

Commander-in-Chief of China that Japanese were attempting to land from five ships at Kota Bharu (on the east coast of Malaya immediately south of Siam-Malayan frontier). Ends.

1425.

King Papers, PAC

*Mémorandum du sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures  
au Premier ministre*

*Memorandum from Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs  
to Prime Minister*

[Ottawa,] December 7, 1941

Mr. McCarthy telephoned from Washington at 6 p.m. to transmit a message he had received from the Secretary of State, formally advising him

- (1) that the Japanese Air Force had attacked the United States Army Aviation base at Hickam Field, Pearl Harbour;
- (2) that a United States transport had been sunk some 1,300 miles south west of San Francisco; and
- (3) that distress signals had been received from a vessel 700 miles from San Francisco.

In the circumstances, the President had ordered that war plans against Japan should be made effective at once. He is meeting his Cabinet at 8.30 p.m. this evening and Congressional leaders shortly thereafter. It has not been decided whether he will make any public statement to the people tonight, but Congress is meeting tomorrow morning.

N. A. R[OBERTSON]

1426.

2860-40

*Mémorandum du sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures  
au Premier ministre*

*Memorandum from Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs  
to Prime Minister*

[Ottawa,] December 7, 1941

Mr. Wrong telephoned from Washington at 7 o'clock to say that the United States Secretary of State had confirmed the radio reports that there had been a Japanese declaration of war against the United States and the United Kingdom.