

## 'Shadow Money'

Rumors Spread  
Of CIA's Hand  
Active in JapanBy Albert Axelbank  
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## Tokyo

Pundits, leftwing politicians and popular journals are charging the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency with "massive intervention" in local Japanese elections, with paying money to anti-Communist factions of the radical Zengakuren students organization, and extending its shadowy hand into the dramatic arts, even touching a U. S. pacifist folk singer.

Expectedly, many of the charges are based on rumor, idle gossip and the half-truth. But some of the claims about CIA in Japan merit scrutiny if only because of their frequent repetition and wide dissemination. Moreover, one mass-circulation magazine in Tokyo said on March 19 that an ex-CIA agent recently "confessed" to its editors that he engaged in spying for the CIA in the port of Shanghai.

## EXPLOITS

Of course, many Japanese would no doubt be amazed if CIA exploits in Japan never leaked out inasmuch as Japan is generally considered a "frontier" of anti-Communism in Asia, and CIA is, consequently, bending strenuous efforts to safeguard this frontier.

Critic Yoshihisa Kajia claims the CIA was involved in the Tokyo gubernatorial elections on April 15, in which the Communists and Socialists jointly supported a candidate. Nevertheless, he won.

"If the Socialist-Communist candidate, Dr. Ryokichi Minobe, wins, CIA's work in Japan will become extremely difficult," Kajia had said. Meanwhile the usually reliable Sunday Mainichi published a report saying that CIA had approached the Soka Gakkai party, Ko-meito, presumably to persuade that party to enter into a "deal" with the ruling party at the mid-April polls. But this report was denied by Ko-meito.

## FRICTION

A visiting U.S. professor of economics stated not long ago that a chronic cause of friction between Japan and America was alleged intervention of CIA funds in Japanese elections to help pro-American candidates triumph.

The U.S. savant, while admitting that these allegations might be "pure myths," said that the CIA was accused also of financing ultrarightist "direct action" groups, such as assassinated Socialist leader Inejiro Asanuma while he was delivering a TV speech in 1960. (Asanuma had previously declared — in Peking — that "American imperialism is the common enemy of the Japanese and Chinese peoples.")

CIA budgetary secrecy prevents anyone from discovering the truth, the professor said.

Political affairs analyst Eisuke Nakasono, who says that CIA maintains in Tokyo its "most important branch in Asia," believes that CIA funds are channeled to an anti-Communist faction of the militant Zengakuren (National Federation of Students' Self-Government Associations). Supporting him is a similar charge in the weekly newspaper of Tokyo University. Zengakuren, which figured prominently in the

anti-government demonstrations of 1960, is now split into three factions. Total membership of all factions is around 500,000.

As proof for his accusations, Nakasono said that the faction which he believes is CIA-supported, published an expensively produced magazine and that members wear the "best quality" helmets during demonstrations. Some had studied in the U.S.A. with CIA money, he charged.

Kozon Fukuda, director of the Modern Drama Association, admits his group has received "shadow money" from the United States, but he adds that the Soviet Union and Red China also utilize similar kinds of funds for winning over the friendship of Japanese artists.

A Japanese interpreter, Ichiro Takasaki, alleged in mid-February that the CIA "forced" him, by threatening his livelihood, to mistranslate political statements of U.S. folk singer Joan Baez during her January tour in Japan in the midst of crucial national elections.

Takasaki said the supposed agent, "Harold Cooper," demanded that he cooperate, and he agreed since he works in the United States about two months each year and feared he might be refused a visa if he failed to cooperate. "I tried to reject the absurd demands — but Mr. Cooper, whom I met four times, knew the name of my child and the contents of my work very well." (The U.S. Embassy in Tokyo denied that anyone had approached Takasaki on behalf of the American government.)

## ACTIVITIES

There are, says the magazine Shukan Bunshun, about 1000 Americans engaged directly or indirectly in CIA activities in Japan. It says that CIA here employs "thousands" of Japanese. However, the National Police Agency and the Cabinet Investigation Room (Japan's so-called "Black Chamber") both disclaim any knowledge of, or concern with, CIA.

Nevertheless, Saburo Rikui, a leftwing writer on U.S. affairs, states that when a Japanese returns from a trip to mainland China or North Vietnam the CIA approaches him and asks him to sell film or other information. "I myself experienced this after I returned from a visit to Hanoi," he says.

Of course, the Japanese government is alert to possible Communist subversion against Japan. The police agency and cabinet investigation office were established for the purpose of thwarting such subversion.