

## FIELD INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Japan REPORT NO. FJB-2286  
SUBJECT Moves against OGATA Taketora DATE OF REPORT 27 December 1955  
NO. OF PAGES 15-83227  
REFERENCES

DATE OF INFO. December 1955 (Conn. based with JTB-2277 and 2294)  
PLACE ACQUIRED Japan, Tokyo (14 December 1955)

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. NOTE FOREGOING EXPLANATION.

SOURCE: Trained American observer (B); from a Japanese student of political affairs with extensive contacts in conservative political and journalistic circles (F). Appraisal of Content: 3.

- OGATA Taketora made a serious mistake in failing to accept the offer of Vice Presidency of the Democratic-Liberal Party (DLP) and in permitting the creation of the four-man proxy committee. If OGATA had become Vice President, the former Progressive Party elements in the DLP would have felt obligated to support him for the Premiership in April 1956; they do not now feel so obligated. OGATA is not really supported by MIKI Bukichi; MIKI merely is paying lip service to OGATA now and in a crisis will point to his public statements in support of OGATA and express regret that they were not enough to make OGATA Premier.
- Candidates for the April House of Councillors election feel that they will have a better chance for election under HATOYAMA Ichiro than they would under OGATA, and so it is unlikely that the election of a new DLP President will take place until August 1956. HATOYAMA can, by using patronage now at his disposal, assure his election then if he desires to do so, and the longer the elections are postponed the slimmer OGATA's chances for the Presidency become.
- The YOSHIDA Shigeru faction of the former Liberal Party does not intend to remain apart from the DLP but will attempt to join with other DLP factions in order to isolate OGATA. KONO Ichiro has already made approaches to IKEDA Hayato and SATO Eisaku.

## NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

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Ref. filed in 100-91175