATIONS ON JAPAN
(FOUO 16/79)

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POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL

JAPAN DEFENSE AGENCY CHIEF WANTS U.S. CARRIERS NEAR JAPAN

Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHINBUN in Japanese 22 Apr 79 morning edition p 2 OW

[Excerpts] When Defense Agency Director General Yamashita visits the United States for talks with U.S. Defense Secretary Brown, he plans to request that two aircraft carriers of the U.S. 7th Fleet continue to be stationed in and around Japan. This was disclosed by a Defense Agency source on 21 April. The reason for making that request is that:

1. The Soviet Union's second Kiev-class aircraft carrier "Minsk" will be deployed to the Far East in the near future, drastically reinforcing the Soviet Pacific fleet.
2. The United States has dispatched the 7th Fleet's aircraft carriers to the Middle East and the Indian Ocean in a striking demonstration of the importance it attaches to the Middle East. As a result, the balance of naval power between the United States and the Soviet Union around Japan is crumbling.

When chairman of the Joint Staff Council Takashina and chief of the Ground Staff Nagano visit the United States respectively in May and June, they will make a similar request to top U.S. military officials.

It is the opinion of the Defense Agency that "the Middle East, the main source of oil supply for Japan, is also important to Japan, and that it is quite natural for the United States to deploy its aircraft carriers to the Indian Ocean." Nevertheless, it fears that if the stationing of the 7th Fleet's aircraft carriers in the Indian Ocean becomes permanent, the defense of the western Pacific will become that much weaker. For this reason, Defense Agency Director Yamashita will ask the United States:

1. To station two U.S. aircraft carriers in the western Pacific on a permanent basis as before;
2. To dispatch aircraft carriers from a fleet other than the 7th Fleet to the Indian Ocean for permanent stationing.

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U.S. OCCUPATION OF OKINAWA PROPOSED BY EMPEROR

Tokyo JPS in English 0911 GMT 28 Apr 79 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 28 Apr (JPS)--In a message to the United States in September 1947, the emperor of Japan requested that Okinawa be placed under a long-term military occupation by the United States. Kamejiro Senaga, Japanese Communist Party Presidium vice chairman, made a statement on this issue, disclosing the contents of the message in detail.

By a letter and related documents preserved in the U.S. National Archives, the message was identified as the one transmitted by the Japanese Emperor. The letter was signed by W. J. Sebald, the then U.S. political advisor for Japan, and was addressed to the U.S. Department of State. The copies of these documents were presented to the lower house standing committee and cabinet by the Foreign Ministry, on the request of communist Diet member Mutsuo Shibata.

Sebald's letter (22 September 1947) says that the emperor's proposal was conveyed to Sebald by the late Hidenari Terasaki, then commissioner of the imperial household (Sebald's letter in English calls it "advisor"), on the initiative of the emperor himself.

In the message, the emperor said: (1) The emperor "hopes that the United States will continue the military occupation of Okinawa and other islands of the Ryukyus; (2) The emperor further "feels that United States military occupation of Okinawa (and such other islands as may be required) should be based on the fiction of a long-term lease--25 to 50 years or more--with sovereignty retained in Japan." At the same time, the following reason for this proposal was added to the message: "This method of occupation would convince the Japanese people that the United States has no permanent designs on the Ryukyu Islands, and other nations, particularly Soviet Russia and China, would thereby be stopped from demanding similar rights.

Later U.S. military occupation of Okinawa was enforced, while Japanese sovereignty was recognized only formally. This step is very similar to the emperor's proposal. Kamejiro Senaga pointed out that the emperor's proposal is supposed to have wielded great influence on the U.S. decision on its policy of rule over Japan.

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The Communist Party Presidium vice chairman also said: "This all shows not only that the emperor is responsible for the war of aggression in the past, but that in the postwar politics of Japan, he has played an important role in cooperating with the United States in its rule over Japan and in building an anti-communist military base in Japan, while retaining his own position at the cost of the destiny of the people of Okinawa Prefecture and Japanese sovereignty."

Pointing out that this act of the emperor violates clearly the constitution, Senaga expressed his determination to investigate the political responsibility stemming from the "postwar responsibility" of the emperor, in combination with the struggle for the defense of democracy.

In the House of Representatives ad hoc committee on Okinawa and the northern territory on 27 April, communist member Kamejiro Senaga raised the question concerning the fact that Okinawa was placed under U.S. military occupation over more than a quarter of a century after a message had been transmitted from the emperor of Japan to the United States in 1947. He strongly grilled the government on its responsibility, giving details about the tragic situation imposed in the people of Okinawa Prefecture.

Senaga said: "It has come to light that the cause of the humiliation and immeasurable suffering brought upon the people of Okinawa Prefecture was this proposal (by the emperor-ed.)," and demanded a full investigation into the matter. He insisted that an enquiry about it should be made to W. J. Sebald and George Kennan, who was the chief of the policy planning staff of the U.S. Department of State, which was then beginning to study how to deal with Okinawa.

In connection with the description in the Sebald's letter that the emperor's "hope" is "undoubtedly largely based upon self-interest," Senaga said "it is a traitorous act for the emperor to force the 1 million people (of Okinawa Prefecture-ed.) into a great suffering based on his self-interest or selfish desire."

"If the facts about this problem are left unclear," Senaga added, "the principle of sovereignty resting with the people will be denied, and the road will be opened for sovereignty resting with the monarchy."

In answer to Senaga's question, Asao Mihara, director general of administrative affairs in the prime minister's office, explained away, saying, "I think I should refrain from giving a responsible answer."

