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OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

19 JAN 1976

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Folder "Japan 300" 1976, Box 73, 79-0049

PROGRAM ANALYSIS
AND EVALUATION
Regional Programs

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION.

DECLASSIFIED IN PART
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: OCT 15 2018

SUBJECT: Japan's Air Defense Capability

(U) Enclosed is a study of Japan's Air Defense Capability prepared by the Asia Division of PA&E's Regional Programs office. The study analyzes the conventional air threats to the Japanese home islands and Japan's capability to provide for her own air defense. The study complements this office's examination of Japan's Sea Lane Defense Capabilities which was distributed in May 1975.

(U) The analysis concludes that by early 1976 the Japanese Air Self-Defense Force should have the capability to inflict sufficient losses on a likely attacking force to make sustained and repeated raids unattractive to current air threats, as well as to those projected for 1980.

Remedying this weakness is recommended for priority attention as the Japanese government considers its post-1976 defense planning. Further recommended improvements include: (1) employing hardening and point defense measures at the air bases and radar sites near the Sea of Japan, (2) full U.S. support for increasing Japanese ECCM capabilities, and (3) increased procurement of air-to-air missiles, spare parts, and other wartime consumables.

(U) At the same time, the study indicates that an airborne early warning system is not likely to provide enough improvement to warrant the costs of procurement and operation. Moreover, for approximately the same cost the Japanese could acquire an austere airborne warning and control system

(U) I would appreciate any comments you may have on this analysis, and would welcome the opportunity to discuss it further with you or members of your staff.

Office of the Secretary of Defense 5 U.S.C. §552
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS
Date: 15 Oct 2018 Authority: EO 13526
Declassify: _____ Deny in Full: _____
Declassify in Part: X
Reason: 3.3(b)(6)
MDR: 18 -M- 1646
DASD(DD)

F. P. Shaw
F. P. Shaw
Deputy Assistant Secretary



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