

SECRET

DISPATCH NO. FJTA- 21389

VIA: AIR

DATE: 18 Dec 1957

TO : Chief, FE

FROM : Chief of Station () *Sur*

SUBJECT : POJACKPOT/1 Status

REFERENCES: FJTW-8989, dated 9 April 1957
FJTW-11008, dated 28 August 1957

ACTION REQUIRED: None, for information only.

1. This dispatch will bring you up to date on the course of the conversations with POJACKPOT/1 and Co. First of all - operational reporting on this complex has been sporadic with very little having been put to paper. () has become a more or less constant contact and conversations with him continue to cover a wide range of subject matter, but there is little sense in deluding ourselves that we have anything resembling an operation in these contacts. That he and POJACKPOT/1 continue to regard KUBARK as a useful connection is evidenced by their recent proposals regarding local involvements with Egypt. From our point of view they continue to be useful sources of bits of political gossip, and () especially a fairly accurate predictor of major political developments. These items are reported as they are picked up into normal intelligence channels where they are promptly made available to you.

2. POJACKPOT/1 continues to be one of the most influential men in Japan. It should never be lost sight of, however, that his basic motive is the aggrandizement of his empire with his desire to improve Japan's international position running a close second. Our interest in him picked up again when he re-entered the cabinet in his present position, tying in as it does with [] main activity. In this capacity he has worked within the government for greater appropriations for PODAUB and has, as might be expected, urged a scheme for improving PODAUB communications on to a somewhat reluctant [] and [] He has recently undergone a prostate operation from which he is now recovered and has simultaneously recovered a surprising amount of vigor. He is presently dashing all over the place making all manner of new proposals and () feels, is seeing himself as a candidate for high office once again. There is little question but that he is not a particular friend of () or for that matter of () as events of this summer made amply clear. He continues to be of interest.

3. With regard to the use of POJACKPOT/1 as a source for the intelligence use of his correspondents there would seem to be little possibility of doing it in a way that would satisfy our canons of operational security. This was amply demonstrated when () approached him on the early fall Syrian flap. He indicated general assent to the idea of sending a man from Rome. He did in fact

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send such a man, but without letting () know that he had done it. Headquarters cooling of interest in the idea convinced him that we did not know our own minds, and () made a voyage to Canossa after the whole debacle was over to straighten things out with him. He made it clear that his idea of utilizing his employees involved our giving him our EEI which he would transmit through his own channels to his man on the spot. () proposal had been that his man would contact one of ours in or near the scene. During our obituary conversation on this topic he indicated that to act in line with our notions would be to make a spy out of the newsmen - and although he himself had nothing much against this idea - he was sure that the news would soon get out - for he says that Japanese newsmen are remarkably undesirous of accepting this kind of a role for a country other than their own. With all this in mind it became rather difficult to press the Indonesian suggestions made by headquarters. In due course we may be able to work out a rejuvenation of this scheme, but for the moment there is no prospect of an opening.

4. All in all the relationship continues to be mildly informative, extremely instructive for () worthwhile for what it is. unavoidable as long as POJACKPOT/1 holds his present cabinet position () contact here has been fairly salutary in connection with various high-level () , and in () mind at least - probably the longest pregnancy in the history of the world.

11 December 1957

Distribution:

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