

Concerning himself, HIRAMATSU stated that he has been in Latin America about seventeen years. His business in La Paz dealing in imports and exports was formerly quite remunerative and he stated its value once amounted to 250,000 Argentine pesos (approximately \$62,500 U.S.) but that it has since been liquidated and sold for practically nothing. He stated that the Japanese he had left there in charge of the business have all been interned in the United States. In Argentina his financial situation had become progressively worse and he presently has a small business at Cabildo 2969, Buenos Aires selling lace work and dry goods. His total assets now equal about \$3,000 U.S., HIRAMATSU stated, and his business is adversely effected by his inclusion on the U. S. Proclaimed List. HIRAMATSU seemed anxious to be excluded from this list. He also stated that he would like to be repatriated to Japan since his wife and children are there. He apparently hopes to return to Japan and then come back to South America with his family to enter business again.

Information received from Source E shows that HIRAMATSU has Argentine Cedula No. 1539307 and that he was born in Japan December 20, 1908. He came to Argentina on Japanese passport No. 098663 issued in Tokyo April 30, 1928.

Information obtained from Source F concerning NATALIO DIMSITZ confirms that given by HIRAMATSU. He is a young Argentine who has engaged in local business and commerce without much success. He apparently took a trip to Bolivia in 1940 and returned to Buenos Aires in March, 1941. In December of the latter year he acted as manager for the firm Garcia y Compania, which position he apparently held until November 16, 1943. He presently resides at Calle Juan B. Justo 294, Buenos Aires, and is engaged in selling on commission. He pays monthly rent of 130 pesos (approximately \$33 U. S.) and apparently has little or no capital.

Information received from Source F concerning Garcia y Compania, S.R.L. shows that this was a very small business organized in December, 1941, with capital amounting to about \$1200 U.S. It was organized to carry on buying and selling and importing and exporting. Business has been inactive for more than the past two years and apparently amounted to very little. RAIMUNDO GARCIA, a Spaniard aged 64, was the principal partner and had previously been a customs broker. Other partners consisted of two young Argentine women. The firm was located for a time at General Cesar Diaz 2475. It is reported by the source to have not proven financially reliable and the partners attempted to defraud creditors.

Investigation has been performed by Source G concerning the occupants at Condarco 4064, an address appearing in YATOH's notebook. This investigation revealed that the house was occupied until mid 1945, and for several years previous, by a German named ARTURO E. F. HANSCHKE. HANSCHKE is described as about seventy years old, tall and heavy set, a retired engineer of the Compania Argentina de Electricidad. He resided at this address with his wife, aged sixty-seven and also German, and two children. A daughter named IRMA is about thirty-two years old, Argentine, and teaches; she apparently also gives private German lessons. A son named IRMO is also Argentine and aged about thirty. He is an engineer and is employed as such in the Ministry of War, working in the Armaments Section named Fabricacion de Armamentos Militares. Investigation by Source G showed that the HANSCHKE family received considerable mail from Germany and that they had considerable contact with other individuals of German nationality in Buenos Aires. The family presently resides at Calle Carlos Melo 2404, located in the suburb of Florida, F.C.C.A.

Information received from Source H shows that ARTURO HANSCHKE was reported as a Nazi agent working at the Argentine Naval Base at Puerto Belgrano.

~~JWA-FC~~

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

~~DE/R~~
~~JA~~
~~RPA~~
RL
~~B~~

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NUMBER _____

DIVISION OF FOREIGN ACTIVITY CORRELATION
APR 2 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF JAPANESE AFFAIRS
APR 10 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Date: April 1, 1946
To: Mr. Frederick B. Lyon
Chief
Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
Department of State
From: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Subject: Osaka Shosen Kabushiki Kaisha
Argentina

You will recall my letter of December 13, 1946 regarding the above captioned company, a Japanese shipping firm, which was reported to be a Japanese espionage center.

There is transmitted herewith a report received from reliable sources concerning an interview with Enrique Saban who was an accountant for the firm. It is noted that Saban admitted that he subscribed to American periodicals for the benefit of his employers.

This information is available to the American Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Enclosure

cc Chief of Naval Intelligence
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

Assistant Chief of Staff G-2
War Department
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Reading Panel
Military Intelligence Service

DIVISION OF ECONOMIC SECURITY CONTROL
APR 18 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

APR 24 1946

894.20235/4-146



DECLASSIFIED
NND 780049
By Tg/cj NARS, Date 8-24-28

FOR APPROVAL
Dorothea M. Laurion
MML

Confidential File

894.20235/4-146
CS/A

February 26, 1946

OSAKA SHOSEN KABUSHIKI KAISHA
Buenos Aires, Argentina

It has been previously reported that the local branch office of this Japanese shipping firm was suspected of being a Japanese espionage center. The office of the firm was formerly located on the 7th floor of a business building at Avenida R. S. Peña 995, Buenos Aires. It was indicated that an accountant for this firm named ENRIQUE SABAN was, during the war, receiving United States magazines and newspapers on behalf of the Japanese personnel of the firm. It was also reported that an Argentine woman employee of the firm named MARIA RAMOS was receiving copies of the British magazine "Shipping World" at the address of Calle Villanueva 1355.

Information from Source C reflecting the results of a conversation with ENRIQUE SABAN on January 10, 1946, has been received. It is noted that there is no particular reason for believing that the statements made by SABAN to the source are true, but his attitude during the conversation indicated he was probably telling the truth.

SABAN stated that he has been employed by the O.S.K. Shipping Line as an accountant since 1923. During the course of time he became well acquainted with the business of that firm and became almost indispensable in the matter of arranging and caring for the firm's accounts in Argentina. He stated that the firm has conducted no business since 1941 and that the financial situation of the firm and of the Japanese personnel has become progressively worse.

SABAN stated that during the war he received American newspapers and magazines for the Japanese members of the firm. He did this at their request and received a commission for it. He stated also that he always considered he would lose his employment as accountant for the firm if he did not comply with this request. He listed the following American magazines as having been received by him: "Saturday Evening Post"; "Time"; "Newsweek"; "Colliers". He said on one occasion the Japanese requested him to subscribe to an American shipping journal, name forgotten, but that he

refused to do this when he realized the nature of its contents. He stated that subscriptions to these magazines were terminated June 30, 1945, except as to the Saturday Evening Post, which he still receives for his own consumption. SABAN also stated that he received the newspapers "New York Times" and "Chicago Tribune" for the Japanese. He also subscribed to another American newspaper, the name of which he did not recall but which was something like "Commercial Correspondence". Subscriptions to these newspapers terminated in late 1944, apparently at the request of the newspapers themselves, and SABAN received a refund which he pocketed.

SABAN stated that the Japanese members of the O.S.K Firm used to read and study these periodicals and make notes. He does not know, he said, what they did with the information but considered it possible they sent cable summaries of the information to Japan before Argentina's diplomatic break with that country in January, 1944, at which time cable and radio communications were cut off. He stated that it is likely also that some of the information was turned over to the Japanese Embassy. He recalled that the Japanese were particularly interested in data about Liberty ships and about Allied aircraft. He stated, however, that he does not know of any other source used by the Japanese here to gain information about the Allied war effort. The subscriptions were made by SABAN with the Acme News Agency, B. Mitre 552.

SABAN was asked about receipt of the British magazine "Shipping World" by MARIA RAMOS at Villanueva 1355. He confirmed the fact that Señorita RAMOS had acted as telephone girl for the O.S.K. Line and was also employed until June, 1943. He stated that she had lived in the suburb of Villa Urquiza and had never resided at Villanueva 1355. That address was occupied by the manager of the local firm, TARO SUKUGAWA, who used the name of MARIA RAMOS as an alias for the receipt of this magazine and perhaps others. He stated that MARIA RAMOS is now married and she no longer has anything to do with the Japanese. He likewise stated that she never knew about this use of her name for the receipt of publications although his insistence on this point appeared to Source C as an afterthought to protect MARIA RAMOS.

He stated that the Argentine ANTONIO J. DE SOUZA formerly connected with O.S.K. as representative in Buenos Aires, continued in employment by the firm until 1944. He received a monthly salary of 3,500 Argentine pesos (equivalent to approximately \$875 U.S.). He stated also that SOUZA had acted for the Japanese in receiving copies of the British magazine "Fairplay", which he subscribes to through Mitchell's Book Store located at Cangallo 570.

SABAN gave some details about the financial situation of the O.S.K. Firm. He said that after the start of the Japan-United States war, the firm here did not receive money from its principal office in Japan. In order to pay salaries to the personnel, money was borrowed from the Japanese Ambassador SHU TCMII, in various amounts, which have now reached the total of 80,000 Argentine pesos (\$20,000 U.S.). On February 28, 1944, all Japanese personnel of the firm were discharged except the manager, SUKUGAWA. The latter individual has the equivalent of about \$500 U.S. in currency at present and lives on about \$25 U. S. per month. He is doing some gardening to reduce his living expenses. The equivalent of about \$125 U.S. remains in cash for the company, apparently in the position of SUKUGAWA. The firm also sold its automobile for the equivalent of \$1,500 U. S., which money is presently blocked in the Banco de la Provincia and which SABAN is trying to unblock for use by SUKUGAWA. In addition, the firm has the sum of 10,000 pesos (about \$2,500 U.S.) being held by the local Panamanian Consulate, which sum is likewise blocked. (This amount represents transit fees which were deposited by the firm in 1941 on behalf of several employees of this firm in anticipation of their returning to Japan, a trip which was not made.) The firm likewise has 7,000 pesos (about \$1,750 U.S.) on deposit with the Argentine Government as guaranty that shipping commitments will be carried out; this guaranty is identical with that placed by all shipping firms operating from Argentine ports.

SABAN stated that the O.S.K. Firm in Argentina is practically liquidated and amounts to almost nothing. A steel filing cabinet and a few of the firm's books are being kept in a room, apparently located in a boarding house at Calles Guemes 3241, Buenos Aires. The former personnel of the firm who have been discharged are engaging in various activities, including gardening and horticulture.

COPY

February 26, 1946

OSAKA SHOSEN KABUSHIKI KAISHA
Buenos Aires, Argentina

It has been previously reported that the local branch office of this Japanese shipping firm was suspected of being a Japanese espionage center. The office of the firm was formerly located on the 7th floor of a business building at Avenida R. S. Peña 995, Buenos Aires. It was indicated that an accountant for this firm named ENRIQUE SABAN was, during the war, receiving United States Magazines and newspapers on behalf of the Japanese personnel of the firm. It was also reported that an Argentine woman employee of the firm named MARIA RAMOS was receiving copies of the British magazine "Shipping World" at the address of Calle Villanueva 1355.

Information from Source C reflecting the results of a conversation with ENRIQUE SABAN on January 10, 1946, has been received. It is noted that there is no particular reason for believing that the statements made by SABAN to the source are true, but his attitude during the conversation indicated he was probably telling the truth.

SABAN stated that he has been employed by the O.S.K. Shipping Line as an accountant since 1923. During the course of time he became well acquainted with the business of that firm and became almost indispensable in the matter of arranging and caring for the firm's accounts in Argentina. He stated that the firm has conducted no business since 1941 and that the financial situation of the firm and of the Japanese personnel has become progressively worse.

SABAN stated that during the war he received American newspapers and magazines for the Japanese members of the firm. He did this at their request and received a commission for it. He stated also that he always considered he would lose his employment as accountant for the firm if he did not comply with this request. He listed the following American magazines as having been received by him: "Saturday Evening Post"; "Time"; "Newsweek"; "Colliers". He said on one occasion the Japanese requested him to subscribe to an American shipping journal, name forgotten, but that he

refused to do this when he realized the nature of its contents. He stated that subscriptions to these magazines were terminated June 30, 1945, except as to the Saturday Evening Post, which he still receives for his own consumption. SABAN also stated that he received the newspapers "New York Times" and "Chicago Tribune" for the Japanese. He also subscribed to another American newspaper, the name of which he did not recall but which was something like "Commercial Correspondence". Subscriptions to these newspapers terminated in late 1944, apparently at the request of the newspapers themselves, and SABAN received a refund which he pocketed.

SABAN stated that the Japanese members of the O.S.K Firm used to read and study these periodicals and make notes. He does not know, he said, what they did with the information but considered it possible they sent cable summaries of the information to Japan before Argentina's diplomatic break with that country in January, 1944, at which time cable and radio communications were cut off. He stated that it is likely also that some of the information was turned over to the Japanese Embassy. He recalled that the Japanese were particularly interested in data about Liberty ships and about Allied aircraft. He stated, however, that he does not know of any other source used by the Japanese here to gain information about the Allied war effort. The subscriptions were made by SABAN with the Acme News Agency, B. Mitre 552.

SABAN was asked about receipt of the British magazine "Shipping World" by MARIA RAMOS at Villanueva 1355. He confirmed the fact that Señorita RAMOS had acted as telephone girl for the O.S.K. Line and was so employed until June, 1943. He stated that she had lived in the suburb of Villa Urquiza and had never resided at Villanueva 1355. That address was occupied by the manager of the local firm, TARO SUKUGAWA, who used the name of MARIA RAMOS as an alias for the receipt of this magazine and perhaps others. He stated that MARIA RAMOS is now married and she no longer has anything to do with the Japanese. He likewise stated that she never knew about this use of her name for the receipt of publications although his insistence on this point appeared to Source C as an afterthought to protect MARIA RAMOS.

He stated that the Argentine ANTONIO J. DE SOUZA formerly connected with O.S.K. as representative in Buenos Aires, continued in employment by the firm until 1944. He received a monthly salary of 3,500 Argentine pesos (equivalent to approximately \$875 U.S.). He stated also that SOUZA had acted for the Japanese in receiving copies of the British magazine "Fairplay", which he subscribes to through Mitchell's Book Store located at Cangallo 570.

SABAN gave some details about the financial situation of the O.S.K. Firm. He said that after the start of the Japan-United States war, the firm here did not receive money from its principal office in Japan. In order to pay salaries to the personnel, money was borrowed from the Japanese Ambassador SHU TOMII, in various amounts, which have now reached the total of 80,000 Argentine pesos (\$20,000). On February 28, 1944, all Japanese personnel of the firm were discharged except the manager, SUKUGAWA. The latter individual has the equivalent of about \$500 U.S. in currency at present and lives on about \$25 U. S. per month. He is doing some gardening to reduce his living expenses. The equivalent of about \$125 U.S. remains in cash for the company, apparently in the position of SUKUGAWA. The firm also sold its automobile for the equivalent of \$1,500 U. S., which money is presently blocked in the Banco de la Provincia and which SABAN is trying to unblock for use by SUKUGAWA. In addition, the firm has the sum of 10,000 pesos (about \$2,500 U.S.) being held by the local Panamanian Consulate, which sum is likewise blocked. (This amount represents transit fees which were deposited by the firm in 1941 on behalf of several employees of this firm in anticipation of their returning to Japan, a trip which was not made.) The firm likewise has 7,000 pesos (about \$1,750 U.S.) on deposit with the Argentine Government as guaranty that shipping commitments will be carried out; this guaranty is identical with that placed by all shipping firms operating from Argentine ports.

SABAN stated that the O.S.K. Firm in Argentina is practically liquidated and amounts to almost nothing. A steel filing cabinet and a few of the firm's books are being kept in a room, apparently located in a boarding house at Calles Guemes 3241, Buenos Aires. The former personnel of the firm who have been discharged are engaging in various activities, including gardening and horticulture.

COPY

February 26, 1946

OSAKA SHOSEN KABUSHIKI KAISHA
Buenos Aires, Argentina

It has been previously reported that the local branch office of this Japanese shipping firm was suspected of being a Japanese espionage center. The office of the firm was formerly located on the 7th floor of a business building at Avenida R. S. Peña 995, Buenos Aires. It was indicated that an accountant for this firm named ENRIQUE SABAN was, during the war, receiving United States Magazines and newspapers on behalf of the Japanese personnel of the firm. It was also reported that an Argentine woman employee of the firm named MARIA RAMOS was receiving copies of the British magazine "Shipping World" at the address of Calle Villanueva 1355.

Information from Source C reflecting the results of a conversation with ENRIQUE SABAN on January 10, 1946, has been received. It is noted that there is no particular reason for believing that the statements made by SABAN to the source are true, but his attitude during the conversation indicated he was probably telling the truth.

SABAN stated that he has been employed by the O.S.K. Shipping Line as an accountant since 1923. During the course of time he became well acquainted with the business of that firm and became almost indispensable in the matter of arranging and caring for the firm's accounts in Argentina. He stated that the firm has conducted no business since 1941 and that the financial situation of the firm and of the Japanese personnel has become progressively worse.

SABAN stated that during the war he received American newspapers and magazines for the Japanese members of the firm. He did this at their request and received a commission for it. He stated also that he always considered he would lose his employment as accountant for the firm if he did not comply with this request. He listed the following American magazines as having been received by him: "Saturday Evening Post"; "Time"; "Newsweek"; "Colliers". He said on one occasion the Japanese requested him to subscribe to an American shipping journal, name forgotten, but that he

refused to do this when he realized the nature of its contents. He stated that subscriptions to these magazines were terminated June 30, 1945, except as to the Saturday Evening Post, which he still receives for his own consumption. SABAN also stated that he received the newspapers "New York Times" and "Chicago Tribune" for the Japanese. He also subscribed to another American newspaper, the name of which he did not recall but which was something like "Commercial Correspondence". Subscriptions to these newspapers terminated in late 1944, apparently at the request of the newspapers themselves, and SABAN received a refund which he pocketed.

SABAN stated that the Japanese members of the O.S.K Firm used to read and study these periodicals and make notes. He does not know, he said, what they did with the information but considered it possible they sent cable summaries of the information to Japan before Argentina's diplomatic break with that country in January, 1944, at which time cable and radio communications were cut off. He stated that it is likely also that some of the information was turned over to the Japanese Embassy. He recalled that the Japanese were particularly interested in data about Liberty ships and about Allied aircraft. He stated, however, that he does not know of any other source used by the Japanese here to gain information about the Allied war effort. The subscriptions were made by SABAN with the Acme News Agency, B. Mitre 552.

SABAN was asked about receipt of the British magazine "Shipping World" by MARIA RAMOS at Villanueva 1355. He confirmed the fact that Señorita RAMOS had acted as telephone girl for the O.S.K. Line and was so employed until June, 1943. He stated that she had lived in the suburb of Villa Urquiza and had never resided at Villanueva 1355. That address was occupied by the manager of the local firm, TARO SUKUGAWA, who used the name of MARIA RAMOS as an alias for the receipt of this magazine and perhaps others. He stated that MARIA RAMOS is now married and she no longer has anything to do with the Japanese. He likewise stated that she never knew about this use of her name for the receipt of publications although his insistence on this point appeared to Source C as an afterthought to protect MARIA RAMOS.

He stated that the Argentine ANTONIO J. DE SOUZA formerly connected with O.S.K. as representative in Buenos Aires, continued in employment by the firm until 1944. He received a monthly salary of 3,500 Argentine pesos (equivalent to approximately \$875 U.S.). He stated also that SOUZA had acted for the Japanese in receiving copies of the British magazine "Fairplay", which he subscribes to through Mitchell's Book Store located at Cangallo 570.

SABAN gave some details about the financial situation of the O.S.K. Firm. He said that after the start of the Japan-United States war, the firm here did not receive money from its principal office in Japan. In order to pay salaries to the personnel, money was borrowed from the Japanese Ambassador SHU TOMII, in various amounts, which have now reached the total of 80,000 Argentine pesos (\$20,000). On February 28, 1944, all Japanese personnel of the firm were discharged except the manager, SUKUGAWA. The latter individual has the equivalent of about \$500 U.S. in currency at present and lives on about \$25 U. S. per month. He is doing some gardening to reduce his living expenses. The equivalent of about \$125 U.S. remains in cash for the company, apparently in the position of SUKUGAWA. The firm also sold its automobile for the equivalent of \$1,500 U. S., which money is presently blocked in the Banco de la Provincia and which SABAN is trying to unblock for use by SUKUGAWA. In addition, the firm has the sum of 10,000 pesos (about \$2,500 U.S.) being held by the local Panamanian Consulate, which sum is likewise blocked. (This amount represents transit fees which were deposited by the firm in 1941 on behalf of several employees of this firm in anticipation of their returning to Japan, a trip which was not made.) The firm likewise has 7,000 pesos (about \$1,750 U.S.) on deposit with the Argentine Government as guaranty that shipping commitments will be carried out; this guaranty is identical with that placed by all shipping firms operating from Argentine ports.

SABAN stated that the O.S.K. Firm in Argentina is practically liquidated and amounts to almost nothing. A steel filing cabinet and a few of the firm's books are being kept in a room, apparently located in a boarding house at Calles Guemes 3241, Buenos Aires. The former personnel of the firm who have been discharged are engaging in various activities, including gardening and horticulture.

