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AIR

738-3774

10 JAN 1955

- Senior Representative,
- Chief, Division INFO: Senior Rep, RA
Chief, FE
- Operational/Intelligence
- ASAEDA Shigeharu and TSUJI Masanobu
- REF: PVSA-898

1. Reference dispatch has been read with considerable interest; inasmuch as ASAEDA Shigeharu (mentioned in enclosure A of reference as having information to deliver to Identity A of reference from TSUJI Masanobu) was the Details of are available in Headquarters files.
2. Biographical information on ASAEDA and TSUJI Masanobu is included in attachments; however, pertinent data more briefly presented is as follows:

TSUJI Masanobu is one of Japan's leading ultranationalists. A former army colonel, he served in the Japanese Kwantung Army and with the Japanese Imperial General Staff (JIGS) in Singapore, China, Burma and Thailand during the war. After the surrender TSUJI went into hiding to escape trial for war crimes, emerging only after termination of the trials in 1950. Since that time he has devoted himself to writing and to political intrigue. Several publications dealing with his escapades brought him wide publicity as well as solid financial return enabling him to run successfully for the Lower House of the Japanese Diet in 1952. He was re-elected in 1953. TSUJI heads several ultranationalist organizations and is in contact with most important rightist and militarist figures. He has been a vocal exponent of a neutralist, independent program for Japan, which has frequently been strongly anti-American in tone. For that reason and because he has been reported to have contacted the Soviet Mission on occasion, some doubts have been expressed concerning his loyalty. He is generally considered, however, to be anti-Communist and extremely patriotic.

ASAEDA Shigeharu is a former Army Lieutenant Colonel who served under TSUJI Masanobu in the Kwantung Army and with JIGS during the war.

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

- EXEMPTIONS Section 3(c)
- (2)(A) Privacy
- (2)(B) Methods/Sources
- (2)(C) Foreign Relations

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engaging mainly in intelligence activities in Southeast Asia. T. UJI and A. SAEDA's wartime relationship was very close and they have remained intimate friends up to the present. After the surrender SAEDA was sent to Korea, China and Manchuria with orders for the Japanese commanding generals in those areas to surrender. He was interned by the Russians in Khabarovsk until 1949 when he repatriated to Japan. During his internment SAEDA received special treatment and considerable indoctrination from his Russian captors and upon his return was widely suspected of being an agent for the Soviets in Japan. SAEDA, however, is also known to have contacted numerous American intelligence service units in Japan and is generally considered to have capitalized on his relations with the Soviets by serving as an information broker to both sides. Perhaps the most logical estimate of his loyalties is that SAEDA assumed the role of a Soviet agent for his own protection (he reportedly was under close scrutiny by the Soviets in Japan) with the knowledge and concurrence of some highly placed Japanese intelligence figures. Like T. UJI, he is probably a loyal Japanese. As of August 1954 SAEDA was employed by the Maruichi Seika KK (Maruichi Fresh Foods Company) of Tokyo and was reported to be planning a business trip to Hong Kong and Cambodia.

3. The Japan Mission is very much interested in obtaining information on SAEDA's trip to Southeast Asia and his activities there in view of the strong possibility that he is engaged in some intelligence operation (probably for the Japanese Intelligence Service). Specific points on which information would be appreciated are as follows:
 - a) Details of SAEDA's trip: i.e., itinerary, date of arrival in Saigon, mode of travel, name of concern represented, ostensible reasons for the trip, etc. Names and identifying info on persons SAEDA contacts.
 - b) Any assistance requested of Identity A by SAEDA.
 - c) SAEDA's conversation with Identity A; i.e., nature of the information referred to by T. UJI; operational details (if any) revealed by SAEDA re the information; stated reasons for SAEDA's contacting Identity A (why couldn't T. UJI pass the information to someone in Japan?); conditions surrounding SAEDA's disclosure of the information; any terms for disclosing the information; form in which the information was presented (if written, any copy?)
 - d) Biographic or operational data on the original source of the information referred to by T. UJI (the "general staff officer"). Details of his connection with T. UJI. Details of SAEDA's present connection with T. UJI.
 - e) Information on Japanese contacts or connections of the Aishin Company, Ltd.

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4. We will, of course, welcome any other information pertinent to this case and will be happy to follow up any leads that are developed and to provide further information if desired.
5. The attachments in their present form are intended for KRBANK eyes only. There is no objection to transmittal of the substantive information outside KRBANK, but it should be written so as not to indicate that portions of it originated with COMINT.

