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TAGS: MARR, JA, US

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P 121045Z MAY 89 FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO TO SECSTATE WASHOC PRIORITY 2704 "INFO AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE AMCONSUL NAMA

E+0-12356: DECL: DADR

CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

DEPARTMENT FOR EAP/J ONLY

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MARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED by.

() RELEASE () DECLASSIFY

(X) EXCISE SUBJECT: POLITICAL-MILITARY WEEKLY: MAY 8-12() DENY (X) DECLASSIFY in PART

(FOL EO or PA exemptions <u>5.52 (6) (1)</u>

(X) Non-responsive info.

_____ TS authority to:

THIS WEEK'S "AMPO DIGEST" INCLUDES: H-BOMBE NAGANO DVERFLIGHTS. IKEGO, AND HUMOROUS FALLOUT.

() CLASSIFY as __

DATE 8/24/c

() DOWNGRADE TS to () S cr () C, OADR

H-BOMB

3. THE WEEKEND REVELATION BY GREENPEACE OF THE 1965 LOSS OF A NUCLEAR WEAPON FROM THE USS TICONDEROGA CONTINUES TO REVERBERATE IN THE MEDIA AS THE WEEK COMES TO A CLOSE. IN THE LATEST "HELPFUL" REVELATION, THE ASAHI YUKAN MAY 11 (IN A STORY FILED IN LOS ANGELES) CARRIED AN INTERVIEW WITH A FORMER CREWMAN ON THE TICONDEROGA AND "EYEWITNESS" TO THE ACCIDENT. THE

CREWMAN CLAIMS THAT AFTER THE ACCIDENT THE VESSEL

PAGE 02 TOKYO 08399 01 OF 02 121048Z ENTERED YOKOSUKA "WITHOUT UNLOADING" THE "30 TO 50" NUCLEAR WEAPONS HE BELIEVES IT CARRIED. THE ASAHI REPORT ALSO CITES AM INTERVIEW THE CREWMAN GAVE TO THE SAN DIEGO TRIBUNE MAY 10 IN WHICH HE SAID THAT THE ACCIDENT OCCURRED DURING A TRAINING EXERCISE IN WHICH A NUCLEAR WEAPON WAS LOADED ONTO AN A-4 AND THE AIRCRAFT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY BEING MOVED TO THE FLIGHT DECK. ACCORDING TO THE CREWMAN'S VERSION OF EVENTS. THE VESSEL WAS PITCHING AND ROLLING AND THE PLANE, WITH PILOT AND BOMB ABOARD, ROLLED BACKWARD OFF THE SHIP AND INTO THE SEA.

MEANWHILE, FRIDAY'S SANKEI REPORTED THAT MOFA IS INQUIRING OF THE U.S. ABOUT THE SAFETY OF THE BOMB ON THE OCEAN FLOOR. THE SANKELY QUOTING A "GOJ SOURCE"; REPORTS THAT THE U.S. IS "RELUCTANT TO SUBMIT" INFORMATION ABOUT THE WEAPON BECAUSE OF MSECURITY REASONS." WE ARE BEGINNING TO RECEIVE WHAT WE EXPECT WILL EVENTUALLY BECOME A TORRENT OF PROTEST MAIL ABOUT / EXDIS OR ONLY

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THE INCIDENT. FINALLY, TWO PROTEST DELEGATIONS HAVE ASKED FOR APPOINTMENTS WITH US NEXT WEEK TO FILE PETITIONS. WE EXPECT THAT WE — AND THE GOJ — WILL SEE QUITE A FEW MORE PROTESTERS AND PETITIONERS BEFORE THIS BLOWS OVER.

ONAGAND OVERFLIGHTS

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

5. WE ARRANGED A MEETING BETWEEN MOFA, USFJ, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MIDWAY'S AIRWING THIS WEEK TO DISCUSS COMPLAINTS BY NAGANO RESIDENTS AND PARLIAMENTARIANS ABOUT NAVY TRAINING FLIGHTS IN THE PREFECTURE. THE SESSION WENT EXTREMELY WELL. THE MIDWAY AIRWING COMMANDER PROVIDED MOFA WITH A

PAGE 03 TOKYO 08399 01 OF 02 121043Z FIRST-RATE BRIEFING ON THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE TRAINING, TOGETHER WITH A DESCRIPTION OF THE SAFETY MEASURES THE NAVY TAKES IN CONDUCTING IT. AT THE BRIEFING, MOFA DETAILED THE WORRIES OF LOCAL CITIZENS, THEIR DIET REPRESENTATIVES, AND THE NAGANO MEDIA ABOUT THE FLIGHTS. THESE GROUPS HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT ALTHOUGH THE FLIGHTS ARE CONDUCTED IN SPARSELY POPULATED VALLEYS. THE NOISE PRODUCED BY THE AIRCRAFT. DISTURBS RURAL COMMUNITIES AND SCHOOLS AND THE LOW-ALTITUDE FLIGHT PATTERNS FLOWN BY THE NAVY PILOTS REPRESENT A CLEAR DANGER TO THE POPULACE. MORE RECENTLY. CONSTRUCTION IN THE VALLEYS INVOLVING THE USE OF HELICOPTERS HAS INTENSIFIED FEARS ABOUT THE SAFETY OF THE TRAINING. THE AIR WING COMMANDER RESPONDED SYMPATHETICALLY TO THE MOFA PRESENTATION. AND PROMISED TO REVIEW THE FLIGHT PATTERNS USED BY THE NAVY WITH AN EYE TOWARD DIVERTING NAVY AIRCRAFT AWAY FROM SENSITIVE AREAS TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE. THE NAVY PROMISED TO BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH SOME PROPOSALS QUICKLY. WE'LL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW THIS CLOSELY TO ENSURE THAT THE POSITIVE DIALOGUE BEGUN THIS WEEK CONTINUES. IKEGO

