

Case
 Originated at SEATTLE, WASHINGTON File No. 65-2160

Report made at SAN FRANCISCO	Date made 12/23/40	Period for which made 12/9/40	Report made by ARTHUR V. HART-EK
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Title TSUNEMARO WACHI, with aliases TUNEZO WACHI, TSUNARO WAICHI	Character of case ESPIONAGE (J)
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Synopsis

Subject reported Assistant Naval Attache at Mexico City, Mexico for Japanese Government. ONI Seattle, desired surveillance of subject while passing through United States. Bureau advised that the State Department desired discreet surveillance of subject. Subject arrived San Francisco December 9, 1940 aboard HIE MARU, disembarked for few hours and contacted KAZUO TATSUEI, Clerk YAMATO Hotel, who is reported by ONI to contact most Japanese Military and Naval Officers arriving in San Francisco. Subject sailed from San Francisco same day aboard HIE MARU en-route Mexico via San Pedro. Los Angeles advised by teletype and discreet surveillance requested if subject disembarked.

-RUC-

REFERENCE: Bureau letter to Seattle dated November 30, 1940.

DETAILS: AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Letter of reference, of which carbon copies were directed to the San Francisco, advise that the Bureau had telephonically communicated with the Department of State and had been advised that a discreet surveillance of the subject would be of assistance despite his diplomatic status, and that every precaution should be

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taken to avoid embarrassment to the Government, due to the subject's diplomatic rank. This letter directed the San Francisco Field Division to be guided accordingly.

The San Francisco file in this case also reflects that the office of ONI at Seattle also desired of having the subject surveilled while he was passing through this Country as they desired to determine any contacts which he might make. The Seattle office further advised that the subject was a Lieutenant Commander in The Imperial Japanese Navy and had booked passage on the HIE MARU from Japan and was presumably enroute to his post as Assistant Naval Attache of the Japanese Government at Mexico City, Mexico. In reference letter, the Bureau advised that the Visa Division of the Department of State had stated that a diplomatic transit visa was issued at Tokyo to the subject, who indicated that he would be in transit to Mexico City, and that the subject is an Assistant Naval Attache to Japanese legation at Mexico City.

The Steamship HIE MARU docked at San Francisco about 9:15 AM on December 9, 1940. Shortly thereafter, the subject was observed by Reporting agent to leave the pier in company with an unknown Japanese. A further surveillance was conducted by operatives of ONI who advised that the subject met one KAZUO TATSUMI, who is well known to ONI, and whom they allege to be a clerk at the YAMATO Hotel, 717 California Street, San Francisco, and who meets practically all the Army and Navy officers of the Japanese Government when they come to San Francisco, according to ONI. Subject entered a Ford automobile with TATSUMI and proceeded with him and an eighteen year old Japanese, who was also in the car, to the YAMATO Hotel, where they all got out of the car and entered the Hotel. It was noted that the subject was carrying two boxes, one twelve inches by twelve inches wrapped in tan paper, the other six inches by eight inches by six inches, and a manilla envelope at the time he entered TATSUMI's car. No further contacts were noted by ONI.

The HIE MARU sailed from San Francisco on the same day at 5:20 PM, having been delayed about an hour and a half, due to storage difficulties, apparently, and it was ascertained that the subject sailed with the vessel, which was enroute to San Pedro and Mexican and other Central and South American ports.

Immigration Inspectors, E. CHAFFIN and W. F. HARTSHORN, at about 4:15 PM, located the subject aboard the HIE MARU and ascertained that he held an official passport bearing US Visa No. 58 and Mexican Visa No. 24, and that he was enroute to Mexico City where he is the

Naval Attache to the Japanese legation. It is noted that the first port of call in Mexico of the HIE MARU on this trip is MANZANILLO, and it is probable that the subject will disembark there for Mexico City.

After the subject was definitely located aboard the vessel, the writer, in connection with this case and another under investigation by this office, maintained a consul surveillance at the single gangway until the vessel sailed and it was consequently determined that the subject sailed aboard the HIE MARU. The vessel was bound for San Pedro, and then to MANZANILLO. The Los Angeles office was advised by teletype of the substance of the above information and was requested to conduct a discreet surveillance with precautions to avoid embarrassment to the Government in view of the diplomatic rank of the subject, if the subject should disembark at San Pedro, when the vessel arrived there.

From observation, the subject is described as follows:

Height	5'7"
Age	41
Weight	Approximately 150 lbs.
Build	Slim
Identifying Characteristics:	
Eyes	Prominent Hebrew nose
Carriage	Caucasian rather than oriental
Dress	Erect
	When disembarked at San Francisco wore riding clothes and spurred boots.

A review of the file in this case reflects that all investigation indicated for San Francisco has been completed and this case is accordingly being considered as Referred Upon Completion to the Office of Origin.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN