

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. cable	Re: Japan-U.S. / Okinawa Base Issue (4 pages)	10/03/1996	P1/b(1)
002. cable	Re: September 19 Meeting of the U.S.-Japan Security Consultative Committee (2 Plus 2) (15 pages)	10/04/1996	P1/b(1)
003. cable	Re: Land Expropriation (6 pages)	10/04/1996	P1/b(1)
004. cable	Re: Digest Executive Edition 192-96 (13 pages)	10/08/1996	P1/b(1)
005. cable	Re: September 17 Meeting / Special Action Committee on Okinawa (11 pages)	10/08/1996	P1/b(1)
006. cable	Re: Okinawa Base Issue - Floating Offshore Option (5 pages)	10/08/1996	P1/b(1)
007. cable	Re: Meeting with the Secretary in Washington on September 19, 1996 (4 pages)	10/09/1996	P1/b(1)
008. cable	Re: Moving Forward in U.S.-Japan Security Relations and Okinawa Base Issues (3 pages)	10/11/1996	P1/b(1)
009. cable	Re: Land Leases (4 pages)	10/11/1996	P1/b(1)
010. cable	Re: Support Cable for European Brief (11 pages)	10/16/1996	P1/b(1)
011. cable	Re: Okinawa Heliport (4 pages)	10/16/1996	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1995-Dec 1996 ([Futenma])
OA/Box Number: 510000

FOLDER TITLE:

[10/03/1996 - 10/17/1996]

2016-0420-F

sb1884

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHKO A9457 2830314-UUUU--RHEHAAA.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: O 090314Z OCT 96
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
OSRI: RUEHKO
DTG: 090314Z OCT 96
ORIG: AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO: RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1444
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8208
INFO: RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC
RUALSFJ/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//USIA//
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC//J5//
RUYNJDK/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC
RUEHRC/USDA FAS WASHDC 2617
RHHMHAH/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N5//
RUAYJAA/COMPATWING ONE KAMI SEYA JA
RUEBBEA/USDOT WASHDC
SUBJ: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 9
TEXT: UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 06 TOKYO 009457

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, RMR; STATE FOR
EAR/J; STATE PASS TO USTR/PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE; CIA
WASHDC; SECDEF FOR JCS/J-5/JAPAN, OASD/ISA/EAPR/JAPAN;
TREASURY/OASIA/IMI; WHITE HOUSE; COMMERCE FOR DAS; USDA;
USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA;
COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 9

TOP HEADLINES:

ASAHI: RECRUIT MONEY SCANDAL -- LABOR MINISTRY ROUTE:
TOKYO HIGH COURT RULES DEFENDANT TATSUMI GUILTY, QUASHING
THE PREVIOUS SENTENCE; TESTIMONY BY FORMER VICE MINISTER,
"OFFER WAS GIVEN," IS "RELIABLE"

NIHON KEIZAI: MITI WILL TRANSFER PRODUCT-STANDARD
EXAMINATIONS TO PRIVATE SECTOR, STARTING WITH JIS; FIRST
STEP TOWARD EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION; COMPANY'S OWN

CERTIFICATE ALSO ENVISIONED

TOKYO SHIMBUN: OPINION POLL OF LOWER-HOUSE ELECTION:
CONSUMPTION TAX CITED AS TOP ISSUE; EXPECTATIONS PLACED
ON SOCIAL WELFARE, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM; EVALUATION OF
HASHIMOTO ADMINISTRATION DIVIDED (TRANSLATION BELOW)

MAINICHI: GENERAL ELECTION KICKS OFF; 1,503 PEOPLE RUN
FOR ELECTION; COMPETITION RATE IN SINGLE-SEAT
CONSTITUENCIES IS 4.2 TIMES

YOMIURI: LOWER-HOUSE ELECTION STARTS; MORE THAN 1,500
PEOPLE ANNOUNCE THEIR CANDIDACY; 1,261 CANDIDATES FOR
SINGLE-SEAT CONSTITUENCIES -- 4.2 TIMES; BATTLE OF WORDS
KICK OFF; "ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM" UNDERSCORED BY EACH
PARTY

SANKEI: GENERAL ELECTION KICKS OFF; FIERCE BATTLE AMONG
1,503 CANDIDATES UNDER "NEW ELECTION SYSTEM"; 355
CANDIDATES FROM LDP, 361 FROM SHINSHINTO; 161 FROM
MINSHUTO; "ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM" APPEALS BY ALL PARTIES

RECORD 64.4 PERCENT OF CANDIDATES IN ELECTION ARE NEW
(SANKEI - PAGE 1)

FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION, WHICH WAS ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY,
969 NEW FACES FILED CANDIDACIES. THIS NUMBER MAKES UP
64.4 PERCENT OF ALL CANDIDATES, EXCEEDING THE 865 NEW-
FACE CANDIDATES IN THE 1949 GENERAL ELECTION BY MORE THAN
100.

THE REASONS FOR SUCH A DEVELOPMENT SEEM TO BE: (1) A
TREND OF GENERATIONAL CHANGE IS BECOMING MORE PROMINENT
UNDER THE NEW ELECTORAL SYSTEM OF SINGLE-SEAT
CONSTITUENCIES COMBINED WITH PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION;
(2) CANDIDATES WHOSE FOOTING IS SOLID IN THEIR HOME
GROUND HAVE AN ADVANTAGE, RATHER THAN INCUMBENTS, AS A
RESULT OF THE INTRODUCTION OF A SINGLE-SEAT CONSTITUENCY
SYSTEM; AND (3) WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINSHUTO
(DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF JAPAN), AN ENVIRONMENT HAS BEEN
CREATED IN WHICH NEW CANDIDATES FIND IT EASIER TO RUN, AS
IN THE CASE OF THE LAST GENERAL ELECTION, IN WHICH THE
NOW DEFUNCT JAPAN NEW PARTY ATTRACTED POPULAR SUPPORT.
THOSE CANDIDATES WHO HELD A SEAT IN THE RECENTLY-
DISSOLVED LOWER HOUSE TOTALLED 456 -- THE SAME LEVEL AS
IN THE PREVIOUS ELECTION -- AND THE NUMBER OF FORMER
LOWER-HOUSE MEMBERS IS 79 -- 53 MORE THAN IN THE PREVIOUS
ONE.

