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(2)(A) Privacy
(2)(B) Methods/Sources (2)
(2)(G) Foreign Relations

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

Retired Japanese Government official in dose contact with leaders of the Progressive Party.

> There is little chance that a new conservative party can be formed at this time. SHIBBLUSU kenoru, head of the Progressive Party, has publicly stated that the Progressives will not join a conservative party with the Liberals unless YOSHUM steps down. However, there is a possibility that an agreement will be reached among the three conservative parties on a temporary coalition to permit YOSHIDA to so to the United States as Prime Minister under the condition that he resign immediately upon his return to Japan. All sometrative plans, of course, are dependent upon the results of the shipping soundals investigations which could easily result in the resignati the entire Cabinet.

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