

July 31, 1985 Draft Letter, Nakasone Yasuhiro to Hafez al-Assad

Citation:

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Summary:

A letter from Prime Minister Nakasone of Japan to President Assad of Syria discussing the relationship between Japan and Syria, including the American hostages held in Lebanon and Ambassador Yoshihiro Nakayama's upcoming visit to Syria.

Original Language:

Japanese

Contents:

Original Scan
Translation - English

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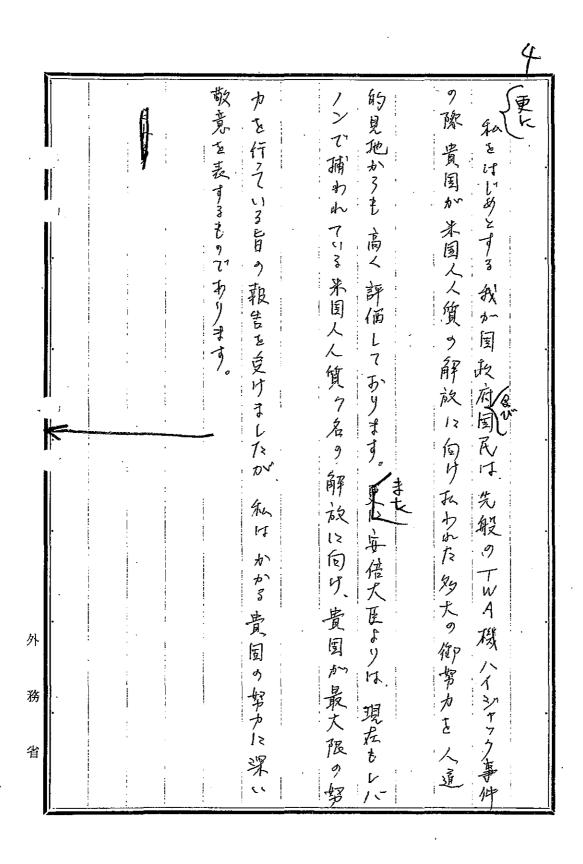
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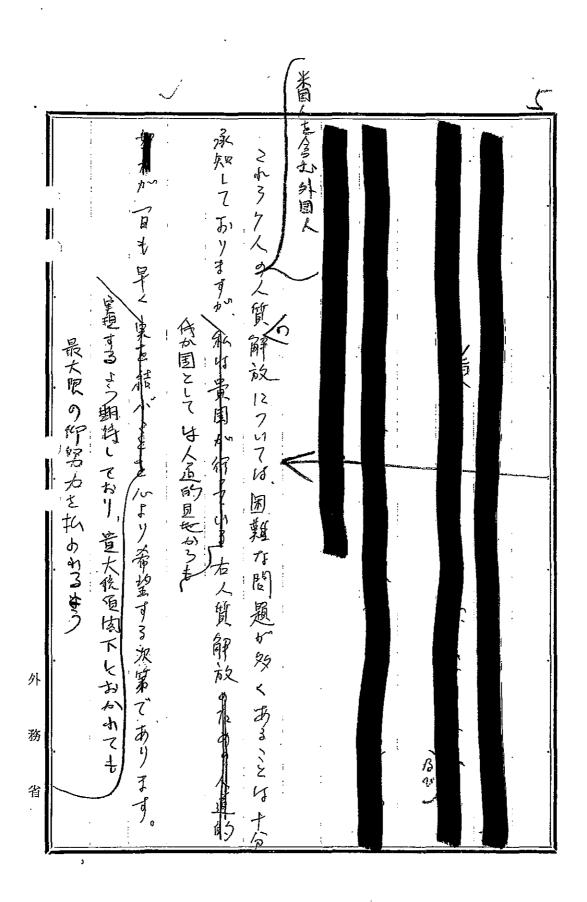
J