LOOKING AT THE NEW-FACE CANDIDATES' POLITICAL PARTIES,
THOSE BACKED BY THE JAPAN COMMUNIST PARTY (JCP) TOTAL
296, ACCOUNTING FOR THE LARGEST NUMBER, FOLLOWED BY 186
OF THE OPPOSITION PARTY SHINSHINTO, WHICH HOPES TO REIN
THE GOVERNMENT BY INCREASING ITS INFLUENCE, 135 OF THE
LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP) AND 90 OF THE NEW PARTY
MINSHUTO. THE SAKIGAKE AND THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY
(SDP) HAVE ONLY 6 AND 28 NEW CANDIDATES, RESPECTIVELY.

INCLUDED AMONG THE NEW-FACE CANDIDATES ARE 41 FORMER OFFICIALS OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES. BROKEN DOWN BY PARTY, 23 CANDIDATES ARE BACKED BY THE SHINSHINTO AND 13 BY THE LDP. THIS INDICATES THAT THE POLITICAL WORLD IS STILL LOOKING FOR PERSONS FROM THE BUREAUCRACY, UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 06 TOKYO 009457

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, RMR; STATE FOR EAR/J; STATE PASS TO USTR/PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE; CIA WASHDC; SECDEF FOR JCS/J-5/JAPAN, OASD/ISA/EAPR/JAPAN; TREASURY/OASIA/IMI; WHITE HOUSE; COMMERCE FOR DAS; USDA; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 9

ALTHOUGH EACH PARTY HAS TAKEN UP DRASTIC ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM AS A CENTRAL THEME IN ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

CLASSIFIED BY POLITICAL PARTIES, THE SHINSHINTO IS FIELDING FIVE EX-FINANCE MINISTRY (MOF) OFFICIALS, FOUR OFFICIALS EACH FROM THE CONSTRUCTION MINISTRY (MOC) AND THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES, AND THREE FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MOFA). THE LDP IS RUNNING TWO EACH FROM MITI, THE TRANSPORT MINISTRY, MOC AND NATIONAL LAND AGENCY. MINSHUTO, WHICH HAS ADVOCATED "THE NEED TO REGAIN POLITICS FROM THE BUREAUCRACY," BACKS UP TWO FORMER OFFICIALS EACH OF MOF AND MOFA. IN CONTRAST, THE SAKIGAKE, JCP AND SDP HAVE NONE.

153 OUT OF 1503 LOWER-HOUSE CANDIDATES ARE WOMEN, A RECORD NUMBER (SANKEI - PAGE 5)

OF A TOTAL OF 1,503 PEOPLE FILED TO RUN IN THE 41ST GENERAL ELECTION, 153 ARE WOMEN, MAKING UP 10.2 PERCENT OF ALL THE CANDIDATES. THE NUMBER HAS SWELLED DRAMATICALLY, COMPARED TO THE 85 WOMEN CANDIDATES IN THE GENERALELECTION IN 1947 -- A FIGURE WHICH HAD STOOD AS THE RECORD HIGH IN THE POSTWAR PERIOD.

THE REASONS FOR SUCH A JUMP ARE BECAUSE WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF THE SINGLE-SEAT CONSTITUENCY SYSTEM, THE NUMBER OF ELECTORAL DISTRICTS HAS INCREASED, AND BECAUSE OF THE CONSOLIDATION OF AN ELECTORATE ENVIRONMENT WHICH ENABLES WOMEN TO EASILY RUN AS CANDIDATES IN THE ELECTION BY CHANGING THE REGISTRATION SYSTEM FROM ONE OF INDIVIDUALS TO PARTIES AND THUS MAKE IT EASIER TO RUN WOMEN. IN ADDITION, IN VIEW OF AMBIGUOUS CAMPAIGN PLEDGES, THE POLITICAL PARTIES ANTICIPATE WOMEN WILL HAVE VOTE-GETTING CAPABILITY.

LOOKING AT FEMALE CANDIDATES BY PARTY: THE JAPAN COMMUNIST PARTY (JCP) HAS 66, UP 33 FROM THE PREVIOUS

ELECTION; THE MINSHUTO (DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF JAPAN (DPJ)) COMES NEXT TO THE JCP AT 22, THE SHINSHINTO (NEW FRONTIER PARTY), 16; AND THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP), 10.

ONLY 8 WOMEN HAS STOOD AS CANDIDATES FROM THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (SDP), LED BY TAKAKO DOI, WHO CREATED THE SO-CALLED "MADONNA BOOM" DURING HER TENURE AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF JAPAN (SDPJ).

SINCE THE GENERAL ELECTION IN 1947 WHEN WOMEN WERE QUALIFIED FOR THE FIRST TIME TO RUN FOR NATIONAL ELECTIONS, THE NUMBER OF FEMALE CANDIDATES HAD MAINTAINED A RANGE LEVEL OF 20 TO 40.

BUT AFTER THE UPPER-HOUSE ELECTION IN 1989 GAVE RISE TO THE "MADONNA BOOM," BECAUSE THE FEMALE CANDIDATES' OPPOSITION TO THE INTRODUCTION OF THE CONSUMPTION-TAX (WAS FAVORABLY RECEIVED BY THE VOTERS), THE NUMBER OF FEMALE CANDIDATES SURGED IN ONE SWEEP TO 66 IN THE 39TH GENERAL ELECTION IN 1990. THE NUMBERS BECAME ABOUT DOUBLE THE 35 IN THE 38TH GENERAL ELECTION IN 1986.

MOREOVER, 70 WOMEN RAN FOR THE LAST LOWER-HOUSE ELECTION IN 1993. SEEMINGLY, THE TREND OF WOMEN' PARTICIPATION IN THE POLITICAL WORLD IS GRADUALLY TAKING ROOT.

POLL: ELIGIBLE VOTERS FOCUSING ON TAX, WELFARE, AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM (TOKYO SHIMBUN - TOP PLAY)

THE 41ST LOWER-HOUSE ELECTION WAS ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY. ACCORDING TO A NATION-WIDE TELEPHONE OPINION SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE TOKYO SHIMBUN JUST BEFORE THE ANNOUNCEMENT, THE VOTERS GAVE THE CONSUMPTION TAX ISSUE AS A POLICY WHICH DESERVES TOP PRIORITY, AND ONE OUT OF UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 06 TOKYO 009457

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, RMR; STATE FOR EAR/J; STATE PASS TO USTR/PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE; CIA WASHDC; SECDEF FOR JCS/J-5/JAPAN, OASD/ISA/EAPR/JAPAN; TREASURY/OASIA/IMI; WHITE HOUSE; COMMERCE FOR DAS; USDA; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 9

