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 Date: 3-20-85
 EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)
 (2)(A) Privacy
 (2)(B) Methods/Sources
 (2)(C) Foreign Relations

DISPATCH		CLASSIFICATION S-E-C-R-E-T	PROCESSING ACTION
TO Chief of Station, []		MICROFILMED APR 7 1964 DOC. MICRO. SER.	MARKED FOR INDEXING
INFO.			NO INDEXING REQUIRED
FROM Chief, FE			ONLY QUALIFIED DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING
SUBJECT Proposal to Bring KODAMA Yoshio to PBPRIME			MICROFILM
ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES Your comments are solicited.			
<p>1. Forwarded under separate cover is a letter which was forwarded to [] and which requests KUBARK funds and support of a scheme to bring KODAMA Yoshio to PBPRIME. Upon receipt of this letter, [] requested our advice on how to reply to the proposal. Believing the situation an extremely delicate one with questionable benefit to KUBARK, we have asked [] when thanking the author for calling this to our attention, to advise her that this proposal involves a policy matter which is outside the realm of KUBARK's jurisdiction. [] will tell her, also, that this proposal appears to be rather risky and might not be looked upon favorably by ODYOKE, but that she may raise it with ODACID if she so desires. This response has not yet been delivered to the author, but will be at the time of [] next contact with her.</p> <p>2. The Kennedy referred to in the attached letter is Robert Kennedy. Please also note that [] and [] figure in this letter. We would appreciate receiving your comments on this situation, particularly on the facts of the case as presented by the author.</p> <p>3. Attached hereto for your information is a copy of [CIA's] 15 October 1963 biographic summary on KODAMA Yoshio.</p>			
Enclosures: 1. Letter, usc 2. Biographic summary, h/w			
Distribution: Orig. & 1 - COS, [], w/encs a/s			
CROSS REFERENCE TO <i>CS COPY</i>		DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER FJTW-22530	DATE 20 MAR 1964
CLASSIFICATION S-E-C-R-E-T		HQ'S FILE NUMBER []	
OFFICE FE/JKQJ		OFFICER []	EXT. 5860
COORDINATING		OFFICER'S NAME acb	
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RID/MIS		[]	
RID/PS		[]	
RID/PI		[]	
OFFICE SYMBOL FC/FE		DATE 3/16/64	OFFICER'S NAME William E. Colby

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UNCLASSIFIED EDITION

DISPATCH

12240

NOT SUITABLE FOR MICROFILM



AIR MAIL

VIA AIR MAIL

NEW YORK 1004
MAR 14 1964

Auth Shields, Knoxville
4000 South Park Street
Knoxville, Tennessee

REGISTERED

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

NOT SUITABLE FOR MICROFILM

End III FITW-22530
20 March 1964

MAR 14 1964

Handwritten marks resembling a left and right bracket.

February 23, 1964

[]
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Joe:

I couldn't mail this to you Saturday from New York as the postoffice was closed.

The attached memorandum is the one I presented to Mr. Kennedy on Thursday, February 20. He read it with extreme care. He asked me what I wanted him to do. I explained that I had already told the Agency about this matter and was giving them the same memorandum in New York and was going to ask the Agency to provide the funds for the project if it is approved. I told him I felt that he should know about it as I assumed that Kodama could not come to this country without unofficial official approval. He then said, "You would like for me to see that his visa is approved." I said yes. He said that he would have the matter studied and would be in touch with me.

So I am formally requesting in this letter that the Agency provide the funds for this project if it is approved.

I plan to be back in New York March 2nd, but if anything prevents this, I will let you know.

Warmest personal regards,

RUTH SHELDON KNOWLES

1623 South Madison
Tulsa 20, Oklahoma
Telephone: AC 918, Luther 5-9598

Encl 111
J. O. March 1964
[]

*John
General B. ...*

CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM CONCERNING A PROJECT
TO STRENGTHEN THE FREE WORLD'S INFLUENCE IN
THE JAPANESE POLITICAL SITUATION.

SUMMARY

There is a group of influential industrialists and educators in Japan who have organized as a private group to preserve a free society and who are actively fighting Communism in ways which we in the United States do not do.

One of the leaders of this group, Dr. Kasatoshi Matsushita, president of Rikkyo University (St. Paul's, with 10,000 students) and one of Japan's leading educators, believes that it would be invaluable to the cause of the free world to arrange to bring the most important unofficial political leader in Japan to visit the United States to give him an understanding of Western ideas and the Western way of life.

This man is Yoshio Kodama, the political "boss" of Tokyo. He is a "boss" in the old-time U.S. political sense and his connections and power infiltrate throughout Japan's gambling, nightclub, sports etc. worlds. He is the behind the scenes political "boss" who controls the balance of political power. A more detailed sketch of how and why will be part of this memorandum. Kodama is an avowed anti-Communist. His motivation for his personal activities is political rather than financial. He is an old style Japanese nationalist and has never had any exposure to the Western world.

In essence, he represents the "old forces" in Japan and controls them. The "new forces", who are trying to be a bridge between Asia and the Western world, (as represented by Dr. Matsushita and his group) feel that Kodama has matured and is flexible. They feel they can get him to cooperate in critical U.S.-Japanese problems if he is given a framework of reference to be able to think in terms of the world instead of just Japan. If Kodama visits the U.S. they believe that on his return they will be able to capitalize on this increased understanding at key moments and in the ways which Japanese handle these things with Japanese.

Kodama has no idea that anyone is thinking about him in these terms. Due to his background and his current role he could not be invited to the U.S. officially. At the same time, he undoubtedly would not be given a visa without the consent of U.S. authorities.

