

has been informed that at stage one it is proposed to detain all Russian shipping for Pacific ports in dangerous zones until there has been time to concert arrangements with the Russian Government for its protection.

Yours sincerely,

PATRICK DUFF

1407.

King Papers, PAC

Le haut commissaire adjoint de Grande-Bretagne au Premier ministre
Deputy High Commissioner of Great Britain to Prime Minister

MOST IMMEDIATE. MOST SECRET

Ottawa, December 4, 1941

My dear Prime Minister,

I have been asked by the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs to inform you that the United Kingdom Government were most grateful for your telegram No. 242 of the 30th November in regard to the policy to be adopted towards Japan, and that they have had very carefully in mind the considerations which you stressed in that telegram. They entirely share your view as to the vital importance of so adapting our actions to the circumstances as to avoid any risk of our becoming involved in war with Japan without full United States support.

You will since have seen the Secretary of State's telegram, Circular M.412 of the 2nd December,¹ giving Lord Halifax's report of his discussions with President Roosevelt. In view of the encouraging nature of these discussions, which the United Kingdom Government feel sure will have been as great a relief to you as it has been to them, they have felt able to send to Lord Halifax the reply repeated in the Secretary of State's telegram, Circular M.418,¹ which you will also have seen. They feel sure that you will be in agreement with the line that they have taken.

Yours sincerely,

PATRICK DUFF

1408.

28-C(s)

Le ministre aux États-Unis au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
Minister in United States to Secretary of State for External Affairs

TELEGRAM 545

Washington, December 4, 1941

MOST SECRET. Following from Wrong. Begins. My telegram No. 536. Halifax saw the President and Welles yesterday evening and gave them the British

¹ Non reproduit.

¹ Not printed.