THREE POLLED CITED IT AS A POINT AT ISSUE, FOLLOWED BY SOCIAL WELFARE, SUCH AS PUBLIC NURSING-CARE INSURANCE, AND ADMINISTRATIVE AND FISCAL REFORMS, AS PART OF THE CAMPAIGN PROMISES OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES. POINTS AT ISSUE IN THE CAMPAIGN SEEM TO BE NARROWED DOWN TO THE ABOVE THREE. AS TO THE PLANNED HIKE IN THE CONSUMPTION-TAX RATE, THREE OUT OF FOUR POLLED OPPOSED IT. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE UNITED-STATES JAPAN SECURITY TREATY AND

THE PROBLEM OF U.S. MILITARY FACILITIES ON OKINAWA,, BOTH OF WHICH ONCE DRAW THE PUBLIC ATTENTION IN THE WAKE OF OKINAWA GOVERNOR MASAHIRO OTA, WERE LOW ON THE LIST OF ISSUES IN THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

POLL: ALMOST HALF OF RESPONDENTS WANT U.S. BASES OUT OF JAPAN (TOKYO SHIMBUN - PAGE 4)

IN AN EFFORT TO ASSUAGE THE BURDEN OF OKINAWA, WHICH HOUSES AS MUCH AS 75 PERCENT OF THE UNITED STATES FORCES' BASES AND FACILITIES IN JAPAN, THE FOCUS OF ATTENTION IS NOW ON HOW TO REALIGN AND REDUCE U.S. MILITARY FACILITIES ON OKINAWA AND HOW TO TRANSFER THE TRAINING GROUND FOR LIVE-FIRE EXERCISES NOW CARRIED OUT IN OKINAWA. BUT MERELY FOUR PERCENT OF THOSE POLLED (BY THE TOKYO SHIMBUN IN A NATION-WIDE SURVEY) CITED AS A CAMPAIGN ISSUE THE PROBLEM OF THE U.S.-JAPAN SECURITY TREATY AND U.S. MILITARY BASES ON OKINAWA. AWARE OF LOW INTEREST IN THE PROBLEM, THE POLLSTERS ASKED PEOPLE BY LINKING IT TO THE STRENGTHENING OF THE SELF-DEFENSE FORCES (SDF).

THE RESULTS WERE THAT 42 PERCENT PREFER THE MAINTENANCE OF THE STATUS QUO, CHOOSING THE ANSWER, "OUT OF CONSIDERATION FOR SENTIMENTS IN ASIA, THE SDF WILL REMAIN IN THE PRESENT CONDITION AND U.S. BASES WILL ALSO BE LEFT AS IS." ON THE OTHER HAND, 46 PERCENT FAVOR REMOVAL OF U.S. BASES, REASONING, "OUT OF CONSIDERATION FOR OKINAWAN PEOPLE'S SENTIMENTS, THE U.S. MILITARY BASES ON OKINAWA SHOULD BE REMOVED AND INSTEAD THE SDF SHOULD BE REINFORCED." THE LATTER SLIGHTLY EXCEEDED THE FORMER. MORE CONSIDERATION FOR THE PAINS OF OKINAWAN PEOPLE HAS BEEN SOUGHT.

TO CLASSIFY THE RESPONDENTS BY POLITICAL PARTY EACH RESPONDENT SUPPORTS, 53 PERCENT OF THOSE WHO SUPPORT THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP) CHOSE MAINTENANCE OF THE STATUS QUO, GREATLY SURPASSING THE 39 PERCENT WHO WANT TO THE BASES OUT. IN CONTRAST, AMONG THOSE SUPPORTING THE SHINSHINTO (NEW FRONTIER PARTY), THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (SDP) AND UNAFFILIATED VOTERS WHO HAVE "NO PARTY TO SUPPORT," NEARLY 50 PERCENT INDICATED THEY FAVOR THE REMOVAL OF BASES -- ABOUT 10 PERCENT HIGHER THAN THOSE FAVORING THE MAINTENANCE OF THE STATUS QUO.

TO LOOK AT THE POLL RESULTS BY SEX, MEN TEND TO FAVOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE STATUS QUO, WHILE MANY WOMEN HOPED TO HAVE THE BASES PULLED OUT. BUT AMONG MEN IN THEIR TWENTIES, THOSE FAVORING REMOVAL OF BASES EXCEEDED THOSE FAVORING THE MAINTENANCE OF THE STATUS QUO.

BY AREA, STRONG CALLS FOR REMOVAL OF BASES WERE SHOWN IN THE TOKAI AREA, HOKKAIDO, AND KYUSHU, ALL OF WHICH HAVE BEEN ASKED TO ACCEPT THE RELOCATION OF LIVE-FIRE TRAINING FROM OKINAWA TO THEIR LOCALITIES, BUT IN THE SOUTH KANTO AND TOHOKU AREAS, BOTH OF WHICH HAVE SITES FOR RELOCATION IN YAMANASHI AND MIYAGI PREFECTURES, THOSE FAVORING THE MAINTENANCE OF THE STATUS QUO ARE ALMOST THE SAME PERCENTAGE AS THOSE CALLING FOR REMOVAL OF BASES.

MINSHUTOQS HATOYAMA PROPOSES SECURITY TREATY WITH NO BASES AND RESTRUCTURED SDF (ASAHI -PAGE 7)

THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE BUNGEI SHUNJU, AVAILABLE AT BOOKSTORES TODAY, CARRIES MINSHUTO (DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF JAPAN) CO-LEADER YUKIO HATOYAMA'S ESSAY, "MY UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 06 TOKYO 009457

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, RMR; STATE FOR EAR/J; STATE PASS TO USTR/PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE; CIA WASHDC; SECDEF FOR JCS/J-5/JAPAN, OASD/ISA/EAPR/JAPAN; TREASURY/OASIA/IMI; WHITE HOUSE; COMMERCE FOR DAS; USDA; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 9

ADMINISTRATIVE BLUEPRINT," IN WHICH HE STATES, "WE ARE STILL NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO JOIN THE ADMINISTRATION." THE ESSAY, HOWEVER, PORTRAYS HATOYAMA'S STRONG RESOLVE TO "BECOME THE LARGEST PARTY IN THE LAST 20TH-CENTURY GENERAL ELECTION" AS WELL AS OUTLINES HIS POLICY GOALS.

THE PIECE PUTS SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON SECURITY MEASURES. SPECIFICALLY, HATOYAMA SUGGESTS REALIGNING THE SELF-DEFENSE FORCES (SDF) INTO THREE TYPES OF FORCES BY THE YEAR 2010: 1) A "NATIONAL DEFENSE FORCE" CENTERING ON MARITIME AND AIR TROOPS; 2) AN "INTERNATIONAL PEACE COOPERATION FORCE" OF CHIEFLY GROUND PERSONNEL; AND 3) A "DISASTER RESCUE FORCE" WITH HIGH MOBILITY.