COPY

February 26, 1946

OSAKA SHOSEN KABUSHIKI KAISHA
Buenos Aires, Argentina

It has been previously reported that the local branch office of this Japanese shipping firm was suspected of being a Japanese espionage center. The office of the firm was formerly located on the 7th floor of a business building at Avenida R. S. Peña 995, Buenos Aires. It was indicated that an accountant for this firm named ENRIQUE SABAN was, during the war, receiving United States Magazines and newspapers on behalf of the Japanese personnel of the firm. It was also reported that an Argentine woman employee of the firm named MARIA RAMOS was receiving copies of the British magazine "Shipping World" at the address of Calle Villanueva 1355.

Information from Source C reflecting the results of a conversation with ENRIQUE SABAN on January 10, 1946, has been received. It is noted that there is no particular reason for believing that the statements made by SABAN to the source are true, but his attitude during the conversation indicated he was probably telling the truth.

SABAN stated that he has been employed by the O.S.K. Shipping Line as an accountant since 1923. During the course of time he became well acquainted with the business of that firm and became almost indispensable in the matter of arranging and caring for the firm's accounts in Argentina. He stated that the firm has conducted no business since 1941 and that the financial situation of the firm and of the Japanese personnel has become progressively worse.

SABAN stated that during the war he received American newspapers and magazines for the Japanese members of the firm. He did this at their request and received a commission for it. He stated also that he always considered he would lose his employment as accountant for the firm if he did not comply with this request. He listed the following American magazines as having been received by him: "Saturday Evening Post"; "Time"; "Newsweek"; "Colliers". He said on one occasion the Japanese requested him to subscribe to an American shipping journal, name forgotten, but that he

refused to do this when he realized the nature of its contents. He stated that subscriptions to these magazines were terminated June 30, 1945, except as to the Saturday Evening Post, which he still receives for his own consumption. SABAN also stated that he received the newspapers "New York Times" and "Chicago Tribune" for the Japanese. He also subscribed to another American newspaper, the name of which he did not recall but which was something like "Commercial Correspondence". Subscriptions to these newspapers terminated in late 1944, apparently at the request of the newspapers themselves, and SABAN received a refund which he pocketed.

SABAN stated that the Japanese members of the O.S.K Firm used to read and study these periodicals and make notes. He does not know, he said, what they did with the information but considered it possible they sent cable summaries of the information to Japan before Argentina's diplomatic break with that country in January, 1944, at which time cable and radio communications were cut off. He stated that it is likely also that some of the information was turned over to the Japanese Embassy. He recalled that the Japanese were particularly interested in data about Liberty ships and about Allied aircraft. He stated, however, that he does not know of any other source used by the Japanese here to gain information about the Allied war effort. The subscriptions were made by SABAN with the Acme News Agency, B. Mitre 552.

SABAN was asked about receipt of the British magazine "Shipping World" by MARIA RAMOS at Villanueva 1355. He confirmed the fact that Señorita RAMOS had acted as telephone girl for the O.S.K. Line and was so employed until June, 1943. He stated that she had lived in the suburb of Villa Urquiza and had never resided at Villanueva 1355. That address was occupied by the manager of the local firm, TARO SUKUGAWA, who used the name of MARIA RAMOS as an alias for the receipt of this magazine and perhaps others. He stated that MARIA RAMOS is now married and she no longer has anything to do with the Japanese. He likewise stated that she never knew about this use of her name for the receipt of publications although his insistence on this point appeared to Source C as an afterthought to protect MARIA RAMOS.

He stated that the Argentine ANTONIO J. DE SOUZA formerly connected with O.S.K. as representative in Buenos Aires, continued in employment by the firm until 1944. He received a monthly salary of 3,500 Argentine pesos (equivalent to approximately \$875 U.S.). He stated also that SOUZA had acted for the Japanese in receiving copies of the British magazine "Fairplay", which he subscribes to through Mitchell's Book Store located at Cangallo 570.

SABAN gave some details about the financial situation of the O.S.K. Firm. He said that after the start of the Japan-United States war, the firm here did not receive money from its principal office in Japan. In order to pay salaries to the personnel, money was borrowed from the Japanese Ambassador SHU TOMII, in various amounts, which have now reached the total of 80,000 Argentine pesos (\$20,000). On February 28, 1944, all Japanese personnel of the firm were discharged except the manager, SUKUGAWA. The latter individual has the equivalent of about \$500 U.S. in currency at present and lives on about \$25 U. S. per month. He is doing some gardening to reduce his living expenses. The equivalent of about \$125 U.S. remains in cash for the company, apparently in the position of SUKUGAWA. The firm also sold its automobile for the equivalent of \$1,500 U. S., which money is presently blocked in the Banco de la Provincia and which SABAN is trying to unblock for use by SUKUGAWA. In addition, the firm has the sum of 10,000 pesos (about \$2,500 U.S.) being held by the local Panamanian Consulate, which sum is likewise blocked. (This amount represents transit fees which were deposited by the firm in 1941 on behalf of several employees of this firm in anticipation of their returning to Japan, a trip which was not made.) The firm likewise has 7,000 pesos (about \$1,750 U.S.) on deposit with the Argentine Government as guaranty that shipping commitments will be carried out; this guaranty is identical with that placed by all shipping firms operating from Argentine ports.

SABAN stated that the O.S.K. Firm in Argentina is practically liquidated and amounts to almost nothing. A steel filing cabinet and a few of the firm's books are being kept in a room, apparently located in a boarding house at Calles Guemes 3241, Buenos Aires. The former personnel of the firm who have been discharged are engaging in various activities, including gardening and horticulture.

SECRET

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR
STRATEGIC SERVICES UNIT
25th & E STREETS, N.W.
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

~~PFC - PG~~
DCH

14-10,373

2 April 1946

GA
RPA
VD

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
RECEIVED
APR 16 1946
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS AND REWARDS

DIVISION OF CHINESE AFFAIRS
APR 19 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF FOREIGN ACTIVITIES CORRELATION
Inst. to Bureau files
APR 3 1946
tc/Pfc/emm
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

EQ/DRK
D/R

Memorandum for: Mr. Jack D. Neal
Department of State
Subject: Boris SAPIRO

1. The attached memorandum is transmitted for your interest.
2. Information on subject is also being furnished the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
3. It is not known whether this information has been made available to any representatives of the Department of State.

894.20235/4-246

VISA DIVISION
MAY 6 - 1946
Department of State

Jason Paige, Jr.
Jason Paige, Jr.
Liaison Officer

Attachment

DCR - ARA Unit
Anal. *JRE*
Rev.
Cat. *LR*
Dist.

MAY 14 1946

Confidential File
SECRET

894.20235/4-246
CS/A/4-246

SECRET

SECRETMEMORANDUM

Re: Boris SAPIRO

A cable from Shanghai, dated 22 March 1946, states that on 11 March 1946, Boris SAPIRO, who is alleged to have been an agent of the Japanese Gendarmerie, sailed from Shanghai on board the S. S. "Doctor Lykes." The "Doctor Lykes" is reportedly proceeding to a Gulf port (or possibly Gulfport, Mississippi, is meant) via Hong Kong, Honolulu and the Panama Canal. SAPIRO, who has a U. S. Consular transit visa and whose passage is guaranteed by CNRRA, (Chinese Section of UNRRA) is en route to Argentina. SAPIRO is stateless, of French origin, was born on 21 January 1910 and is an actor by profession.

1910
JAP
8715747

The CV should be certified beyond a reasonable doubt that Sapiro was not an agent of the Jap before

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7552

To the

Officer in Charge of the American Mission,
Buenos Aires.

The Secretary of State transmits for the information of
the Embassy a copy of a report dated April 2, 1946 received
from the Strategic Services Unit in regard to Boris SAPIRO.

894 20235/4-246

894.20235/4-246

Enclosure:

As stated above. ✓

DUG - ARA Unit	
Anal.	JRG
Rev.	W

FC:PFCherp:CMH

4-9-46

APR 11 1946 P.M.

894.20235/4-246
CS/A
Confidential File

DECLASSIFIED

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

By TC/oy NND 780069
NARS, Date 8-24-28



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

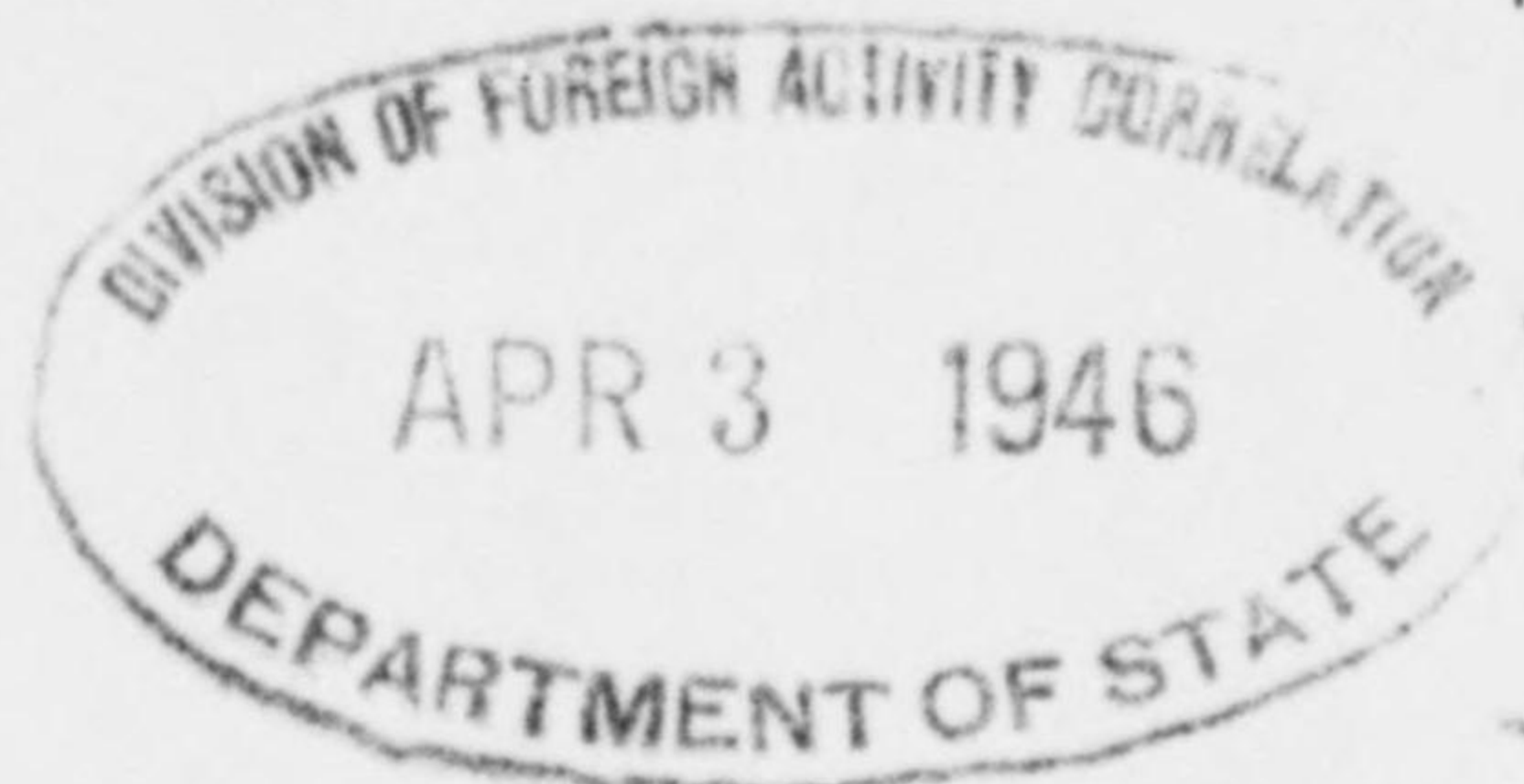
IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NUMBER _____

Date: April 3, 1946

To: Mr. Frederick B. Lyon, Chief
Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
Department of State

From: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: Ryokichi Nagai; Suetaka Hayao;
Dr. Alberto Goes Telles, et al
Buenos Aires, Argentina



Reference is made to my letter dated April 30, 1945, concerning the above-captioned matter. Additional information concerning the activities of Isoma Kobayashi is set forth in the attached memorandum. It will be noted that Kobayashi states that personnel of the Nambu Trading Company extracted information from Allied newspapers and magazines to submit to the Japanese Embassy in Buenos Aires until January, 1944 when Argentine-Japanese diplomatic relations were broken.

Enclosure



cc Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2 War Department, Washington, D. C. cc Chief of Naval Intelligence Navy Department, Washington,

Attention: Reading Panel
Military Intelligence Service

Confidential File

CS/A

894.20235/4-346

894.20235/4-346

DO/R

RPA

file 4/29/46

DC

RB

Handwritten initials

Handwritten initials

Handwritten initials

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Date: April 3, 1946
To: Mr. Frederick B. Lyon, Chief
Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
Department of State
From: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Subject: Ryokichi Nagai; Suetaka Hayao;
Dr. Alberto Goes Telles, et al
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Reference is made to my letter dated April 30, 1945, concerning the above-captioned matter. Additional information concerning the activities of Isoma Kobayashi is set forth in the attached memorandum. It will be noted that Kobayashi states that personnel of the Nambu Trading Company extracted information from Allied newspapers and magazines to submit to the Japanese Embassy in Buenos Aires until January, 1944 when Argentine-Japanese diplomatic relations were broken.

Enclosure

cc Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2 cc Chief of Naval Intelligence
War Department, Washington, D. C. Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

Attention: Reading Panel
Military Intelligence Service

February 16, 1946

Re: RYOKICHI NAGAI; SUETAKA
HAYAO; Dr. ALBERTO GOES TELLES, et al
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Investigation of branch offices of the Japanese Mitsui Firm in Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, and Santiago, Chile, has disclosed espionage activities on the part of personnel of this firm and communications between the branches in those cities in code. Investigation in Buenos Aires has been conducted into the activities of the personnel of this firm, which firm is called Nambel Trading Company, located at Calle J. E. Uriburu 1263, Buenos Aires.

A part of the investigation of Nambel has dealt with the activities of the manager of this firm, ISOMA KOBAYASHI. KOBAYASHI has resided in an apartment at Juramento 1805. Further investigation of the activities of KOBAYASHI during mid 1945 by source C failed to disclose activity on his part of interest. He went daily to the Nambel office and returned in the evening to his home. During these trips he was unaccompanied.

It will be recalled that KOBAYASHI was arrested by the Argentine Federal Police on charges of espionage in February, 1944, and was released on May 27 of that year. Source D has supplied the results of the police questioning of KOBAYASHI, which are set forth in summary as follows:

KOBAYASHI stated he is of Japanese nationality, 46 years of age, and has resided in Argentina for five years. He has been working about twenty-five years in the Mitsui Company, a Japanese importing and exporting firm. In 1939 he was transferred to London, and sailed for England. When he arrived at San Francisco, California the present war broke out but in spite of that he continued his journey to New York.

There he received a message from his home office ordering him to postpone the journey and to go to Buenos Aires, where he arrived on December 10, 1939. Upon his arrival he was appointed president of the Board of Directors of the company at the orders of the home office and by the

election of the share holders, among whom he remembers the following: HARRUO KIMURA, KOMAZO IOSHIDA, EIZO MEKATA, SENZABURU SEINO, MASRICHI IROTA and SINICHI TAKEDA. Later, at the request of his fellow countrymen, he was made a member of the Instituto Cultural Argentino-Japanese (presently dissolved). He did not hold any official position in it.

When asked to say if he knew NAKAYAMA, Admiral of the Japanese Imperial Navy, and SUETAKA HAYAO, former Secretary of the Japanese Embassy in Brazil and at present an employee of the Japanese Embassy, he replied that he has no knowledge about them. He forwarded many messages referring to commercial matters to the home office of the Nambu Company. After his country went to war he forwarded news items about strikes, agricultural production and general prices, especially of rubber, in connection with North America. He obtained the news items from United States newspapers and magazines which he obtained at any news stand.

About two years ago he received orders not to send any more news items, since prices in the United States were fixed and did not have any variations, for which reason it was not necessary to compare them with Japanese prices. He did not forward news items referring to military or maritime questions, and does not know if there was another person assigned to do that.

The Nambu Company has branches in Chile and Brazil. The employees of those branches have returned to Japan, and there remain in the said branches only a manager and one employee. He obtained the news items with the assistance of the employees of the company.

In normal times it is an obligation to forward such news items to Japan and, therefore, it does not at the present time mean anything abnormal. The news items were always sent through the "Transradio Internacional".

He has received many messages in code from Japan, but that was before the war when it was permitted. He was frequently the intermediary of the correspondence received by the branches of the company in Chile and Brazil. According to the existing contract, the branches were operated to inform the subject about any item of news. At the present time they send copies of balances and bank accounts

of those branches. These communications were frequently made through the company's lawyer, Dr. EDUARDO CRESPO.

When the representatives of the branches in Brazil and Chile left for Japan, he prepared to follow their example, for which reason he burned all the records and cleared off all the stock of the Nambei Company. When the subject arrived in Argentina, he became acquainted with GORO MIYASAKI, who was an employee of the Nambei Company and was later transferred to Chile. Accompanied by KINTOH, an engineer of the company, he traveled by plane over some copper mines in Chile and KINTOH took several photographs of them, for which reason the Chilean Government arrested them. After steps were taken by the Japanese Embassy, MIYASAKI was allowed to leave Chile.

KOBAYASHI stated that he is well acquainted with TOMIYO KOSEKI and SHOZO MURAI because the three attended school in Japan together when they were children. He stated that this friendship continued in Argentina.

KOBAYASHI was further interviewed by Source E on January 5, 1946. At that time he stated that the only Japanese activity of an intelligence nature carried on in Argentina of which he knows is the study and compilation of information obtained from Allied newspapers and magazines. He stated that KOMAZO YOSHIDA and EIZO MACATA of the Nambei firm were used as special employees by the Japanese during the war for this purpose. He also stated that he and the rest of the personnel of this firm did the same thing in the Nambei Office during the war. The information they obtained in this way was then turned over to the Japanese Embassy. KOBAYASHI stated he did not know what the Embassy did with the information but assumed that it was sent to Japan by commercial radio or cable. He stated that this was carried on until Argentina broke relations with Japan in January, 1944. KOBAYASHI stated that he himself sent messages to his parent firm in Japan while those messages were still allowed by the Argentine Government but that these messages contained only prices and other commercial data which he had sent before the war and they appeared to be of interest to his firm during the war. He could not explain, however, why information regarding prices in the United States would be of interest to his firm while his country was at war with the United States. He again stated, as to the Allies, that he ceased sending these messages on instructions from his firm in

Japan after ceiling prices were well established in the states. KOBAYASHI was asked by the source exactly what kind of information was extracted from Allied periodicals for handing over to the Japanese Embassy; he stated that they extracted information and figures of all kinds regarding shortages of production, war production, information and figures regarding commerce and trade, etc. KOBAYASHI stated that he himself found the most interesting of all periodicals was the American magazine "Time". He advised that the personnel of other Japanese firms in Buenos Aires were similarly engaged in the extraction of information from other U. S. and Allied periodicals for transmittal to the Japanese Embassy and named four of these firms whose personnel were so used as follows: Iwai y Cia; The Japanese shipping line Osaka Shosen Kaisha; and Mitsubishi; Okura y Compania. He likewise stated that the Japanese correspondents of Japanese news agencies in Japan were also engaged in this reading and compiling of information. KOBAYASHI told Source E that the Japanese Embassy had not, during the war, had authority to use personnel of his firm as desired but that his employees had gladly engaged in the above-named type of work when the Embassy requested it. He stated that he is friendly with the Japanese Ambassador although this friendship does not antedate his arrival in Argentina. KOBAYASHI stated that this work of reviewing Allied periodicals was not well organized by the Japanese Embassy and that their work apparently lost some of its effectiveness because of the absence of real direction.

KOBAYASHI was asked by Source E regarding the sending of a message to MITSUI employees in Santiago, Chile, named LUIS KAWAGUCHI and RICARDO LYON HUBNER in January, 1944. (It will be noted that previous information indicated rather definitely that a courier was sent from Buenos Aires to Santiago at that time to make contact with these two individuals for an unknown purpose.) KOBAYASHI stated he could not recall a trip made by anyone of his acquaintance to Chile at that time and is certain that he did not give a message to any individual to deliver there. He advised that KAWAGUCHI and LYON HUBNER were apparently still in Santiago. He did not know, he stated, of any activity carried on in Chile by MITSUI similar to the review of magazines and newspapers conducted by his firm here.

He likewise stated that he does not know of any such activity being carried on by any MITSUI personnel in Brazil.

