

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. cable	Re: Options Being Considered (7 pages)	11/28/1997	P1/b(1)
002. cable	Re: Okinawa Reversion Ceremony (4 pages)	11/28/1997	P1/b(1)
003. cable	Re: Washington Visit (4 pages)	11/28/1997	P1/b(1)
004. cable	Re: National Update (Executive Edition) (9 pages)	11/29/1997	P1/b(1)
005. cable	Re: Japan Defense Agency (3 pages)	12/01/1997	P1/b(1)
006. cable	Re: Senator's Meeting (3 pages)	12/01/1997	P1/b(1)
007. cable	Re: Vice Governor (4 pages)	12/02/1997	P1/b(1)
008. cable	Re: Support Cable for East Asia Brief (8 pages)	12/03/1997	P1/b(1)
009. cable	Re: November 10 Meeting (9 pages)	12/04/1997	P1/b(1)
010. cable	Re: Senator's Meeting in Tokyo (4 pages)	12/04/1997	P1/b(1)
011. cable	Re: Japan-U.S. / Relations (13 pages)	12/05/1997	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Futenma])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:

[11/28/1997 - 12/05/1997]

2016-0420-F

sb1916

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]
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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 A0337 3350404-UUUU--RHEHAAA.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: O 010404Z DEC 97
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
OSRI: RUEHKO
DTG: 010404Z DEC 97
ORIG: AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3782
RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7833
INFO: RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RHHMHAH/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N5//
RUALSFJ/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA//J5/JO21//
RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RUEAWJA/USDOJ WASHDC
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RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//USIA//
RUEBBEA/USDOT WASHDC
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC
SUBJ: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 1

TOP HEADLINES:

TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 08 TOKYO 010337

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU
CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER
IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC
FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 1

TOP HEADLINES:

ASAHI: KYOTO CONFERENCE TO OPEN TODAY: SUBSTITUTE FREON
GAS ALSO INCLUDED IN OBJECTS SUBJECT TO EMISSION CUTS;
TYPES OF GREENHOUSE GASES EXPANDED TO A TOTAL OF SIX;
SUPPORTED BY MOST OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES; JAPAN IN
EVEN MORE DIRE STRAITS IN ATTAINING TARGETS

NIHON KEIZAI: U.S. EDS WILL HIRE ALL OF 600 EMPLOYEES NOW WORKING AT YAMAICHI-SECURITIES-AFFILIATED FIRM -- YAMAICHI INFORMATION; ASSETS NOT COVERED

TOKYO SHIMBUN: KYOTO COP3 CONFERENCE WILL START TODAY FOR PREVENTION OF GLOBAL WARMING; TO ASK FOR "GLOBAL CITIZENS'" WILL; HOST COUNTRY JAPAN FORCED TO STEER THE CONFERENCE UNDER DIFFICULT SITUATION TO CUT EMISSIONS

MAINICHI: JAPAN AND NORTH KOREA (PART 1) -- PEOPLE, GOODS AND MONEY; FINANCE MINISTRY PRESSES FOR INVESTIGATIONS ABOUT HOW MONEY WAS SPENT; OUT OF CONCERN OF "SUSPECTED REMITTANCES" BY KOREA OSAKA CREDIT UNION; TOWARD OSAKA PREFECTURE BEFORE ITS BANKRUPTCY IS ANNOUNCED

YOMIURI: KYOTO COP3 CONFERENCE WILL START TODAY; GLOBAL PREVENTION TO BE DISCUSSED BY COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD; 9,000 WILL JOIN FROM 160 COUNTRIES AND REGIONS

SANKEI: KYOTO COP3 CONFERENCE FOR PREVENTION OF GLOBAL WARMING; SIX TYPES OF GASES SUBJECTS TO EMISSION CONTROL; POLICY DIRECTION FOR FINAL PREPARATORY MEETING FIRMED UP; TO ADOPT A NET FORMULA

PRIME MINISTER HASHIMOTO TO ANNOUNCE TODAY INFUSION OF PUBLIC FUNDS TO PROTECT DEPOSITORS (YOMIURI - PAGE 2)

PRIME MINISTER RYUTARO HASHIMOTO HAS MADE HIS MIND TO INJECT PUBLIC FUNDS AS A STEP TO STABILIZE THE NATION'S FINANCIAL SYSTEM IN ORDER TO ENHANCE PROTECTION OF DEPOSITORS. HE WILL ANNOUNCE THIS POLICY DECISION DURING INTENSIVE DELIBERATIONS ON BANKING AND SECURITIES ISSUES OF THE LOWER HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEE TO BE HELD THIS MORNING. THIS WAS REVEALED YESTERDAY BY GOVERNMENT AND LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP) OFFICIALS. HASHIMOTO IS EXPECTED TO REFER ALSO TO THE GOVERNMENT'S WILLINGNESS TO GUARANTEE THE PROCUREMENT OF FUNDS FOR THE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION AND TO SECURE THE PAYMENT OF THEM WITH FISCAL FUNDS. WITH THIS, THE LDP'S PANEL ON COUNTERMEASURES FOR STABILIZING THE FINANCIAL SYSTEM (HEADED BY FORMER PRIME MINISTER KIICHI MIYAZAWA) WILL START TODAY WORK ON MAPPING OUT MEASURES, HOPING TO FINALIZE THEM BY THE 10TH. RESPONSIBLE POLICYMAKERS OF THE THREE RULING PARTIES ARE ALSO SET TO COORDINATE VIEWS.

THE PRIME MINISTER WILL REVEAL THE POLICY DIRECTION OF INTRODUCING PUBLIC FUNDS IN THE COURSE OF REPLYING TO MIYAZAWA AT THE LOWER HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING TODAY.

IN THIS CONNECTION, LDP SECRETARY GENERAL KATO ON A FUJI TV PROGRAM YESTERDAY REMARKED: "THE THREE RULING PARTIES HAVE ARTICULATED THAT PUBLIC FUNDS WILL BE USED." SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL ITO AND SAKIGAKE SECRETARY GENERAL SONODA, BOTH OF WHOM ALSO APPEARED IN THE SAME PROGRAM, ASSURED THE POLICY DIRECTION, INDICATING SIMILAR VIEWS.

AS SPECIFIC MEASURES, MIYAZAWA IN A NHK PROGRAM YESTERDAY SUGGESTED THE NEED TO SET MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN THE FINANCIAL BASE OF THE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION AS THE CENTERPIECE OF COUNTERMEASURES. HE STATED: "NO OBJECTION HAS BEEN RAISED (FROM THE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF THE PARTIES) TO THE IDEA OF REINFORCING THE DEPOSIT UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 08 TOKYO 010337

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 1

INSURANCE CORPORATION. IF IT REGISTERS LOSSES, THE GOVERNMENT WILL BEAR THE RESPONSIBILITY."

JAPAN READIES THREE-PART PROPOSAL FOR KYOTO CONFERENCE ON GLOBAL WARMING THAT STARTS TODAY (NIHON KEIZAI - PAGE 1)

THE GLOBAL WARMING PREVENTION KYOTO CONFERENCE OPENS TODAY. IN SETTING TARGETS FOR REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS, THE GOVERNMENT WILL PROPOSE A METHOD OF SETTING A "THREE-TRACK" REDUCTION TARGET -- THE EUROPEAN UNION (EU), OTHER INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES AND SOME DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. FOR INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES OTHER THAN THE EU, COORDINATION WILL BE MADE, AIMING AT SETTING A 2.5 PERCENT REDUCTION TARGET. FROM THE EU, WHICH IS POSITIVE TOWARD REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS, THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO SEEK A MORE THAN 7.5 PERCENT REDUCTION RATES -- HIGHER THAN 5 PERCENT AS (JAPAN HAS SUGGESTED). AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, IT WILL HAVE MEDIUM-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES VOLUNTARILY SET TARGETS FOR IMPROVING ENERGY EFFICIENCY. ANTICIPATING THAT IF A METHOD OF SETTING A COMMON TARGET IS ADOPTED, NEGOTIATIONS ARE LIKELY TO FACE DIFFICULTIES, THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO SET TARGETS WHICH EACH COUNTRY WOULD FIND IT EASY TO ACCEPT AND LEAD THE EFFORT TO A REDUCTION IN GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IN THE ENTIRE WORLD.

THE KYOTO CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD FOR TEN DAYS, BRINGING TOGETHER REPRESENTATIVES OF OVER 150 COUNTRIES AND AREAS. HIGH ON THE AGENDA ARE SETTING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION TARGETS ON INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES FOR THE YEAR 2000 AND BEYOND AND STRENGTHENING GLOBAL WARMING COUNTERMEASURES BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. A SPECIAL PRIOR MEETING WAS HELD YESTERDAY TO DECIDE TO MAKE SIX KINDS OF GAS, SUCH AS CARBON DIOXIDE (CO2), METHANE, DINITROGEN MONOXIDE, ETC., ADDING FREON GAS SUBSTITUTES, SUBJECT TO

A REDUCTION. THE WORK TO DRAFT A PROTOCOL HAS STARTED.

FOR A REDUCTION TARGET IMPOSED ON INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, JAPAN HAS ADOPTED A BASIC POLICY LINE OF FACILITATING COORDINATION ON THE BASIS OF A UNANIMOUS 2.5 PERCENT REDUCTION, DEPENDING ON THE OUTCOME OF NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT STICKING TO A "DIFFERENTIATION PLAN," UNDER WHICH DIFFERENT TARGETS ARE IMPOSED ON EACH COUNTRY, DEPENDING ON ITS CIRCUMSTANCE. UNDER THE NEW PROPOSAL, INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES WILL BE GROUPED INTO TWO -- COUNTRIES OTHER THAN EU MEMBER NATIONS, SUCH AS JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES, AND THE EU. AS A TARGET FOR COUNTRIES OTHER THAN EU MEMBER NATIONS, 2.5 PERCENT WILL BE SET, AND FOR THE EU, A TARGET OF MORE THAN 7.5 PERCENT WILL BE SET, BY ADDING UP AT LEAST 5 PERCENT TO THAT FIGURE.

AS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, CHINA AND INDIA, WHICH EMIT A LARGE AMOUNT OF GREENHOUSE GASES, AND THE ROK, WHOSE ECONOMIC CLOUT IS NOW ON PAR WITH THAT OF INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, WILL BE REGARDED AS ONE GROUP. A TARGET TO BE IMPOSED ON THOSE COUNTRIES WOULD NOT BE A REDUCTION RATE OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BUT THE SETTING OF A CRITERIA OF PROMOTING ENERGY EFFICIENCY SO THAT THEIR EFFORTS WILL INDIRECTLY LEAD TO A REDUCTION OF SUCH GAS EMISSIONS.

THE EU IS CALLING FOR A "JOINT ACHIEVEMENT FORMULA," UNDER WHICH ITS MEMBER NATIONS JOINTLY TACKLE A 15-PERCENT REDUCTION. THIS FORMULA ALLOWS LATITUDE FOR FIGURES SET ON ITS MEMBER COUNTRIES. IT APPEARS THAT THE EU WILL ACCEPT THE FIGURE OF OVER 7.5 PERCENT, EVEN THOUGH IT IS HIGHER THAN THAT TO BE SET ON JAPAN AND THE U.S., IF THIS JOINT ACHIEVEMENT FORMULA IS ALLOWED.

EFFORTS BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WILL BE ASKED IN THE FORM OF NOT A SET REDUCTION TARGET BUT "IMPROVEMENT OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY." THE MEASURE IS IN RESPONSE TO THEIR STRONG RESISTANCE TO A MANDATORY EMISSION REDUCTION.

UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 08 TOKYO 010337

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E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 1

VICE FOREIGN MINISTER IN SEOUL SEEKING COMPROMISE IN STALLED FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS (YOMIURI - PAGE 3)

(SEOUL, NOVEMBER 30, CHIHARU MORI) ARRIVING IN SEOUL YESTERDAY, PARLIAMENTARY VICE FOREIGN MINISTER MASAHIKO KOMURA HELD TALKS WITH SOUTH KOREAN VICE FOREIGN MINISTER LEE KI CHU. THE TWO VICE MINISTERS APPARENTLY DISCUSSED THE DISPUTED POINTS IN THE ONGOING BILATERAL FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS IN A BID TO CONCLUDE A NEW TREATY.

VICE MINISTER KOMURA IS EXPECTED TO MEET THIS MORNING AT CHONG WA TAE SEPARATELY WITH PON KI MUN, CHIEF SECRETARY IN CHARGE OF FOREIGN AND SECURITY AFFAIRS, AS WELL AS FOREIGN MINISTER YU CHONG HA, AIMING AT BRINGING ON A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT ON THE ONGOING BILATERAL FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS. THE MAIN ISSUES AT THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE WHERE TO SET A PROVISIONAL WATER AREA AROUND THE TAKESHIMA ISLANDS (CALLED TOKUTO IN SOUTH KOREAN), THE HEGEMONY OF WHICH HAS BEEN CLAIMED BY BOTH JAPAN AND SOUTH KOREA, AS WELL AS HOW TO CHARACTERIZED THE WATER AREA.

