

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. cable	Re: Tokyo Talks: Bilateral Relations (6 pages)	10/18/1996	P1/b(1)
002. cable	Re: Japan-U.S. / Okinawa Base Issues (4 pages)	10/21/1996	P1/b(1)
003. cable	Re: Japan-U.S. / Okinawa Base Issues-Senkaku Islands (8 pages)	10/21/1996	P1/b(1)
004. cable	Re: Digest Executive Edition 201-96 (10 pages)	10/23/1996	P1/b(1)
005. cable	Re: Okinawa Base Issues: Meetings in Tokyo (6 pages)	10/23/1996	P1/b(1)
006. cable	Re: [Transit Summary] FY 97-016 (10 pages)	10/23/1996	P1/b(1)
007. cable	Re: [Transit Summary] FY 97-017 (10 pages)	10/24/1996	P1/b(1)
008. cable	Re: Visit of the Chief of Staff, United States Arms (CSA) To Japan - Scene Setter (10 pages)	10/25/1996	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

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[10/18/1996 - 10/25/1996]

2016-0420-F
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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)]

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- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
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Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE
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LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: O 180340Z OCT 96
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TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8517
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INFO: RUYNJDK/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA
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SUBJ: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 18
TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 07 TOKYO 009695

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;
USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA;
COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 18

TOP HEADLINES:

ASAHI: RUSSIAN PRESIDENT FIRES SECRETARY LEBED; FEAR OF
GIVING RISE TO POLITICAL UNREST

NIHON KEIZAI: ECONOMIC PANEL'S STRUCTURAL REFORM
PROPOSALS IN THREE AREAS; LIFTING BAN ON BANKING HOLDING
FIRMS INCORPORATED; ABOLISHMENT OF SPOUSE DEDUCTION
PROPOSED FOR PROMOTION OF WOMEN WORKING (TRANSLATION
BELOW)

TOKYO SHIMBUN: ECONOMIC PANEL'S REPORT ON STRUCTURAL REFORM; ABOLISHMENT OF SPOUSE DEDUCTION INCLUDED; ALSO "DISCONTINUATION OF RULES ON PROTECTION OF WOMEN" INCLUDED; NTT'S ACCESS TO INTERNATIONAL MARKET ALLOWED

MAINICHI: SECRETARY LEBED DISMISSED BY RUSSIAN PRESIDENT; DECISION MADE DUE TO CONFRONTATION IN GOVERNMENT; CRITICIZES WITH REMARK, "INPERMISSIBLE MISTAKE"

YOMIURI: ECONOMIC PANEL COMPILES REPORT; TAX DEREGULATION FOR LAND FLUIDITY; ACTIVATION OF DEALS AIMED AT; ACQUISITION TAX AND TRANSFER PROFITS SUBJECT TO DEREGULATION; LAND POLICY OUTLINE SET IN 1991 AGAINST BUBBLE ECONOMY WILL BE REVIEWED

SANKEI: RUSSIAN PRESIDENT FIRES SECRETARY LEBED BECAUSE POWER STRUGGLE ACCELERATING TURMOIL; CHECHEN DISPUTE MAY REIGNITE

FOUR SCENARIOS FOR POST-ELECTION GOVERNMENT
(TOKYO SHIMBUN - PAGE 3)

IN THE FINAL STAGE OF CAMPAIGNING FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION, THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP), WHICH IS REPORTEDLY GAINING IN STRENGTH, HAS SHOWN CONFIDENCE IN ESTABLISHING A SECOND HASHIMOTO ADMINISTRATION AND IS EARNESTLY TACKLING A SCHEME FOR THE FORMING OF A COALITION GOVERNMENT AFTER THE ELECTION. YET, A STORMY SITUATION MAY ARISE DEPENDING ON WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE UNDECIDED VOTES. THE WATERSHED OF WHETHER HASHIMOTO WILL CONTINUE TO REMAIN IN OFFICE DEPENDS ON WHETHER THE LDP CAN SECURE 230 SEATS. DEPENDING ON THE NUMBER OF SEATS THE LDP WILL SECURE, THE FRAMEWORK OF GOVERNMENT WILL CHANGE. FOUR SCENARIOS ARE CONCEIVABLE.

(MUTSU AOKI AND YUTAKA TABATA OF THE POLITICAL DEPARTMENT)

SCENARIO 1: MAJORITY -- PROSPECTS FOR A LONG HASHIMOTO ADMINISTRATION OBTAINED

IF THE LDP GARNERS 251 OR MORE SEATS INCLUDING RE-ELECTION OF PRIME MINISTER HASHIMOTO BY FORCE OF THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, IT CAN MEET THE CONDITIONS NECESSARY TO REVIVE A SINGLE-RULE ADMINISTRATION AFTER AN INTERVAL OF MORE THAN THREE YEARS. THE PRIME MINISTER COULD OPEN THE WAY TO A LONG SINGLE-PARTY ADMINISTRATION.

BUT THE WORRY IS THAT SINCE THE LDP DOES NOT HOLD A MAJORITY IN THE UPPER HOUSE, BILLS EXCEPT FOR THOSE ON BUDGET AND TREATIES MAY BE KILLED THERE. SO THE LDP WOULD UNAVOIDABLY AIM AT FORMING A COALITION GOVERNMENT IN ORDER TO MANAGE THE DIET IN A STABLE MANNER.

BASED ON THE CURRENT FRAMEWORK OF THE COALITION GOVERNMENT INCLUDING THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (SDP) AND THE SAKIGAKE PARTY, THE LDP IS SEARCHING FOR WAYS TO TEAM UP WITH THE MINSHUTO (DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF JAPAN),

AND BEHIND THE SCENES, IT IS CONTINUING TO TRY TO WIN OVER TO ITS SIDE THOSE WHO DEFECTED FROM THE SHINSHINTO (NEW FRONTIER PARTY) AND INDEPENDENTS.

HOWEVER, THINGS MAY NOT GO AS THE LDP EXPECTS. FOR UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 07 TOKYO 009695

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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; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

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EXAMPLE, IF THE LDP SINGLY WINS A MAJORITY, PARTIES THE LDP WANTS TO JOIN HANDS TO FORM A COALITION GOVERNMENT MIGHT BECOME IRRESOLUTE.

IF THAT IS THE CASE, THE LDP WOULD PLACE ITS EXPECTATIONS ON A SPLINTER GROUP FROM THE SHINSHINTO. THIS GROUP, RATHER THAN RETURN OR JOIN THE LDP RIGHT NOW, INTENDS TO SELL ITSELF AT A HIGH PRICE TO THE LDP WHILE MAINTAINING A CERTAIN FORCE. IF SO, IT IS HIGHLY LIKELY THAT A "PARTIAL CONSERVATIVE-CONSERVATIVE ALLIANCE" WOULD COME TRUE.

SCENARIO 2: 230 TO 240 SEATS -- POLITICAL LEADERSHIP WOULD BE UNSHAKABLE

EVEN IF THE LDP IS UNABLE TO GET A MAJORITY AND THE SEATS IT OBTAINED ARE AT THE LEVEL OF 230 TO 240 SEATS, IT WILL STILL REMAIN AS THE FIRST PARTY IN RELATIVE TERMS.

IN THE PREVIOUS GENERAL ELECTION THAT WAS CARRIED OUT THREE YEARS AGO, THE LDP SECURED THE POSITION OF THE FIRST PARTY BUT IT NONETHELESS WAS FORCED TO STEP DOWN FROM POLITICAL POWER BECAUSE A NON-LDP GOVERNMENT WAS ESTABLISHED IN COOPERATION AMONG EIGHT PARTIES. BUT NOW THE LDP BELIEVES IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO FORM A COALITION GOVERNMENT WITHOUT THE LDP IF IT SECURES 230 SEATS.

ITS CALCULATION IS THAT A COALITION WOULD BE FORMED BY "THE LDP, THE SAKIGAKE, AND A SPLINTER GROUP FROM THE SHINSHINTO AND INDEPENDENTS TO REACH A MAJORITY." BUT IF THEY DO NOT COME TO A MAJORITY, THE LDP HOPES TO ADD TO IT ALL OR A PORTION OF THE MINSHUTO AND THE SDP.

SCENARIO 3: LESS THAN 230 SEATS -- TUG OF WAR WILL BE INTENSIFIED AS TO MINSHUTO

IN THIS CASE, THE LDP AND THE SHINSHINTO WOULD VIE WITH EACH OTHER. IF THAT IS THE CASE, A STRUGGLE FOR

LEADERSHIP WOULD BE INTENSIFIED, INVOLVING NAGATA-CHO (JAPAN'S CAPITOL HILL) IN TURMOIL OVER POLITICAL HORSE TRADING FOR UNPRINCIPLED ALLIANCE.

IF THE SEATS THE LDP GARNERS ARE BELOW 230, EVEN IF IT JOINS HANDS WITH A PORTION OF THE SHINSHINTO, THE SDP AND THE SAKIGAKE, IT MIGHT BE UNABLE TO SECURE A MAJORITY. IN SUCH A CASE, ATTENTION WOULD BE FOCUSED ON THE MINSHUTO.

THE SHIHINTO WOULD SET ABOUT REVIVING A NON-LDP GOVERNMENT. A TUG OF WAR WILL THEN BE UNFOLDED BETWEEN THE LDP AND THE SHINSHINTO OVER THE MINSHUTO. THE SHINSHINTO MAY URGE THE MINSHUTO TO WORK TOGETHER BY NAMING MORIHIRO HOSOKAWA OR TSUTOMU HATA AS PRIME MINISTERIAL CANDIDATE INSTEAD OF PRESIDENT ICHIRO OZAWA.

IN THE TUG-OF-WAR BATTLE, AN IDEA OF NAMING EITHER OF YUKIO HATOYAMA AND NAOTO KAN, BOTH BEING CO-LEADERS OF THE MINSHUTO THAT WOULD HOLD A "CASTING VOTE," MIGHT BE FLOATED FROM BOTH THE LDP AND THE SHINSHINTO

BUT BOTH HATOYAMA AND KAN DO NOT AIM AT BECOMING PRIME MINISTER. IF THE MINSHUTO PREFERS BEING IN THE OPPOSITION CAMP, REFUSING THE LDP AND THE SHINSHINTO, THE LIKELIHOOD IS THAT A MINORITY ADMINISTRATION CENTERING ON THE LDP WOULD EMERGE. TO AVOID CAUSING A POLITICAL TURMOIL AT THIS POINT WHEN A MOUNTAIN OF ISSUES, INCLUDING DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN, REMAIN TO BE RESOLVED, "A CONSERVATIVE-CONSERVATIVE ALLIANCE" MAY BE FORMED BY THE ENTIRE LDP AND THE ENTIRE SHINSHINTO.

SCENARIO 4: LESS THAN 211 SEATS -- "HASHIMOTO TO STEP DOWN" IF THE LDP IS UNABLE TO SECURE THE POSITION OF THE RELATIVELY FIRST PARTY, THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY AND RESIGN, THEREBY THROWING NAGATA-CHO
UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 07 TOKYO 009695

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; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

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SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 18

AGAIN INTO POLITICAL UPHEAVAL.

THE FRAMEWORK OF GOVERNMENT WILL BE DECIDED BY HOW MANY SEATS THE SHINSHINTO AND THE MINSHUTO EACH SECURE. THE SHINSHINTO WOULD BASICALLY HOLD THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE BETWEEN A NON-LDP COALITION OR A CONSERVATIVE-CONSERVATIVE COALITION. ON THAT OCCASION, IF DIFFERENCES

IN POLICY LINES BETWEEN THE SHINSHINTO AND THE MINSHUTO COME TO THE FORE, THE POLITICAL WORLD WOULD FACE A GREAT REALIGNMENT PERIOD, TRANSCENDING PARTY FRAMEWORKS.

LDP STATEMENT ON POST-ELECTION SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET A HEADACHE FOR FINANCE MINISTRY (NIHON KEIZAI - PAGE 5)

A LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP) LEADER'S SUGGESTION OF "SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET COMPILATION SOON AFTER THE ELECTION" IS BEING TAKEN SERIOUSLY IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (MOF). MOF IS WORRIED, SUSPECTING SUCH A BUDGET MAY PUT A HALT TO THE MOF-DRIVEN FISCAL RECONSTRUCTION PLAN TO REDUCE EXPENDITURES AND HINDER FY1997 BUDGET-COMPILATION WORK THAT WILL MOVE INTO FULL SWING. THE "UNEXPECTED SUGGESTION" THAT CAME IN THE FINAL STAGE OF THE CAMPAIGN PERIOD UPSET MOF. BUT IN THE MINISTRY, THERE SEEMS TO BE NO ONE WHO DARES TO VOCALLY PROTEST THIS WITH THE POLITICIANS.

"DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT INTERFERING IN OUR AFFAIRS OR STAGING A CAMPAIGN IN REACTION." A BUDGET BUREAU OFFICIAL RECEIVED SUCH A TELEPHONE "WARNING" FROM A CERTAIN SENIOR LDP MEMBER. THE CALL CAME SOON AFTER LDP SECRETARY GENERAL KOICHI KATO AND POLICY AFFAIRS RESEARCH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN TAKU YAMASAKI MENTIONED A "5 TRILLION YEN SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET" IN THEIR CAMPAIGN SPEECHES ON THE 16TH. BECAUSE THE TWO LEADERS EVEN MENTIONED SPECIFICS OF THE BUDGET, A DRIVE TO FIND THE "CULPRIT" HAS ALREADY BEGUN.