KOBAYASHI was asked by Source E regarding Dr. ANDRADE FEGUIRA and ALBERTO GOES TELLES in Rio de Janeiro. (It is noted that information previously received indicates that KOBAYASHI wrote to Japanese employees of MITSUI in Brazil through these two named Brazilians. KOBAYASHI stated he does not know FEGUIRA but that he does know of GOES TELLES, whom he described as administrator of the MITSUI branch in Rio de Janeiro. He also advised that he knows RYOKICHI NAGAI, Japanese employee of MITSUI in Brazil and that he believes NAGAI is presently in Sao Paulo. KOBAYASHI was asked about a Japanese named YAMAMOTO located in La Paz, Bolivia; he stated that he recalls such an individual, a MITSUI employee, as having been in Bolivia but that he does not recall YAMAMOTO's first name nor does he know where he is at present.

KOBAYASHI was also asked about the whereabouts and activities of ANTONIO GONZALEZ and FLORENCIO CAMPO. (It is noted previous information is reported that these two Argentinians were being used by Japanese in Buenos Aires as mail drops.) KOBAYASHI advised that he does not know either one nor has he heard of them and he is certain they have not been connected with his firm here.

KOBAYASHI told Source E that his firm has not carried on any business worthy of the name since early 1942 and that at present it is intervened by the Argentine Government and is inactive. He stated that he personally would like to return to Japan if he could get employment there.

During the course of the interview Source E obtained a description of ISOMA KOBAYASHI which is as follows:

Age - 47
Height - 5' 2"
Weight - 130 pounds
Hair - almost entirely gray, parted
on left side
Eyes - brown, wears rimless glasses
Teeth - good
Remarks - appearance average for a
Japanese and is educated.

It is noted in connection with the above interview of KOBAYASHI by Source E that there is no particular reason to believe that statements made by KOBAYASHI are true.

In connection with the above mentioned FLORENCIO CAMPO, it is noted that he was previously reported as an Argentine whose name was being used for the receipt of correspondence by the Japanese at the address of Calle Villanueva 1343, Buenos Aires. Efforts to identify this individual have not been successful but it is noted that this address was formerly occupied during the war by GENICHIRO OMORI, first secretary of the former Japanese Embassy. It has been suggested that OMORI used CAMPO's name as addressee for mail because it did not arouse Allied interest while in transit.

It was previously reported that mail was arriving for the NAMBEI firm at its former address of Lareda 1285, Buenos Aires, where an elderly Argentine leader is presently residing. It was stated that this leader then turned over the mail to members of the Nambei firm. Investigation by Source F during July, 1945, showed that Lareda 1285 is now occupied by a dentist named Dr. JULIO ARGENTINO FERNANDEZ (HEGUERAS). So far as the Source could ascertain, no mail is arriving at this address other than correspondence directed to Dr. FERNANDEZ. The source did ascertain that mail was arriving during mid 1945 at the Nambei address of Eriburu 1683 from other countries as follows: Switzerland, Spain, Peru, Paraguay, Brazil, Uruguay, Chile, and Mexico. Mail also arrived from various parts of Argentina. It was impossible for the source to intercept any of these letters or ascertain their contents.

Considerable investigation has also been conducted in the past regarding SUEKAZU MIURA, Japanese head of TOYO MENKA KAISHA, a cotton firm in Argentina which is a Mitsui subsidiary. MIURA resides at Maure 2467, Buenos Aires. Further investigation of his activities conducted by Source C during mid 1945 failed to show his participation at that time in subversive activities. It was noted that he went almost daily to the Nambei office and that he seldom left home to go elsewhere. He resides with his family of a wife and three children. It was observed that on the afternoon of July 19, he apparently tried to find a certain address located in the 2500 block of either Calle O'Higgins or Arcos. He looked carefully at buildings in the 2500 block of both streets but appeared to not find what he was looking for. A perusal of Buenos Aires cross guides fails to show any Japanese or other suspicious individuals residing in those blocks.

It was previously reported that the Nambei firm was using post office box 1893 in the Central Post Office of Buenos Aires for the receipt of mail. It was reported however, by Source G, in March, 1945, that this post office box was at that time registered in the name of OCTAVIO MONDARAY residing at Calle Independencia 2275, Buenos Aires. The box was apparently not being used by Nambei personnel at that time.

It will also be recalled that on January 2, 1945, KOBAYASHI was followed to a house at the address of Bauness 2064, Buenos Aires. It was thought at that time that this house was occupied by one OSCAR A. WINGORD. Investigation subsequently performed by Source H showed that WINGORD moved from this address in late 1944 and no longer has any connection with it. In November, 1944, however, a Japanese named TARO SUKAGAWA, the head of the local branch of the Japanese shipping firm Osaka Shosen Kaisha, moved into this house and has resided there since. The house evidently consists of about ten rooms and it is possible that it is occupied by other individuals also. It appears that KOBAYASHI's trip to this address was made to talk with SUKAGAWA. The young lady of German appearance who lead him to that address in January, 1945, has not been seen subsequently.

It has been previously reported that an Argentine named SIDNEY CARLOS SMITH was connected with personnel of the Nambei firm and was possibly used by them. He was known in particular to be in touch with RINICHI YOKOBORI and to be interested in the prices of platinum and other rare metals in Buenos Aires. It appeared at that time that SMITH intended to buy platinum for the Japanese. Information subsequently supplied by Source I in mid 1945 shows that SMITH was apparently interested more in the sale of platinum than in its purchase and stated to the source that he had some to sell. He did not specify the quantity of platinum in his possession nor its source. It likewise appears that SMITH is no longer connected with the NAMBEI firm. After the defeat of Japan, he apparently lost hope that the Japanese would secure him the kind of employment he desired. He advised Source I in August that he was planning to purchase land in the Province of Entre Rios in order to take up agriculture in partnership with two relatives who are agronomy engineers. At that time he had sold his house on Conde 1552 for a reported 61,000 pesos (\$15,250 U. S.).

In July, 1945, SMITH was absent from Buenos Aires for about two weeks. During this time, Source I had access to articles and records belonging to SMITH which he left in Buenos Aires; among these articles there was found a roughly drawn map of the southern part of the South American continent, including Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, and part of southern Brazil. A large penciled circle was noted in the center of Uruguay, the only mark appearing on the map. The Nature of this map and the reason for the circle drawn in Uruguay could not be ascertained.

Information obtained by Source I from SMITH regarding personnel of the Nambu firm showed that EIZO MECATA is presently residing with another Japanese outside of Buenos Aires on a chicken farm; this farm was stated to be located on the road to Lujan about 25 miles outside of Buenos Aires. It was also ascertained by Source I that RINICHI YOKOBORE is intimately acquainted with an Argentine woman named SARA INRANZAS, apparently a woman of low morals whom YOKOBORE has been keeping in an apartment located on Carlos Pellegrini.

DECLASSIFIED

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

By TL/C NARS, Date 8.24.28

DB

JWA
ETA-FC



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NUMBER _____

Date: April 3, 1946

To: Mr. Frederick B. Lyon, Chief
Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
Department of State

From: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: Ofelia P. Fernandez (Dario)
Buenos Aires, Argentina



DE/R
894.20235/4-246
RPA
R
JWA

As of possible interest to you, information has been received that Ofelia P. Fernandez was suspected by the Argentine Federal Police of Japanese espionage. She is an employee of the Argentine Ministry of Agriculture and it is reported that she was in close touch with several officials of the Japanese Embassy in Buenos Aires. Additional information concerning this individual is set forth in the attached memorandum.

Enclosure



cc Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2 War Department, Washington, D. C. cc Chief of Naval Intelligence Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

Attention: Reading Panel
Military Intelligence Service

Confidential File
CS/A
894.20235/4-346

APR 9 1946

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Date: April 3, 1946
To: Mr. Frederick B. Lyon, Chief
Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
Department of State
From: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Subject: Ofelia P. Fernandez (Dario)
Buenos Aires, Argentina

As of possible interest to you, information has been received that Ofelia P. Fernandez was suspected by the Argentine Federal Police of Japanese espionage. She is an employee of the Argentine Ministry of Agriculture and it is reported that she was in close touch with several officials of the Japanese Embassy in Buenos Aires. Additional information concerning this individual is set forth in the attached memorandum.

Enclosure

cc Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2 cc Chief of Naval Intelligence
War Department, Washington, D. C. Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

Attention: Reading Panel
Military Intelligence Service

February 25, 1946

OPELIA P. FERNANDEZ (DARIO)
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Information was originally received that OPELIA FERNANDEZ was suspected by the Argentine Federal Police of Japanese espionage. It was indicated that she is an Argentine woman about forty years old, employed in the Ministry of Agriculture, and received a salary equivalent to fifty dollars U. S. per month. It was stated that she lives beyond these means and that on one occasion she was given jewelry valued at about \$1250 U. S. by a Japanese. She was reported to frequent Japanese homes, have contact with officials of the former Japanese Embassy, and to reside in an apartment at Anchorena 1592, Buenos Aires.

Past investigation has not shown her engaging in subversive activities. Investigation conducted by Source C during November, 1945, likewise failed to show such activity, although it would indicate further contact on her part with the Japanese. This source reports that she has in the past had contact with the following personnel of the former Japanese Embassy: Ambassador SHU TOMII; Secretary KEIJI UNO; Commercial Secretary YOSHIO NAKAMURA; First Secretary GENICHIRO OMORI; NAVAL ATTACHE KATSUMI YUKISHITA. It was reported by the source that she has in her apartment photographs showing many of these Japanese, she herself appearing in some of them. It was also observed by the source, during the course of investigation, that on different occasions an unidentified Japanese went to her apartment where he remained from ten to twenty minutes on each occasion.

Investigation conducted by Source C showed that OPELIA FERNANDEZ is also in contact with the following individuals: CARLOS MADRAZO, engineer employed in the Ministry of Agriculture; ARMANDO VON ZEYLEN, Maritime accountant for the Gobernacion de Tierra del Fuego. It was also stated by the source that she is visited in her apartment by the Brazilian Ambassador Dr. JOAO BAPTISTA LUSARDO and that apparently their contact is of an intimate nature.

Source C reports that OPELIA FERNANDEZ has been employed in the Argentine Government Service for about ten years and that she presently works in that part of the Minis-

try of Agriculture located at Paseo Colon 974, being employed in the Accounting Section as a secretary. She is stated to now receive a sum of 300 pesos (approximately \$75 U.S.) instead of 200 pesos per month as previously reported.

She is described by the source as about forty years old, rather tall, and plump with brown hair and fair complexion, and she apparently belonged to the Argentine Japanese Cultural Institute while that organization functioned in Buenos Aires.

Source reports that she receives mail from the following countries: United States, England, France, Brazil, and Chile. She also receives mail from within Argentina as follows: Province of Cordoba, Gobernacion del Fuego, Bahia Blanca, and from other addresses in Buenos Aires.

The Source reports that OFELIA FERNANDEZ usually goes each year either to the Province of Cordoba or to Bahia Blanca for ten or fifteen days, apparently on vacation.

JW

G
ACTION: FC ✓
INFO:
DC/R
ARA
OCD
ESP
SPD

AIRGRAM

1261

FROM American Embassy
Buenos Aires

Date of mailing: M 44 2. 1946

Rec'd 10:20, a.m. May 8

Martin RPA

CONFIDENTIAL

Secretary of State,
Washington.

A- *468*

APRIL 30, 1946

When may I expect information from Japanese Government and other archives in Japan concerning Japanese subversive activities in Argentina?

CABOT

894.20235/4-3046

RKOakley:jad

5-14-46
airgram drafted
by [signature]
MAY 9 1946
DEPT. OF STATE
file *qua*

Confidential File

(LFC)

TO BE TRANSMITTED
SECRET
X CONFIDENTIAL X
RESTRICTED

AIRGRAM SENT

Department of State

NO. 486

Washington,

TIME _____

May 17, 1946

Confidential

1860

CONFIDENTIAL

1860

AMEMBASSY,

BUENOS AIRES.

Information being assembled re Japanese subversive activities in Argentina. DEPT will continue to refer current Japanese information to Embassy when received. Suggest it would be helpful for guidance of DEPT in fulfilling requests if Embassy would indicate the nature of material required in order of preference.

894.20235/5-1746

Acherson
Acting, Acherson

9
MAY 18 1946 P.M.

DCR - ARA Unit	
Anal.	<i>B.H. Bryan</i>
Rev.	<i>Mr. Hoyt</i>
Cat.	<i>NS</i>

FC: JWAmshey:gs
5-14-46

JWA
SAB

RPA

Cleared by phone with Mr. Hoyt

JA

Cleared by phone with Mr. Lory

894.20235/5-1746
CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
RECEIVED
JUN 27 1946
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FOREIGN ACTIVITY CORRELATION

JTB

*File
6-27-46*

SPECIAL PROJECTS FILE
DIVISION *Mail forwarded to*
JUN 21 1946 *Bureau Aires by DS-4*
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

June 19, 1946

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SPD -

(1)

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has gone over the attached bundle of letters (which were written on board the SS Wild Hunter) and reports that they contain only harmless personal material.

Attachment.

JTL
James T. Lewis

894.20235/6-1946

Transmitted to Field (Form DS-8)
TO: Embassy, Buenos Aires
(attached letters only)
Per: Delivery to addressees
SPD By: JTB Date: 6-21-46

DECLASSIFIED
NND 780069
By *TG-cy* NARS, Date *8-24-78*

FC:JTL:er

JUN 21 1946

FILED

894.20235/6-1946

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
PROJECTS
SPECIAL DIVISION

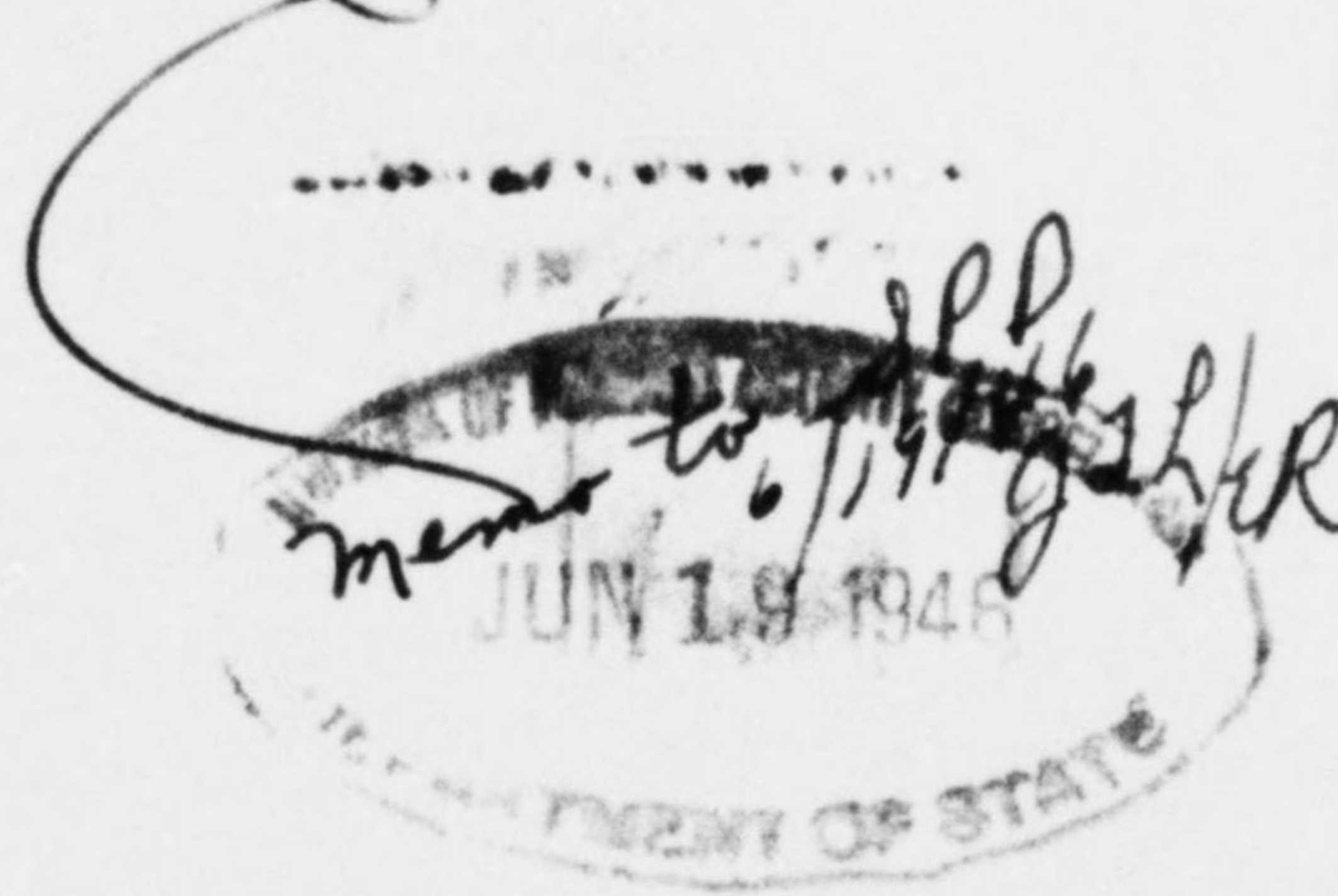
June 7, 1946

FC - Mr. Lewis

I attach a bundle of letters
which were written on board the
SS Wild Hunter.

It is possible that these let-
ters contain some information of
interest in regard to Japanese
activities in Argentina and there-
fore that they should be examined.
After examination SPD will be glad
to forward the letters by instruc-
tion to the Embassy at Buenos Aires for
forwarding to the addressees.

Bel
A. E. C.



SPD:AEC1attenburg:BB



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.



IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO.

June 25, 1946

**PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER**

TO: Mr. Frederick B. Lyon
Chief, Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
Department of State

FROM: John Edgar Hoover Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT: OFELIA P. FERNANDEZ (DARIO)

As of possible interest to you there is transmitted herewith a copy of a report concerning the captioned individual regarding whom information was received from the Japanese repatriates during the course of their interrogation in San Francisco, California.

This information is available to the American Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Enclosure

CC - Chief of Naval Intelligence
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

CC - Assistant Chief of Staff
G-2, War Department
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Reading Panel
Military Intelligence Service

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF BIOGRAPHIC
INTELLIGENCE
JUN 30 1946

Anal. *B M Bryan*
Rev.
Cat.

FEB 24 1947

FILED

894.20235/6-2546

894.20235/6-2546

DECLASSIFIED
NND 780069
By TG/cj NARS, Date 8-24-78

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF FOREIGN ACTIVITY CORRELATION
JUN 26 1946
DEPT. OF STATE

SPECIAL PROJECTS
DIVISION
JUN 19 1947

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE
1946
HJK/FC

DE/R

RPA

RL
JA
SPD

DE/R

But

PAK

file

W&C
2/11/47

JUN 13 1947

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

June 25, 1946

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

TO: Mr. Frederick B. Lyon
Chief, Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
Department of State

FROM: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT: OFELIA P. FERNANDEZ (DARIO)

As of possible interest to you there is transmitted herewith a copy of a report concerning the captioned individual regarding whom information was received from the Japanese repatriates during the course of their interrogation in San Francisco, California.

This information is available to the American Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Enclosure

CC - Chief of Naval Intelligence
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

CC - Assistant Chief of Staff
G-2, War Department
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Reading Panel
Military Intelligence Service

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT BUREAU

FILE NO. 105-421

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 5-29-46	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/13-17/46	REPORT MADE BY RICHARD D. AUERBACH DRB
TITLE OFELIA P. FERNANDEZ (DARIO)		CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - J	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject, an Argentine national, considered well known in Japanese circles at Buenos Aires, according to MASAO TSUDA, Domei correspondent. Subject a close friend of Assistant Naval Attache KAMEDA and SUZUKI, Japanese newspaper correspondent.			
- RUC			
REFERENCE: Bureau letter dated April 3, 1946.			
DETAILS: <u>AT TERMINAL ISLAND, CALIFORNIA</u>			
<p>This report is predicated upon a Bureau request for interrogation of the Japanese diplomatic repatriates formerly conducting the Japanese Embassy at Buenos Aires, Argentina, who are en route to Japan via Los Angeles, California, as to their knowledge concerning the subject. This is a joint report of joint interviews conducted by Special Agent WILLIAM H. BUYS and the writer.</p> <p>The only individual who had any knowledge of the subject was Domei correspondent MASAO TSUDA. TSUDA informed that he knew the subject very well and that she was well known throughout Japanese circles in Argentina. According to TSUDA, the subject is an accountant and second in charge of her section in the Accounting Department of the Argentine Department of Agriculture.</p> <p>TSUDA advised that FERNANDEZ had learned to speak Japanese in an organization known as the "Circle of Japanese Friends," which was run by the Japanese Tourist Bureau, representative at Buenos Aires whose name is <u>SHIMEZU</u>. TSUDA noted that this group had very close contact with the Embassy and was used to encourage an interest in things Japanese in Argentine</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 - Bureau 2 - Los Angeles			

L.A. 105-421

nationals so as to present a sympathetic point of view as to Japanese affairs to the Argentine people.

