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ITEM NO=00240779
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FRP: , , 3, , , , ,

STATE

ACTION: NONE INFO: ADDO/NA, DOMDS, DONOVA, ODPB-B, ODPD-D,
ODPN-N, ODPS-S, OPCTR/EASA, OPCTR/EWE, RF, SOV/RP/ELA, STATDICT, FILE,
DCEA/1, EA/CI, EA/J-2, EA/OSS, EA/RR, EUR/F, EUR/RR, EPI/EUR, EPO/EUR,
NCPM, NIO/EA, OEA/OD, PPS/INSE, PPS/REB, (16/W)

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NC 6740424

TOR: 050013Z NOV 87

PARIS 48224

HEADER

RR RUEAIIB
ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH
UTS0081
RR RUEHC
DE RUFHFR #8224 3081335
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 041331Z NOV 87
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8465
INFO RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 2017
RUADBMC/AMCONSUL NAHA 0013
RUEHKO/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 0069
RUADLTA/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 0008
RUEHKOS/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 0003

BT

CONTROLS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 48224

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FOR COORDINATION WITH State

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

BODY

TAGS: PINR, JA, FR
SUBJECT: GOF REQUESTS INFORMATION ON RYOICHI SASAKAWA

1. (C) MFA JAPAN DESK OFFICER OLIVIER ANSART (PROTECT) CALLED POLOFF ON NOVEMBER 4 AND REQUESTED INFORMATION ON JAPANESE CITIZEN RYOICHI SASAKAWA. ANSART SAID THAT SASAKAWA HAD APPROACHED GOF ABOUT OPENING A CULTURAL CENTER IN FRANCE. SASAKAWA'S PROPOSAL TO OPEN THE CULTURAL CENTER IS HIS FIRST ACTIVITY IN FRANCE.

2. (C) GOF, HOWEVER, IS CONCERNED ABOUT COOPERATING WITH SASAKAWA: 1) BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE THAT HE WAS A

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

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WORLD WAR II WAR CRIMINAL, AND 2) BECAUSE OF RUMORS THAT HE WAS/IS A MEMBER OF THE "JAPANESE MAFIA" AND ENRICHED HIMSELF THROUGH CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES. IN SUM, THE FRENCH DO NOT WANT TO WORK WITH HIM IF HE IS AN UNSAVORY CHARACTER.

3. (C) ACCORDING TO ANSART, SASAKAWA HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN THE U.S. THROUGH VARIOUS HUMANITARIAN AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES DESIGNED PERHAPS TO IMPROVE HIS IMAGE. ANSART REQUESTS ANY INFORMATION THE USG MAY HAVE CONCERNING HIS PAST. HE STRESSED THAT HE WAS REQUESTING THIS INFORMATION ON A VERY DISCREET BASIS. IF SUCH INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AND IF THE DEPARTMENT APPROVES, WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO PASS IT TO GOF ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS, LETTING THE FRENCH MAKE THEIR OWN JUDGMENT CONCERNING SASAKAWA'S CHARACTER AND SUITABILITY.
RODGERS

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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