6. THE IKEGO SAGA TOOK ANOTHER STEP FORWARD THIS WEEK. KANAGAWA PREFECTURE'S ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION GAVE THE GREEN LIGHT TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FLOOD-CONTROL RESERVOIR AT THE IKEGO NAVY HOUSING SITE. THE DECISION, DONE DESPITE THE STRONG OBJECTIONS OF ZUSHI MAYOR TOMINO, IS ANOTHER SIGN THAT THE PROJECT

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SECTION 02 OF 02 TOKYO 08399

DEPARTMENT FOR EAP/J ONLY

- NAHA VIA SECURE FAX

E-0-12356: DECL: DADR

TAGS: MARR, JA, US

<u>SUBJECT: POLITICAL-MILITARY WEEKLY: MAY 8-12</u> CONTINUES TO MOVE - ALBEIT SLOWLY. DEAA, WHICH HAS SEEN CONSISTENTLY TOUGH WITH THE MAYOR IN RECENT MONTHS, HAD REPORTEDLY PUT CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE ON THE PREFECTURE TO APPROVE THE PROJECT AS A WAY OF THE RESERVOIR - LOCATED WHOLLY DEMONSTRATING PROGRESS. WITHIN THE IKEGO SITE + WILL PROVIDE A CATCH BASIN FOR RAINWATER RUNOFF FROM THE CONSTRUCTION SITE AND ELIMINATE THE NEED TO "ALTER" THE COURSE OF THE IKEGO THE MAYOR'S CONSENT IS REQUIRED FOR SUCH ALTERATIONS AND TOMING HAS MADE IT CLEAR THIS PERMISSION WILL NOT BE FORTHCOMING. WE HAVE HEARD THAT WORK ON THE FLOOD-CONTROL RESERVOIR MAY NOW BEGIN AS EARLY AS THE END OF THIS MONTH. HUMOROUS FALLOUT

HE FOR THE SECOND

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IT'S BEEN DIFFICULT TO FIND ANY HUMOR IN THE STILL-UNFOLDING H-90MB INCIDENT BUT ONE AMPOKA CONTACT WHOIS SEEN HIS SHARE OF BATTLES LATELY PROVIDED A BIT EARLIER THIS NEEK. A VETERAN OF THE ESX NEGOTIATIONS, HE MUTTERED OURING A CONVERSATION: "FIRST FSX. NOW THE! THE ONLY THING THAT COULD BE WORSE IS AN FSX-WITH AN H-BOMB." ANOTHER AMPOKA COUNTERPART CALLED URGENTLY IN THE MIDST OF THE H-BOMB REVELATIONS TO TELL US THAT HE HAD AN IMPORTANT INQUIRY TO MAKE ABOUT THE INCIDENT ON BEHALF OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER. IMMEDIATELY HELD OUR BREATH EXPECTING TO HAVE TO DEAL WITH A DIFFICULT AND SENSITIVE QUESTION. "IMPORTANT INQUIRY" TURNED OUT TO BE: "WHAT DOES THE WORD "TICONDEROGA" MEAN?" WE'RE PLEASED TO REPORT THAT WE WERE ABLE TO RESPOND TO THIS IMPORTANT INQUIRY ON THE SPOT AND PROVIDE THE DATE OF THE BATTLE (1775, IN / EXDIS OR ONLY

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CASE YOU'RE INTERESTED)



The following is the GOJ's three-part public position on "introduction" of nuclear weapons:

- -- ships carrying nuclear weapons are subject to the third Japanese non-nuclear principle -- no introduction of nuclear weapons in Japan -- and would not be allowed to transit Japanese waters or call at Japanese ports;
- -- transit or port calls are not exempt from the prior consultations provision of the US-Japan Mutual Security Treaty:
- -- since the US has never requested prior consultations, the GOJ is satisfied that the US is living up to its obligations under the Treaty.



TO:

FROM:

SUBJECT:

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

IMM ASSIFIED

S/S

P - Mr. Kimmitt

United States Department of State

Washington, D. C. 20520

2001

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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EAP - William Clark, Jr., Acting

Your Meeting with Deputy Minister Kuriyama: Nuclear Transit

Publication of details about the 1965 loss of a US Navy aircraft and H-bomb 80 miles from a Japanese island east of Okinawa has generated intense concern in Japan and a fair amount of US press coverage as well. The fact that the aircraft carrier docked at our naval base in Yokosuka, Japan two days after the incident has fueled allegations that US nuclear-capable ships routinely "ignore" Japan's policy on nuclear transit. The incident has increased pressure on our pattern of response to such allegations.

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