Intelligence Staff

Attachments:

Biographical information on TOSHI Kameoka
Biographical information on ASADA Shigeharu
Interviewed Kameoka (to address only)

4 January 1955

Distribution:

- 2 - SR, w/attachs (orig only)
- ✓ 1 - Chief, FE w/attachs (1 copy)
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TSUJI Masanobu

10 December 1954

TSUJI Masanobu was a former colonel in the Japanese KWANTUNG Army. When the Japanese army surrendered in August 1945, subject was in Burma, and was wanted by the British as a War Criminal. He escaped to Chungking from Burma and then went to Hanking where he was employed by the Third (Intelligence) Section of the Chinese Defense Ministry, planning Chiang's campaigns and writing tactical manuals based on his own experiences. At this time he was in contact with General OKAMURA Heiji, Gen DOI and Major-General TS'AO Shih-cheng (Chief of first section of the Chinese Mission). Subject returned to Japan in disguise in early 1948 and since that time has been going from place to place in an attempt to frustrate the investigations of various agencies which are attempting to locate him. TSUJI claimed that he has not left Japan since his initial return in 1948. He discussed briefly the rash of sensational articles in various journals which described him as being disguised as a priest and acting as a courier for the Chinese. TSUJI dismissed such stories as blatant falsehoods and claimed that he has merely attempted to evade capture as a war criminal and has not engaged in any nefarious activities. He stated that he had "taken over the position of Gen ISHIBARA Kanji, who died in 1949, in the East Asia League (TOA RENMEI). (Source a meeting between subj and CE agent 6 March 1950)

The British terminated their war crimes trials on 30 Sept 1949 and stated TSUJI Masanobu was no longer wanted by them. When subject heard this, he came out of hiding, and returned to his home. Some sources claimed that Chinese intelligence-collecting in Japan was directed from Hanking under TSUJI's guidance.

In 1949 subject reportedly recruited Japanese mercenaries for Chinese Nationalist Army; also travelled back and forth between Japan and Formosa connected with recruitment program. He visited KUDAMA Yoshio, former Shanghai intelligence agent, and KAGAWA Yoshio, former intelligence agent.

In July 51 subject spoke at the Shinjin (Liberalists) club, Tokyo and stated chances are dim for the USA to win WWII against Russia. He admitted all the statistics he compiled to make the above statement took him one and a half years of painstaking scrutiny of the intelligence before reaching his conclusion. (The above speech was used by the JCF for propaganda purposes.) Subject was indicted by the Atty-General's office for violating Purge ordinance by making the above mentioned speech.

Early in 1951 subject attended several meetings of nationalist groups in Takamatsu city and Kita-gun, Kagawa Prefecture. He reportedly held secret conferences with KIMURA Kakuro, former councillor of the East Asia League for the purpose of discussing reconstruction of the League in view of the approaching depurge of the League members. They allegedly are making plans for the unification of all Right-wing organizations to be affected immediately following the signing of the Peace treaty.

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On 13 July 1951 SUBJECT while visiting in Nagano, agreed to help KINOSHITA Jobu, UCHIYAMA Ichiya and KATEBAYASHI Masaaji form a secret anti-communist organization in Nagano-ken to be used in event of an unspecified type of emergency. The proposed organ is to be made up of 5 or 6 persons in each of as many villages as possible, the persons to be selected by UCHIYAMA from among reliable former members of the IRAA, and the Reservists Association who are capable of using automatic weapons. Structure of the organization is to be kept a closely guarded secret, members of the group in one village being kept in ignorance of the existence of similar groups in other villages. (B-6)

of Communist
TSUJI Masanobu has liaison with both the Chinese Communists and the Soviet Union. The method of liaison with the Soviet Union is not known, but his liaison with the Chinese Communists is maintained through the following persons: KODAMA Yoshio to KUBITA Jujiro to SUN, Tai. (SUN is sympathetic towards JCP). It is alleged that TSUJI has contact with Communist China direct from Kyushu to North Korea. He has the following men under his command: KOBAYASHI; SEKINE; SUZUKI; SUMIBE and OMURA (all first names unknown). OMURA is employed by G-2 Section and is presumably well acquainted with the functions of G-2 SCAP GHQ. It is believed that the SUZUKI mentioned above is SUZUKI Kyo, a graduate of the 35th class of Japanese Military Academy, former Air force staff officer and ex-member of the Kawabe organ.

SUBJECT's assignment is concerned with intelligence; however he is also to organize former Japanese military personnel, under the supervision of Communist China for the nucleus of an emancipation army.
(Source: Conf Informant dated Aug 51 eval B-6)

NOTE: Major RINALDUCCI opinion of above report is that it is erroneous. CI Div agrees with him at least to the extent that SUBJECT is not believed to maintain liaison or have dealings with the Soviet or Chinese Communists. Sept 51.....

