

**SECRET**

Security Information

File # 731/1

TATSUMI Eiichi

1. Former Lieutenant General TATSUMI Eiichi graduated from the Japanese Military Academy in 1915 and after routine military service was sent to and graduated from the Japanese War College. Because of his excellent scholastic record and linguistic ability, he was selected for diplomatic service.
2. In 1931 TATSUMI was sent to London as assistant military attache in the Japanese Embassy; he had specialized in British affairs and been the liaison officer with the British military attache in Tokyo. He subsequently became military attache in London, which position he held in 1936 when YOSHIDA Shigeru became Ambassador to Great Britain. He returned to Japan for a time, but resumed his London post in 1940 and remained there until he was repatriated on an exchange ship in 1942.
3. Upon his return to Japan, TATSUMI was made Chief of Staff of the Eastern Army, which post he held until March 1945, when he took command of the Third Division in Shanghai. He was in Shanghai at the time of the surrender and was interned with other high-ranking Japanese in a special camp near Shanghai.
4. At the end of 1945 TATSUMI became head of an anti-Soviet group organized under the auspices of the Nationalist Chinese Ministry of National Defense and designed to work under the Chinese Mission in Tokyo. He was repatriated about June 1946 to take charge of the group. This organization was disbanded in the Fall of 1947 because of organizational and financial difficulties.
5. About the end of 1948 and through the good offices of Premier YOSHIDA, TATSUMI was introduced to the A/C of S, G-2, and since that time he has rendered excellent service in the organization and operation of Japanese efforts on behalf of American intelligence. His integrity and cooperative attitude have been widely acknowledged by American intelligence officers.
6. TATSUMI has practically since his return to Japan in 1946 been the unofficial adviser to Premier YOSHIDA on military matters. Their friendship dates back to their joint service in the Japanese Embassy in London, and is attested by the fact that when, in 1947-8, TATSUMI seemed likely to be indicted for his part in war crimes committed by his subordinates, YOSHIDA interceded on his behalf with the American authorities. TATSUMI also has acted in an unofficial but influential advisory capacity on the National Safety Force. At the time that body, then known as the National Police Reserve, was formed, TATSUMI had the task of screening officer-candidates and selecting the 400 former Japanese Army field grade officers to become future leaders of the National Safety Force. He has also been reported as responsible for screening former Japanese Army officers for depurge.

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