

OGATA Taketora (II)

HATOYAMA Ichiro's illness will prevent him from taking an active part in politics in the next three or four years. Since YOSHIDA Shigeru is unwilling to stay in office for that length of time, he and HATOYAMA have decided to turn the leadership of the Liberal Party over to OGATA Taketora. A year after the ratification of the Treaty YOSHIDA will call a general election and name OGATA as his successor. OGATA will be depurged very soon. Will not take any immediate part in politics. Is being urged to travel abroad, to study the international situation at first-hand and to prepare himself for his responsibilities. (ZJL-669, 12 July 1951, C → file)

There is a strong movement afoot among those close to Prime Minister YOSHIDA Shigeru to bring OGATA Taketora back into the political world. OGATA will soon join the Liberal Party...Backers of OGATA are especially to be found among the followers of SHIRASU Jiro and MATSUMOTO Shigeharu. (ZJL-708, 31 August 1951, C → file)

Former State Minister and Director General of the Information Board, told a news conference in Fukuoka on Dec. 4 that he would join the Liberal Party soon. (FBIS, JIJI, Tokyo, Dec. 4, 1951)

Member, KYUCHU (Palace Moderate) Group. (ZJL-718, 11 Sept 51, C →
CE File III-46)

YOSHIDA Shigeru desires to retire in favor of HATOYAMA Ichiro, but, if this is impossible because of HATOYAMA's poor health, has decided to hand the baton over to OGATA. If speed is of the essence, since OGATA is not yet in a position to take office, HAYASHI Joji, speaker of the House of Representatives and a ranking Liberal Party official, would be YOSHIDA's candidate to fill the vacant post of Prime Minister. (ZJL-767, 14 Dec 51, C → [] → dossier)

Prince TAKAMATSU stated to NOMURA Kichisaburo (October 1951) that OGATA would serve as the nucleus of the rearmament movement in the political sphere. (ZJL-799, 2 February 1952, C → GC A-10.30)

OGATA Taketora, one-time State Minister, will visit Southeast Asia, Europe and the U. S. in May in the capacity of adviser to the Economic Stabilization Board. He will inspect economic conditions and particularly the development of iron ore mines in Goa, Portuguese India in which Japan made investments. (FBIS, PANASIA, Tokyo, 15 Apr. 52.)

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)
(2)(A) Privacy
(2)(B) Methods/Sources
(2)(G) Foreign Relations

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OGATA Taketora.

Hitoshi TAKAHASHI on May 7 in Hong Kong denied reports that he has been contacting Third Force Leaders in Hongkong in an official capacity. TAKAHASHI represents Taketora OGATA and is in Hong Kong to make preparations for the latter's trip to the Colony. It is also reported that, in conversation with Gen. HSU Tsung-tse, he has ~~been~~ indicated that Japanese authorities would offer assistance in China's so-called democracy and freedom movement. Contacted by PANASIA, he denied the reports, saying that he is a private businessman. He is slated to return to Japan May 28. Informed sources in Hong Kong, stating that although he is not believed to be connected with OGATA, he is working for Japan's International Military Research Institute. (FBIS, Hong Kong, PANASIA, 7 May 1952).

OGATA Taketora is due in Hong Kong on 16 May. (NY Times, 15 May 52).

HATTORI Takushiro, v., visited Subject to explore his stand on rearmament, but does not believe that the conversation had much effect on SUBJECT. JUL-790, 23 Jan 52, HATTORI Takushiro Dossier.

CHIANG Kai-Shek on May 12 gave his personal support to the work of OGATA Taketora, visiting Japanese diplomat, who is leading the formation of a Southeast Asian anti-Communist front. The two men conferred in Taipei (FBIS, Taipei, AFP, English Morse, May 13, 1952.)

TOGATA (sic - probably OGATA), active Minister without Portfolio, who is enroute to SEA has sent a representative to make contact with HSU Ch'ung-chih and Dr. C. T. WANG. Dr. WANG is extremely active as a proponent of the belief that any satisfactory solution in the Far East must be based upon Chinese-Japanese cooperation. See ZCKA-3010, 18 Apr 52, EE GC File C - 12.

OGATA Taketora, ex-Jap Minister of State and veteran newspaperman, was in Formosa May 7 to 13 on private goodwill trip which will include SE Asia, India, Pakistan. He conferred with Chinese Govt. leaders including 3 calls on President CHIANG. Foreign Office said attention given OGATA due possibility he might succeed YOSHIDA as Japanese Premier but nothing concrete came from his talks here. He told press that Japan wished develop trade with SE Asia so as sell industrial output there if Chinese mainland cut off, that SE Asia political alliance unnecessary as prosperity thru economic cooperation would offset Communism, that Japan planned call economic confab at Tokyo if sufficient support given and that internal security and military strength of Formosa impressive. (Dept of Army, Taipei, In 139904, 16 May 52.)

Reportedly spoke at the inaugural meeting in Fukuoka City of the West Japan National Construction League on 5 Dec 51. (TF-884-52, 7 Apr 52: File, B-10)

OGATA Taketora

OGATA Taketora, who was warmly received by the Gimo during his recent visit to Taiwan, returned to Japan expecting YOSHIDA to appoint him as Minister of Security. Appointment was not forthcoming due to pressure on YOSHIDA exercised by leading members of the Liberal Party who accused OGATA of advocating close cooperation with Taiwan because of a bribe received from the Gimo. (MANI 2618, IN 27965, 15 Aug 52, MICMAC).

According to a member of the Continental Affairs Research Institute subject sent a congratulatory message upon the 1st edition of the Institute's pamphlet, CONTINENT, (TAIRIKU). Subject was formerly president of the Cabinet Information Bureau, Cabinet Sec'y general, and editor in chief of the Asahi Shinbun. [] ZJJ-80, 11 Mar 52, CE File III-48.1.

According to employees of the Metco Co. in Hongkong, CHAO fan (possibly C.M. CHAO, director of Nulanco; reportedly has Nationalist connections) made contact with HASEGAWA Takashi, who is economic adviser to OGATA Taketora. CHAO said that OGATA stayed in a hotel on Cumberland Road, Kowloon, while he was in Hongkong. It was rumored that OGATA was "a principal villain" with the Japanese Information Bureau. His mission in Hong Kong was to set up the Japanese Consulate and the Bank of Tokyo in Hong Kong, to talk with Hong Kong government authorities about the possibilities for trade with the Chinese Communists, and to make a survey of the market capacity for Japanese goods in Hong Kong. (ZJY-7930, 25 July 52, TL-Kent, 16-7-30-28).

OGATA Taketora

OGATA Taketora was one of the chief promoters of a memorial service for the late Prime Minister HIROTA Koki, who was hanged as a Class-A War Criminal...at Sugamo. The service was to be held at the Tokyo Industrial Club, 5 Dec., with about 500 persons slated to attend. (FHIS Tokyo JIJI 2 Dec 53)

Subject attended a party for T'ANG En-po at the Tokyo Kaikan on 28 Mar 53, at which were 100 prominent Japanese in business and finance, and some ex-military men. (FJJ-160, 17 Apr 53, [] [] [] dossier)