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DA INTELLIGENCE REPORT <small>(Use this form only in accordance with instructions in SR 380-285-1)</small>		CLASSIFICATION JAPAN		DD NUMBER 0000 0000 0000 0000	
REPORT NUMBER R-423-56	FROM Anna Janan	PREPARED BY Col W.W. BALLEW	SOURCE Press & Conf	DATE OF REPORT 30 Nov 56	
SUBJECT TSUJI, Masanobu (U)		REFERENCES R-81-53; R-117-55 R-7, 8, 9, 11, 21, 384-56	EVALUATION C-3	DATE OF REPR Nov 56	
<p>SUMMARY</p> <p>1. Press recently reported that Masanobu TSUJI, member of the Lower House of the Diet and ex-Colonel in the Japanese Imperial Army, had resigned his membership in the Diet because of misconduct of his son who held the position of his secretary. The son allegedly hit his divorced wife with a beer bottle and had been arrested by the police.</p> <p>2. The resignation was withdrawn within a few days after TSUJI was urged to do so by the Speaker of the Lower House, according to the press.</p> <p>3. Much publicity was given to this incident in the Tokyo newspapers. Report gives some quotes from readers' letters and columnists which were published.</p> <p>4. Attached as Inclosure 1 is a translation of a pamphlet written by TSUJI entitled "My Confrontation with Mr. Banboku (NO)", dealing with the scandals in connection with mispent funds of the Defense Agency.</p>					
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R-423-56
AREA: Japan
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1. Press reported on 20 Nov 56 that Masanobu TSUJI, Liberal-Democratic member of the Lower House of the Diet (ex-Colonel in the Imperial Army), had submitted a resignation of his membership in the Diet because his son had been arrested for striking his divorced wife with a beer bottle. TSUJI supposedly stated to the effect that if a man could not keep his own house in order he had no business in public life or in a responsible position in government affairs. TSUJI's son (Tohru TSUJI, age 25 had been employed as his father's secretary.

2. On 25 November it was stated in the press that TSUJI had, on 24 November, withdrawn his resignation after being urged to do so by Speaker of the Lower House Shuji MATSUTANI, who did not consider the misconduct of his son sufficient reason for the resignation. The press did not mention whether or not the son would continue in his post as secretary to his father.

3. Tokyo newspapers gave a great deal of publicity to this incident, publishing letters from readers and articles by columnists who seemed evenly divided on blasting TSUJI or praising him for his action. Some of the angles considered were:

a. "In recent political circles where scandals and bribe-taking are rampant even among local assemblymen and where politicians try to hang on to their positions and rights through fraud, excuses or brazening, Mr. TSUJI's action is indicative of a sense of responsibility and a conscientious decision which are very rare these days.

b. "What does Mr. TSUJI think of his office as a Diet member? The ones who are going to be harmed most by Mr. TSUJI's resignation will be Mr. TSUJI himself and the opposition parties, while the ones who will lose the most are those who voted for Mr. TSUJI".

c. "Mr. TSUJI's reasoning is very simple and straightforward, but if his condition that anyone not able to rule his own family is incapable of ruling a nation were to be strictly applied, practically all the Diet members would have to resign. Critics call Mr. TSUJI's action too old-fashioned, pointing out that his son is already a grown man and Mr. TSUJI should not be responsible for his actions. Behind this criticism however is the worry that if this reasoning is carried out to the full extent of its logical conclusion, Cabinet Ministers who have underlings arrested by the police for some crime will have to submit their own resignations. It is going too far to criticize Mr. TSUJI's action as a propaganda move designed to gain more votes in the next election. Even if it is propaganda, we would like to see more people assuming responsibility. If Mr. TSUJI should retract his resignation, he would be attacked once again so it would be best for him to let his resignation stand."

Another war veteran said Mr. TSUJI would be a "truly great man" if he resigns and cut himself off completely from politics. He referred to Mr. TSUJI's flight under cover in Thailand, French Indo-China and China and how he emerged "when he thought it was safe" to return to Japan and write his best-selling account of his flight. He charged that the former key army staff officer utilized ill-luck to make a fortune, and he concluded that Mr. TSUJI would probably utilize his son's act to "insure his re-election".

d. A columnist said that Mr. TSUJI should take full responsibility for hiring a ruffian as a secretary. He criticized the practice of many Dietmen employing members of their family as secretaries and noted that some countries have special schools for training secretaries of legislators.

