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REPORT NO.

FJT-4749

Formation of New Liberal-Democratic Party Faction by Prime Minister KINEI Nobusuke

DATE OF REPORT 17 February 1959

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January 1959

No. Japan, Tokyo (10 February 1959)

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Japanese businessman (C); from a close associate (F) of IKEDA Masanesuke. from TKEDA. Appraisal of Content: 3.

- 1. Prime Minister KISHI Nobusuke has taken steps to form a "neutral" faction in the Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP) in preparation for the day when he steps down as leader of the LDP.
- 2. Foreign Minister FUJIYAMA Aiichiro and former Finance Minister KAYA Okinori will become the principal leaders of the faction. They will be supperced by LOP Diet members IKEDA Masanosuke, EZAKI Masumi, and YAMAMURA Shinjaro.
- The goal is 100 members who will be drawn from among LDP members who are not bard-core followers of any faction leaders and who would prefer to avoid involvement in the present rivalry between the mainstream and anti-mainstream factions. Ten members of the ISHII Mitsujiro faction have pledged to join the new faction.
- When the faction attains sufficient strength, Prime Minister KISHI plans to support FUJIYAMA, as the next prime minister and to sever his reliance on KONO Ichiro. The latter move is supported by FUJIYAMA and IKEDA, both of whom have suffered at the hands of KONO.
 - Field Comment. See FJT-4594, from an untested source, for a report on a FUOTIAMA political support group formed by his former business associates.
 - Source Comment. These Diet members are chiefly concerned with maintaining their seats in the Diet and feel that a victory of one group over the other might mean their downfall.

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

Declassified and Approved for Release by the Central Intelligence Agency 2005 Date:

US CAPY

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