IF THE POLITICIANS DECIDE TO COMPILE A SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET AFTER THE ELECTION, MOF WOULD HAVE TO DEVOTE ITSELF TO THE WORK FOR AT LEAST ONE MONTH. MOF IS APPREHENSIVE, SUSPECTING THAT BUDGET COMPILATION FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR MAY BE SUSPENDED DURING THAT PERIOD AND MAY BE EVEN POSTPONED TO THE "NEXT YEAR." SUCH WOULD DESTROY MOF'S SCENARIO TO COMPLETE SUPPLEMENTARY-BUDGET COMPILATION BEFORE YEAR'S END, WHICH IS ESSENTIAL, AND PRESENT IT IN NEXT YEAR'S REGULAR DIET, ALONG WITH THE ORIGINAL (FY1997) BUDGET.

BUT ALL MOF OFFICIALS ARE RELUCTANT TO MENTION ANYTHING. IN FACT, ADMINISTRATIVE VICE MINISTER OGAWA ONLY SAID TO THE PRESS YESTERDAY: "I WOULD LIKE TO REFRAIN FROM MAKING ANY COMMENT." ANOTHER MOF OFFICIAL SHOWED SOME UNDERSTANDING TOWARD THE LDP, COMMENTING, "AFTER ALL, THEY ARE ALL IN THE SEVERE RACE WITH THEIR POLITICAL LIVES AT STAKE." BEHIND HIS COMMENT LIES HIS TRUE MOTIVE: "IT IS NOT WISE TO IRRITATE THE LDP AND FUEL THE MOF REFORM ARGUMENT AT THIS POINT."

THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT THE LDP WILL MAKE AN ABOUT-FACE AFTER THE ELECTION. IF THE LDP WINS BIG IN THE ELECTION, THE ARGUMENT CALLING FOR A LARGE-SCALE SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET MAY PICK UP SPEED. MOF IS NOW SADDLED WITH A "SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET" IN ADDITION TO MOF REFORM.

PRIME MINISTER'S ADVISORY COUNCIL PROPOSES STRUCTURAL REFORM IN THREE AREAS (NIHON KEIZAI - TOP PLAY)

THE ACTION PROGRAM COMMITTEE (CHAIRMAN Y NOMURA RESEARCH INSTITUTE ADVISOR KOICHI MIZOGUCHI) UNDER THE ECONOMIC COUNCIL (ADVISORY PANEL TO THE PRIME MINISTER), WHICH HAS BEEN MAPPING OUT MEASURES TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC STRUCTURAL REFORM, FINALIZED ITS REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL, LABOR AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SECTORS YESTERDAY. REGARDING THE UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 07 TOKYO 009695

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; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

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SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 18

FINANCIAL SECTOR, THE REPORT CALLS FOR TOTALLY LIFTING THE BAN ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FINANCIAL HOLDING COMPANIES AND SCRAPPING RESTRICTIONS ON THE SCOPE OF SERVICES THAT CAN BE OFFERED BY BANKS AND TRUSTS, SECURITIES AND INSURANCE COMPANIES IN ORDER TO ENABLE THEM TO ENTER EACH OTHER'S TURF WITHIN FY1997 AND FOR ORDINARY COMPANIES TO TAKE PART IN ASSET TRANSACTIONS BY THE END OF THE 20TH CENTURY. ON THE LABOR MARKET, THE REPORT URGES A REVIEW OF THE INCOME TAX AND PENSION SYSTEMS, WHICH HAVE DISCOURAGED WOMEN FROM SEEKING WORK. ON THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS MARKET, THE COMMITTEE INCORPORATED MEASURES THAT WILL HEIGHTEN THE CONVENIENCE OF USERS, SUCH AS LIBERALIZATION OF NEW ENTRIES AND PRICE RESTRICTIONS IN PRINCIPLE.

MAJOR POINTS IN THE REPORT

FINANCIAL FIELD:

(IMPLEMENTATION IN FY1997)

- ABOLITION OF RESTRICTIONS ON THE SCOPE OF SERVICES THAT CAN BE OFFERED BY BANKS, SECURITIES COMPANIES AND TRUST UNITS.
- RECIPROCAL ACCESS BY LIFE AND NON-LIFE INSURERS AND OTHER TYPES OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.
- REMOVAL OF THE BAN ON ESTABLISHMENT OF FINANCIAL HOLDING COMPANIES.
- COMPLETE LIBERALIZATION OF COMMISSIONS FOR TRANSACTIONS IN NEGOTIABLE SECURITIES.
- ABOLITION OF THE NEGOTIABLE SECURITY TRANSACTIONS TAX.
- LIFTING RESTRICTIONS ON ISSUANCE OF DEBENTURES BY NON-BANK INSTITUTIONS.
- SCRAPPING RESTRICTIONS ON OPERATIONS OF INSURERS' AND

CORPORATE PENSION FUNDS.

(IMPLEMENTATION IN FY1998)

-- FURTHER LIBERALIZATION OF TRANSACTIONS AT DESIGNATED AGENCIES.

(IMPLEMENTATION IN FY1999)

-- INTRODUCTION OF AN ASSET MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION SERVICE BUSINESS.

LABOR FIELD:

-- ABOLITION OF INCOME TAX BREAKS FOR MARRIED WOMEN WHO HAVE NO JOB OR A SMALL AMOUNT OF INCOME.

-- REVIEW OF PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT FOR INCOME EARNERS' SPOUSES IN NATIONAL ANNUITIES AND MEDICAL INSURANCE.

-- SCRAPPING CORPORATE ALLOWANCES FOR SPOUSES.

-- REVIEW OF INCOME CEILINGS SET AS A CONDITION FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE TO RECEIVE NATIONAL ANNUITIES AND PARTIAL ANNUITIES.

-- EXTENSION OF THE MAXIMUM TERM OF A CONTRACT FOR CONTRACT EMPLOYEES TO THREE TO FIVE YEARS.

-- DISSOLUTION OF REGULATIONS TO PROTECT WOMEN.

-- LIBERALIZATION IN PRINCIPLE OF JOBS THAT CAN BE HANDLED BY FEE-CHARGING JOB-SEARCH SERVICES AND APPROVAL OF COLLECTING CHARGES FROM JOB-SEEKERS.

-- LIBERALIZATION IN PRINCIPLE OF SERVICES THAT CAN BE OFFERED BY LABOR-DISPATCH AGENCIES.

-- INTRODUCTION OF A SELF-IMPROVEMENT PREFERENTIAL TAX.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS FIELD:

-- ABOLITION OF ACCESS RESTRICTIONS AIMED TO ADJUST SUPPLY AND DEMAND, AND TO PREVENT EXCESSIVE FACILITIES.

-- DROPPING THE CATEGORY OF DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL SERVICES.

-- SCRAPPING REGULATIONS ON RATES FOR NEWCOMERS.

-- ABOLITION OF THE CLASSIFICATION OF TYPE I AND II UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 07 TOKYO 009695

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; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

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BUSINESS CARRIERS.

-- ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEUTRAL BODY TO MONITOR THE CONNECTION OF CIRCUITS.

-- APPROVAL OF NTT'S ENTRY INTO THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS MARKET.

-- RELAXATION OR ABOLITION OF REGULATIONS ON RATES BY REVISING THE WAY OF SETTING RATES BASED ON THE BLANKET-COST FORMULA.

SDF HEIGHTENS ALARM ABOUT NORTH KOREAN MISSILE TEST
(NIHON KEIZAI - PAGE 2)

JOINT STAFF COUNCIL CHAIRMAN SUGIYAMA IN HIS PRESS MEETING YESTERDAY TOUCHED UPON THE INTELLIGENCE THAT NORTH KOREA (DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA) WOULD SOON CARRY OUT TESTING OF THE BALLISTIC MISSILE "NODONG 1": "SUCH IS LIKELY. (THE TIME) IS NEAR." HE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THE SELF-DEFENSE FORCES (SDF) ARE ON A SHARP ALERT.

SOME REASONS ARE BEING MENTIONED IN THE GOVERNMENT AS TO WHY NORTH KOREA IS GOING TO CARRY OUT THE TESTING AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME, SUCH AS: 1) THREATENING THE SOUTH IN CONNECTION WITH NORTH KOREAN OPERATIVES' INTRUSION INTO (THE SOUTH); AND 2) A DEMONSTRATION ACT FOR THE PURPOSE OF (FUTURE) MISSILE EXPORTS TO THE MIDDLE EAST. THE CHAIRMAN, HOWEVER, POINTED OUT THAT THE TEST WAS POSSIBLY IN LINE WITH THE NORTH'S MISSILE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT A SUCCESSFUL TEST MAY HASTEN MISSILE DEPLOYMENT.

MEANWHILE, JAPAN DEFENSE AGENCY (JDA) VICE MINISTER MURATA IN HIS PRESS MEETING YESTERDAY REMARKED ON THE STATE OF NODONG 1 DEVELOPMENT AND THE TIMING FOR DEPLOYMENT: "I DON'T THINK THINGS HAVE BEEN GOING SO SMOOTHLY."

FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL EXPRESSES GREAT CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE IMPACT

A FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL YESTERDAY COMMENTED REGARDING THE INTELLIGENCE REPORT THAT NORTH KOREA WOULD TEST ITS NODONG I MISSILE: "IF IT IS LAUNCHED, IT COULD HAVE A SERIOUS IMPACT." HIS COMMENT SUGGESTED THAT THE TESTING MAY HAVE A SERIOUS EFFECT ON THE JAPAN-NORTH KOREAN NORMALIZATION TALKS AND OTHER ELEMENTS AS WELL.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY LORDQS TOKYO VISIT: EXPRESSES HOPE FOR PROGRESS IN ECONOMIC TALKS (MAINICHI - PAGE 2)

U.S. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (WINSTON) LORD CAME TO JAPAN ON OCTOBER 17, AND MET WITH ADMINISTRATIVE VICE FOREIGN MINISTER SADAYUKI HAYASHI. DURING THE MEETING, ASSISTANT SECRETARY LORD TRANSMITTED WHAT HE HAD DISCUSSED DURING HIS RECENT VISITS TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND CHINA. ASSISTANT SECRETARY LORD, REFERRING ALSO TO JAPAN-U.S. RELATIONS, POINTED OUT, "IT IS IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE FUTURE, GIVEN THE PRESENT GOOD STATE OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP." BASED ON THIS VIEW, HE EXPRESSED HIS HOPE FOR PROGRESS IN BILATERAL TALKS ON ECONOMIC ISSUES, STATING, "THERE ARE

SOME PROBLEMS THAT STILL REMAIN UNSETTLED IN THE AREAS OF CIVIL AVIATION AND INSURANCE."

REGARDING THE PLANNED RETURN OF THE U.S. FORCES' FUTENMA AIRFIELD SITE IN OKINAWA, VICE MINISTER HAYASHI UNDERScoreD THE NECESSITY OF POSITIVELY PUSHING AHEAD WITH STUDIES IN THE JAPAN-U.S. SPECIAL ACTION COMMITTEE (ON FACILITIES AND AREAS IN OKINAWA) (SACO).

CONSIDERATION FOR OKINAWA IN FINDING ALTERNATE HELIPORT (SANKEI - PAGE 3)

VISITING U.S. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (WINSTON) LORD UNCLAS SECTION 06 OF 07 TOKYO 009695

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; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

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SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 18

(FOR EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS) MET WITH ADMINISTRATIVE VICE FOREIGN MINISTER SADAYUKI HAYASHI AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ON THE EVENING OF OCTOBER 17. REGARDING THE PROBLEM OF CONSTRUCTING AN ALTERNATIVE HELIPORT ACCOMPANYING THE PLANNED RETURN OF THE U.S. FORCES' FUTENMA AIR STATION SITE IN OKINAWA, ASSISTANT SECRETARY LORD STATED, "THERE ARE TWO MAJOR THEMES TO BE RESOLVED." WITH THIS, THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY UNDERScoreD CONSIDERATION FOR OKINAWA AND ALSO EMPHASIZED HIS VIEW TO THE EFFECT THAT THE AIRFIELD'S BASE FUNCTIONS MUST NOT BE DEGRADED.

IN ADDITION, ASSISTANT SECRETARY LORD, TOUCHING ON HOW TO APPROACH NORTH KOREA, REMARKED THAT THEN HE HAD EARLIER VISITED THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, "I REAFFIRMED THAT IT IS STILL IMPORTANT TO HOLD FOUR-PARTY TALKS (AMONG THE U.S., THE ROK, NORTH KOREA, AND CHINA) AND TO CARRY OUT A NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE."

DECISION ON ALTERNATE FACILITIES FOR FUTENMA AIR STATION BY LATE NOVEMBER (TOKYO SHIMBUN - PAGE 3)

U.S. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (FOR EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS) LORD ARRIVED IN JAPAN ON OCTOBER 17 AFTER HIS VISITS TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND CHINA, AND MET WITH ADMINISTRATIVE FOREIGN VICE MINISTER SADAYUKI HAYASHI AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. REGARDING THE ISSUE OF THE PLANNED RETURN OF THE FUTENMA AIR STATION SITE AS THE PRIMARY FOCUS OVER THE PROPOSED REALIGNMENT, CONSOLIDATION, AND REDUCTION OF U.S. MILITARY BASES ON

OKINAWA, VICE MINISTER HAYASHI STRESSED, "IT IS IMPORTANT TO NARROW DOWN THE CANDIDATE SITES FOR RELOCATION TO ONE BEFORE THE JAPAN-U.S. SECURITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (2-PLUS-2) MEETING SCHEDULED IN THE LATTER HALF OF NOVEMBER."

