

D-602-530

JUN 10 1944

Istanbul,
30 May 1944

TO : Mr. Whitney Shepardson,
Director, SI Branch,
Washington, D.C.

FROM : J. G. O'Connor - Acting Chief, Istanbul Mission.

SUBJECT: JANKO PAYEF (Peev)
Ex-Bulgarian Ambassador to Japan.

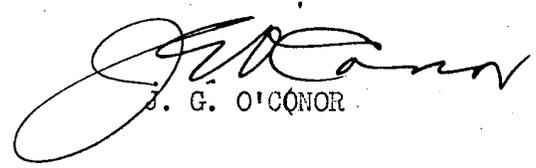
Referring to my cable of the 28th, we are considering retaining subject in a consultative capacity [redacted]

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[redacted] For the past two weeks we have interviewed him through Rose, and are continuing our contact. Also, he is being contacted frequently by [redacted] Paprika, and I am inclosing copy of report which the latter has just given us. In addition, I have just had a long interview with Paprika concerning his last talk with [redacted] concerning Russia in Europe, and Russia re Japan, and will forward these ^{reports} to you as soon as edited.

It is our intention to use [redacted] for a limited period of time due to his friendliness with the Japanese here, and with the Russians in Moscow, and his recent observations in Japan proper. I will write you more fully by the next pouch.

Paprika has just advised me that he has a more important contact re Japan whom he wants me to meet, soon after arrival here of his chief from Ankara. For the time being, I have agreed to continue liaison with him on matters concerning Japan, and the new chains which we are endeavoring to establish into Slovakia, Poland, and the Czech Protectorate. He has indicated he wants this maintained.


J. G. O'CONNOR

Incl: As stated in para 1.

Some Factors in Japanese Policy.

*notes
not edited
JAC*

Good relationship between [redacted] and the Japanese started in [redacted]. While [redacted] was on a mission in [redacted] he had a conference with the Japanese minister and made a very good impression, [redacted]

[redacted] he made everybody like him so much within the space of a few months that the Italians were jealous of the sympathy he aroused and for this reason used to complain in the presence of the Germans.

[redacted] sees two important factors in the Japanese war policy. In Japan there are two very large and important commercial corporations: Mitsui and Mitsubishi.

Mitsui Company

This company has a great variety of interests --commercial, mining, manufacturing, timber. This company took care of the expenses of the Russo-Japanese war, and in order to expand its activities saw to it that Japanese territory was extended.

In order to establish his influence over the directors of this company, [redacted] in Tokio, and in that way laid the foundation for a lasting relationship.

Mitsubishi Company

This company is concerned with every kind of business connected with the sea, such as the building of ships, maritime traffic as well as maritime air traffic, as well as munitions.

The Mitsui Company started the China war. At the beginning of the European war, and when the Axis was being formed, the Mitsubishi Company took advantage of that and brought Japan into the war against the Allies.

Japanese-Russian Relations

(One paragraph omitted)

The Japanese will not go to war with the Russians, nor the Russians with the Japanese. To understand this better one must look into Japanese-German relations. According to [redacted] the greatest enemies of the Germans are the Japanese, and so the Japanese consider their own greatest enemies to be the Germans. This is because the only

competitor against the Japanese technique is Germany. Japan's wars always have economic objectives, and it is on this basis that they choose their friends and enemies, rather than distinguish between friends and enemies.

In this war no matter what the Japanese requested, the Germans have refused. This is true of valuable material. Correspondingly the Japanese have constantly raised difficulty for the Germans. For example, the German Military Attache in Japan has been given no extraordinary facilities, nor treated any differently than any other military attache. This has irritated the Germans greatly.

When I arrived in Japan the Germans were at Stalingrad. Everybody was hoping that the Japanese would declare war against the Russians, and they were saying it would be today or tomorrow.

At this moment on the border of Manchukuo and Russia there were 65-70 Japanese divisions, and facing them 25 Russian divisions.