AT THE JAPAN-ROK SUMMIT MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 24 IN VANCOUVER, CANADA, PRIME MINISTER HASHIMOTO ASKED PRESIDENT KIM YOUNG SAM THAT THE TWO COUNTRIES REACH A SUBSTANTIVE AGREEMENT WITHIN NOVEMBER. PRESIDENT KIM ANSWERED HIS REQUEST IN A FORWARD LOOKING MANNER. AS IT STANDS, THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO OBTAIN A PROSPECT FOR AN AGREEMENT THROUGH A SERIES OF TALKS BETWEEN VICE MINISTER KOMURA AND SOUTH KOREAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

SECOND GROUP OF JAPANESE WIVES IN NORTH KOREA TO VISIT JAPAN IN MID-JANUARY (SANKEI - PAGE 1)

IT WAS LEARNED AS OF THE 30TH THAT BOTH JAPAN AND NORTH KOREA WERE MAKING PREPARATIONS TO REALIZE BY MID-JANUARY BRIEF VISITS TO JAPAN BY A SECOND CONTINGENT OF JAPANESE WIVES (OR SPOUSES) WHO ARE LIVING IN NORTH KOREA. FOR THAT PURPOSE, THE RED CROSS SOCIETIES (OF BOTH COUNTRIES) AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS OF JAPAN AND NORTH KOREA WILL HOLD A LIAISON MEETING IN MID-DECEMBER.

ACCORDING TO A GOVERNMENT SOURCE, NORTH KOREANS HAVE CONVEYED THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS AND OTHER MEANS THEIR PLAN TO BRING ABOUT HOME VISITS BY A SECOND GROUP WITHIN THE YEAR (SIC). THE FIRST GROUP WHO BRIEFLY VISITED JAPAN NUMBERED 15 PERSONS, BUT REPORTEDLY, "THE NORTH KOREAN SIDE HAS SUGGESTED INCREASING THE NUMBER OF A SECOND GROUP OR THOSE FOLLOWING IT" (GOVERNMENT SOURCE).

ADDITIONALLY, REGARDING THOSE WHO ARE SUBJECT TO HOMECOMING PROGRAMS, AN INFORMED SOURCE ON JAPAN-NORTH KOREA RELATIONS SAYS NORTH KOREANS HAVE INFORMALLY TRANSMITTED TO THE JAPANESE SIDE THAT "IT IS POSSIBLE TO INCLUDE JAPANESE HUSBANDS AND CHILDREN OF JAPANESE WIVES IF THE JAPANESE SIDE SUGGESTS THEIR INCLUSION."

THE JAPANESE SIDE HAS RESPONDED THAT IT WISHES TO HOLD A LIAISON MEETING IN MID-DECEMBER IN ORDER TO DISCUSS WHAT

SHOULD BE IMPROVED IN IMPLEMENTING HOMECOMINGS AND OTHER MATTERS, AND THEN TO DETERMINE THE TIMETABLE FOR THE HOME VISITS. IT ALSO INTENDS TO TELL THE NORTH KOREAN SIDE IT IS THINKING OF DRAWING UP AN ANNUAL PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTING PERIODIC BRIEF VISITS TO JAPAN.

AFTER THE FIRST HOMECOMINGS THAT WERE CARRIED OUT FROM NOVEMBER 8, RELEVANT MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES EXCHANGED VIEWS ON HOW SUCH VISITS WERE CARRIED OUT AND OTHER MATTERS. SOON THEY WILL LIST MATTERS THAT SHOULD BE IMPROVED AND LAUNCH COORDINATION WITH THE NORTH KOREAN UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 08 TOKYO 010337

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 1

SIDE AT A LIAISON CONFERENCE.

THE FIRST GROUP WHO RECENTLY VISITED THEIR HOME TOWNS IN JAPAN INCLUDED JAPANESE WHO HAD GONE TO THE KOREAN PENINSULA BEFORE WORLD WAR II AND HAVE REMAINED THERE, BUT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MOFA) HAS INSISTED THAT "THOSE WHO WILL MAKE HOME VISITS SHOULD BE LIMITED TO JAPANESE WIVES (SPOUSES)," WHILE THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND WELFARE AND THE JAPAN RED CROSS SOCIETY HAVE ASSERTED, "JAPANESE WHO HAVE STAYED BEHIND SHOULD ALSO BE ALLOWED TO MAKE HOME VISITS." THERE ARE THUS SOME POINTS TO BE COORDINATED IN JAPAN.

ON THE OTHER HAND, ON THE PROBLEM OF ALLEGED ABDUCTIONS OF JAPANESE, THE JAPANESE SIDE SAYS THAT AT THE UPCOMING LIAISON CONFERENCE, "WE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS WITH THE NORTH KOREANS THE INVESTIGATION REGARDING THE SAFETY OF THE MISSING" (MOFA SOURCE), NOW THAT JAPAN'S RULING PARTIES-LED DELEGATION TO THE NORTH HAD THE NORTH'S KOREAN WORKERS PARTY PROMISED "TO INVESTIGATE THEM AS AMONG THE GENERAL MISSING."

GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN PAYING DOUBLE SALARIES TO OFFICIALS POSTED TO UN, VIOLATING UN RULES (ASAHI - PAGE 3)

IT WAS DISCOVERED AROUND THE 30TH THAT THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN PAYING SALARIES TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS SENT ON A LOAN BASIS BY THE GOVERNMENT TO THE UNITED NATIONS. THIS MEANS SUCH OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN RECEIVING DOUBLE SALARIES -- ONE FROM THE GOVERNMENT AND THE OTHER FROM THE UN. THIS PRACTICE IS IN ACCORDANCE

WITH THE DOMESTIC LAW BUT IS A BREACH OF A UN PROVISION THAT PROHIBITS UN STAFF FROM RECEIVING SALARIES FROM ANY NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS. THIS MATTER IS LIKELY TO GIVE RISE TO A LIVELY DEBATE AMID ONGOING ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

ACCORDING TO THE UN CHARTER, "ALL UN STAFF SHOULD TAKE ON THE RESPONSIBILITY ONLY FOR THIS ORGANIZATION (UN)," AND UN STAFF RULES BAN WORKERS FROM RECEIVING SALARIES FROM ANY OTHER ORGANIZATION THAN THE UN IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE ORGANIZATION'S INDEPENDENCE. ACCORDINGLY THIS PRACTICE OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT IS IN VIOLATION OF UN REGULATIONS.

GOVERNMENT FEARS NAGO CITY REFERENDUM WILL TURN DOWN HELIPORT PLAN (YOMIURI - PAGE 5)

THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN BECOMING INCREASINGLY APPREHENSIVE, WITH THE APPROACH OF THE DECEMBER 21 NAGO CITY REFERENDUM ON THE HELIPORT CONSTRUCTION PROJECT TO REPLACE THE ONE AT THE U.S. MARINES FUTENMA AIR STATION. IF ANTI-HELIPORT VOTES OUTNUMBER PRO-CONSTRUCTION VOTES BY A LARGE MARGIN, NAGO CITY WILL MOSTLY LIKELY TO REJECT THE PROJECT AND AS A RESULT, THE GOVERNMENT MAY HAVE TO ABANDON THE FUTENMA RELOCATION PLAN ITSELF. SUCH A CASE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE A SERIOUS IMPACT ON THE FOUNDATION OF THE JAPAN-U.S. SECURITY ARRANGEMENT.

IN A BID TO WARD OFF SUCH A SCENARIO, THE GOVERNMENT WILL PRESENT ON THE 6TH A PACKAGE TO REVITALIZE THE NORTHERN PART OF OKINAWA.

IN LATE NOVEMBER, THE GOVERNMENT CONDUCTED A TELEPHONE SURVEY WITH ABOUT 500 NAGO CITY VOTERS TO FIND OUT THEIR OPINIONS ABOUT THE HELIPORT PROJECT. THE RESULT SHOWED THAT MORE THAN 20 PERCENT OF THE PEOPLE RESPONDED POSITIVELY, SOME CONDITIONALLY, TO THE PROJECT, WHEREAS NEARLY 60 PERCENT OPPOSED THE PROJECT. THE GOVERNMENT HAS REPEATEDLY SUGGESTED, "THE OKINAWA REVITALIZATION PACKAGE AND THE HELIPORT PROJECT ARE TWO DIFFERENT MATTERS." BUT COMING TO THIS STAGE, THE GOVERNMENT DESPERATELY WANTS TO OBTAIN LOCAL APPROVAL EVEN BY CLEARLY LINKING UP THE TWO ELEMENTS.
UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 08 TOKYO 010337

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 1

GOVERNMENTQS FRANTIC TO SWAY NAGO ON HELIPORT REFERENDUM;
ECONOMIC PLAN AS TRADE OFF (ASAHI - PAGE 2)

THE GOVERNMENT IS FRANTICALLY TRYING TO ACCUMULATE "APPROVAL VOTES" IN THE CITIZENS REFERENDUM TO BE CARRIED OUT IN NAGO CITY REGARDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SEA-BASED HELIPORT THERE TO REPLACE THE ONE AT FUTENMA AIR STATION. THIS IS BECAUSE "THE ONLY WAY FOR THE ROAD TO BE OPENED (TO CONSTRUCT THE FACILITY) IS BY A VICTORY (FOR US) IN THE CITIZENS REFERENDUM" (SENIOR DEFENSE AGENCY OFFICIAL). THE GOVERNMENT THIS WEEKEND WILL TRANSMIT TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES A PROMOTIONAL PACKAGE (TO DEVELOP) THE NORTHERN AREA OF THE MAIN ISLAND OF OKINAWA, BUT SUCH VIEWS HAVE EMERGED AS TO USE THE PACKAGE AS COLLATERAL FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE HELIPORT, SO THE STANCE UP UNTIL NOW OF "WATCHING THE REFERENDUM INTENSELY" IS BEING FORCED OUT.

-- CRUSHING FORMALITIES

THE CITIZENS REFERENDUM WILL BE PUBLIC ANNOUNCED ON THE 10TH, AND THE VOTE WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE 21ST. A TRAGIC MOOD HAS SET IN AMONG RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, WITH ONE REMARKING, "WE ARE IN A RELATIVELY TIGHT FIX; THE OUTLOOK IS NOT GOOD." THIS IS BECAUSE IN A TELEPHONE POLL TAKEN ON NOVEMBER 22, THE DAY AFTER THE CEREMONY OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF OKINAWA REVERSION, THE OVERWHELMING NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS WERE AGAINST THE HELIPORT PLAN. PRIME MINISTER RYUTARO HASHIMOTO IN HIS SPEECH AT THE CEREMONY FLOATED HIS PLAN TO DRAFT AN ECONOMIC PLAN FOR OKINAWA IN THE 21ST CENTURY BY NEXT SPRING, HOPING TO JUMP ON THE RISING TIDE MOOD, BUT INSTEAD IT WAS LIKE POURING ICE WATER ON EVERYTHING.

REGARDING THE PROMOTIONAL PACKAGE FOR THE NORTHERN AREA, CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY KANEZO MURAOKA PLANS TO VISIT OKINAWA ON THE 6TH TO EXPLAIN THE DETAILS. IT WILL INCLUDE BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE LIKE DOWNTOWN RE-DEVELOPMENT OF NAGO CITY AND HARBOR IMPROVEMENT. BUT ON THE 27TH AT A MEETING TO ARRANGE THAT, THE CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY WAS SURROUNDED BY THOSE EXPRESSING THE VIEW THAT "WE SHOULD NOT JUST SIMPLY LAY OUT THE PROMOTIONAL PACKAGE; WE SHOULD MAKE IT CONDITIONAL TO THEIR ACCEPTING THE HELIPORT; WE SHOULD CLEARLY WRITE THAT OUT."

THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN TAKING THE FORMAL POSITION THAT THE PROMOTIONAL PACKAGE AND THE BASE PROBLEM ARE TWO SEPARATE ISSUES. IF IT DECLARES THAT THE PROMOTIONAL PLAN WOULD BE COLLATERAL FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE HELIPORT, IT CAN PROBABLY ROLL OVER THOSE IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY WHO ARE PROMOTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, BUT AT THE SAME TIME THERE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY "EMERGE CRITICISM THAT WE ARE ASKING THEM TO SELL THEIR SOULS FOR MONEY" (RANKING DEFENSE OFFICIAL), SO THE RESPONSE MAY BE DIFFICULT.