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POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL

JCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE PRESIDIUUM HOLDS MEETING

Tokyo JPS in English 0916 GMT 30 Apr 79 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 30 Apr (JPS)--The Japanese Communist Party Central Committee Presidium met on 28 April at party headquarters to work out an outline of the review of the simultaneous local elections and tasks of future struggles of the party. After discussions, the meeting adopted unanimously a presidium statement, "The results on the simultaneous local elections and immediate tasks."

At the beginning of the session, Presidium members heard a report by Presidium Chairman Kenji Miyamoto on the work carried on by the standing presidium since the last presidium meeting on 3 March. After discussions, the meeting approved this report unanimously.

Chairman Miyamoto's report included the following items: leadership in the simultaneous local elections, analysis and assessment of the results of the local elections, the accords reached between the JCP and CPSU at their preliminary talks and the struggle against the Shiga clique, the death at work of Isao Takano, AKAHATA correspondent and the funeral organized by the party for him, parliamentary struggle, and mass movements, including the spring labor offensive.

Kichiro Akeda, standing presidium member, gave a report on the results and problems of the simultaneous local elections,

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'SANKEI' ARTICLE REFUTES 'AKAHATA' CHARGE REGARDING JCP-CPSU AGREEMENT

Tokyo SANKEI SHINBUN in Japanese 20 Apr 79 Morning Edition p 2 OW

[Article by Takatoshi Suzuki, deputy chief editor for social affairs:
"Two 'Words' Disappeared in CPSU Version of Normalization Agreement With
JCP"]

[Excerpt] AKAHATA, in its 17 April article, criticized SANKEI SHINBUN correspondent Sawa's Moscow dispatch as "a distorted report throwing cold water on normalization" [between the JCP and the CPSU]. The dispatch, carried by this paper in its 16 April Morning Edition, introduced the report by the CPSU organ PRAVDA and commented that "the Japanese side conceded in the Shiga issue." We do not particularly care for the JCP's compliments but certainly do not feel good if we are disparaged that much about our correspondent's report.

To ascertain the facts, I had correspondent Sawa send in a full translation of the PRAVDA release. Naturally, the PRAVDA version is for the most part the same as the "agreement" announced by the JCP. But when I made a close comparison between the two versions, I found three questionable points.

First, for some unknown reason the PRAVDA release deleted two words which are believed to be of utmost significance.

The passage in question reads: "Representatives of the JCP and the CPSU confirmed each other's active effort for the normalization of relations between the two parties. The Japanese side affirmatively evaluated the constructive attitude toward the past question in the relations between the two parties manifested by the CPSU representative at the Tokyo preliminary talks." (AKAHATA, 15 April)

However, according to PRAVDA, the first half is about the same, but the second half reads: "The Japanese side positively evaluated the constructive approach toward the relations between the two parties manifested by the CPSU representative at the Tokyo preliminary talks."

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Thus, two words--"past" and "question"--preceding "the relations between the two parties" disappeared.

Vice Chairman Tomio Nishizawa (responsible person of the International and Diplomatic Affairs Committee), who represented the Japanese side at the talks, expressly stated: "The 'past question in the relations between the two parties' as referred to in the agreement refers to the Shiga issue." (AKAHATA, 15 April) In its 17 April article, AKAHATA referred to "the constructive attitude toward the past relations between the two parties" and said: "This refers to the fact that at the Tokyo talks (held between the JCP and the CPSU in late February), the Soviet side stated, 'We do not justify or believe it was right that we published in PRAVDA articles in support of the Shiga faction.'"

In this case, it is quite natural for one to interpret the AKAHATA version of the agreement as meaning that the Japanese side affirmatively evaluated the Soviet side because the latter had admitted to its wrongdoing with regard to the Shiga question, which is a past question in the relations between the two parties. In sum, without the two words--"past" and "question"--deleted, the "relations between the two parties" mean the "Shiga issue." By the same token, the agreement, or a rapprochement, was brought about because the Soviet side showed a constructive attitude toward the Shiga question.

However, the PRAVDA version which deleted the words "past" and "question" fails to clarify how far the Shiga question was dealt with. At least, it does not give the reader the impression that the Soviet side apologized for its "wrong attitude" toward the Shiga question. In the final analysis, the CPSU did not place itself on the record in official documents as having "apologized" to the JCP. Thus, we doubt if it can be called a normalization of relations in its true sense. We do not think that correspondent Sawa's report, "The Japanese side conceded in the Shiga question," is incorrect based on what we read in PRAVDA. Is it not AKAHATA which "distorts facts and throws cold water?"

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'YOMIURI' INTERVIEWS JCP DROPOUT YOSHIO SHIGA

Tokyo YOMIURI SHINBUN in Japanese 26 Apr 79 Morning Edition p 2 OW

[Interview with Yoshio Shiga, 78, central figure in the "Shiga question"--
place, date of interview not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] The JCP says that the so-called "Shiga question"
has been resolved by the recent press communique (agreement) and its publi-
cation in the organs of the two parties. What do you think?

Shiga: PRAVDA (the CPSU organ) published my remarks supporting the 1964
treaty on partially banning nuclear tests (which created the "Shiga
question") because the Soviet Union, which played a major role in conclud-
ing the treaty, was pleased with my support. But, the Soviet Union did
not ask me to support the treaty, nor did I support it for that reason.
I supported it simply from the point of view that Japan is the only nation
to be victimized by atomic attacks and that nuclear tests should be halted.

The so-called "Shiga question" which the JCP refers to has never existed
from the very beginning. For example, the Soviet Union has not issued any
statement to support me since that time, nor have I received any instruc-
tions from the CPSU.

[Question] Chairman Miyamoto has insisted: "Since Shiga and his faction
have attacked the JCP on the strength of their support from PRAVDA, we
need an end to that sort of thing." Thus, he virtually demanded that the
CPSU admit its mistake through PRAVDA. Now, do you mean to say that all
that amounts to no more than a false charge?

