

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

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**BY CABLE**

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SOURCE: Former Japanese Foreign Ministry official (B); from a Japan Democratic Party member of the Lower House (F). Appraisal of Content: 2.

SHIGEMITSU Mamoru considers his appointment as Deputy Prime Minister a plot to remove him from the active direction of the Foreign Ministry. SHIGEMITSU wants desperately to remain as Foreign Minister.

Field Comment. Prior to the formation of the second HATOYAMA Cabinet, rumors were rife that SHIGEMITSU would be relieved of the Foreign Minister portfolio and confined to a mainly honorary post as Deputy Prime Minister.  
Washington Comment. SHIGEMITSU is concurrently Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister.

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- (2)(B) Methods/Sources
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