

633
ORIG :
UNIT : FM/L
EXT : 3520
DATE : 26 JULY 1955

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

SECRET

ROUTING	
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TO : STATE, ARMY, NAVY, AIR, NSA, JCS, SECDEF, ONE, OGI

FROM : CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CONF : FE 7

INFO : CI/OPS, CI/IC, FI/OPS, FI/PLANS, FI/RQM 4, FI/STD 2, FI/RI 2, PP 2, PP/OPS, S/C 2, SPECIAL: OCD, OCI 13, ONE

OGATA Taketora

CS FD NO. 119 (OUT 59551) 2200Z 26 JUL 55 ROUTINE
PRECEDENCE

REFORM/NO DISSEM ABROAD/CONTINUED CONTROL

FROM : C D (26 JULY 1955)

DATE OF INFO: 26 JULY 1955

APPRAISAL
OF CONTEXT : 2, ~~as to~~ AS TO REPORTorial ACCURACY

SOURCE : AMERICAN OBSERVER (B)M AT AN INTERVIEW WITH OGATA TAKETORA

SUBJECT : OGATA'S VIEWS ON CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION

OGATA TAKETORA, PRESIDENT OF LIBERAL PARTY, STATED FOLLOWING VIEWS REGARDING
POLITICAL SITUATION ON 26 JULY:

A. HATOYAMA ICHIRO HAS REVERSED HIS DECISION TO RETIRE AS PRIME MINISTER THIS YEAR AND TO BACK CONSERVATIVE POLITICAL MERGER; HE IS NOW ATTEMPTING TO RETAIN CONTROL OF POLITICAL SITUATION. KISHI NOBUSUKE, SECRETARY GENERAL OF DEMOCRATIC PARTY, AND MIKI BUKICHI, CHAIRMAN OF DEMOCRATIC PARTY EXECUTIVE BOARD, ARE SINCERE IN DESIRE FOR MERGER AND ARE WORKING TO BRING IT ABOUT. BUT MIKI IS BECOMING COOL TOWARD MERGER BECAUSE OF ACTIVITIES OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY MINISTER KONO ICHIRO, WHO HAS RISEN TO BE DE FACTO DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND IS BLOCKING MERGER, WHICH WOULD THREATEN HIS POWER. KONO HAS SPLIT WITH MIKI AND NOW CONTROLS HATOYAMA WHOM HE IS ADVISING TO STAY IN POWER UNTIL 1956 BUDGET IS PASSED. MIKI IS LOSING INFLUENCE.

COORDINATING OFFICERS

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ABSTRACT	INDEX
DATE: 081 28 1956	

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

- EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)
- (a)
- (b)
- (c)

Declassified and Approved for Release
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Date: 2005

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- B. DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS OF FOUR-MAN MERGER PLANNING CONFERENCE CANNOT ENFORCE COMPLIANCE OF THEIR PARTY MEMBERS WITH DECISIONS OF CONFERENCE. HENCE LIBERALS ARE FORCED TO RETURN TO INDEPENDENT POSITION. RESULT MAY WELL BE DIET DISSOLUTION, WHICH WOULD BENEFIT ONLY SOCIALISTS. HATOYAMA THINKS HE IS STILL POPULAR, BUT OGATA THINKS PEOPLE ARE TIRED OF HATOYAMA'S VACILLATION. LIBERALS WILL FIGHT AGAINST DIET DISSOLUTION.
- C. HATOYAMA MAY ANNOUNCE PUBLICLY, IN SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER, ^{HIS} ~~THE~~ DECISION NOT TO RETIRE. IF HE DOES SO, LIBERALS WILL SPLIT WITH DEMOCRATS AND ELECTIONS WILL FOLLOW IN JANUARY OR FEBRUARY 1956.
- D. KONO ARGUES THAT THE DEMOCRATS SHOULD CONTINUE LONDON NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOVIETS AS LONG AS POSSIBLE AND HE PUTS THIS AHEAD OF CONSERVATIVE MERGER SINCE POSSIBILITY OF SUCCESS AT LONDON WOULD KEEP DEMOCRATS IN POWER. KONO'S PROJECTED TRIP ABROAD IS REALLY TO SEE MATSUMOTO SHUNICHI, CHIEF DELEGATE TO JAPANESE*SOVIET NEGOTIATIONS, AND INSTRUCT HIM TO KEEP NEGOTIATIONS GOING. (WASHINGTON COMMENT. IN REPLYING TO QUESTION IN DIET ON 21 JULY, KONO STATED HE WAS PLANNING TO VISIT GREAT BRITAIN TO STUDY EXPORT MARKETS FOR CANNED FISH.) KONO IS INTERESTED ONLY IN POWER, NOT IN NATIONAL INTERESTS.

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E. SOVIET BLOC SEEMS TO BE WORKING TO KEEP WEAK GOVERNMENT IN OFFICE IN JAPAN. COMMUNISTS ARE MAKING OVERTURES TO WELL KNOWN CONSERVATIVES SUCH AS KUHARA FUSANOSUKE, HIRATSUKA TSUNEJIRO AND KITAMURA IN ATTEMPT TO SPLIT JAPANESE CONSERVATIVES. (WASHINGTON COMMENT. KUHARA, FAMOUS BREWER RIGHTIST, IS PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR RESTORATION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CHINA AND USSR; HIRATSUKA IS PRESIDENT OF JAPAN FISHERIES ASSOCIATION AND DEMOCRATIC DIET MEMBER FROM THIRD DISTRICT HOKKAIDO; KITAMURA IS PROBABLY KITAMURA TORUTARO, FORMER PROGRESSIVE PARTY MEMBER AND NOW DEMOCRATIC DIET MEMBER FROM SECOND DISTRICT NAGASAKI PREFECTURE.) INDIVIDUALS SUCH AS NAMBARA SHIGERU AND OUCHI HICE HELP THIS EFFORT; AS WRITERS, WHEN THEY RETURN FROM USSR THEY WILL WRITE WHAT THEY THINK WILL SELL. (WASHINGTON COMMENT. NAMBARA, FORMER PRESIDENT OF TOKYO UNIVERSITY, WAS REPORTED BY KYODO TO HAVE REACHED PEIHING ON 6 JUNE 1955 FROM MOSCOW AFTER COMPLETING A ONE-MONTH TOUR OF USSR AS MEMBER OF 15-MAN SCIENTIFIC MISSION HEADED BY DR. KAYA SEIJI, CHAIRMAN OF JAPAN COUNCIL OF SCIENCES.)

FIELD DISTRIBUTION: NONE.

FINAL DISSEM FOLLOWS IN CSDB-35290

(END OF MESSAGE)

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