HIS ESSAY REFERS TO AN INTERNATIONAL PEACE COOPERATION FORCE: "IT WOULD ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS (PKO) AS WELL AS IN AN EAST ASIA JOINT POLICE FORCE." HE SUGGESTS THAT THE PEACE COOPERATION FORCE SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO TAKE PART IN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED MILITARY ACTIVITIES.

HATOYAMA ALSO CALLS FOR AN ENHANCED FRAMEWORK FOR SECURITY DIALOGUE TO PREVENT REGIONAL CONFLICTS IN NORTHEAST ASIA AND TO MOVE TOWARD REALIZING A "SECURITY ARRANGEMENT WITHOUT U.S. TROOPS," WHICH THE MINSHUTO HAS SET AS ITS DIPLOMATIC AND SECURITY GOAL.

HE ALSO SUGGESTS UPGRADING THE ONGOING FOUR-PARTY TALKS TO CONCLUDE A PEACE AGREEMENT, NOW AMONG NORTH KOREA (DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA), SOUTH KOREA, THE U.S., AND CHINA, TO "SIX-PARTY TALKS" THAT INCLUDE JAPAN AND RUSSIA. HE EXPLAINS THAT IF CONFIDENCE-BUILDING PROGRESSES, THE U.S.-JAPAN SECURITY TREATY SHOULD BE SHIFTED INTO A FREE TRADE AGREEMENT AND A (NEW) SECURITY AGREEMENT AND THAT THE U.S. OKINAWA BASE PROBLEM WOULD HEAD FOR SETTLEMENT FUNDAMENTALLY.

SDPQS MURAYAMA SAYS SECURITY TREATY WITH U.S. TROOPS OUT OF JAPAN IS QDO-ABLEQ (SANKEI - PAGE 3)

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (SDPJ) SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE TOMIICHI MURAYAMA LATE YESTERDAY DELIVERED A SPEECH IN FRONT OF JR AGEO STATION, AGEO CITY, SAITAMA PREFECTURE, AND REFERRING TO THE U.S.-JAPAN SECURITY TREATY, HE NOTED, "HAVING A SECURITY TREATY WITHOUT THE U.S. FORCES IN JAPAN (USFJ) IS FEASIBLE."

MURAYAMA CONTINUED, TOUCHING ON JAPAN'S DIPLOMACY TOWARD OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES: "THE STABILITY OF ASIA SHOULD BE ACHIEVED THROUGH DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS ALONE." HE ALSO STRESSED THAT SUCH SHOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED BY PROMOTING DIALOGUES INSTEAD OF EXERCISING THE RIGHT OF COLLECTIVE SELF-DEFENSE.

TALKS ON OFFSHORE HELIPORT FACILITY STUDYING NEW OPTIONS (ASAHI - PAGE 2)

THE JAPAN-U.S. SPECIAL ACTION COMMITTEE (ON FACILITIES AND AREAS IN OKINAWA) (SACO) HELD A WORKING GROUP MEETING AT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON OCTOBER 8 TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE OF REALIGNING AND REDUCING THE U.S. MILITARY BASES ON OKINAWA. IT ALSO SET UP A SPECIAL WORKING GROUP FOR INTENSIVE STUDY OF THE QUESTION OF WHERE TO RELOCATE (THE HELIPORT FUNCTIONS OF) FUTENMA AIR STATION. REGARDING THE PLANNED CONSTRUCTION OF A SEA-BASED HELIPORT AS ONE OF THE OPTIONS, THE JAPANESE SIDE THEN PROPOSED CONSIDERING THE PONTOON AND SEMI-SUB TYPES FROM THE ASPECT OF TECHNICAL EVALUATION AMONG THE METHODS OF CONSTRUCTING A MEGAFLOAT STRUCTURE, IN ADDITION TO THE FLOATING-PIER TYPE (OR QIP). ON THE OTHER HAND, THE U.S. SIDE HAS PRESUMABLY OVERTURED A DOWNSCALED STRUCTURE WITH NO SELF-PROPELLING CAPABILITY, IN ADDITION TO ITS MOBILE OFFSHORE BASE (MOB) PLAN. NOW THAT THE JAPANESE AND U.S. UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 06 TOKYO 009457

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, RMR; STATE FOR EAR/J; STATE PASS TO USTR/PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE; CIA WASHDC; SECDEF FOR JCS/J-5/JAPAN, OASD/ISA/EAPR/JAPAN; TREASURY/OASIA/IMI; WHITE HOUSE; COMMERCE FOR DAS; USDA; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 9

SIDES HAVE BOTH INTRODUCED THEIR RESPECTIVE FLOATING HELIPORT PLANS, THE TWO COUNTRIES' COORDINATION IS GOING INTO FULL SWING.

ACCORDING TO JAPAN DEFENSE AGENCY OFFICIALS AND OTHERS, THE PONTOON-TYPE FLOATING STRUCTURE, NEWLY ADDED TO BE

STUDIED, CITES A CONSTRUCTION METHOD TO MOOR AN EMPTY DECK AFLOAT ON THE SURFACE OF THE SEA. THE SEMI-SUB TYPE ONE IS BASED ON THE IDEA OF SINKING AN EMPTY FLOATING-BODY STRUCTURE INTO THE SEA AND PLACING A DECK ON IT. THE OFFICIALS EXPLAIN THAT EACH OF THESE CONSTRUCTION METHODS WILL BE BROKEN INTO FURTHER DETAILED VARIATIONS, DEPENDING ON SUCH POINTS AS WHETHER OR NOT TO ADOPT FERROUS OR CONCRETE MATERIALS FOR THE DECK AND FLOATING BODY, WHETHER OR NOT TO HAVE THAT FLOATING STRUCTURE WIRE-FIXED TO THE SEA BOTTOM, AND WHETHER OR NOT TO CONSTRUCT A BREAKWATER.

THE JAPANESE SIDE HAD INITIALLY CONSIDERED THE QIP FORMULA. HOWEVER, SUCH WOULD INVOLVE A CONSTRUCTION METHOD THAT DRIVES A NUMBER OF POSTS INTO THE SEA BOTTOM, SO THE POSSIBILITY OF ITS CAUSING A HARMFUL EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT WAS UNDENIABLE. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE U.S. SIDE'S PLAN WAS ALSO UNCLEAR AS TO ITS TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY, AND THE JAPANESE SIDE THEREFORE HAS WIDENED THE SCOPE OF THE OPTIONS, THE OFFICIALS SAID.

