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| SUBJECT FEC/MIS Intelligence Summary - Daily | | | DATE 28 Sept 1955 | |
| PERTINENT INFORMATION | | | | |
| THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS EXCERPTED | | | | |
| POLITICAL REPORT | | | | |
| 2. <u>Indecision on Defense Policy:</u> | | | | |
| <p>a. <u>New Plan Delayed:</u> The Administration and the Liberal Party, in late August, apparently were off to a smooth start in their attempt to come up with a new defense plan, integrated as part of a general policy revision and intended as a bid for political stability and popular support. However, Deputy Prime Minister <u>OGATA</u>'s rough outline of the elements in the new defense plan was immediately questioned by Liberal Party Secretary General SATO, who said OGATA's remarks did not represent official party policy. Subsequent reports, attributed to government of Liberal Party sources, have continued to present contradictions on defense policy. On 10 Sept OGATA stated that the new defense policy, originally scheduled for formal adoption in early September, has not yet been completed and may come up for reconsideration next week. OGATA said that differences between Japanese and American authorities had affected the timing on the new plan, the US apparently favoring a long range outline, while the Japanese had been more concerned with a plan for the next fiscal year. The Deputy Prime Minister said that Prime Minister YOSHIDA probably will brief General CLARK on the plan after it has been completed.</p> | | | | |
| <p><u>Comment:</u> OGATA's references to US influence on Japanese defense planning</p> | | | | |
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is almost certain to have political repercussions. The Liberal Party and the YOSHIDA Administration have been attacked consistently for being too "dependent" on US planning and leadership.....

The government may prefer to take the stand that external events (i.e., the US attitude, the RHEE line dispute) have necessitated a more positive stand on defense. This would be a partial answer to opposition accusations of an indefensible policy reversal on a major issue. However, factors other than those mentioned by OGATA probably are influencing the timing on release of revised defense policy....

**THIS IS ALL THE INFORMATION PERTINENT
TO THE SUBJECT IN THIS DOCUMENT.**

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