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JAPAN'S DEFENSE EFFORTS

Talking Paper for the President for his meeting with Prime Minister
Akihito on January 18, 1983

ISSUE

(U) Japan's defense forces are largely incapable of defending even Japanese territory and surrounding seas and skies; U.S. Forces are too overburdened to provide full local self-defense to the world's second richest country.

BACKGROUND

(U) Despite statements going back to the mid-1950's that Japan should provide for its own territorial self-defense and statements of the 1980s that Japan can legitimately include air and sea-space defense to 3000 miles within its responsibilities, Japan is currently failing to carry those tasks.

- (X) The Army has had obsolete equipment.
- (X) The Army, Navy, and Air Force all have only token levels of capability.
- (X) The Navy and Air Force are too small to provide for the extended capabilities for which Japan has recently been called.

(U) The recession and inflation have been cited in the past as a cause of Japan's inaction. Now that these have passed, there is no excuse. One and fears of other Asian nations - especially Iran - neither of these factors inhibit attainment of Japan's self-defense goals.

- (X) Japan needs to do such or public works as it can to help.
- (X) We urge Japan to achieve its requisite level of self-defense capability within this decade and still spend less than 1% of its GNP on defense.
- (X) We urge Japan not to support Japan's limited defense. It as long as Japan's security remains tightly latched to the U.S. Pacific presence.

(S) The need for significantly increased Japanese defense efforts in order to participate in a division of labor with the United States has been strongly and specifically pushed from the White House, forcing Japanese proponents of the status quo to argue that at the highest levels of the USG don't support increased defense efforts.

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~~DISCUSSION~~

~~(S)~~ For U.S. national a policy, a resolute but strong approach is necessary from the Prime Minister Nakatane, a senior Japanese politician who understands and supports defense. This would provide the Prime Minister the reassurance he needs to initiate and thorough Japanese re-examination of its defense posture in order to live up with the United States in a meaningful division of labor to be achieved within this decade.

- (U) FROM 1045 TO ME PFC WT, THE U.S. HAS PROVIDED FOR JAPAN'S STRATEGIC AND CONVENTIONAL DEFENSE.

- (U) WE WANT TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE FOR JAPAN'S STRATEGIC PROTECTION AS TO PROVIDE FOR SECURITY IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC / DIALECT / E JAPAN'S COMMERCE WOULD OTHERWISE BE VULNERABLE.

- (U) T-1 U.S. MIGRATION PROVING EFFECTIVE LOCAL LEVEL REUSE OF JAPANESE ISLANDS TO 100 MILES, BUT CURRENTLY NOT POSSIBLE. SOVIET AND THE SOVIET UNION'S POLITICAL EXPANSION IS LOCATED. THUS DELIVERANCE IS SLOWED.

- ~~(S)~~ JAPAN'S POSITION ON THE ISLANDS IS AIRBORNE ABILITY UNION, CHINA, AND JAPAN ARE A LARGE NAVY AND RPPC. THIS WAS SUPPORTED BY THE U.S. AND THE SOVIET UNION. THE PRC - CHINA - ISLANDS: 1990, 81, AND 82 ARE UNSETTLED.

(U) THE PRC IS EXECUTING A POLICY OF DIALECTIC SUPPORTS JAPAN'S AND DEFEND JAPAN'S SECURITY.

~~(S)~~ PERIODICALLY THE U.S. DEFENSE CONTINUES TO THE SOVIET UNION IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC.

- (U) PRIME MINISTER ASAYOSHI AS IT MASSIVELY CHAMPIONED USE OF JAPANESE FOR SECURITY DECIDED BY PM. LET US GO BACK TO DC THAT IS NECESSARY IN OUR DIPLOMATIC TESTS.

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