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ITEM NO=00282711
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STATE

ACTION: NONE INFO: ADDO/NA, DOMDS, DONOVA, NMON, ODPB-B, ODPD-D,
ODPK-K, 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, D/FBIS-2,
EPO/EUR, ICS/HC/AS, ICS/HC/EU, NCECF, NCPM, NIO/EA, NIO/ECON, NPIC/CSRD,
PPS/CLBC, PPS/INSE, PPS/REB, (22/W)

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TOR: 110524Z NOV 87

STATE 351869

HEADER

PP RUEAIIB

ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH

PP RUEHC RUFHFR RUEHKO

DE RUEHC #1869 3150402

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P R 110358Z NOV 87

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO RUFHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 9862

INFO RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 6290

BT

CONTROLS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 351869

NOFORN

FOR COORDINATION WITH State

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

BODY

TAGS: PINR, JA, FR

SUBJECT: GOF REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON RYOICHI SASAKAWA

REF: PARIS 48224

1. FOLLOWING MATERIAL SHOULD BE HANDLED AS
CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN/RELEASEABLE TO GOF ONLY:

2. BILLED BY THE PRESS AS THE "GODFATHER OF JAPAN"
CONSERVATIVE BUSINESS TYCOON RYOICHI SASAKAWA, 87, IS
ONE OF JAPAN'S MOST CONTROVERSIAL BUSINESS FIGURES.
SASAKAWA BUILT HIS USDOLS 8.4 BILLION EMPIRE AS A
GAMBLING IMPRESSARIO WHO OPERATED MOTORBOAT RACING
CONCESSIONS, THE ONLY PRIVATELY-OWNED LEGAL GAMBLING
OPERATION IN JAPAN.

3. SASAKAWA HAS BEEN CLOSELY IDENTIFIED WITH RIGHT

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

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Declassified and Approved for Release
by the Central Intelligence Agency
Date:

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WING CAUSES SINCE HIS EARLY CAREER. DURING THE 1930'S, HE ORGANIZED A NATIONALIST GROUP INVOLVED IN SEVERAL POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS IN THE PREWAR YEARS. HIS INVOLVEMENT WITH THIS GROUP, PLUS A STINT IN THE DIET DURING THE WAR YEARS, EARNED HIM MORE THAN THREE YEARS

IN PRISON AS A SUSPECTED WAR CRIMINAL. IN THE 1960'S, HE ESTABLISHED THE JAPAN CHAPTER OF THE WORLD ANTI-COMMUNIST LEAGUE (WACL).

4. AS HEAD OF THE JAPANESE SHIPBUILDING FOUNDATION, SASAKAWA HAS CONTRIBUTED OVER 1.35 BILLION DOLLARS TO CHARITIES WORLDWIDE, INCLUDING DOLS 50 MILLION TO THE UN, DOLS 45 MILLION TO ESTABLISH THE US-JAPAN FOUNDATION, AND ENDOWMENTS TO HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, OXFORD UNIVERSITY, AND OTHER ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS. SASAKAWA'S PHILANTHROPIC EFFORTS HAVE EARNED HIM THE MARTIN LUTHER KING PEACE PRIZE, THE UN PEACE PRIZE, AND THE LINUS PAULING AWARD FOR HUMANITARIANISM, BUT HAVE NOT YET CAPTURED THE OBJECT OF HIS LIFELONG PURSUIT, THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE. AS A RESULT OF HIS ACTIVISM, HE HAS DEVELOPED TIES WITH MANY INTERNATIONAL LEADERS, INCLUDING POPE JOHN PAUL II, FORMER PRESIDENT CARTER, AND CHINESE LEADER DENG XIAO PENG. SHULTZ

ADMIN

END OF MESSAGE

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