特に安倍大臣の貴国訪問の際は技機協定の辞は事務してルシ合同委 貝会の設置か実現する等関係強似の地固めが着々となてれてあり する決意であることと ここに御伝えしたいと思います。 お急速に緊密度を増しファあることは誠に喜けしい限りであります。 新田 安倍大臣 すな事信人臣よりは、中東和平問題口関する宝月里中 l> 穀 の貴国訪問が成功裡に実現 今後之七貴大統領閣下上端户上了 告を受けてあり、中東 発用技術協力を含む各分所における する等、日本・シリア両国 两国関係混化のため尽力 外 務 省

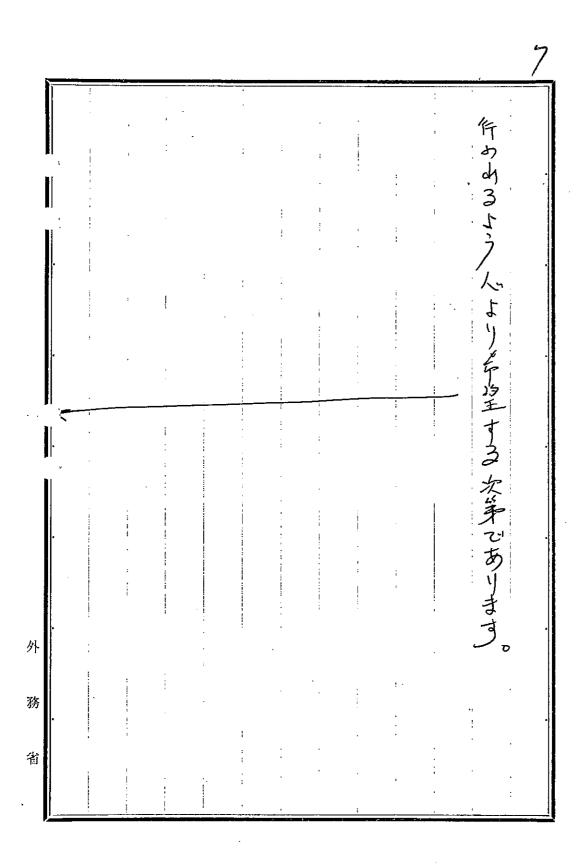
今後とも中東和手内題の建主提3 造国との内でいこの内類にフます分気 意見文埃も行いにまいてかけます。

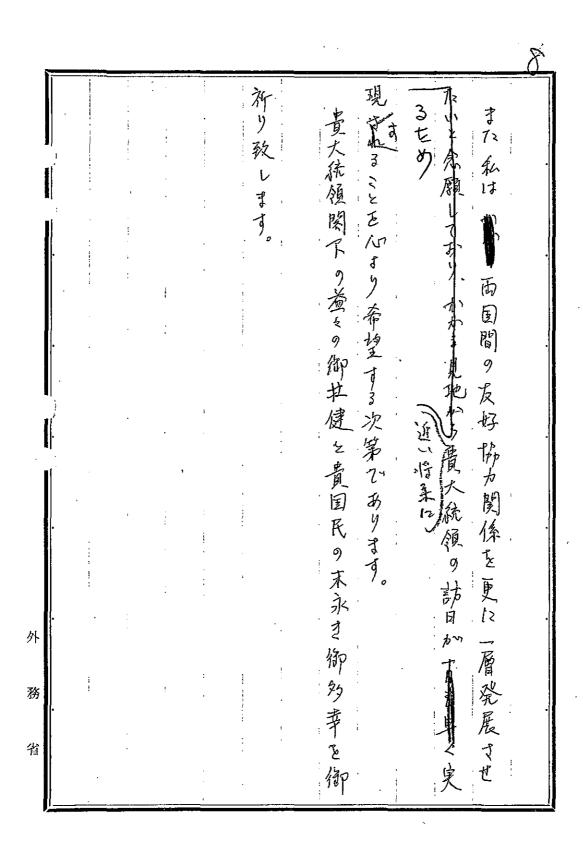
E S とうかる意見交換を踏まえ 11 右会級開催のための諸般の平備を行ってあります。 貴国の立場いついては かかる事情も背事として 域の平和と安をいついては 際情勢いつき突込んな意見交換を行っていまないと考えてあります 米少首脳会設開権が予定すれる等国際情勢は重大な時 おり、更以我が 十分承知してあります。 私は、今秋の国連統会出席に際し要し E りたの関かを有してあり 各国の指導者と中東和 は来年の東京サミット 私は 外 の主催国として かぬてより中東 平問題を含む 大きと動りて 今秋八事 務 省 黄国