Shiga: That (I attacked the JCP on the strength of PRAVDA's support) is
totally untrue. PRAVDA supported me because it found my position to be
correct. Of course, Miyamoto and the CPSU may have their own ways of
thinking....

[Question] The [JCP-CPSU] agreement points out that the Soviet side referred
to "the question of past relations between the two parties" at the Tokyo
preliminary talks. The JCP construes this as the "Shiga question" but the
PRAVDA version of the agreement omits the words "past" and "question."
What do you think this implies?

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Shiga: I can guess that the Soviet side is talking mainly about future relations between the two parties. In the first place, the Soviet Union has not done anything to me for which it should "apologize" now. Therefore, it is inclined to do so (delete the two words in its version). I have the feeling that "both sides are doing their best to defend their positions."

[Question] Mr Shiga, you have been regarded as belonging to the Soviet faction. Have you stayed in touch with the CPSU or received financial aid from it?

Shiga: We can learn from the experiences of our fraternal parties but we must hold ourselves responsible for Japan. That is how I have worked so far. Of course, I have not kept in touch with the CPSU or received financial aid from it.

[Question] Chairman Miyamoto says: "When you call someone 'Shiga of such and such a country,' it refers to a blind follower of a foreign country who betrayed his country's party."

Shiga: I read about that for the first time in a newspaper interview with Miyamoto.

[Question] Mr Shiga, in a statement you issued on the day the two parties announced their agreement, you said that "there still are many serious factors lying ahead (of the two parties)." Do the "factors" include the Kuril Islands issue?

Shiga: I meant to tell them [JCP] not to do anything that the Soviet Union could not accept (in connection with the Kuril Islands issue). The theory that the Kuril Islands are Japanese territory is tantamount to sealing the Soviet Union's lips as far as the Pacific is concerned. I meant to say that they should take that point into consideration.

[Question] Are you going to maintain the "peace and socialism" organization and continue its activities? Chairman Miyamoto demands that the organization be dissolved.

Shiga: If the party corrects itself (takes the correct direction), I will think about it.

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DEFENSE AGENCY CAUTIOUS ABOUT PERSONNEL INTERCHANGE WITH PRC

Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHINBUN in Japanese 25 Apr 79 Morning Edition p 2 OW

[Text] The Defense Agency has worked out its basic plan regarding "interchange of uniformed personnel with China" for 1979. The plan, based on a position of "equidistance to China and the USSR," calls for sending three colonel-level officers--one each from the ground, maritime and air self-defence force [SDF]--to China this fall. Meanwhile, a similar action will be taken toward the USSR in the same period. However, there will be no visit to China involving the chairman of the Joint Staff Council or the chief of staff of either branch of the SDF.

Under the plan, the agency will exercise caution in inviting PRC uniformed personnel to visit Japan, for fear that frequent interchanges of uniformed personnel with China would irritate the USSR.

Visits to China by former SDF officers have become increasingly frequent. Visits in the past were at the invitation of the China-Japan Friendship Association; currently, however, most of the invitations come from the PRC National Defense Ministry. Last fall, a former general officer of the ground and air SDF each and a former technical officer assigned to SDF technical development programs visited China.

In these circumstances, the Defense Agency in March last year sent a colonel of the ground SDF to China on a "liaison mission" with the military attache in Beijing. It was the first time a uniformed SDF officer ever visited China in a capacity other than that of military attache, while there had been similar instances with the USSR. Even at that time, however, the agency sent another officer of an equal rank to the USSR simultaneously. Meanwhile, Zhang Caiqian, deputy chief of the general staff of the Chinese PLA, urged the agency's leading officials to step up interchanges between the SDF and the Chinese PLA during his informal visit to Japan last May en route home from his visit to Mexico. In this case, too, the agency took no action to heed the request, because of consideration involving relations with the USSR.

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The agency's plan to send three colonel-level officers representing the ground, maritime and air SDF, respectively, to China and the USSR each simultaneously this year reflects its position for meeting the Chinese request for an increase in the number of visitors and, at the same time, for carrying through the stance of "equidistance to China and the USSR" in a manner that does not irritate the USSR.

The decision to refrain from sending the chiefs of staff to China also is for the same reason. During his visit to Japan, Zhang Caiqian informally invited chairman of the Joint Staff Council Takashina and ground SDF chief of staff Nagano to visit China. The agency decided not to accept such invitations for the top-level uniformed personnel for the time being because such visits would "inevitably have the effect of rubbing the wrong way on the USSR, which is already nervous about Sino-Japan relations which are becoming closer."

On the other hand, China is said to be very enthusiastic about sending leading PLA officers to Japan. Reported Chinese plans include an expanded interchange between SDF and PLA personnel in the name of participation in sports games. These plans, however, are in a state of standstill at the moment.

It is also said that this cautious attitude of the Defense Agency has been prompted not only by "consideration involving the USSR" but also by "problems" inherent in the interchange with the PRC itself. For example, even if Japan sends uniformed personnel to China, they would hardly be allowed to see what they want to see. The officer sent last March was given nothing more than a formal inspection tour. Some agency officials argue that "SDF-PLA interchanges would merely benefit the PLA alone." While other officials say that "personnel interchanges, if carried out in real earnest, would eventually lead to interchange in military technology, which in turn would cause problems in relations with the United States. Moreover, there has been no active personnel exchange with any country except the United States in the past."

