

propose that our communication should follow terms of formula two, the text of which is also contained in my immediately following telegram. In either case it is proposed that communication should be made orally, though an aide-mémoire of what is said might be communicated to Japanese authorities.

We are making it clear to the United States Government that our communication would be subject to the concurrence of His Majesty's Governments in the Dominions. We hope that the Dominion Governments would agree in principle with line which we propose to take, and would also be prepared to make similar communication to Japanese Government, or authorize us to do so on their behalf.

We will telegraph further as soon as we receive reply from His Majesty's Minister at Washington as to the United States Government's attitude. In the meantime should be grateful to learn whether you concur generally in action proposed.

1350.

804-35

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

*Dominions Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

TELEGRAM CIRCULAR M.274

London, August 28, 1941

IMMEDIATE. MOST SECRET. My immediately preceding telegram. Following are terms of formula one. Begins.

His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom are aware of communication which President Roosevelt made to the Japanese Ambassador on August 17th regarding concern of United States at Japanese military activities in Indo-China, and steps which the United States Government would be compelled to take if the Japanese Government pursued a similar policy in regard to neighbouring countries. His Majesty's Government share the concern of the United States Government and cannot disregard plain threat to the security of British territories which such a policy on the part of Japan would constitute.

His Majesty's Government therefore, who have for their part no aggressive intentions either against countries bordering on British territories or against Japan herself, feel it necessary in the interests of peace to let the Japanese Government know that any further Japanese encroachment in the southwest Pacific area would compel His Majesty's Government to take counter measures even though these might lead to war between Great Britain and Japan.

Ends.

Following are terms of second formula. Begins.

His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom have watched with grave concern successive encroachments of Japanese armed forces in Indo-China and accumulating evidence of an intention on the part of the Japanese Government