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Report No: FJB-739 Local File No: EH-435

No. of Pages: 1

No. of Enclosures: 0

Report Made By:

Approved By:

Distributions: F, G

Source Cryptonyms:

MICROFILMED  
JUL 18 1963  
DOC. MICRO. SER.

received this information from  on 9 Feb 55.

obtained it from  president of Sangyo Keizai Shimbun,  
on 8 Feb 55.

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by the Central Intelligence Agency

Date: 2002

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10 mai 55

REPORT NO. 10751

**INFORMATION REPORT**

COUNTRY Japan

DATE DISTR. 10 March 1955

SUBJECT SHO JI Tatsutaro

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE ACQUIRED Japan, Tokyo (8 February 1955)

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NO. OF ENCLS. 0  
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO. February 1955

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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A	B	C	D	E	F	1	2	3	4	5	6
	X							X			

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Japanese Journalist

SHOJI Tatsutaro, owner of the Yomiuri Shinbun, is seeking a seat in the Japanese Diet as a means of expanding his newspaper and television interests. He will shortly announce that he will completely sever his relations with the Yomiuri newspapers.<sup>2</sup> He will nevertheless retain his control over Yomiuri as "silent owner."<sup>3</sup>

1 Source Comment. SHOJI may become president of the Japan Democratic Party in the near future. He may become Prime Minister if he succeeds in unifying the conservative parties.

Field Comment. JIA-683 reported that SHOJI will compete with ITO Hiroo Hisato for leadership of the Japan Democratic Party. He is a candidate for the House of Representatives and is running as an independent from Toyama-ken.

2 Source Comment. Political analyst IZABUCHI Tatsuo is being considered as possible successor to SHOJI for the presidency of Yomiuri.

3 Field Comment. IZABUCHI was born in October 1897 in Niigata-ken. He attended Keio University, but left to work for Yomiuri before completing work on his degree. In 1948 IZABUCHI became editor-in-chief of the Yomiuri Shinbun. He later became a freelance political commentator.

3 Field Comment. Due to a very close vote in the recent elections, SHOJI's Diet seat, as of this writing, is still in doubt.

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