According to TSUDA, the subject was a very close friend of SABURO SUZUKI, of the Japanese newspaper Mainichi, and Assistant Naval Attache TADASI KAMEDA. TSUDA did not know of any definite utilization by Japanese of subject in intelligence work but believed that it was entirely possible that she might have been so utilized due to her intimate social relationship with a number of varied individuals in the Japanese Colony.

The subject was not known to any other of twelve Japanese diplomatic repatriates.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

DECLASSIFIED

NND 780069
By *TC/cy* NARS, Date 8-24-78



**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.**



DC/R
894-20235/6-2646

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. _____

June 26, 1946

gwa
gill
JUN 26 1946
sub

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

TO: Mr. Frederick B. Lyon
Chief, Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
Department of State

FROM: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT: ANGEL A. FERRONE *see 894-20235/1-2546*
8-745

As of possible interest to you, there is transmitted herewith a copy of a report pertaining to the above-captioned individual, concerning whom information was received from the Japanese repatriates during the course of their interrogation in San Francisco, California.

This information is available to the American Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Enclosure

CC - Chief of Naval Intelligence
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

CC - Assistant Chief of Staff
G-2, War Department
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Reading Panel
Military Intelligence Service

JUL 23 1946
Confidential File
894-20235/6-2646

WMB

June 26, 1946

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

TO: Mr. Frederick B. Lyon
Chief, Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
Department of State

FROM: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT: ANGEL A. PERRONE

As of possible interest to you, there is transmitted herewith a copy of a report pertaining to the above-captioned individual, concerning whom information was received from the Japanese repatriates during the course of their interrogation in San Francisco, California.

This information is available to the American Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Enclosure

CC - Chief of Naval Intelligence
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

CC - Assistant Chief of Staff
G-2, War Department
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Reading Panel
Military Intelligence Service

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT BUREAU

FILE NO. 105-422

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 5/31/46	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/13-17/46	REPORT MADE BY RICHARD D. AUERBACH DRB
TITLE ANGEL A. PERRONE		CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - G & J	
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: MASAO TSUDA, Domei correspondent, states he acted as intermediary for payment to subject as intelligence informant for Japanese Assistant Naval Attache KAMEDA and Japanese Military Attache SUZUKI. Subject characterized as pro-German and Japanese and utilized for Argentine political and military information.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p> <p>REFERENCE: Bureau letter dated April 5, 1946.</p> <p>DETAILS: <u>AT TERMINAL ISLAND, CALIFORNIA</u></p> <p>This report is predicated upon a Bureau request for interrogation of the Japanese diplomatic repatriates formerly conducting the Japanese Embassy at Buenos Aires, Argentina, who are en route to Japan via Los Angeles, as to their knowledge concerning the subject. This is a joint report of joint interviews conducted by Special Agent WILLIAM H. BUYS and the writer.</p> <p>Interview was had with MASAO TSUDA, the Domei newspaper correspondent at Buenos Aires, Argentina. TSUDA noted that he had acted as an intermediary in paying PERRONE for Japanese Assistant Naval Attache TADASI KAMEDA and Japanese Military Attache Colonel CARL TOSHIHARU SUZUKI, and that he had paid PERRONE \$300 from each of these individuals sometime in May or June, 1941.</p> <p>TSUDA advised that during early 1941 he had lived next door to the subject in the Safico Building at Buenos Aires and that for a period of approximately six months he did not know who PERRONE was. One evening PERRONE came to TSUDA's room, whereupon it was learned that PERRONE was a mechanic at the La Prensa Newspaper, and they talked general political matters and struck</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT			
③ - Bureau 2 - Los Angeles			

L.A. 105-422

up an acquaintance. Very soon thereafter PERRONE lost his job with the newspaper and asked TSUDA for loans, which TSUDA refused. TSUDA said that it was about this time that he learned that PERRONE was a contact and informant for Assistant Naval Attache KAMEDA and Military Attache SUZUKI, who thought very highly of PERRONE as an informant.

TSUDA did not know why he was used as an intermediary in the above two instances, inasmuch as both KAMEDA and SUZUKI had a separate contact with PERRONE and saw him at times when TSUDA was not there. TSUDA noted that he himself had never given PERRONE any money for information because he not only did not trust PERRONE's judgement, but he also personally disliked him. However, TSUDA explained that he occasionally took PERRONE to dinner in order to talk with him about the Argentine political situation, and that after ascertaining that PERRONE's information concerning this matter was not much good he did not have anything to do with him.

TSUDA advised that during the latter half of 1942 PERRONE disappeared from sight in Buenos Aires and that when he came back in early 1943 he contacted TSUDA at the tennis club and endeavored to reinstate the acquaintance. TSUDA stated that he discouraged PERRONE at this meeting and also subsequent telephone calls of PERRONE's and that finally PERRONE gave up and did not bother him.

According to TSUDA, PERRONE had told him that he had met a German friend and that the German government had wanted PERRONE to go to Germany and become a radio specialist. It is TSUDA's belief that PERRONE had previously been in Germany for this purpose and that he was a complete German and Japanese sympathizer.

As far as TSUDA knew, the information which PERRONE supplied to KAMEDA and SUZUKI concerned the activities of the military groups in Argentina and their efforts to take control of the Argentine government.

TSUDA also advised that he believed PERRONE to have been a correspondent for a newspaper known as "El Economistica" of Madrid, Spain, but was unable to furnish any additional information concerning this.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

#JC
JWA

LAF
ACTION:FC
INFO:
DC/E
A-R
ARA
OCD
ESP
OIC

AIRGRAM

2104

FROM American Embassy

Buenos Aires

Date of mailing: JUL 7 1946

Rec'd July 12, 2:32 p.m.

CONFIDENTIAL

PANJAP

Secretary of State,

Washington.



A- 722

JUL 5 1946

With reference to the Department's airgram no. 486 of May 17, 1946, the Embassy is in need of the following information concerning Japanese subversive activities in Argentina.

1. Japanese espionage activities, particularly with regard to members of the local colony who were used as espionage agents and the means of communication used to transmit intelligence information between Buenos Aires and Japan. What extraordinary funds were available for espionage and propaganda purposes, and from what sources were these funds derived?

2. Details concerning control exercised over Japanese schools in Argentina by the Japanese Government, including the names of teachers sent to Argentina, the extent to which the schools were subsidized, what textbooks and teaching materials were furnished, and the extent to which militarism and super patriotism were taught students in Japanese schools here.

3. To what degree was the Japanese Association of Argentina controlled and/or subsidized by the Japanese Government?

4. What

JUL 24 1946

FILED

LRC

894.20235/7-546

Buenos Aires
July 7, 1946.

- 2 -

A* 712

4. What connection existed between the Embassy and such organizations as the Tokyo Commerce and Industry Promotion Association, the Friends of the Japanese Language Association, the Sadao Ando Cultural Institute, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce in Argentina, and similar organizations.

5. To what extent did Japanese secret societies exist in Argentina and in what, if any, espionage activities did they participate? The Embassy during the war received numerous unconfirmed reports of the existence of the Black Dragon and Nippon Gawa societies and of their espionage and propaganda activities here.

6. Did the Daitoasho (Greater East Asia Ministry) maintain a formal organization for the control of the Japanese colony in Argentina, and if so what were its methods of operation?

7. Were any espionage, propaganda, or secret society activities engaged in by the Japanese gardeners' organizations here, such as the River Plate Market Gardener's Association and the Nipar Club of the Buenos Aires Horticulturalists' Association.

It is requested that priorities be assigned investigation of the above activities in order of their listing.

Please mark any portion of the information so furnished which should not be given the Foreign Office.

MESSIERSMITH

Original (hectograph) to Department; one copy.
Copy to Division of Foreign Activity Correlation.
Copy to Mr. Thomas Mann, Division of River Plate Affairs.

DKBallantine:jad

DC/R ROUTING SLIP

FROM Buenos Aires

NO 584

894.20235/8-16-46

ACTION: FC

COPIES TO ARA

EURX

OCD



BY COURIER

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

~~SECRET~~
SECRET
D/R

Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 16, 1946.

No. 594

Subject: Note Verbale to the Foreign Office Supplying
Supplementary Information on Kingo Kawai.

CONFIDENTIAL

The Ambassador has the honor to enclose a copy of the Embassy's note verbale of August 8, 1946, furnished the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship in response to the Ministry's request for information regarding Kingo KAWAI.

5

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1946 AUG 28 AM 10 14

RECORDS SECTION

3 to Warr
2 to Navy
9-6-46
OC: LMD/30
DIV. OF FOREIGN ACTIVITY CORRELATION
AUG 29 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

894.20225/8-1646

CS/A

FILED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
RECEIVED
SEP 12 1946
DIVISION OF BIOGRAPHIC
INTELLIGENCE

FEB 13 1947

Enclosure: *an*
Copy of Embassy's note verbale of August 8, 1946.

Original (Ozalid) and two copies to Department.
Copy to Mr. Thomas Mann, Chief, Division of River Plate
Affairs.
File no. 820.02.
DKBallentine:jad

Form with fields for routing: Andl, Rev, Ctl, Dist. Includes handwritten initials 'JAG' and 'DCR'.

894.20225/8-1646
Confidential

AIR MAIL

Enclosure to Despatch no. 58-1 dated August 16, 1946, from the American Embassy at Buenos Aires, Argentina.

NOTE VERBALE

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship and with reference to the Ministry's courteous note of July 19, 1946, requesting any information which the Embassy may possess concerning Kingo KAWAI, has the honor to inform the Ministry that considerable information concerning Kawai may be found in the Embassy's notes of March 6, April 10 and August 7, 1946. However, for the information of the Ministry the following additional data in the possession of the Embassy is set forth:

Kawai, according to numerous reports from sources of proven reliability, was one of the leaders of Japanese espionage activities in Argentina during the recent war, having been in charge of certain phases of Japanese maritime espionage in the Republic. One of these sources has cited Mataichi KIMURA, S. KITAGAWA, Igo (Seikichi) OGAWA, and Tadao (Haruo) TSUCHIYA as members of Kawai's espionage net and has further asserted that these individuals were formerly, at least, officers of the Japanese Navy who for a time carried on their espionage duties under the guise of being crew members of trawlers belonging to the Compañía Argentina Comercial e Industrial de Pesquería. According to this same source, these individuals later were engaged in activities of a like nature under Kawai's direction in Argentine port cities. Sources other than the ones cited above have confirmed this report.

The Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry the assurances of its highest consideration.

Buenos Aires, August 8, 1946.

DKB:jad

BY COURIER

Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 10, 1946.

No. 584

Subject: Note Verbale to the Foreign Office Supplying
Supplementary Information on Kingo Kawai.

CONFIDENTIAL

The Ambassador has the honor to enclose a copy of the Embassy's note verbale of August 8, 1946, furnished the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs and worship in response to the Ministry's request for information regarding Kingo KAWAI.

Enclosure:

Copy of Embassy's note verbale of August 8, 1946.

Original (Original) and two copies to Department.
Copy to Mr. Thomas Mann, Chief, Division of River Plate
Affairs.

File no. 320.02.
DKBallentine:jad

A true copy of
the signed ori-
ginal. jad

Enclosure to Despatch no. 584 dated August 10, 1946, from the American Embassy at Buenos Aires, Argentina.

NOTE VERBALE

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship and with reference to the Ministry's courteous note of July 19, 1946, requesting any information which the Embassy may possess concerning Kingo KAWAI, has the honor to inform the Ministry that considerable information concerning Kawai may be found in the Embassy's notes of March 8, April 10 and August 7, 1946. However, for the information of the Ministry the following additional data in the possession of the Embassy is set forth:

Kawai, according to numerous reports from sources of proven reliability, was one of the leaders of Japanese espionage activities in Argentina during the recent war, having been in charge of certain phases of Japanese maritime espionage in the Republic. One of these sources has cited Mataichi KIMURA, S. KITAGAWA, Igo (Seikichi) OGAWA, and Tadao (Haruo) TSUCHIYA as members of Kawai's espionage net and has further asserted that these individuals were formerly, at least, officers of the Japanese Navy who for a time carried on their espionage duties under the guise of being crew members of trawlers belonging to the Compañia Argentina Comercial e Industrial de Pesqueria. According to this same source, these individuals later were engaged in activities of a like nature under Kawai's direction in Argentine port cities. Sources other than the ones cited above have confirmed this report.

The Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry the assurances of its highest consideration.

Buenos Aires, August 8, 1946.

DKB:jad

September 6, 1946

In reply refer to
FC : 894.20235/8-1646

CONFIDENTIAL

The Department of State transmits to the following
the attached information in the hope that it will be of
value:

~~Military Intelligence Division~~

~~Office of Naval Intelligence~~

~~Federal Bureau of Investigation~~

Rear Admiral J. L. McCrea,
Director, Central Division,
Navy Department.

Enclosure:

Two (2) copies of Confidential despatch
No. 584 of August 16, 1946 from the Em
at Buenos Aires, Argentina regarding "Note
Verbale to the Foreign Office Supplying
Supplementary Information on KINGO KAWAI."

LMD
FC:LMDrury:jo

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal *J*

September 6, 1946

In reply refer to
FC : 894.20235/8-1646

CONFIDENTIAL

The Department of State transmits to the following
the attached information in the hope that it will be of
value:

~~Military Intelligence Division~~

~~Office of Naval Intelligence~~

~~Federal Bureau of Investigation~~

Lt. Col. Charles B. Smith,
Chief, Washington Liaison Branch,
Rm 2D 8th The Pentagon Bldg.,

Enclosure:

Three (3) copies of Confidential despatch
No. 584 of August 16, 1946 from the Embassy at
Buenos Aires, Argentina regarding "Note Verbale
to the Foreign Office Supplying Supplementary
Information on KINGO KAWAI."

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal Jo

FC:LMDrury:jo

LMA

INCOMING AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS TELEGRAPH BRANCH

~~HHB~~
~~SEB~~

AIRGRAM

4056

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
SEC 4 - 1946
file

UNIT OF FOREIGN ACTIVITY CORRELATION
OCT 1 1946
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Z
ACTION:FC
INFO:
DC/R
S
U
A-C
EUR
ARA
FE
DC/L
OCD
ESP

FROM: American Embassy

Buenos Aires

Date of mailing: SEP 27 1946

Rec'd Sept. 30, 9:23 a.m.

RESTRICTED

PANGERM and PANJAP

Secretary of State,
Washington.

A- 965

SEP. 20. 1946

Embassy has received request from Argentine Foreign Ministry for information concerning following German and Japanese organizations:

Club Alemán en Buenos Aires
Club Alemán Belgrano
Club Alemán de Rosario

Club de Canto Germania
Cámara de Comercio Alemana
Club Alemán de Equitación
Asociación Japonesa en la Argentina
Unión Germánica en la Argentina
Club Alemán de Remo Teutonia
Institución Cultural Argentino Germana
Institución Cultural Sadno Ando
Sociedad Alemana de Gimnasia

Esger Alemán para Marineros
Unión Alemana de Gremios
Nippon Tennis Club
Congregación Evangélica Alemana

Córdoba 731
Cuba 2410
Corrientes 672,
(Rosario)
Aisina 2013
25 de Mayo 145
Echeverría 956
Patagones 640
25 de Mayo 145
Lavalle 23 (Tigre)
Córdoba 741
Defensa 610
Las Heras 660
(Vicente López)
Carlos Calvo 102
Moreno 552
Republicuetas 1358
Esmeralda 102

Sociedad

PERMANENT RECORD COPY.—This copy must be returned to DC/R central files with notation of action taken.

894.20235/9-2046

HI

X R
862-20235

[Handwritten signature]

DEC 11 1946

Buenos Aires
September 10, 1948
As

- 2 -

Sociedad Alemana de Gimnasia de Villa Ballester	Agustin Alvarez 70 (Villa Ballester)
Sociedad Alemana de Socorros a Enfermos	25 de Mayo 145
Sociedad del Hospital Aleman	Pueyrredon 1650
Beneficencia de Damas Alemanas	Aguero 1319
Sociedad Alemana de Beneficencia	Azopardo 502
Club Nautico Gaviota	Rio Lujan (Tigre)
Centro de Ingenieros Alemanes	Bernardo de Irigoyen 330
Comunidad de Catolicos de Habla Alemana	Estrada 633
Camara de Comercio del Japon	Corrientes 330
Circulo Japonés de Comercio en la Argentina	Corrientes 330
Federación de las Asociaciones de Exportadores e Importadores del Japon para la América del Sur	Corrientes 330
Oficina de Turismo del Japon	
Tokio Shoko Shoreikan (Asociación para el Fomento del Comercio y la Industria)	Salta 76 3725-25
Unión de Representantes de Casas Japonesas	Chile 1910
Asociación de Comerciantes Japoneses	Aleina 1328
Federación de Sociedades (it is believed that the word "Espolares" has been inadvertently omitted) Alemanas de Buenos Aires y alrededores	

British Embassy has received identical note; action will be coordinated.

Will Department please furnish as soon as possible any information obtained in Germany or Japan concerning any of these organizations. Summary memoranda referring only to data not furnished by this Embassy or by its Attachés, would be most helpful form. Data desired includes any evidence of subversive activities, official connections or official subsidies. Memoranda should be sent as completed and not held until information on all organizations is complete.

In connection with Japanese organizations please refer Embassy airgram 722, July 5.

MCNSHERSMITH

Original (hectograph) and one copy to Department.
Copy to Mr. Thomas Mann, Division of River Plate Affairs.

RIOakley:jad

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: Nov. 1, 1946

TO:
FROM:
SUBJECT:

~~H.H.H. d.k.~~
~~C.S.L.~~ ✓ *John*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
NOV 5 1946

It is our policy
to furnish info
on request or
for our own ends.
In this case info
is of so little
importance, I've
placed full responsibility
on Emb. *D.R.M.*

carefully.
decision as to
ned over to
Spaeth used to
arefully before
Perón Govern-

San Graciano

7-10.894.20235/9-2046

Union Germanica
Argentina

FC:SEBradford:LBH

STANDARD

Off

TO

FROM

SUBJ

~~ABL~~ ~~TRM~~ *No objection. But not our policy. cm*

*I see no reason why this information can't be furnished the Arg. Govt. Do you have any objections?
Nad*

ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT

Nov. 1, 1946

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

5-1946

carefully.

decision as to

ed over to

method used to

carefully before

Perón Govern-

FW. 894. 20235/9-2046

Das Bradford

Attachment:

Draft instruction to Buenos Aires re Union Germanica en la Argentina

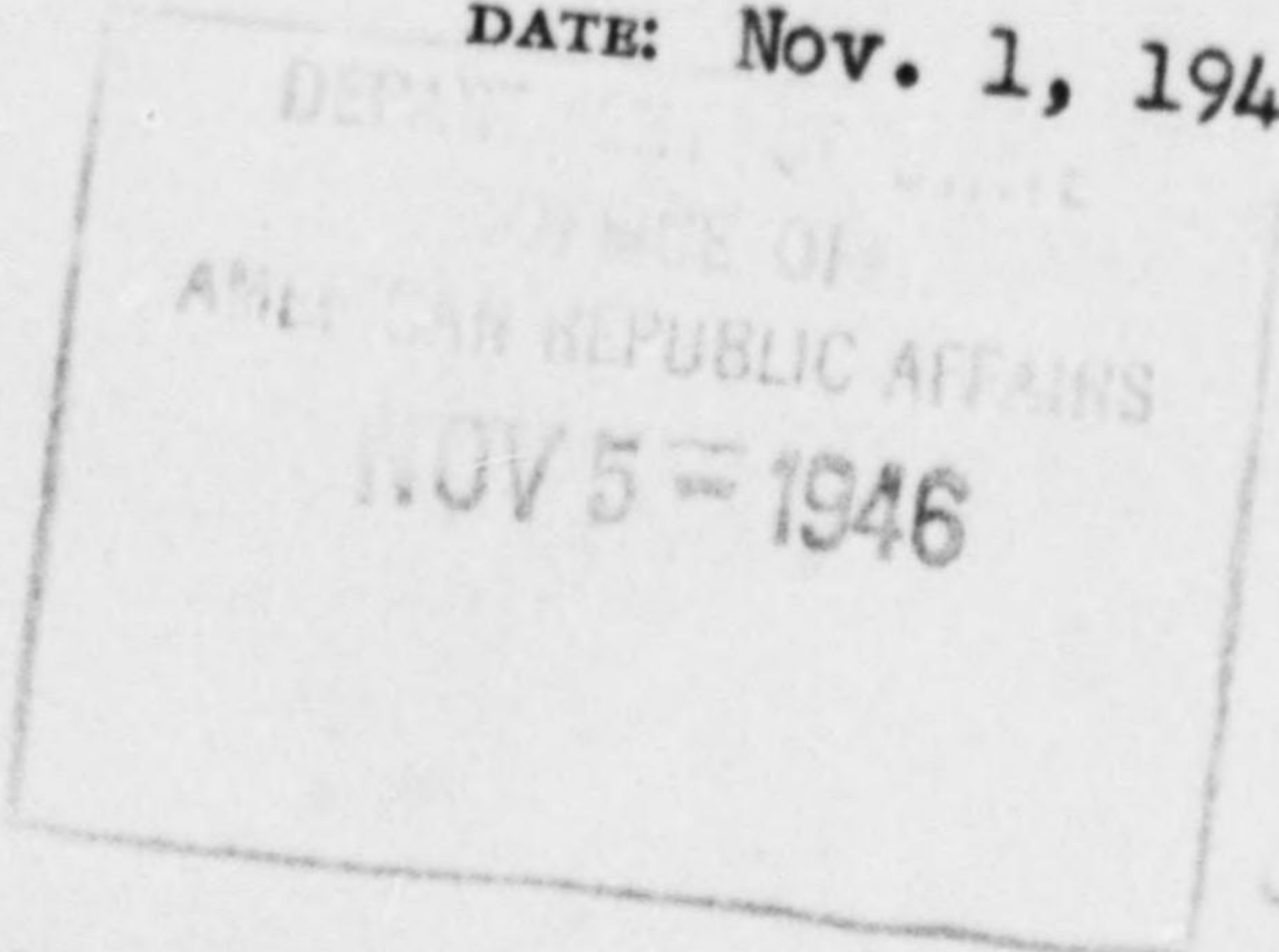
FC:SEBradford:LBH

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : RPA - Mr. Hoyt
FROM : FC - Mr. Bradford
SUBJECT :

DATE: Nov. 1, 1946



Please review these documents carefully. You will have to make the final decision as to whether or not they should be turned over to the Argentine Government. Carl Spaeth used to check things of this type very carefully before putting them in the hands of the Perón Government.