IDEA FLOATED OF MOVING HELIPORT SITE TO IE-JIMA ISLAND

(NIHON KEIZAI - PAGE 2)

CONCERNING THE ISSUE OF CONSTRUCTING AN ALTERNATIVE HELIPORT INCIDENT TO THE PLANNED RELOCATION OF THE U.S. FORCES' FUTENMA AIR STATION IN OKINAWA, A NEW PLAN HAS NOW COME UP IN THE GOVERNMENT FOR RELOCATING THE AIRFIELD'S FUNCTIONS TO IE-JIMA, AN ISLAND OFF THE NORTHWEST COAST OF THE MAIN ISLAND OF OKINAWA. NAGO CITY, CURRENTLY ON THE LIST AS THE CANDIDATE SITE OF CONSTRUCTION, IS GOING TO CARRY OUT A REFERENDUM OF ITS RESIDENTS ON DECEMBER 21 ON THE PROPRIETY OF THE PLANNED CONSTRUCTION OF A HELIPORT. THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW LOOKING INTO ITS FEASIBILITY WHILE PREPARING TO SEE THE CASE WHERE THE AIRFIELD'S FUNCTIONS CAN HARDLY BE RELOCATED TO THE CITY OF NAGO.

UNCLAS SECTION 06 OF 08 TOKYO 010337

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 1

IE-JIMA IS SITUATED ABOUT FIVE KILOMETERS WEST OF THE NORTHERN PART OF THE MAIN ISLAND OF OKINAWA, AND THE U.S. MARINES HAVE AN AUXILIARY AIRFIELD ON THAT ISLAND AS A TRAINING-PURPOSE FACILITY. IN THE PROCESS OF SELECTING A CANDIDATE SITE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ALTERNATIVE HELIPORT, THE GOVERNMENT ONCE PRESENTED A PLAN TO THE U.S. MILITARY FOR TRANSFERRING SOME OF THE FUTENMA BASE'S FUNCTIONS TO THE IE-JIMA SUBAIRFIELD. PARTLY BECAUSE OF SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE PAST, THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO ADD IE-JIMA TO ITS LIST OF CANDIDATE SITES FOR HELIPORT RELOCATION.

IN THE CASE OF RELOCATION TO IE-JIMA, HOWEVER, THERE IS CONCERN ABOUT ITS BEING OVERBURDENED, BECAUSE THE JAPAN-U.S. SPECIAL ACTION COMMITTEE (ON FACILITIES AND AREAS IN OKINAWA) (SACO) DECIDED IN DECEMBER OF LAST YEAR IN ITS FINAL REPORT TO TRANSFER THE YOMITAN SUBAIRFIELD'S PARACHUTE TRAINING TO THE IE-JIMA SUBAIRFIELD. SINCE THERE IS NO CHANGE IN THE PLANNED RELOCATION OF FUTENMA'S FUNCTIONS TO SOMEWHERE IN THE SAME PREFECTURE, GOVERNOR MASAHIDE OTA MAY REMAIN NEGATIVE ABOUT COORDINATION WITH THE LOCALE.

AS FOR WHY THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW LOOKING INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF HELIPORT RELOCATION TO IE-JIMA, THAT IS BECAUSE THE SITUATION OVER NAGO'S REFERENDUM IS "VERY

DIFFICULT" (ACCORDING TO CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY KANEZO MURAOKA). IF THE CITY'S RESIDENTS SHOW THEIR OPINION AGAINST THE PLANNED CONSTRUCTION OF A HELIPORT IN THEIR PLACE, THE FUTENMA AIRFIELD'S REVERSION -- THE CENTERPIECE OF SACO'S AGREEMENT -- MAY BE UP IN THE AIR.

THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW PROBING INTO THE FEASIBILITY OF HELIPORT FUNCTIONAL TRANSFERAL TO IE-JIMA ISLAND. ON THE OTHER HAND, HOWEVER, THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO CONTINUE SEEKING THE NAGO CITIZENS' UNDERSTANDING. A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL SAYS THAT EVEN IF THE SCHEDULED REFERENDUM OF NAGO CITY TURNS OUT WITH A MAJORITY OF VOTES AGAINST THE HELIPORT CONSTRUCTION PLAN, THE GOVERNMENT STILL CAN EXPECT THE NAGO MAYOR'S POLITICAL JUDGMENT IF THE MARGIN IS NARROW. ON DECEMBER 6, CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY MURAOKA WILL VISIT THE CITY OF NAGO TO SHOW THE GOVERNMENT'S PROMOTIONAL PACKAGE FOR THE NORTHERN AREA OF OKINAWA, INCORPORATING SUCH MEASURES AS TO IMPROVE THE CITY'S PORT-HARBOR FACILITIES. THE GOVERNMENT IS GOING TO DEVOTE ALL ITS ENERGIES TO COPE WITH THE RESIDENTIAL VOTING.

NEW GUIDELINES POSIT 120,000 CASUALTIES IN KOREA CONFLICT; JAPAN TO TREAT 1,000 U.S. TROOPS
(TOKYO SHIMBUN - PAGE 2)

IT BECAME KNOWN ON NOVEMBER 30 THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS TOLD THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT THAT IT WAS ANTICIPATING A TOTAL OF ABOUT 120,000 CASUALTIES INVOLVING U.S. AND SOUTH KOREAN MILITARY PERSONNEL AND OTHERS AT AN EARLY STAGE OF THE WAR POSSIBLY BREAKING OUT IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA, AND THAT THE U.S., BASED ON THAT ANTICIPATION, HAS CALLED FOR JAPAN TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR ABOUT 1,000 SERIOUSLY WOUNDED AMERICAN SOLDIERS TO UNDERGO OPERATIONS OR RECEIVE MEDICAL TREATMENT AT JAPANESE HOSPITALS AS JAPAN'S MEDICAL SUPPORT UNDER A NEWLY ADOPTED SET OF JAPAN-U.S. DEFENSE COOPERATION GUIDELINES.

ACCORDING TO MILITARY SPECIALISTS WITH THE U.S. FORCES JAPAN AND THE JAPAN DEFENSE AGENCY, 120,000 CASUALTIES ARE ANTICIPATED TO OCCUR IN A PERIOD OF ABOUT ONE MONTH AT AN EARLY STAGE OF THE WAR IN CASE A BATTLE STARTS BETWEEN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA (NORTH KOREA) AND THOSE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE U.S., AND THE FIGURE IS A TOP SECRET OF UNCLAS SECTION 07 OF 08 TOKYO 010337

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 1

THE U.S. FORCES. THEY SAY THE FIGURE INCLUDES ROK CIVILIANS AS WELL. BUT IT IS HARD TO CALCULATE THE NUMBER OF CIVILIAN VICTIMS, SO IT APPARENTLY INDICATES THE NUMBER OF CASUALTIES GENERALLY IN U.S. AND ROK ARMED FORCES.

ACCORDING TO THE CABINET SECURITY AFFAIRS OFFICE, FOREIGN MINISTRY, AND JDA, JAPAN WILL RECEIVE (WOUNDED) U.S. SERVICEMEN FOR THEIR MEDICAL TREATMENT AT A TOTAL OF 17 DOMESTIC HOSPITALS, BROKEN DOWN INTO 16 SELF-DEFENSE FORCE HOSPITALS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY AND THE NATIONAL DEFENSE MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL (LOCATED IN TOKOROZAWA CITY, SAITAMA PREFECTURE). IF THOSE HOSPITALS ARE NOT ENOUGH FOR ALL OF THE WOUNDED, THE GOVERNMENT WILL THEN CONSIDER USING PUBLIC HOSPITALS AS WELL, INCLUDING NATIONAL HOSPITALS AND JAPAN RED CROSS HOSPITALS.

FURTHERMORE, THE GOVERNMENT TAKES IT THAT IT WILL BE RATHER EASY TO PROVIDE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS, WHICH ARE UNDER THE EDUCATION MINISTRY'S JURISDICTION, AND VARIOUS LOCAL SELF-GOVERNING BODIES' PUBLIC HOSPITALS.

IN RESPONSE TO THE U.S. SIDE'S REQUEST, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, HEALTH AND WELFARE MINISTRY, EDUCATION MINISTRY, HOME AFFAIRS MINISTRY AND OTHER RELEVANT GOVERNMENT OFFICES -- CENTERING ON THE CSAO AND JDA -- HAVE NOW BEGUN THEIR STUDIES ON SUCH MATTERS AS HOW FAR IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE FACILITIES. HOWEVER, ONE OF THEIR OFFICIALS IN CHARGE HAS SHOWN A NEGATIVE VIEW ABOUT LEGAL CONSOLIDATION, SAYING: "WE CAN'T LEGALLY GUARANTEE GIVING PRIORITY TO U.S. SERVICEMEN."

REFERRING ALSO TO THE CASE OF PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES' HOSPITALS AND PRIVATE HOSPITALS, THE OFFICIAL SAYS THAT THE DOMINANT VIEW IN THE GOVERNMENT IS THAT "IT WILL BE LEGALLY DIFFICULT TO PROVIDE" THOSE HOSPITALS.

GOVERNMENT TO GO TO CIVILIAN STANDARDS TO REDUCE MILITARY PROCUREMENT COSTS (SANKEI - PAGE 2)

THE JAPAN DEFENSE AGENCY (JDA) HAS REACHED A POLICY DIRECTION TO SWITCH TO PRODUCTS WIDELY AVAILABLE ON THE MARKET AS WELL AS TO ADOPT INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS, SUCH AS ISO (INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION) SERIES 9000, ORDER TO PARE DOWN DEFENSE COSTS RELATED TO SHIP, AIRCRAFT AND OTHER EQUIPMENT IN LINE WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S FISCAL REFORM PROGRAM.

FROM FY1998 THROUGH 2000, THE JDA IS REQUIRED TO CONSTRAIN BELOW FY1997'S LEVEL, THAT IS 4.9414 TRILLION YEN, ACCORDING TO THE FISCAL REFORM PLAN. SLASHING COSTS OF EQUIPMENT IS AN URGENT TASK FOR THE JDA. A PANEL CALLED "ACQUISITION REFORM COMMITTEE, LAUNCHED IN THE JDA

IN MAY LAST YEAR, HAS PRODUCED AN INTERIM REPORT ON MEASURES FOR REDUCING COSTS AT EACH LEVEL, SUCH AS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, PROCUREMENT AND MAINTENANCE, AS WELL AS ON STEPS REQUIRED TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY IN PROCEDURES.

THE AGENCY HAS DECIDED TO REVIEW BY THE END OF YEAR 2000 ABOUT HALF OF JDA STANDARDS AND SPECIFICS THAT NUMBER 18,000 AT PRESENT.. THE JDA'S EQUIPMENT STANDARDS HAVE BEEN STRICT IN VIEW OF SEVERE CONDITIONS THEY HAD TO STAND. BUT THANKS TO GREAT PROGRESS IN PRIVATE-SECTOR TECHNOLOGIES, THE JDA CAN NOW OBTAIN PRODUCTS OF GENERALLY THE SAME QUALITY ON THE MARKET. UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES, THE JDA HAS DECIDED TO SHIFT TO PRODUCTS THAT ARE LESS EXPENSIVE AND WIDELY AVAILABLE ON THE MARKET.

IN ADDITION, AS PART OF ITS EFFORT TO SIMPLIFY PROCEDURES, THE AGENCY WILL INTRODUCE ISO SERIES 9000 IN UNCLAS SECTION 08 OF 08 TOKYO 010337

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 1

ORDER TO REDUCE SOME QUALITY-CONTROL FUNCTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT BY CONTROL OFFICERS. THE JDA'S GOAL IS TO MAKE VARIOUS OFFICES ACQUIRE ISO APPROVAL SO THAT THE AGENCY WILL BE ABLE TO ELIMINATE THE CONTROL AND INSPECTION PROCESS ALTOGETHER.

TRANSPORT MINISTRY, MATCHING FMC SANCTIONS, PREPARING RETALIATION BILL AGAINST FOREIGN SHIPPERS
(SANKEI - PAGE 8)

THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (MOT) ON THE 28TH REVEALED THAT IN THE WAKE OF THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION (FMC) HAVING IMPOSED SANCTIONS AGAINST JAPAN, IT WOULD BOLDLY DRAFT A "RETALIATORY AMENDMENT" TO EXISTING LEGISLATION, WHICH WOULD BE INVOKED SHOULD JAPANESE SHIPPING COMPANIES BE HIT WITH UNILATERAL SANCTIONS BY A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT. MOT HAS DECIDED TO ESTABLISH A NEW SYSTEM OF PAYMENTS TO THE NATIONAL TREASURY, WHICH WOULD CORRESPOND TO A SURCHARGE SYSTEM, AND TO LARGELY SHORTEN THE GRACE PERIOD UNTIL SUCH SANCTIONS WENT INTO EFFECT. IT WILL SUBMIT A BILL NEXT WEEK, AIMING TO HAVE IT ENACTED DURING THE CURRENT DIET SESSION.