COMMENTS: (CONFIDENTIAL) ...
... TSUJI's play is believed to have been grandstanding in order to obtain additional public notice and acclaim rather than a completely sincere move. It is the same line since it is consistent with the old-fashioned type of Japanese military aristocratic feudalistic psychology; it probably has considerable appeal to the older group.

2. TSUJI is nothing if not blunt and outspoken. One indication of this fact is contained in the attached record of conversation between him and OWO Banboku. Granted it is written by TSUJI, who presents himself in the best light, it indicates

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a person who will speak his mind frankly - very much in character with TSUJI's personality.

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1 Incl (USGL)

Pamphlet written by TSUJI entitled "My Confrontation with Mr. Benboku GNO"

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R-423-56

FROM
AFMA Japan

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Banboku QAO with his face peering out from a dilapidated shoe. Then, immediately thereafter, I visited the Society of Ishikawa Prefecture Natives I was questioned by many people on this point. So I answered them frankly saying: "The Conservative Party would collapse if a bribery scandal should emerge out of the Party. This is not a problem for the Conservative Party alone, and it will affect the whole destiny of Japan. In relation to the second-hand engines and the dilapidated shoes and the Masaguni's Sakuma dam project it is reported that some clouds of suspicion are hanging over Mr. QAO. He is the Party's senior leader but we will definitely refuse to cover those cases with a lid if what is reported is true."

On the afternoon of last June 2, when the unprecedented rioting happened to sweep the floor of the House of Councillors, the Lower House held its ordinary session in quiet. Sent for me a floor page came to my seat at around 4 o'clock in the afternoon. He brought to me a message to this effect: "Master QAO is calling for you. Please come to the office of the Secretary-General."

I reluctantly left my seat as the ordinary session was going on, and proceeded to the Secretary-General's office, considering it my courtesy to the Party's senior member. I found there six men already arrived. They were Mr. QAO and those men who sat around him: Hideto MATSUDA, Saburo HIRANO, Tokiyasu FUKUDA, Shin-ichi SUGO, Tatsuhiko MATSUDA. I greeted him, saying: "I've come up here to answer your request." Mr. QAO rose from his seat in a noisy air, and said: "Sit down here."

Thus, both of us took seats at a table. He then abruptly started to roar (the following represents our exchange of words point by point):

Q: "What the devil incident fellow you are. I've heard that you smoke all of me at the Society of Ishikawa Prefecture Natives that I acted as a tool of Masaguni; that I was associated with ITO. What sort of evidence has made you so bold to argue in such a harsh language against me?"

T: "At the Society of Ishikawa Prefecture Natives I was questioned by some people who previously had read the news story. So I merely tried to explain the whole progress at the Settlement Committee in an effort to neutralize their doubt."

Q: "Where is the evidence?"

T: "I have never tried exposure of any evidence. At the Settlement Committee session the witness on oath testified it."

Q: "What did he say?"

T: "He said that when you came to the Defense Agency accompanied by ITO last fall you left your visiting card on the desk of the Inspection Section Chief. He is still keeping it as a precious piece, as he felt it a great honor to him."

Q: "What the devil rascal you are."

T: "Why, what do you mean by calling me 'rascal'. I am not your henchman. I am a dignified member of Parliament, elected from Ishikawa Prefecture. You have now branded me as an insidious rascal. But you ought to know that you are the man who is a rascal. What on earth had prompted you to move as a tool of a vicious tricky merchant. You brought a pressure to bear upon the Defense Agency. It must be a devilishly scandalous deed."

Q: "I had no idea at all of using pressure upon it."

T: "But you visited the office of Inspection Section Chief KYBO, didn't you? You had better reflect upon yourself before you urge against me. Did you read the stenographic transcript of the proceedings?"

Q: "I haven't read it yet."

T: "What do you mean by saying that I am scandalous without reading it and without having its truth confirmed. You are too hasty and hesitant for your age."