HILE THERE ARE NOW THREE OPTIONS BROKEN DOWN INTO HE PLAN TO CONSTRUCT AN OFFSHORE HELIPORT, THE PLN TO INTEGRATE FUTENMA'S HELIPORT FUNCTIONS INTO KADENA AIR FORCE BASE, AND THE PLAN TO RELOCATE TS FUNCTIONS TO CAMP SCHWAB, THE SPECIAL WORKINGTEAM IS GOING TO MAKE AN INTENSIVE STUDY OF THE FFSHORE HELIPORT PLAN. INCLUDING SUCH STEPS AS HARINGS FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR, THE JAPANESE SID WILL HURRY TO WORK OUT THE DETAILS ABOUT TECHNIAL EVALUATION AND THE PROJECTED HELIPORT'S SCALE AND FUNCTIONS ENTAILED THE JAPANESE SIDE, IS MADE UP OF SENIOR OFFICIALS FROM MOFA AND JDA AND OFFICERS FROM THE JOINT STAFF COUNCIL AND THE MARITIME SELF-DEFENSE FORCE'S STAFF OFFICE. ON THE U.S. SIDE ARE DIVISIONDIRECTOR LEVEL OFFICIALS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF TATE, THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, AND THE U.S. FORCES IN JAPAN. SAGO WIL HOLD ITS NEXT CONSULTATIVE MEETING IN WASHINGTON LATE THIS MONTH.

AGRICULTURAL MINISTRY TELLS US. THAT PRODUCE INSPECTION NOT A TRADE RESTRICTION (YOMIURI - PAGE 9)

THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES (MAFF) YESTERDAY SENT A LETTER UNDER THE NAME OF MAFF MINISTER OHARA TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. THE LETTER STRESSED THAT THE QUARANTINE INSPECTION JAPAN HAS CONDUCTED ON IMPORTED U.S.-GROWN APPLES AND CHERRIES WAS NOT AN IMPORT-RESTRICTION MEASURE.

IN ADDITION TO TWO PRODUCTS WHOSE IMPORTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN APPROVED, THE U.S. HAS REQUESTED JAPAN TO LIFT THE BAN ON IMPORTS OF FOUR MORE VARIETIES, INCLUDING FUJI APPLES. THE U.S. HAS CLAIMED THAT ALTHOUGH THE FOUR PRODUCTS HAVE UNDERGONE THE SAME TREATMENT AS THE TWO, SUCH AS FOR THE EXTERMINATION OF NOXIOUS INSECTS, JAPAN HAS DEMANDED THE U.S. TO PRESENT ADDITIONAL TEST DATA ON EFFECTS OF EXTERMINATING NOXIOUS INSECTS AND THE LIKE FOR EACH VARIETY. ASSAILING "THIS IS SUBSTANTIALLY AN IMPORT-

RESTRICTION MEASURE," THE U.S. WAS CALLING FOR JAPAN'S EXPLANATION AS TO WHY IT NEEDS ADDITIONAL DATA.

JUSTICE MINISTER CALLS FOR WIRETAPPING UNDER NEW CRIME LAW (SANKEI - PAGE 3)

JUSTICE MINISTER RITSUKO NAGAO IN A MEETING YESTERDAY OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (ADVISORY PANEL TO THE JUSTICE UNCLAS SECTION 06 OF 06 TOKYO 009457

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, RMR; STATE FOR EAR/J; STATE PASS TO USTR/PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE; CIA WASHDC; SECDEF FOR JCS/J-5/JAPAN, OASD/ISA/EAPR/JAPAN; TREASURY/OASIA/IMI; WHITE HOUSE; COMMERCE FOR DAS; USDA; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 9

MINISTER) CALLED FOR A CONSOLIDATION OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURES LAW AND A REVIEW OF THE BANKRUPTCY LAW IN AN EFFORT TO STEP UP ORGANIZATIONAL CRIME COUNTERMEASURES. THE TWO SUGGESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED BY WORKING GROUPS ON THE CRIMINAL LAW AND THE BANKRUPTCY LAW WORKING GROUP. OF THEM, THE CRIMINAL LAW GROUP IS GOING TO EXPEDITE ITS WORK AIMING TO SUBMIT AN ORGANIZATIONAL CRIME SPECIAL LAW BILL AND AN AMENDED CRIMINAL PROCEDURE LAW TO THE REGULAR DIET SESSION NEXT YEAR.

STRONGER COUNTERMEASURES ARE NECESSARY TO PREVENT VICIOUS CRIMES, LIKE THE ONES COMMITTED BY THE DOOMSDAY CULT GROUP AUM SHINRIKYO, AND LARGE-SCALE TRANSNATIONAL CRIMES, LIKE ILLEGAL TRAFFICKING IN NARCOTICS AND MONEY-LAUNDERING BY SYNDICATES OR OTHER ORGANIZATIONS. THE UNITED NATIONS HAS BEEN CALLING FOR TAKING CONCERTED STEPS IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

MAJOR ELEMENTS SUGGESTED BY THE JUSTICE MINISTER WERE:
1) INTRODUCTION OF EAVESDROPPING; 2) HEAVIER PENALTIES FOR ORGANIZED CRIME (MURDER, ABDUCTION AND THE LIKE) AND TOUGHER OR NEW PENALTIES ON PREPARATION FOR CRIMES; AND
3) PENALTIES ON ILLEGAL BUSINESS TAKEOVERS, AND EXPANDED CONFISCATION AND ADDITIONAL PENALTIES.

WIRETAPPING WOULD BE ALLOWED ONLY WHEN THERE IS A JUDGE'S PERMISSION AND ONLY WHEN SUCH IS NECESSARY IN THE COURSE OF INVESTIGATIONS INTO SERIOUS CRIMES THAT WOULD CALL FOR CAPITAL PUNISHMENT OR LIFE IMPRISONMENT, SUCH AS CRIMES INVOLVING DRUGS, GUNS OR KIDNAPPING. THE AREA OF WIRETAPPING WOULD INCLUDE TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS AND ELECTRONIC-COMMUNICATIONS, SUCH AS PERSONAL COMPUTERS AND FAX MESSAGES. DUE TO THIS, A NATIONAL DEBATE IS LIKELY TO OCCUR IN RELATION TO PROTECTION OF PRIVACY.