We have devised a plan whereby he could be invited to come as the "guest" of a leading U.S. Newspaper provided that the project has unofficial government approval and that funds can be obtained for the project.

BACKGROUND

In order to understand how this project in practical international relationships has developed and why it is meaningful, it is necessary to know the background, relationship and motivation of the people involved.

My personal biography is attached. I have been accepted into the inner circle of this group of Japanese who are fighting Communism and trying to establish a bridge between Japan and the Western world, since we met at an economic conference in Belgium in 1962. I was with them again last December while on an around the world writing trip.

In addition to Dr. Matsushita, among other important members of the group are Mr. Iwasa, president of the Fujii Bank and Mr. Seigen Tanaka, a leading industrialist who has an unusual history.

Mr. Tanaka was Secretary General of the Communist Party of Japan from 1929 to 1931 and organized and directed the terrorist activities of the armed Communist underground. When he was sentenced to 12 years in prison his mother committed harakiri. After six years the government commuted his sentence, but Tanaka insisted on serving the full term as an act of atonement. He was converted to the cause of freedom and became a business success in order to finance anti-Communist activities. He heads a number of oil, petrochemical, construction and development companies. He led the majority faction of the radical Zengakuren boys to defect from the Japanese Communist Party in 1960. At the same time, he organized the League of Students in Defense of Democracy whose membership now amounts to 40,000. He heads the National Council in Defense of Democracy which is working to unite over 450,000 laborers from neutral unions and longshoremen in order to match the leftist Sonjo labor union.

As already stated, Dr. Matsushita is president of Tokyo University and his his PhD in international law from Columbia University. He was in Washington last week lecturing as the Far East expert at the Institute of International Education. His university is Episcopal oriented and supported by the Episcopal church here.

Dr. Matsushita and Tanaka have been spearheading a drive to obtain government legislation to stiffen penalties for dope traffic and to place control in one central enforcement agency rather than having it scattered in various ministries. The Communists, of course, have been using the dope traffic as a source of foreign exchange for their underground activities in Asia which is why Tanaka and Matsushita are fighting it.

As a result of these activities the underworld attempted to assassinate Tanaka in November and he is still in the hospital.

Dr. Matsushita had a meeting with Kodama, the "Boss",

and Taoka, the "suo-boss" from Osaka, two weeks ago in Tokyo and they both assured him they would cooperate to the fullest extent with himself and Tanaka in their anti-narcotic work against the Communists.

All this background is by way of establishing the rather unusual relationship of these people. There is a dedication in Japanese politics for which there is no equivalent in the U.S.

Kosmio Kadama has had a complicated career. In brief, he began as a student revolutionary--a rightist but loyal to the Emperor and spent time in jail; 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. He has extended his influence throughout Japan's underworld as a means of being the behind the scenes political "boss" with an importance that he feels he could never achieve now openly.

As I understand it, in Japan the strong point of control by being the "boss" of the underworld is not only just votes but the fear of physical force. There have been a number of political stabbings and acts of violence recently. As Dr. Matsushita explains it to me, "Unless you can keep the underworld neutral you cannot get power. Otherwise your life is in ~~jeopardy~~ jeopardy and unless you are anxious to get to heaven sooner than later you just don't oppose them."

Dr. Matsushita says that Kodama is an Oriental and ~~anti~~ anti-Western. This is why he is anti-Communist because he considers Marxism and Leninism are Western concepts. In other words he is a nationalist and an Oriental, but one whom Dr. Matsushita and this group believe is now flexible enough to work with them if he is given the exposure to the U.S. which this project proposes.

Dr. Matsushita is more than aware of the problems involved in carrying out this project, and appreciates how this has to be checked out. For the last 15 years he has been responsible for drafting the laws in Japan against anti-subversive activities and he has worked closely with the Japanese Investigation Bureau of Public Peace. He tells me that he can get the full support of this agency in connection with this project if there is any question as to why Kodama is coming here.

The principle point to be kept in mind is that this project is initiated by Dr. Matsushita, his colleagues and myself as a practical and positive one to strengthen the cause of the free world in Japan. We think this is particularly important at this time due to the rising economic pressures to open the door wide to trade with

Red China and the Soviet Union. Although Kodama is anti-Communist he is also anti-Western and since he holds a certain balance of power it is intelligent to carry out a project which would give the Japanese group additional leverage in getting him to make the right decisions at the right times.

MODUS OPERANDI

The approach to Kodama has to be a logical one. This is the plan which Dr. Matsushita states will work, speaking from the Oriental point of view.

Jameson Campaigne, editor of the Indianapolis Star, also attended the economic meeting in Belgium and became a friend of this Japanese group. The plan is for him to go to Tokyo to do some articles and Dr. Matsushita will introduce him to Kodama. After sufficient meetings Campaigne will invite Kodama to the U.S. as the guest of the Indianapolis Star and tell him that in return he would like to have him write some articles about his impressions of the U.S. Dr. Matsushita would influence him to accept the invitation. We would then set up an appropriate program whereby he would meet meaningful people and see activities and places important to his "education." Dr. Matsushita would "coincidentally" arrive in the U.S. during his visit to help keep things on course.

Both Dr. Matsushita and I have discussed this with Campaigne who is in accord with the importance of the project and Mos is a perfect person for his role.

We are now seeking cooperation to carry out the project.

Sincerely,

RUTH SHELDON KNOWLES

1623 South Madison
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Telephone: Area Code 918
Luther 5-9528