(paragraph omitted)

The Japanese sent to Russia a man who is in the same class as Metternich and Tallyrand, that is Saito. It was his constant desire to have good relations between the Japanese and the Russians.

Just at this moment [redacted] asked questions about impressions from his voyage through Russia.

To this [redacted] replied that Russia has made herself strong enough to wage a 20-year war, that the Germans will lose the war by fighting against the Russians.

Whenever [redacted] asked such a question [redacted] always gave the same answer. The Japanese Ambassador in Moscow always had the same idea and so advised his country. Thus people in Japan had greater and greater confidence in Saito's political views.

Diplomats in Tokio kept saying that at some time in the future Russia, as an ally of the English and Americans, would give both of them naval and air bases. People kept advancing this as an obvious reason for a war between Russia and Japan. However, those who determined the political and war policy of Japan thought differently, and Japan acted accordingly.

The Germans were extremely irritated at the way the Japanese had acted. The German Ambassador failed to send New Year's greetings to the Japanese Emperor. The Japanese did not like the old ambassador very much and in his place the Germans sent a man called Stammer. This man was not a diplomat: he was a military man. He was an associate of Von Ribbentrop when Von Ribbentrop was a wine merchant, and Von Ribbentrop had taken him to England along with him. Therefore, when a man like this was appointed Ambassador to Tokio, other diplomats said about him, "he is the kind of diplomat who would want the Japanese to make an open declaration of war against Russia."

Tokio was not well satisfied with the appointment of Stammer, yet he started conferences, but on a lower level than previously.

On Easter in 1943 Tojo went to Manchukuo, and everybody became hopeful again, saying that at last Japan would declare war against Russia. The purpose of his trip, however, was entirely different.

Tojo went to calm down the martial spirit of the Japanese army in Manchukuo. The commander-in-chief of the forces in Manchukuo, who was at the same time Japanese Ambassador, Sinkik, was a strong foe of the Russians. Tojo calmed him down and told him plainly that they would not go to war. A few months after this the Germans began retreating in Russia and then everybody understood why Japan's policy had been conducted that way.

the Japanese had made their fishing treaty with the Russians and everybody understood the situation.

An Opinion about Russian-Japanese Relations, and the Teheran Conference

In the days before the Teheran Conference, Saito, Japanese Ambassador to Moscow, visited Stalin and said that "You are going to have a conference at Teheran and you are undoubtedly concerned with the defeat of the Germans. If China enters this conference, we won't like it. China has nothing to do with bringing about the defeat of the Germans. For this reason, to avoid making a very bad impression in Tokio, do not allow China to take part in the Teheran Conference". Stalin agreed. In spite of British and American wishes Chiang Kai Chek was requested not to attend the Teheran Conference, and that is actually what happened.

From this incident we may understand that the Russians and the Japanese have made one another afraid.

(paragraph omitted)

The Axis and Japan

There are actually two Axis'es the European and the Asiatic. It is absolutely impossible that the descendant of the Sun, the Japanese Emperor, could ever be in the same Axis as Corporal Hitler, if the European Axis should lose the war, there is not much harm in it for Japan; though if the European Axis should win there would be some gain. For Japan the real Axis is the Asiatic one, and Japan conducts its policy accordingly. In view of the fact that Japan's greatest danger in Asia comes from the presence of Americans there, they want to get Americans entirely out of the Eastern Asia. Russia could be a harmless colleague in Asia. The Japanese ~~are~~ could even accept the English in part, but they must absolutely see to it that the Americans get thrown out of Asia.

Bulgarian-Japanese Relations

[redacted] relations between Japan and Bulgaria were very well established, and caused people to hope that after the war there would be close commercial and cultural contacts and they made preparations for this. [redacted] the Bulgarians sent to Japan a man who was a friend of the Anglo-Saxons, who had spent many years in England and whose wife was English. The Japanese could not possibly be pleased with him, The Japanese took care of good relations between themselves and Bulgaria to such an extent that they even sent a special military attache to Sofia, Col. Kotoni.

At present they don't give much importance to this military attache as previously. Matsuhara says that the Bulgarian believe