

TSUJI Masanobu

Ex-Col TSUJI Masanobu Diet member and outspoken critic of American policy, has submitted a request to the Philippine Mission in Tokyo for travel to the Philippines at an early date. His aim, if permission is granted, will be to round up Imperial Japanese Army stragglers still at large in the Philippine countryside and escort them to Japan.

Comment: TSUJI though by no means Japan's leading ultranationalist, is perhaps its best publicized one. His colorful written accounts of his postwar adventures helped gain him election to the House of Representatives in Oct 52 and Apr 53. Since then he has used his Diet position to keep himself in the public eye. In the spring of 1953 he led the ultranationalist East Asia League Comrades Society (Toa Renmei Doshi Kai) into the leftist-sponsored anti-US-base struggle at Uchinada in his home constituency. He countered resultant dissension within the Society by leading his own followers into a Self-Defense League (Jiei Donsi) in Aug 53. Its key principle is withdrawal of USFJ, neutrality and rearmament to fit Japanese, as opposed to US, needs. In the fall of 1953, he capitalized on the dispute with the ROK by touring the Rhee Line, a move which received widespread press coverage. A trip to the Philippines to locate stragglers could receive equally widespread publicity. (INTSUM No. 4284, 2 Jun 54)

Subject was one of the speakers at the first public meeting in the nationwide campaign of the New Party Promotion Council. Has been active in the Council since last April and is a member of its standard committee; however, he is independent in politics and his interest in the movement does not indicate general rightist support. (INTSUM No. 4339, 27 Jul 54)

Subject and NAKASONE Yashiro both Democratic Dietmen declared at a meeting marking the 13th anniv. of Pearl Harbor that Harry S. Truman would be considered the No. 1 war criminal of W.W. II "if God were to give a fair trial" Stalin would be second. (FBIS, 9 Dec 54, NIPPON TIMES, Tokyo)

TSUJI, Masanobu: MHR; leader of the Toa Renmei Doshikai, extreme rightist organization. Ex-Colonel Masanobu Tsuji is currently the leader and Diet spokesman for the nationalist society Toa Renmei Doshikai (East Asia Comrades League), successor to the wartime Toa Renmei of General Kanji Ishihara. Born 1902. A prominent writer and lecturer and the author of three post-World War II nationalist books which have had wide circulation in Japan. He advocates revision of the constitution along ultrarightist lines, neutrality in the cold war between the free world and the Communist states, limited rearmament for self-defense only and the establishment of an independent military force, withdrawal of US troops, scrapping the US-Japan security treaty, and a revival of Pan-Asianism, with the elimination of both Western and Soviet influences from Japan. Tsuji and his Doshikai have achieved wide popularity in Japan because of their avowed neutrality and opposition to war and large-scale rearmament. OOI No. 12037
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