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Source, Operational Data, and Comments:

This information was obtained by BADMINON from personal observation and from TATSUMI's own statements. (Project Ployphase)

For additional comments on TATSUMI's current activities, see ZJJ-57.

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**Subject:** TATSUMI Eiichi

**Report No:** ZJJ-56

**Date of Information:** February 1952

**Place Acquired:** Japan, Tokyo

**Date Acquired:** February 1952

**Evaluation:** B-3

**Date of Report:** 28 March 1952

**Source:** Japanese with intelligence background, former colleague of TATSUMI and a close personal acquaintance.

1. TATSUMI Eiichi (辰 乙 栄 一), former lieutenant general in the Japanese army, is adviser on military affairs to Premier YOSHIDA Shigeru. In this capacity, he advises the premier on depurging of former military officers, payment of pensions to former military officers, reviewing of sentences of war criminals, and assembling of opinions on rearmament from various Japanese. He has not himself officially participated in any rearmament plans. He lives in Tokyo at 61 Kyodo-machi, Setagaya-ku.
2. TATSUMI's career until the end of the war included both military and diplomatic positions. Graduated from the Military Academy in 1915 and at a later (unknown) date from the War College, he was assigned to the Second (Intelligence) Section of JIGS. Some time in the early 1930(s), TATSUMI was in the Staff Section of the Kwantung Army and in Army Training Headquarters, stationed in Changchun, Manchuria. Upon his graduation from the War College, he was marked as a candidate for the diplomatic service because of his scholastic record and his linguistic ability. He served an apprenticeship of a year at the European-American Desk of JIGS, concentrating on the British Section. His work was mainly concerned with documentary intelligence and liaison with the British military attache in Tokyo.
3. In 1931, TATSUMI was sent to London as assistant military attache in the Japanese embassy. His intelligence activities were limited, because he was allowed no funds with which to hire agents, to the collection of information from British officers and government officials and from military attaches of other countries stationed in London. At first his major objective was to obtain information on British Far Eastern policy, but after the beginning of the war in China, he devoted most of his attention to propaganda aimed at preventing British interference with Japanese efforts in Manchuria. In 1936, when YOSHIDA Shigeru was ambassador to England, TATSUMI was military attache. He was again in this post in 1940 and remained there until he was repatriated on an exchange ship in 1942.
4. Upon his return to Japan, TATSUMI felt rather lost because of his long residence abroad and formed associations with other Japanese who had foreign backgrounds. He was assigned to the Eastern Sector (Tobu) Army as

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chief of staff, a position having no direct connection with intelligence. He was liked and trusted by his subordinates because of his integrity, conscientiousness, and sincerity. In March 1945, he was transferred to Shanghai, to command the 3 Division in central China, and remained there until the end of the war. Immediately after the surrender, he and other high-ranking Japanese were interned in a special camp near Shanghai.

5. About the end of 1945, WANG Tzu-chi (王子志), aka WANG Wen-ch'eng (王文成), who had collaborated with the Japanese during the war as Minister of Commerce and Industry in the WANG Ching-wei government, as a means of saving his own neck, proposed to the Nationalist government to form a new anti-Soviet intelligence network. He suggested using Japanese for the work and invited TATSUMI to direct it. TATSUMI accepted in order to avoid being held in China and tried as a war criminal, and he in turn recruited DOI Akio. Under the auspices of the Second Section of the Ministry of National Defense, two anti-Soviet groups were formed, one headed by DOI to work in China from headquarters at Shanghai<sup>1</sup>, and the other, headed by TATSUMI, to work in Japan under the Chinese Mission in Tokyo.
6. Under these arrangements, TATSUMI was repatriated about June 1946. He spent several months recuperating in his native Shimane-ken after his return and waited for WANG to arrive in Japan. The latter had himself sent to Tokyo as a member of the Chinese Mission in October 1946. Upon his arrival, TATSUMI began to make contacts with a number of Japanese who, before his departure from China, had been recommended to him by DOI as intelligence prospects. These individuals include the following:
  - ✓ HAYASHI Saburo (林 三郎) — SEIRAKI Suenari (白木 末成)
  - ✓ KOTANI Etsuo (甲谷 悦雄) — YABE Chuta (矢部 忠太)
  - ✓ NISHIMURA Toshio (西村 敏雄) — YAMAMOTO Bin (山本 敏)
  - ✓ ONOUCHI Hirose ( )
7. TATSUMI first approached ONOUCHI but was refused; ONOUCHI promised to assist him on a private and personal basis but was unwilling to join an intelligence organization formally because he was a member of the Demobilization Board. He recommended NISHIMURA, who agreed to work with TATSUMI. At the latter's request, he worked out an operational plan in December 1946, but on such a grandiose scale and involving such enormous expenditure that the Chinese Mission turned it down. Since he was unable to find a good operational chief, TATSUMI made little progress with his organization. He was not wholehearted in his interest, having accepted the Chinese assignment only in order to get back to Japan. Moreover, by the fall of 1947, WANG Tzu-chi had misappropriated the operational funds of the organization

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and used them for personal expenses, so that the project was forced to dissolve.