ASSISTANT SECRETARY LORD RESPONDED, "WE'VE COMMITTED OURSELVES TO THE IDEA OF NARROWING DOWN THE VARIOUS OPTIONS TO ONE." BOTH SIDES CONFIRMED THEIR INTENTION TO NARROW DOWN THE THREE CHOICES TO ONE, INCLUDING THE OFFSHORE HELIPORT PLAN NOW BEING STUDIED, AND TO MAKE A FORMAL DECISION BY THE LATTER HALF OF NEXT MONTH ON WHERE TO RELOCATE THE AIRFIELD'S FUNCTIONS.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY LORD THEN REFERRED TO THE FACT THAT THE U.S.' TRADE DEFICIT WITH JAPAN WAS TAKEN UP IN THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE ON TELEVISION. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE STATED, "I HOPE TO SEE PROGRESS IN (THE TWO COUNTRIES' TALKS ABOUT) CIVIL AVIATION, INSURANCE, AND OTHER PROBLEMS THAT STILL REMAIN UNSETTLED BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES." SO REMARKING, HE URGED THE JAPANESE SIDE TO MAKE EFFORTS FOR A SETTLEMENT.

TEST MODEL OF MEGAFLOAT LAUNCHED OFF YOKOSUKA
(MAINICHI - PAGE 1)

YESTERDAY A TEST OF THE MIDDLE-SIZE HELICOPTER'S LANDING AND TAKE-OFF WAS MADE ON A MEGAFLOAT OFF YOKOSUKA CITY, KANAGAWA PREFECTURE. THE MEGAFLOAT IS NOW BEING SPOTLIGHTED AS AN ALTERNATIVE OFFSHORE HELIPORT PLAN FOR THE UNITED STATES' MILITARY FACILITY ON OKINAWA. THE TEST SHOWED MUCH LOWER OSCILLATION MEASUREMENT AND MAGNETIC RESISTANCE THAN EXPECTED. IT WAS SUCCESSFUL.

THE MEGAFLOAT, JOINING NINE "FLOATING UNITS" WHICH ARE EMPTY BOXES MADE OF A CENTIMETER THICK TITANOUS STEEL SHEET. IT IS 300 METERS LONG BY 60 METERS WIDE. THE HELICOPTER MADE FOUR LANDING AND TAKE-OFF TESTS BY CHANGING THE FLIGHT ALTITUDE.

THE MEGAFLOAT IS AN EXPERIMENTAL FACILITY MADE LAST YEAR BY 17 STEEL AND SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRIES, INCLUDING NIPPON STEEL CORP., SUPPORTED BY THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (MOT) AS A THREE-YEAR-PLAN. IT IS AN IMMOBILE SUBMARINE
UNCLAS SECTION 07 OF 07 TOKYO 009695

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; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 18

MOORING-TYPE BUT THE U.S. SIDE HAS REQUESTED A MOBILE AIRCRAFT CARRIER-TYPE AS AN ALTERNATIVE HELIPORT FOR ITS MARINE CORPS' FUTENMA AIR STATION.

AT A PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER THE TEST, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EIICHI ISOBE OF "MEGAFLOAT TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH UNION" SAID PROUDLY: "IT IS FULLY CAPABLE TECHNICALLY AS A SEA-BASED HELIPORT." BUT HE SHOWED A EXPRESSION OF MIXED FEELINGS FOR ITS BEING SPOTLIGHTED FOR MILITARY PURPOSES, STRESSING, "WE ARE AIMING AT A CIVILIAN AIRPORT WITH THE SCALE OF 500 HECTARES FOR JUMBO JETS." CRANE

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. cable	Re: Tokyo Talks: Bilateral Relations (6 pages)	10/18/1996	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

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

FOLDER TITLE:

[10/18/1996 - 10/25/1996]

2016-0420-F
sb1885

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]
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- 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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002. cable	Re: Japan-U.S. / Okinawa Base Issues (4 pages)	10/21/1996	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

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

FOLDER TITLE:

[10/18/1996 - 10/25/1996]

2016-0420-F
sb1885

RESTRICTION CODES

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003. cable	Re: Japan-U.S. / Okinawa Base Issues-Senkaku Islands (8 pages)	10/21/1996	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

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

FOLDER TITLE:

[10/18/1996 - 10/25/1996]

2016-0420-F
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RESTRICTION CODES

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004. cable	Re: Digest Executive Edition 201-96 (10 pages)	10/23/1996	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

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

FOLDER TITLE:

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005. cable	Re: Okinawa Base Issues: Meetings in Tokyo (6 pages)	10/23/1996	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

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

FOLDER TITLE:

[10/18/1996 - 10/25/1996]

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006. cable	Re: [Transit Summary] FY 97-016 (10 pages)	10/23/1996	P1/b(1)

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

FOLDER TITLE:

[10/18/1996 - 10/25/1996]

2016-0420-F
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RESTRICTION CODES

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Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHKO9881 2980310-UUUU--RHEHAAA.

LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH

LINE3: O 240310Z OCT 96

LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

OSRI: RUEHKO

DTG: 240310Z OCT 96

ORIG: AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8766
RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1643

INFO: RUYNJDK/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA
RUALSFJ/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC//J5//
RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC
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RUCPDO/USDOC WASHDC
RUEBBA/USDOT WASHDC
RHHMHAH/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N5//
RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//USIA//
RUAYJAA/COMPATWING ONE KAMI SEYA JA

SUBJ: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 24

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 08 TOKYO 009881

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;
USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA;
COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 24

TOP HEADLINES:

ASAHI: HATA, HOSOKAWA WITHDRAW THEIR PLAN TO DEFECT FROM
SHINSHINTO; AGREE TO "OZAWA STAYING ON AS PRESIDENT"
(TRANSLATION BELOW)

NIHON KEIZAI: LIBERALIZATION OF OPENING OF BANK BRANCHES;
FINANCE MINISTRY TO SCRAP RESTRICTIONS NEXT FISCAL YEAR;
CONSOLIDATION OF BRANCHES TO BE SPEEDED UP

TOKYO SHIMBUN: TOKYO DISTRICT PUBLIC PROSECUTORS OFFICE

TO RAID FORMER PRESIDENT AND OTHER OFFICERS AS EARLY AS TODAY OVER 7 BILLION IN DEBTS OF CHINESE MEDICINE MAKER, "TSUMURA"; ON CHARGE OF AGGRAVATED BREACH OF TRUST

MAINICHI: FORMER PRIME MINISTERS HATA, HOSOKAWA AND OTHERS AGREED IN SHINSHINTO'S SUPREME ADVISORS COUNCIL TO PRESIDENT OZAWA STAYING ON; SPLIT NOW AVOIDED

YOMIURI: PRESIDENT OZAWA OF SHINSHINTO TO REMAIN IN OFFICE; HOSOKAWA, HATA GIVE UP THEIR PLAN TO SPLIT PARTY; UPPER-HOUSE MEMBERS OF SDP: "WILL DECIDE ON WHETHER TO JOIN A COALITION GOVERNMENT AFTER POLICY DISCUSSION"

SANKEI: SHINSHINTO PRESIDENT OZAWA TO STAY ON; SPLIT NOW AVOIDED; HOSOKAWA, HATA WITHDRAW THEIR PLAN TO DEFECT FROM PARTY

MOOD IN LDP TO RUN A SINGLE-PARTY ADMINISTRATION
(SANKEI - PAGE 1)

THE OPTION OF INDEPENDENTLY FORMING A MINORITY GOVERNMENT OF THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP) IN INSTALLING A "SECOND HASHIMOTO CABINET" SURFACED ON THE 23RD IN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE LDP. WITH ROCKY NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUING WITH THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP) AND THE SAKIGAKE PARTY TO LAUNCH A NEW COALITION ADMINISTRATION, THE IDEA WOULD BE TO LAUNCH AN LDP CABINET FIRST TO LAY A CLEAR PATH TOWARD ADMINISTRATIVE AND FISCAL REFORMS AND THEN SEEK OTHER PARTIES' COOPERATION IN ADOPTING RELATED BILLS TO REALIZE POLICY GOALS.

IN THE UPCOMING LOWER-HOUSE PRIME MINISTERSHIP ELECTION, THE JAPAN COMMUNIST PARTY (JCP) IS EXPECTED TO VOTE FOR ITS CHAIRMAN TETSUZO FUWA, BUT THE LDP CANDIDATE IS CERTAIN TO BE ELECTED. FORMER POSTAL MINISTER JUN'ICHIRO KOIZUMI OF THE LDP REMARKED IN A SPEECH ON THE 22ND: "IT IS QUITE UNLIKELY THAT ALL OTHER PARTIES BESIDES THE LDP WOULD UNITE TOGETHER BROADLY, BUT EVEN IF THEY COULD, THEY WOULD NOT REACH A MAJORITY. MANY OF THE UPPER-HOUSE SDP MEMBERS ARE HOPING TO COOPERATE WITH THE LDP." HE THUS REVEALED A PERSPECTIVE THAT THERE WOULD BE NO SERIOUS HINDRANCE TO HAVE A MINORITY LDP GOVERNMENT TO RULE POLITICALLY.

ANOTHER GOVERNMENT SOURCE SAID, "A MINORITY GOVERNMENT CAN DO IT. WHO CAN OPPOSE SUCH VITAL ISSUES AS ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM AND HOME CARE INSURANCE?" HE REVEALED THE OUTLOOK THAT THE LDP WOULD BE ABLE TO GAIN COOPERATION FROM OTHER PARTIES IN CARRYING OUT ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM AND THE INTRODUCTION OF A HOME-CARE INSURANCE SYSTEM.

ANOTHER LDP EXECUTIVE, WHO HAS BEEN CALLING FOR CONTINUING THE COALITION WITH THE SDP AND THE SAKIGAKE PARTY, ALSO INDICATED THAT A SINGLE-PARTY ADMINISTRATION WOULD BE ENOUGH TO ACHIEVE POLICY GOALS, SUGGESTING, "FORMING A GOVERNMENT INDEPENDENTLY WOULD BE POSSIBLE. CAN THE LABOR UNION-BACKED MINSHUTO (DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF

JAPAN) CARRY OUT ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM?" BEHIND SUCH AN IDEA LIES THE MOTIVE OF OPENING UP THE WAY TO A MAJORITY SINGLE-PARTY ADMINISTRATION IN THE FUTURE BY DEMONSTRATING THE LDP'S CAPABILITIES THROUGH A MINORITY SINGLE-PARTY GOVERNMENT.

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 08 TOKYO 009881

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; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 24

BUT A MINORITY GOVERNMENT MAY NOT BE ABLE TO PASS BILLS THROUGH BOTH HOUSES. AS A RESULT, THE LDP IS SEARCHING FOR WAYS TO COOPERATE WITH INDEPENDENT CONSERVATIVES AND SHINSHINTO REBELS IN THE LOWER HOUSE. IN THE UPPER HOUSE, THE LDP IS PLANNING TO CONTINUE TO WORK ON VARIOUS MEMBERS TO JOIN ITS ADMINISTRATION, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE SDP. LDP EXECUTIVES ARE NOW TAKING A HARD-LINE STANCE SUGGESTING NOT TO HESITATE TO LAUNCH A MINORITY GOVERNMENT, HOPING TO INDUCE CONCESSIONS FROM THE SDP AND OTHER PARTIES.

FUNADA TO FORM POLITICAL GROUP OF SIX, LINK UP WITH LDP (YOMIURI - PAGE 8)

THE SIX CONSERVATIVE INDEPENDENTS OF THE LOWER HOUSE INCLUDING FORMER DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE ECONOMIC PLANNING AGENCY HAJIME FUNADA, HAVING SPLINTERED OFF FROM THE SHINSHINTO (NEW FRONTIER PARTY), NOW HAVE FIRMED UP THEIR INTENTION TO BAND TOGETHER IN THE LOWER HOUSE AND TO LINK UP WITH THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP), ACCORDING TO AN INFORMED SOURCE ON THE 23RD. THE SIX INDEPENDENTS INTEND TO ALLY WITH THE LDP ON POLICY ISSUES AND TO VOTE FOR PRIME MINISTER HASHIMOTO IN THE PRIME MINISTERIAL ELECTION AT A SPECIAL DIET SESSION SLATED FOR NOVEMBER 7.

THE SIX MEMBERS ARE FUNADA, SHOKEI ARAI, SHIGERU ISHIBA, TAKEHIKO ENDO, MINEKAZU IWANAGA AND YOSHIO MOCHIZUKI. THEY ARE EXPECTED TO ADD TWO MORE MEMBERS, CALLING ON SHINSHINTO MEMBERS AND OTHERS TO JOIN THEM. THEY ARE CONSIDERING ALLYING WITH THE LDP OR EVEN RETURNING TO IT IN THE ORDINARY DIET SESSION STARTING NEXT JANUARY.