AS FOR A REVIEW OF THE BANKRUPTCY LAW, A BANKRUPTCY LAW WORKING GROUP WILL BE ESTABLISHED TO LOOK MAINLY INTO THE BANKRUPTCY LAW AND THE COMPOSITION LAW THAT WERE ESTABLISHED IN 1922 AND ARE NOW TOO OBSOLETE TO DEAL WITH RISING CARD LOAN-RELATED PERSONAL BANKRUPTCIES AND CORPORATE BANKRUPTCIES. SPECIFICALLY, THE WORKING GROUP WILL FOCUS ON: 1) MEASURES TO DEAL WITH THE SURGE IN CONSUMER BANKRUPTCIES; 2) INTERNATIONAL BANKRUPTCIES; AND 3) CONSOLIDATION OF MEASURES FOR CORPORATE OBLIGATIONS.

CRANE

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 06

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
008. cable	Re: Moving Forward in U.S.-Japan Security Relations and Okinawa Base Issues (3 pages)	10/11/1996	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1995-Dec 1996 ([Futenma])
OA/Box Number: 510000

FOLDER TITLE:

[10/03/1996 - 10/17/1996]

2016-0420-F
sb1884

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
009. cable	Re: Land Leases (4 pages)	10/11/1996	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1995-Dec 1996 ([Futenma])
OA/Box Number: 510000

FOLDER TITLE:

[10/03/1996 - 10/17/1996]

2016-0420-F
sb1884

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- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
010. cable	Re: Support Cable for European Brief (11 pages)	10/16/1996	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1995-Dec 1996 ([Futenma])
OA/Box Number: 510000

FOLDER TITLE:

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2016-0420-F
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- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
011. cable	Re: Okinawa Heliport (4 pages)	10/16/1996	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1995-Dec 1996 ([Futenma])
OA/Box Number: 510000

FOLDER TITLE:

[10/03/1996 - 10/17/1996]

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RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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(1) Jijikokkoku Column: Candidates Groping Their Way under the New Election System; Vote-Gathering Machine Takes on a Different Appearance

ASAHI (Page 3) (Full)
October 17, 1996

The upcoming general election is the first such under the new election system. What are now noticeable are changes in the movements of industries, labor unions and supporters' associations, all of which in the past functioned as "vote-gathering machines." Perplexed at political parties that are now in a realignment process and wary of the revised Public Office Election Law which carries stricter penalties for violations, campaign activities are themselves in a transitional period. This newspaper reports on now-changing campaign activities throughout the country.

Industry

No Offer of Campaign Workers and Money

The Niigata Fifth Constituency was once the late former prime minister Kakuei Tanaka's turf. One construction company boss, who was at the center of Tanaka's supporters, is now spending his days quietly for the first time during a campaign period.

A major local businessman says: "After the election was announced, I joined a golf tournament. Single-seat constituencies are a very good system indeed." In the past, he was a senior member of the Etsuzankai, Tanaka's campaign organization. Now hardly anyone can be seen in such activities as making company employees and subcontractors carry out a door-to-door campaign canvassing or "giving money under the name of the gasoline costs" (medium-ranking firm operator).

Under the medium-size district system, factions from the same party fought it out fiercely, but now, in contrast, what has now developed is a UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 09 TOKYO 009669

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single combat in effect between a candidate from the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and one from the Shinshinto (New Frontier Party). The branch of the Prefectural Construction Industry Association endorses neither of the two candidates, but just watches watchfully. There is an atmosphere of unconcern with the election, and one leading industrialist has quipped, "Neither of them appears to be our candidate, so we do not need to work in the frontline of the campaign."

An incumbent LDP candidate running in the Kagoshima Third Constituency comes from the construction bureaucracy, but construction firms are not dispatching campaign workers to help him. An executive of a major local firm notes: "Owing to a change in the bidding system to a public bidding, it is not necessary to ask politicians to give us recommendations."

It is not only the construction industry that has stopped giving a helping hand to election campaigning.

In the Gifu First Constituency, three incumbents and a newcomer candidate are vying with each other. "When I am asked to give a speech at a candidate's rally and am unable to decline it, I never speak ill of the other parties," says a small company owner. If a candidate backed by his firm loses an election, the impact on his firm may be felt after the election.

A senior executive of a certain industrial association in Gifu Prefecture was telephoned by managers from member companies and asked about which candidates to send money to boost their campaigns: "Is it better to bring 500,000 yen to this candidate in addition to that" He explained: "They are trying to leave some evidence to show

they are keeping an equal distance from each candidate. So when they send some kind of cash present, they have proxy of a proxy do it so to avoid drawing attention."

Labor Unions

Chapters Split in Support Efforts; Executive Members Absent

On the 10th, the day after the election was announced, a leading officer of a labor union in Nagano Prefecture, tried to make contact with senior members of each single-industry labor union, but most members were not in their offices. So he telephoned them at home to make contact with them. "Leaders of labor unions are taking their breaks from work at home. This sort of thing was inconceivable until now," says that officer.

In Nagano Prefecture, most labor unions have given endorsement to the Minshuto (Democratic Party of Japan) in the proportional representation constituency, but in single-seat electorates, their responses are diverse. The Japan Postal Workers' Union (Zentei) gives support to the LDP in the
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First, Fourth and Fifth Constituencies but to the Shinshinto in the Second and Third Constituencies. The All Japan Prefectural and Municipal Workers' Union (Jichiro) supports the Sakigake Party in the First and Third Constituencies but gives endorsement to the Social Democratic Party (SDP) in the Second Constituency, and in the Fourth and Fifth Constituencies, it has allowed union members to vote upon their own judgment.

On October 2, Zentei Chairman Susumu Takato in an internal meeting, referring to his union's response to the election, stated that in the proportional representation system, giving support to the Minshuto is made a principle, but that in single-seat constituencies, responses differ, depending on electorates, and explained: "Our relations with the Minshuto are different from under the 1955

political setup. The current situation is not as was in the past when we were able to do something "under the bloc of the Japan Socialist Party (predecessor of the SDP) and the General Council of Trade Unions of Japan (Shohyo)."

However, unions are slow to make a move for support campaign for the LDP and the Shinshinto. "Since there are no materials to convince union members of our support for conservative candidates, our policy line has not yet permeated through the membership," complains an executive officer of a labor union in Nagano Prefecture.

In single-seats constituencies in Hiroshima Prefecture, the former Sohyo-affiliated labor unions have been divided into four over which party to support: the Minshuto; the SDP; the Shin-Shakaito and the Shinshinto. Secretariat Chief Yukio Yokohara of the Hiroshima Prefectural Labor Council for Peace and Democracy, a Sohyo-affiliated union, describes the current situation that has showed no sign of budging: "Under the coalition government days, senior labor union members conclude agreements with various parties or various politicians. Because of quick changes of policy line from the left to the right, labor union members cannot follow."

