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A.	B. X	C.	D.	E.	F.	1.	2. X	3.	4.	5.	6.
	X					1.	X				

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Former Japanese intelligence officer

NOMURA Kichisaburo was originally slated to become the Director General of the Defense Agency in the HATOYAMA Cabinet. HATOYAMA had already approached him and obtained his agreement to the appointment when HATOYAMA was forced to drop him because of opposition from circles inside the Government.¹ SUOJIMARA Arata was chosen to replace NOMURA. SUOJIMARA's official residence was selected and his appointment almost confirmed when, on the recommendation of ASHIDA Hitoshi, it was finally decided to appoint NOMURA Seichi to the position.²

1 Field Comment. In a story on friction between civilian and military personnel in the defense organization, Yomiuri Shimbun on 6 January 1955 stated that NOMURA's name was dropped from the list of candidates for director general of the Defense Agency because bureau heads in Defense Agency Headquarters and high-ranking officers of the staff offices, who were formerly civil officials, were ready to resign simultaneously if he were selected. This group was aware that NOMURA is in favor of abolishing the bureaus through which civilian control is maintained over the military, the newspaper stated.

2 Source Comment. It is not known why, but it is true that ASHIDA still exercises great influence in the Democratic Party.

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