

to cooperate with the Government in doing their utmost to prevent adverse criticism of the Government's action in allowing the export of wheat and pulp wood which had been contracted for before the export permit requirement was introduced. Mr. Yoshizawa appeared to be very grateful for the action which has been taken in the matter and undertook to inform his Government at once of our efforts to relieve a strained situation.

1279.

804-35

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

TELEGRAM 75

Tokyo, May 19, 1941

Recent international developments appear to have been creating indecision with regard to future policy here. Minister for Foreign Affairs, in private and official conversations, has repeatedly stated that if the United States Government declares war on Germany, Japanese Government will be obliged to take action. I am inclined to believe that this is to some extent bluff on the part of one who realizes that Japan's number one problem is termination of war in China. In any case we must expect a considerable period of deliberation before Japan irrevocably commits herself. The possibility of future political assassinations should not be discounted.

1280.

1409-40

Le sous-secrétaire d'État par intérim aux Affaires extérieures
au Contrôleur des métaux
Acting Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs to Metals Controller

Ottawa, May 23, 1941

My dear Mr. Bateman,

I think that Stone told you about an enquiry which he had from Penhale¹ as to whether there would be any possibility of increasing the quotas for Grade 5 by an amount measured in dollars and not tons of the trade which the asbestos industry are foregoing in voluntarily refraining from applying for any more export permits covering Grade 3. I am writing to let you know

¹A. L. Penhale, Directeur des ventes de *Asbestos Corporation Limited*, et représentant autorisé d'autres compagnies d'amiante.

¹A. L. Penhale, Sales Manager, *Asbestos Corporation Limited*, and authorized representative of other asbestos companies.