Personal Campaign Organizations

Become Nervous about the Renza-sei Regulation
Holding a Candidate Jointly Responsible

"I want you to do something about the illegal construction near my house." "The streetlights need to be repaired." Those sorts of petitions came from voters to a newcomer candidate running in the Kyoto Second Constituency. Not only the contents of petitions but also a campaign itself have now become detailed like a mayoral campaign. The incumbent candidate running in the Kyoto First Constituency wore out ten pairs of shoes. He notes: "Even after going the rounds of organizations, I cannot find out how end-members are moving. Shaking hands is the best way to sense people's feelings after all."

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The incumbent candidate in the Kyoto Third Constituency circulated a flier that goes: "Please let us know all kinds of information." A telephone and a facsimile machine for that purpose have been set at a corner of his office. Information that is sought is: (1) regional or group events that would lead to expanding the support base if the candidate gave a speech there; and (2) movements of other parties. This approach that would catch information even related to only a group of a few people was adopted after many trials and errors.

Under the revised Public Office Election law, secretaries and "campaign managers for organized campaign" are subject to the Renza-sei regulation, so candidates' campaign offices have become nervous.

"Morning: salted salmon, boiled vegetables, natto or fermented soybeans and pickles.
Lunch: broiled fish, Japanese pot-au-feu and soup.
Supper: Stew, radish salad and pickles."

This is a menu shown in an election campaign office for the incumbent Shinshinto candidate running in the Yamagata First Constituency. When campaign workers have a meal, they put 200 yen in a box and receive a receipt. This is an idea to avoid violating the Public Office Election Law.

In his rival incumbent LDP candidate's office, a bill is put on the entrance door of the office, reading: "We decline your present, such as Japanese wine or sake." Those who had a meal are required to make "donations." Emphasis is on efforts to avoid violation of the law.

(2) New Election Front '96: Candidates in Okinawa Prefecture Inarticulate about "Bases" and "Security"; Local Public Strongly Irritated

NIHON KEIZAI (Page 1) (Full)
October 17, 1996

Since the schoolgirl rape incident brought about by U.S. servicemen, Okinawa Prefecture has experienced pitches and rolls over the problem of U.S. military bases. The ongoing general election campaign battle took the form of following up a 'settlement' reached on the issue of the Government's making continued forcible use of landed property currently offered to U.S. military bases there. All candidates running in the prefecture are unanimously calling for 'base reduction', but none

of them will try to get into in-depth arguments. "What was Okinawa's asking over the past year?" A feeling of irritation and perplexity is now growing among the people of Okinawa Prefecture.

On October 8, after the Lower House election was officially announced, a new-face candidate of the Liberal Democratic Party started his election campaign near the municipal office of Naha City. The candidate, however, did not voice anything about the issues of "bases" and "security." One of that candidate's election campaigning staff
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explains, "There are people suffering from the bases, but there are also base employees and military landowners. So, the interests at stake over the bases are complicated. To get the largest number of votes in a minor (single-seat) constituency, it's hard to touch on a problem that everybody agrees on."

The election campaign battle is going on against the background of a plan floated for a floating heliport to accompany the planned return of Futenma Air Station. One candidate running from the Japan Communist Party and another candidate from the Okinawa Shakai Taishuto (Okinawa Social Popular Party) are crying out with their campaign slogans to "remove all the bases and abrogate the Japan-U.S. security treaty." However, all other candidates are virtually in the position to "tolerate within-the-prefecture relocation (of the Futenma airfield's heliport functions)." On October 9, Sakigake Party Representative Shoichi Ide visited Okinawa, where he also remarked that "the Okinawa problem is an issue of top priority." Yet, Ide was inarticulate about the issue of relocating the base within the prefecture, saying, "I wonder if we will be able to have your understanding in Okinawa Prefecture. We will have to have your understanding."

The Social Democratic Party's Okinawa prefectural federation is crying out "against within-the-prefecture relocation." But an SDP candidate, who

was formerly an incumbent, looked sour partly because he is from a union of base workers. The SDP candidate reasons, "About the base problem, we will have to listen also to the opinion of those working at the bases. Otherwise ..."

The local public is now becoming irritated at the fact that the problem of military bases will not turn into a specific point at issue.

The municipal office of Kadena Town, from this month, displays a banner slogan, reading: "We are absolutely against heliport relocation to Kadena Air Force Base." Kadena Mayor Miyagi openly discloses his sense of distrust: "Over the past year, the base problem appeared to have been an ever-changing issue. Actually, however, nothing has changed. Even so, however, none of the candidates all over the country and in this prefecture has shown a vision of the base issue. Why?"

Mitsuru Kaneshiro (or Kinjo?) (25), a self-employed citizen of Ginowan City, poses his question, "Why are no candidates trying to take up the issue of reviewing the Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement?" In January this year, his elder sister-in-law and her two children were killed by a car driven by a U.S. serviceman. Nevertheless, one of those in that car has returned home without a court trial as blocked by the barrier of the SOFA pact, and the U.S. military has paid no compensation.

Kaneshiro also is one of those doing business with
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the U.S. Forces. So, his feeling is complicated. He notes, "I'm in favor of base reduction. But we can't live if the base is suddenly returned. Rather than that, how will they cope with incidents and accidents involving U.S. military personnel?" He cannot find any candidate or political party that will answer his question.

(3) Photofilm Dispute: Stormy Negotiations
Unavoidable

ASAHI (Page 12) (Excerpt)
October 17, 1996

The ongoing Japan-United States photofilm dispute will now be deliberated within a dispute-settlement panel under the World Trade Organization (WTO). The U.S. has filed a complaint with the WTO against Japan, breaking down the problems in Japan into three categories: the closed nature of the distribution market, including industrial policy; entry barriers, such as the Large-scale Retail Store Law; and business practices that have blocked competition, such as keiretsu. The U.S. has a strategy of staging a "court battle" at the WTO. Japan as well is prepared to come to a showdown, asking the WTO to take up the closed nature of the U.S. photofilm market. Stormy sessions are inevitable.

-- Industrial Policy

The U.S. complains that the low share of Eastman Kodak's products in the Japanese market can be ascribed to the closed nature of the distribution market. Based on the view that the cause lies in Japan's industrial policy, including capital-liberalization measures the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) took in 1970, the U.S. has pointed out that such laws as the MITI-Establishment Law and the Business Reform Law, as well as administrative guidance, violate the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which sets the rule for liberalization of merchandise trade.