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JAPANESE, SOVIET EXPERTS DISCUSS RESULTS OF SHIMODA CONFERENCE

Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHINBUN in Japanese 15 Apr 79 Morning Edition p 4 OW

[Text] Inozemtsev, director of the World Economics and International Relations Research Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences, and Kiichi Saeki, president of the Nomura Research Institute of Technology and Economics, held a press conference at the Grand Palace Hotel in Tokyo on 14 April on the results of the "fifth Japan-Soviet experts conference on Asian peace," which closed earlier in the day in Shimoda, Shizuoka Prefecture. They said that at the conference, "both the Japanese and Soviet sides put forward various proposals for breaking the deadlock in Japan-Soviet relations and decided to study them in the days to come." The Japanese side appears to have proposed the "conclusion of a certain agreement" aimed at improving Japan-Soviet relations independently of the territorial issue in a counterproposal to the Soviet-proposed "treaty of good neighborliness and cooperation," which sidetracks the territorial issue. The Soviets are expected to actively respond to the proposal.

The 3-day Japan-Soviet experts conference began on 12 April and was jointly sponsored by the World Economy and International Relations Research Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences, research institutes of the United States and Canada and the Security Affairs Research Institute of Japan (chaired by Tadao Kuzumi). Present at the press conference in addition to Inozemtsev and Saeki were Bovin, an IZVESTIYA (Soviet government organ) commentator, and Masamichi Inoki, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Peace and Security Research Institute.

Inozemtsev told the press conference: "Proposals were put forward at the conference from both the Japanese and the Soviet sides, but I cannot talk about them in detail in accordance with an agreement not to make them public. However, I can say that the proposals are aimed at leading the Far East, Asian and world problems to detente as well as advancing Japan-Soviet relations." Meanwhile, Saeki said: "If Japan insists on making a settlement of the territorial issue a precondition for improving relations with the Soviet Union and if the Soviet Union keeps saying that in that case there will be no progress in the bilateral relations, the ice will never be broken. Therefore, various proposals aimed at harmonizing the declarations of the two sides were introduced at the conference."

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In this connection, the conference reportedly discussed a long-term Japan-Soviet economic cooperation agreement and "a certain proposal on the supervision of armament."

The conference is a venue for scholars of Japan and the Soviet Union to exchange frank views and is "not a place for holding diplomatic negotiations" (as Inozemtsev says). However, the results of the conference will be used as data for a Japanese study at various research institutes of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and reported to the USSR Supreme Soviet and the CPSU Central Committee. Hence, the results of the conference may affect future Soviet policy toward Japan.

The Japanese Government has been "ignoring" a Soviet-proposed draft treaty of good neighborliness and cooperation, and the Soviet Union has stated, "This draft treaty is a basis for discussion and if Japan has its own counterproposal, Japan should show it to us." In this sense, the Soviet Union is likely to accept the Japanese proposal as a counterproposal made by Japan through an unofficial channel.

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IMPROVING NATIONAL CONSENSUS ON SDF PLEASES ARMS INDUSTRY

Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHINBUN in Japanese 1 Apr 79 p 8

[Text] Arms Industry

A spate of forward-looking statements on national defense by important government officials, high prices for the stocks of defense-industry manufacturers, particularly Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, and such have recently imparted a feeling of belated spring arriving to the defense industry, which has been in the doldrums. However, the leaders of the industry are well aware that the mood is not one of emerging from a long winter's confinement for a spring frolic. The public in general still has a latent "aversion" to arms and furthermore the defense industry itself is in disarray and difficult to pull together. It is said within the industry that "Hopefully there will be a groundswell of debate on strengthening defense power," but concurrently it seems that "unifying and putting the defense industry into order" also would be desirable.

Welcoming "The Mood for Acknowledgment"

Ratio of Defense Budget to GNP (Unit; 100 million yen, percent)

JFY 1965	3,014	1.07
JFY 1974	10,930	0.83
JFY 1975	13,273	0.84
JFY 1976	15,124	0.90
JFY 1977	16,906	0.88
JFY 1978	19,010	0.90
JFY 1979	20,945	0.90

On 18 March at the Defense Academy's graduation ceremony Prime Minister Ohira stated that "the factor forming the basis for ensuring comprehensive security is built-up defense power," indicating for the first time resolve

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to put more effort into strengthening defense power. On 20 March, the Defense Agency revealed in its JFY 1978 medium-range work estimate, which in reality is the equivalent of a Fifth Defense Build Up Plan, its intent "to increase the defense budget to 1 percent of GNP by JFY 1984." On 22 March, Shigeto Nagano, Chief of Staff, Ground Self Defense Force, delivered a speech explaining the necessity of revising the general plan for national defense.

Naturally, concern in the defense industry which depends on Defense Agency procurement has heightened. Torao Aramaki (Chairman, Isuzu Motors), the president of the Japan Arms Industry Association, is pleased, saying "defense issues long regarded as taboo may soon be acknowledged." Tetsuya Chiga (Executive Director, Federation of Economic Organization), the secretary general of the Defense Production Committee, Federation of Economic Organizations, concurred by saying, "We have requested attainment of the 1 percent defense expenditure to GNP ratio by JFY 1983, so while this means 1 year's delay, we would be satisfied."

Because the defense industry has been bedeviled by the large drop-off in work since the oil shock, these seem to have spurred the enthusiasm. Although the Defense Agency's procurement outlays are increasing every year, the survey of the industry by the Defense Production Committee states, "Due to the cost increase for both personnel and material, the amount of work has decreased greatly since JFY 1973." Analysis showed for example, that manufacturers' work load had dropped to the 75 level in JFY 1976, when the JFY 1971 workload is defined as 100.

Since JFY 1977, there has been a shift toward increase in ships and tanks. However, because the introduction of F-15 fighters and P3C anti-submarine patrol planes was delayed by 1 year, aircraft are just beginning to add to the increase. The Association of Arms Industry's estimate on trends for its membership is "there has been a considerable turn for the better, but operations still do not have their heads above water."

