

WHO'S WHO

SECRET-SECURITY

SECRET

REF ID: A66478-2023-52 827506

Form: ID. 03. HG. FFC
Date: 24 June 1952

1058 536

Surname: SHIGEMITSU
 Country: Japan
 Full Name: SHIGEMITSU Mamoru ()
 Present Position: Depurged former diplomat and war criminal
 Date of Birth: 29 July 1887
 Place of Birth: Aki-mura, Higashi Kuniaki-gun, Oita Prefecture
 Father: SHIGEMITSU Naoyoshi; later adopted by SHIGEMITSU Hikoasaburo
 Nationality: Japanese
 Permanent Address: Minami Aki-mura, Higashi Kuniaki-gun, Oita Prefecture
 Present Address: 497 Zaimokusa, Kanakura, Kanagawa Prefecture
 Wife: Kieko, born 1902, eldest daughter of HAYASHI Ichiko
 Children: Son, Atsushi, born 1926; Daughter, Manako, born 1932
 Education: Graduated from Tokyo (Imperial) University (German Law) in 1911
 Politics: Progressive Reform Party member
 Past Career: Entering the Japanese foreign service in 1911 immediately after graduation from college, SHIGEMITSU has had a long and eventful diplomatic career. His initial assignment took him to Berlin, and subsequently, he served in practically all of the leading nations of the world. It is interesting to note in this connection that his assignments always took him to a major world power, which may indicate an early recognition of his superior abilities. His rise up the diplomatic ladder was

NOTE: This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Act, 50 U.S.C. 31 and 32, as amended, its transmission or revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

SECRET-SECURITY INFORMATION

its transmission or revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

FOR COORDINATION WITH US Army

Declassified and Approved for Release by the Central Intelligence Agency

Date: 2005

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

- (2)(A) Privacy
- (2)(B) Methods/Sources
- (2)(G) Foreign Relations

FILE IN []

SECRET
Security Information

WHO'S WHO

SECRET

Security Information

in fact rapid. After serving in London and at Portland, Oregon, in 1919, he was appointed a member of the Japanese delegation to the Versailles Peace Conference. Then ensued several years during which he served as a section chief in the Foreign Office at home. His next assignment took him to China and started a relationship with that country which was to influence his entire destiny thereafter. From 1925 on, with the exception of a year in Berlin from December 1927 to February 1929, as Councillor of the Embassy, he served in China for eight years, during which time it was well known that he was heartily disliked by the military. The turning point in his relations with the military came during the so-called Shanghai Incident of 1932 when a bomb was thrown by a Korean revolutionary at an Emperor's Day celebration. The Japanese Army commander of the area was killed, Admiral NOMURA Kichisaburo was blinded in one eye, and SHIGEMITSU, who had already attained the rank of Minister by that time, lost a leg. The military stopped calling his names thereafter, and in the following year, he was elevated to the post of Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs. He served in that position for three years until he was appointed Ambassador to the USSR in 1936. After two years in the Soviet Union, he succeeded YOSHIDA Shigeru as Ambassador to the Court of St. James. In December of 1941, he became Ambassador to the Nanking Government, serving in that post until recalled to Japan to become Minister of Foreign Affairs in TOJO's Cabinet. In the same post in the KOISO Cabinet in 1944, he served concurrently as Minister for Greater East Asia. He resigned on 7 April

NOTE: This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Act, 50 U. S. C. 31 and 32, as amended, its transmission or revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

SECRET-SECURITY INFORMATION

its in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

REPRODUCED BY THE JOHN EDGAR HOOVER LIBRARY, WASHINGTON, D. C. APRIL 2, 1944

SECRET
Security Information

WHO'S WHO

SECRET-SECURITY

AT NO. DATES 2023-52
ENO. 3

SECRET
Security Information

1945 but was recalled on 17 August 1945 to the Japanese diplomatic establishment once again in the MIYASHIKUMI "Surrender Cabinet", and accordingly, he headed the Japanese delegation to the USS Missouri. With the coming of the Occupation, darker days were in store for him. At the insistence of the USSR, he was indicted and tried as a war criminal although there was considerable doubt as to the propriety of bringing him to trial. He was finally sentenced to seven years imprisonment, the lightest sentence meted out by the International Military Tribunal for the Far East. In November 1950, he was paroled, evoking several official protests from the USSR thereafter, and in March of this year, he was depurged, becoming eligible for public office once again.

Major events in his career are as follows:

- 11 Jul 1911 - Graduated from Tokyo (Imperial University (German Law))
- 14 Oct 1911 - Entered Japanese Foreign Service; dispatched to Embassy in Berlin
- 27 Dec 1916 - Appointed 3rd Secretary, Embassy in London
- 28 Feb 1918 - Appointed Consul, Portland, Oregon
- 1919 - Member, Japanese delegation to Versailles Peace Conference
- 27 Jun 1921 - Appointed Chief, 1st Section, Treaty Bureau, Foreign Office
- 11 Aug 1923 - Appointed Chief, 2nd Section, Treaty Bureau, Foreign Office
- 27 Jan 1925 - Appointed 1st Secretary, Legation, dispatched to China
- 28 Dec 1927 - Appointed Councillor, Embassy in Berlin