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
005. cable	Re: Japan Defense Agency (3 pages)	12/01/1997	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Futenma])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:

[11/28/1997 - 12/05/1997]

2016-0420-F
sb1916

RESTRICTION CODES

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

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

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]
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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
006. cable	Re: Senator's Meeting (3 pages)	12/01/1997	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Futenma])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:

[11/28/1997 - 12/05/1997]

2016-0420-F
sb1916

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Cable

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SUBJ: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 2

TOP HEADLINES:

TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 08 TOKYO 010373

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU
CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER
IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC
FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 2

TOP HEADLINES:

ASAHI: 3,974 VICTIMS FROM SARIN GAS ATTACKS WILL BE
NARROWED DOWN TO SEVERAL DOZENS; FINAL COORDINATION
TOWARD WITHDRAWING CHARGES; TOKYO DISTRICT PUBLIC
PROSECUTORS' OFFICE INFORMS CONCERNED PERSONS

NIHON KEIZAI: LARGE-SCALE RETAIL STORE LAW LIKELY TO BE

SCRAPPED, POSSIBLY LATE NEXT FISCAL YEAR; GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE NEW LAW WITH EMPHASIS ON ENVIRONMENT; STANDARD CHANGES -- FROM FLOOR SPACE AND WORKING HOURS TO TRAFFIC JAM AND GARBAGE AND NOISE; CHANGE IN OFFICES IN CHARGE -- FROM CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND PREFECTURAL GOVERNMENTS TO MUNICIPALITIES (TRANSLATION BELOW)

TOKYO SHIMBUN: AS EXPECTED, THE BILL TO PAY FORMER JAPAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS' DEBTS WILL BE PICKED UP BY THE JAPANESE PEOPLE; 24.3 TRILLION YEN WILL BE PAID FROM THE GENERAL ACCOUNT OVER SIX YEARS; 3.5 TRILLION YEN FOR PENSION PORTIONS WILL BE ADDED TO JR'S BURDENS; ACCORDING TO A TENTATIVE PLAN BY GOVERNMENT AND RULING PARTIES

MAINICHI: KYOTO CONFERENCE; U.S. AGREES TO "COUNTRY-SPECIFIC TARGETS"; POLICY SWITCH FROM EVEN REDUCTION OF GREENHOUSE GASES

YOMIURI: KYOTO CONFERENCE; GREENHOUSE GASES CUTS; U.S. ACKNOWLEDGES COUNTRY-SPECIFIC TARGETS; SHIFT FROM ITS INSISTENCE ON "EVEN REDUCTION"; PROTOCOL UNLIKELY TO INCLUDE "CONSTRAINING MEASURES TOWARD DEVELOPING COUNTRIES"

SANKEI: INSIDE STORY OF NEGOTIATIONS ON SUSPECTED NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS; U.S., NORTH KOREA WERE VERY NEARLY ABOUT TO GO TO WAR IN EARLY SUMMER OF 1994; NORTH KOREA ON ALERT AGAINST "DECLARATION OF WAR"; U.S. CONSIDERED BOMBING NYONGPYON; AS REVEALED BY EX-HIGH-LEVEL JAPANESE AND U.S. OFFICIALS

VICE PRESIDENT GORE TO ATTEND KYOTO CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE (NIHON KEIZAI - PAGE 1)

(WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 1, MASAOKI MURAMATSU) AN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT SOURCE REVEALED ON THE 1ST THAT VICE PRESIDENT GORE WOULD ATTEND THE KYOTO CONFERENCE FOR PREVENTION OF GLOBAL WARMING. HIS PARTICIPATION IS EXPECTED TO BE FORMALLY ANNOUNCED TODAY, BUT THE TIMING OF HIS TRIP HAS YET TO BE DETERMINED. ACCORDING TO THIS SOURCE, THE VICE PRESIDENT PLANS TO DELIVER AN ADDRESS AT THE CONFERENCE. SENDING THE VICE PRESIDENT TO THE CONFERENCE IS SEEN AS THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT'S STRONG INTENTION TO TRY TO DISPLAY ITS LEADERSHIP IN THE AREA OF REDUCING GREENHOUSE GASES.

GREENHOUSE GAS CUTS: SEARCH FOR COMPROMISE EVIDENT FROM THE START OF COP3 CONFERENCE (NIHON KEIZAI - PAGE 3)

FULL-FLEDGED BARGAINING BEGAN OVER GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION TARGETS AND THE HANDLING OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AT THE GLOBAL WARMING PREVENTION KYOTO CONFERENCE THAT OPENED YESTERDAY AIMED AT STRENGTHENING MEASURES TO FIGHT AGAINST GLOBAL WARMING IN THE YEAR 2000 AND BEYOND. IN TANDEM WITH A PLENARY SESSION, INFORMAL MEETINGS WERE HELD INTERMITTENTLY AT THE NATIONAL KYOTO INTERNATIONAL HALL AMONG INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES AND GROUPS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THE UNITED STATES

SOFTENED ITS STANCE REGARDING SETTING INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES' TARGETS AS WELL AS ABOUT IMPOSING MANDATORY GAS REDUCTION TARGETS ON DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. IN ADDITION, SOME DEVELOPING COUNTRIES LEANED TOWARD INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES. COMPLEX HAGGLING IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE. A MOVE TO SEARCH FOR COMPROMISES IS PICKING UP SPEED.

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USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 2

"IT WAS SOMETHING WE DID NOT EXPECT THAT CHANGES OCCUR IN THE SITUATION FROM DAY ONE." AN EUROPEAN UNION (EU) DELEGATION MEMBER NOTED SURPRISINGLY ABOUT THE FACT THAT U.S. ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE KIMBLE REVEALED IN A PLENARY SESSION SPEECH YESTERDAY THAT HER COUNTRY WOULD NOT IMPOSE ANY MANDATORY REDUCTION TARGETS ON DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY KIMBLE CALLED FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' EFFORTS TO CONSTRAIN GAS EMISSIONS. AT THE SAME TIME, SHE STATED, "WE WILL ALLOW AN INCREASE IN EMISSIONS (IF (DEVELOPING COUNTRIES) ARE POISED TO MAKE EFFORTS TO CONSTRAIN EMISSIONS). THE U.S. HAS ARGUED THAT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' REDUCTION TARGETS SHOULD GO INTO A PROTOCOL ALONG WITH THOSE OF INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES. BUT YESTERDAY, THE ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY MADE IT CLEAR THAT HER COUNTRY WOULD NOT STICK TO THAT ARGUMENT ANY LONGER.

YESTERDAY, REGARDING SETTING GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION TARGETS OF INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, THE U.S. SUGGESTED A FLEXIBLE APPROACH OF DIVIDING THOSE COUNTRIES INTO A NUMBER OF GROUPS AND SETTING A DIFFERENT REDUCTION TARGET ON EACH GROUP. LISTENING TO THE SOFTENED U.S. OPINION TOWARD DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND SETTING TARGETS OF INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, NEGOTIATORS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES VENTED, "FINALLY, BRIGHT PROSPECTS FOR A BREAKTHROUGH HAVE COME INTO SIGHT.

IN ADDITION, IT WAS REVEALED THAT U.S. VICE PRESIDENT GORE WOULD VISIT JAPAN TO ATTEND THE KYOTO CONFERENCE. ALL THOSE DEVELOPMENTS DREW OUT THE FOLLOWING OBSERVATION FROM A JAPANESE NEGOTIATOR: "THE U.S. IS NOW EARNESTLY AIMING AT A CONSENSUS." ATTENDANCE BY THE VICE

PRESIDENT, A STRONG ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONIST, IS TAKEN AS A SIGNAL SYMBOLIZING AMERICA'S DETERMINATION TO DO ITS BEST TO REACH AN AGREEMENT.

HIGH-POWERED DELEGATIONS FROM THE U.S. COME TO KYOTO CONFERENCE (YOMIURI - PAGE 3)

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS SENT A HUGE DELEGATION COMPOSED OF NEARLY 80 PERSONS TO THE KYOTO CONFERENCE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE (COP3). ARRIVING NEXT IN SUCCESSION HAVE BEEN A GROUP OF ENVIRONMENTALISTS, WHO ARE CALLING FOR A DRASTIC CUT IN GREENHOUSE GASES, MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE, AND INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS -- THE LATTER TWO BOTH OPPOSING EMISSION CUTS. THE WRANGLING OVER GAS EMISSION CUTS THAT IS UNFOLDING IN THE U.S. BETWEEN ADVOCATES AND OPPONENTS IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE AT THE KYOTO CONFERENCE.

A GROUP THAT WILL BE SENT BY THE U.S. CONGRESS IS A BIPARTISAN DELEGATION OF ABOUT 20 MEMBERS, LED BY SENATOR CHUCK HAGEL (REPUBLICAN PARTY). MOST OF THE DELEGATION OPPOSE (EMISSION CUTS), INSISTING, "EMISSION CUTS WILL HURT THE U.S. ECONOMY." THE FIRST PART OF THE DELEGATION ARRIVED AT KYOTO LAST NIGHT. IT IS UNPRECEDENTED TO SEE AMERICAN LAWMAKERS, WHO ARE HIGHLY CONSCIOUS OF "AMERICAN RULES BEING GLOBAL RULES," COME IN SUCH NUMBERS TO A FORUM FOR INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS. FOR SOME LEGISLATORS, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME FOR THEM TO GO OUT FROM THE NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT. PRIOR TO THE KYOTO CONFERENCE, THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE BROUGHT UP A PROPOSAL TO A PORTION OF LEGISLATORS FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN A GOVERNMENT-LED DELEGATION, BUT THE CONGRESSMEN SQUASHED IT, NOTING, "(IF WE ACCEPT IT), WE WILL BE COOPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT." THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION INTENDS TO MONITOR THE CONFERENCE AS OBSERVERS.

ADDITIONALLY, AMONG THE OPPONENTS AGAINST EMISSION CUTS, UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 08 TOKYO 010373

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

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SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 2

THE "GLOBAL CLIMATE CONFEDERATION (GCC), WHICH WAS FORMED UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE COAL AND OIL INDUSTRIES, WILL SEND A TEAM OF NEARLY 70 OPPONENTS TO THE CONFERENCE.

MEANWHILE, MAJOR AMERICAN ENVIRONMENTALIST GROUPS, SUCH AS SIERRA CLUB AND THE WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE (WRI), ARE LIKELY TO SEND THREE TO FIVE REPRESENTATIVES EACH, TOTALING OVER 50 PERSONS.

FORMER PRIME MINISTER MIYAZAWA PUSHES FOR USE OF FISCAL FUNDS FOR FINANCIAL STABILIZATION (NIHON KEIZAI - PAGE 2)

THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S (LDP) EMERGENCY HEADQUARTERS ON FINANCIAL STABILIZATION (CHAIRLED BY FORMER PRIME MINISTER KIICHI MIYAZAWA) HELD A PLENARY SESSION YESTERDAY AT PARTY HEADQUARTERS TO BEGIN EARNEST DISCUSSIONS WITHIN THE PARTY ON COMPILING MEASURES TO ELIMINATE THE ANXIETIES ABOUT THE FINANCIAL SYSTEM. THE SESSION ACCEPTED AS ITS POLICY PILLAR THE PROPOSALS HAMMERED OUT BY THE PARTY'S SUBCOMMITTEE OF POLICY MEASURES TO STABILIZE THE FINANCIAL SYSTEM (CHAIRLED BY KOJI HOOKA): 1) STRENGTHEN THE FISCAL RESOURCES OF THE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION; 2) LOOK INTO MEASURES TO AUGMENT THE RATE OF SELF-CAPITALIZATION; AND 3) SET UP AN ARRANGEMENT FOR THE RECOVERY OF NON-PERFORMING LOANS. OPINIONS FROM THE ATTENDEES IN SUCCESSION CALLED FOR INJECTING FISCAL FUNDS (TAX MONEY) IMMEDIATELY. MIYAZAWA SAID HE WOULD SOON MEET PRIME MINISTER HASHIMOTO AND PRESS HIM TO MAKE A DECISION TO INJECT PUBLIC FUNDS.