も信頼している中山大使も特使として貴国に派遣できますこ 含む多くの分野しかよる面園関係の推進と中東和平切題、国 學テローズ人的題等に関する面園間の意見支爽の姓後於 不可欠と考えておりますの とけ私の大きな喜かでありすす。私は意大便が私り 私は貴国との関係強化を重視しており 中山大使とこれろの内題とつき有意養な意見支援と 利的る見む的了人多回、中東問題全段七時間的深く私的最 しのように 経育、技術協力を 外 務





(Attachment)

Your Excellency the President,

I am thankful that, when Foreign Minister Abe recently visited your country, he enjoyed a warm welcome from Your Excellency the President, as well as from the officials and the people of your country. I am satisfied that Minister Abe's visit to your country was a fruitful one that greatly contributed to the promotion of bilateral relations between my country and yours.

[TN: portion of text blacked out]

It is a great pleasure, looking back, that in the past six months the visit of Foreign Minister Shara to Japan and that of Minister Abe to your country have successfully taken place and that bilateral relations between Japan and Syria have rapidly been growing closer. In particular, with the conclusion of a technical cooperation agreement on the occasion of Minister Abe's visit to your country, the establishment of an office-level joint commission, and such, the foundation is being progressively laid for strengthening relations. I wish to inform you that I am determined to strive to cooperate with Your Excellency the President for the further strengthening of bilateral relations in every field, including those of the economy and technology.

Also, I have received from Minister Abe a detailed report on the views of the President and Foreign Minister Shara concerning the issue of peace in the Middle East and am now fully aware of your country's position. Having for some time had a great interest in the peace and stability of the Middle East, I intend henceforth to engage in a full exchange of views regarding this issue with your country, which holds the key to peace in the Middle East.

This autumn there is going to be much movement in the international situation, with the scheduled holding of the US-Soviet Summit and such. Moreover, our country will be the host nation of the Tokyo Summit next year. As such, we are preparing to host this meeting.

With such a situation as background, on the occasion of my attending the United Nations General Assembly this autumn, I would like to engage in an in-depth exchange of views with the leaders of various countries regarding the international situation, including the issue of peace in the Middle East, in taking into consideration the exchanges of views conducted with your country.

Furthermore, Japan, the Japanese people, and I greatly appreciate from a humanitarian point of view the great efforts made by your country for the release of the American hostages in the TWA hijacking incident. Also, having received from Minister Abe a report on the utmost efforts of your country for the release of the seven American hostages now held in Lebanon, I express my deep respect for your country's efforts.

[TN: portion of text blacked out]

I am fully aware of the many difficult problems regarding the release of the foreign hostages, including these seven Americans, but Japan hopes from a humanitarian point of view that the release of these hostages will be realized as soon as possible. I sincerely hope for the utmost cooperation from Your Excellency the President.

Therefore, I attach great importance to the strengthening of relations with your country and think it indispensable that, henceforth, we promote relations between

our two countries in many fields, including those of the economy and technology, and continue exchanges of views between our two countries on such issues as those of peace in the Middle East and international terrorism.

From such a viewpoint, it is my great joy to be able to send at this time Ambassador Yoshihiro Nakayama, who has a profound knowledge of the issues of the Middle East and my utmost confidence, to your country as my special envoy. I sincerely hope that you and Ambassador Nakayama will conduct a meaningful exchange of views regarding these issues.

I also sincerely hope that you will realize in the near future a visit to Japan in order to develop even further the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries.

I pray for the continued health of Your Excellency the President and the lasting happiness of your country's people.