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SUBJECT (Descriptive title. Use individual reports for sensitive subjects) Selection of Personnel for the Administrative Office of the Japanese National Defense Council		
SUMMARY (Give summary which highlights the salient features of narrative report. Do not mutilate text. Do not exceed 1125 words unless report can be fully stated on AF Form 112. List disclosures, including number of copies)		
<p>1. This report, prepared by Special Projects Section, 600th AIDG, concerns the controversy raging in Japanese government circles over the recommendation that a former Army colonel be appointed as counselor to the Administrative Office of the National Defense Council.</p> <p>2. The information contained in this report was obtained by a Confidential Source (E-15) of this organization from a member of the Federation of Economic Organizations who is reputed to be on intimate terms with high government officials and former Army and naval officers.</p>		
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SELECTION OF PERSONNEL FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
OF THE JAPANESE NATIONAL DEFENSE COUNCIL

1. Various leading newspapers announced, during the latter part of June and the early part of Jul 56, that the appointment of three counsellors and 27 administrators to posts in the Administrative Office of the National Defense Council had been deferred indefinitely due to friction over the selection of key personnel. The National Defense Council, which was scheduled to make its initial appearance on 2 Jul 56, was forced to postpone its first meeting because of the unexpected opposition to the appointment of one of the counsellors. This sudden turn of events bitterly disappointed interested promoters of national defense, but was welcomed by the Socialist Party. The only appointment thus far confirmed by the Cabinet is that of HIROOKA Kenji (廣岡 謙二) to the post of Director of the Administrative Office.

2. The central issue of the controversy was the appointment of former Army Colonel HATTORI Takushiro (服部 卓四郎) to the post of special counsellor for defense planning of the National Defense Council. HIROOKA objected to HATTORI's appointment on the grounds that the selection of an ex-Army man to the post of special counsellor would compromise the neutrality of the National Defense Council. HOSHIKAWA Zenshiro (星川 善四郎), chairman of the Defense Division of the Political Research Committee of the Liberal-Democratic Party and former Rear Admiral in the Japanese Navy, also opposed the appointment stating that the presence of an ex-Army man in the Administrative Office would be a ready source of clashing views between the Self-defense Agency and the Administrative Office over the determination of the six year defense plan, a situation which must be avoided at all costs. He added that no former career naval officers will be admitted to the Administrative Office. The Socialist Party flatly called the appointment of an influential ex-Army officer to the Administrative Office a shrewd maneuver on the part of pro-rearmament elements to gain control of the National Defense Council's Administrative Office in order to place the Self-defense Agency under their direct influence and guidance. High ranking civilians of the Self-defense Agency are absolutely opposed to anything which might endanger the principle of "civilian superiority," but they subtly objected to HATTORI's appointment on the ground that it would be an insult to HATTORI to appoint him to the position of counsellor for defense planning of the Administrative Office (a position comparable to an American GS-12) in view of the fact that HATTORI's classmate KISHIMOTO is Inspector General of the Northern Area Command (a position comparable to an American GS-15).

3. It is believed that Deputy Director-General MASUHARA Keikichi (曾原 恵吉) of the Self-defense Agency, who is reported to have strongly backed HIROOKA's appointment to the post of Director of the Administrative Office of the National Defense Council and who previously worked together with HIROOKA in the Home Ministry, pressed HIROOKA to oppose HATTORI.

4. Deputy Director-General MASUHARA was scheduled to conduct an inspection tour of the United States and Europe from 25 Aug to 22 Oct 56, but his proposed trip was tentatively postponed, reportedly as a result of objections raised by KONO Ichiro (河野 一郎), Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, at the cabinet meeting on 20 Jul 56. KONO declared that he had no objection to MASUHARA visiting the United States as the two countries are responsible for the development of Japan's national defense, but that he felt it unnecessary for MASUHARA to visit Europe where Japan has no direct military interest, particularly at the time when the budget for the next fiscal year is to be formulated. Those interested in the build up of Japan's defense hoped that MASUHARA would at least visit the United States to make a detailed study of

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the management of military affairs and the organizational set-up of the civilian component so that any wrong element that Japan may have had in her conception of the principle of civilian superiority in the upper ranks of the Self-defense Agency might be corrected.

5. With regard to the selection of career specialists for the National Defense Council's Administrative Office, HOSHINA, a former Major General in the Japanese Army, has privately stated to HARADA Teiken (原田 威彦), a member of the Defense Production Committee of the Federation of Economic Organizations, that "in view of the fact that opposition currently is so rampant in the Self-defense Agency, it would hardly be advisable at present to appoint a former military officer to the post of counsellor as it would only heighten the animosity between the two agencies." He added that it would be advisable to wait until the Constitution has been revised and then expand the staff of the Administrative Office, now about 30, to about two or three hundred members, and at that time bring in former officers from the army and navy on a fair and impartial basis.

6. There have been several reports that former Major General IWAKURA Takeo (岩倉 孝雄), known to be anti-American and on friendly terms with Director-General FUNADA Naka (船田 中) of the Self-defense Agency, assisted in the movement to oppose former Colonel HATTORI's appointment.

COMMENTS OF PREPARING OFFICER

7. The National Defense Council is comprised of the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister, the Foreign Minister, the Finance Minister, the Director of the Economic Planning Board and the Director-General of the Self-defense Agency. Their mission is to deliberate and determine all important policies directly concerned with national defense, such as the establishment of basic policy on national defense, dispatching of military forces overseas, the establishment of long range defense plans and the governing of defense industries.

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