Most as Side Business

Certainly, the defense industry constitutes only a very small fraction of all industry. The Defense Agency's JFY 1976 statistics (JFY 1977 figures now being compiled) indicate that the Agency's procurement for all types of equipment totalled no more than 0.42 percent (528.7 billion yen, including some special procurement from the U.S. Army) of the total production of Japan. Of the industries, only aircraft (88.6 percent dependent) and munitions (99.9 percent dependent) industries are highly dependent on the Defense Agency. Dependence on the Agency in shipbuilding is about 1.7 percent and in communications equipment a mere 0.6 percent. The ratio of sales to the Defense Agency is about 1 to 3 percent of all sales for the firms with the single exception of Mitsubishi Heavy Industry for which the figure is about 10 percent. This leaves the impression that the industry is a side business.

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The Defense Agency's procurement in JFY 1978 was 556.6 billion yen (domestic only), or 13 percent more than in the previous year. However, because the people have a deep-rooted allergy to military industry, the defense industry is in a poor position to present its own case. And, even if an attempt is made at the industry group level to gather data and present one's own case, "the member firms do not act unless forced by crisis such as a considerable drop in the amount of work" (Secretariat of the Federation of Arms Industries)--predispositions having not changed a bit.

Maintaining Consensus, the Bottleneck

Because the industry group is a conglomerate of industries including machine, electrical, auto, and chemical firms, it is difficult to attain a consensus within it.

With regards to the level of defense technology, those in charge in the Defense Agency rate it highly saying, "Weapons and ammunition are backward, but tanks and electronic equipment hardware are among the best in the world."

Concerning the F-15 and P3C for which procurement began in JFY 1978, the manufacturers plan to supply 75 percent of the F-15 airframe and 90 percent of the P3C airframe from domestic production in the future. However, these ratios for domestic production "will not be reached because the United States which holds the licenses is reluctant to provide the technology" (Top people at the Defense Agency). "The United States, which used to say it would provide any amount of technology, has begun to regard Japanese manufacturers as competitors" (Ministry of International Trade and Industry).

Since "the Soviet Fighter Penetration Incident at Hakodate (MiG Incident)" in September 1976, the Defense firms have started, against a backdrop of flourishing debate on national defense, to create "defense business departments" or some such internal organizations. It is said that managers, in the firms, holding the opinion that "arms are an embodiment of the highest technology," expect a ripple-effect to extend to the private demand sector and are very favorably disposed toward the defense equipment sector. However, having entered the era of low growth, the bottom line is being watched with an increasingly stern eye.

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POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL

BRIEFS

OKINAWA GROUP FORMED--Tokyo, 30 Apr (JPS)--The Okinawa Prefectural Liaison Council for united actions to abrogate the security treaty and defend democracy, was formed on 28 April. The organization is formed by the JCP's Prefectural Committee, the Peace Committee, the All-Okinawa Federation of Trade Unions and other democratic organizations. At the inauguration meeting on that day, an action program was adopted, which is provided with following points. (1) Positively organize a prefecture-wide struggle opposing the new dangerous development of the security setup, develop the united actions of the democratic forces, cooperate with the national struggle aiming at abrogation of the security treaty, the removal of bases, and for a nonaligned neutral Japan, and heighten broad public opinion and the movement of the prefectural people. (2) Work toward a democratic reconstruction of the Japanese economy, and strive for the defense of the prefectural people's living. (3) Oppose retrogressive revision of the constitution, the political reaction, and the revival of militarism, actively fight against anticommunist attacks by the international federation for victory over communism, and the reactionary forces' attacks to destroy democracy, and work for the defense and development of democracy, etc. [Text] [Tokyo JPS in English 0921 GMT 30 Apr 79 OW]

JAPANESE, SOVIET SPECIALISTS--Japanese and Soviet specialists attending the fifth Japan-Soviet specialists conference (sponsored by the Security Affairs Research Institute and the Soviet World Economic and International Affairs Research Institute) issued a joint communique stating that "the common goal is to improve the status quo in Japan-Soviet relations and promote good-neighborly relations." The joint communique was issued on 14 April on the basis of the results of the 3-day conference in Shimoda, Shizuoka Prefecture, on Asian-Pacific affairs, including Japan-Soviet relations. [Text] [Tokyo ASAHI SHINBUN in Japanese 15 Apr 79 Morning Edition p 2 OW]

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ECONOMIC

STUDY GROUP DRAWS UP ECONOMIC POLICY GUIDELINES FOR OHIRA

Tokyo ASAHI EVENING NEWS in English 24 Apr 79 p 3 OW

[Text] An interim report on Japan's overseas economic policy calls on the government to emphasize the importance of preventing inflation in order to make the coming Japan-U.S. summit and the summit of industrial democracies a success.

The report also says that Japan should volunteer to bear the costs of maintaining the new GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) system resulting from the Tokyo round of multilateral trade negotiations.

It further points out that Japan should make concessions to eliminate economic friction with the United States,

These are among the contents of the interim report submitted to Prime Minister Ohira by the overseas economic policy study group, one of the premier's policy study groups, last weekend.

The interim report is to serve as a guideline for Prime Minister Ohira at the Washington and Tokyo summits.

Based on 2-month-long discussions by the group, the report was compiled by Tokyo University Professor Tadao Uchida, head of the group, at the request of the premier.

The report first of all points out the need for Japan to establish an independent economic policy and to stop its tendency to adopt ad hoc decisions in accordance with circumstances.

It then suggests the basic stance Japan should take toward the five subjects to be discussed at the Tokyo summit--(1) economic growth, employment and inflation; (2) energy; (3) trade; (4) the North-South problem, and (5) international currency.

The report stresses the following: 1. Japan should announce to the world policies which will enable it to maintain a high employment level at home without increasing its dependence on overseas markets.