RENGO AND NIKKEIREN JOINTLY SEEK 5 TRILLION YEN IN TAX CUTS (ASAHI - PAGE 2)

RENGO (JAPANESE TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION) CHAIRMAN ETSUYA WASHIO AND NIKKEIREN (JAPAN FEDERATION OF EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION) CHAIRMAN JIRO NEMOTO MET AT A HOTEL IN TOKYO YESTERDAY MORNING. IN THE MEETING, THEY AGREED THAT MANAGEMENT AND LABOR WOULD JOINTLY DRAW UP REQUESTS TO THE GOVERNMENT. THE PACKAGE WOULD LIST WAYS TO BOLSTER THE ECONOMY, INCLUDING TAX CUTS AND MEASURES TO HELP WORKERS AT THE FAILED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

THE PACKAGE INCLUDES THREE MAJOR POINTS: (1) IMPLEMENTING TAX REDUCTIONS WORTH 5 TRILLION YEN, INCLUDING CUTS RELATED TO LAND, HOUSING, EDUCATION AND BANKING SERVICES, IN ADDITION TO CORPORATE AND INCOME TAXES; (2) MAPPING OUT MEASURES TO RESCUE (JOBLESS) EMPLOYEES IN THE BANKING AND RELATED BUSINESSES; AND (3) IMPROVING FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS' INFORMATION-DISCLOSURE AND MANAGEMENT-RESPONSIBILITY SYSTEMS, AND COMING UP WITH CLEARER RULES FOR THE INJECTION OF PUBLIC FUNDS. THE TWO ASSOCIATIONS WILL FINALIZE THE PACKAGE BEFORE THE EXTRAORDINARY DIET SESSION ENDS ON DECEMBER 12.

LARGE STORE LAW MAY BE SCRAPPED BY END OF NEXT FISCAL YEAR (NIHON KEIZAI - TOP PLAY)

THE GOVERNMENT HAS ADOPTED A POLICY LINE OF DOING AWAY WITH THE LARGE-SCALE RETAIL STORE LAW, WHICH IS DESIGNED TO PROTECT MEDIUM AND SMALL-SIZE RETAILS STORES, POSSIBLY AT THE END OF NEXT YEAR. THE JUDGMENT IS THAT THE SCRAPPING OF THE LAW, WHICH IS A SYMBOL OF REGULATED

DISTRIBUTION, IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE ECONOMIC STRUCTURAL REFORM ADVOCATED BY PRIME MINISTER RYUTARO HASHIMOTO. THE STANDARDS OF JUDGMENT THAT HAVE REGULATED THE OPENING OF LARGE-SCALE RETAIL STORES, SUCH AS FLOOR SPACE AND OPERATING HOURS, WILL BE IN EFFECT ABOLISHED. THE GOVERNMENT INSTEAD PLANS TO ESTABLISH A LAW FOR INVESTIGATING A POSSIBLE IMPACT OF NEW OPENINGS OF LARGE-SCALE RETAIL STORES ON NEARBY AREAS. UNDER THE NEW LAW, STORE-OPENING NOTIFICATIONS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO RELEVANT MUNICIPALITIES, INSTEAD OF THE STATE AND PREFECTURES AS IS THE CASE NOW. THE UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 08 TOKYO 010373

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 2

GOVERNMENT IS EXPECTED TO SUBMIT A LAW BILL TO THE NEXT REGULAR DIET SESSION.

OPENINGS OF LARGE-SCALE STORES HAVE BEEN RESTRICTED SINCE THE ENACTMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT STORE LAW, THE PREDECESSOR TO THE LARGE-SCALE RETAIL STORE LAW (ENACTED IN 1973). DEREGULATION IN THE DISTRIBUTION SECTOR HAS PROGRESSED MAINLY IN THE FORM OF EASING THE APPLICATION OF THE LARGE-SCALE RETAIL STORE LAW. THE SCRAPPING OF THE LAW WILL BECOME A MAJOR TURNING POINT IN THE DISTRIBUTION SECTOR.

A REVIEW OF THE LAW HAS BEEN EXPEDITED BY A JOINT COUNCIL FORMED BY THE INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURE ADVISORY COUNCIL UNDER THE MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY (MITI) AND THE MEDIUM AND SMALL BUSINESSES POLICY ADVISORY PANEL. STUDIES BY THE COUNCIL HAVE FOCUSED ON REVISING THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW FROM "PROTECTION OF MEDIUM AND SMALL-SIZE RETAIL STORES" TO "PRESERVATION OF LOCAL LIVING ENVIRONMENTS." AT WORK BEHIND THE DECISION ARE THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT'S FORMAL REQUEST FOR THE SCRAPPING OF THE LAW AND THE JUDGMENT THAT DEREGULATION SHOULD BE PROMOTED IN ONE SWEEP, BY SCRAPPING THE LAW, IN ORDER TO BOLSTER THE SAGGING ECONOMY, TOO.

THE GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER, HAS DECIDED TO ESTABLISH A NEW LAW, STEMMING FROM THE JUDGMENT THAT SOME KIND OF RULES WOULD BE NEEDED TO PRESERVE LOCAL ENVIRONMENTS AFTER THE SCRAPPING OF THE LAW, TOO. IN CONCRETE TERMS, UNDER THE NEW LAW LARGE-STORE OPENING APPLICATIONS ARE TO BE MADE TO RELEVANT MUNICIPALITIES, AND THE MUNICIPALITIES

CONDUCT INVESTIGATION INTO THE ELIGIBILITY OF THE APPLICATION FOR THE OPENING OF THE STORE IN TERMS OF SUCH PROBLEMS AS "TRAFFIC JAMS," "RUBBISH," AND "NOISE" THAT ARE LIKELY TO OCCUR AS A RESULT OF THE OPENING OF SUCH A STORE, WHILE HEARING OPINIONS FROM LOCAL CITIZENS. IF A JUDGMENT IS REACHED THAT ENVIRONMENTAL COUNTERMEASURES ARE NOT SUFFICIENT, THE MUNICIPALITIES CAN ASK THE APPLICANTS TO CHANGE THEIR PLANS.

THE MECHANISM WILL BE SO DESIGNED THAT MUNICIPALITIES INVESTIGATE THE CONSISTENCY OF APPLICANTS' PLANS WITH THEIR CITY PLANNING SCHEMES AND IF THEY FIND THE APPLICATIONS IMPROPER, THEY ISSUE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CHANGE THE CONTENTS OF THE PLANS. THE DISCLOSING OF THE DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION WOULD BE MADE MANDATORY IN ORDER TO SECURE THE TRANSPARENCY OF INVESTIGATIVE PROCESS. THE LONGEST PERIOD FOR A SET OF INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES IS TO BE NO LONGER THAN ONE YEAR, AS IS THE CASE UNDER THE PRESENT LAW.

THE ENTRUSTING OF STORE-OPENING INVESTIGATION IS IN LINE WITH THE CURRENT TREND FOR DECENTRALIZATION, BUT THE NEW LAW CONTAINS THE POSSIBILITY OF CONVERSELY STRENGTHENING THE INFLUENCE OF CONVENTIONAL MEDIUM AND SMALL-SIZE SHOPPING DISTRICTS, DEPENDING ON ITS APPLICATION.

LDP PROPOSES DELAY IN DECISION TO SPLIT FISCAL AND FINANCIAL FUNCTIONS FROM FINANCE MINISTRY
(ASAHI - PAGE 2)

ON THE QUESTION OF SEPARATING FROM THE FINANCE MINISTRY (MOF) ITS FISCAL AND FINANCIAL POLICY FUNCTIONS, LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP) SECRETARY GENERAL YOICHI KATO LAST NIGHT TOLD A CONFERENCE OF SECRETARIES GENERAL AND OTHER POLICY MAKING OFFICIALS FROM THE THREE RULING PARTIES: "WITH THE FINANCIAL SITUATION IS SUCH A SHAPE, THIS IS NOT THE TIME FOR THE THREE PARTIES TO WRANGLE OVER OPTIONS FOR THE FINANCIAL SYSTEM. DON'T YOU THINK IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO REACH A DECISION BY THE 3RD?" HE THEN PROPOSED THEY PUT OFF MAKING A DECISION, HAVING IN MIND THAT THE BASIC LEGISLATION PROPOSAL WOULD GO TO THE DIET AROUND NEXT MARCH. BUT THE SAKIGAKE PARTY INSISTED, "WE
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USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

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SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 2

SHOULD DECIDE IT THIS TIME." THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY ALSO REBUTTED BY SAYING, "IF (THE ISSUE OF SPLITTING AWAY THE FINANCIAL FUNCTION) IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE FINAL REPORT, IT WILL BE A TOTAL WASTE." THE TALKS ARE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE ON THE 2ND.

NEXT KEIDANREN CHAIRMAN WILL BE STEEL MAGNATE IMAI (YOMIURI - PAGE 1)

THE JAPAN FEDERATION OF ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS (KEIDANREN) YESTERDAY STARTED FINAL COORDINATION WORK FOR THE DIRECTION OF PICKING VICE CHAIRMAN TAKASHI IMAI (67), PRESIDENT OF NIPPON STEEL CO., TO SERVE AS KEIDANREN NEXT CHAIRMAN.

THE OUTLOOK IS THAT INCUMBENT CHAIRMAN SHOICHIRO TOYODA (72) WILL SUBMIT THIS PLAN TO NAME IMAI AS NEXT CHAIRMAN TO A MEETING OF THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMEN AS EARLY AS THE BEGINNING OF NEXT YEAR AND THAT AT THE REGULAR GENERAL MEETING IN LATE MAY, IMAI WILL BE CHOSEN AS THE 9TH KEIDANREN CHAIRMAN. TOYODA WILL BECOME A HONORARY CHAIRMAN.

IF IMAI ASSUMES THE CHAIRMANSHP, HE WILL BE THE FIRST "PRESIDENT OF THE BUSINESS WORLD," WHO WAS BORN IN THE SHOWA ERA. THIS WILL LIKELY SPUR GENERATIONAL CHANGES IN OTHER BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS.

SUCCEEDING GAISHI HIRAIWA (HONORARY CHAIRMAN) IN MAY 1994, TOYODA WILL SERVE OUT HIS FULL TWO TERMS OR FOUR YEARS IN MAY 1998. HE HAS REPEATEDLY EXPRESSED TO PERSONS AROUND HIM THAT HE HAS NO INTENTION TO REMAIN IN HIS POST. HE HAD WORKED FOR CHOOSING HIS SUCCESSOR AMONG INCUMBENT VICE CHAIRMEN AND THOSE WHO HAD SERVED AS VICE CHAIRMAN.

TOYODA, HOWEVER, HAS STOPPED SHORT OF SAYING THAT "I HAVEN'T DECIDED YET." BUT ACCORDING TO SOME SOURCES CONNECTED TO THE BUSINESS WORLD, HE HAS NOW ENTERED A FINAL STAGE OF COORDINATION IN THE DIRECTION OF CHOOSING IMAI.

IN ADDITION TO BEING ONE OF BUSINESS WORLD'S PUNDITS, IMAI IS THE TOP EXECUTIVE OF LEADING COMPANY NIPPON STEEL CO., FROM WHICH THE LATE CHAIRMAN YOSHIHIRO INAYAMA AND FORMER CHAIRMAN EISHIRO SAITO (CURRENT HONORARY CHAIRMAN) HAILED. HIS MANAGEMENT CAPABILITY IS HIGHLY VALUED IN SUCH AREAS AS THE LARGE-SCALE RESTRUCTURING OF NIPPON STEEL.

FURTHERMORE, HE IS FIVE YEARS YOUNGER THAN TOYODA. SO THERE IS A EXPECTATION OF A GENERATIONAL CHANGE IN KEIDANREN.

TOYODA, WHO HAS BEEN SERVING AS CHAIRMAN OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM PROMOTION COMMITTEE, AS WELL AS A MEMBER OF THE GOVERNMENT'S CONFERENCE ON ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM, HAS APPRECIATED IMAI'S SUPPORT.

FOREIGN MINISTER OBUCHI TO VISIT U.S. FROM DECEMBER 4
(TOKYO SHIMBUN - PAGE 3)

IT HAS BEEN FIRMED UP THAT FOREIGN MINISTER KEIZO OBUCHI
WILL VISIT THE UNITED STATES FROM DECEMBER 4 TO 6 AFTER
HIS ATTENDING THE SIGNING CEREMONY FOR THE ANTI-PERSONNEL
LAND MINE BAN TREATY IN OTTAWA AND THAT HE WILL MEET WITH
KEY OFFICIALS IN THE U.S GOVERNMENT. THIS WAS REVEALED
YESTERDAY BY A SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL.

