

that we communicated with Penhale and suggested to him that we would be grateful if the industry would not make such a request at the present time.

At the same time, we asked Penhale if he would be good enough, when explaining refusal of the industry to accept any more orders for Grade 3 from their Japanese customers, to do so in terms of "increasing defence requirements" rather than by reference to any difficulties in securing export permits.

I should add that we told Mr. Penhale how much we appreciated the [co-operation] of the asbestos industry in this as in other things.

Yours sincerely,

N. A. ROBERTSON

1281.

592-40

Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures au chargé d'affaires au Japon
Secretary of State for External Affairs to Chargé d'Affaires in Japan

TELEGRAM 68

Ottawa, May 27, 1941

SECRET. Reference your despatch No. 126 of April 28th and my telegram No. 61 May 3rd. On May 3rd I sent telegram to Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs (our No. 71) in the first three paragraphs of which I reviewed briefly the serious deterioration in our relations with Japan which was giving us grave concern and which has been the subject of various telegrams between me and your Legation during the past weeks. I then went on to indicate to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs our views with respect to the proposals of the United Kingdom authorities as to possible economic action against Japan as follows: (I have retained the numbers of the paragraphs in my telegram No. 71 to the Dominions Office.) Begins¹ . . . Ends.

No reply has yet been received to this telegram other than a mere acknowledgment dated May 16th, which expresses the hope that a summary of suggestions and comments will be telegraphed shortly.

Your despatch under reference is appreciated and useful and I should be glad if you would keep me informed of the views of Sir Robert Craigie and of Sir John Latham and of any further conversations which you may have with them.

¹ Les paragraphes 4 à 10 du document 1277 sont répétés ici.

¹ Paragraphs 4-10 of Document 1277 are repeated here.