

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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FROM: TOKYO

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 538, AUGUST 25, 7 PM

PRIORITY

REFERENCE USITO 93

NO DEPT. OF ENERGY CLASSIFIED
INFORMATION (NO RD/FRD/DOE-NSI)
COORDINATE WITH: STATE
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AUTHORITY: DOE/SA-20
BY D.P. CANNON, DATE: 4/11/94
D.P. Cannon

WE CAN SEE NO ADVANTAGE IN EXHUMING CASE AT ANY TIME,
ESPECIALLY AS US MEDICAL CONCLUSION OF DEATH DUE TO SERUM HEPATITIS
WAS WIDELY REPORTED HERE MANY MONTHS AGO. TO REVIVE IT NOW AT THIS
JUNCTURE OF US-JAPANESE RELATIONS IS PARTICULARLY UNTIMELY.

STORIES FROM WASHINGTON CONCERNING BERRY STATEMENT THAT
DEATH DUE TO JAUNDICE CARRIED PROMINENTLY IN JAPANESE PRESS YESTERDAY
PRESS TODAY CARRIED JAPANESE DOCTORS' DENIALS AS WELL AS BERRY'S
REITERATION OF US FINDINGS. WHATEVER STATUS THESE STATEMENTS MAY
HAVE IN WASHINGTON THEY ARE HERE REGARDED BY READING PUBLIC AS OFFICIAL
AND DELIBERATELY TAKEN BY US GOVERNMENT. FOR INSTANCE ASAHI EVENING
NEWS HEADLINE STATES "US STANDS FIRM ON CAUSE OF DEATH".
IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING IMPETUS FOR RENEWAL OF DISPUTE AND TOUCHING
JAPANESE MEDICAL WORLD ON SENSITIVE NERVE ALL OVER AGAIN, CONTROVERSY
PARTICULARLY DETRIMENTAL AT THIS TIME FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

- (1) ANNOUNCEMENT OF ATOMS-FOR-PEACE EXHIBIT SCHEDULED TO TOUR JAPAN BEGINNING NOVEMBER HAD BEEN CAREFULLY TIMED FOR RELEASE YESTERDAY IN CONJUNCTION WITH FINAL FAVORABLE PUBLICITY ON SUCCESSFUL GENEVA MEETING; ANNOUNCEMENT NOW OVERSHADOWED AND EFFECT NEEDLESSLY SPOILED.
- (2) SHIGEMITSU HAS JUST ARRIVED IN US FOR OFFICIAL TALKS; INTRODUCTORY NOTE WHETHER FELT IN WASHINGTON OR NOT WILL NOT BE OVERLOOKED IN JAPAN AND CANNOT HAVE FAVORABLE EFFECT ON DOMESTIC PUBLICITY CONCERNING TALKS.
- (3) VAGUENESS OF US STATEMENT CONCERNING IDENTITY OF JAPANESE DOCTOR WHO ALLEGEDLY CONCUR IN JAUNDICE ANALYSIS HAS CAUSED JAPANESE

Old Foreigner
NAME: *AP Schmitt*
DATE: *10/24/96*
CLASSIFIED BY: *DBS memo 904751*
3/8/96

APOLOGISTS

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SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY
S/AE

HEALTH & SAFETY

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APOLOGISTS CLAIM WASHINGTON HANDLING "POLITICALLY COLORED".

(4) IMPORTANT RUNWAY EXTENSION PROGRAM AT CRITICAL STAGE. IN VIEW PAST LINKAGE BY LEFTISTS WITH "ATOM BASE" ISSUE, REMINDER HYDROGEN BOMB COULD MAKE TASK OF PROCUREMENT AGENCY AT TACHIKAWA MORE DIFFICULT.

BECAUSE OF FOREGOING, URGE WASHINGTON OFFICIALS REFRAIN FROM FURTHER PRONOUNCEMENTS OF ANY SORT ON _____ CASE. IN OUR JUDGEMENT THEY WOULD ONLY AGGRAVATE MATTERS WHEREAS, WITH RESTRAINT ON OUR PART, THIS SHOULD BLOW OVER IN A FEW DAYS.

PARSONS

MDG

AUG 26 1955

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U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
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