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S-E-C-R-E-T NOFORN/CONTINUED CONTROL

Japan CCUNTRY

FJT-669 REPORT NO

Position of Foreign Minister SUBJECT

DATE OF REPORT 7 August 1956

SHIGEMITSU Mamoru on Negotiations with

NO. OF PAGER

REFERENCES

C5-102159

DATE OF

July 1956

Japan, Tokyo (24 July 1956)

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. NOTE FOREGOING EXPLANATION

SOURCE: Liberal Democratic member of the House of Councillors; formerly of the Liberal Party (B). Appraisal of Content: 2.

- At a meeting of the Executive Board of the Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP) on 16 July 1956, a leader of the former Liberal faction in the LDP told LDP Secretary-General KISHI Nobusuke that the established LDP demends in negotiating with the USSR were the immediate release of prisoners of war held in the USSR and the return of the Southern Muriles to Japan by the USSR, and asked KISHI to confirm that this was still the LDP line; KISHI replied that the delegation going to Moscow to negotiate would follow this line.
- 2. The basis for the above inquiry by the former Liberal faction was the fear of that faction that Foreign Minister SHIGEMITSU Mamoru had weakened his stand and acquiesced in the commitment made by Agriculture-Forestry Minister KONO Ichiro to Soviet Premier Nikolai Bulgania. This fear was in turn based on SHIGHMITSU's acceptance of Moscow as the site of the negotiations, it being known that he preferred London as the site.
- At the 16 July meeting, other LDP leaders present suggested that SHIGEMITSU should be supported by one or more senior advisers, and the Executive Board decided that SUNA Yakichiro, formerly Ambassador to Nadrid, should be one adviser; the name of FUKUDA Tokuyasu was added later. In order that SUNA be appointed without Diet approval, however, it was necessary that he be designated a Parliamentary Vice Minister. KONO, State Minister in Charge of the Hokkaido Development Agency SKCRIKI Mateutaro, and Justice Minister MAKINO Byong all objected strongly to the proposal that SUMA be made a Vice Minister, the latter two claiming that their ministries had nothing to do with foreign negotiations.
- On 19 July AOKI Kazuo, Chairman of the LDP Special Committee on Internal Security, and KIMMA Tokutaro, formerly State Minister in charge of the Defense Agency, visited KISHI and argued that the Justice Ministry did have a concern in the negotiations with the USSR since it was interested in the control of persons entering and leaving Japan, and that the Hokkaido Development Agency was also interested because of the North Pacific fisheries problem. KISHI claimed that he was powerless to do anything in the matter, and the advisers were not appointed.

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Field Comments

- According to FJT-664 from the same source, the former Liberals believed that KONO, during his mission to Moscow earlier this year, had promised Bulganin that relations with the USSR would be restored quickly in return for the provisional fisheries agreement which he obtained. The same report refers to a rumor that SHIGEMITSU had promised to bring the negotiations with the USSR to a successful close, in return for which he had been promised that he would succeed HATOYAMA Ichire as Premier.
- Presumably it had been suggested that SUMA be made Parliamentary Vice Minister in the agencies controlled by these Ministers, all of which, as indicated in para. 4, could be considered to have a stake in the negotiations with the USSR.

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