7-111.894.20235/9-2046

San Bradford

Attachment:

Draft instruction to Buenos Aires re Union Germanica en la Argentina

FC:SEBradford:LBH

~~TOP SECRET~~

TO BE TRANSMITTED
SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL
RESTRICTED

AIRGRAM SENT

Department of State

CONFIDENTIAL

NO. A-146

TIME _____

Washington,

3220

To the ~~SECRETARY~~ UNITED STATES POLITICAL ADVISER TO THE
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

Tokyo.

Oct 24, 1946

3220

PANJAP

The Department has been ~~requested~~ asked for any information available in Japan on Japanese subversive activities in Argentina, with emphasis on connection Japanese organizations with Japanese Govt during war.

Following is type information requested:

1. Japanese espionage activities, particularly with regard to members Japanese colony in Argentina who were used as espionage agents, and means of communication used transmit intelligence information between Buenos Aires and Japan. What extraordinary funds were available for espionage and propaganda purposes and from what sources were these funds derived?
2. Details concerning control exercised over Japanese schools in Argentina by Jap Govt including names any teachers sent to Argentina, extent to which schools were subsidized, what textbooks and teaching materials furnished and extent to which militarism and superpatriotism taught students in Jap schools in Argentina.
3. To what degree was Japanese Assn. of Argentina controlled and/or subsidized by Jap Govt?
4. What connection existed between Embassy and such organizations as Tokyo Commerce and Industry Promotion Assn., Friends of Japanese Language Assn., Sadao Ando Cultural Institute, Japanese Chamber of Commerce in Argentina, and similar organizations.

5. To what

[Handwritten signature]

DCF NP Unit

[Handwritten initials]

894.20235/10-2446

CSM

894.20235/10-2446

Confidential File

Dist

AIRGRAM SENT

TO BE TRANSMITTED
SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL
RESTRICTED**Department of State**CONFIDENTIAL

NO. _____

Washington,

TIME _____

A-146 to Tokyo²-

5. To what extent did Jap secret societies exist in Argentina and in what if any espionage activities did they participate. Embassy in Argentina received numerous unconfirmed reports during war of existence Black Dragon and Nippon Gawa Societies and their espionage and propaganda activities there.

6. Did Daitoasho (Greater East Asia Ministry) maintain formal organization for control Jap colony in Argentina and if so what were methods of operation?

7. Were agricultural organizations such as Japanese gardeners organizations and River Plate Market Gardeners Assn. and Nipar Club of Buenos Aires Horticulturalists Assn. used for espionage or propaganda activities?

Any information indicating official connection of following Jap organizations in Argentina with Jap Govt is also requested:

Asociación Japonesa en la Argentina
Cámara de Comercio del Japón
Círculo Japonés de Comercio en la Argentina
Federación de las Asociaciones de Exportadores
e Importadores del Japón para la América del Sud
Oficina de Turismo del Japón
Tokio Shoko Shoreikan (Asociación para el Fomento
del Comercio y la Industria)

Appreciated if memo could be sent as completed and not held until information on all questions compiled. Suggested Baron Shu Tomii, former Jap envoy to Argentina, and other repatriated Embassy officials be interviewed in this connection.

Acheson acting

Byrnes Acheson
Acting

Cleared by phone

with JA-*m**Emerson*

A-H

FC:HHBarger:abc 10/21/46

HHB
*AYL**HHB*



BY COURIER

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1947 JAN 20 AM 7
Buenos Aires, Argentina, November 20, 1946.

No. 1289

MAIL ROOM

3-27
Del - Mr Cummings - Fe
nan cm

Subject: Letter in the Japanese Language from Japanese in Sao Paulo, Brazil, to Japanese Agent in Buenos Aires.

1/29/47

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PANJAP

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.



Sir:

I have the honor to report that a previously opened letter from Sao Paulo, Brazil, was recently sent to this Embassy by the Division of Foreign Interests of the local Swedish Legation, with the request that it be delivered to Ryohei GASHU, its addressee. Photostatic copies have been made and are attached.

Gashu, according to the Congressional Committee Investigating Anti-Argentine Activities, was an espionage agent of the Japanese Government during the war. He has been included among the dangerous Japanese suggested by the Embassy to the Argentine Foreign Office for deportation (see Embassy despatch no. 98 of June 7, 1946).

Since Sao Paulo has recently been the scene of considerable undesirable activity on the part of the Japanese resident in that locality, it was deemed advisable to determine the contents of the communication. A Secretary of the Chinese Embassy cursorily examined it and declared that it was for the most part innocuous. However, a few matters of possible interest to the Department were disclosed. The individual writing the letter (name unknown because of the Chinese official's inability to pronounce Japanese) inquired of Gashu whether he had in his possession certain Japanese motion picture films which the writer might be able to show in his Sao Paulo motion picture theatre. He also expressed interest in obtaining copies of Japanese language newspapers published either in Buenos Aires or in the United States (Colorado, Utah, and possibly other localities).

Relinquish any info for information

- 5 FC (action)
- 5 EWR-X
- 5 ARA
- 6 OGD
- 5 OK
- 3 SPD
- 1 CIG
- 3 EUR
- 2 FE
- 1 FR (436)
- 3 War (photostatic)

RECORDING UNIT
FEB 7 1947
FR-INQUIRY SERVICE

BM Ryan

No Japanese

FILED

FEB 13 1947

reg FEB 10 1947

894.20235/11-2046

CS/R

894.20235/11-2046

AIR MAIL

Buenos Aires
November 20, 1946
Despatch no. 1289

- 2 -

No Japanese language newspapers are presently being published in Argentina. Whether Gashu in reality has Japanese motion picture films in his possession and whether he receives Japanese language newspapers from the United States is not known to the Embassy.

Since the translation was only cursory and the Embassy has no facilities for determining the exact contents of the communication, the matter is being referred to the Department for any action deemed appropriate. The original letter was returned to the Swedish Legation together with Gashu's last known address.

Respectfully yours,

For the Ambassador:

[Signature]
Sidney E. O'Donoghue
Counselor of Embassy

negative & 1 photostat

With Original

Enclosure:

Negative and two photostatic copies of letter and envelope.

in - My
indicated

Original (Ozalid) and two copies to Department.
Copy for Mr. Thomas Mann, Division of River Plate Affairs.
Copy to Consulate General, Sao Paulo.
File no. 820.02.

DKBallentine:jad

Enclosure to Despatch no. 1289 dated
November 10, 1946, from the American
Embassy at Buenos Aires, Argentina.

*Embassy of the
United States of America.*

NIPPAKU

日伯シネマ社

UA SANTA LUZIA, 88

END. TELEG. "NIPCINE"



CINEMA-SHA

映画直輸入元

C. P. 38277 - TEL. 2-3657

SÃO PAULO - BRASIL

Illmo. Snr.

KYUHEI GASHU

a/c LEGACION DI SUECIA



BUENOS AIRES

ARGENTINA

VIA AEREA

NIPPAKU

RUA SANTA LUZIA N.º 88
END. TELEGR. "NIPCINE"



CINEMA-SHA

TEL. 2-3657 - C. P. 3827
SÃO PAULO - BRASIL

加見集九一平 殿

日本映画輸入
サンパウロ市

日伯シネマ社

電話 二・三六五七番 郵局主人二七番
外國電略 "NIPCINE" SÃO PAULO

謹啟

貴家世の御盛稱、御事之振替致しす

降る拙者俄紀元二四六百年の秋典母國討の折、
御家族と航を共し、以来既に六日星相の流すに
致します貴地の有水藤太即久の急死を知り、又
佐など、戦前解の信、まに如何ならぬ知る由も
有るは、母國の着々進む復興振を見、望みを抱き、
拙者も鮮國の新格少オマと契約の上、フシに於て
大の進出計畫を致し、
是等、まに如何なく戦事実者となり、富貴の
徳止となり、現在に及んば、
此等、まに如何なく戦時中在庫映画の流通、
此等、まに如何なく戦時中在庫映画の流通、
此等、まに如何なく戦時中在庫映画の流通、

此等、まに如何なく戦時中在庫映画の流通、

此等、まに如何なく戦時中在庫映画の流通、

此等、まに如何なく戦時中在庫映画の流通、

此等、まに如何なく戦時中在庫映画の流通、

此等、まに如何なく戦時中在庫映画の流通、

此等、まに如何なく戦時中在庫映画の流通、

此等、まに如何なく戦時中在庫映画の流通、

此等、まに如何なく戦時中在庫映画の流通、

此等、まに如何なく戦時中在庫映画の流通、

此等、まに如何なく戦時中在庫映画の流通、

此等、まに如何なく戦時中在庫映画の流通、

月 日

齊藤 政一

NIPPANKU

RUA SANTA LUZIA N.º 88
END. TELEGR. "NIPCINE"



CINEMA-SHA

TEL. 2-3657 - C.P.-3827
SÃO PAULO - BRASIL

殿

日本映画輸入

日伯シネマ社

電話二・三六五七番 郵便三三八二七番
外務部登録 "NIPCINE" SAO PAULO

弊社には目下

松竹製作

流 崎 前後編 十四巻

坂東好太郎主演

「春 雨」

田中絹代 夏川静江 主演

お大娘新の中心巡回して皆好評 この映画の何れかと交換したいと思ふ
たらのしや け手紙のしや け 祝電 希望して

アライスは最近の在米新聞の許可を出して其中若くは若くは
東京の日経時事、アライスの時事、若くは若くは

北米よりは日経新報、コロラド時事、ロッキン、新報、エタ新報

ハロイより ハロイタイムス たいりま

日本よりは毎朝の朝日、時事、日経経済、その他各地方紙に北米総領事館
の手紙より輸入母国の現状を認識の身代柱に地知人の配布を願ふ

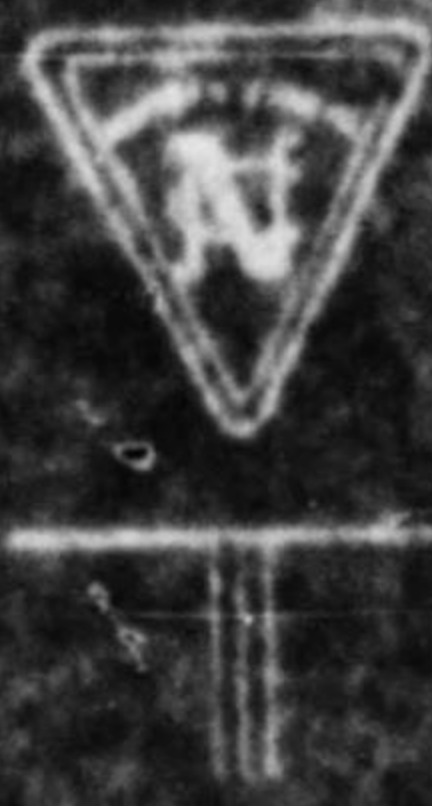
未だつたしん日人向けには日大時刻を信じ、おの迷狂者も多数有るやうに
者も同様と稱し社説、臣道聯盟、この詐欺固有、殺傷事件お起るおや

十は右を元後、官報のなを狙うおの、権りや 如くおるしや

十月十六日

NIPPAKU

日 伯 シネマ 社
RUA SANTA LUZIA, 88
END. TELEG. "NIPCINE"



CINEMA-SHA

映 畫 直 接 大 元
C-P-3827- TEL. 2-3657
SAO PAULO - BRASIL

Ilmo. Sir.

KYDDET GASHU

a/c LEGACION DI SUBCIA

BUENOS AIRES

ARGENTINA

VIA AEREA



NIPPON KUKU

RUA SANTA LUZIA N.º 88
END. TELEGR. "NIPCINE"



CINEMA-SHA

TEL. 2-3657 - C.P. 3927
SÃO PAULO - BRASIL

加賀集九平

殿

サンパウロ市

日本映倫直輸入

日伯

シネマ社

電話二・三六五七番 郵局主木五七番
外埠電略 NIPCINE - SÃO PAULO

謹啓

貴社益々御盛稱、御事之振平致す可

降る拙者儀紀元二千六百五十年、秋典母國討伐の折、アヤカン元と御是致

御家族と航を共わして以来既に六百里相の流すも、總ては唐の輝に當り

致すも、貴地の有水藤太師の、急死を知り、又火口萬年山の、蒲州福

住など、戦前辭つて居るも、如何に知らぬ由も有るも、

母國の着々進む復興振を、見し望みを抱いて居る、謹り

拙者も鮮國の新格少オモヤと契約の上、アヤカンに於て大の進出計畫を致して

居るも、在り、同も、戦事実者として、富貴の徳業と、現在に及んで居る

の、アヤカン、昨今より多く、品物不能となり、戦時中、在庫映画の適宜に

処分の致し、在り、所有映画、多く困難致して、あり、アヤカン

前にも、アヤカンと、貴地の、戦前輸入、アヤカン、格少作品、残草の灯、口事等

下し、在り、有るとすれば、何人の、輸入に、在り、アヤカン、甚だ、手、口、口、映画に

アヤカン、貴社、御紹介の、品、を、格、多く、御、致、す、中、に、アヤカン、有、り、アヤカン

月 日

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) (AND) 416020

NIPPON KINEMA



CINEMA-SHA

RUA SANTA LUZIA N.º 88
END. TELEGR. "NIPCINE"

TEL. 2-3657 - G. P. 3627
SÃO PAULO - BRASIL

殿

日本新聞社
サンパウロ市 日伯シネマ社
電話二一三六五七番 郵箱三八七番
外面電略 "NIPCINE" SÃO PAULO
OTIMV OYS

貴社には目下

松竹博作

「流」 前巻の部 十四巻

坂東好太郎主演

「春の雷」

田中絹代 百原しのぶ 主演

お大姉新の中世回しを希望し、この映画の何れかと交換のしるべき
たうのレタ 手紙レタル へ宛意希しませ

フジテレビは品物近日本新聞の許可を出さずして無中、若行する事と相違せし
貴社の日産時事、ワセレレ時教刊を若行せしむる

北米よりは日産新報、ワセレレ時事、ワセレレ新報、エラ新報

ハロイより、ハロイタイムス、ワセレレワセ
日本よりは毎日の朝日、読者、日本経済、其の各地方紙に北米總領事館

の手紙を輸入母国に現状を認識の身、故に世知人の、配布をせよ
未だワセレレの本人同様に日本大勝利を信じておる、迷狂者も多数有る事、

若し同紙と福し社、互に同盟し、この詐欺同有、若し事件お起る事
古き元後、富時、組むおおの、相違、

十月十六日

No. 4472
 DIV OF FOREIGN ACTIVITY CORRELATION
 JAN 15 1947
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL

São Paulo, Brazil, December 23, 1946
 1947 JAN 10 AM 8 54

SUBJECT: Transmittal of photostatic copy of letter addressed to American Embassy, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

RECEIVED
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 1947 JAN 8 AM 11 11
 FACILITIES SECTION
 THE HONORABLE
 THE SECRETARY OF STATE.
 WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to refer to the photostatic copies of the letter, written in the Japanese language, sent to this Consulate General by the American Embassy in Buenos Aires accompanied by a copy of a despatch to the Department No. 1289 of November 20 from the same Embassy.

These photostats were shown to Sr. Paulo Morita who handles Japanese affairs for the Swedish Consulate in São Paulo. Sr. Morita stated that the writer of this letter was Masaichi Saito, Japanese owner of a cinema located in São Paulo, Rua Santa Luzia 88. He also stated that this Saito was, as far as he knew, above suspicion and was not connected with any of the Japanese terrorist societies in the State of São Paulo. The Japanese in Buenos Aires, Ryohei Gashu, to whom the letter was addressed, was little known to Sr. Morita but he had heard of him as being a well known floriculturist.

In the first part of the letter Saito mentions that six years had passed since they, Saito and Gashu, had met on the steamer Argentine Maru on their way out to Brazil and Argentina from Japan. Saito then goes on to say that he had arranged, while in Japan, for the exclusive distributorship in Brazil of one of the principal Japanese film companies but that the war started and he had been unable to do anything with this business. He then mentions that Gashu had some Japanese films in his possession, two especially, which he would like to have for exhibition in Brazil. He suggests that he might be able to exchange films he has in São Paulo for them.

In the last part of the letter Saito tells Gashu of the conditions in São Paulo in which fanatic Japanese have organized terrorist societies and have threatened several important Japanese, among them the ex-diplomat accredited to Argentina Furuu.

Respectfully yours,

B.M. Ryan
 B.M.T.

Cecil M. P. Cross
 American Consul General

File No. 800
 OWHoover:vzp

FILED

CS/R94.20235/12-2346

894.20235/12-2346

FCR EUR-ARAJA 000010
 894.20235/11-2046
 894.20232

6014
 1-FC
 1 EUR-X
 4ARA
 1JA
 1DC/R
 5-01C
 2-00D
 1-019
 3-000
 19
 1-10-47

FR
 FR

FR

RESTRICTED

FEB 19 1947

RESTRICTED

No. 541

To the

Officer in Charge of the American Mission,
Buenos Aires.

The Secretary of State refers to the Embassy's Airgram A-722 of July 5, 1946, requesting information on Japanese subversive activities in Argentina and submits the enclosed despatch no. 797 of January 3, 1947 from the Political Adviser's office in Tokyo. It will be noted that the office of the Political Adviser reports that additional information requested in the above mentioned airgram is being obtained. It will be forwarded as soon as received.

If the information contained in the attached may be of assistance to the Argentine Government in its program of eliminating Axis penetration, the information may, at the discretion of the Embassy, be passed on to the Argentine authorities.

894.20235/1-347

Enclosure:
As stated.

DCR - ARA Unit	
Anal	<i>MM</i>
Rev	<i>WMB</i>
Act	

CS/A

A true copy of the signed original.

[Large handwritten signature]

FEB 18 1947 F.N.

894.20235/1-347

FC:HHBarger:mn 2/12/47

RESTRICTED

894.20235/1-347

1/14/R

ACCESS RESTRICTED

The item identified below has been withdrawn from this file:

File Designation 894.20235/1-347
No. 797
 Date January 3, 1947
 From Tokyo
 To _____

In the review of this file this item was removed because access to it is restricted. Restrictions on records in the National Archives are stated in general and specific record group restriction statements which are available for examination. The item identified above has been withdrawn because it contains:

Security-Classified Information

Otherwise Restricted Information

~~Set / S~~

 Authority
~~_____~~
 FBI / ~~_____~~

4/20/76
 Date
 MKW

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE



DIVISION OF RIVER PLATE AFFAIRS
BY COURIER

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1947 FEB 13 AM 9 59

Buenos Aires, Argentina, January 3, 1947.

