

TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY JAPAN

REPORT NO.

SUBJECT DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST PARTY (DSP) STAND
FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF ASANUMA (

DATE DISTR. 15 OCTOBER 1960

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PRECEDENCE ROUTINE

DATE OF INFO. MID OCTOBER 1960

REFERENCES

PLACE &
DATE ACQ.
APPRAISAL

FIELD REPORT NO.

THIS IS **UNEVALUATED** INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE, APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE

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1. ON OCTOBER 60, THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST PARTY (DSP) SENT TELEGRAMS TO ALL ITS LOCAL BRANCHES SAYING THAT LIMITED DSP PARTICIPATION IN FUNERAL SERVICES FOR THE LATE JAPAN SOCIALIST PARTY (JSP) CHAIRMAN ASANUMA INEJIRO WAS PERMISSIBLE, BUT THAT THE DSP SHOULD HOLD COMPLETELY APART FROM ALL RALLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS TO BE HELD IN CONNECTION WITH ASANUMA'S ASSASSINATION. THE TELEGRAM STATED THAT THE DSP WISHED TO AVOID ANY CONNECTION WITH VIOLENCE, AND THAT ITS AIM WAS TO AVOID SETTING OFF ANY FURTHER CHAIN REACTIONS OF VIOLENCE.

2. THE DSP HAS BEEN STRONGLY ATTACKING ASANUMA ON HIS "COMMON ENEMY" STATEMENT, AND NOW CANNOT CONTINUE THIS THEME IN THE FACE OF THE SYMPATHY AROUSED BY ASANUMA'S KILLING. AS EMOTIONALISM DIES DOWN THE DSP WILL INCREASINGLY PRESS THE THEME THAT THE LEFTIST

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VIOLENCE OF MAY AND JUNE 60 PROVOKED ASANUMA'S ASSASSINATION, AND THAT BOTH LEFTIST AND RIGHTIST VIOLENCE IS EQUALLY BAD. TO AVOID SOUNDING LIKE THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP) THE DSP WILL CONTINUE TO ATTACK THE LDP STRONGLY ON THE ISSUE OF RISING CONSUMER COSTS.

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3. THE JSP, SEEKING TO CAPITALIZE ON THE SYMPATHY VOTE RESULTING FROM ASANUMA'S ASSASSINATION, IS PRESSING FOR THE ELECTION TO BE HELD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE QUESTION OF WHO WILL RUN IN PLACE OF ASANUMA HAS NOT BEEN SETTLED. ASANUMA'S WIDOW IS A POSSIBILITY. SECRETARY GENERAL EDA SABURO, NOW AN UPPER HOUSE MEMBER, IS WILLING TO RUN.

FORMER INTERNATIONAL BUREAU CHAIRMAN OKADA SOJI IS BEING PUSHED BY THE SUZUKI MOSABURO ACTION. OKADA IS HESITANT ABOUT RUNNING AS HE FEELS UNPREPARED TO COMPETE IN THE ELECTION. THE SUZUKI FACTION OPPOSES EDA AS A CANDIDATE AS HE SEEMS TO BE FORMING A NEW FACTION BETWEEN THE SUZUKI AND WADA HIROO FACTIONS. THE WADA FACTION WILL SUPPORT EDA'S CANDIDACY SO AS TO REMOVE HIM AS A POSSIBLE THREAT TO WADA HIMSELF, SINCE BOTH ARE FROM OKAYAMA AND EDA IS LIKELY TO RUN FROM THERE AS A LOWER HOUSE CANDIDATE IN THE (PORTION GARBLED-BEING SERVICE)* FACTORS WILL AFFECT THE SELECTION OF A PARTY CHAIRMAN FOLLOWING THE ELECTION. THE KAWAKAMI JOTARO FACTION WILL OPPOSE ANY LEFT WINGER, AS ASANUMA WAS ORIGINALLY A RIGHT WINGER. THEY WILL SUPPORT KONO MITSU, AS KAWAKAMI HAS NO INTENTION OF SEEKING THE CHAIRMANSHIP.

4. THE JSP IS BOUND TO BECOME MORE AND MORE RADICAL. THIRTY TO

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FORTY PERCENT OF ITS CANDIDATES ARE FROM THE SUZUKI FACTION, WHICH WILL PROBABLY COMPRISE A MAJORITY OF THE JSP FOLLOWING THE ELECTION. FUND RAISING FOR THE JSP IS STILL LARGELY IN THE HANDS OF THE SUZUKI FACTION, WHICH WILL MEAN THAT A PREPONDERANCE OF SUZUKI FACTION CANDIDATES WILL WIN. THE KAWAKAMI FACTION WILL GROW WEAKER AND WEAKER, AS IT HAS NO STRONG LEADER. THE WADA FACTION APPEARS TO BE SPLIT BETWEEN THE SUPPORTERS OF SATA TADATAKA AND KATSUMATA SEIICHI, WITH WADA JUST A FIGUREHEAD. JSP SUCCESS IN THE ELECTION WILL DEPEND LARGELY UPON THE SKILL WITH WHICH THEY EXPLOIT THE SYMPATHY AROUSED BY ASANUMA'S DEATH. IF THEY GO TOO FAR AND SPARK NEW VIOLENCE, PUBLIC REACTION WILL TURN AGAINST THE PARTY. IT IS THUS HARD TO ESTIMATE EFFECTS OF ASANUMA'S DEATH.

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5. FIELD DISSEM: STATE ARMY NAVY AIR ACRAPAC USFJ COMNAVJ 5AF
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* HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: MISSING PORTION WILL BE DISSEMINATED ONLY IF IT MATERIALLY AFFECTS THE SENSE OF THIS REPORT.

END OF MESSAGE

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