SHINSHINTO AVOIDS BREAKUP; OZAWA TO REMAIN AT HELM (ASAHI - TOP PLAY)

FORMER PRIME MINISTERS TSUTOMU HATA AND MORIHIRO

HOSOKAWA, WHO HAD BEEN PLANNING TO LEAVE THE SHINSHINTO (NEW FRONTIER PARTY) TO FORM A NEW GROUP, SUDDENLY SWITCHED THEIR PLAN ON THE 23RD IN A MEETING OF THE PARTY'S SUPREME ADVISORS COUNCIL. THEY NOT ONLY CONVEYED THEIR INTENTION TO WITHDRAW THE PLAN, THEY ALSO EXPRESSED THEIR AGREEMENT TO HAVE ICHIRO OZAWA STAY ON AS PARTY PRESIDENT, DECLARING THEY NOW WOULD WORK TOGETHER TO RETAIN THE UNITY OF THE PARTY. THE REASON WHY HATA AND OTHERS WITHDREW THEIR BREAKAWAY PLAN WAS BECAUSE A FLOOD OF CRITICISMS HAD COME FROM PARTY MEMBERS AND SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS. ONE CRITICISM WAS THAT IT WOULD BE HARD TO OBTAIN THE PUBLIC'S UNDERSTANDING TOWARD THE TURMOIL IN THE PARTY RIGHT AFTER THE GENERAL ELECTION. FOR NOW, MOVES PREDICATING A SPLIT OF THE PARTY APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN SETTLED, BUT THERE IS STILL A STRONG-ROOTED OPPOSITION TO OZAWA'S PARTY-MANAGEMENT AND POLITICAL METHODS. OZAWA WILL LIKELY CONTINUE TO FIND IT DIFFICULT TO KEEP HIS PARTY TOGETHER IN THE DAYS AHEAD AS WELL.

MONEY ALLEGATIONS AGAINST KOICHI KATO MAY EFFECT HIS TENURE AS LDP SECRETARY GENERAL (ASAHI -PAGE 2)

THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP) IS NOW BEING ROCKED BY THE IMPACT OF THE LETTER REVEALED YESTERDAY WHICH WAS WRITTEN BY GORO MORIGUCHI, FORMER VICE PRESIDENT OF THE NOW-DEFUNCT STEEL-MAKER KYOWA WHO IS NOW SERVING TIME, TO HIS SON SPELLING OUT THAT HE HAD HANDED SECRETARY GENERAL KOICHI KATO 10 MILLION YEN IN CASH. THE VIEW IN THE LDP SUPPORTING HIS "REMAINING IN OFFICE" IS STILL PREDOMINANT AT THIS POINT, GIVEN THE PARTY'S SUCCESS IN THE GENERAL ELECTION. BUT SOME SENIOR MEMBERS CRITICAL OF PARTY LEADERSHIP ARE SUGGESTING KATO SHOULD RESIGN TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS PROBLEM. MEMBERS CLOSE TO KATO, HOWEVER, THINK KATO SHOULD STAY IN OFFICE, BECAUSE, "IF HE RESIGNS, SUCH WOULD BE TANTAMOUNT TO HIS ADMISSION OF CASH ACCEPTANCE."

UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 08 TOKYO 009881

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; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 24

KATO YESTERDAY AGAIN DENIED HIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE SCANDAL, REMARKING TO THE PRESS: "I REVEALED ALL THE FACTS IN MY DIET TESTIMONY. I CANNOT GRASP THE TRUE MOTIVE OF (MORIGUCHI) AS TO WHY HE IS SAYING AGAIN WHAT HE SAID FOUR YEARS AGO." AFTER THAT, HE MET WITH FORMER PRIME MINISTER KIICHI MIYAZAWA. BUT THE SUBJECT

REPORTEDLY DID NOT COME UP IN THEIR SESSION. IN FACT, MIYAZAWA REMARKED, "I DON'T THINK SUCH WOULD HINDER HIS CAREER IN ANY WAY."

THE SCANDAL SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN SUBSIDED AFTER KATO'S EXPLANATION IN A LOWER HOUSE POLITICAL ETHICS COUNCIL SESSION IN SEPTEMBER. BUT SENIOR MEMBERS ARE PARTICULARLY CRITICAL OF KATO, WHO IS CALLING FOR GENERATIONAL CHANGE. ONE MEMBER SAID IN A SOMEWHAT COLD TONE: "ALL THIS TIME, I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT KATO'S EXPLANATION WAS NOT QUITE COMPELLING. THE PARTY CANNOT AFFORD TO LEAVE IT AS IT IS. I THINK HE HAS TO RESIGN."

MEANWHILE, IN THE PARTY LEADERSHIP THERE ARE SUCH OPINIONS AS THIS: "HE IS UNDER CRIMINAL INDICTMENT, SO HE SHOULD SIMPLY WAIT FOR THE RESULTS," AND "THE EXISTENCE OF A LETTER DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEANS THAT HE TOLD A LIE." FROM EARLY ON, THERE WAS A CALL AMONG THOSE CLOSE TO KATO: "HE WOULD BETTER TO RESIGN AS SECRETARY GENERAL AT THIS POINT SO AS NOT TO HARM HIS FUTURE CAREER." BUT REASONING, "IF HE STEPS DOWN NOW OVER THIS SCANDAL, THE SCANDAL MAY BE TAKEN AS A FACT," AN OPINION HAS BEEN GROWING STRONGER THAT HE SHOULD REMAIN IN OFFICE.

LDPQS YAMASAKI SAYS HE RECEIVED 10 MILLION YEN CONTRIBUTION FROM OIL EXECUTIVE (MAINICHI - PAGE 31)

LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP) POLICY AFFAIRS RESEARCH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN TAKU YAMASAKI (ELECTED FROM THE FUKUOKA 2ND DISTRICT) YESTERDAY RESPONDED TO A MAINICHI SHIMBUN'S INTERVIEW REGARDING THE PROBLEM OF A POLITICAL DONATION FROM THE COMPANY IZUI SEKIYU SHOKAI (PRESIDENT: JUN'ICHI IZUI) "AN OIL WHOLESALER IN OSAKA, WHOSE COMPANY WAS PAID AN APPROXIMATELY 2.4 BILLION YEN "COMMISSION" FROM MITSUI MINING CO. (HEAD OFFICE IN TOKYO), NOW PART OF HUGE TAX EVASION CASE THAT HAS BEEN UNVEILED.

YAMASAKI REVEALED THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF THE DONATION FOR THE FIRST TIME, REMARKING, "I HAVE ASKED PRESIDENT IZUI TO PURCHASE ABOUT ONE MILLION YEN WORTH PARTY TICKETS ANNUALLY FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS. I THINK THAT TOTALS A LITTLE OVER 10 MILLION YEN." HE CONTINUED, "THE DONATION HAS BEEN APPROPRIATELY HANDLED. NO FAVORS HAVE BEEN ASKED OF ME BY PRESIDENT IZUI."

IZUI OFFERS FUND ALSO TO THREE OTHER LDP MEMBERS

POLITICAL DONATIONS BY IZUI SEKIYU SHOKAI'S PRESIDENT JUN'ICHI IZUI ARE NOW BEING QUESTIONED. IN ADDITION TO YAMASAKI, THE NAMES OF LDP LOWER-HOUSE MEMBER TSUTOMU TAKEBE (ELECTED FROM THE HOKKAIDO 12TH DISTRICT), YASUFUMI TANAHASI (GIFU 2ND DISTRICT) AND TAKUJI YANAGIMOTO (PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION KINKI BLOC) ARE ON THE LIST OF THE FIRM'S POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION FUND REPORT.

FORMER EMBASSY AIDE LINCOLN: U.S. POLITICAL SHENANIGANS

LIKE CHILDQS PLAY COMPARED TO JAPAN (YOMIURI - PAGE 2)

(WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 22, KOICHI AKAZA) ED LINCOLN (SENIOR RESEARCHER AT THE BROOKINGS INSTITUTE), WHO SERVED AS SPECIAL ECONOMIC ADVISOR TO UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN MONDALE UNTIL THIS AUGUST, DELIVERED A SPEECH IN WASHINGTON ON THE 22ND IN WHICH HE SHARPLY CRITICIZED THE RECENT POLITICAL SITUATION IN JAPAN: "REFORM HAS NOT BEEN CARRIED OUT AND THE MOMENTUM IS UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 08 TOKYO 009881

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; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 24

COLLAPSING. THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP) HAS NO INTEREST IN DEREGULATION, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM OR FURTHER OPENING THE JAPANESE MARKET. PRIME MINISTER HASHIMOTO IS A VERY TRADITIONAL POLITICIAN IN THE LDP, AND WILL NOT PUT HIS ENERGIES INTO OPENING THE WAY TO REFORM."

HE ALSO RAPPED OZAWA, THE HEAD OF THE OPPOSITION PARTY SHINSHINTO; "I HAVE DIFFICULTY IN VIEWING HIM AS A MAJOR REFORMER. HE WAS IN THE MIDST OF THE POLITICAL TRICKS THAT WERE GOING ON IN THE 1970'S AND 1980'S" CITING BOB DOLE, THE REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATE IN THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, LINCOLN EXPLICITLY STATED, "(CALLS FOR REFORMS IN JAPAN ARE) SIMILAR TO THE APPEAL FOR ELECTION-FUNDING REFORM BY DOLE (WHO IS AN OLD-FASHIONED POLITICIAN), BUT COMPARED WITH JAPANESE POLITICS, THE SHENANIGANS IN U.S. POLITICS ARE NO MORE THAN CHILD'S PLAY."

COMMENTING ON THE REINSTATEMENT OF THE LDP AS A RESULT OF THE LOWER HOUSE ELECTION, HE ANALYZED, "THAT IS NOT SURPRISING. THE LDP HAD BEEN CONTRIVING TO INTRODUCE A SMALL CONSTITUENCY SYSTEM, WHICH PLACES THE PARTY AT AN ADVANTAGE."

ECONOMIC MINISTER-COUNSELOR GREENWOOD URGES MORE DEREGULATION IN JAPAN, INCLUDING CIVAIR (NIHON KEIZAI - PAGE 5)

IN AN INTERVIEW WITH A REPORTER OF THE NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN, MINISTER-COUNSELOR GREENWOOD OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN JAPAN (WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS) STATED, "WE HOPE" THAT THE POST-GENERAL ELECTION GOVERNMENT TO BE LAUNCHED SHORTLY "WILL NOT BACKTRACK ON

ITS EFFORTS IN DEREGULATION AND MARKET-OPENING."

ASKED ABOUT THE TREND IN JAPAN'S CURRENT ACCOUNT SURPLUS, WHICH HAS SEEN A LARGE-SCALE DROP, GREENWOOD EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH A TREND PUTTING THE BRAKES TO IMPORT EXPANSION, POINTING OUT, "THE PACE OF A REDUCTION IN THE CURRENT ACCOUNT SURPLUS IS SLOWING DOWN. THERE IS DOUBT WHETHER THE TREND (OF SURPLUS REDUCTION) WILL CONTINUE."

TOUCHING ON A PROPOSAL THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS MADE TO JAPAN TO START OPEN-SKY NEGOTIATIONS OVER INTERNATIONAL AIR ROUTES, HE EXPLAINED, "THE REASON WHY SUCH A SUBJECT HAS SURFACED AS AN URGENT ITEM IS IN ORDER TO FIND A BREAKTHROUGH IN THE DEADLOCKED BILATERAL CIVIL AVIATION NEGOTIATIONS." HE POINTED OUT THAT SUCH NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH ARE AIMED AT LIBERALIZING ALL ASPECTS OF CIVIL AVIATION, SUCH AS RATES, THE NUMBER OF FLIGHTS AND BEYOND RIGHTS, "HAVE SEEN PROGRESS WITH EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, SO WE ARE LOOKING FOR THE SAME POSSIBILITY IN THE ASIAN REGION." HE URGED DRASTIC CHANGES IN JAPAN'S CIVIL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION.

TOUCHING ON THE PROBLEM OF JAPAN'S PHOTOGRAPHIC FILM AND PAPER, IN WHICH THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO) HAS ESTABLISHED A DISPUTE-SETTLEMENT PANEL, GREENWOOD ASKED THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO MEET THE REQUEST, WITHOUT SETTING ANY CONDITIONS, FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH AFFECTED COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE U.S., ON JAPANESE BUSINESS PRACTICES, A SUBJECT THAT WILL NOT BE SUBJECT TO THE PANEL'S INQUIRY.

THE MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY HAS MADE "NEGOTIATIONS ON THE CLOSED NATURE OF THE U.S. MARKET" A CONDITION TO COMPLY WITH THE PROPOSED NEGOTIATIONS, BUT MINISTER COUNCILOR GREENWOOD REJECTED SUCH, NOTING, "THE TWO ARE TOTALLY DIFFERENT ISSUES." HE CLARIFIED THE U.S. POLICY LINE OF SEEKING AN EARLY OPENING OF SUCH NEGOTIATIONS IN LINE WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION (EU), WHICH HAS SIMILAR CONCERNS.

