Were you informed that such a meeting was to be held, or, subsequently, that it had been held? If the latter, what explanation was given for the failure to invite the Legation to be represented? If neither, please take the matter up with Mr. Hull at once with a view to making certain that no such oversight shall again occur.

1385.   28-C(s)

Le secrétaire aux Dominions au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures

Dominions Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs

TELEGRAM CIRCULAR M.379   London, November 24, 1941

MOST IMMEDIATE. MOST SECRET. Following for your Prime Minister. Begins. Japan. My telegram of November 23rd, Circular M.376. War Cabinet have considered position in relation to Japan as disclosed in my telegram under reference and connected telegrams, and my immediately following telegram contains text of telegram to His Majesty's Ambassador at Washington in which, as explained in paragraph 13, we set out our immediate reaction.

Should be glad to learn by most immediate telegram, if possible tomorrow, whether you concur in general in line taken. Ends.

1386.   28-C(s)

Le secrétaire aux Dominions au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures

Dominions Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs

TELEGRAM CIRCULAR M.380   London, November 24, 1941

MOST IMMEDIATE. MOST SECRET. Following for your Prime Minister. Begins. My telegram Circular M.379. Following is text of telegram sent to His Majesty's Ambassador at Washington. Begins.

Japanese proposal is characteristic and confirms view that their aim is to obtain speedy removal of economic pressure but not the speedy settlement of anything else. We agree with Mr. Hull's comments on proposal and have the following additions to make to them.

2. Clause 1 relates only to "armed" advance and would leave the Japanese perfectly free to carry out infiltration (which is admittedly difficult to regulate in any case) and it might be interpreted by the Japanese as precluding further strengthening of the Philippines and other outposts of the Democracies.