

Op-16-B-7-0

17 April 1944

SECRET

Opposition to the War:

Another anti-war individual is a half-Japanese named YAN AGI, who was formerly known as Jack Colt. He is particularly friendly with foreigners, and went so far as to instruct some of them how to behave in order to avoid trouble with the Japanese police.

A very important group opposing the war are the Japanese NISEI, brought up or educated abroad, particularly in the United States, who were in a class by themselves and closely watched by the secret police. Most of them did not want to leave the United States, and when they returned to Japan were deeply disappointed in the changes which had occurred since they left. They are disillusioned in their own country. Most of the NISEI are very European-minded, oppose the war, like the Americans, and prefer to speak English. It is estimated that there are 3,000 of these people in TOKYO and many others in OSAKA and KOBE.

Foreigners' Attitudes Toward the War:

Germans in Japan say that Germany has lost the war and that Japan, though she too will be defeated, will resist for a greater length of time, possibly for a long time. German firms are preparing duplicates of official papers and records, and are storing them in different places. One firm kept records at OSAKA and OKAMOTO.

It is generally thought by foreigners in Japan that Japan will not try to keep JAVA, SUMATRA, and BORNEO. It is probable that the Japanese government will give these territories independence so that Japan will not lose face when they are lost. Japanese officials are prohibited from remaining in JAVA and SUMATRA, perhaps BORNEO. The chief of each city must be a native, and all police and government officials must be natives.

Summary by the source:

A relatively heavy bombing of TOKYO, OSAKA, and KOBE, at the same time or different times would wreck morale. Since most of the houses are of wood, the cities crowded into relatively small and narrow areas, the anti-aircraft defenses weak, air-raid precautions inadequate, the results of bombings would be severe, and the cities would burn easily. Such precautions as exist are against incendiary bombs.

- Remarks:
- Miss Harkins
- Miss Lilly
- Miss Nile
- Yeo.
- Yeo. Polissack
- Yeo. Cramer
- Yeo. McBryer
- Yeo. Myers
- Yeo. Strong
- Yeo. Owen
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Polissack
- (Jag)

Foreigners are frequently asked questions by the secret police. In a big bombing many people would lose their lives. Food supplies would be short, especially if any part of the transportation systems were disrupted. In case of damage, the railways cannot be repaired quickly. The railways are all-important, truck or autobus facilities being extremely limited. Railroads are exceedingly vulnerable because there are many narrow stretches between the coast and the mountains, and there are many tunnels and bridges.

Destructive raids would drive people to riots, not necessarily against the government, but among themselves. Serious trouble might break out between various classes, the old feudal feeling still being fairly strong. A serious raid would release some of the pent-up feelings of the Japanese people. Many Japanese are armed with swords.

It is probable that the police and students, the latter being armed with rifles, would get the situation under control, but in the meanwhile real Japanese difficulties would have begun.

Police Methods:

Japanese police methods are crude and obvious, and counter-espionage activities are not based on any scientific system. Usually the police work on the premise that there must be some espionage going on. Therefore, they arrest the most suspicious-looking people, hoping that they will disclose their own guilt or will inform on someone else. They figure that the guilty ones will be eventually discovered. Such arrests started in Manchukuo in 1937. Recently many Jews were arrested in Shanghai. Germans are more frequently arrested than other foreigners.

Many secret police were identified, mostly through a foreigner dealing on the black market, who paid some of them. Once a secret police was seen questioning a Japanese employee of a foreign embassy in the embassy grounds.

Police come frequently to European food distribution centers to question foreigners. Foreigners are afraid of them, and this has resulted in greater friendliness among foreigner groups. Even the Germans are more friendly to other groups.

Japanese servants in households frequently report on their masters, and are regarded as dangerous.

Arrests, particularly of foreigners, usually occur in the early morning. The house is generally searched first. If members of the family are present, they are told the suspect is to be asked a few questions. He is taken by the police and usually does not return. Families are not permitted to send anything to relatives so imprisoned. Arrests are handled by the secret police or by members of the Intelligence service.

Foreigners are frequently asked questions by the secret police, questions such as "Do you like Japan?"; "Do you think Japan will win the war?", etc. Japanese people are instructed to inform on foreigners if anything suspicious seems to be going on.

(When leaving Japan, source encountered a secret policeman on the ship to FUZAN and on the train to Manchukuo, who was specially designated to watch him. In the railway car the policeman, who spoke English, sat very near him in order to overhear his conversation. So, English was spoken part of the time, and complimentary things about Japan were said in the agent's presence so that he might have material for a report when he arrived at headquarters. Otherwise the policeman would have to make up a report, and that might result in difficulties. In Manchukuoan police stations source was asked questions by police, again questions dealing with his impressions of Japan. He had to report to the Manchurian police again when he left Manchukuo. It is a general rule that all people (especially foreigners) report to the police when they leave one city or arrive at another. At HARBIN, police regulations are more regular than elsewhere because more foreigners are there than anywhere else in Japanese territory. In TOKYO, on the other hand, police contacts with foreigners are so infrequent that they have difficulty handling the most simple of routine matters. For example, they did not know how to issue an exit visa. It was necessary to report to Russian police on leaving Manchukuo.)

