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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Dr. Edward P. Lilly  
Mr. Elmer B. Staats

DATE: 8 February 1957

FROM : R. V. Mrozinski *Rvm*

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SUBJECT: CIA Informal Comments on "Outline Plan of Operations for Japan (NSC 5516/1)", 25 January draft

*Friday Board Ass'ts - 15 February*

The following represent some very frank comments that were made on this draft to me by the [redacted]. These comments were made specifically to me and may therefore be made use of in any way that you wish as long as you don't attribute them to any particular individual outside of this staff. I feel that this type of informal and frank commenting on our OCB papers can be very useful in pointing out any gaps or weaknesses in them which we may not be able to get in the more formal agency comments.



"We don't have any complaints about this report--all the important things are included.

One thing I would like to emphasize, however, and that is the necessity for taking measures to improve US-Japanese relationships now, while Ishibashi is in power. I think Ishibashi is a man of integrity and principle, and any concessions we can make should be made so that they redound to his credit. We should have frank discussions with him to prevent him from miscalculating our stand on sensitive issues such as Okinawa which might lead him to get too far out on a limb and force him to retreat and lose face. We have elements favorable to us now in power and we should not undermine their position by leaving them vulnerable to charges of "weakness" towards the US. If we continue to procrastinate on the things we should have done a long time ago--such as releasing war criminals, preventing Rhee's seizures of Jap fishermen, consulting with the Japs in advance on policies affecting Japan (such things as stationing atomic task forces and withdrawing the 1st Cavalry Division for example), paying more attention to their recommendations for economic co-operation (such as regional trade organization like the OEEC) etc., we are undermining our friends and paving the way for elements more willing to kick us in the teeth to take over.

We should also be considering how to bolster the government in preparation for the expected elections next spring. A release of war criminals would give the conservatives a healthy boost, and with some help from us the conservatives might stem the recent Socialist tide.

Please emphasize that now is the time to bring about the adjustments in US-Jap relations--the program is good, and we have a government in Japan whose prestige we should build up before it is too late."

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*NSC 5516/1 - 2-8-57*

*[Signature]*

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