

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE  
UNITED STATES FORCES, JAPAN  
OKINAWA BUREAU  
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96239

MOK-1093  
22 December 1981

[redacted] Chief  
Operations Group, FBIS

STAT

Dear Jerry:

Subject: Japanese Press Selection  
Ref: [redacted] note (undated) on STAT  
[redacted] Trip Report STAT

Much appreciate information provided by [redacted] on NFAC analysts' comments on Japanese press selection. This kind of specific guidance will greatly help us in defining the areas and level of interest in this material and in refining selection guidelines at the Bureau and complete the loop begun during your visit in October. STAT

There were a couple of minor surprises in [redacted] memo, namely, the analysts' emphasis on "timely" reporting and their desire for virtually every mention of specific topics. We can beat the time lag for the Embassy translations for a representative sampling of press items, but we cannot match their volume or comprehensive coverage. STAT

Regarding the specific items [redacted] listed, a check of Japanese Unit press selection lists and back issues of the papers and Bureau files revealed that indeed none of the specific items were actually selected--but most of the topics were covered by other sources which were processed. The 2 October ASAHI SHIMBUN report on "Maritime Safety Agency (MSA) Builds Patrol Boats" was not selected because it cited MSA "sources" on only plans to build a 6,600-ton patrol boat. All the items listed on the cabinet reshuffle were not selected by the monitors on the grounds that they were largely repetitive and/or speculative. During the period prior to the reshuffle (which went on for well over a month) the Bureau filed many items on the issue, including several lengthy "analytical reports," as well as comments on the reshuffle by Suzuki himself, who kept repeating that nothing had been decided yet. STAT

SUBJECT: Japanese Press Selection

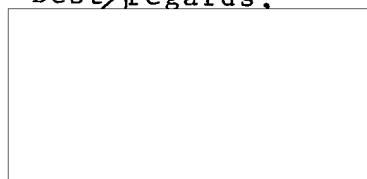
This pattern was also present in regard to all the other items STAT on [ ] list: monitors and editors had properly identified topics of interest and had filed a representative sampling of press and newspaper items. So it hasn't been a question of not recognizing topics of interest, but rather one of not carrying the selection far enough. As you recall the thrust emphasized during your visit was for more editorials and commentary from the press, and these we have supplied.

The specific guidance inherent in [ ] examples will cause STAT us to lower our selection threshold even more. We will reemphasize to monitors and editors the ever-increasing interest in timely reporting on Japan, with focus on foreign policy and major economic and defense matters. A quantum jump in our selection and processing would require increasing our four-man Japanese unit, and I am not prepared to recommend that at this time.

As always feedback and specific guidance from any and all Headquarters components are appreciated. One particular area where the NFAC analysts could assist our selection would be to provide us with a list of Japanese press commentators or columnists who are considered especially authoritative. ✓

Happy holidays and best wishes for the new year.

Best regards,



STAT

cc: C/NEAAD

FROM

OKI 2-81

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SUBJECT

Memo: Sub: Japanese press selection

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**REMARKS**

Following are Japanese press commentators of interest, per OW's request.

Keitaro Hasegawa	Ichiro Fukao
Takao Iwami	Sakae Nagakura
Kōtaro Tawara	Tomihide Igarashi
Hiroshi Okamoto	Narutada Shibazaki
Masumi Ishikawa	Yo Arai
Michisada Hirose	Ken-ichi Toyohara
Jun Takeda	Ken-ichi Matsumoto
Yutaka Nakamura	Kunio Naito

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**REMARKS**

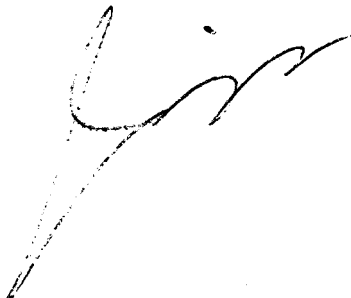
jsw,  
 as you and both have known for 10  
 these many years, the ANALYST is the most insatiable  
 of the species homo sapiens. However, I do know  
 that we will be able to produce more on these major  
 topics with our existing resources, just feel that  
 each development or event does not justify total  
 coverage. In some cases there may be press agency  
 or voice reports on an event that reduced the need for

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heavy just plain reportage from the press. Editorials, commentary, and authoritative statements we will of course provide. Would like to get further feedback from Leroy in a couple months--before he becomes totally Middle Easternized( not Arabized- I hope)

Cheers and best to all,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. J. ...', written in a cursive style.