

Background of KODAMA Yoshio, who was involved in the Lockheed Scandal with former Prime Minister TANAKA Kakuei

KODAMA Yoshio (alias MUSHAKOJI Takeharu), Subject of 201-24403, was a rightist with underworld connections (gambling and gangster groups) and important Japanese LDP political figures. (Per Tokyo 9507, 9 Feb 62, he was a prominent Japanese with long record intel and war time ultra nationalist activities). He died of heart failure evening of 17 January 1984.

Kodama was born 18 Feb 1911, Fukushima Prefecture. He had a complicated career. In brief, he began as a student revolutionary-a rightist but loyal to the Emperor. Series of arrests followed early involvements in assassination plots. Made many trips to Manchuria, North China During expansion era; advocated strong China policy, and later trips received Foreign Office backings. He was one of the high government advisors in Prince Higashikuni's administration in 1945; was a cabinet minister; was the first man to make a personal connection with General MacArthur and the Premier; was arrested as a Class A war criminal for dealings in war materiel and spent three years in jail but was subsequently found not guilty; he engaged in various kinds of businesses but always basically politics.

Following is information on KODAMA from "Episodes of postwar individuals" dated 1984.

Through General ONISHI Takejiro's request, he organized the KODAMA organ (procurement organ for the naval forces). After his release from Sugamo prison, he was involved in LDP HATOYAMA Ichiro's fund raising.

It was brought to light during Lockheed scandal, Kodama received Seventeen hundred million yen bribery for the sale of tristar. He wasn't arrested because of his illness, but was prosecuted for tax evasion.

During the scandal, a pornographic actor crashed his small plane into KODAMA's home, saying that "KODAMA is not a rightist, but a person with political and economic power for his personal gains.

FYI: There is Kodama's autobiography translated into English titled "I was defeated", was a best seller.

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

- (2)(A) Privacy
- (2)(B) Methods/Sources
- (2)(G) Foreign Relations

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