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Source Cryptonyms: See below

This information was obtained in Taipei by a China Mission case officer known as His source for this information (the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs official) claims to have seen the petition and passports mentioned in this report and for that reason it is deemed worthy of dissemination even though the information appears improbable.

CS-54022

*NOMURA
KICHIHARU
Boss*

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

- (2)(A) Privacy
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INFORMATION REPORT
(CONTROLLED AMERICAN SOURCE)

COUNTRY Japan/Nationalist China

DATE DISTR. 29 October 1954

SUBJECT Chinese Treasure Reportedly hidden in Japan
by NOMURA Kichisaburo.

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE ACQUIRED Formosa, Taipei

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DATE OF INFO. September 1954

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

GRADING OF SOURCE						COLLECTOR'S PRELIMINARY GRADING OF CONTENT					
COMPLETELY RELIABLE	USUALLY RELIABLE	FAIRLY RELIABLE	NOT USUALLY RELIABLE	NOT RELIABLE	CANNOT BE JUDGED	CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES	PROBABLY TRUE	POSSIBLY TRUE	DOUBTFUL	PROBABLY FALSE	CANNOT BE JUDGED
A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6. x

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Chinese writer closely connected with Chinese Nationalist officials (B); from a Nationalist Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs official with good access to the information (F).

- On 1 September 1954 LI Tsu-tan (2621/4371/5106)¹ sent a petition to Chinese Nationalist Vice President CH'EN Ch'eng which contained the following information:

Two Taiwanese friends of LI's, CH'EN Ch'ung-fu (7115/2504/1788) and LI Chieh-tai'un (2621/2638/3625), worked under Vice Admiral NOMURA Kichisaburo during World War II when NOMURA was garrison commander at Kaohsiung, Taiwan. Before NOMURA returned to Japan, he told CH'EN and LI that he had buried all the valuables he had collected from the China mainland and those belonging to the Japanese Navy at his birthplace in Japan.² After NOMURA returned to Japan CH'EN and LI corresponded with him and NOMURA repeatedly mentioned the hidden treasure and expressed willingness to share it with the Chinese Government if the latter legally claimed it from the Japanese Government. According to CH'EN and LI the hidden treasure was worth millions in U.S. dollars.

- LI Tsu-tan requested that he and his two friends be granted permission to go to Japan to meet with NOMURA regarding the treasure. He asked that the Chinese Government notify the Japanese Government about the buried treasure after their arrival, or better still, after they had obtained the treasure so that they may bring it out of Japan. LI stated that he and his two friends would be satisfied with a small percentage of the treasure.
- In early September Vice-President CH'EN approved LI's petition. The three men applied to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for passports and were prepared to leave for Japan as soon as permission was granted.

1 **Field Comment.** We have no record of a LI Tsu-tan.

2 **Field Comment.** In the Who's Who and other biographic sources available to this office NOMURA's birthplace is listed simply as Wakayama-ken. We have been unable to find a source which specifies a city, town, or village in Wakayama-ken.

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