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SUBJECT SIS/NA Study on Japanese Conservative Leaders			DATE 17 Oct 1955	
PERTINENT INFORMATION Dispatch from : () THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS EXCERPTED VERBATIM <u>Brief Evaluation of Pro US Orientation of Possible Future Conservative Leaders.</u> 2. <u>OGATA Taketora</u> - There seems to be general agreement that OGATA may have a good chance to be Prime Minister if YOSHIDA has anything to say about it. Even though OGATA's policies are difficult to separate from those YOSHIDA's there is no doubt that OGATA would continue to adhere to a strong pro-US position as long as it were possible. He is described politically as strongly conservative, and would not conceive of any political rapprochement with the Soviet Orbit. He would probably see future relations with the US in a more nationalistic context than YOSHIDA. Any position he might take on economic relations with Communist China must naturally be viewed in the context of Japan's deteriorating economic situation and the loud voices, including many conservative ones, which are being raised in support of increased trade with the mainland. One Liberal Party source states that OGATA believes "coexistence" to be impossible and would result only in a "snare" for Japan. If he states to the contrary, this well-informed source believes that it would only be in terms of immediate political expediency. While OGATA is not known to bear any resentment toward the US, he is reported to feel that certain acts committed				
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under the US occupation were foolish. In the economic field, OGATA is understood to be committed to getting Japan back on her feet. While he himself has little knowledge of economics, it is believed that he would pursue a strong economic policy insofar as he were able. He does believe that generous US aid is necessary for real Japanese economic recovery. OGATA is universally described as a strong anti-Communist, and, as stated above, would not attempt to deal politically with the Orbit. In this sense, he appreciates the necessity for the maintenance of US bases in Japan and the rearmament of Japan. In the view of at least two prominent Liberals, OGATA would be the party's choice for YOSHIDA's successor. This is so despite the fact that he is not a politician and that he is not so popularly known as YOSHIDA. One highly-placed Liberal believes that OGATA is incapable of making domestic political decisions. This indecisiveness is not borne out, however, in his conduct of government and international affairs during Yohsida's prolonged absences from the scene in 1954.

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

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