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DIRECTOR 833047

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191711Z DIRECTOR 833047

TO: NC/WASHINGTON INFO FR/WASHINGTON.

FROM: NR/NCB INFO EA/J

SLUGS: WNINTEL

SUBJECT: TRACE RESPONSE

REF: A. NC/WASHINGTON 56519 (91 5054007)
B. DIRECTOR 564780 (NOT SENT NC WASHINGTON)

TEXT:

1. HQS TRACES ON REF A SUBJECTS AKIRA ((IRIYAMA)) AND THE SASAGAWA (ALTERNATE SPELLING "SASAKAWA". PEACE FOUNDATION SURFACED NO INFORMATION IDENTIFIABLE WITH EITHER. ON A RELATED SUBJECT HOWEVER, NR/NCB DISCOVERED REF B CABLE, ORIGINATED BY EA/J ON 14 MARCH 1991. THIS CABLE PROVIDED BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON RYOICHI ((SASAGAWA)), THE PEACE FOUNDATION'S NAMESAKE. THE DATA WAS CULLED FROM OPEN SOURCE MATERIAL, HQS TRACES, AND INSTITUTIONAL KNOWLEDGE ON SUBJECT. SYNOPSIS OF REF B FOLLOWS IN PARAS 2-4 FOR STATION'S INFORMATION; HOPE PROVES USEFUL.

2. RYOICHI ((SASAGAWA)) WAS BORN ON 4 MAY 1899 IN MINOMO-SHI, OSAKA-FU, JAPAN. UNTIL THE END OF WWII, HE WAS A VERY ACTIVE NATIONALIST WHO HELD HONORARY POSTS IN RIGHTIST ORGANIZATIONS IN JAPAN. SINCE WWII, HE HAS BEEN A VERY CONTROVERSIAL FIGURE IN JAPAN'S POLITICAL AND BUSINESS ARENAS. POLITICALLY, HE SUPPORTS THE RIGHT-WING; HOWEVER, HE IS ALSO AN ADVISOR AND FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTOR TO JAPAN'S RULING LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY. SASAGAWA, VIA HIS NUMEROUS BUSINESS INTERESTS, IS INVOLVED IN A VARIETY OF -LLEGAL- ACTIVITIES SUCH AS GAMBLING AND PROSTITUTION.

3. TODAY SASAGAWA IS ONE OF THE WEALTHIEST AND MOST PROMINENT MEN IN JAPAN. HE IS LISTED AS THE CHAIRMAN OF JAPAN'S SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY FOUNDATION, JAPAN'S MOTORBOAT ASSOCIATION, THE ALL-JAPAN KARATE ASSOCIATION, JAPAN'S HOTEL EDUCATION CENTER, BLOON AND GREEN (PHON) FINANCIAL GROUP, JAPAN'S CROQUET ASSOCIATION, WORLD CROQUET ASSOCIATION, TRADITIONAL JAPANESE POETRY READING AND SWORD DANCE ASSOCIATION, THE ASSOCIATION FOR CONSOLATION OF THE SPIRITS FOR ALL THOSE KILLED IN WAR, AND JAPAN'S MARITIME PROMOTION FOUNDATION. HE ALSO SERVES AS THE HONORARY CHAIRMAN OF JAPAN'S WATER SKIING ASSOCIATION AND ITS INVENTOR PROMOTIONS ASSOCIATION. IN ADDITION, HE IS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF FUKUOKA'S UNIVERSITY OF ENGINEERING AND IS ON THE BOARDS OF AICHI'S MEDICAL SCHOOL AND THE UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY FOR PEACE. SASAGAWA IS ALSO REPUTED TO BE -HE HONORARY CONSUL GENERAL IN JAPAN FOR THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC. HE IS KNOWN TO USE MOST OR ALL OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS AS FRONT COMPANIES TO ADVANCE HIS OWN IMAGE ENHANCING ACTIVITIES AND TO MANIPULATE HIS FINANCES FOR A VARIETY OF LEGAL AND ILLEGAL PURPOSES.

4. IN THE PAST TWENTY YEARS, SASAGAWA HAS ATTEMPTED TO IMPROVE HIS IMAGE BY CONTRIBUTING OF MONEY TO A VARIETY OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, PROGRAMS, CHARITIES, UNITED NATIONS PROJECTS, AND ENDEAVORS ASSOCIATED WITH INTERNATIONAL FIGURES. IN ALL OF THESE EFFORTS, SASAGAWA ATTEMPTS TO MAKE A PRODUCTION OF HIS GIFT-GIVING, MAKING CERTAIN THAT SUCH ACTIONS ARE RECORDED AND PUBLICIZED. IT IS WIDELY KNOWN THAT THE FUNDS SASAGAWA DONATES TO THESE PROJECTS ARE PARTIALLY OR COMPLETELY RAISED THROUGH HIS LEGAL (ALBEIT FIXED) GAMBLING ENTERPRISES. THE PROFITS FROM THESE ACTIVITIES MUST, BY JAPANESE TAX LAW, BE CONTRIBUTED TO CHARITABLE CAUSES.

5. FILE: > DECL OADR DRV HUM 4-82.>
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