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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; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

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SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 24

FIVE MONTH EXTENSION ON US-JAPAN PASSENGER ROUTE BETWEEN NARITA AND KONA, HAWAII (NIHON KEIZAI - PAGE 5)

IN A BID TO AVERT THE BILATERAL CONTENTION OVER THE ALL-PASSENGER SECTOR FROM BECOMING EVEN FIERCER, THE JAPANESE AND U.S. CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES WILL EXTEND FLIGHT LICENSES GRANTED TO THE TWO COUNTRIES' CARRIERS, WHICH HAS BECOME A SOURCE OF THE CURRENT DISPUTE. THE U.S. SIDE WILL APPROVE OPERATIONS BY JAPAN AIR LINES ON THE NARITA - KONA (HAWAII) ROUTE UNTIL MARCH 29 NEXT YEAR. IN RESPONSE, JAPAN'S MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (MOT) WILL INFORM UNITED AIRLINES OF THE U.S. OF ITS INTENTION TO EXTEND A LICENSE GIVEN TO IT FOR THE KANSAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - SEOUL ROUTE. THE TWO COUNTRIES ARE EXPECTED TO SEARCH FOR A TIMING FOR RESUMING THE DEADLOCKED CIVIL AVIATION NEGOTIATIONS.

THE OPENING OF NEW ROUTES OPERATED BY JAPAN AIR LINES AND UNITED AIRLINES WAS DELAYED DUE TO THE BILATERAL CONFRONTATION IN THE ALL-PASSENGER TALKS. AS A RESULT OF A PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT REACHED LATE IN APRIL, LICENSES WERE GRANTED FOR A LIMITED PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS. BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE DECIDED TO EXTEND SUCH A MEASURE IN TIME FOR THE START OF WINTER SCHEDULES FOR INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS.

JAPAN AND THE U.S. FORMALLY STARTED ALL-PASSENGER TALKS IN JUNE. IN THE NEGOTIATIONS WHILE JAPAN HAS SOUGHT AN EQUAL OPERATING RIGHT, THE U.S. HAS CALLED FOR LIMITLESS OPERATIONS FOR FLIGHTS TO ASIAN POINTS BY WAY OF JAPAN UNDER SO-CALLED BEYOND RIGHTS. THE TALKS HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED WITH THE VIEWS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES REMAINING POLES APART. AT THE BILATERAL SUMMIT MEETING HELD IN SEPTEMBER, JAPAN PROPOSED TO RESUME UPGRADED SUB-CABINET-LEVEL TALKS. IT IS POISED TO WAIT FOR A U.S. REPLY, WHILE CLOSELY WATCHING THE RESULT OF THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN EARLY NOVEMBER.

JAPAN AND THE U.S. ARE ALSO AT ODDS OVER THE OPENING OF A ROUTE BETWEEN KANSAI AIRPORT AND JAKARTA, WHICH UA AND NORTHWEST AIRLINES HAVE APPLIED FOR. THE MOT IS WITHHOLDING THE GRANTING OF APPROVAL, CITING THAT NEGOTIATIONS ARE FIRST NECESSARY, BECAUSE THE ROUTE IS TO BE OPERATED UNDER BEYOND-RIGHTS PROVISIONS.

FINANCE MINISTER KUBO SAYS INSURANCE TALKS WILL RESTART ON NOVEMBER 15 (NIHON KEIZAI - PAGE 5)

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND FINANCE MINISTER WATARU KUBO STATED AT A PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON THAT THE JAPAN-UNITED STATES INSURANCE TALKS, WHICH HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED SINCE THE MINISTERIAL TALKS IN LATE SEPTEMBER, "WILL BE RESUMED IN SAN FRANCISCO AROUND NOVEMBER 15 BY INTERNATIONAL FINANCE BUREAU DIRECTOR GENERAL SAKAKIBARA AND AMBASSADOR SHAPIRO OF THE OFFICE OF THE U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE (USTR)." AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED TO RESTART THE TALKS AFTER NOVEMBER 5, WHEN THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION WILL OCCUR. KEEPING THE DECEMBER 15 DEADLINE IN MIND, JAPAN AND THE U.S. DECIDED TO SET A SPECIFIC TIMETABLE.

FINANCE MINISTER KUBO IMPLIED INSURANCE ISSUES WOULD BE DISCUSSED ALSO IN THE PLANNED JAPAN-U.S. SUMMIT MEETING DURING THE ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION (APEC) FORUM SCHEDULED FOR LATE NOVEMBER IN THE PHILIPPINES.

HE ALSO REFERRED TO A MINISTER-LEVEL SESSION BY THE FINANCE MINISTER AND DEPUTY USTR BARSHEVSKY; "THERE COULD BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR HER TO STOP BY IN TOKYO ON HER WAY FROM OR TO AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE. WE HAVE STARTED COORDINATION (WITH THE U.S.). I THINK THE DETAILS WILL BE DISCUSSED AFTER THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION."

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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; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 24

U.S. PROPOSES SCALED-DOWN VERSION OF FLOATING HELIPORT
(YOMIURI - PAGE 1)

(WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 22, KOICHI AKAZA) THE SPECIAL ACTION COMMITTEE ON FACILITIES AND AREAS IN OKINAWA (SACO), AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCE OF JAPAN AND THE U.S., HELD AN INFORMAL WORKING-LEVEL CONSULTATIVE MEETING AT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ON OCTOBER 22 TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEM OF CONSTRUCTING AN ALTERNATIVE HELIPORT FOR THE FUTURE RETURN OF THE U.S. MARINE CORPS' FUTENMA AIR STATION IN OKINAWA. ACCORDING TO WHAT WAS REVEALED BY AN OFFICIAL WHO ATTENDED THE WORKING-GROUP MEETING, THE U.S. PROPOSED CONSTRUCTING A SMALL-SCALE SEA-BASED HELIPORT, ONE THAT WOULD BE LIMITED TO USE AS A TRAINING FACILITY FOR THE MARINES. HOWEVER, THE JAPANESE SIDE REQUESTED THE U.S. SIDE TO TRANSFER AS MANY FUNCTIONS AS POSSIBLE TO A LARGER-SCALE OFFSHORE FACILITY, ARGUING THAT THE U.S. PLAN RETAINS THE GREATER PART OF THE AIRFIELD'S BASIC FUNCTIONS ON LAND IN OKINAWA.

U.S. PROPOSES SCALE-DOWN VERSION OF FLOATING HELIPORT;
LOCAL REACTION LIKELY TO BE NEGATIVE (YOMIURI - PAGE 2)

THE JAPAN-U.S. SPECIAL ACTION COMMITTEE ON FACILITIES AND AREAS IN OKINAWA (SACO) HELD INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS IN THE U.S. ON OCTOBER 22 (OCTOBER 23, JAPAN TIME) TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE OF CONSTRUCTING A SEA-BASED HELIPORT TO REPLACE THE U.S. FORCES' FUTENMA AIR STATION IN OKINAWA. THE PLANS THERE WERE NARROWED DOWN INTO A 'SMALL-SCALE

FACILITY FOR TRAINING' AND A 'LARGE-SCALE FACILITY INCLUDING MAINTENANCE-SERVICING FUNCTIONS'. ACCORDINGLY, TOKYO AND WASHINGTON ARE GOING TO ENTER INTO A FINAL-STAGE EFFORT AIMING AT FINAL REPORT FOR SACO TO RELEASE IN LATE NOVEMBER. BOTH OF THE TWO OPTIONS, HOWEVER, HAVE PROBLEMS IN RESPECT TO SUCH MATTERS AS CONSIDERATION FOR OKINAWA PREFECTURE AND THEIR FEASIBILITY, SO THE POSSIBILITY REMAINS STRONG THAT COORDINATION WILL BE CONTINUED TO THE VERY LAST MOMENT.

THE 'SMALL-SCALE PLAN', PROPOSED BY THE U.S., FEATURES THE FOLLOWING POINTS: (1) SEVERAL TENS OF CHOPPERS ASSIGNED TO THE FUTENMA AIRFIELD ARE TO BE REASSIGNED TO THE OFFSHORE HELIPORT FOR SUCH PURPOSES AS TRAINING; (2) THE FUTENMA AIRFIELD'S FACILITIES, SUCH AS HELICOPTER MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR FACTORIES, ARE TO BE RELOCATED INTO THE U.S. FORCES' KADENA AIR FORCE BASE; AND (3) FOR THE MARINES' BILLETTS SUCH EXISTING BASES AS CAMP ZUKERAN ARE TO BE USED. THE AIM OF THE U.S. SIDE'S PLAN IS TO GIVE FIRST CONSIDERATION TO THE EASE OF CONSTRUCTING THE SEA HELIPORT BY DOWNSCALING IT. THIS PLAN IS THOUGHT TO HAVE GIVEN HEED ALSO TO THE FEAR AMONG SOME OF THE U.S. MILITARY THAT "IF THE MARINES LIVE ON THE OFFSHORE HELIPORT, THEIR LIVING ENVIRONMENT MAY WORSEN."

HOWEVER, OKINAWA PREFECTURE HAS NOW IMPLIED ITS NEGATIVE REACTION TO THE IDEA OF INSTALLING NEW FACILITIES ON KADENA AFB OR OTHER BASES. THE PREFECTURE'S LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, MASANORI YOSHIMOTO, NOTES, "OUR VIEW (IN THE GOVERNMENT OF OKINAWA PREFECTURE) IS THAT WE ARE NOW REMOTE FROM THE POSSIBILITY OF THE PLAN FOR INTEGRATION INTO KADENA AND THE PLAN FOR INSTALLATION ON CAMP SCHWAB." THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT IS ALSO NEGATIVE, CLAIMING THAT IT "CANNOT ADOPT ANY PLAN THAT IS UNCONVINCING TO OKINAWA PREFECTURE."

AS AGAINST THE U.S. SIDE'S PLAN, THE BOTTLENECK OF THE JAPANESE SIDE'S 'LARGE-SCALE PLAN' IS THAT IT WILL REQUIRE ADVANCED BUILDING TECHNOLOGY. REGARDING THE METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION, THERE ARE NOW SUCH OPTIONS AS A STRUCTURE OF THE PONTOON TYPE WITH A BREAKWATER SURROUNDING A FLOATING RUNWAY, A BUOYANCY STRUCTURE OF THE SEMI-SUB TYPE, AND A STRUCTURE OF THE FLOATING-PIER TYPE (OR QIP). BUT ANY OF THOSE STRUCTURES HAS NEVER UNCLAS SECTION 07 OF 08 TOKYO 009881

USIA

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

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SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRES HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 24

BEEN PUT TO PRACTICAL USE AS A LARGE-SCALE MILITARY AIRFIELD, AND THERE IS NO KNOWING IF THE JAPANESE SIDE WILL BE ABLE TO REACH A CONCLUSION BY THE END OF NOVEMBER ABOUT WHICH METHOD TO EMPLOY.

ON THE OTHER HAND, STUDIES ARE NOW BEING MADE ON THE IDEA OF PIER-BRIDGING THE SEA HELIPORT AND THE SHORE SO THAT MEN AND GOODS CAN BE CARRIED EASILY. BUT THE SEA HELIPORT IS PLANNED TO BE INSTALLED NEAR THE SHORE, AND THEREFORE COASTAL LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES WILL LIKELY REACT NEGATIVELY TO THAT PLAN FOR FEAR OF NOISE AND THE LIKE.

U.S. MILITARY HOSPITAL OFFERS JAPANESE ACADEMY TRANSPLANT ORGANS FROM BRAIN-DEAD VICTIMS (ASAHI - PAGE 1 AND 3)

THE JAPAN SOCIETY FOR TRANSPLANTATION (DIRECTOR: KIKUO NOMOTO, KYUSHU UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR) REVEALED YESTERDAY THAT IT WAS PREPARING A WRITTEN AGREEMENT TO ACCEPT THE OFFER OF INTERNAL ORGANS, SUCH AS THE HEART AND THE LIVER OF PATIENTS WHO WERE FOUND BY UNITED STATES MILITARY HOSPITALS IN JAPAN TO BE BRAIN-DEAD. ON THE SAME DAY, THE SOCIETY HELD A MEETING OF ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND LAUNCHED THREE WORKING GROUPS TO FORMULATE ITS OWN ACTION PROGRAMS IN THE DIRECTION OF TRANSPLANTING ORGANS FROM BRAIN-DEAD PATIENTS. DETAILS WILL BE THRESHED OUT IN THOSE WORKING GROUPS, ACCORDING TO THE SOCIETY. BUT THERE ARE DIFFERENCES IN LEGAL SYSTEMS BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE U.S. IN ADDITION, A SYSTEM OF ACCEPTING ORGANS THAT WERE OFFERED HAS YET TO BE ESTABLISHED. MANY TASKS LIE AHEAD OF US.

THERE ARE FIVE U.S. MILITARY HOSPITALS IN JAPAN, AND IT IS SAID THAT SEVERAL PATIENTS BECOME "BRAIN-DEAD" A YEAR. THE U.S. MILITARY SIDE THEN HAS ASKED TRANSPLANTATION ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS WHETHER TO ACCEPT THE OFFER OF INTERNAL ORGANS. THERE WAS A CASE OF ACCEPTING THE OFFER OF THE KIDNEY THAT WAS REMOVED FROM THE PATIENT WHOSE HEART STOPPED MOVING.

DIRECTOR NOMOTO IN A NEWS BRIEFING THAT DAY EXPLAINED THE CIRCUMSTANCES: "SINCE THE TIMING OVERLAPPED WITH THE TIME FOR DIET DELIBERATIONS ON AN ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION LAW SYSTEM, WE HAVE WITHHELD OUR WORK OF DRAFTING AN AGREEMENT."