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2. Japan should strongly maintain that its anti-inflation policy will lead to international cooperation since inflation would result in an increase in savings and a decline in capital investment, leading in turn to the growth of the current account surplus.

3. Japan should voluntarily bear the financial burden of maintaining the new GATT system by lowering tariffs earlier than any of the other advanced countries.

4. Japan should prepare for the internationalization of the yen, but should avoid policies which might lead to a fall in the credibility of the dollar; it should also state that it is prepared to build a system for international cooperation through reforming its economic structure.

The report also urges the government to raise the prices of petroleum products in order to conserve energy and strongly comes out against the return of profits gained by power and gas companies through the appreciation of the yen to the public.

Although attributing the cause of the imbalance in trade between Japan and the United States to a drop in the latter's international competitiveness, the report urges the government to show understanding of Washington's demands in return for U.S. policy of protecting Japan in the past.

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ECONOMIC

LABOR PRODUCTIVITY GAIN OUTSTRIPS PAY HIKES IN 1978

Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS In English 14 Apr 79 p 5

[Text]

The labor productivity gain in mining and manufacturing industries increased 8 percent in calendar 1978, the Japan Productivity Center announced Friday. The center attributed the gain to gradual recovery in the economy and personnel reductions.

The labor productivity is the output produced by a worker in a day, in other words, the man/daily output.

The Productivity Center said that last year became the first year in 11 years in which the annual labor productivity gain outstripped the annual gain in nominal pay. The gain in nominal pay was 6.9 percent last year.

The previous year in which the labor productivity gain outpaced the nominal pay gain was 1967. In that year productivity gained 16.5 percent and nominal pay 13.0 percent over the previous year.

The center said the 1978 productivity gain of 8 percent (8.0 percent for manufacturing industry and 8.1 percent for mining) was much higher than

the 1977 gain of 5.1 percent.

The 1978 gain increased in each quarter, starting with 5.4 percent in the first, 7.8 percent in the second, 8.6 percent in the third, and 10.2 percent in the fourth and last quarter.

The labor productivity index of the all-important manufacturing sector stood at 127.4 against 100 in the base year of 1975.

The output increased 6.2 percent in the year over 1977 while the labor input declined by 1.5 percent from the previous year due to the overall personnel reduction drive that swept all the industry.

The center said all the industries but the hide and leather industry and the wood and woodwork industry increased their productivity gain last year over 1977.

Among high gainers were non-metal mining, up 20.5 percent; chemicals, up 13.8 percent; non-ferrous metal manufacturing, up 12.3 percent; rubber, up 12.2 percent and metal mining, up 10.3 percent.

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ECONOMIC

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STEEL IMPORT INQUIRY--A Japanese steel firm has received an inquiry from Iran concerning Iran's desire to import 15,000 tons of hot rolled steel plates and 1,000 sheets of corrugated tin plates. This is the first inquiry Iran has ever made since Japan's steel export to Iran was suspended early this year due to political upheaval in Iran. Japanese steel firms expect that Japan's steel export to Iran will be normalized in July. [Tokyo ASAHI SHINBUN in Japanese 14 Apr 79 Morning Edition p 8 OW]

FARM MACHINERY TO PRC--Tokyo-based Sato Zoki has signed a contract with the PRC Government to conduct 1-year experiment in Japanese-style rice growing on a 60-hectare pilot farm in Jinxian County, Jiangxi Province. Under the contract, the Japanese firm will export to China six 40-hp tractors, four rice transplanters, five combines, one harvester, plus nursery and drying equipment, totaling 120 million yen in value. In addition, Sato Zoki will send a total of 30 technicians to the Chinese farm to provide technical service for 1 year beginning June 1979. China will pay only for the equipment. [Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHINBUN in Japanese 25 Apr 79 Morning Edition p 8 OW]

SOVIET CAVIAR TO JAPAN--Tokyo-based Nihonkai Boeki, specializing in trade with the USSR, has signed a general agent contract with the All-Union Food Export and Import Corporation of the USSR for sales of Soviet caviar in Japan. Japan's caviar imports in 1978 amounted to 12 tons altogether, 7 tons of which were from the USSR via West Germany and the rest from Iran. The USSR reportedly promised Nihonkai Boeki that it would drop its contract with the West German dealer for reexporting Soviet caviar to Japan, thus guaranteeing Nihonkai as Japan's sole dealer. [Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHINBUN in Japanese 23 Apr 79 Morning Edition p 9 OW]

CRUDE STEEL OUTPUT--According to a survey of the nation's iron and steel companies conducted by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry and completed on 23 April, the April-June crude steel output this year is expected to surpass the original guide post--an indicator of prospective demand--by 450,000 tons and reach 27.5 million tons. It has thus become certain that Japan's crude steel production this year will surpass 110 million tons for the first time in 5 years. [Tokyo MAINICHI SHINBUN in Japanese 24 Apr 79 Morning Edition p 6 OW]

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ACCESS TO POWER PLANTS--The Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI] and the Natural Resources and Energy Agency recently urged the Federation of Electric Power Companies (chaired by Toshi Hiraiwa, president of Tokyo Electric Power Company) to give U.S. companies access to the Japanese hydropower plant market. This move is in response to a strong request from the U.S. Commerce Department that was passed through diplomatic channels. The immediate task is the adoption of an international bidding formula for pumping-up power plants. The electric companies, however, are concerned that the U.S. demand will escalate in the future, eventually involving thermal and nuclear power equipment. To meet the U.S. Government's request, the Natural Resources and Energy Agency asked the Federation of Electric Power Companies, composed of nine major Japanese companies, to formulate a concrete "open door" program. The federation's response is: "We will buy from foreign makers, too, as long as they offer goods at a lower price and of higher quality." [Excerpts] [Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHINBUN in Japanese 22 Apr 79 Morning Edition p 3 OW]

