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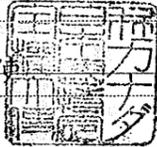
北米局長
参事官
北米課長

イガオ 815 号

昭和42年12月21日

外務大臣殿

在 カナダ
相田 臨時代理大使



沖縄問題：閣下新聞評論に接報告

12月21日付モントリオールから電報は、先般法務

院議が、ジョンソン大統領から受領したトーマス・^{の報告}日本

不日口及VPの防衛への意欲を述べ、沖縄は

5年以内には返還されるという約束を~~日本に~~

~~返還する~~り、地上才三の産業は

とほろりとほろりと日本に対して不合理な要求といふ思

われは、戦後の日本人の平和主義と日本口

要項
首務官
方
調査
漁業
空
科学協力
連絡調整
調
カナダ
局庶務



GA-4

外務省

21

の平和憲法 ^{の要求に対する} への大規模障害と見られており、沖縄
区は、最も熱意の持ち主として、日本の軍事備
法大に最も強硬に反対しているというが、日本政
治の ~~平和~~ 主義と ~~平和~~ 主義の 議論を 掲げ
ておられ、同議論 別添に 接報告 申し上げます。

別紙添付

本信写送付先、モントリオール、米

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The Americans Want To Give Okinawa Back But First They Want Assurances From Japan

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI News Analyst

The Japanese want the U.S. to return Okinawa and the Ryukyu Islands, along with their 1,000,000 Japan-

ese-speaking residents. The U.S. says it wants to give Okinawa and the Ryukyus back to the Japanese. The only catch is that before the U.S. does so it wants the Japanese to

demonstrate their willingness to shoulder more of the burden of their own defence and that of other nations of free Asia.

This is the gist of the message Premier Eisaku Sato took home with him from his November meeting with President Johnson — and the message he has been giving the Japanese people ever since.

If the Japanese would show such a willingness, he says, then Okinawa could be returned in less than three years.

On its face it does not seem an unreasonable request.

Japan soon will become the third largest industrial power on earth.

It has the highest per capita income in Asia.

It has 100 million people to draw on. It has profited hugely from the wars in Korea and Vietnam.

Yet, where Nationalist China spends some 80 per cent of its budget on defence, Japan spends only 7.7 per cent. And where 180

out of every 10,000 South Koreans are fighting men, Japan's defence ground forces total only 172,000 men and its whole defensive establishment only about 250,000.

It has no long-range fighter-bombers or bombers.

Certainly it could not defend itself against any determined thrust from a nuclear-armed Red China across the East China Sea or any other real military power.

A desire for an adequate defensive force or a deterrent force of a strength commensurate with Japan's industrial power would not seem unreasonable.

But it counts without two important factors.

One is the depth of Japanese pacifism left by the defeat of the Second World War and the other is the no-war constitution forced upon them by the U.S. after the war.

Under that constitution the Japanese renounced war "as a sovereign right of the nation" and declared

that land, sea and air forces would "never be maintained."

Sato's socialist opposition now uses the constitution not only as a reason against Japanese rearmament but also for its opposition to Japan's defence treaty with the U.S.

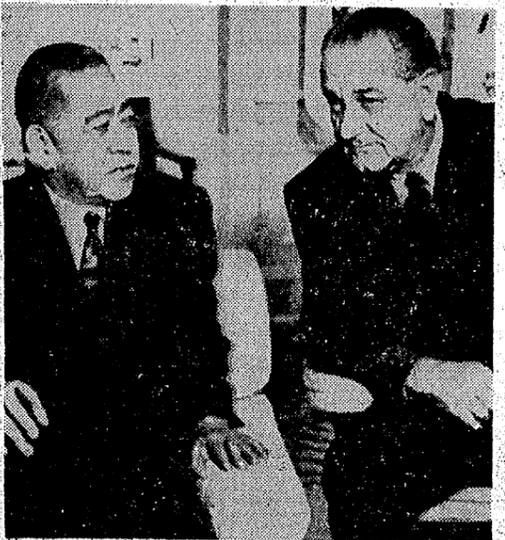
As a legal obstacle, the constitution either could be renounced or ignored.

Public sentiment is not so easily ignored and Sato's salesmanship is having

rough going against a people who have never had it so good.

Public opinion surveys show that nearly all Japanese want the islands returned, even though many don't know where they are.

It is an oddity of Japanese politics that those who are most militant in their demands for the islands' return also are the most vigorous in their opposition to a buildup of the armed forces.



THE MESSAGE: President Johnson and Premier Sato at their November meeting in Washington. It was here that Mr. Sato was told that Japan would have to show a willingness to take up more of the defence of free Asia before it could expect to regain control of Okinawa, the Ryukyu Islands, and their 1,000,000 Japanese-speaking inhabitants. The premier has since been trying to convince his country to do just that.