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FILE NO. 44-7-15-14	SOURCE ZJJA-229	DATE OF DOCUMENT 27 May 1952	ANALYST C J
SUBJECT Newspaper Clippings Concerning Prominent Japanese			DATE 2 Feb 1954
PERTINENT INFORMATION			
<p><u>Verbatim</u></p> <p>2. Attached is also a review of <u>TSUJI Masanobu's</u> latest book, <u>Underground Escape</u>. The volume is available in English in Tokyo and can be purchased if you would like to have copies.</p> <p>RI/CO Note: See <u>Desk dossier</u> on subject in 2212 J for a copy of the above mentioned newspaper review. Also see <u>FEC/MIS Intell. Summary</u> filed 23 June 1952 in this dossier. #3575</p> <p>THIS IS ALL THE INFORMATION PERTINENT TO THE SUBJECT IN THIS DOCUMENT.</p>			
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Nippon Times

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SUBSCRIPTION RATE:
One month ¥200 by mail ¥250

TOKYO, MONDAY, MAY, 19, 1953

BOOKS

UNDERGROUND ESCAPE by Masanobu Tsuji. Published by Robert Booth and Tere Fukuda, CPO Box 1066, Tokyo. 200 pages.

The author, Masanobu Tsuji, is a former Japanese army colonel who was recognized as one of its most brilliant staff officers during the period when Japan's militaristic and imperialistic sun reached its zenith and when it finally plummeted to oblivion on August 15, 1945.

Underground Escape is the first of a series of six best-selling documentary books by Mr. Tsuji. The other books are detailed and authoritative reports of the Japanese army, its problems and its activities in Manchuria, Guadalcanal, Burma and Singapore. The first volume describes Mr. Tsuji's experiences following Japan's surrender until his unexpected re-appearance in Japan three years later.

During those three years, he cast off his uniform and the authority and prestige which had long been the concomitant of being an officer of the Japanese army and traveled in the ragged robes of an itinerant Buddhist priest and the padded gown of a Chinese in a journey that covered 7,500 miles from Bangkok, through French Indo-China and into China by way of Kunming, Chungking, Nanking and Shanghai until he finally returned on May 28, 1948, to a defeated, prostrate Japan.

Of considerable interest today is Mr. Tsuji's analysis of the growing power of communism in Southeast and East Asia. The description of the internal dissension and corrupt conditions that drove the peoples in these areas to oppose existing governments and yield to the tempting promises of the Communists in their own land represents a clarification of the challenge faced by the free world in checking the aggressive advance of the Red Star throughout Asia.

In his foreword, Mr. Tsuji says: "The aim of this work has been to depict in naked reality the picture of Asia as I saw it, not with the eyes of a victor national but with the sympathetic suffering of one that tasted bitter defeat. I would deem it an unexpected happiness if from these pages the throbbing feelings and aspirations of the peoples of Asia can be caught."

Through the help of the Chungking Government underground system which controlled 1,800,000 Chinese residents in Thailand, the author, declaring his hope to meet Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and his trusted adviser, Gen. Tai Li, to open the way for Japanese-China collaboration, was able to cross frontiers into China.

After months of hardships and dangers, Mr. Tsuji finally reached Chungking. But before a meeting with Generalissimo Chiang and Gen. Tai was achieved, disaster struck when the aircraft carrying Gen. Tai from Tsingtao to Chungking crashed, killing the one man who was, in the author's opinion, the only person in a position to give counsel to Chiang Kai-shek. Gen. Tai was the key man in the Chinese underground and espionage system working against the Japanese army in China, but there existed a comradeship between him and Mr. Tsuji because of their common faith in the ideals of an East Asia federation though the two men had never met. Mr. Tsuji describes Gen. Tai as a man of great personal courage and integrity.

With Gen. Tai's death, the author lost his hopes for achieving his dreams of Sino-Japanese cooperation, but he wrote several letters to Chiang Kai-shek, one being written in blood, and receiving favorable replies but nothing concrete came of this correspondence.

Of considerable historical interest is the revelation by Mr. Tsuji in his letters to Generalissimo Chiang of the close and sympathetic interest and desire

held by the Emperor of Japan and his brothers, Princes Chichibu and Mikasa, to establish friendly ties with China, and concrete efforts by them during the period from 1932 to 1944 to achieve this hope are described.

Chiang Kai-shek is greatly admired by Mr. Tsuji as a simple, uncorrupt and honest leader, but he was also a leader isolated from the realities, particularly after the death of Gen. Tai, no one having the courage to proffer unpleasant information or advice.

Mr. Tsuji interprets the reasons for the failure of Gen. George C. Marshall's mission to China to lie in the American fallacy that the Chinese revolution and the rise to power of the Chinese Communist Party were modern democratic revolutions. The author views the events as being merely a change of dynasties and ruling classes without the full support and trust of the people.

Having abandoned his hopes to achieve his mission in China, Mr. Tsuji in June, 1946, wrote Gen. Mao Jen-huang, who succeeded Gen. Tai Li as deputy chief of the Military Control Bureau, and declared his willingness to be arrested and handed over to American authorities as a war criminal.

However, orders came for Mr. Tsuji to go to Nanking, where he was put to work preparing manuals of operations for Nationalist troops in Manchuria and to give lectures on a composite survey of a possible third world war to high-ranking officers in the Nationalist Defense Ministry.

The author at that time predicted that the third world war would occur between 1950 and 1955 as the Soviet Union would have completed its fourth Five-Year Plan and as the U.S. aid to Western Europe would "bear fruit about this time." He also forecast that Russia would possess the atomic bomb by that time. He saw America's industrial strength far outpacing that of the Soviet Union but that the latter would have dispersed its industries and stockpiles of strategic materials while the former would be a target of concentrated attack. He deemed it wholly impossible for Soviet forces to land on American soil or to force the surrender of the U.S.

The war would, Mr. Tsuji predicted, be decided by action in Europe, and the Far East would be a secondary battlefield. He saw the Soviet Union forced to limit its troops in East Asia to less than 30 divisions since the capacity of the Trans-Siberian Railway was incapable of supplying a greater force. But this view was premised on the event that the Nationalist Government controlled Manchuria and that the United States had land, sea and air bases on the China continent. He anticipated Soviet support for the Chinese Communist in a program to create

a vast buffer zone in China and North Korea.

Underground Escape provides interesting reading—either as an adventure story or as one source of a keen analysis of Asia's troubles and problems by a former key strategist of the Japanese army. For the Western reader, the book supplies informative details of the life, habits and mentality of a section of the Asian population—G.Y. Somewhere.