MAIL ROOM

No. 1589

Subject: Noboru HARA and His Connections With the
Japanese Secret Organization, "Nippon Gawa".

CONFIDENTIAL

The Chargé d'Affaires ad interim has the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a note verbale dated December 12, 1946, which was furnished the Foreign Ministry in response to its note of November 15, 1946. In this note the Ministry requested information concerning the antecedents of the Japanese, Noboru HARA, and his activities in connection with the Japanese secret organization, "Nippon Gawa".

894.20235/1-347

ACTION
2-FC
COPIES
TO:
EUR/X
ARA
FE
OCD
2-DC/R
3-EUR
1-CIB

RECEIVED
1947 JAN 10 AM 11 41

DC/M
HONORARY CONSUL

DIVISION OF FOREIGN ACTIVITY CORRELATION
JAN 13 1947
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TO: ARA THIN
APR 12
VT

Enclosure:
Note verbale dated December 12, 1946.

Original, Ozalid, and one copy to Department.
Copy to Mr. Thomas Mann, Division of River Plate Affairs.
File no. 820.02.
DKBallentine:jad

FILED

FEB 24 1947

[Handwritten signature]

894.20235/1-347

AIR MAIL

Enclosure to Despatch no. 1507 dated
January 5, 1947, from the American
Embassy at Buenos Aires, Argentina.

NOTE VERBALE

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship and has the honor to refer to the Ministry's courteous note of November 15, 1946, and to the Embassy's note of March 29, 1946, both relating to Noboru HARA. The Ministry's note under reference inquired concerning Hara's connection with the "Nippon Gawa".

Hara was reported by numerous sources of varying degrees of reliability as a director of the Japanese secret organization, "Nippon Gawa", which the Embassy translates as "current of Japan". This entity is alleged to have been engaged in espionage and other forms of subversive activity in the Republic of Argentina on behalf of Japan.

According to information received from exceptionally reliable sources, Hara was the director of a group of Japanese maritime espionage agents operating in the port of Buenos Aires. These reliable reports indicate that this group cabled or telephoned their information to Mainichi and Asahi news agency representatives in Madrid, from whence it was forwarded to Japan. All the Japanese news agencies were used in many parts of the world for the collection and forwarding of such information.

The reliable sources cited above also maintain that Sánchez, García y Cía., which was owned by Hara and a group of other Japanese, was involved in these activities and was the receiving and distributing agency for a large volume of Japanese propaganda publications.

Hara's name is included in the list of persons suggested for repatriation, informally submitted to the Ministry by this Embassy and by the British and Chinese Embassies on June 1, 1946.

The Embassy of the United States of America avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship the assurances of its highest consideration.

Buenos Aires, December 12, 1946.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship
of the Argentine Republic.

DKBallentine:epv/jad

DO NOT DETACH THIS FORM!

RECORD COPY

THE ATTACHED COPY OF A DESPATCH HAS BEEN DESIGNATED THE RECORD COPY TO REPLACE THE ORIGINAL ACTION COPY WHICH WAS NOT RETURNED TO THE CENTRAL RECORDS BY THE ACTION OFFICE.

THIS COPY MUST BE RETURNED TO DC/R FOR FILING.

Subj: Japanese Sub. activities in Argentina

--oOo--

FILE NO. 894.20235/1-347

FILED

AUG 20 1947

FC

UNITED STATES POLITICAL ADVISER
FOR JAPAN

Tokyo, January 3, 1947.

~~SECRET~~

No. 797

JAN 23 1947

SUBJECT: Request for information regarding Japanese subversive activities in Argentina.

The United States Political Adviser has the honor to refer to the Department's airgram A-146, October 24, 1946, requesting information available in Japan on Japanese subversive activities

- 1/ in Argentina, and to enclose copies of a memorandum based on an
- 2/ interrogation of Baron Shu Tomii, a biographical sketch of the
- 3/ baron, and a letter dated August 9, 1946 from Mr. F. G. Tillman, Liaison Officer in Charge, Counter Intelligence Corps, to Colonel W. S. Wood, Civil Intelligence Section, General Headquarters, regarding Kaseo Tsuda, alias Kaseo Tsuda.

Additional information along the lines outlined in the Department's airgram under reference is being obtained. This Mission will transmit the data as they are received.

Enclosures:

1. Memorandum of interrogation of Baron Shu Tomii, December 12, 1946.
2. Biographical sketch of Baron Tomii.
3. Letter regarding Kaseo Tsuda, August 9, 1946.

Original and hectograph to Department.

701.3
CAAbbey:lh

894. 20235/1-347

DECLASSIFIED

NND 780069
By TG/CY NARS, Date 8-22-78

Enclosure No. 1 to despatch no. 797 dated January 3, 1947 from the United States Political Adviser for Japan, Tokyo, on the subject "request for information regarding Japanese subversive activities in Argentina".

COPY

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
Operations, CIO, G-2
Compilation Branch

~~RESTRICTED~~

12 December 1946

Subject: Interrogation of Baron Shu TOMII.

Baron Shu TOMII, Japanese ex-ambassador to Argentina (24 January 1941 until the date of his repatriation to Japan, 2 April 1946), stated that the DAI TOA-SHO (Greater East Asia Ministry) did not maintain a formal organization for the control of a Japanese colony in Argentina. Just as the name of the ministry implies, the jurisdiction of the DAI TOA-SHO did not extend beyond the scope and areas of east Asia. No liaison whatsoever was maintained between the DAI TOA-SHO and the Japanese embassy in Argentina.

When asked about the possible existence of a KOKURYU KAI (black dragon) branch or any other nationalistic or ultra-nationalistic societies, TOMII replied that, "it is correct for me to say that I had no knowledge of the existence of the KOKURYU KAI or other such organizations in Argentina. There may or may not have been an organization branch of the KOKURYU KAI in Argentina". TOMII added that he was taken aback with surprise when he first heard of the terroristic organizations which had existed in Brazil. News correspondents had sought an interview with him aboard ship on his repatriation from Buenos Aires.

THE TOKYO COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY PROMOTION ASSOCIATION had no affiliation with the embassy other than embassy members' possible personal friendships with members of this association. The president of this organization would change every two or three months with the change of the office heads representing such firms in Buenos Aires such as the Osaka Steamship Line.

THE FRIENDS OF THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION was comprised of a small group, forty in number, including a group of Argentine women students who wished to learn the Japanese language and forms of culture. The group for the most centered about three teachers (including HOSHI (fma)). All activities of this group came to an end with the outbreak of war in December 1941.

THE SADAO ANDO CULTURAL INSTITUTION was a project carried on by ANDO, Sadao, a well-to-do merchant dealing in the art goods line. (ANDO still resides in Buenos Aires), who financed Nisei students in need of money; apparently ANDO loaned sums of money to such students on the understanding that the money could be paid back at a later period with a slight interest charge.

THE HORTICULTURISTS' ASSOCIATION was comprised of individuals such as TAKAICHI, GASHU, KOKI, and other well known Japanese florists in Buenos Aires. TOMII declared that this group could hardly be described as a propaganda group, since it was organized mainly for the promotion of the florists' business in holding a yearly floral exhibition.

THE RIVER

- 2 -

Enclosure No. 1 to
Tokyo's Despatch No. 797,
January 3, 1947.

THE RIVER PLATE MARKET GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION included Japanese vegetable and wheat growers and farmers in and around Buenos Aires who formed this organization mainly to facilitate the purchase and distribution of fertilizers amongst its members.

THE JAPANESE ASSOCIATION OF ARGENTINA existed without liaison with the Japanese Foreign Office and was comprised entirely from the groups of residents local within Argentina. After the outbreak of war in December 1941, the association was dissolved by an order from the Argentine Government. TOMII specifically stated that no subsidies were ever received for this association from the Japanese Government. Expenses of the association were small and met by membership fees and local donations. (TOMII recalled having made a small donation). The association was maintained for benefits of local and other Japanese residents in Argentina with projects including a playground, school, and a sanitarium located in Cordoba for Japanese tubercular patients. Any Japanese residing in Argentina was eligible for admittance to this sanitarium.

Prior to the outbreak of war between Japan and the United States, the Japanese embassy funds of Argentina were handled through the YOKOHAMA SPECIES BANK. With the outbreak of the war TOMII handed over the embassy funds to the Swiss Legation, except for a small amount for expenses. After Argentina broke off diplomatic relations with Axis countries in January, 1944, the entire fund, including TOMII's personal accounts, were handled through the Swiss Legation whose representative forwarded continuous expense accounts to the embassy group who were interned at Cordoba. Never at any time, stated TOMII, did the embassy have any financial dealing with Banco Anon (of which ANDO, Sadao is reportedly the president. See full length report of TSUBA, Isao).

Though the embassy funds were handled through the Yokohama Specie Bank, its president, KURAHARA, Kiyozo, never knew for what purpose the embassy used its funds, confidential or otherwise.

TOKIO SHOKO SHOKAIKAN. Baron TOMII did not recognize this name.

Personalities:

TOMII stated that the type of work carried on by the military attaches YOKIBATA, Katsumi (Rear-Admiral and Naval Attache) and SUZUKI, Toshikazu (Military Attache) was not known to him. Their orders and channels of communications were not within the embassy's sphere since the orders of the military attaches were directly to and from the Japanese War Ministry. TOMII further asserted that acts of espionage were impossible within the embassy circle since all were always under close scrutiny and check by the Argentine Government after the initial attack on Pearl Harbor.

TOMII stated that he had never issued an order for the Japanese Embassy in Argentina to maintain liaison with TSUBA, Isao as a source of information. On the contrary, TOMII plus other embassy members were far from being on friendly terms with TSUBA (Domei correspondent in Buenos Aires. See full length report of TSUBA, Isao) who had stated that he had been an intermediary for TOMII to remunerate MACUL, Fernandez, employed with Finance Magazine, for any information regarding the treatment of Japanese in Brazil. TOMII admitted that he had been

anxious

- 3 -

Enclosure No. 1 to
Tokyo's Despatch No. 797,
January 3, 1947.

anxious to learn of the status and treatment of Japanese residents in Brazil, and therefore, had sent MAOUL to Brazil with the purpose of seeking the information. MAOUL returned but the information he brought back was of little value. Conditions as controlled by the Brazilian authorities had allowed little if any freedom in securing this information. TOMII added that expense plus a small remuneration (amount not recalled) for MAOUL's services were forwarded through TOMII's permission from the embassy, but whether TSUDA had been the actual intermediary or not was unknown to TOMII, since the funds were handled through the embassy office and not personally.

TSUDA, Ofelia: TOMII does not recall this person whom TSUDA had claimed to be a source of information. (See full length report of TSUDA, Masao).

KOBAYASHI, Isoma: who was head of the Mitsui Bussai Company in Buenos Aires. TOMII stated that their relationship was no more than a friendly one. TOMII was of the belief that KOBAYASHI was not one who would engage in espionage or similar acts.

RAMON, Angel A: A mechanic of the LA PATRONA Newspaper (see full length report of TSUDA). TOMII does not recall such an individual.

MURAI, Shozo: employed as an interpreter for the Japanese embassy in Argentina, who also had charge of the embassy fund.

Evaluation:

Much effort was put forth in the interrogation to draw as much information as possible from TOMII by both indirect and direct questions, but TOMII is not an individual prone to volunteer specific and direct information upon subjects (as listed in paragraphs 1 a, b, c, d, e, f, g, and h of the check sheet) in consideration of the fact that he was the ambassador and envoy-extraordinary to Argentina.

It must be remembered that this ^{first} interrogation of TOMII should be followed up with interrogations of other repatriates from the Japanese embassy in Argentina and of other individuals mentioned in the full length report of TSUDA (TODA), Masao.

~~RESTRICTED~~

Enclosure No. 2 to Despatch No. 797 dated January 3, 1947 from the United States Political Adviser for Japan, Tokyo, on the subject "request for information regarding Japanese subversive activities in Argentina".

COPY

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
Operations, G1S, G-2
Compilation Branch

~~RESTRICTED~~

11 December 1946

Subject: TOMII, Shu Baron

Date of birth: 17 August 1890

Education:

June 1915 Graduated from Tokyo Imperial University, majored in law.

Oct. 1915 Passed the State Examination for diplomats and consuls.

Career:

11 Nov. 1915 Assigned as Assistant-consul to Mukden, Manchuria.

27 Sept. 1916 Transferred to New York.

22 Aug. 1919 Assigned as 3rd Secretary to Embassy, Washington, D.C.

8 Oct. 1921 Assigned as attache to Japanese Delegation attending Washington Conference.

31 Mar. 1923 Relieved of his duties in America and assigned to Foreign Ministry.

11 June 1923 Assigned as an official of the Foreign Ministry and to the 2nd Section, Information Department of Foreign Ministry.

26 Feb. 1924 Assigned as 2nd Secretary to Embassy to England.

30 June 1926 Promoted to 1st Secretary to Embassy and assigned to England.

25 July 1927 Assigned as Consul-General to Ottawa, Canada.

20 July 1928 Assigned as 1st Secretary of the Legation to Canada.

12 Sept. 1929 Assigned as 1st Secretary of the Embassy to Germany.

29 Aug. 1932 Assigned as secretary to Foreign Ministry and as Chief of the Document Section, Minister's Secretariate (Foreign Ministry); and concurrently assigned as chief of the Translation Section, and Chief of the Official Gazette Report and Statistics.

Temporary commissioner, High Civil Service Exam. Committee.

16 Aug. 1933

- 2 -

Enclosure No. 2 to
Tokyo's Despatch No. 797,
January 3, 1947.

- 16 Aug. 1933 Assigned as Consul-General to San Francisco.
28 Dec. 1935 Succeeded to the Peerage as Baron.
30 May 1936 Assigned as Consul of the Embassy to England.
26 Mar. 1938 Assigned as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Canada.
15 Oct. 1940 Relieved of his duty as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Canada on his own request.
24 Jan. 1941 Assigned as Envoy Extraordinary and Ambassador Plenipotentiary assigned to Argentina.
7 June 1941 Assigned concurrently as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary and to Paraguay and Uruguay.
20 Oct. 1943 Relieved of his above posts.
15 July 1946 Relieved of his duty as Envoy Extraordinary and Ambassador Plenipotentiary to Argentina.

Decorations:

- 1 Nov. 1920 Decorated with the 6th Order of the Sacred Treasure in recognition of his service during the 1st European War.
31 May 1924 Decorated with the Single Ray of the Rising Sun in recognition for his service for Washington Conference.
26 Nov. 1925 Decorated with the 5th Order of the Sacred Treasure.
7 Nov. 1931 Decorated with the 4th Order of the Sacred Treasure.
5 Oct. 1936 Decorated with the 3rd Order of the Sacred Treasure.
29 Apr. 1940 Decorated with the Middle Cordon of the Rising Sun in recognition of his service for China Incident.
11 Mar. 1941 Decorated with the 2nd Order of the Sacred Treasure.

Source: Personal History, Personnel Section, Cabinet Secretariate.

~~RESTRICTED~~

Enclosure No. 3 to Despatch No. 797 dated January 3, 1947 from the United States Political Adviser for Japan, Tokyo, on the subject "request for information regarding Japanese Subversive Activities in Argentina".

COPY

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SECTION, GENERAL STAFF

9 August 1946

The following information regarding Kasuo Tsuda, alias Kasuo Tsuda was obtained from a letter report made to Colonel W. S. Wood, Civil Intelligence Section, General Headquarters, Supreme Commander For The Allied Power, dated 26 July 1946, by Mr. P. G. Tillman, Federal Bureau of Investigation Liaison Office, Counter Intelligence Corps.

Re: KASAO TSUDA, alias KASAO TSUDA

Dear Colonel:

In response to a request from 1st Lt. John A. Kumer, Special Intelligence Branch, the following data is being furnished you concerning KASAO TSUDA and, more particularly, with relation to his intelligence activities in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Four news agencies in Japan had correspondents in Buenos Aires on December 7, 1941, KASAO TSUDA represented Domei, TOKUJIRO FURUTA was correspondent for Yomiuri Hoshi, SABURO SUZUKI for Mainichi, and TAKAOTO HUSOYAMA represented Asahi, FUSOKAZA was repatriated in October, 1943, and was replaced by GIICHI IMAI. Considerable intelligence information was transmitted to Japan through the messages of the correspondents in late 1943 and January, 1944. Included in this information were data on U. S. shipbuilding, arms production, oil production, the development of new fuels and the increased personnel of the U. S. Army Air Force, the effect on transportation of the United States railroad strike, and the possibility of a settled peace in the Pacific in the event of the defeat of President Roosevelt in the 1944 election.

In many of the messages sources were named, such as Allied news agency flashes and American newspapers and magazines, principal among these being the "New York Times", "Wall Street Journal", "New York Herald Tribune", "Life", "Time" and "United States Magazine". The normal news value of some of the information sent would seem to have been lost by the time it reached Japan, such as the message sent to Domei on January 20, 1944, regarding layoffs of employees in the Bell Aircraft plants because of production of a new-type airplane, citing as the source of this information the "New York Times" of November 14, 1943. Another example of intelligence information sent by the Domei correspondent is contained in a message of January 25, 1944, which names the companies in the United States engaged in the production of Pratt & Whitney airplane engines; the source is given as the previous December 1 issue of the "Wall Street Journal".

Probably the most outstanding of these correspondents is KASAO TSUDA of Domei. Born in London, England, he lived many years in European countries and is said to have been the Japanese delegate to the Labor Bureau in the League of Nations at Geneva, Switzerland. When the war broke out in Europe, TSUDA went to the United States and

then in

- 3 -

Enclosure No. 3 to
Tokyo's Despatch No. 797
January 3, 1947.

then in 1941 to Buenos Aires to become head South American representative for Domei. He set up an office at Avenida R. S. Pena 868, 5th floor, Apt. 21, where he employed steadily five persons of Japanese descent, including stenographers, and from which he sent messages to his agency in Japan via Transradio International and Italcable said to have cost between \$1,500 and \$2,500 (U.S.) per month. As sources for his information, TODA himself read all newspapers and periodicals available, including a number of American publications which he purchased in local book stores or received through employees who subscribed to them in non-Japanese names. In his office he maintained an extensive filing system divided into three main sections on Allied military, political and economic data. In addition, it is known that TODA had close relations with the Japanese Embassy and undoubtedly he exchanged with Embassy personnel information which he had collected and evaluated.

Japan utilized the services of its news agencies to secure foreign intelligence. For example, on April 6, 1943, Yomiuri in Buenos Aires was asked to telegraph to Japan his opinion of the anti-aircraft defense system on the east coast of the United States. Again on April 9, 1943, Yomiuri was requested to telegraph data to Japan on the strength of the American Air Force in China, its gasoline supply routes, and the number of American planes being sent to China.

This information system was cut off when the Argentine Government decreed, after breaking diplomatic relations with Axis countries, the commercial cable, radio and telephone communication with Axis countries should cease as of midnight January 28, 1944. Correspondent MASAO TODA was arrested on February 12, 1944, by the Argentine Federal Police on charges of espionage. He was released in May and was at liberty at last reports. SABURO SUZUKI, Mainichi correspondent, was arrested by federal police September 1 and released September 5, 1944.

In May, 1946, MASAO TODA was interviewed by a special Agent of this Bureau in Seattle, Washington, prior to TODA's repatriation from the United States to Japan. TODA pointed out the main fact that the Domei newspaper system and its representatives were directly subsidized by the Japanese Government. As a result it was declared to be the duty of the representative to receive messages from the military and naval attaches for transmittal to Japan through Domei facilities. This relationship was instituted in Japan and was the general policy followed by such representatives throughout the world. Arrangements were also in effect with the Specie Bank of Yokohama and Tokyo branch at Buenos Aires for unlimited financing of the activities of the Domei representative, as well as for the direct payment to the cable offices of the charges incurred by the representative in sending material to Japan. It was developed also that a similar financing following the break in diplomatic relations was accorded by the Specie Bank to the three representatives of the other Japanese newspapers at Buenos Aires.

The following information concerning TODA was also developed during the interview at Seattle:

TODA advised that his correct name is TODA but that he often wrote it TSUDA because prior to the anglicizing of the Japanese alphabet TSUDA would have been the correct spelling. He stated that he only

expected

- 3 -

enclosure No. 3 to
Tokyo's Despatch No. 797,
January 3, 1947

expected to be in Argentina for some eight months, merely as experience for his position with Domei; otherwise he would have taken his family to Argentina. This did not prevent him from female social activities in Argentina, whereupon he stated that his girl friend was one ALBA ANGLINO, Soler 3369, Buenos Aires.

