

NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to No.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority ND 883020
By [Signature] NARA, Date 3/22/00

~~Secret~~

JAPANESE ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED STATES

The reason for Japanese activities in the United States is obvious from their past history. They realize the value of surprise attack and accordingly in the past have used the element of surprise with telling effect. In order to prevent successful execution against us it is vital that we have information not only of steps being taken in the Far East, but also detailed accurate information of their activities in the United States and the Americas.

We should expect that prior to declaring war on the United States their agents would endeavor to cripple or destroy, not only the military agencies which might be used against them, but also the Public Morale by destruction or poisoning of water supplies to large vital centers; the destruction of communications, including important railroads, radio and telegraphic centers, and other agencies vital to the support of human life. A preparation for such activities is actively underway as indicated by (1) the mapping of vital points of U.S. Army's important arsenal, exhibit (1); detailed mapping of unfrequented regions on our West Coast, exhibit (2); Activities throughout the West Coast of the American continent, known and reported, exhibit (3) (Thompson); exhibit (4) (fishing boats Alaska area); exhibit (5) (fishing activities and tanker contacts); exhibit (6) (surreptitious transfers of personnel in American ports); Presence of large numbers of Naval officers in the United States, exhibit(7): In countering the above activities we have been able to obtain the assistance of the Department

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of Justice, only after we were able to produce sufficient evidence that a crime had been committed, and they are now working on the Thompson case, but due to their preoccupation in other directions, such assistance is not always available as in the Buroni case. This situation necessitates, not only the preliminary work of discovering these widespread activities, but also the follow up after discovery.

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EXHIBIT (1)

This chart is a detailed map of the U. S. Army's important Arsenal at Picatinny, emphasizing the vital points such as TNT storage, water supply, etc. We have had knowledge for some time that such a chart had been made, and ordinarily would consider it only a portion of the strategic information which they were able to obtain, but the fact that this chart was sent to Japan, reprinted, and then returned in quantity to the United States presents a different aspect. Such action indicates that these and similar charts are for distribution to numerous agents - one of whom might be expected to survive a general round up and execute the prescribed sabotage in the event of actual or intended hostilities.

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EXHIBIT 2

This chart is one of many that have been ordered by Japanese agents on the West Coast of the United States. Such charts have been sought without much regard as to cost, but with requests for speed, and as far as possible, to be made without publicity, in other words, a desire for secrecy. The specifications included all roads, trails, water supplies, railroads, topography, and as far as possible to indicate by colors the ownership.

A check on the dates for which certain maps were to be delivered indicates that they were to be transmitted to Japan by courier.

The only visible uses for such maps by the Japanese are:

- (1) Location and use of seaplane landing facilities in unfrequented localities.
- (2) Construction of secret landing fields in unfrequented localities
- (3) Construction and use of secret radio transmission sets.
- (4) Use of secret intercept stations
- (5) Preparation for sabotage of
 - (a) Communication facilities - (railroads and telegraph)
 - (b) Water Supplies
- (6) Smuggling of material in preparation of above.

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EXHIBIT 4

Japanese Government "scientific" vessels operating in Alaska area.

"Floating Canneries" and trawlers operating in Alaska area.

The "scientific" vessels being public vessels were given permission to visit Alaskan ports, but they cancelled their request when the Navy Department offered the same "courtesies" extended to our destroyers tending the Round the World Flight in Northern Japanese waters. (Placing an officer on board and having a destroyer accompany them).

The "Floating Cannery" type of boats are now operating direct from Japan off the coast of Mexico.

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EXHIBIT 5

Chart showing Japanese activities during past year in Central and South America. Documents on each activity are available.

Attention particularly invited to surveying activities by Japanese military personnel in vicinity of Panama Canal, and espionage in vicinity of Camp Young (Panama).

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EXHIBIT 6

The attached despatch corroborates other indications that these means are being taken to effect the transfer of personnel operating within U. S. territory and probably to effect illegal entries.

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EXHIBIT 7

The attached memo shows the extent of "official" activities in the United States. Details of the activities of this personnel is indicated by the Thompson case, and the extent is unlimited.

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CONFIDENTIAL

4 February, 1936

Memo for Comdr. Zacharias: ~~Frank~~

Subject : Japanese Naval Personnel in the U.S.

The following is a tabulation of Japanese Naval Personnel in the U.S. as of 1 February 1936:

	<u>Capt:</u>	<u>Comdr:</u>	<u>Lt-Comdr:</u>	<u>Lieut:</u>	<u>Asst. Eng</u>	<u>Nav. Cler</u>
Naval Attaches Office	1	1	1	-	-	4
Naval Inspectors Office	1	-	8	-	5	1
Language Officers	-	-	7	1	-	-
Temporary Duty <u>R-Ad:</u> 1	4	11	1	-	2	-
<u>TOTAL :</u>	1	6	12	1	7	5

GRAND TOTAL : 49

Note: Above does not include 2 Civilian Clerks on duty at the Naval Inspectors Office.

and Training was seen
(initials)

Exhibit # 7

W.C.

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EXHIBIT 6

The attached despatch corroborates other indications that these means are being taken to effect the transfer of personnel operating within U. S. territory and probably to effect illegal entries.

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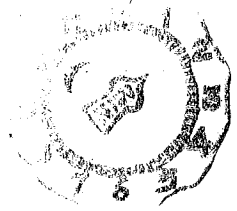
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JAPANESE TRADE MISSION

On 9 February, 1936, the following named Japanese, members of the "Mision Comercial Japonesa," sailed from the Canal Zone via the S.S. SIMON BOLIVAR for La Guaira and Caracas, Venezuela:

Teruo MIYAKE	- Age 37
Ryo KIKUCHI	- Age 31
Masao YAMAMOTO	- Age 42
Yosoe OHGIMI	- Age 42

YOSOE OHGIMI
CONSEJERO DE LA
MISION COMERCIAL JAPONESA



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On 5 February, 1936, a Japanese known as Fumatsu TUJITAKI was found dead in a room in Panama City. While the coroner of Panama City was in the act of taking the body away for a post mortem, the Japanese Consul appeared and claimed the body, stating that he wished no publicity concerning the death of the man; that the deceased was a Japanese naval officer although employed as a barber in Panama City. Accordingly nothing appeared in the newspapers concerning the death of this man.

The above was reported to G-2 of the Panama Canal Department of the Army by the coroner.