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Collection: Baker, Howard H. Jr.: Files
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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection: Baker, Howard H. Jr.: Files
 OA/Box: Box 4
 File Folder: Sasakawa

Archivist: kdb
 FOIA ID: F1997-066/6, D. Cohen
 Date: 08/10/2004

DOCUMENT NO. & TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
1. memo	Gaston Sigur to Dan Crippen re request for Presidential meeting, 1p R 3/17/86 F97-066/6 #146	3/23/88	B1 B6
2. cable	180824Z MAR 88, 1p R " " #147	3/18/88	B1 B6
3. cable	161545Z MAR 88, 1p R " " #148	3/16/88	B1
4. cable	copy of item 3, 1p R " " #149	3/16/88	B1
5. letter	H. Baker to W. Glenn Campbell (draft not sent), 1p R 5/24/11 F97-066/6 #150	3/29/88	B1 B6

RESTRICTIONS

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA].
- B-2 Release could disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA].
- B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA].
- B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial 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-7a Release could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings [(b)(7)(A) of the FOIA].
- B-7b Release would deprive an individual of the right to a fair trial or impartial adjudication [(b)(7)(B) of the FOIA].
- B-7c Release could reasonably be expected to cause unwarranted invasion or privacy [(b)(7)(C) of the FOIA].
- B-7d Release could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source [(b)(7)(D) of the FOIA].
- B-7e Release would disclose techniques or procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions or would disclose guidelines which could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law [(b)(7)(E) of the FOIA].
- B-7f Release could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual [(b)(7)(F) 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].



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

March 23, 1988

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR DAN L. CRIPPEN
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF

FROM: Gaston Sigur *HS*
Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific
Affairs

SUBJECT: Request for Presidential Meeting

We strongly advise against the President meeting Ryoichi Sasakawa. Sasakawa was incarcerated after World War II as a Class A war criminal, but never brought to trial. In recent years, he has engaged in public philanthropy, using vast amounts of money from the Japan Motorboat Racing Association (Japan's biggest legal gambling activity) and other organizations Sasakawa heads. Although philanthropy has given Sasakawa association with respectable individuals, including former President Carter, Sasakawa's reputation in Japan is very poor, with reports of continuing links to organized crime.

Sasakawa's driving ambition in his remaining years (he is perhaps in his 90's) is to win the Nobel Peace Prize. A meeting with the President would serve that end. It would not, however, serve the President.

DECLASSIFIED

NLS F97-066/6#146

BY LOT, NARA, DATE 3/17/06

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~DECL:OADR~~

<DIST>

PRT: BAKER

<PREC> IMMEDIATE <CLAS> ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ <OSRI> RUEHKO <DTG> 180824Z MAR 88

<ORIG>FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

<TO>TO WHITE HOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

<SUBJ>SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MEETING

<TEXT>BT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ TOKYO 04952

PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE EYES ONLY FOR
HOWARD BAKER, CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT FROM
AMBASSADOR MANSFIELD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PREL, JA

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MEETING

REF: RUEADWW #1288 0761545 / 0 161545Z MAR 88

BEGIN TEXT:

-

MARCH 18, 1988

DEAR HOWARD:

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR WARM LETTER. I AM
DELIGHTED TO BE BACK IN TOKYO AND AM FEELING GREAT.
WITH RESPECT TO YOUR REQUEST FOR MY VIEWS ON THE
POSSIBILITY OF THE PRESIDENT RECEIVING RYUICHI
SASAKAWA, I MUST EXPRESS MY STRONG RESERVATIONS. MR.
SASAKAWA HAS GIVEN LARGE SUMS OF MONEY TO CHARITABLE
CAUSES IN RECENT YEARS, INCLUDING PROVIDING THE INITIAL
CAPITAL FOR THE U.S.-JAPAN FOUNDATION, AND HAS BEEN
HONORED BY MANY FOR THESE CONTRIBUTIONS. IN MY VIEW,
HOWEVER, THIS DOES NOT OVERCOME A VERY UNSAVORY PAST OR
HIS REPUTED CURRENT TIES WITH THE JAPANESE UNDERWORLD
AND EXTREME RIGHT WING GROUPS.

BEFORE THE WAR, SASAKAWA ORGANIZED A FASCIST PARTY THAT
WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS IN THE
1930S. AFTER THE WAR, HE WAS IMPRISONED BY THE US AS A
WAR CRIMINAL FOR THREE YEARS ON CHARGES OF ARMS
TRAFFICKING. IN THE POST WAR PERIOD, HE HAS BECOME
HEAVILY INVOLVED IN MOTOR BOAT GAMBLING AND WITH
ARIOUS RIGHTWING CAUSES, INCLUDING REVEREND MOON'S
UNIFICATION CHURCH. HE IS WIDELY REGARDED HERE AS AN
UNSCRUPULOUS SELF-PROMOTER IN SEARCH OF THE NOBEL PEACE
PRIZE.