TUDA stated that following the departure of Japan from the League of Nations, for which he was the Japanese member, he had left his position with the Home Office and had gone to work for the Domei News Agency in 1939; that he had previously started employment with the Home Office directly upon his graduation from the university at Tokyo in 1922. At the time he went into Domei, TUDA stated, this was in direct opposition to most of his friends and family, who thought he should stay in the diplomatic service. However, because the President and Chief Editor of Domei were close friends of his and his family, he was able to go into the organization without much difficulty. He further felt that this might be due to the fact that a cousin of his was a member of the Emperor's entourage and consequently with this sponsorship it was easy to procure employment with the Home Office and subsequently with Domei.

Concerning his arrest, TUDA stated that he was arrested on February 12, 1944, by the Argentine Police and kept for 105 days in confinement without any formal charges being placed against him, and was released on May 26, 1944, following an interview with a Colonel VILLASCO of the Argentine Federal Police, who admitted that they did not have any definite espionage proof against him beyond his sending of cablegrams to Japan. TUDA's defense as to this was that all material which he had sent to Japan was published by United States sources which had passed Argentine censorship to come into Argentina and had again passed Argentine censorship to be sent to Japan, and accordingly he felt he had done nothing wrong. TUDA stated that he had his first interview with the police after his arrest on February 26 with Major CORTAS, Chief of Coordination of the Federal Police, and his second interview upon his release, and that other than two short interviews which concerned the dispatching of messages to Domei plus his denial of employment of assistants, no other talks of any kind were had with him by officials of the Argentine Police. It might be noted that TUDA stated that while the Argentine police had told him they were investigating his case while he was confined, they had never searched his apartment. In connection with his arrest, TUDA stated that he had not, nor did he know of anybody else who had paid any money for his release from custody.

TUDA stated that the following were his addresses during his stay in Buenos Aires, Argentina: Arrival until 12-31-41-Safico Building, Corrientes 456; 1942 - Tourist Bureau, Florida 746 (regular Domei office); 1943 to 2-12-44 - Diagonal Norte 850, 5th floor. TUDA stated that he had no office after February 1944.

As far as general activities of the Domei Agency were concerned, TUDA stated that prior to his departure from Japan he was advised by the Chief Editor of Domei that it was his duty to accept telegrams from the military and naval attaches at Buenos Aires for transmittal via the Domei facilities to Japan. He noted that arrangements were made in Japan for the Domei company there to bill the proper department

for payment

- 4 -

Enclosure No. 3 to
Tokyo's Despatch No. 737,
January 3, 1947.

for payment for these telegrams. The purpose of this arrangement was because press rates were one peso per word whereas the straight rate which would otherwise have to be utilized by the military and naval attaches were four pesos per word, and therefore as a matter of economy the material was sent through him. He stated that the chief editor of Domei advised him that his duty abroad was to procure information for the Japanese and that his emphasis was to be on United States information because of its importance. He said that the Japanese Government had depended to some degree on information supplied by the Associated Press, but when this was discontinued an arrangement became necessary whereby the Domei correspondents would take its place and supply information. As far as the source of the information itself was concerned, TODA stated, he daily had a number of people coming to his office to contact him, but he never hired anybody himself to act as an informant for his own purpose inasmuch as he was able to procure all the information he needed from general public sources such as magazines and newspapers. However, he did admit that he had acted as an intermediary in the payment of informants and collection of information from them from various other officials in the Embassy.

As far as the telegrams furnished him by the military and naval attaches for transmittal to Japan were concerned, he states that the Domei organization at Tokyo could ascertain whether he or the military or naval attache was the source of the information by the fact that when the telegrams were numbered beginning with "00" they were from the naval attache, and that when they were numbered beginning with "300" they were from the military attache. In addition, he stated that a further guiding factor for Domei in ascertaining the source was that when the military or naval attache had only a portion of a message to send, it would be included in material which TODA was sending; that the message of the naval attache would begin with the word "paragraph" and end with the word "paragraph" while that of the military attache would put their source first and then immediately start the information without further words. This was different from the system utilized by TODA, since TODA began his messages with the words "quote" and "unquote" and ended with the word "stop". A further difference would be that TODA's messages would not begin directly after he had given his source, but would use the word "says". TODA went on to state that as far as his messages were concerned, they should be easily recognizable by the style inasmuch as he was not concerned with military or naval information or that of straight national defense, but rather was concerned with social, political, economic and financial matters. He also stated that his messages could be recognized inasmuch as he numbered them starting with 1 every day and never got high enough in his messages so that they would be confused with the 300 series used by the military attache. In connection with the source of messages sent in the telegrams, TODA stated that the Domei office at Tokyo understood that in a message from TODA in which the source was not supplied, the source was merely TODA's opinion.

TODA stated that when he arrived in Argentina and began his work, he became a good contact of Ambassador TOHII, but that this contact soon degenerated because TOHII desired that his work be under the

control

- 5 -
Enclosure No. 3 to
Tokyo's Despatch No. 797,
January 3, 1947.

control of TOMII whereas TODA's instructions were that he should act entirely independently. TODA related that he had had many arguments with TOMII concerning his activities, but that he had never given in to TOMII on this matter. He said that the arguments did not prevent him from cooperating with the Embassy a copy of the telegrams he had send to Domei in Japan. He stated that for the purposes of messenger and the like he used one ALONSO YAMAUCHI, who was paid 10 pesos a month by the military attache to do this work. He went on to state that he had no informants, either paid or unpaid, among the various governmental officials of Argentina because he had all the material he needed from U. S. publications, and in addition he did not desire to work with such officials because it was too expensive for what they did.

As far as TODA's expenses were concerned, he advised that his cable expenses were between 40,000 and 50,000 Argentine pesos a month, which bill was paid directly to Italcable and Transradio Internacional by KIYOZO KURAHARA of the Yokohama Specie Bank without any question, whereupon TODA merely got a receipt. TODA noted in this connection that KURAHARA had been sent by the Specie Bank from New York to Buenos Aires to handle the personal end of the bank's affairs despite the fact that TAKAO ARAI was chief of the bank at Buenos Aires. He said that ARAI was inept and that KURAHARA was the mainspring of the Specie Bank's contact not only with TODA but also with the Japanese Embassy. He stated that after the source of money from Japan was cut off due to the war, KURAHARA not only financed individuals in the Embassy but also financed him by loans from the bank merely upon request. TODA said that this was also true as far as the remainder of the Japanese newspaper men were concerned. TODA noted that he did not have any limits whatsoever upon the funds which he could draw for his expenses, although his salary of 1800 pesos per month was fixed. He said that the money for his activities came directly from Domei in Japan through the Banco Central to the Yokohama Specie Bank, and that Domei would send between 5,000 and 15,000 pesos per month for general expenses. TODA went on to note that he never had to submit any expense accounts or account for the monies he had disbursed, but that he merely went to the bank and drew money as he needed it, since the understanding was that he had unlimited funds from the Specie Bank.

While TODA noted that he had never paid an informant, he stated that he did, in a sense, pay for the information because he entertained various individuals around Buenos Aires who he felt could furnish him with some general information about a situation in mere conversation, but that these individuals could not be considered as informants and consisted of all the leaders of society in Buenos Aires. In other than his own informants, TODA stated, there were only two instances in which he had acted as an intermediary.

One instance was that of ANGEL A. PARRONE. TODA noted that he had lived next door to PARRONE in the Safico Building for some six months in 1941 without knowing who PARRONE was. He said that in May 1941, while PARRONE was a mechanic of La Prensa newspaper he came to TODA's room and talked general politics and thereby struck up an acquaintance. Soon thereafter PARRONE lost his job with the newspaper and asked TODA for loans, which were refused. It was at about this time that PARRONE had a contact with Assistant Naval Attache KANEEDA and Military Attache SUZUKI. Following a short space of time, KANEEDA

and SUZUKI

- 6 -

Enclosure No. 3 to
Tokyo's Despatch No. 797.
January 3, 1947.

and SUZUKI each gave TUDA at different times the sum of \$300 to give to PERRONE. TUDA noted that he had never given PERRONE any money himself since he disliked PERRONE and did not trust his judgment. He wanted PERRONE to follow the Argentine political situation but he had ascertained that PERRONE's information was not much good and accordingly he did not consider hiring him. However, he did state that he took PERRONE to dinner occasionally, at which times he talked with him about the Argentine political situation. TUDA said that both KAMEIDA and SUZUKI had separate contacts with PERRONE and saw him separately without TUDA's presence. He noted that PERRONE disappeared from sight during the latter half of 1942, and then in early 1943 came back to Buenos Aires and did not explain his absence but endeavored to contact TUDA at the Tennis Club. TUDA stated that he discouraged the telephone calls of PERRONE, and that finally PERRONE had given up.

According to TUDA, PERRONE had told him he had many German friends and that the German Government had wanted PERRONE to go there and become a German radio specialist. TUDA believed that PERRONE had gone to Germany at some time in the past for this purpose and that he was a complete German and Japanese sympathizer. As far as TUDA knew, the information which PERRONE supplied to SUZUKI was merely concerning military groups and their control in Argentina, with emphasis as to the possibility of a coup by one group which might be in favor of a break of diplomatic relations between Argentina and Japan. It was this particular phase of political developments in Argentina which PERRONE supposedly was able to supply.

TUDA stated that PERRONE was completely trusted by both KAMEIDA and SUZUKI, but that he did not like him and did not trust him himself. As far as TUDA knew, PERRONE had some connection with a newspaper known as "El Economista" at Madrid in the capacity of a correspondent at Buenos Aires but TUDA was unable to furnish additional details concerning that. In this connection, TUDA stated that he did not have any other connection of any kind, direct, indirect or remote, with any Germans or German sympathizers.

TUDA was not able to state specifically as to any facts, but it was his belief that KUWAMURA of the Specie Bank not only was an informant of Ambassador TOMII but that he also had a ring of informants for TOMII's benefit. He believed that KUWAMURA also maintained the Ambassador's secret special fund for such payments, but that the actual fund itself was operated by SHOZO NUKAI.

Another instance in which TUDA acted as an intermediary was in the RAOUL FERRANDEZ case in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. According to TUDA, SAKAMURA had asked TUDA if he could send somebody to Brazil in order to ascertain the situation of Japanese treatment by the Brazilian authorities sometime during the latter part of August 1942. TUDA stated that he did not want to have anything to do with this situation, so he refused and shortly thereafter Ambassador TOMII called him in and asked him to get somebody for this assignment and the Embassy would pay the expenses. TUDA did not procure anybody immediately for that, so one day an individual by the name of FERRANDEZ, who was connected with the magazine "Finance" came to TUDA and told him he had an arrangement with SAKAMURA concerning the Brazilian assignment, whereupon TUDA

was given

- 7 -

enclosure No. 3 to
Tokyo's Despatch No. 797,
January 8, 1947

was given 6,000 pesos by TOJII with which he paid FERNANDEZ. According to TODA, the report submitted by FERNANDEZ was no good and did not prove of value to the Embassy, and further, this was an example of the indirect dealings of TOJII in paying and handling informants.

TODA was questioned concerning his relationship with TAMASU KANEEDA, the Assistant Naval Attache. He related that when KANEEDA was in the Japanese Naval Academy he had been a pupil of TODA's cousin, who was a professor there, and also a member of the Emperor's entourage, and accordingly KANEEDA endeavored to make a connection with TODA, which ripened into a close social friendship. TODA stated that it was he who actually trained KANEEDA in Argentine in the "social graces" necessary to his job as assistant naval attache in making public contacts inasmuch as KANEEDA's superior, Admiral KISHITA, the naval attache, did not speak any Spanish and accordingly all contact work was left to KANEEDA.

TODA was asked concerning his association with other Domei correspondents, whereupon he explained that his only contact with any other Domei correspondents was the fact that he had been told by the Domei headquarters in Japan to go to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in order to pass on a temporary irregular correspondent by the name of SHIINO there as to whether he would be acceptable to Domei in the establishment and control of a regular main office at Rio. TODA explained that SHIINO had been hired because he knew Brazil so well, having been there some thirty years, on the recommendation of the Japanese Ambassador at Rio de Janeiro, but that after interviewing SHIINO he had decided that the only thing Domei should do for SHIINO was to pay his office expenses, which up to that time had been paid by SHIINO himself out of his Domei salary of 150 pesos per month. Other than this incident, which was the only time TODA had been out of Argentina during the whole course of his stay there, TODA stated he had had no contact with other Domei correspondents.

Concerning ISOLA KOBAYASHI, TODA stated that he had never known this individual until he had met him when they were both in prison in Buenos Aires, and that although he talked with KOBAYASHI at that time he did not know that he was concerned with any espionage activities.

TODA was questioned as to his knowledge of TADAO KUDO, First Secretary of the Japanese Embassy at Rio de Janeiro. He admitted that he knew him well inasmuch as they had been classmates at the university in Tokyo, and that when he had made the trip to Rio de Janeiro, mentioned above, KUDO had entertained him. Accordingly, when KUDO came on a trip to Buenos Aires and then on to Santiago, Chile, he entertained KUDO in return. It was at this time that he learned that KUDO was in Buenos Aires to help strengthen the liaison relationship and exchange of data between the Japanese Embassies at Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires. According to TODA, KUDO had told him this but did not tell him the nature of the data which were to be exchanged.

As to his knowledge concerning President SADAO AMDO of the Banco Anan, TODA stated that he was positive that the bank did send funds to

JAPAN

- 3 -

enclosure no. 3 to
Tokyo's despatch no. 797,
January 3, 1947.

Japan via the Banco de la Nacion, which were then cleared through the Central Bank of Argentina. TODA's knowledge concerning this is positive up to the time Argentina broke relations on March 27, 1944. After that date TODA has no information concerning this matter. He was of the opinion that President ANDO was a close friend and contact of Ambassador TOHII, but he did not know whether the relationship extended to the procuring of information. He was, however, sure that some sort of financial arrangements between TOHII and the bank were in effect and he believes that possibly monies for the secret fund of the Ambassador were procured through this bank in the early days of the war.

TODA was also queried as to his knowledge of SUKUYA ASAYA. He advised that he knew ASAYA and that ASAYA's company, the IMAI COMPANY, had many contacts with a German company known as HUGO STINNES, LTD. and that since both companies were in the same building ASAYA naturally would have many connections with German individuals. He had no knowledge, however, of further information about Asaya.

TODA stated that he knew a woman known as OFELIA FLORENZINI very well and that she was well known in Japanese circles in Argentina. According to TODA, she was an accountant second in head of her section in the Accounting Department of the Department of Agriculture. He said that she had learned to speak Japanese in an organization run by one SHIBAZU of the Japanese Tourist Bureau which was known as the "Circle of Japanese Friends". This group, which also had close contacts with the Embassy, encouraged the admission of Argentines to the circle and an interest in things Japanese. TODA noted that OFELIA FLORENZINI also was a very close friend of SUZUKI, the newspaper man, and KANEKO, the Assistant Naval Attache. He believed that it was entirely possible that due to her very close intimate social connections with a number of individuals in the Japanese colony, she might have been utilized in intelligence work, but he had no knowledge about this matter.

TODA was questioned regarding any connection he might have with GOTTFRIED SANDSTEDT, an official of the former German Embassy at Buenos Aires. He stated that he had met SANDSTEDT only twice. The first time he met him was at the German Embassy, where SANDSTEDT functioned as the German Press Attache. The background of this meeting was that when TODA was in Washington enroute through the country, the Japanese Embassy press attache at Washington had requested the German Embassy at Washington to give TODA a letter of introduction to SANDSTEDT as the German press attache at Buenos Aires. According to TODA, this meeting was merely for the purpose of an introduction and went no further than the fact that they agreed that should there be matters of mutual interest they would supply each other with such data in their capacities as newspaper men. The second meeting was by an invitation from SANDSTEDT to TODA for dinner at the German Club. TODA went to this dinner and was introduced to the head of D.M.B., whose name TODA cannot remember inasmuch as he never saw the man or SANDSTEDT again.

Assuring you of my desire to be of every assistance, I am,

Very truly yours,

F. G. Tillman
Liaison Officer in Charge



UNITED STATES POLITICAL ADVISER FOR JAPAN

Tokyo, January 3, 1947.

DIV OF FOREIGN ACTIVITY CORRELATION
Instruction to
B.A. 226.12, 1947
7448
JAN 23 1947
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

~~RESTRICTED~~

No. 797

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SUBJECT: Request for Information Regarding Japanese Subversive Activities in Argentina.

FC Ja a-H

894.20235 / 10-24469

The United States Political Adviser has the honor to refer to the Department's airgram A-146, October 24, 1946, requesting information available in Japan on Japanese subversive activities in Argentina, and to enclose copies of a memorandum based on an

- 1/ interrogation of Baron Shu Tomii, a biographical sketch of the Baron, and a letter dated August 9, 1946 from Mr. F. G. Tillman, Liaison Officer in Charge, Counter Intelligence Corps, to Colonel W. S. Wood, Civil Intelligence Section, General Headquarters, regarding Masao Tuda, alias Masao Tsuda.

Additional information along the lines outlined in the Department's airgram under reference is being obtained. This Mission will transmit the data as they are received.

894.20235/1-347

ACTION
2 FC
COPIES
10:
2 FE
4 ARA
1 A-H
60 CD
1 DGR
1 CIC
1 FC

Enclosures:

1. Memorandum of interrogation of Baron Shu Tomii, December 12, 1946.
2. Biographical sketch of Baron Tomii.
3. Letter regarding Masao Tuda, August 9, 1946.

Original and hectograph to Department.

701.3
GAAbbey:lh

DCR NE Unit

ms
Hq

DECLASSIFIED
NND 280069
By TC/ef NARS, Date 8-24-78

CS/A

FILED

MAR 3 - 1947

Confidential File

894.20235/1

3 Wal
DIVISION OF
1947 JAN 20 PM 12 33

MAIL ROOM

11.71

Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 797 dated January 3, 1947 from the United States Political Adviser for Japan, Tokyo, on the subject "Request for Information Regarding Japanese Subversive Activities in Argentina".

COPY

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
Operations, CIS, G-2
Compilation Branch

12 December 1946

~~RESTRICTED~~

Subject: Interrogation of Baron Shu TOMII.

Baron Shu TOMII, Japanese ex-ambassador to Argentina (24 January 1941 until the date of his repatriation to Japan, 2 April 1946), stated that the DAI TOA-SHO (Greater East Asia Ministry) did not maintain a formal organization for the control of a Japanese colony in Argentina. Just as the name of the ministry implies, the jurisdiction of the DAI TOA-SHO did not extend beyond the scope and areas of east Asia. No liaison whatsoever was maintained between the DAI TOA-SHO and the Japanese embassy in Argentina.

When asked about the possible existence of a KOKURYU KAI (Black Dragon) branch or any other nationalistic or ultra-nationalistic societies, TOMII replied that, "it is correct for me to say that I had no knowledge of the existence of the KOKURYU KAI or other such organizations in Argentina. There may or may not have been an organization branch of the KOKURYU KAI in Argentina". TOMII added that he was taken aback with surprise when he first heard of the terroristic organizations which had existed in Brazil. News correspondents had sought an interview with him aboard ship on his repatriation from Buenos Aires.

THE TOKYO COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY PROMOTION ASSOCIATION had no affiliation with the embassy other than embassy members' possible personal friendships with members of this association. The president of this organization would change every two or three months with the change of the office heads representing such firms in Buenos Aires such as the Osaka Steamship Line.

THE FRIENDS OF THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION was comprised of a small group, forty in number, including a group of Argentine women students who wished to learn the Japanese language and forms of culture. The group for the most centered about three teachers (including HOSHI (fnu)). All activities of this group came to an end with the outbreak of war in December 1941.

THE SADAO ANDO CULTURAL INSTITUTION was a project carried on by ANDO, Sadao, a well-to-do merchant dealing in the art goods line. (ANDO still resides in Buenos Aires), who financed Nisei students in need of money; apparently ANDO loaned sums of money to such students on the understanding that the money could be paid back at a later period with a slight interest charge.

THE HORTICULTURISTS' ASSOCIATION was comprised of individuals such as TAKAICHI, GASHU, KORI, and other well known Japanese florists in Buenos Aires. TOMII declared that this group could hardly be described as a propaganda group, since it was organized mainly for the promotion of the florists' business in holding a yearly floral exhibition.

THE RIVER

- 2 -

Enclosure No. 1 to
Tokyo's Despatch No. 797,
January 3, 1947.

THE RIVER PLATE MARKET GARDNERS' ASSOCIATION included Japanese vegetable and wheat growers and farmers in and around Buenos Aires who formed this organization mainly to facilitate the purchase and distribution of fertilizers amongst its members.

THE JAPANESE ASSOCIATION OF ARGENTINA existed without liaison with the Japanese Foreign Office and was comprised entirely from the groups of residents local within Argentina. After the outbreak of war in December 1941, the association was dissolved by an order from the Argentine Government. TOMII specifically stated that no subsidiaries were ever received for this association from the Japanese Government. Expenses of the association were small and met by membership fees and local donations. (TOMII recalled having made a small donation). The association was maintained for benefits of local and other Japanese residents in Argentina with projects including a playground, school, and a sanitarium located in Cordoba for Japanese tubercular patients. Any Japanese residing in Argentina was eligible for admittance to this sanitarium.

