

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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SOURCE: Japanese journalist (B); from Japanese journalist specializing in political affairs (F). Appraisal of Contents: 3.

MATSUMOTO Shunichi, former Japanese Ambassador to London, is friendly with both Foreign Minister SHIGEMITSU Mamoru, and SUGIHARA Arata, Prime Minister HATOYAMA's advisor on foreign affairs. SHIGEMITSU asked MATSUMOTO to return to Japan and run for the Lower House so that MATSUMOTO could act as link between SHIGEMITSU and SUGIHARA. SHIGEMITSU also engineered the HATOYAMA Government's confirmation of HAGANO Mamoru as the reparations delegate to the Philippines to prevent HAGANO from running against MATSUMOTO in the Hiroshima Second District.

1. Field Comment. In CS-53726 a different source reported that it was KISHI Nobusuke who called MATSUMOTO home.
2. Washington Comment. According to Japanese press, on 1 February 1955 HATOYAMA disclosed the fact that Japan and the Philippines will resume reparations negotiations talks in Tokyo instead of in Manila.
3. Field Comment. Other strong candidates, TANIKAWA Noboru and IKEDA Hayato, are also competing for this district's four seats. MATSUMOTO has frequently been named by other sources as possible successor to SHIGEMITSU as Foreign Minister (see CS-56330), as has SUGIHARA.

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 Mamoru
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