IN SHORT, FOR ALL HIS RECENT "GOOD WORKS," SASAKAWA IS
NOT THE KIND OF PERSON WITH WHOM THE PRESIDENT SHOULD BE
ASSOCIATED.

WARM REGARDS, MIKE

END TEXT

MANSFIELD

BT

#4952

<SECT>SECTION: 01 OF 01 <SSN> 4952 <TOR> 880318032344 MSG000195967424

DECLASSIFIED

NLS F97-066/6 #147

BY hst NARA, DATE 3/17/06

<DIST>

SIT: WHSR_OUT

<DIST>

SIT: COQ

<PREC> IMMEDIATE <CLAS> ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ <OSRI> RUEADWW <DTG> 161545Z MAR 88

<ORIG>FM THE WHITE HOUSE

<TO>TO RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO

<TEXT>BT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ EYES ONLY

QQQQ

PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO AMBASSADOR MIKE MANSFIELD FROM HOWARD BAKER, CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT.

BEGIN TEXT:

MARCH 16, 1988

DEAR MIKE:

IT IS GOOD TO HAVE YOU BACK IN TOKYO - I FEEL BETTER ABOUT THE STATE OF THE WORLD WHEN YOU ARE ON DUTY. I HAVE AN PAGE 02 RUEADWW1288 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ EYES ONLY ISSUE I WANT TO SEEK YOUR GUIDANCE ON:

WE HAVE REQUESTED A PRESIDENTIAL MEETING WITH MR. SASAKAWA, THE WELL-KNOWN ENTREPRENEUR. I HAVE ASKED STATE'S OPINION ON WHETHER TO GRANT THE REQUEST, BUT I HAVE HEARD THAT HE HAS A MIXED REPUTATION. ANY GUIDANCE YOU WOULD CARE TO OFFER ON THIS PROPOSED MEETING WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATED.

I TRUST ALL WITH YOU IS WELL. I HAD AN INTERESTING DISCUSSION WITH SIR MICHAEL SANDBURG LAST WEEK ON HONG KONG WHICH I WILL RELAY WHEN NEXT WE MEET.

SINCERELY,

HHB

END TEXT

DECL: OADR

PAGE 03 RUEADWW1288 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ EYES ONLY

BT

#1288

<SECT>SECTION: 01 OF 01 <SSN> 1288 <TOR> 880316104618 MSG000195821178

DECLASSIFIED

NLS F97-066/6#148

BY LOI, NARA, DATE 3/19/06

<DIST>
SIT: WHSR_OUT
<DIST>
SIT: COQ
<PREC> IMMEDIATE <CLAS> ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ <OSRI> RUEADWW <DTG> 161545Z MAR 88

<ORIG>FM THE WHITE HOUSE

<TO>TO RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO

<TEXT>BT
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ EYES ONLY
QQQQ

PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO AMBASSADOR MIKE MANSFIELD
FROM HOWARD BAKER, CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT.

BEGIN TEXT:

MARCH 16, 1988

DEAR MIKE:

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THE STATE OF THE WORLD WHEN YOU ARE ON DUTY. I HAVE AN
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WITH SIR MICHAEL SANDBURG LAST WEEK ON HONG KONG WHICH I WILL
RELAY WHEN NEXT WE MEET.

SINCERELY,

HNB

END TEXT

DECL: OADR

PAGE 03 RUEADWW1288 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ EYES ONLY
BT
#1288

<SECT>SECTION: 01 OF 01 <SSN> 1288 <TOR> 880316104618 MSG000195821178

DECLASSIFIED
NLS F97-066/6#149
BY LOI, NARA, DATE 3/17/06

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

4/29/88

Sue,

The attached letters are to be held.

Please confer with Tuck about them.

AW

4/30/88

Do not send letter, simply file.

TO: **SUE WALKUP**
Special Assistant to
the Chief of Staff

Call please
to find out
if they have
and report the
word to
Campbell

Hold
Till

Truck files to
HHR

1

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

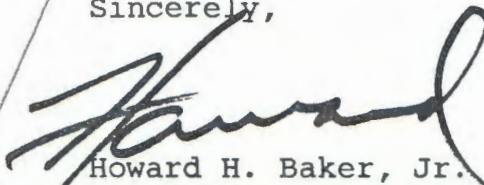
March 29, 1988

Dear Glenn:

As I told you I would, I did a little background checking on Ryoichi Sasakawa and got a very negative report. Mike Mansfield reports that while Sasakawa has given large sums of money to charitable causes in recent years, that in Mike's view this still does not overcome a very unsavory past or his reputed current ties with the Japanese underworld and extreme right wing groups. It is also reported that Sasakawa organized a fascist party that was responsible for political assassinations in the 1930's. In the postwar period he has become heavily involved in motorboat gambling and connections, in some way, with Reverend Moon's Unification Church.

State also advises against the meeting, therefore, we think it is wise to drop it.

Sincerely,



Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Dr. W. Glenn Campbell
Chairman
President's Intelligence Oversight
Board
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

cc: Attorney General Meese

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR E97-06616 #150

BY RW NARA DATE 5/24/11