Arrests of Foreigners:

Many Europeans were arrested in September and October, 1943, apparently for espionage. These included Germans (the largest number), Italians, Russians, Jews, and others out of a total of fifty. None were released. One person was positively known to be innocent. One person so arrested was a Russian-Jew named Abe BERMANT. He speaks perfect English, has been in Japan for a long time. Two or three times trials of German spies have been reported in the newspapers, and the Germans have been sentenced to 10 or 15 years. One German, named FORREST (?) was charged with twenty-one infractions of the law. He was sentenced about 10 November 1943, as was his Japanese accomplice. One German arrested was chief of the Gestapo in the South Sea Islands. He was arrested in 1942 by civilian-clothed men. One German correspondent of a German newspaper was found spying for the Americans and British in October of 1942.

It is dangerous for any foreigner to have too many friends at different cities or of different nationalities, and it is dangerous to do much traveling. Such people are easily suspected.

There are 2,000 Germans in KOREA, more than 2,000 in TOKYO, and 100 in OSACA.

Suggestions for Gathering Information:

The Japanese have a "spy-mania", and it is dangerous to collect information in that country. The best way to get a Japanese to talk is to appear thoroughly uninquisitive. If one shows an interest and asks questions, they immediately get suspicious and shut up.

One cannot find city maps in Japan.

It is not difficult to secure technical and geographical magazines, but they could be sent out of the country only through a diplomatic agency. No one leaving Japan, except diplomats, may take with them any written material.

Information could be sent by code from various points in Japan to an Embassy in Tokyo, and from there could be forwarded. One can go from other cities in Japan to Tokyo, except with extreme difficulty. Traveling is made easier if a Consulate or an Embassy asks a citizen of their country to report to them. Foreigners seldom go to their Embassies because a Japanese policeman guards the Embassy entrances, observing who goes inside.

Usually foreigners in other cities communicate with their Embassy secretly by an intermediary, usually by someone in their group who has to go to Tokyo.

People ~~having~~ leaving the country are frequently given a large number of letters to take with them, and although the people do not write as freely as they would like to, they write with greater freedom than through the Japanese post.

If an individual wishes to visit his Embassy, he must invent an excuse to get to Tokyo. He will be turned down with excuses of overcrowded trains, etc., if he says he wants to go to the Embassy. However, if one gets to Tokyo, and then visits his Embassy, even though observed by police on guard nearby, nothing is done to him.

Letters may be written in Japanese, English, Russian, German, and French, but must be typewritten. These rules apply to letters going inside the country or abroad. Even letters between cities are subject to censorship. Single, not double envelopes, must be used. As part of the address, the nationality of the addressee must be given. Communications among members of special groups can be accomplished, but not quickly. Fifty percent of the letters mailed in Japan and addressed to other places in Japan are lost.

FOREIGNERSGermans:

There are 2,000 Germans in KOBE, more than 2,000 in TOKYO, and 200 in OSAKA.

The Tartar Turks wanted to leave the country and go to Turkey. On several occasions German sailors were seen in KOBE. They were said to be crews of an auxiliary cruiser and submarines. These crews were last seen in October 1943. Between September of 1942 and April 1943, approximately 500-600 were at KOBE. Before and after the war started, many German vessels were in Japan, including the 27,000 ton SCHARNHORST. There are 1,000 White Russians in Japan and about 17-18,000 in MANCHURIAN, Manchuria. The White Russians are satisfied but pro-Russian. German civilians in Japan are making tremendous profits out of the war. Up to a year ago they were talking about returning to Germany after the war. Today they admit that will be impossible. There are 100 Russians, who are closely watched by the Japanese.

Most of the Germans are technicians or their assistants. They speak English in their dealings with the Japanese. After the outbreak of war between Japan and the United States, long, heated discussions took place in the newspapers concerning the advisability of continuing to teach English in the Japanese schools. Finally it was decided that English would be maintained, and eventually the English-training program was increased. The former manager-owner of the HOLSTEIN Shipping Company, whose ships operated between KOBE and HAMBURG, sold out to the Japanese, and is now living in KOBE.

Relations between the Germans and Japanese are not good. For example, when three German merchant ships were torpedoed by American submarines in YOKAHAMA Harbor during November 1942, in which action two were sunk and 1 badly damaged, German survivors were picked up and sheltered by the natives, but the Japanese refused to provide clothing, and even refused to provide cloth from which uniforms could be made, despite the fact that it was in the dead of winter. Not even later, when the Germans promised to return the clothing or equivalent material, did the Japanese give the sailors clothes or material.

Italians: Free foreigners are the Swiss, French, and Hungarians. The Poles, and British are in concentration camps. Italian and American After Italy surrendered, All Italians were arrested, including Italian sailors. The diplomatic corps was also imprisoned, and it was rumored that they were engaged as laborers (the Ambassador not known to be an exception) in gardens in TOKYO. People living in TOKYO, including Embassy personnel, said it was true.