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

RESEARCH STARTS ON PHOTOMIGRATION URANIUM ION ENRICHMENT

Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHINBUN in Japanese 5 Mar 79 p 3

[Text] Uranium enrichment by the gaseous diffusion method has been industrialized in the United States while research on the centrifugal enrichment method that requires less electric power consumption is being promoted in Japan. Aside from these methods, research on isotopic separation using lasers is being promoted on a world-wide scale. Within the framework of this isotopic separation method, the utilization of a newly discovered phenomenon "photomigration" in which molecules present within dilute gaseous solids vibrationally excited by lasers migrate is to be the theme of a research to be initiated in April to investigate its possibility for uranium enrichment. Assistant Professor Kazuhiro Wada of the Department of Nuclear Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Kyoto University will be in charge of this research, which was recently granted 2 million yen from the special research fund of the Ministry of Education. It is said that research along this line is being conducted as a top secret project in the Soviet Union. The development of technology for the domestic production of enriched uranium is important from the standpoint of national policy, and it also incorporates the possibility of cutting the cost of enrichment to much less than one-tenth that of gaseous diffusion. It is expected that some sort of results will be available by March of next year.

Assistant Professor Wada of Kyoto University To Initiate Research Next Month

Natural uranium consists of 235 and 238, and the 235 that undergoes nuclear fission makes up but 0.7 percent of the mixture. The uranium fuel used in a light water nuclear power plant is enriched to a 24 percent level in 235, and the gaseous diffusion method that enriches 235 by a sieving effect is the most popular method in use. On the other hand, this method requires several thousand repetitions of this sieving effect, and this runs up the electric power cost. This is why the Power Reactor and Nuclear Fuel Development in Japan is presently developing the centrifugal separation method with high efficiency targeted for completion in 1985.

In line with this research are the advances being made in laser isotopic separation. Focusing on either of the isotopes of differing masses, either molecular vibration or rotation is activated on their electronic states are

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activated. The method of exciting electronic states by the use of ultraviolet-visible light laser is superior as far as wavelength change is concerned, and is convenient for exciting the desired isotope. On the other hand, the small output and isotopic shift are problems. In contrast, the infrared laser excites vibrational changes and is associated with the advantages of large output and isotopic shift, but research with infrared has been delayed because of the inability to vary the wavelength over the entire wavelength range. There are the methods involving the excitation through absorption of a single photon or many photons of a single type or two stage excitation through two types of photons. There is also a method that applies the Raman effect.

Reactions following excitation include photoionization and photodissociation, and these are subjects of popular research. Isotopes are ionized with a laser beam after which the ions are separated electromagnetically or dissociated and separated using a physico-chemical property such as difference in vapor pressure. By changing the excitation light source, all isotopes can be separated. One more important photochemical reaction involves a search for a combination of reacting species and species to be reacted with, and this is the reason this method is not universally adopted. In any event, this method is said to be useful for low degree of enrichment in a large scale treatment.

The research of assistant Professor Wada involves the selective excitation of isotopes using low energy, and this mode is being called the photomigration method. Continuing the plan of obtaining gaseous isotope from gaseous starting material, an experiment was conducted in which a gaseous isotope was obtained from boron trichloride solid whereupon the isotope in question conversely was left behind in crystalline state, and this led to the discovery of this phenomenon.

The experiment consisted of cooling boron trichloride diluted 100 fold with diluent gas to 80K (absolute temperature) which was then blown on to a barium fluoride plate to be condensed, and the condensed material was irradiated with 1.6 micron light from a carbon dioxide gas laser whereupon the ν_3 vibrations (absorption band called ν_3) of boron isotope 11 were activated. It was expected that sublimed boron 10 would be left behind, but there was the converse behavior of boron 11 being left behind on the barium fluoride plate, and its presence was verified by its infrared absorption spectrum and mass analysis. This was followed by runs in which boron 10 and sulfur 32 hexafluoride were isolated, and the presence of the photomigration effect was established. As a result, it was decided to apply this method to isotopes difficult to separate and particularly to uranium isotopes whose large masses make them very difficult to separate.

Despite all this, the inability to vary the wavelength in a continuous manner is the worst weakness of the infrared laser method. It was decided to use uranium hexafluoride that is usually used in uranium enrichment in the study.

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The same material absorbs in a number of bands of the infrared laser among which the most intense absorption bands are the ν_3 and $\nu_3 + \nu_5$ bands which are planned to be used to cause vibrational excitation and crystallize ^{235}U . Since the ν_3 absorbs the 16 micron wave of the infrared laser, pulse beams from a carbon dioxide gas laser will be used to excite gaseous ^{235}U tetrafluoride and oscillate the 16 micron wave. Ammonia gas will be excited and cause oscillation of the desired wavelength for $\nu_3 + \nu_5$ which absorb at 12 microns in an independent development.

On the other hand, the difference in shift between uranium 235 and 238 is but 0.1 percent which is considerably smaller than the 4 percent for the boron with which success had been realized. This is why the matrix (diluent gas) was changed to devise a means of shifting the absorption peak of the infrared laser in order to check in accurate manner the 16 and 12 micron infrared lasers. As a result, it was decided to use matrix isolation (diluent gas dilution condensation method) and not the supersonic expansion method for cooling uranium hexafluoride.

The matrix keeps uranium 235 and 238 apart through its molecules making it possible to avoid energy transfer that had been a major concern, and calculations indicate that low energy will suffice. In addition, where it was necessary to sharpen the infrared laser absorption peak, cooling uranium hexafluoride enabled the resolution of this problem, and these features will be exploited to selectively excite just the 235 and attempt its crystallization. By repeating several rounds of crystallization involving micro quantities of crystallized material, the experiments to date have demonstrated the capability of enriching uranium.