JAPAN, ROK VICE MINISTERS FAIL TO REACH AGREEMENT ON NEW
FISHERIES PACT (TOKYO SHIMBUN - PAGE 3)

(SEOUL, DECEMBER 1, YUJI YAMAMOTO) PARLIAMENTARY VICE
UNCLAS SECTION 06 OF 08 TOKYO 010373

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU
CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER
IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC
FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

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SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 2

FOREIGN MINISTER MASAHIKO KOMURA, WHO IS NOW IN THE
REPUBLIC OF KOREA (ROK) TO RESOLVE THE DEADLOCKED TALKS
BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE ROK ON A NEW FISHERIES PACT, MET
FOREIGN MINISTER YU CHONG HAR YESTERDAY, BUT FAILED TO
REACH AGREEMENT WITH HIM FOR NOT FILLING THE GAPS
EXISTING IN ASSERTIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. BOTH
COUNTRIES WILL CALL OFF THE TALKS FOR NOW AND WILL BE
PRESSED TO MAKE IN A COUPLE OF DAYS A POLITICAL DECISION
THAT WILL INCLUDE A POSSIBILITY OF CONTINUING
NEGOTIATIONS FROM NOW ON AS WELL.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL MITOJI YABUNAKA OF THE ASIAN
AFFAIRS BUREAU, THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MOFA),
WHO WAS ALSO PRESENT AT THE MEETING, EXPLAINED, "SOME
PARTS HAVE PROGRESSED CONSIDERABLY, BUT THERE STILL
REMAIN DIFFICULTIES TO DEAL WITH." IT SEEMS THE POINTS
OF FRICTION ARE LEFT OVER THE PROBLEM OF HOW TO SET AN
EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC WATER ZONE, PARTICULARLY A SETTING OF
A WATER ZONE NEAR THE TAKESHIMA ISLANDS (OR TOKDO ISLANDS
IN KOREAN).

DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL YABUNAKA HINTED THAT A POLITICAL
DECISION WOULD BE NEEDED WITHIN A COUPLE OF DAYS,
EXPLAINING, "AS FOR A FUTURE RESPONSE, WE WILL MAKE
COORDINATION THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS, BUT THE TIME
GIVEN TO US IS SHORT." THE KOREAN NEWS AGENCY REPORTED
THAT THE BILATERAL TALKS WERE RUPTURED, BUT DENIED THE

RUPTURE, NOTING, "OUR UNDERSTANDING IS NOT THAT THE TALKS ENDED IN RUPTURE."

ROK FISHING BOATS HAVE CONTINUED ILLEGAL OPERATIONS IN THE JAPAN SEA AND THE THREE RULING PARTIES OF JAPAN ARE PRESSING THE GOVERNMENT TO SCRAP THE PRESENT AGREEMENT. FACED WITH THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT HAD TRIED TO FINALIZE NEGOTIATIONS WITHIN NOVEMBER.

-- JAPANESE SIDE INTENDS TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS

MOFA'S ADMINISTRATIVE VICE FOREIGN MINISTER SHUNJI YANAI IN A PRESS CONFERENCE HELD YESTERDAY SPOKE OF THE JAPAN-ROK TALKS ON A NEW FISHERIES PACT, WHICH FAILED TO REACH AGREEMENT AND STATED: "WE ON THE JAPANESE PART WILL NOT FOLLOW PROCEDURES TO ABROGATE THE CURRENT PACT BUT INSTEAD WE WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS TO REACH A COMPROMISE IN NEGOTIATIONS. DOING SO IS POSSIBLE."

THE THREE RULING PARTIES HOWEVER HAVE PROPOSED TO THE GOVERNMENT THAT THE ABROGATION OF THE CURRENT PACT BE INFORMED, AND THAT WITHIN A ONE-YEAR GRACE PERIOD, NEGOTIATIONS BE CONTINUED. BUT VICE MINISTER YANAI, INSTEAD OF FOLLOWING THIS APPROACH, INDICATED A POLICY LINE OF CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS.

CHINAQS DEFENSE MINISTER TO VISIT JAPAN
(MAINICHI - PAGE 2)

JAPAN AND CHINA ARE NOW EXPECTED TO EXCHANGE DEFENSE MINISTERIAL VISITS IN THE COMING YEAR. JAPAN DEFENSE AGENCY DIRECTOR GENERAL FUMIO KYUMA AND XIONG GUANGKAI, VICE CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY OF CHINA, NOW VISITING JAPAN, REACHED A BASIC AGREEMENT DURING THEIR MEETING ON DECEMBER 1. IT WILL LIKELY GIVE MOMENTUM TO THE TWO COUNTRIES' DEFENSE EXCHANGES.

DURING THE MEETING, XIONG TOLD JDA DIRECTOR GENERAL KYUMA THAT CHINA'S NATIONAL DEFENSE MINISTER CHI HAOTIAN WOULD VISIT JAPAN EARLY NEXT YEAR. IT WAS 1984 WHEN A CHINESE DEFENSE MINISTER LAST VISITED JAPAN. XIONG ASKED KYUMA TO VISIT CHINA, AND KYUMA INDICATED HIS ENTHUSIASM.

XIONG MET ALSO WITH JDA ADMINISTRATIVE DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL MASAHIRO AKIYAMA, AND THEY CONFIRMED THE TWO UNCLAS SECTION 07 OF 08 TOKYO 010373

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 2

COUNTRIES' INTENTION OF PROMOTING DEFENSE EXCHANGES, SUCH AS THEIR MEETING ONCE A YEAR FOR PERIODIC CONSULTATIONS AND MUTUAL VISITS BY THE CHIEF OF THE PLA'S GENERAL STAFF AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT STAFF COUNCIL (OF JAPAN'S SELF-DEFENSE FORCES).

VICE MINISTER OF DEFENSE TO OKINAWA TO SEEK LOCAL UNDERSTANDING FOR HELIPORT TRANSFER (MAINICHI - PAGE 2)

JAPAN DEFENSE AGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL MASAHIRO AKIYAMA MET THE PRESS ON DECEMBER 1 AND THEN CLARIFIED HIS PLAN TO VISIT OKINAWA PREFECTURE ON THE 2ND AND 3RD TO MEET WITH NAGO CITY'S MAYOR TETSUYA HIGA AND OTHERS. AKIYAMA SAID THAT THE PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT TO OKINAWA WAS TO SEEK THE LOCAL PUBLIC'S UNDERSTANDING FOR THE PLANNED CONSTRUCTION OF A SEA-BASED HELIPORT IN WATERS OFF THE CITY OF NAGO AND WAS ALSO TO ANALYZE THE SITUATION OF THE CITY'S SCHEDULED REFERENDUM.

GOVERNMENT SOURCE: IF NAGO REFERENDUM TURNS DOWN HELIPORT, EVERYTHING BACK TO CLEAN SLATE (MAINICHI - PAGE 1)

REGARDING THE PLANNED CONSTRUCTION OF AN ALTERNATIVE SEA-BASED HELIPORT INCIDENT TO THE REVERSION OF THE U.S. FORCES' FUTENMA AIR STATION IN OKINAWA PREFECTURE, A GOVERNMENT SOURCE SAID ON THE NIGHT OF DECEMBER 1: "PRIME MINISTER (RYUTARO) HASHIMOTO HAS DECLARED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT CONSTRUCT IT WITHOUT CONSULTATION WITH THE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY. SO, THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT CONSTRUCT IT EVEN IN DEFIANCE OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY'S OBJECTION. BUT THAT'S AN END. THE GOVERNMENT WON'T TACKLE THIS PROBLEM ANY MORE AFTER THAT." THE SOURCE HAS THUS UNDERScoreD HIS OUTLOOK INDICATING THAT IN CASE A REFERENDUM OF RESIDENTS (VOTING SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 21) -- SLATED TO BE HELD IN THE CITY OF NAGO IN OKINAWA PREFECTURE FOR LOCAL PUBLIC OPINION ABOUT THE PROPRIETY OF CONSTRUCTING AN OFFSHORE HELIPORT IN THEIR PLACE -- ENDS UP WITH THE ANTI-HELIPORT GROUP'S VICTORY, THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT TRY TO LOOK FOR ANY OTHER CANDIDATE PLACE FOR RELOCATION, AND THE PLANNED REVERSION OF THE FUTENMA AIRFIELD, ON WHICH THE JAPANESE AND U.S. GOVERNMENTS AGREED LAST YEAR, WOULD BE CALLED OFF AT THAT STAGE.

THE SOURCE REMARKED, "AS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ALTERNATIVE HELIPORT, THE PRIME MINISTER AND GOVERNOR (MASAHIDE) OTA (OF OKINAWA PREFECTURE) MET TO TALK ABOUT THE MATTER, AND THERE WAS A PROPOSAL FROM THE GOVERNOR. HOWEVER, THE PREFECTURAL GOVERNMENT HAS NEVER MOVED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A HELIPORT." IN THIS WAY, THE SOURCE CRITICIZED THE GOVERNOR. THE GOVERNMENT IS REPORTEDLY CONSIDERING IE-JIMA ISLAND AS ANOTHER HELIPORT CANDIDATE

SITE, BUT THE SOURCE TOTALLY DENIED THAT POSSIBILITY.

FOUR OPPOSITION PARTIES DEMAND LDPQS YAMASAKI TESTIFY
BEFORE DIET ON TIES TO OIL DEALER UZUI (ASAHI - PAGE 2)

THE OPPOSITION SHINSHINTO IN A DIRECTORS COUNCIL MEETING
AT THE LOWER HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEE YESTERDAY CALLED FOR
DIET TESTIMONY TO BE HEARD FROM LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY
(LDP) POLICY AFFAIRS RESEARCH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN TAKU
YAMASAKI IN RESPONSE TO THE ACCUSATIONS MADE BY OIL
BROKER JUNICHI IZUI. IZUI TESTIFYING IN THE DIET SAID HE
GAVE YAMASAKI HUGE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MONEY, AND MITSUBISHI
OIL ADVISOR (FORMER CHAIRMAN) KIKUO YAMADA SAID, WHEN
SUMMONED TO THE DIET STAND, THAT HE HAD RECEIVED MONEY
FOR CONTRIBUTIONS. THE MINSHUTO (DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF
JAPAN), THE JAPAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND TAIYO PARTY THEN
ALL FELL IN STEP WITH THE SHINSHINTO.

THE LDP INSISTED THAT YAMAZAKI BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY
UNCLAS SECTION 08 OF 08 TOKYO 010373

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU
CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER
IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC
FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 2

TO EXPLAIN THE CIRCUMSTANCES AT THE LOWER HOUSE ETHICS
COMMITTEE (CHAIR BY SEISUKE OKUNO). AS FOR YAMADA, THE
PARTY REPLIED THAT THE MATTER WOULD BE DISCUSSED WITHIN
THE PARTY.

CRANE

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 08
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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
007. cable	Re: Vice Governor (4 pages)	12/02/1997	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Futenma])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:

[11/28/1997 - 12/05/1997]

2016-0420-F
sb1916

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]
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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]

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
008. cable	Re: Support Cable for East Asia Brief (8 pages)	12/03/1997	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Futenma])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:

[11/28/1997 - 12/05/1997]

2016-0420-F
sb1916

RESTRICTION CODES

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Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

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LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH

LINE3: O 040338Z DEC 97

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OSRI: RUEHKO

DTG: 040338Z DEC 97

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RUALSFJ/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA//J5/JO21//
RHHMHAH/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N5//
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RUEAWJA/USDOJ WASHDC
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC//J5//

SUBJ: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 4
TOP HEADLINES:

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 06 TOKYO 010443

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU
CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER
IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC
FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 4
TOP HEADLINES:

ASAHI: GOVERNMENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM PANEL SETTLES
FINAL REPORT; ONE OFFICE AND 12 MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES
WITH PRIME MINISTER'S AUTHORITY TO BE STRENGTHENED; NEW
SYSTEM WILL LIKELY BE SET IN MOTION IN 2001

NIHON KEIZAI: GOVERNMENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM'S FINAL
REPORT ON REORGANIZATION OF GOVERNMENT OFFICES; ONE
OFFICE AND 12 MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES IN 2001; THREE

POSTAL SERVICES TO BE SHIFTED TO PUBLIC CORPORATION;
FINANCE MINISTRY WILL BE RENAMED "TREASURY MINISTRY" WITH
SEPARATION OF FISCAL AND FINANCIAL FUNCTIONS PUT ON HOLD
(TRANSLATION BELOW)

TOKYO SHIMBUN: FINAL REPORT BY GOVERNMENT'S
ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM; PROPOSED "DEFENSE MINISTRY" NOW
PUT ON SHELF, BUT FINANCE MINISTRY WILL SHIFT TO
"TREASURY MINISTRY"; "ONE OFFICE AND 12 MINISTRIES AND
AGENCIES" BY 2001; PREPARATORY COMMITTEE TO BE LAUNCHED
WITHIN MONTH FOR DRAWING UP OF BASIC BILL