8. In early 1947, the Ministry of National Defense sent TATSUMI a request to select a Soviet code expert to work in China. With the aid of NISHIMURA, TATSUMI chose OKUBO Toshihiro (久保俊次郎), a former member of the Code Section of JIGS. He was accepted by the Nationalist government, and passage to China was arranged for him by WANG Tzu-chi.
9. About the end of 1947, the war crimes trials for B class and down began in Yokohama, and TATSUMI was frequently called in as witness in the cases of his former subordinates. Since the trials centered around mistreatment of prisoners of war by the Tobu Army, TATSUMI's own position appeared rather insouciant. This situation came to YOSHIDA's attention, and he suggested that TATSUMI get in touch with General Willoughby. After consultation with some of his friends, TATSUMI agreed, and, through YOSHIDA, a meeting was arranged. As a result, TATSUMI was eventually employed by G-2, GBR, FEC.
10. About the end of 1948, General Willoughby requested the formation of an intelligence organization, with the following personnel and positions:

Adviser: SHIMOMURA Sadamu (下村 定).

Front man: KAWABE Torashiro.

Geographical heads: Honghu, TATSUMI Eichi.  
Hokkaido, AFISUE Seizo.  
Kyushu, YOSHINAKA Wataro (芳野 和太郎).

Since that time, TATSUMI has been the virtual head of this group, which is known as the KAWABE Organization (Kikan). His connection with KAWABE, although existing before the war, was not particularly close until this group was formed.

11. When the YOSHIDA cabinet was organized, TATSUMI became YOSHIDA's personal adviser on military matters; the premier regularly consults him before he sees American authorities about military affairs. With the organization of the National Police Reserve, TATSUMI also started to work with the commandant, MASUHARA, and with Attorney-General CHASHI. He screened the 400 officers chosen from depurged field grade officers of the army for the NPR. Normally TATSUMI devotes his mornings to the KAWABE Organization and his afternoons to the police reserve and other government matters. He has an office in some government building, exact location unknown. His two positions pay him well enough that he appears to be comfortably off financially.

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- 3 Field Comment. TATSUMI's account of his relations with YOSHIDA, given to another source confirms this basically; see ZJJ-57.
- 4 Field Comment. This organization of former intelligence personnel is described in ZJJ-27.
- 5 Field Comment. Another source indicates that MATSUTANI has a much more formal, although concealed, relationship with TATSUMI; see ZJJ-57.

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12. TATSUMI has connection with various other persons and groups. He is closely associated with DOI Akio in the Continental Affairs Research Institute<sup>4</sup> and receives reports on all its activities. With the Chinese Nationalists, since the dissolution of his intelligence organization in 1947, TATSUMI has had no official relations. WANG Tzu-chi made a second visit to Japan in 1949 and tried to induce him to work for the Nationalists recruiting Japanese for the army in Taiwan, but TATSUMI refused. He had some contacts, after the war, but very rarely, with acquaintances in the British Mission in Tokyo. Following the trials of Japanese war criminals in Malaya, which he felt were unfair, he developed a scorn of the British and terminated his relations with the mission. They have not been resumed. His contact with OKUBO, after the latter went to China, was cut off, since the Chinese Mission in Tokyo made it clear that they did not wish TATSUMI to have any further concern with OKUBO, even so slight as transmitting to his family the monthly funds supplied by the mission.
13. TATSUMI's circle of acquaintance includes the following as his closest associates:

Prince CHICHIBU.

MATSUTANI Makoto, a former colonel, who served under him as assistant military attache and who has some connection with the NPR.<sup>5</sup>

TAKASHIMA Tatsuhiko, former major general, a colleague in the KAWABE group.

KAWABE Torashiro.

DOI Akio.

YAMAZAKI Masao, a former major general, his deputy chief of staff in the Tobu Army, connected with the KAWABE Organization.

YOSHIDA Shigeru and his daughter, Mrs. ASO Kazuko.

SHIRASU Jiro, a friend from London days.

HASEGAWA Seiichi (長谷川 才次), a friend from London days.

- 1 Field Comment. For an account of DOI Akio's connections with Chinese Nationalist post-war intelligence, see ZJJ-26.
- 2 Field Comment. For HAYASHI's involvement in post-war Chinese intelligence, see ZJJ-51.

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