THE STUDIES THE WORKING GROUPS UNDER THE SOCIETY WILL HANDLE FROM NOW ON WILL INCLUDE:

- (1) A TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM TO TRANSPORT ORGANS TO A HOSPITAL WHERE A PATIENT IS WAITING FOR IT AFTER RECEIVING A NOTICE ABOUT THE OFFER OF AN ORGAN;
- (2) MAKING SURE HOW MANY PATIENTS NEED TRANSPLANTS; AND
- (3) CHOOSING HOSPITALS THAT WILL TRANSPLANT ORGANS.

HOWEVER, A DECISION ON BRAIN DEATH IS MADE BY U.S. MILITARY HOSPITALS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CRITERIA OF THE U.S. SO THE PROBLEM JAPAN FACES IS WHETHER ITS MEDICAL

INSTITUTES CAN ACCEPT SUCH ORGANS AS IS. IN ADDITION, NO RULES HAVE BEEN SET IN JAPAN AS TO HOSPITALS THAT WILL TRANSPLANT ORGANS AND HOW TO CHOOSE PATIENTS WHO UNDERGO TRANSPLANTATION.

"EVEN IF AN AGREEMENT IS SIGNED AT AN EARLY DATE, ANY OFFER OF ORGANS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED UNTIL OUR SOCIETY COMPILED ACTION PROGRAMS," EXPLAINS THE SOCIETY.

SLIM POSSIBILITY OF ACCUSATION; ACCEPTING THE OFFER OF INTERNAL ORGANS OF BRAIN-DEAD PATIENTS FROM U.S. FORCES IN JAPAN IS NOW UNDER STUDY

ANALYSIS

IT MAY SEEM THAT THE IDEA OF ACCEPTING ORGANS OFFERED BY UNCLAS SECTION 08 OF 08 TOKYO 009881

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; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

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SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 24

UNITED STATES MILITARY HOSPITALS IN JAPAN CAME UP ALL OF SUDDEN, BUT IT HAS BEEN DISCUSSED QUIETLY AMONG DOCTORS WHO DO TRANSPLANTS FOR SEVERAL YEARS. PREPARATIONS ARE NOW UNDERWAY IN THE JAPAN SOCIETY FOR ORGAN TRANSPLANTS. THAT IDEA HAS COME TO THE FORE AS A MEANS TO PROMOTE TRANSPLANTATION OF ORGANS REMOVED FROM BRAIN-DEAD PATIENTS NOW THAT AN ORGAN TRANSPLANT BILL WAS SCRAPPED AS A RESULT OF THE DISSOLUTION OF THE LOWER HOUSE.

SINCE JAPAN HAS NO LAW THAT STIPULATES REMOVAL OF INTERNAL ORGANS FROM BRAIN-DEAD PATIENTS, THE POLICE AND THE PROSECUTION HAVE TO JUDGE, UNDER THE CRIMINAL LAW, DOCTORS WHO REMOVED ORGANS FROM SUCH PATIENTS. AS TO TRANSPLANTING ORGANS REMOVED FROM BRAIN-DEAD PATIENTS, THE MAJOR BARRIER IS THAT DOCTORS WOULD BE INDICTED ON THE CHARGE OF MURDER. BUT IN THE CASE OF ACCEPTING ORGANS THAT WERE REMOVED BY AMERICAN DOCTORS IN U.S. BASES, THE POSSIBILITY IS SLIM THAT SUCH LEGAL STEPS WOULD BE TAKEN.

IN 1991, A MEDICAL TEAM LED BY KAZUO OTA, TOKYO WOMEN'S MEDICAL COLLEGE PROFESSOR (AND FORMERLY DIRECTOR OF THE JAPAN SOCIETY FOR TRANSPLANTATION) CARRIED BY AIR A LIVER THAT WAS REMOVED FROM A BRAIN-DEAD CHILD AND OFFERED BY BELGIUM. THE ORGAN WAS TRANSPLANTED. THIS WAS THE FIRST TRANSPLANT OF A LIVER REMOVED FROM A BRAIN-

DEAD PATIENT IN JAPAN. IN 1992, SHINSHU UNIVERSITY'S ETHICS COMMITTEE ACKNOWLEDGED TRANSPLANTING AN IMPORTED LIVER. IN THE EARLY YEARS OF THE 1980S, NEARLY 200 "U.S. KIDNEYS" WERE IMPORTED FOR TRANSPLANTING. DOCTORS WHO DO ORGAN TRANSPLANTS ARE RELATIVELY LESS OPPOSED TO "INTERNAL ORGANS COMING FROM OTHER COUNTRIES."

ABOUT 4,000 OPERATIONS FOR HEART TRANSPLANTS ARE PERFORMED ANNUALLY WORLD-WIDE. OFFERING ORGANS FROM BRAIN-DEAD PATIENTS IS NO LONGER A SPECIAL CASE IN MANY COUNTRIES. DOCTORS SPECIALIZING IN TRANSPLANTS WELCOME THE OFFER (MADE BY THE U.S. MILITARY HOSPITALS), ONE NOTING: "AT LEAST IT WILL GIVE AN IMPETUS TO DEBATES ON TRANSPLANTS OF ORGANS REMOVED FROM BRAIN-DEAD PATIENTS."

BUT TO ADD TO THE DIFFERENCES IN CRITERIA FOR A DECISION ON BRAIN DEATH BETWEEN COUNTRIES, IF TRANSPLANTING ORGANS THAT WERE REMOVED FROM BRAIN-DEAD PATIENTS IS PERFORMED MAINLY RELYING ON "ORGANS OFFERED BY OTHER COUNTRIES," THE SYSTEM MAY BE TURN OUT TO BE DIFFERENT FROM THE ORIGINALLY EXPECTED FORM OF TRANSPLANT. A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS REMAIN TO BE SOLVED. CRANE

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SUBJ: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 25

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 07 TOKYO 009924

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;
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E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 25

TOP HEADLINES:

ASAHI: FORMER AUM RELIGIOUS CULT MEMBER MIGHT HAVE BEEN
INVOLVED IN SHOOTING INCIDENT OF NATIONAL POLICY AGENCY
DIRECTOR GENERAL, ACCORDING TO HIS TESTIMONY (TRANSLATION
BELOW)

NIHON KEIZAI: INDIVIDUALS' MONEY FLOWING INTO FOREIGN
CURRENCY FINANCIAL PRODUCTS; SPURRED BY LOW YEN, LOW
EXCEEDINGLY LOW INTEREST RATES; FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS
TO PASS 10-TRILLION-YEN LEVEL AT YEAR'S END

TOKYO SHIMBUN: FORMER AUM CULT MEMBER, WHO FORMERLY WAS POLICEMAN, ADMITS INVOLVEMENT IN SHOOTING NATIONAL POLICE AGENCY DIRECTOR GENERAL KUNIMATSU; BUT HIS TESTIMONY STILL AMBIGUOUS; TOKYO METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT CAUTIOUSLY INVESTIGATING HIM

MAINICHI: SHOOTING INCIDENT OF NATIONAL POLICE AGENCY DIRECTOR GENERAL KUNIMATSU: INCUMBENT POLICEMAN'S INVOLVEMENT NOW SURFACING; "I SHOT HIM," HE TESTIFIES; AT THE TIME, HE WAS AN AUM CULT MEMBER; TOKYO METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT STILL CONTINUING INVESTIGATION IN CAUTIOUS WAY

YOMIURI: CENTRAL BANK RESEARCH PANEL IN ITS REPORT WILL SUGGEST BANK OF JAPAN POLICY COMMITTEE MAKE PUBLIC MINUTES ON DELIBERATIONS THERE; FOR ENHANCEMENT OF TRANSPARENCY

SANKEI: SHOOTING INCIDENT OF NATIONAL POLICE AGENCY DIRECTOR GENERAL KUNIMATSU: FORMER AUM CULT MEMBER -- POLICEMAN AT THE TIME -- TESTIFIES HIS INVOLVEMENT; INVESTIGATIONS NOW SPEEDED UP TO PROVE HIS TESTIMONY

KEY TO FORMING COALITION IS CONVERGENCE ON POLICY; HANG-UPS INCLUDE SECURITY TREATY (ASAHI - PAGE 2)

WITH THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (SDP) HAVING DECIDED TO GIVE PRIORITY TO ITS POLICY TALKS WITH THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP) TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT TO CONTINUE THE COALITION, THE FOCUS HAS NOW SHIFTED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRIPARTITE POLICY TALKS SLATED TO START ON THE 26TH, AND INCLUDING THE SAKIGAKE PARTY. SDP CHAIRPERSON TAKAKO DOI PLANS TO SCRUTINIZE THE LDP'S OVERALL POLICY-DIRECTION, WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION TO SUCH ELEMENTS AS ITS SECURITY POLICY AND POLITICAL FUND RESTRICTION MEASURES SO AS NOT TO LOSE THE SDP'S OVERTONES. THE LDP PERCEIVES THAT THE SDP'S COMING TO THE NEGOTIATING TABLE WOULD LEAD TO THE CREATION OF THE RIGHT ENVIRONMENT FOR A CONTINUAL COALITION. INTENSIVE BARGAINING IS EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE.

THE SDP AT ITS STANDING SECRETARIES COUNCIL MEETING YESTERDAY REACHED A DECISION TO EMPHASIZE ITS PUBLIC PLEDGES AS ITS PRIORITY POLICY GOALS IN THE UPCOMING POLICY TALKS WITH THE LDP. FROM ITS REFLECTION THAT "THE PARTY'S CHARACTER BECAME INDISTINCT" (DOI) DURING THE OLD COALITION ADMINISTRATION, THE SDP'S NEW STRATEGY IS TO HIT THE LDP WITH ITS POLICY GOALS FIRST AND SEE HOW THE LDP WILL REACT. IN LINE WITH DOI'S INTENTION, SUCH MEMBERS AS SECRETARY GENERAL SHIGERU ITO, A PRO-COALITION EXECUTIVE, AND STANDING SECRETARY TADATOSHI AKIBA, WHO IS CAUTIOUS ABOUT JOINING THE NEW COALITION, ARE ALSO EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE TALKS.

ITO THINKS THAT THE PARTY SHOULD JOIN THE NEW GOVERNMENT TO REALIZE THE FOLLOWING FOUR POLICY GOALS THAT WERE AGREED UPON AMONG THE THREE RULING PARTIES BEFORE THE

ELECTION: 1) REFORM OF THE FINANCE MINISTRY; 2) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION (NPO) LEGISLATION; 3) INTRODUCTION OF A HOME-CARE INSURANCE SYSTEM; AND 4) HANDLING OF THE CONSUMPTION TAX.

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 07 TOKYO 009924

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; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 25

DOI, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS EAGER TO CARRY OUT A PROBING DISCUSSION ON SECURITY POLICY AND THE OKINAWA ISSUE, IN ADDITION TO SUCH FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENTS AS HISTORICAL PERCEPTION AND CONSTITUTIONAL PERSPECTIVE. MEMBERS RELUCTANT ABOUT JOINING THE NEW COALITION ARE SUGGESTING OTHER ELEMENTS, SUCH AS: "THE SDP SHOULD PRESS THE LDP NOT TO PAY HOMAGE AT YASUKUNI SHRINE, WHICH IS THE LDP'S PUBLIC PLEDGE," AND "WE SHOULD PROPOSE THE TOTAL PROHIBITION OF CORPORATE DONATIONS PARTICULARLY BECAUSE SECRETARY GENERAL KOICHI KATO IS UNDER FIRE OVER THE MONEY SCANDAL."

MEANWHILE, LDP POLICY AFFAIRS RESEARCH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN TAKU YAMASAKI YESTERDAY REMARKED TO THE PRESS REGARDING POLICY TALKS WITH THE SDP, "THIS TIME, OUR PARTY IS SOMEWHAT PASSIVE." HIS COMMENT SUGGESTS THE LDP'S STRATEGY TO ABSTAIN FROM TAKING THE INITIATIVE FOR THE TIME BEING TO SEE THROUGH THE SDP'S PROPOSALS FIRST BEFORE ENTERING COORDINATION.

THE LDP HAS TO TAKE A PASSIVE STANCE BECAUSE EVEN IF THE LDP SUCCEEDS TO GARNER A MAJORITY IN THE LOWER HOUSE OWING TO THE COOPERATION OF INDEPENDENTS, IT WILL STILL BE TEN SEATS SHORT IN THE UPPER HOUSE. SO ACHIEVING A STABLE SECOND HASHIMOTO ADMINISTRATION WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT THE SDP'S ASSISTANCE. BUT SOME THINK THAT EVEN IF THE SDP EXTENDS COOPERATION FROM OUTSIDE THE CABINET, A STABLE ADMINISTRATION IS POSSIBLE AS LONG AS THE THREE PARTIES AGREE ON MAJOR POLICY GOALS.

NEVERTHELESS, WHETHER OR NOT THE PLANNED POLICY TALKS WOULD GO SMOOTHLY REMAINS TO BE SEEN. EVEN FOR THE SAKE OF A STABLE ADMINISTRATION, THE LDP CANNOT CAVE IN TO THE SDP IF THAT PARTY PUSHES TO THE FOREFRONT THE INTRODUCTION OF A LIGHTER TAX RATE ON FOODSTUFF IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONSUMPTION TAX OR IF IT URGES COMPLETELY DIFFERENT POLICY DIRECTIONS REGARDING DIPLOMACY AND SECURITY.

