Approved For Release 2008/07/14 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001200060009-9

NSC BRIEFING 8 June 1960

25X1

JAPAN

I. Since last week's meeting, when Mr. Amory briefed you in detail on the Japanese political crisis, [redacted] the majority of Kishi's governing party, faced with continuing leftist pressures, has temporarily ceased efforts to oust him and is supporting his plan to complete ratification ofthe US-Japanese security treaty by 11 June, when the President will arrive. 25X1

II. Our view continues to be that:

A. Ratification of the new security treaty will probably be completed in time for the visit.

B. Kishi probably will be able to retainoffice until shortly after he accomplishes ratification, but his prospects for anything but a brief tenure thereafter are diminishing.

C. The possibility exists that he will be replaced by a party elder pending the outcome of a general election in the late summer or early fall.

III. Three major leftist groups--the radical Zengakuren students' federation, the Sohyo labor federation, and the Japanese Communist party--are planning demonstrations during the Presidential visit.

A. All three, however, recognize that Japanese public overwhelmingly favors the visit and the more responsible elements within these organizations have withdrawn earlier threats to commit violence.

B. Extreme radicals in the student federation, however, are threatening "physical punishment" against Emperor and President upon President's arrival. 25X1

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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