MAINICHI: ONCE OFFICE AND 12 MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES IN
2001; FINANCE MINISTRY TO SHIFT TO "TREASURY MINISTRY";
GOVERNMENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM PANEL'S FINAL REPORT;
UPGRADING OF JDA TO "MINISTRY" NOW SHELVED

YOMIURI: GOVERNMENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE PANEL'S DETERMINES
FINAL REPORT; NEW ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM FOR THE 21ST
CENTURY; TO STREAMLINE GOVERNMENT BODIES INTO ONE OFFICE
AND 12 MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES; FINANCE MINISTRY WILL
CHANGE TO "TREASURY MINISTRY"

SANKEI: REORGANIZATION INTO "ONE OFFICE AND 12 MINISTRIES
AND AGENCIES"; SEPARATION OF FISCAL AND FINANCIAL
FUNCTIONS NOW SHELVED; FINAL REPORT DECIDED BY
GOVERNMENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM PANEL; FINANCE
MINISTRY WILL CHANGE TO "TREASURY MINISTRY"; "DEFENSE
MINISTRY" GIVEN UP

FINAL REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM PANEL CALLS FOR
GOVERNMENT RESTRUCTURING BY 2001
(NIHON KEIZAI - TOP PLAY)

THE CONFERENCE ON ADMINISTRATIVE (CHAIRER BY PRIME
MINISTER RYUTARO HASHIMOTO), WHICH HAD LOOKED INTO HOW
THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES SHOULD BE, FINALIZED
YESTERDAY ITS REPORT. THE PANEL STIPULATES IN ITS FINAL
REPORT THAT THE PRESENT ONE OFFICE, AND 21 MINISTRIES AND
AGENCIES SHOULD BE CUT DOWN TO ONE OFFICE, AND 12
MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES IN THE YEAR 2001. IT ALSO
SUGGESTS INTRODUCING AN INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY
SYSTEM, AIMING AT SLIMMING DOWN THE GOVERNMENT
ORGANIZATIONS, AS WELL AS TRANSFERRING THE THREE POSTAL
SERVICES -- MAIL DELIVERY, POSTAL SAVINGS AND LIFE
INSURANCE -- TO A NEW PUBLIC CORPORATION IN FIVE YEARS
AFTER A BILL TO REORGANIZE THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
OFFICES, WHICH WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE NEXT REGULAR DIET
SESSION, PASSES THE DIET. THE FINAL REPORT RECOMMENDS
THAT THE NAME OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (MOF) (OKURA-
SHOU) BE CHANGED TO A "TREASURY MINISTRY" (ZAIMU-SHOU).
HOWEVER, THE PANEL FAILED TO REACH A CONCLUSION ON THE
ISSUE OF SEPARATING OFF THE FISCAL AND FINANCIAL
FUNCTIONS OF THE MOF. SO A CONCLUSION ON THAT HAS BEEN
SHELVED.

FINANCE MINISTRY WILL UNDERGO A NAME CHANGE ONLY, A SOP
TO THE SAKIGAKE PARTY (TOKYO SHIMBUN - PAGE 2)

A NEW NAME FOR THE FINANCE MINISTRY (OOKURA-SHOU), WHICH HAD BEEN UNDECIDED TO THE LAST MINUTE, HAS BEEN PICKED TO BE "TREASURY MINISTRY" (ZAIMU-SHO)- BY PRIME MINISTER RYUTARO HASHIMOTO. HIS WORD WAS LAW. SOME PEOPLE POINTED OUT THAT THIS IS THE RESULT OF HIS GIVING UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 06 TOKYO 010443

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 4
TOP HEADLINES:

CONSIDERATION TO THE SAKIGAKE PARTY, WHICH HAD SOUGHT A COMPLETE SEPARATION OF THE FINANCIAL SECTOR FROM THE FINANCE MINISTRY, BECAUSE THE NAME HE CHOSE EVOKES AN IMAGE OF THE FINANCIAL SECTOR HAVING BEEN SPLIT OFF.

DURING DISCUSSIONS IN THE CONFERENCE ON ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM (CAR), VARIOUS VIEWS FLOATED UP, WITH SOME SUPPORTING THE CURRENT NAME AND OTHERS PROPOSING A "TREASURY MINISTRY" (ZAIMU-SHOU) OR "FISCAL POLICY MINISTRY" (ZAISEI-SHOU). MEETING THE PRESS AFTER THE ADOPTION OF THE FINAL REPORT, MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION AGENCY DIRECTOR GENERAL SADATOSHI OZATO EXPLAINED THE REASON WHY THE PRIME MINISTER CHOSE THE NAME "TREASURY MINISTRY," NOTING, "WE THINK IT IS MEANINGFUL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE FINANCE MINISTRY IN VIEW OF THE IDEALS OF REFORM AND THE SOUND THE NEW NAME WILL GIVE TO THE PEOPLE."

IN THE MEANTIME, POLICY-MAKING OFFICIALS OF THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY, THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND THE SAKIGAKE YESTERDAY DECIDED THAT A "LABOR AND WELFARE MINISTRY, WHICH THE CAR ADOPTED, BE A TENTATIVE ONE AND THAT THE THREE PARTIES WILL CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE MATTER UNTIL A GOVERNMENT AGENCY ESTABLISHMENT BILL IS DRAFTED.

ACCORDING TO RELATED SOURCES, THE CAR HAD ORIGINALLY DECIDED TO ADOPT THE NAME "EMPLOYMENT AND WELFARE MINISTRY," BUT THE NAME HAS BEEN CHANGED TO A "LABOR AND WELFARE MINISTRY," HAVING FACED A ROLLBACK FROM THE LABOR MINISTRY.

HOWEVER, THE JAPAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE BEREAVED FAMILIES OF THE WAR DEAD AND THE JAPAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION PUT UP STRONG RESISTANCE TO THAT NAME AND REQUESTED THE LDP

SOCIAL AFFAIR SUBCOMMITTEE TO CHANGE IT.

(TN: SOME ENGLISH PRESS REPORTS TRANSLATE THE NEW NAME OF THE FINANCE MINISTRY ALSO AS "FINANCE MINISTRY"! WE WILL OPT FOR "TREASURY MINISTRY" SINCE THE JAPANESE TERM "ZAIMU" IS THE SAME AS THE TRANSLATION FOR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY.)

STRONG REVERBERATIONS IN LDP OVER FAILURE TO UPGRADE DEFENSE AGENCY (MAINICHI - PAGE 2)

THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY HELD A MEETING OF ITS EXECUTIVE BOARD ON DECEMBER 3. IN IT, THE BOARD MEMBERS CONTINUED TO CALL FOR UPGRADING THE DEFENSE AGENCY TO THE STATUS OF A MINISTRY. THEY ALSO RAISED OBJECTIONS TO THE DEFERMENT OF DISCUSSIONS ON THE PROBLEM OF DETACHING THE FINANCE MINISTRY'S FISCAL AND FINANCIAL FUNCTIONS. IN THE END, PRIME MINISTER RYUTARO HASHIMOTO'S PLAN TO RETAIN THE DEFENSE AGENCY IN ITS CURRENT STATUS COULD NOT OBTAIN HIS PARTY'S FORMAL APPROVAL, AND THE BOARD DISCONTINUED ITS DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUES.

IN THE MEETING THAT DAY AS WELL, FORMER CONSTRUCTION MINISTER SHIZUKA KAMEI VOICED STRONG OPPOSITION, CLAIMING: "IS IT ALL RIGHT FOR US TO HESITATE AGAIN BEFORE A POLITICAL PARTY OF 15 MEMBERS (I.E., THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY) AND TWO PEOPLE (OR THE SAKIGAKE PARTY)?" IN ADDITION, SOME OTHER MEMBERS ALSO VOICED THEIR DISSATISFACTION ONE AFTER ANOTHER AT THE PRESENT LDP-SDP-SAKIGAKE SETUP, ONE SAYING: "WE NEVER CAN DO ANYTHING UNTIL THE SDP AND SAKIGAKE AGREE." ANOTHER REMARKED, "NOW WE DON'T HAVE TO GET ALONG WITH THEM ANY MORE." ANGRY ROARS ALSO CROSSED DURING THE MEETING, AND SUCH MADE CLEARER THE LDP'S INTERNAL PARTY POWER STRUGGLE THAT IS GOING ON.

STILL NO CORE DECISION ON FATE OF POSTAL SAVINGS
UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 06 TOKYO 010443

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 4
TOP HEADLINES:

(NIHON KEIZAI - PAGE 2)

THE GOVERNMENT'S CONFERENCE ON ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM (CAR) ADOPTED ITS FINAL REPORT YESTERDAY. DURING THE

DAY, HEALTH AND WELFARE MINISTER KOIZUMI SERENELY WENT ABOUT HANDLING HIS OFFICIAL DUTIES, INCLUDING GETTING A NURSING-CARE INSURANCE BILL APPROVED AT THE UPPER HOUSE PLENARY SESSION. BUT STEPPING BACK TO THE EARLY HOURS OF NOVEMBER 22, KOIZUMI WAS THEN FLUSHED WITH ANGER, ARGUING, "WHY ISN'T THERE A CLEAR COMMITMENT TO ALLOW THE PRIVATE SECTOR'S ACCESS TO THE MAIL DELIVERY SERVICE AND TO PUT A BAN ON TAX MONEY FROM BEING INJECTED INTO POSTAL SAVINGS?"

AROUND 2:00 A.M. YESTERDAY, KOIZUMI RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL FROM PRIME MINISTER HASHIMOTO. IF NO CALL HAD COME, KOIZUMI, KEEPING HIS DETERMINATION TO HIMSELF, PROBABLY WOULD PERHAPS HAD RIDDEN OVER TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICIAL RESIDENCE. OVER THE PHONE, THE PRIME MINISTER DESPERATELY SOUGHT TO PERSUADE KOIZUMI, PLEADING, "I WILL WITHOUT FAIL MENTION IT IF ASKED AT A NEWS BRIEFING." IN FACT, AT A PRESS CONFERENCE HELD RIGHT AFTER THE PANEL'S FULL SESSION, HASHIMOTO DID MENTION THE MAIL DELIVERY SERVICE: "I WILL ALLOW THE PRIVATE SECTOR'S ACCESS." BUT THERE WAS NO QUESTION ASKING WHAT KIND OF RESPONSE WOULD BE MADE IF THE POSTAL SAVINGS SERVICE RUNS INTO THE RED. SO THE PRIME MINISTER, STRESSING, "THE INDEPENDENT PROFIT-EARNING SYSTEM," SHUNNED MAKING ANY DEFINITE REMARK ABOUT WHETHER TO POUR FISCAL FUNDS.

UNDER THE POSTAL SAVINGS LAW, NATIONAL GUARANTEE IS SPECIFIED IN THIS WAY: "THE STATE SHALL GUARANTEE DRAWING OUT OF SAVINGS AND PAYMENT OF INTEREST." BUT BLOCKING ANY INJECTION OF TAX MONEY MEANS A SHIFT FROM THE ABOVE PROVISION, THUS OPENING THE WAY IN EFFECT FOR PRIVATIZATION. IF A POSSIBILITY OF INVESTING (TAX MONEY) WERE TO BE LEFT, THE INDEPENDENT-PROFIT-EARNING SYSTEM IS NOTHING MORE THAN A PRINCIPLE. THE KEY ISSUE HAS YET TO BE FINALIZED. "SINCE I AM A MEMBER OF THE CABINET, I CAN USE MY CLOUT TO PUSH FORWARD REFORM," NOTES KOIZUMI, LOOKING BACK ON PAST MONTHS. HE INTENDS TO ASK THE PRIME MINISTER ANEW FOR HIS ANSWER WHEN THE PROCESS OF DRAFTING A BILL BEGINS.

PRIME MINISTER IN COP3 SPEECH TO OFFER MORE ENVIRONMENTAL AID TO DEVELOPING WORLD (YOMIURI - PAGE 2)
THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO BROADEN ITS ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THAT ARE TACKLING THE GLOBAL WARMING ISSUE. FOR THIS PURPOSE, IT DETERMINED YESTERDAY TO ADD FIVE ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, SUCH AS CONSOLIDATING THE CITY TRAFFIC SYSTEM TO EASE TRAFFIC JAMS BY CONSTRUCTING A SUBWAY SYSTEM, TO THE PROGRAMS NOW COMING UNDER OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE (ODA). THIS POLICY DIRECTION WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY PRIME MINISTER HASHIMOTO IN HIS WELCOMING SPEECH AS THE HOST NATION TO BE GIVEN ON THE 8TH, WHEN HE IS TO ATTEND THE THIRD CONFERENCE OF PARTIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE WARMING (KYOTO CONFERENCE FOR PREVENTION OF GLOBAL WARMING).