Subject organized the PATRIOTIC FAITH SOCIETY in 1949 (it has been called the ROYAL FAITH SOCIETY) (Jumohm Shisei Kai). The Patriotic Faith Society follows a policy of maintaining strict secrecy. A proposal was made that the Society gather info about the 8 missing Communist leaders and supply the police with this information to as to alleviate the attention of the police toward the Society. Because most of the members of the Society are former military officers their info collecting activity is centered on tactical forecasts of the 3rd WW. Accordingly, special info collectors are provided in the lower echelons, and a great effort is being made to ascertain the movements of the Communists, both in Japan and abroad. It is reported that 27 members of the Society have secretly made their way to Red China and the Soviet Union in order to ascertain the actual conditions in those places. The fact that ex-Maj-Gen WAKURO is an officer in this Society indicates that the intelligence collection system of the former MAKANO group (Jap military Police who were trained at a school in Makano Ward) has been adopted.

Among the persons whom TSUJI seeks personally are former Lt-Colonel ASAEDA, a former staff officer of the Kyantung Army and repat from Siberia; and SUN, T'se, said to be a member of the Chinese Communist intelligence organization; and others who are said to be secret Communists. It is believed that TSUJI's reason for contacting such persons may be to exchange intelligence.

It was reported that one of "TSUJI's SPES" was apprehended within the Tokyo Metropolitan committee of the JCP on 25 July 1951. This person freely confessed and even stated that he had been meeting TSUJI or an accomplice in the vicinity of Shibuya station on the 2, 12th and 22 of each month. The JCP is going to use this person as a double agent. (ctd 13 Sept 51. Eval B-2)

KITAHARA Genichiro, a former member of East Asia League is reported to have made the following statement in substance, to an unidentified friend:-
 "I met TSUJI in Hanking China while I was stationed there as an interpreter with the Japanese China Dispatch Army; I worked with him for about a year. I learned through TSUJI of the POWER of a Chinese secret organization called CHIHBAWOKO (phonetic) led by KU, Yush-shang, and dedicated to the principle of "racial defense."
 (B-6)

TSUJI is not a Communist, on the contrary, his background is military and ultranationalistic. An army colonel, he was a member of the clique of (Lt-Gen) ISHIHARA Kanji and of ISHIHARA's nationalistic East Asia League which was banned in 1946. During his army days he worked in intelligence and in strategic planning; he had prestige beyond his rank, presumably due to his connections with higher ranking militarists and because he was at one time an aide to the Emperor's younger brother, Prince Mikasa. His present position is anti-US and anti-USSR favoring a "third force". (apr 52)

Subject was elected to the House of Representatives in Oct 52, as an Independent. He is a Director of Japan-China Trade Promotion Assn as of June 53.

A former Class "A" War Crimes suspect, KODAMA Yoshio, former head of "KODAMA MIKAN", a group of agents serving under the Japanese Navy in Shanghai, is known to be one of SASAGAWA's co-workers. It is rumored that KODAMA has been taking part in a so-called "Troop organizing plan" which is secretly working with the CCP. KODAMA appears to be keeping contact with TSUJI, Masanobu, organizer of the ultra nationalist Patriotism and Devotion Society (June 51).

CIB report dated 10 March 1950 Investigation Report by Maj RINALDUCCI. "This report traces subject's background and activities and adds info concerning attempts made by US Air force Hqs to utilize TSUJI. This report states that KODAMA Yoshio, released war criminal suspect, recommended TSUJI to Col Frank of USAF as "the individual who could represent the best among former Japanese officers". KODAMA is said to have known TSUJI years ago in Hanking. The report states that TSUJI declined to meet Col Frank for the reason that if he were to cooperate with the American Army, he wanted to do so through ABAKI Sadao, under life sentence in Spangau Prison. The report also mentions the Air Force unsuccessful attempts to obtain the book written by TSUJI covering his secret

TSUJI Masanobu

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travels since the end of the War."

SUBJECT has currently been conferring with an undisclosed number of former officers in preparation for the formation of an organization made up of ex-servicemen. These men have expressed a strong interest in the future of Japan and have indicated that former military men with strong nationalistic spirit, should band together and assist in formulating the future of Japan. Subject has revealed his opposition to the acceptance of NSA aid and has urged Japan to create an army of its own. They plan to inaugurate an organization during the Spring of 1954. KISHIMOTO (fnm) former Colonel, in charge of Hokkaido Air base and MIKIKI Satoshi, (lt-colonel), now president of NISSO Company, are two men interested in this newly planned organization, the name of which is Japan Self Disciplined National Army Creation ASSN (NIPPON JISHUKU HOKUGUN KENSETSU KAI). (B-3)

In January 1954 subject formed a Youth action Corps called "SELF DEFENSE LEAGUE" (JIJI DONKI and has withdrawn from the East Asia League comrades Society. (B-3) This Corps is reportedly working toward enlisting members of the NSP into its organization. TSUJI and HATTORI Takahiro are alleged to have among their followers more than ten officers within the NSP.