NOTE: This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Act, 50 U.S.C. 31 and 32, as amended, its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

SECRET-SECURITY
INFORMATION

NOTE: This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Act, 50 U.S.C. 31 and 32, as amended, its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

SECRET
Security Information

WHO'S WHO

SECRET-SECURITY

FORM NO. DATA-2023-52

USE NO. 5

SECRET

Comment: Always a figure of considerable interest, SHIGEMITSU has been accorded voluminous publicity in recent months and particularly in the last few weeks. In March of this year, his American defense counsel at the International Tribunal, George A. Furness, released to the press a letter from former Chief Prosecutor Joseph E. Keenan wherein the latter expresses his deep regret that SHIGEMITSU had ever been found guilty or indeed that he had ever been included among those placed on trial. Keenan's personal belief had been that SHIGEMITSU would be acquitted. Furness also made public at the same time a letter from Lord Hankey, a member of the Churchill Cabinet of 1939-40, addressed to SHIGEMITSU himself. In this letter, Lord Hankey points out that he and a number of prominent Britishers had sent an appeal to the SCAP Parole Board in October of 1950 recommending SHIGEMITSU's parole and that this information was being sent to the latter at this time in order that he might bring it to the notice of the Japanese Government committee concerned with depurging. SHIGEMITSU was in fact depurged shortly thereafter on 24 March.

On even the day following the official announcement of his depurge, Tokyo newspapers were playing up SHIGEMITSU as a leading contender for the presidency of the newly formed Progressive Reform Party (Kaishinto) which has been without a head since its formation on 8 February. SHIGEMITSU continually insisted, however, that he was not yet ready to assume an active role in politics. Late last month, the formation of an organization called the Japan Reconstruction League (Nihon Saiken Renmei) headed

NOTE: This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Act, 50 U. S. C. 31 and 32, as amended. Its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

SECRET-SECURITY INFORMATION

NOTE: This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Act, 50 U. S. C. 31 and 32, as amended. Its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

SECRET
Security Information

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO. AIRS-2023-2
PAGE NO. 6

WHO'S WHO

Security Information

by prominent ex-purgees was announced. Among its "advisors" were listed SHIGEMITSU, ex-Admiral NUMURA, Former TOJO Cabinet colleague KIKI Shinzuke, and others. At a meeting of this advisory group on 29 April, SHIGEMITSU expressed to newspaper reporters his hope that a merger of the League and the Progressive Party might be effected so that a major opposition party to oust the Liberals would come into being. This was Subject's first public expression of interest in the Progressives. His backers in the party promptly took up the cry once again to draft him for the presidency, and on 5 May, he finally expressed his willingness to accept the post. Some opposition developed from the party's left-wing elements whose leaders have held the party initiative to date. However, a party announcement of 11 May indicated that formal acceptance of SHIGEMITSU would be made at a special convention at the close of the present Diet session. It was expected that Subject's appointment would go through since he has the backing of the right-wing, the so-called ASHIDA faction and the rank and file of the party. Influence within the party is now expected to swing to this group. The Progressives are well aware that SHIGEMITSU has tremendous public appeal.

Public sentiment concerning the veteran diplomat seems to be that he was a scapegoat, one who was sacrificed at the altar of the International Military Tribunal in order to assuage the feelings of one nation in particular among the victorious Allies. This coupled with the fact that there is a general feeling that Japan's post-war leaders have been second-stringers and that a change of faces is long overdue gives

NOTE: This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Act, 50 U.S.C. 31 and 32, as amended, its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

SECRET-SECURITY INFORMATION

transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

SECRET

Security Information

SECRET-SECURITY

REF NO. DAIR 2023-52

WHO'S WHO

SECRET

SE NO. 7

SHIGEMITSU a striking appeal. **Security Information**

SHIGEMITSU is only 64. While he has no particular experience in politics, he has proven his mettle as a diplomat and as a Cabinet Minister. He is nine years younger than YOSHIDA, and although he was five years his junior in the Foreign Office, he was ready to replace YOSHIDA as Ambassador to Great Britain in 1938. The latter retired in 1939 and did not attain Cabinet rank until the advent of the Occupation while Subject went on to become Foreign Minister in several Cabinets thereafter. Opponents of SHIGEMITSU claim that his political views are not clear. Actually, only a little more than a month has elapsed since his depurge, and he has not been in a position until recently to make any political statements. On 3 April, in a press interview, he went on record as: (1) favoring rearmament in order that Japan might survive; (2) expressing satisfaction with the U.S.-Japan Security Pact; (3) disapproving of trade with the Communist bloc.

It is fairly obvious where his sympathies lie and why there is opposition from the leftists. Regardless of the future of the Progressive Reform Party, SHIGEMITSU himself will remain a figure to reckon with in Japanese politics for several years to come.

Source: Scty Div Files
Japanese Periodicals

E N D

NOTE: This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Act, 50 U.S.C. 31, and 32, as amended, its transmission or revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

SECRET-SECURITY INFORMATION

NOTE: This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Act, 50 U.S.C. 31, and 32, as amended, its transmission or revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

Approved for Release by NSA on 05-08-2013 pursuant to E.O. 13526

SECRET
Security Information