THE FOUR OTHER PROJECTS ARE AS FOLLOWS: 1) REPAIRING OR IMPROVING POWER PLANTS, RAILWAYS, FACTORIES, POWER-

TRANSMISSION LINES AND THE LIKE SO AS TO ENHANCE THE ENERGY-USE EFFICIENCY, 2) CONSTRUCTING POWER PLANTS USING NATURAL GAS AND PIPELINES, 3) CONSTRUCTION OF HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANTS, AND 4) CONSTRUCTION OF GEOTHERMAL PLANTS. THE AIM OF ALL THESE IS TO HELP SAVE ENERGY AND CURB THE USE OF FOSSIL FUELS. FOR THESE PROJECTS, JAPAN INTENDS TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO APPLY YEN LOANS OF "LOW INTEREST RATE AND LONG-TERM REDEMPTION" (0.75 PERCENT AND 40-YEAR TERM), THE MOST PREFERENTIAL TERMS UNDER THE PRESENT ODA PROGRAM.
UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 06 TOKYO 010443

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 4
TOP HEADLINES:

IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION (APEC) MEETING HELD LATE LAST MONTH, THE PRIME MINISTER REVEALED A PACKAGE OF ASSISTANCE MEASURES USING ODA, UNVEILED AS THE "KYOTO INITIATIVE," BUT A QUITE NEGATIVE VIEW IS DEEP-SEATED AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, SOME OF WHICH ARGUE, "GLOBAL WARMING IS THE PROBLEM INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES HAVE TO TACKLE." CONSIDERING THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, JAPAN HAS HURRIEDLY DECIDED TO BROADEN THE COVERAGE OF ASSISTANCE TO INCLUDE CONSOLIDATION OF (SOCIAL) INFRASTRUCTURE, WHICH WILL LEAD TO PREVENTING GLOBAL WARMING.

ECONOMY RECOVERS A LITTLE IN JULY-SEPTEMBER BUT MINUS GROWTH LIKELY FOR THIS FISCAL YEAR (MAINICHI - PAGE 2)

THE ECONOMIC PLANNING AGENCY (EPA) YESTERDAY RELEASED THE NATIONAL INCOME STATISTICS FOR THE JULY - SEPTEMBER QUARTER, 1997. THE RATE OF THE GROWTH OF GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (GDP, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED FIGURES) REGISTERED 0.8 PERCENT IN REAL TERMS WITH PRICE FLUCTUATIONS DEDUCTED, COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS QUARTER. THE ANNUALIZED GROWTH RATE CAME TO 3.1 PERCENT. FOLLOWING UP ON THE OUTCOME, THE EPA HAS STARTED REVIEWING THE GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC OUTLOOK FOR FISCAL 1997 (1.9 PERCENT GROWTH IN REAL TERMS). THE OUTLOOK IS THAT IT WILL MAKE A SUBSTANTIAL DOWNWARD REVISION TO THE LOWER-0-PERCENT-LEVEL. THE POSSIBILITY HAS NOW EMERGED THAT IF UNCERTAINTY OVER THE FINANCIAL SYSTEM FURTHER WORSENS THE ALREADY DAMPENED CONSUMPTION TREND, THE NATION'S GDP WILL REGISTER NEGATIVE GROWTH FOR THE SECOND TIME SINCE WORLD

WAR II, THE EARLIER CASE BEING THE MINUS 0.5 PERCENT GROWTH POSTED IN FISCAL 1974, THE YEAR AFTER THE FIRST OIL CRISIS.

-- ADJUSTMENT TO BE MADE WITH 2 PERCENT AS AXIS

THE GOVERNMENT YESTERDAY STARTED MAPPING OUT ITS ECONOMIC PROJECTION FOR FISCAL 1998. THE GOVERNMENT IS SCOPING OUT A SCENARIO THAT WILL SURMOUNT THE UNCERTAINTY OVER THE FINANCIAL SYSTEM NOW GRIPPING THE NATION. IT SEES THE ECONOMY STARTING ON A RECOVERY TRACK, THOUGH GRADUALLY, BACKED BY PRIVATE SECTOR-DRIVEN DEMAND AND REFLECTING THE EFFECTS OF THE EMERGENCY ECONOMIC MEASURES. THE LIKELIHOOD IS THAT THE ADJUSTMENTS WILL BE FOR REAL GROWTH RATE IN THE RANGE OF 2.0 PERCENT.

POSTS MINISTRY TO ANNOUNCE TELECOM LIBERALIZATION THIS MONTH BUT DISPUTE WITH U.S. BREWING
(NIHON KEIZAI - PAGE 11)

PRIOR TO LIFTING THE BAN ON INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE SERVICE TO OFFER BY LINKING DOMESTIC PUBLIC LINES TO INTERNATIONAL LEASED LINES, THE MINISTRY OF POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS (MPT) IS SET TO RELEASE BASIC POINTS FOR LIBERALIZATION OF THE SERVICE. THIS POLICY DECISION MIGHT BECOME A SOURCE OF POTENTIAL FUTURE DISPUTES, DEPENDING ON THE CONTENTS OF LIBERALIZATION MEASURES. MPT HAS ALREADY COMPLETED LISTENING TO VIEWS FROM JAPANESE AND OVERSEAS TELECOM CARRIERS IN ORDER TO DRAW UP GUIDELINES. THE RESULT OF THE SURVEY HAS UNDERScoreD STANDOFFS BETWEEN JAPANESE AND WESTERN INTERNATIONAL TELECOM COMPANIES.

ONE POINT OF CONTENTION IS THE DIFFERENCES IN INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENT RATE SYSTEMS BEING ADOPTED BY TELECOM COMPANIES ACROSS THE WORLD. UNDER THE PRESENT INTERNATIONAL PHONE SERVICE SYSTEM, SENDER CARRIERS PAY CONNECTION CHARGES TO RECEIVING COMPANIES. BECAUSE THE ALLOCATION OF INCOME OF A RECEIVING COUNTRY TO EACH COMPANY IS DETERMINED BASED ON THEIR MARKET SHARES, COMPANIES WITH HIGHER SHARES CAN MAKE MORE PROFITS FROM
UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 06 TOKYO 010443

USIA

FOR: USIA D/P, I/GEA, I/RF, I/RFW, EA, R/MR; 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; JUSTICE FOR STU CHEMTOB IN ANT-TRUST DIVISION; COMMERCE FOR JEAN GRIER IN GENERAL COUNCIL'S OFFICE, DAS; USCINCPAC/PA; CINCPAC FLT/PA; COMNAVFORJAPAN/PA.

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 4
TOP HEADLINES:

CONNECTION RATES. JAPANESE CARRIERS, INCLUDING KDD, HAS INSISTED THAT THIS SO-CALLED "PROPORTION RETURN" SYSTEM SHOULD BE APPLIED ALSO TO INTERNATIONAL PHONE SERVICE BY CONNECTING DOMESTIC PUBLIC AND INTERNATIONAL LEASED LINES.

BUT LEADING WESTERN COMPANIES, SUCH AS THE BRITISH CARRIER C&W (CABLE AND WIRELESS), THE AMERICAN COMPANY AT&T AND GLOBAL ONE, HAVE REACTED FIERCELY TO THIS PROPOSAL, JAPAN AT&T PRESIDENT DANIELS REMARKING: "THE UNITED STATES, ENGLAND AND OTHER INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES HAVE PROVIDED SUCH INTERNATIONAL PHONE SERVICE, BUT NONE OF THEM HAS INTRODUCED A RETURN SYSTEM FOR THAT."

ONCE THIS SERVICE IS APPROVED, OVERSEAS TELECOM CARRIERS ARE EXPECTED TO ESTABLISH JAPANESE CORPORATIONS. BY CONNECTING PHONE CALLS BOUND FOR JAPAN WITH THEIR JAPANESE CORPORATIONS' LEASED CIRCUITS, THEY CAN AVOID PAYING CONNECTION RATES, ENABLING THEM TO OFFER DISCOUNT SERVICE FOR THAT PORTION.

THE OFFICE OF U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE (USTR) IN A JAPAN-U.S. EXPERTS' MEETING ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN LATE OCTOBER STATED, "IF THE PROPORTION RETURN SYSTEM IS ADOPTED FOR PHONE SERVICE BY CONNECTING DOMESTIC PUBLIC AND INTERNATIONAL LEASED LINES, THE EFFECT OF BRINGING DOWN PHONE CHARGES WILL BE UNDERMINED."

WHAT HAS MADE THIS ISSUE COMPLICATED IS THE FACT THAT A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES, INCLUDING ASIAN NATIONS, HAVE YET TO LIBERALIZE THAT SERVICE. THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO), BASED ON THE MULTINATIONAL PRINCIPLE, WILL FIND IT DIFFICULT TO ALLOW JAPAN TO LIBERALIZE THE SERVICE, TARGETING ONLY THE U.S. AND EUROPE. IN ASIA, JAPANESE INTERNATIONAL PHONE SERVICE CARRIERS CANNOT PROVIDE THAT SERVICE THROUGH THEIR LOCAL CORPORATIONS, FINDING NO MEANS TO COUNTER.

ANOTHER CONTENTIOUS POINT IS THE QUESTION OF WHETHER TO RESTRICT THE USE OF TRANSIT STATIONS IN THIRD COUNTRIES. THE USE OF THIRD COUNTRIES' TRANSIT STATIONS WILL FACILITATE EVEN NEW ENTRANTS TO SWIFTLY LAY OUT A WORLD-WIDE NETWORK SYSTEM. FOR INSTANCE, IT WOULD ENABLE AN AMERICAN CARRIER TO GATHER TELEPHONE CALLS FROM JAPAN IN THE AMERICAN STATION FIRST AND THEN SEND THEM TO THEIR DESTINATION COUNTRIES ACROSS THE WORLD. IN THIS CASE, HOWEVER, THERE IS FEAR THAT THE FUNCTIONS JAPAN HOLDS AS AN INTERNATIONAL HUB FOR THE TELECOM BUSINESS WILL BE TAKEN AWAY BY FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

MOT AND THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (FCC) ARE SCHEDULED TO HOLD A TELECOMMUNICATIONS MEETING IN TOKYO ON THE 9TH AND 10TH. THE FCC IS ANTICIPATED TO CALL FOR FULL LIBERALIZATION "NOT BASED ON THE PROPORTION RETURN SYSTEM" AND "WITHOUT ANY RESTRICTION ON THE USE OF THIRD COUNTRIES' TRANSIT STATIONS."

OKINAWA PREFECTURAL SPOKESMAN DISASSOCIATES GOVERNOR OTA

FROM FUTENMA HELIPORT PROPOSAL (MAINICHI - PAGE 2)

REGARDING THE PROBLEM OF CONSTRUCTING AN ALTERNATIVE HELIPORT INCIDENT TO THE TIMETABLED RETURN OF THE U.S. FORCES' FUTENMA AIR STATION SITE, A GOVERNMENT SOURCE HAS SAID THAT "THERE WAS A PROPOSAL FROM GOVERNOR MASAHIRO OTA (FOR AN ALTERNATE FACILITY). HOWEVER, MASAOKI AWAGUNI, CHIEF OF THE OKINAWA PREFECTURAL GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, SAID ON DECEMBER 3: "THE ALTERNATIVE HELIPORT WAS STUDIED IN THE COURSE OF CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE U.S. OKINAWA HAS NEVER PROPOSED ANY SUCH THING." WITH THIS, THE OFFICIAL STRESSED THAT NOTHING WAS PROPOSED BY THE GOVERNOR.

UNCLAS SECTION 06 OF 06 TOKYO 010443

USIA

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E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MORNING PRESS HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 4
TOP HEADLINES:

AS FOR THE ALTERNATIVE HELIPORT, PRIME MINISTER RYUTARO HASHIMOTO VISITED OKINAWA IN SEPTEMBER OF LAST YEAR AND THEN REVEALED FOR THE FIRST TIME THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS CONSIDERING A REMOVABLE SEA-BASED FACILITY, MAKING IT A PREMISE TO CONSTRUCT THE PLANNED ALTERNATIVE FACILITY IN THE PREFECTURE. CRANE

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 06

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
009. cable	Re: November 10 Meeting (9 pages)	12/04/1997	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Futenma])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:

[11/28/1997 - 12/05/1997]

2016-0420-F
sb1916

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(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
010. cable	Re: Senator's Meeting in Tokyo (4 pages)	12/04/1997	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Futenma])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:

[11/28/1997 - 12/05/1997]

2016-0420-F
sb1916

RESTRICTION CODES

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
011. cable	Re: Japan-U.S. / Relations (13 pages)	12/05/1997	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Futenma])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:

[11/28/1997 - 12/05/1997]

2016-0420-F
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