IN ADDITION, IF DOI BRINGS UP A TOTAL BAN ON CORPORATE DONATIONS, SUCH WOULD CAUSE A STIR AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE. AFTER HIS TALKS WITH SECRETARY GENERAL KATO AND OTHERS YESTERDAY, CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY SEIROKU KAJIYAMA REMARKED ABOUT THE PARTY'S STANCE TOWARD THE SDP, "WE STILL DON'T KNOW. WE ARE STILL WORKING ON IT. TIME IS IMPORTANT." HIS REMARKS INDICATED THAT THE LDP IS BEING EXTRA CAREFUL IN DEALING WITH THE SDP.

SHINSHINTO DEEPLY DAMAGED BY INTERNAL FEUD; KUMAGAI OUSTED (MAINICHI - PAGE 2)

THE "FEUD OVER SPLITTING THE PARTY" SET OFF IN THE SHINSHINTO BY FORMER PRIME MINISTERS MORIHIRO HOSOKAWA AND TSUTOMU HATA TOOK AN ODD TURN ON THE 24TH WHEN HOSOKAWA MADE HIS OWN CLAIM ABOUT THE CONTENT OF PARTY HEAD ICHIRO OZAWA'S NEWS CONFERENCE THE PREVIOUS DAY, STATING, "IF YOU DON'T TELL THE TRUTH, WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM," AND THEN GAVE HIS OWN VERSION THAT AFTERNOON AT JOINT MEETING OF UPPER AND LOWER HOUSE MEMBERS. LAST EVENING, FORMER CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY HIROSHI KUMAGAI, WHOSE NAME HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM THE PARTY LIST BY PARTY EXECUTIVES FOR "ANTI-PARTY ACTS," WENT TO SEE PRESIDENT OZAWA AT PARTY HEADQUARTERS AND PROTESTED HIS BEING OUSTED FROM THE PARTY. ALTHOUGH THE FEUD IN THE PARTY APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN CONTAINED FOR THE TIME BEING, THE DOMINANT VIEW IS THAT "NOTHING HAS CHANGED IN THE PARTY" (JUNIOR MEMBER), AND IT WOULD APPEAR THAT A THAW BETWEEN BOTH CAMPS WILL BE HARD IN COMING.

INFORMAL AGREEMENT FOR OFFSHORE FACILITY TO RELOCATE FUTENMA HELIPORT (ASAHI - PAGE 1)

AN OFFSHORE HELIPORT PLAN IS NOW UNDER STUDY AS AN ALTERNATIVE FACILITY FOR THE UNITED STATES FORCES' UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 07 TOKYO 009924

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; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 25

FUTENMA AIR STATION ON OKINAWA. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE JAPANESE AND U.S. GOVERNMENTS REACHED AN AGREEMENT IN INFORMAL TALKS TO AIM AT CONSTRUCTING A FAIRLY LARGE FACILITY SO THAT THE PRESENT FUNCTIONS OF FUTENMA AIR STATION CAN BE ALMOST TRANSFERRED THERE. THIS WAS REVEALED YESTERDAY BY A JAPAN DEFENSE AGENCY (JDA) SOURCE. HOWEVER, TO REALIZE THAT PLAN, WELL OVER 20

HECTARES OF SPACE ARE NECESSARY, SO WHETHER IT IS POSSIBLE TO DO IT IN TECHNICAL TERMS WILL REMAIN AS A TASK TO BE HANDLED FROM NOW ON.

INFORMAL TALKS WERE HELD TWICE IN WASHINGTON: THE FIRST HELD AT THE DIVISION-DIRECTOR-LEVEL ON THE 21ST AND THE OTHER AT THE COUNCILLOR-LEVEL ON THE 22ND. ACCORDING TO A JDA SOURCE, THE JAPANESE SIDE IN THE TALKS PROPOSED TO RELOCATE ALMOST ALL OF THE CURRENT FUNCTIONS OF FUTENMA AIRFIELD TO AN OFFSHORE HELIPORT THAT NOT ONLY CAN RECEIVE HELICOPTERS FLYING FROM THE MAINLAND U.S. IN TIMES OF CONTINGENCIES BUT ALSO WILL HAVE A MAINTENANCE FACILITY AND A HANGAR.

IN RESPONSE, THE U.S. SIDE REPORTEDLY INDICATED A SMALLER-SCALE PLAN THAN THE JAPANESE SIDE'S, BY SHOWING ONE FOR A 300-SQUARE-METER HELIPORT. BUT THE JAPANESE SIDE INSISTED THAT THE WAY OF SCATTERING SEVERAL FUNCTIONS TO THE OKINAWA MAINLAND IN LINE WITH THE SCALING DOWN (OF BASES) "COULD NOT OBTAIN AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE LOCALITIES." THE U.S. SIDE THEN AGREED TO GO WITH (THE JAPANESE SIDE'S PLAN).

"LIKELY TO ESTABLISH (OFFSHORE HELIPORT) OFF THE EASTERN PART OF OKINAWA ISLAND," SAYS NAHA DEFENSE FACILITIES ADMINISTRATION BUREAU DIRECTOR GENERAL

IN A NEWS BRIEFING YESTERDAY, NAHA DEFENSE FACILITIES ADMINISTRATION BUREAU DIRECTOR GENERAL TAKEHIKO SHIMAGUCHI REFERRED TO THE PLACE OF CONSTRUCTION OF AN OFFSHORE HELIPORT, NOW UNDER STUDY AS AN ALTERNATIVE FACILITY FOR THE UNITED STATES FORCES' FUTENMA AIR FIELD, AND STATED: "IT WILL LIKELY BE OFF THE EASTERN PART OF THE OKINAWA ISLAND." ON THE EASTERN PART OF THE OKINAWA ISLAND IS WHITE BEACH, A PORT WHERE U.S. NUCLEAR SUBMARINES ANCHOR. NAGAGUSUKU BAY, WHICH INCLUDES THAT BASE, IS MOST LIKELY. AS FOR THE SCALE, (THE DIRECTOR GENERAL) STATED, "IT WILL BE A LARGE FACILITY WITH A RUNWAY OF MORE THAN 1,000 METERS." MUNICIPALITIES AND FISHERMEN'S COOPERATIVES LOCATED ON THE COAST FACING THAT BAY ARE VIGOROUSLY OPPOSING THE PLAN. ONE OF THEM ARGUED: "IT UNAVOIDABLY WILL GIVE RISE TO MORE DAMAGE FROM MILITARY BASES."

U.S. AGREES TO MINIMIZE ON-LAND FACILITIES FOR OFFSHORE HELIPORT (YOMIURI - PAGE 2)

REGARDING THE PLAN FOR CONSTRUCTING A SEA-BASED HELIPORT TO REPLACE THE U.S. FORCES' FUTENMA AIR STATION IN OKINAWA, JAPAN AND THE U.S. HAVE BEGUN COORDINATION AIMING AT RELOCATING MOST OF THE FUTENMA AIR STATION'S FUNCTIONS TO AN OFFSHORE SITE. THIS WAS REVEALED BY A SOURCE IN THE JAPAN DEFENSE AGENCY ON OCTOBER 24. THE OFFSHORE HELIPORT ESTIMATEDLY WILL BE ON THE SCALE OF SEVERAL TENS OF HECTARES. BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE NOW BEGUN A TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY STUDY. HOWEVER, IF AND WHEN SUCH STUDIES RESULT IN FINDING SUCH PROBLEMS AS NO ESTABLISHMENT OF BUILDING TECHNOLOGY, THE OFFSHORE

HELIPORT IS GOING TO BE DOWNSCALED.

AT AN INFORMAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING OF THE SPECIAL ACTION COMMITTEE ON FACILITIES AND AREAS (SACO) HELD IN WASHINGTON UNTIL OCTOBER 23, THE JAPANESE SIDE MADE A REQUEST, SAYING, "IF WE CONSIDER THE LOCAL PEOPLE'S FEELINGS IN OKINAWA PREFECTURE, WE NEED TO MINIMIZE THE GROUND FACILITIES." THE U.S. SIDE THEN BASICALLY SHOWED ITS UNDERSTANDING.

UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 07 TOKYO 009924

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; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

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SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 25

IN THAT CASE, ABOUT 70 CHOPPERS, CURRENTLY ASSIGNED TO THE FUTENMA AIRFIELD, WILL BE REASSIGNED TO THE SEA HELIPORT. ADDITIONALLY, THE SEA HELIPORT IS GOING TO HAVE SUCH INSTALLATIONS AS A RUNWAY, HANGARS, CONTROL FACILITIES, AND SOME REPAIR FACILITIES. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE FUTENMA AIRFIELD'S FULL-FLEDGED FACILITIES ARE PLANNED TO BE RELOCATED TO KADENA AIR FORCE BASE. THE RUNWAY IS EXPECTED TO HAVE AN OVERALL LENGTH OF MORE THAN 1,000 METERS.

HOWEVER, THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE YET TO FINISH COORDINATION ON WHETHER TO STATION AT THE OFFSHORE HELIPORT A SQUADRON OF 200 TO 300 CHOPPERS, WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO BE AIRLIFTED BY U.S. FORCES FROM THE U.S. MAINLAND IN TIMES OF EMERGENCY.

LOCAL COMMUNITY AGAINST FLOATING HELIPORT
(YOMIURI - PAGE 2)

THE CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL FOR THE PROMOTION OF COASTAL FISHERIES IN NAKAGUSUKU BAY (PRESIDED OVER BY SHUSEI ARAKAWA, MAYOR OF OKINAWA CITY) -- CONSISTING OF EIGHT LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES INCLUDING OKINAWA CITY AND KATSUREN TOWN NEAR OKINAWA PREFECTURE'S NAKAGUSUKU BAY, WHICH IS NOW BEING REGARDED AS A CANDIDATE PLACE FOR THE PLANNED CONSTRUCTION OF A SEA-BASED HELIPORT TO REPLACE THE U.S. FORCES' FUTENMA AIR STATION, AND 11 FISHERY COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATIONS -- HELD A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING ON OCTOBER 24 AND THEN ADOPTED A UNANIMOUS RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE THE CONSTRUCTION OF SUCH A SEA HELIPORT.

FORCED LAND LEASES: PROCEDURES CANNOT BE COMPLETED BY MAY DEADLINE (YOMIURI - PAGE 2)

CONCERNING THE ISSUE OF CONTINUING THE GOVERNMENT'S FORCIBLE USE OF LANDED PROPERTY IN OKINAWA FOR THE U.S. FORCES, OKINAWA PREFECTURE'S EXPROPRIATION COMMISSION DECIDED ON OCTOBER 24 TO START PROCEDURES FOR ARBITRATION ON ABOUT 3,000 PERSONS' LAND LOTS ON THE SITES OF KADENA AIR FORCE BASE AND OTHER FACILITIES. HOWEVER, THE COMMISSION'S ENTRY INTO OPEN HEARINGS IS EXPECTED TO BE AROUND FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR, SO THE PROBABILITY IS NOW EVEN STRONGER THAT THE COMMISSION MAY NOT BE ABLE TO COMPLETE SUCH PROCEDURES BEFORE THE CURRENT TERM OF USE EXPIRES IN MAY NEXT YEAR. THE GOVERNMENT WILL LIKELY BE PRESSED FOR A DIFFICULT JUDGMENT, WHILE ADAPTING ITSELF TO THE PROGRESS OF THE EXPROPRIATION COMMISSION'S HEARINGS AND ALSO TO THE POLITICAL SITUATION, AS TO WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT WILL CHOOSE TO MAKE AN APPLICATION FOR SIX MONTHS' EMERGENCY USE OR OTHERWISE IT WILL TRY TO CARRY OUT A "FRONTAL BREAKTHROUGH" (ACCORDING TO A SOURCE IN THE JAPAN DEFENSE AGENCY) WITH LAW REVISION IN ORDER TO AVOID SEEING THE TIME LIMIT.

CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY KAJIYAMA TOLD THE PRESS ON THE AFTERNOON OF OCTOBER 24 THAT "THE PREFECTURE'S EXPROPRIATION COMMISSION HAS NOW STARTED TO TAKE PROCEDURES FOR ARBITRATION." BUT HE REFRAINED FROM MAKING ANY FURTHER COMMENT. THE OKINAWA PREFECTURE SIDE HAS NOW CHANGED OVER TO THE LINE OF EXTENDING COOPERATION TO THE GOVERNMENT AS SEEN FROM SUCH FACTS AS THAT OKINAWA PREFECTURE RESPONDED TO EXECUTE PUBLIC POSTING AND REVIEW. MEANWHILE, HOWEVER, THE PREFECTURE'S EXPROPRIATION COMMISSION, WHICH IS A THIRD-PARTY ORGAN, HAS BEEN CONTINUING "HEARINGS AT THE ORDINARY PACE" (ACCORDING TO THE PREFECTURE'S EXPROPRIATION COMMISSION), AND THEREFORE KAJIYAMA SEEMS TO BE DISSATISFIED WITH IT.

IN THE PAST, THE EXPROPRIATION COMMISSION OF OKINAWA PREFECTURE USED TO TAKE A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS TO ONE YEAR FOR ITS OPEN HEARING. THIS TIME, HOWEVER, THE COMMISSION IS EXPECTED TO HANDLE THE LARGEST NUMBER OF CASES EVER. ALL THE MORE FOR THIS REASON, IT IS BELIEVED
UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 07 TOKYO 009924

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; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

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TO BE VIRTUALLY HOPELESS FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO ACQUIRE USE TITLE BY MAY AS A LEGAL GROUND FOR ITS CONTINUED FORCIBLE USE OF LAND LOTS.