Prior to the outbreak of war between Japan and the United States, the Japanese embassy funds of Argentina were handled through the YOKOHAMA SPECIES BANK. With the outbreak of the war TOMII handed over the embassy funds to the Swiss Legation, except for a small amount for expenses. After Argentina broke off diplomatic relations with Axis countries in January, 1944, the entire fund, including TOMII's personal accounts, were handled through the Swiss Legation whose representative forwarded continuous expense accounts to the embassy group who were interned at Cordoba. Never at any time, stated TOMII, did the embassy have any financial dealing with Banco Anan (of which ANDO, Sadao is reportedly the president. See full length report of TSUDA, Masao).

Though the embassy funds were handled through the Yokohama Specie Bank, its president, KUWAHARA, Kiyozo, never knew for what purpose the embassy used its funds, confidential or otherwise.

TORIO SHOKO SHOREIKAN, Baron TOMII did not recognize this name.

Personalities:

TOMII stated that the type of work carried on by the military attaches YUKISHITA, Katsumi (Rear-Admiral and Naval Attache) and SUZUKI, Toshikazu (Military Attache) was not known to him. Their orders and channels of communications were not within the embassy's sphere since the orders of the military attaches were directly to and from the Japanese War Ministry. TOMII further asserted that acts of espionage were impossible within the embassy circle since all were always under close scrutiny and check by the Argentine Government after the initial attack on Pearl Harbor.

TOMII stated that he had never issued an order for the Japanese Embassy in Argentina to maintain liaison with TSUDA, Masao as a source of information. On the contrary, TOMII plus other embassy members were far from being on friendly terms with TSUDA (Domei correspondent in Buenos Aires. See full length report of TSUDA, Masao) who had stated that he had been an intermediary for TOMII to remunerate RAOUL, Fernandez, employed with Finance Magazine, for any information regarding the treatment of Japanese in Brazil. TOMII admitted that he had been

anxious

- 3 -

Enclosure No. 1 to
Tokyo's Despatch No. 797,
January 3, 1947.

anxious to learn of the status and treatment of Japanese residents in Brazil, and therefore, had sent RAOUL to Brazil with the purpose of seeking the information. RAOUL returned but the information he brought back was of little value. Conditions as controlled by the Brazilian authorities had allowed little if any freedom in securing this information. TOMII added that expense plus a small remuneration (amount not recalled) for RAOUL's services were forwarded through TOMII's permission from the embassy, but whether TSUDA had been the actual intermediary or not was unknown to TOMII, since the funds were handled through the embassy office and not personally.

FERNANDEZ, Ofelia: TOMII does not recall this person whom TSUDA had claimed to be a source of information. (See full length report of TSUDA, Masao).

KOBAYASHI, Isoma: who was head of the Mitsui Nanbei Company in Buenos Aires. TOMII stated that their relationship was no more than a friendly one. TOMII was of the belief that KOBAYASHI was not one who would engage in espionage or similar acts.

PERRONE, Angel A: A mechanic of the LA PRENSA Newspaper (see full length report of TSUDA). TOMII does not recall such an individual.

MURAI, Shozo: employed as an interpreter for the Japanese embassy in Argentina, who also had charge of the embassy fund.

Evaluation:

Much effort was put forth in the interrogation to draw as much information as possible from TOMII by both indirect and direct questions, but TOMII is not an individual prone to volunteer specific and direct information upon subjects (as listed in paragraphs 1 a,b,c,d,e,f,g, and h of the check sheet) in consideration of the fact that he was the ambassador and envoy-extraordinary to Argentina.

It must be remembered that this ^{first} interrogation of TOMII should be followed up with interrogations of other repatriates from the Japanese embassy in Argentina and of other individuals mentioned in the full length report of TSUDA (TUDA), Masao.

~~RESTRICTED~~

Enclosure No. 2 to Despatch No. 797 dated January 3, 1947 from the United States Political Adviser for Japan, Tokyo, on the subject "Request for Information Regarding Japanese Subversive Activities in Argentina".

COPY

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
Operations, CIS, G-2
Compilation Branch

~~RESTRICTED~~

11 December 1946

Subject: TOMII, Shu Baron

Date of Birth: 17 August 1890

Education:

June 1915 Graduated from Tokyo Imperial University, majored in law.

Oct. 1915 Passed the State Examination for diplomats and consuls.

Career:

11 Nov. 1915 Assigned as Assistant-consul to Mukden, Manchuria.

27 Sept. 1916 Transferred to New York.

22 Aug. 1919 Assigned as 3rd Secretary to Embassy, Washington, D.C.

8 Oct. 1921 Assigned as attache to Japanese Delegation attending Washington Conference.

31 Mar. 1923 Relieved of his duties in America and assigned to Foreign Ministry.

11 June 1923 Assigned as an official of the Foreign Ministry and to the 2nd Section, Information Department of Foreign Ministry.

26 Feb. 1924 Assigned as 2nd Secretary to Embassy to England.

30 June 1926 Promoted to 1st Secretary to Embassy and assigned to England.

25 July 1927 Assigned as Consul-General to Ottawa, Canada.

20 July 1928 Assigned as 1st Secretary of the Legation to Canada.

12 Sept. 1929 Assigned as 1st Secretary of the Embassy to Germany.

29 Aug. 1932 Assigned as secretary to Foreign Ministry and as Chief of the Document Section, Minister's Secretariate (Foreign Ministry); and concurrently assigned as chief of the Translation Section, and Chief of the Official Gazette Report and Statistics.

Temporary commissioner, High Civil Service Exam. Committee.

16 Aug. 1933

- 2 -

Enclosure No. 2 to
Tokyo's Despatch No. 797,
January 3, 1947.

16 Aug. 1933 Assigned as Consul-General to San Francisco.
28 Dec. 1935 Succeeded to the Peerage as Baron.
30 May 1936 Assigned as Consul of the Embassy to England.
26 Mar. 1938 Assigned as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Canada.
15 Oct. 1940 Relieved of his duty as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Canada on his own request.
24 Jan. 1941 Assigned as Envoy Extraordinary and Ambassador Plenipotentiary assigned to Argentina.
7 June 1941 Assigned concurrently as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary and to Paraguay and Uruguay.
20 Oct. 1943 Relieved of his above posts.
15 July 1946 Relieved of his duty as Envoy Extraordinary and Ambassador Plenipotentiary to Argentina.

Decorations:

1 Nov. 1920 Decorated with the 6th Order of the Sacred Treasure in recognition of his service during the 1st European War.
31 May 1924 Decorated with the Single Ray of the Rising Sun in recognition for his service for Washington Conference.
25 Nov. 1925 Decorated with the 5th Order of the Sacred Treasure.
7 Nov. 1931 Decorated with the 4th Order of the Sacred Treasure.
5 Oct. 1936 Decorated with the 3rd Order of the Sacred Treasure.
29 Apr. 1940 Decorated with the Middle Cordon of the Rising Sun in recognition of his service for China Incident.
11 Mar. 1941 Decorated with the 2nd Order of the Sacred Treasure.

Source: Personal history, Personnel Section, Cabinet Secretariate.

~~RESTRICTED~~

Enclosure No. 3 to Despatch No. 797 dated January 3, 1947 from the United States Political Adviser for Japan, Tokyo, on the subject "Request for Information Regarding Japanese Subversive Activities in Argentina".

COPY

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SECTION, GENERAL STAFF

~~RESTRICTED~~

9 August 1946

The following information regarding Masao Tuda, alias Masao Tsuda was obtained from a letter report made to Colonel W. S. Wood, Civil Intelligence Section, General Headquarters, Supreme Commander For The Allied Power, dated 26 July 1946, by Mr. F. G. Tillman, Federal Bureau of Investigation Liaison Office, Counter Intelligence Corps.

Re: MASAO TUDA, Alias MASAO TSUDA

Dear Colonel:

In response to a request from 1st Lt. John A. Ramer, Special Intelligence Branch, the following data is being furnished you concerning MASAO TUDA and, more particularly, with relation to his intelligence activities in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Four news agencies in Japan had correspondents in Buenos Aires on December 7, 1941, MASAO TUDA represented Domei, TOKUJIRO FURUTA was correspondent for Yomiuri Hochi, SABURO SUZUKI for Mainichi, and TAKAMOTO HOSOKAWA represented Asahi, HOSOKAWA was repatriated in October, 1943, and was replaced by GIICHI IMAI. Considerable intelligence information was transmitted to Japan through the messages of the correspondents in late 1943 and January, 1944. Included in this information were data on U. S. shipbuilding, arms production, oil production, the development of new fuels and the increased personnel of the U. S. Army Air Force, the effect on transportation of the United States railroad strike, and the possibility of a settled peace in the Pacific in the event of the defeat of President Roosevelt in the 1944 election.

In many of the messages sources were named, such as Allied news agency flashes and American newspapers and magazines, principal among these being the "New York Times", "Wall Street Journal", "New York Herald Tribune", "Life", "Time" and "United States Magazine". The normal news value of some of the information sent would seem to have been lost by the time it reached Japan, such as the message sent to Domei on January 20, 1944, regarding layoffs of employees in the Bell Aircraft plants because of production of a new-type airplane, citing as the source of this information the "New York Times" of November 14, 1943. Another example of intelligence information sent by the Domei correspondent is contained in a message of January 25, 1944, which names the companies in the United States engaged in the production of Pratt & Whitney airplane engines; the source is given as the previous December 1 issue of the "Wall Street Journal".

Probably the most outstanding of these correspondents is MASAO TUDA of Domei. Born in London, England, he lived many years in European countries and is said to have been the Japanese delegate to the Labor Bureau in the League of Nations at Geneva, Switzerland. When the war broke out in Europe, TUDA went to the United States and

then in

- 2 -

Enclosure No. 3 to
Tokyo's Despatch No. 797
January 3, 1947.

then in 1941 to Buenos Aires to become head South American representative for Domei. He set up an office at Avenida R. S. Pena 868, 5th floor, Apt. #1, where he employed steadily five persons of Japanese descent, including stenographers, and from which he sent messages to his agency in Japan via Transradio International and Italcable said to have cost between \$1,500 and \$2,500 (U.S.) per month. As sources for his information, TUDA himself read all newspapers and periodicals available, including a number of American publications which he purchased in local book stores or received through employees who subscribed to them in non-Japanese names. In his office he maintained an extensive filing system divided into three main sections on Allied Military, Political and Economic data. In addition, it is known that TUDA had close relations with the Japanese Embassy and undoubtedly he exchanged with Embassy personnel information which he had collected and evaluated.

Japan utilized the services of its news agencies to secure foreign intelligence. For example, on April 6, 1943, Yomiuri in Buenos Aires was asked to telegraph to Japan his opinion of the anti-aircraft defense system on the east coast of the United States. Again on April 9, 1943, Yomiuri was requested to telegraph data to Japan on the strength of the American Air Force in China, its gasoline supply routes, and the number of American planes being sent to China.

This information system was cut off when the Argentine Government decreed, after breaking diplomatic relations with Axis countries, the commercial cable, radio and telephone communication with Axis countries should cease as of midnight January 28, 1944. Correspondent MASAO TUDA was arrested on February 12, 1944, by the Argentine Federal Police on charges of espionage. He was released in May and was at liberty at last reports. SABURO SUZUKI, Mainichi correspondent, was arrested by federal police September 1 and released September 5, 1944.

In May, 1946, MASAO TUDA was interviewed by a special Agent of this Bureau in Seattle, Washington, prior to TUDA's repatriation from the United States to Japan. TUDA pointed out the main fact that the Domei newspaper system and its representatives were directly subsidized by the Japanese Government. As a result it was declared to be the duty of the representative to receive messages from the military and naval attaches for transmittal to Japan through Domei facilities. This relationship was instituted in Japan and was the general policy followed by such representatives throughout the world. Arrangements were also in effect with the Specie Bank of Yokohama and Tokyo branch at Buenos Aires for unlimited financing of the activities of the Domei representative, as well as for the direct payment to the cable offices of the charges incurred by the representative in sending material to Japan. It was developed also that a similar financing following the break in diplomatic relations was accorded by the Specie Bank to the three representatives of the other Japanese newspapers at Buenos Aires.

The following information concerning TUDA was also developed during the interview at Seattle:

TUDA advised that his correct name is TUDA but that he often wrote it TSUDA because prior to the anglicizing of the Japanese alphabet TSUDA would have been the correct spelling. He stated that he only

expected

- 3 -

Enclosure No. 3 to
Tokyo's Despatch No. 797,
January 3, 1947

expected to be in Argentina for some eight months, merely as experience for his position with Domei; otherwise he would have taken his family to Argentina. This did not prevent him from female social activities in Argentina, whereupon he stated that his girl friend was one ANA ANGELLO, Soler 3369, Buenos Aires.

TUDA stated that following the departure of Japan from the League of Nations, for which he was the Japanese member, he had left his position with the Home Office and had gone to work for the Domei News Agency in 1939; that he had previously started employment with the Home Office directly upon his graduation from the university at Tokyo in 1922. At the time he went into Domei, TUDA stated, this was in direct opposition to most of his friends and family, who thought he should stay in the diplomatic service. However, because the President and Chief Editor of Domei were close friends of him and his family, he was able to go into the organization without much difficulty. He further felt that this might be due to the fact that a cousin of his was a member of the Emperor's entourage and consequently with this sponsorship it was easy to procure employment with the Home Office and subsequently with Domei.

Concerning his arrest, TUDA stated that he was arrested on February 12, 1944, by the Argentine Police and kept for 105 days in confinement without any formal charges being placed against him, and was released on May 26, 1944, following an interview with a Colonel VELASCO of the Argentine Federal Police, who admitted that they did not have any definite espionage proof against him beyond his sending of cablegrams to Japan. TUDA's defense as to this was that all material which he had sent to Japan was published by United States sources which had passed Argentine censorship to come into Argentina and had again passed Argentine censorship to be sent to Japan, and accordingly he felt he had done nothing wrong. TUDA stated that he had his first interview with the police after his arrest on February 25 with Major CONTAL, Chief of Coordination of the Federal Police, and his second interview upon his release, and that other than two short interviews which concerned the dispatching of messages to Domei plus his denial of employment of assistants, no other talks of any kind were had with him by officials of the Argentine Police. It might be noted that TUDA stated that while the Argentine Police had told him they were investigating his case while he was confined, they had never searched his apartment. In connection with his arrest, TUDA stated that he had not, nor did he know of anybody else who had paid any money for his release from custody.

TUDA stated that the following were his addresses during his stay in Buenos Aires, Argentina: Arrival until 12-31-41-Safico Building, Corrientes 456; 1942 - Tourist Bureau, Florida 746 (regular Domei office); 1943 to 2-12-44 - Diagonal Norte 850, 5th floor. TUDA stated that he had no office after February 1944.

As far as general activities of the Domei Agency were concerned, TUDA stated that prior to his departure from Japan he was advised by the Chief Editor of Domei that it was his duty to accept telegrams from the military and naval attaches at Buenos Aires for transmittal via the Domei facilities to Japan. He noted that arrangements were made in Japan for the Domei company there to bill the proper department

for payment

- 4 -

Enclosure No. 3 to
Tokyo's Despatch No. 797,
January 3, 1947.

for payment for these telegrams. The purpose of this arrangement was because press rates were one peso per word whereas the straight rate which would otherwise have to be utilized by the military and naval attaches were four pesos per word, and therefore as a matter of economy the material was sent through him. He stated that the chief editor of Domei advised him that his duty abroad was to procure information for the Japanese and that his emphasis was to be on United States information because of its importance. He said that the Japanese Government had depended to some degree on information supplied by the Associated Press, but when this was discontinued an arrangement became necessary whereby the Domei correspondents would take its place and supply information. As far as the source of the information itself was concerned, TUDA stated, he daily had a number of people coming to his office to contact him, but he never hired anybody himself to act as an informant for his own purpose inasmuch as he was able to procure all the information he needed from general public sources such as magazines and newspapers. However, he did admit that he had acted as an intermediary in the payment of informants and collection of information from them from various other officials in the Embassy.

As far as the telegrams furnished him by the military and naval attaches for transmittal to Japan were concerned, he states that the Domei organization at Tokyo could ascertain whether he or the military or naval attache was the source of the information by the fact that when the telegrams were numbered beginning with "00" they were from the naval attache, and that when they were numbered beginning with "300" they were from the military attache. In addition, he stated that a further guiding factor for Domei in ascertaining the source was that when the military or naval attache had only a portion of a message to send, it would be included in material which TUDA was sending; that the message of the naval attache would begin with the word "paragraph" and end with the word "paragraph" while that of the military attache would put their source first and then immediately start the information without further words. This was different from the system utilized by TUDA, since TUDA began his messages with the words "quote" and "unquote" and ended with the word "stop". A further difference would be that TUDA's messages would not begin directly after he had given his source, but would use the word "says". TUDA went on to state that as far as his messages were concerned, they should be easily recognizable by the style inasmuch as he was not concerned with military or naval information or that of straight national defense, but rather was concerned with social, political, economic and financial matters. He also stated that his messages could be recognized inasmuch as he numbered them starting with #1 every day and never got high enough in his messages so that they would be confused with the 300 series used by the military attache. In connection with the source of messages sent in the telegrams, TUDA stated that the Domei office at Tokyo understood that in a message from TUDA in which the source was not supplied, the source was merely TUDA's opinion.

TUDA stated that when he arrived in Argentina and began his work, he became a good contact of Ambassador TOMII, but that this contact soon degenerated because TOMII desired that his work be under the

control

- 5 -

Enclosure No. 3 to
Tokyo's Despatch No. 797,
January 3, 1947.

control of TOMII whereas TUDA's instructions were that he should act entirely independently. TUDA related that he had had many arguments with TOMII concerning his activities, but that he had never given in to TOMII on this matter. He said that the arguments did not prevent him from cooperating with the Embassy a copy of the telegrams he had send to Domei in Japan. He stated that for the purposes of messenger and the like he used one ALONSO YAMAUCHI, who was paid 10 pesos a month by the military attache to do this work. He went on to state that he had no informants, either paid or unpaid, among the various governmental officials of Argentina because he had all the material he needed from U. S. publications, and in addition he did not desire to work with such officials because it was too expensive for what they did.

As far as TUDA's expenses were concerned, he advised that his cable expenses were between 40,000 and 50,000 Argentine pesos a month, which bill was paid directly to Italcable and Transradio Internacional by KIYOZO KUWAHARA of the Yokohama Specie Bank without any question, whereupon TUDA merely got a receipt. TUDA noted in this connection that KUWAHARA had been sent by the Specie Bank from New York to Buenos Aires to handle the personal end of the bank's affairs despite the fact that TAKAO ARAI was chief of the bank at Buenos Aires. He said that ARAI was inept and that KUWAHARA was the mainspring of the Specie Bank's contact not only with TUDA but also with the Japanese Embassy. He stated that after the source of money from Japan was cut off due to the war, KUWAHARA not only financed individuals in the Embassy but also financed him by loans from the bank merely upon request. TUDA said that this was also true as far as the remainder of the Japanese newspaper men were concerned. TUDA noted that he did not have any limits whatsoever upon the funds which he could draw for his expenses, although his salary of 1800 pesos per month was fixed. He said that the money for his activities came directly from Domei in Japan through the Banco Central to the Yokohama Specie Bank, and that Domei would send between 5,000 and 15,000 pesos per month for general expenses. TUDA went on to note that he never had to submit any expense accounts or account for the monies he had disbursed, but that he merely went to the bank and drew money as he needed it, since the understanding was that he had unlimited funds from the Specie Bank.

While TUDA noted that he had never paid an informant, he stated that he did, in a sense, pay for the information because he entertained various individuals around Buenos Aires who he felt could furnish him with some general information about a situation in mere conversation, but that these individuals could not be considered as informants and consisted of all the leaders of society in Buenos Aires. In other than his own informants, TUDA stated, there were only two instances in which he had acted as an intermediary.

One instance was that of ANGEL A. PERRONE. TUDA noted that he had lived next door to PERRONE in the Safico Building for some six months in 1941 without knowing who PERRONE was. He said that in May 1941, while PERRONE was a mechanic of La Prensa newspaper he came to TUDA's room and talked general politics and thereby struck up an acquaintance. Soon thereafter PERRONE lost his job with the newspaper and asked TUDA for loans, which were refused. It was at about this time that PERRONE had a contact with Assistant Naval Attache KAMEDA and Military Attache SUZUKI. Following a short space of time, KAMEDA

and SUZUKI