To this end the laser to excite uranium hexafluoride will be perfected and the mass analyzer for the same application will be introduced after which experiments are expected to begin by summer and produce meaningful results by the end of the next Japanese fiscal year.

A favorable separation factor of 15 has been quoted for boron trichloride, but it is not known whether such a factor will be obtained with the much more massive uranium. Assistant Professor Wada has made some prudent statements in this respect. It is planned also to clarify the mechanism of photo-migration at the same time.

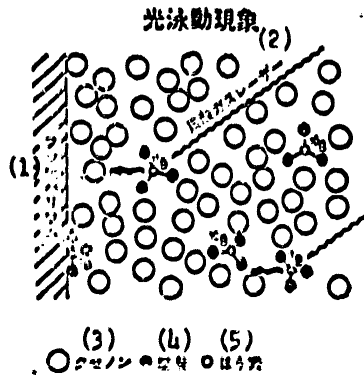
According to the economic prospects of laser enrichment of uranium put out by the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory of the United States, rating the gaseous diffusion method at 1, the centrifugal method is rated one part in 2.06 of the above and the laser separation method 1/30 of the gaseous diffusion method. Further calculations indicate the cost of annual continuous operation to be 1 part in 1.9 of the cost by the gaseous diffusion method for centrifugal separation and 1/23 for laser separation. It is also predicted that 48 units will be constructed by the year 2000.

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Despite all that has been said, the present round of experiments is still at the basic stage. There is a long way to go before the road to practical use can be realized. On the other hand, the possibilities are exciting.

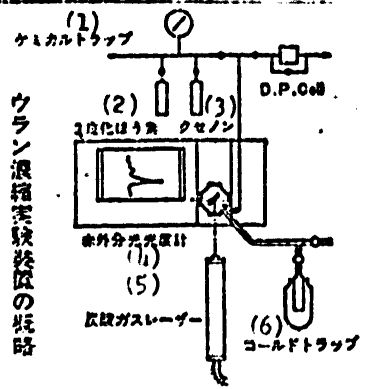
Statement from assistant Professor Kazuhiro Wada: I had been working on isotopic separation through a certain type of gaseous diffusion when I discovered the photomigration phenomenon and embarked on this present series of experiments. Experiments have to be initiated by August since patent application has already been made in the United States, but this is a herculean task that I do not know can be done until it is tried.

Photomigration Phenomenon



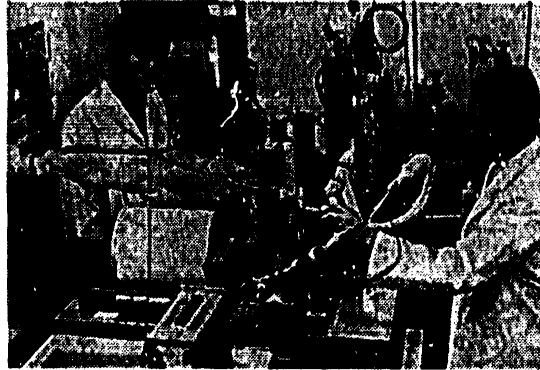
- Key: 1. barium fluoride 2. carbon dioxide laser 3. xenon
 4. chlorine 5. boron

Diagram of Experimental Facility for Uranium Enrichment



- Key: 1. chemical trap 2. boron trichloride 3. xenon
 4. infrared spectral analyzer 5. carbon dioxide laser
 6. cold trap

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Experimental Facility for "Photomigration Method" Using
Laser and Assistant Professor Wada (right) (Radiation
Laboratory, Kyoto University)

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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ELECTRIC VEHICLES--The Japan Electric Vehicle Association met and approved the JFY 1979 budget (431.83 million yen) and program. [Tokyo CHIKU DENCHI in Japanese 1 Apr 79 p 1]

AUTO HIGHLIGHTS--Mitsubishi Motors and other Mitsubishi companies will be engaging in joint research on resins and petrochemicals to develop new light-weight materials for use in automobiles as one approach to coping with expected competition from the U.S. Big Three auto companies. Toyota, in making its first full model change in 5 years this fall, will introduce a micro-computer in some of the Crown models. Fuji Heavy Industries has announced development of an industrial-use Robin GK engine using kerosene as the primary fuel. In-house power generation and construction machinery applications present a promising market for the engines, as the fuel is over 40 percent cheaper than gasoline. Honda is studying use of catalysts in an emission control system with an eye toward improvements in horsepower and fuel economy not otherwise possible. [Tokyo JIDOSHA KOGYO SHINBUN in Japanese 10 Apr 79 p 2]

GAS LASER TECHNOLOGY--The Agency of Industrial Science and Technology has decided on domestic development of manufacturing technology for high-power carbon dioxide laser optical components. Sumitomo Electric Industries and Horiba Ltd will work on semiconductor and alkaline halide materials for the components. This addition of two companies brings the number of firms associated with the AIST's "Complex Production System Using High-performance Lasers" project--an automated batch manufacturing project--up to 20. [Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHINBUN in Japanese 25 Apr 79 p 1]

MITI JETLINER PROGRAM--The Ministry of International Trade and Industry has decided to start a 5-year program to develop a new jetliner to replace Boeing 707s and McDonnell Douglas DC-8s, which consume too much fuel and do not meet current noise standards. [Tokyo THE JAPAN TIMES in English 25 Apr 79 p 5] Considerations involved and future topics for MITI's aircraft industry policy are presented in a short article on establishment of a policy section within the Aircraft Industry Subcommittee of the Aircraft and Machinery Industries Council. [Tokyo NIKKAN KOGYO SHINBUN in Japanese 25 Apr 79 p 1]

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END

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