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It matters nothing as long as QAO remains to be a mere individual. But you must understand that when you act in that way from your standpoint as an elder leader of the Party, suspicion directed to you first may develop to be leveled at the Party as a whole. Don't you understand that many honest Party members are suffering great embarrassment because of the deed of one person, you, alone."

Q: "What do you mean to say? I'll take legal action and prosecute you for libel."

T: "It is very interesting to me. Now that you've shown your broadside against me, I will not hesitate to come to grips with you. Do you think that I am a member of the House of Representatives, stupid enough to deserve your contempt. You monstrous idiot!"

Q: "If you have any evidence, produce it."

T: "You can bring your case to court against me. I will then produce it formally at the District Prosecution Office. Or I am willing to make it public positively at the Representatives rally or at the Diet members' general meeting. Wherever there is a scandal - so to speak the name of QAO to come on the surface as its adjunct. I've so far withheld exposing it through courtesy on my part as a Party member."

Q: "Oh, how impudent you are."

T: "Which one of us is impudent? You still seem to be positive in your claim as a senior leader, for all your dirty deeds. It is hard for me to share the Party membership with such sordid, disgusting boss. Do you think that I am a man so cowardly as to recoil from you struck with awe? You must speak to the other Party on anything only after you have carefully surveyed his hold."

T: "I don't want to get from you a single penny of your dirty money. I am a man who single-handedly ran the race in the past three elections and won a success every time. I am a man who is risking his life so as to save the Conservative Party from becoming corrupt. Don't make a mistake in weighing what I really am. You, bloodhead!"

Other four in the scene: MOTO, HIRANO, MATSUOKA and SUDO watched in silence this vehement exchange between the two men; but none of them was bold enough to meddle in.

When this fight grew unbearably hot to them, Mr. FUKUDA rose and made his way to us and as he neared he said:

F: "Mr. TSUJI, Don't be so angry. You ought to know the manner of dealing with our senior..."

T: "What do you say? How can he yet be our senior? I don't like to regard such a dirty fellow as our senior."

Mr. FUKUDA took me by the arm and led me out of the room by force.

F: "Say, lad, you and I are intimate friends since those early days when we both were in China. Mr. QAO is an open-hearted man. Don't be so upset. If you have anything on your mind, please tell me about it."

T: "I have no interest at all in anybody else's affiliation to one faction or another. But I am determined to dedicate my life for the cause of our Party's purification. He slighted me, and tried to boast for his might as the Party's senior leader. If he apologizes to me, admitting his own fault, I am willing to consign this incident to oblivion as a bygone. But please tell Mr. QAO that there are many in our Party who will not surrender in the face of intimidating roars from such a sort of a boss."

I then entered the floor where the plenary session was under way. I reported in detail the true picture of this incident to Secretary-General KISHII and General

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FORM NO. 104-23-56

FROM

JFPA Japan

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Executives On re Chairman ISHII.

The foregoing is a summary of the exchange developed in the course of my confrontation with Mr. Ono at the office of the party Secretary-General, where I visited at Mr. Ono's request, that took place around 4 o'clock in the afternoon of June 2. There may be some slight difference in chronology from what the exchange actually was, but I can assure you that what is described above is definitely correct and portrays the truth.

This was a confrontation made in the presence of Messrs. FUKUDA, MIYATA, HIRANO, SUDO and MATSUDA. This incident will no doubt affect the party's destiny. I fear that the truth will be misrepresented. So I place the whole circumstance on record while my memory is fresh, and I wish to get the limited circle of the members of both Houses, who are affiliated with our party as its members, to ask them for their consent thereon.

The Socialist Party has already double-crossed the people's confidence by their violence, and when the conservative party is forsaken by the people by scandalous reasons, non-confidence resulting therefrom against the whole Diet will inevitably provoke a coup d'état, whether right or left.

To prevent its outbreak and to clean up the internal aspect of the party itself voluntarily just comes from a true love to the party and to the nation at large. With my strong belief on this point I now venture to take the opportunity to write about the truth of this incident, and put it before you who, I believe, will share my apprehensions.

June 2, 1956

Masaobu TSUJI,

Dist. Member, Liberal-Democrat