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S-5784

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CIA/OER/S-05784-73

[Redacted]

20 December 1973

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[Redacted]

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Philip Anderson
SA/LR

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SUBJECT : East Asian Fishing Activity in
the South Pacific

[Redacted]

Attached are the data on East Asian fishing activity

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in the South Pacific requested by [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

on 18 December. The

project has been assigned number S-5784.

[Redacted]

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Attachments:
As stated

Distribution: (S-5784)
Original & 1 - Addressee
1 - D/OER
1 - D/I
1 - SA/ER

[Redacted]

(28DEC73)

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EAST ASIAN FISHING ACTIVITY IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC

Until recently, Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan relied primarily on coastal and offshore fishing for the bulk of their catch, but as pollution and dwindling reserves cut deeper into production they became increasingly interested in exploiting new areas. Thus far, most deep sea fishing has been in northern Pacific waters; probably less than 7% of the countries' total fish catch comes from southern Pacific waters. Japan's production from the South -- the largest by the three countries -- totalled about 600,000 tons in 1972.

Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan all are anxious to increase their production from the South Pacific. Taiwan began trawling operations in Australia's northern waters last year and is planning significant increases in its deep sea fishing fleet during the next several years. The Japanese have been the most active, however, and already are moving to ensure their fishing rights throughout the Pacific. They have established fishing bases and processing centers in the South Pacific islands and in Southeast Asia and have entered several joint ventures in South America. In addition, the Japanese have established at least nine wholly or jointly owned processing plants in the United States, primarily in Alaska and Washington.

JAPAN

Production (thousand metric tons)

By area caught:

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
Total	9,900	10,100
Deep-sea	3,670	3,840
Offshore	3,940	3,890
Coastal	1,930	1,910
Other	360	460

By major species:

	<u>1971</u>
Total	9,908
Fish	8,021
Cod, Alaska pollack	2,803
Mackerel	1,254
Sardine, round herring, and anchovy	455
Flounder, halibut, sole	348
Pompano	316
Sand eel	272
Saury	190
Skipjack	172
Salmon	156
Atka mackerel	147
Yellow Tail	110
Herring	100
Bigeye tuna	89
Albacore	88
Yellow fin tuna	71
Swordfish	53
Croaker	50
Bluefin tuna	48
Shark	44
Carp	34
Sea bream	24
Shellfish	534
Other marine animals	766
Squid	364
Devil fish	86
Lobster, shrimp	56
Crabs	75
Seaweed	587

Fishing vessels (1971):

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Gross tonnage</u>
Non-powered	97,613	67,397
Powered	276,903	2,464,037

SOUTH KOREA

Production (thousand metric tons)
By area caught:

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
Total	1,073	1,343
Deep-sea	159	224
Coastal	764	956
Fresh water	1	1
Aquaculture	147	160
Whaling	2	2

By major type:

	<u>1972</u>
Fish	948
Crustaceans	23
Mollusks	231
Other marine animals	12
Seaweed	129

Deep-sea catch by species:

	<u>1972</u>
Tuna	98
Alaskan pollack	108
Squid, sea bream, other	18

Fishing vessels (1971):

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Gross Tonnage</u>
Non-powered	53,612	85,393
Powered	14,657	307,256
of which:		
Distant water	351	108,850

TAIWAN

Production (thousand metric tons)

By area caught:

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
Total	650	694
Deep-sea	294	345
Inshore	251	243
Coastal	28	25
Culture	77	81

By major species:

	<u>1971</u>
Tuna	90
Sardines	38
Lobster, prawn, shrimp	37
Sharks	36
Millfish	30
Mackerels	22
Skipjack, frigate mackerels	22
Lizard fish	22
Croaker	20
Trichsurus japonicus	17
Marlin, sailfish	16
Bigeye tuna	14
Cuttlefish, squid	14
Pompano	14
Oysters	12
Sea bream	12
Tilapia	11
Sharp toothed eel	9
Crabs	8
Coat fish	8
Other	190

Fishing vessels (1971):

	<u>Number</u>
Non-powered	15,563
Powered	10,247