IN ORDER TO AVOID CONFUSION INCIDENT TO THE TIME LIMIT, THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW STUDYING A PAIR OF APPROACHES: (1) FILING AN APPLICATION FOR SIX MONTHS' EMERGENCY USE; AND (2) REVISING THE SPECIAL LAND LEASE LAW FOR THE FORCES STATIONED IN JAPAN TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO MAKE PROVISIONAL USE DURING THE EXPROPRIATION COMMISSION'S HEARING. AS A PRECEDENT, HOWEVER, THE COMMISSION REJECTED THE GOVERNMENT'S APPLICATION FOR EMERGENCY USE OF THE SOBE RADIO STATION SITE IN THE SPRING OF THIS YEAR.

IN THE CASE OF REVISING THE LAW, THE GOVERNMENT WILL THEN HAVE TO SHOW CONSIDERATION SO AS NOT TO INCUR THE OKINAWA PREFECTURE SIDE'S NEGATIVE REACTION, AND WILL ALSO HAVE TO OBTAIN THE RULING PARTIES' APPROVAL. THEREFORE, A SOURCE IN THE GOVERNMENT VIEWS THAT "THE GOVERNMENT CANNOT DECIDE ON ITS POLICY UNTIL THE OPEN HEARING STARTS NEXT YEAR."

TOP MOFA OFFICIAL: NORTH KOREAN MISSILE TEST UNLIKELY TO TAKE PLACE (SANKEI - PAGE 3)

A SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL, COMMENTING ON A REPORT THAT NORTH KOREA IS NOW PREPARING TO CARRY OUT A FIRING TEST OF "NODONG-1," AN INTERMEDIATE-RANGE MISSILE, INDICATED THAT IN HIS VIEW, THE POSSIBILITY OF TESTING IT HAS NOW BECOME SLIM. "IT IS NO LONGER A SITUATION (IN WHICH (NORTH KOREA) IS BEING PRESSED) TO LAUNCH ONE WITHIN THE HOUR."

ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT REVEAL THE CONCRETE BASIS FOR HIS JUDGMENT, IT HAD TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION ALL SOURCES OF INTELLIGENCE, INCLUDING THAT FROM THE UNITED STATES, WHICH HAS BEEN WORKING ON THE NORTH TO STOP ITS TESTING.

THAT OFFICIAL ON THE OTHER HAND EMPHASIZED HIS NOTION THAT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO CONTINUE MONITORING, REASONING: "WE HAVE NOT HEARD THAT THE MISSILES WERE REMOVED FROM THE LAUNCHER."

TOP COP MAY HAVE BEEN SHORT BY FORMER POLICY OFFICER WHO WAS AN AUM BELIEVER (ASAHI - TOP PLAY)

IN MARCH 1995, NATIONAL POLICE AGENCY DIRECTOR GENERAL TAKAJI KUNIMATSU WAS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED WHEN HE WAS SHOT IN THE ABDOMEN AND OTHER PARTS OF HIS BODY JUST AS HE WAS ABOUT TO LEAVE HIS CONDOMINIUM IN ARAKAWA WARD, TOKYO. REGARDING THIS CRIME, IT WAS LEARNED YESTERDAY THAT A METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT (MPD) POLICEMAN, A FORMER AUM CULT MEMBER, HAS TESTIFIED REGARDING HIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE CRIMINAL ACT IN MPD'S EXAMINATIONS. THERE ARE SOME UNCLEAR POINTS IN HIS TESTIMONY, SO THE MPD HAS BEEN CONDUCTING A CAUTIOUS INVESTIGATION INTO THE INCIDENT AS TO THE POSSIBILITY OF FINDING THE PERPETRATOR.

THE MAN WHO SHOT DIRECTOR GENERAL KUNIMATSU ESCAPED BY BICYCLE. THE CRIME OCCURRED RIGHT AFTER THE SARIN

INCIDENT IN THE TOKYO SUBWAY SYSTEM.

ABOUT TWO AND A HALF MONTHS AFTER THE INCIDENT, KUNIMATSU RETURNED TO OFFICIAL DUTY.

THE MPD SPECIAL INVESTIGATION OFFICE HAS CONTINUED INVESTIGATIONS BROADLY INTO ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDING AUM SHINRIKYO CULT FROM THE BEGINNING, SENSING THAT THE INCIDENT INVOLVED ORGANIZED CRIME. ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO CORROBORATION THAT PROVES THE INVOLVEMENT OF AUM CULT, THE SPECIAL INVESTIGATION OFFICE HAS BELIEVED THAT THE POSSIBILITY IS STRONG THAT THE CRIME WAS CONDUCTED BY THE CULT BECAUSE IT HAS OBTAINED TESTIMONIES FROM SEVERAL UNCLAS SECTION 06 OF 07 TOKYO 009924

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; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 25

MEMBERS OF THE CULT THAT A CULT LEADER, WHO IS STILL AT LARGE, MADE SUSPICIOUS REMARKS AND MOVEMENTS AFTER THE CRIME.

CONSIDERING THE FACT THAT THREE OUT OF FOUR BULLETS HIT KUNIMATSU FROM A DISTANCE IN A RAIN, IT WAS BELIEVED THAT THE CRIMINAL WAS AN EXPERT IN HANDLING FIREARMS.

YEN AT 113: HOW LONG WILL THE YEN CONTINUE TO FALL?
(MAINICHI - PAGE 9)

THE YEN IS GRADUALLY LOSING VALUE. IN THE TOKYO FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKET, THE YEN WAS AT ONE O'CLOCK QUOTED AT 113.04 TO THE DOLLAR, CHANGING HANDS AT THE 113 YEN LEVEL FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ABOUT TWO YEARS AND NINE MONTHS OR SINCE JANUARY 1994. IT IS RESPONDING TO A TREND SEEN IN OFFSHORE MARKETS, WHICH ARE REACTING TO A HIGH-RANKING U.S. GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL'S STATEMENT THAT A HIGHER DOLLAR WOULD BE TOLERATED. IN VIEW OF THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE IN NOVEMBER, THE U.S. DOES NOT WANT TO SEE A FALL IN STOCK PRICES OR A RISE IN INTEREST RATES -- AN INDICATOR OF CONCERN ABOUT INFLATION. AS IT STANDS, THE PREVAILANT VIEW IS THAT THERE WILL BE FOR THE TIME BEING NO CHANGE IN THE LOWER-YEN AND HIGHER-DOLLAR TREND.

THE ONGOING LOWER-YEN AND HIGHER-DOLLAR TREND HAS BASICALLY BEEN BROUGHT ABOUT BY DIFFERENTIALS IN INTEREST RATES BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE U.S. AND A DROP IN JAPAN'S TRADE SURPLUS; ONE MARKET PARTICIPANT HAS NOTED, "WHEREAS

THERE ARE A HOST OF MATERIALS THAT ENCOURAGE DOLLAR-BUYING, THERE ARE NO MATERIALS THAT BOOST YEN-BUYING." AMID THE MIX OF YEN-SELLING AS A RESULT OF POSITIVE INVESTMENTS IN FOREIGN BONDS BY INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS AND PROFIT-TAKING YEN-BUYING, THE MARKET IS MOVING IN RESPONSE TO MOVES SEEN IN EUROPE, WHICH HOPES FOR A HIGHER DOLLAR, AND STATEMENTS BY HIGH-RANKING JAPANESE AND U.S. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. BANK OF JAPAN GOVERNOR YASUO MATSUSHITA'S REPEATED STATEMENTS ON THE INTENTION TO MAINTAIN THE CURRENT ULTRA-LOW INTEREST MEASURE IS ANOTHER FACTOR FOR EASY YEN-SELLING.

THE PRESENT HIGHER-DOLLAR TREND IS WORKING AS A TAILWIND FOR THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION, CREATING A FAVORABLE CYCLE OF THE COMING IN OF CAPITAL FROM JAPAN FOR PURCHASES OF U.S. BONDS (CAUSING A RISE IN THE PRICES OF BONDS), A DROP IN THE LONG-TERM INTEREST RATES AND A RISE IN STOCK PRICES IN THE U.S. SOME IN THE U.S. AUTO INDUSTRY, WHOSE EXPORTS ARE SUBJECT TO THE INFLUENCE OF SUCH A TREND, THINK, "THE CURRENT HIGHER-DOLLAR TREND IS EXCESSIVE," BUT "THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION IS LOOKING TO WALL STREET INSTEAD OF DETROIT" (TOSHIAKI KAKIMOTO, SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR OF JAPAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE). IT SEEMS THAT THERE WILL OCCUR NO CHANGE IN THE CURRENT TREND UNTIL THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IS OVER.

AS TO THE OUTLOOK FOR THE FUTURE, THE VIEW IS SPREADING THAT "THE BENTSEN CEILING" OF 113.60 YEN -- A LEVEL INDICATED IN A STATEMENT BY BENTSEN, THE THEN U.S. TREASURY SECRETARY BENTSEN, IN JANUARY 1994, "WOULD BE THE TARGET" (SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR KAKIMOTO). THE MARKET IS STILL REGARDING THAT THERE IS THE POSSIBILITY THAT FURTHER APPRECIATION OF THE YEN THAN THIS LEVEL WOULD CAUSE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO CHANGE ITS STANCE.

THE ARGUMENT HAS BEEN MADE THAT EXCESSIVE PROGRESS IN THE CURRENT LOWER-YEN TREND WOULD WORK AS A NEGATIVE FACTOR FOR JAPANESE FIRMS IN LIGHT OF THEIR EXTENSIVE ADVANCE ABROAD AND PROGRESS IN OFFSHORE PROCUREMENT, BUT THE GENERAL VIEW IS: "THE LOWER-YEN TREND AT THE PRESENT LEVEL WILL NOT GREATLY AFFECT CORPORATE PROFITS AND EARNINGS" (SHOKICHI TAKUMORO, CHIEF ECONOMIST AT THE SAKURA SECURITIES). ACCORDING TO THE SAME SOURCE, ITS IMPACT ON THE PRICES OF IMPORTED GOODS "WOULD BE FELT UNCLAS SECTION 07 OF 07 TOKYO 009924

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; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPACFLT/PA; COMUSJ/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 25

ONLY BY LIMITED AREAS, SUCH AS ELECTRICITY RATES,
CONSIDERING THE FACT THAT THE DOWNWARD TREND OF WHOLESALE
PRICES IS CONTINUING."

THE PREVAILING TREND AMONG ECONOMISTS IS THAT THE YEN
WILL FALL TO 109 TO 115 YEN, BUT IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO
RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF PROGRESS IN DOLLAR-BUYING DUE
TO RUSSIAN PRESIDENT'S ILL HEALTH OR IN ANTICIPATION OF
AN EMERGENCY CASE THAT COULD BE CAUSED BY MISSILE TESTING
BY THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE OF REPUBLIC OF KOREA (NORTH
KOREA) OR OF DOLLAR-SELLING DUE TO A DROP IN THE U.S.
STOCK MARKET. (TAKEO IWASAWA)

(PREDICTION FOR YEN EXCHANGE BY ECONOMISTS IN PRIVATE-
SECTOR)

TOSHIAKI KAKIMOTO:
(SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR OF NIPPON RESEARCH INSTITUTE)

PREDICTION SCOPE BEFORE END OF YEAR - 110 - 114 YEN.
MOVES IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE - HIGHER YEN AND LOWER DOLLAR
AFTER THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.
FACTORS FOR DISTURBANCES - INTERNATIONAL SITUATION,
INCLUDING RUSSIA AND NORTH KOREA.

TETSURO SUGIURA:
(MANAGER OF THE FUJI RESEARCH INSTITUTE ECONOMIC RESEARCH
DEPARTMENT)

PREDICTION SCOPE BEFORE END OF YEAR -110 - 115 YEN.MOVES
IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE - FURTHER DEPRECIATION OF THE YEN AND
APPRECIATION OF THE DOLLAR.

FACTORS FOR DISTURBANCES - MIDDLE-EAST PROBLEMS, ETC.

TATSUO OGAWA:
(DEPUTY MANAGER OF THE LONG-TERM CREDIT BANK OF JAPAN
MARKETING DEPARTMENT)

PREDICTION SCOPE BEFORE END OF YEAR - 113 - 115 YEN.
MOVES IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE - PRESENT LOWER-YEN AND HIGHER-
DOLLAR TREND WILL CONTINUE.
FACTORS FOR DISTURBANCES - NOTHING.

SHOKICHI TAKUMORI:
(CHIEF ECONOMIST OF SAKURA SECURITIES)

PREDICTION SCOPE BEFORE END OF YEAR - 109 - 114 YEN.
MOVES IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE - STAY WITHIN THE BOX ZONE.
FACTORS FOR DISTURBANCES - INTERTIONAL SITUATION,
INCLUDING RUSSIA AND NORTH KOERA.

KOCHI KUBO:
(DEPUTY MANAGER OF THE DAI-ICHI KANGYO BANK INTERNATIONAL
CAPITAL AND EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT)

PREDICTION SCOPE BEFORE END OF YEAR 111 - 115 YEN.

MOVES IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE - WITHIN THE BOX ZONE.

FACTORS FOR DISTURBANCES - DEVELOPMENTS IN THE U.S.
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. CRANE

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