

April 9, 1953

MEETING OF AGENCY DESIGNEES FOR COORDINATION OF PSB D-27
PSYCHOLOGICAL STRATEGY PROGRAM FOR JAPAN
3 pm. Room 3264a New State

Present: Mr. Kenneth T. Young, State

[REDACTED]
Mr. Charles Norberg, PSB
Mr. John E. MacDonald, PSB
(Mr. Charles A. Sullivan, Defense, absent)

This meeting was called primarily to acquaint agency designees with action in Tokyo taken by Mr. Young as a result of a letter to him from the Department, and a radio message to General Clark from the Pentagon.

Mr. Young outlined the conclusions of his talks in Tokyo by which two committees have been set up for the purpose of coordinating the field implementation of PSB D-27. The first, consisting of the Ambassador as Chairman, General Laughton of the Far East Command, and [REDACTED] is expected to meet monthly or more often if necessary, while the second or working group will meet as operating circumstances demand. The second group will consist of Mr. Bradford, Public Affairs Officer of the Embassy, Col. Hansen [REDACTED] Mr. Young reported that on the working level the guidance contained in the Plan was most welcome. It was anticipated that the wide range of actions and themes would permit the operating agencies to choose according to the needs of the situation as it might change from time to time.

Mr. Young then ran through several observations resulting from his discussions in Tokyo and his observations in Southeast Asia. He first mentioned the adverse effects caused by the 1952 Presidential campaign phrase of "let Asians fight Asians". It has been used to our disadvantage by everyone, not only in communist propaganda.

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Mr. Young has in mind the preparation of a statement for use possibly by Mr. Robertson, the Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs, or perhaps by Secretary Dulles or the President, designed to put this phrase into proper perspective to give it its intended meaning of U.S. support for free Asian nations fighting communist aggression.

He mentioned the problem of friction between Security Forces and Japanese in which the only major overt point is that of prostitution, a situation which is getting worse according to all comments he heard. Since Mr. Sullivan of Defense was unable to be at the meeting, and since Defense is understood to be the only agency objecting to PCC D-38/2b dealing with acceptance of Americans in Japan, it was decided to query Defense on this question. (The PCC paper is included by reference in PSB D-27.)

The other major point in Japanese attitudes was the feeling in many circles that Japan was not in fact independent, that it was still "under occupation". The principal reasons for this feeling are the continuing problems of jurisdiction over Security Force personnel and of Japanese irredentist sentiments.

It was the feeling among the Tokyo agency representatives that a major question in Japanese understanding of American institutions is that of the true nature of the American economic system (cf. page 16 para 9c of the Program). There was some discussion in the Washington group of the relation of this question to the more general problem of exchange of persons. For example, Mr. Norberg suggested that the American section of the International Chamber of Commerce might be interested in sending U.S. business men to Japan. Mr. Young mentioned the possibility of covert activities with the two Socialist Parties, citing the reported example of [redacted] who recently in his personal conversation has swung away from his published views advocating neutrality, relations with Communist China, and with the USSR., etc. Mention of this type of individual immediately brought out comments on the difficulties raised by the McCarran Act, as regards possible visits to the U.S.

In respect to Pacific defense, Mr. Young mentioned that there is an awareness of the desirability of such arrangements even though they are in an embryonic state at present. He explained the Japanese attitude as one which would make a formal pact, such as a U.S.-Japan

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treaty, the first step; this would permit the Japanese to rationalize the provision of forces in acceptance of their responsibility under such an agreement.


In Southeast Asia in general Mr. Young found that there was an attitude of going slow in relations with Japan, particularly in the Philippines and Indonesia, and, to a lesser extent, in Burma. Only the Koreans appear to fear a physical overrunning of their country by the Japanese. One factor influencing attitudes in Southeast Asia was that Japanese economic development was proceeding more slowly than had been anticipated.

In reference to the relation of the Washington group to that in Tokyo, Mr. Young proposes to write a letter to Mr. Bradford expressing agreement with the organization in Tokyo and welcoming Tokyo's views on actions which could be taken in Washington in support of their activities in Japan.

██████████ asked about Mr. Allison's arrival in Tokyo and the possibility of speeches or addresses by him after he assumes his position as Ambassador. Mr. Young stated that Mr. Allison would probably be making an address in early June, and that suggestions for inclusion in a speech, probably to the America-Japan Society, would be welcome.

Since agency supporting plans are not yet completed there was no discussion of these at the meeting; Mr. Young mentioned, in this connection, that he had in mind IIA representation in this coordinating group. There was, however, brief discussion of the desirability of this group discussing the implication for Japan of the current Soviet "peace offensive" once there is an agreed set of conclusions (or assumptions) on the overall meaning of these Soviet tactics.

The next meeting of the agency designees will be held at the call of the Chairman.


John E. MacDonald
Chairman

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