There were about 200 Italians in KOBE. Italian sailors tried to scuttle their ships after the Italian surrender. One of these ships was the CONVERTI, said to have scuttled at SHANGHAI.

Turks: *Sultan Varoli*

There are about 2,000 Tartar Turks in various parts of Japan and Korea: KOBE, 130; TOKYO, 300; NAGOYA, 150; OSAKA, 20, etc. Good relations are maintained between these people and the real Turks in the diplomatic service.

The Tartar Turks wanted to leave the country and go to Turkey, but the Japanese suppressed the move. All these Turks dislike the Japanese.

Russians: Theoretically there is a mail service, but no letters have been since leaving Japan in October 1941. The Japanese are not so clever as the Germans; they are afraid to permit letters to pass, one
There are 3,000 White Russians in Japan and about 17-18,000 in HARBIN, Manchuria. The White Russians are anti-Red but pro-Russian, and are always glad to hear of Russian victories. There is animosity between them and the Japanese, but even so they are allowed greater freedom and more privileges than the other foreigners, including the Red Russians, who are closely watched by the Japanese.

Letters from Japan to Europe received by ^{out} them do not always
White Russians are well scattered throughout Japan, and are in the merchandising business. None are working in industry.

It is planned to send a parcel of food weighting 5 kilograms to Chinese. Expect to arrange it through a man working in the WAKKANAI, who speaks Japanese and who can handle the matter through the Japanese

Chinese are fairly numerous in Japan, and are allowed considerable freedom, although treated worse than other foreigners. Japanese-Chinese antagonism is extreme, however. Most of the Chinese in Japan are lowly tradesmen such as tailors, etc. A large gang of coolies was once seen in KOBE, as in AMAN and MURAKI.

Jews:

There are some wealthy Jews in Japan, including many of the Shanghai Jews, SASSOON among them. Most of them are Far-Eastern Jews, but some are Germans. Jews are generally in good standing with the Japanese government even though there is some propaganda against them, probably from German example or inspiration.

All the embassies have short-wave radios, but they are the only Other Foreigners: American and foreign broadcasts. However, news received by embassy people via shortwave is not passed on to outsiders

Other free foreigners are the Swiss, French, and Hungarians. The Dutch, Americans, and British are in concentration camps. English and American women are free, however, although their movements are restricted and they are usually forced to remain in their houses, and are followed closely on leaving them. They are not permitted to associate with other people. Japanese banks give them money monthly for food.

Relations of Foreigners with Other Foreigners: Japan to this country than from Manchuria. Difficulties in getting through country to

Foreign groups are not too friendly with each other, although their general dislike for the Japanese tends to draw them closer together. Ordinarily, however, each nationality keeps to itself. consular people there, for example. It is also difficult to get in and out of Korea.

Source: AMSCA, Intelligence (200-44), dated 10 March 1944, in subject "Report on Japan", 200-44, File 6.

1. Select. Seldin
2. Blank. Devlin
3. (1) German

17 April 1944

Letters:

Theoretically there is a mail service, but no letters have been received since leaving Japan in October 1943. The Japanese are not as clever as the Germans; they are afraid to permit letters to pass; one can write only the most casual things. Letters are not even going between the cities of Japan. Mail service is not dependable; letters are accepted, but frequently are not delivered, and on inquiry no answer is given by the postal authorities. As a rule the Japanese do not write letters at all.

Letters from Japan to Europe received by others do not always bear a censor's tape, but are probably always read.

It is planned to send a parcel of food weighting 5 kilograms to parents. Expect to arrange it through a man working in the WAGON-LIT, who speaks Japanese and who can handle the matter through the Japanese Embassy.

**** A letter from Japan to Manchuria can arrive in three days' time, especially if written in Japanese. Letters were written to relatives in ANZAN and MUKDEN.**

Telegrams:

Germany has lost the war and that Japan, too, will be defeated, will resist for a greater length of time for a long time. German firms are preparing duplicates of official papers and records, and are showing them in different places. The firm kept records at OSAKA and OSAWATO.

Radio:

It is generally thought by foreigners in Japan that Japan will keep JAWA, SUMATRA, and BORNEO. It is probable that the All the embassies have short-wave radios, but they are the only ones. They listen to American and foreign broadcasts. However, news received by embassy people via shortwave is not passed on to outsiders for fear that action might be taken by the Japanese. Among themselves, embassy people talk openly and freely about the war. Information could be confirmed by the embassies. News concerning the fall of Attu was picked up by these short-wave radios.

Travel:

It is easier for foreigners to get out of Japan to this country, than from Manchuria. Difficulties in getting from this country to the Manchukuo are about the same as getting to Japan. The main reason for difficulties in getting in and out of Manchukuo is that no diplomatic arrangements can be made there. This country has no consular people there, for example. It is also difficult to get in and out of Korea.

Sources: ALUSNA, Istanbul (#203-44), dated 18 March 1944, on subject "Report on Japan"; filed in F.A-6.

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