Japan has refuted, "The focus of the U.S. contention is on our past policy measures. It has not pointed to any actual violations."

-- Large-Scale Retail Store Law

Kodak's products are carried on the shelves of supermarkets and other large-scale retail stores. The U.S. has asserted that store-opening-related restrictions in the Large-scale Retail Store Law has blocked increased sales of Kodak products in the Japanese market. It claims that law violates the General Agreement of Trade Services (GATS). Japan has argued, "Ordinary retailers handle Kodak's products. The Large-scale Retail Store Law is not an access barrier."

Bilateral talks are expected to start in mid-November.

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-- Keiretsu and Business Practices

The U.S. side insists that even private-sector business practices, such as keiretsu (i.e., vertical integration of the distribution chain) and the rebate system, have constrained competition in the Japanese market. Japan is reluctant to respond to talks, claiming "anti-monopoly-policy officials should strive for a solution to problems related to business practices."

Japan agreed on October 3 to start talks, attaching the condition that "the closed nature of the U.S. market will also be discussed." But the U.S. has resisted, "A claim against other country's claim is a breach of propriety under GATT and WTO rules." Prospects going into the talks are not good.

WTO Dispute Settlement Procedures

There are three hurdles -- (1) bilateral talks; (2) in case talks end in rupture, a recommendation based on a panel ruling; and (3) in case the recommendation cannot be accepted, a final recommendation in accordance with a ruling at a higher panel. The period between the establishment of a panel and a final recommendation has been decided at 18 months. Of the three issues in the Japan-U.S. photofilm dispute, the dispute over industrial policy has shifted from stage (1) to (2) now. As for the Large-scale Retail Store Law, bilateral talks will now start. But regarding keiretsu and business practices, a settlement will be aimed at by bilateral talks that will have quite different procedures, with no specific deadline set.

(4) Changes Appearing in Chinese Markets;
Underselling Competition Heating up Due to
Production Increases, with Household Electric
Appliances and Automobiles Pervasive

NIHON KEIZAI (Page 3) (Excerpt)
October 10, 1996

Vying for Market Shares with Foreign Capital

Competition for undercutting airconditioners has heated up in Shanghai and Kuangtung Province. Chinese manufacturers "have fallen into a underselling game" (local paper), bringing down prices by 10 to 20 percent. With competition intensifying, "some small to medium-size air-conditioner manufacturers in Kuangtung were driven into shutting down operations" (industrial person). Some leading manufacturers as well reportedly have reduced output since June.

A leading Japanese trading house employee explains, "In coast cities, air-conditioners have glutted the Chinese market since early this year." Regarding color television sets and refrigerators as well, similar trends are observed. There is data that shows the diffusion rate of air-conditioners has reached 100 percent in Shanghai.

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Sichan Changhong Corporation, the largest home appliance manufacturer in China, began to sell the "Changhong-brand" color television at 8 to 18 percent lower prices. To counter this, Shenzhen Kangjia Electric Corporation, its rival, also has cut the prices of its products by about 20 percent.

Lianxiang Group, a leading personal computer manufacturer, pushed down the prices of its products 20 percent, reflecting the fierce competition with U.S. Compac and IBM, although its share is increasing. Chinese companies had been enjoying a sellers' markets, so the recent price-cut approach is the first experience for them after China adopted a reform and open-door policy in 1992.

The price-cut trend is spreading among automobile manufacturers, too. Shanghai Automobile Corporation, the largest manufacturer in China, has reduced since July the retail price of the compact car Santana (regular type) from 153,000 yuan (1 yuan = about 14 yen) to 150,000 yuan.

The company made the decision, turning a deaf ear

to the instruction of the Chinese Government to pigeonhole the price-cut strategy until year's end.

A similar trend is also appearing in the material sector. Anshan Steel Co., a major steel manufacturer, reduced the targeted annual output of crude steel in the year 2000 by 1.2 million tons from 10 million tons to 8.8 million tons.

Even so, few take the view that the output-reduction approach will spread widely enough to dissolve the demand-supply gap, an executive of the Shanghai Office of Nikko Research Center remarking "Chinese corporations are prone to avoid production cuts, out of the need to maintain employment."

In addition, the industrial policy of the Chinese Government still takes on a socialist color, preferential financial treatment given to companies that have achieved the government-set production targeting. Under such policy, even if their profits deteriorate, corporations find it difficult to reduce output.

Japanese Companies Reduce Exports of Television; Cut Prices of Some Locally-manufactured Products

In the household electric appliance industry, exports of television sets from Japan during the January to August period were reduced 45.6 percent on a year-on-year basis to 240,000 units. This drop stemmed from a trend of shifting production bases to China and slower demand. Toshiba is "going to cover the reduced portion by expanding exports to other areas" (Managing Director Kenichi Mori).

As for comparatively competitive locally-manufactured products in terms of cost, some companies have begun to drop their prices, falling in step with Chinese companies. Sharp dropped the
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prices of air-conditioners manufactured in Shanghai by seven percent this summer. The Chinese home appliance market has been enjoying a double-digit

growth rate for the past several years, but some predict that "growth could stay below 10 percent for a while, now that home appliances have been brought into wide use in cities" (Sanyo Denki Chinese Office representative Yutaka Kimoto).

In the production-material area, exports of machine tools to China marked a 13.1 percent year-on-year drop in August to 2,590 million -- the first such this year. Sales Chief Kurumado of Okuma, commenting on exports of products to China during the April to September quarter seeing a 20 percent drop below the same period a year earlier, stated "China apparently is running short of foreign currencies."

Exports of steel to China also showed a 18.6 percent decrease from a year ago to 3.53 million tons in FY1995. In FY1996 as well, exports are on a downward trend. Prices have been tumbling.

On the other hand, "high-price-level" products, which do not compete with Chinese manufacturers' products, have been scarcely affected. Kao, which has produced shampoo and basic cosmetics in Shanghai, has yet to be involved in the price-cut race. Detergents are in good demand, and sales of foreign-manufactured cosmetics, including those of Europe and the U.S., have increased 30 percent or so annually.

In the cement industry, shipments have been stalled in some areas, but "demand for high-quality cement, such as those by Japanese manufacturers", is brisk " (Chichibu Cement).

As for office buildings owned by Japanese companies, the market has recorded growth, because there are not still enough buildings whose facilities and maintenance are reliable.

The dominant view among general trading companies, including C. To & Co., and Mitsubishi Corporation, is that "the Chinese economy is now in an adjustment phase, but its growth potential is great. We have no intention of applying the brakes to our long-term investments."

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