8.

Le ministre au Japon au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures

Minister in Japan to Secretary of State for External Affairs

TELEGRAM 4   Tokyo, January 21, 1936

IMMEDIATE. CONFIDENTIAL.   With reference to the death of His Majesty the King.

1. Please convey to Her Majesty the Queen the profound sorrow and sympathy of all Canadians in Japan.

2. Canadian Minister, considering present instance one in which important precedents will be established, believes utmost care should be taken respecting our approach to Japanese Court as otherwise Canadian prestige and independent representation will be endangered.

3. According to authorities, Canadian Minister believes special notification—

   (*a*) Death of the late Sovereign,

   (*b*) Accession of new Sovereign, has to be given to Sovereign countries to which Minister is accredited—subject, of course, to authorization being received from Government by which Minister is accredited. Accordingly, I request authority to make separate representations in both cases.

4. My despatch No. 299, December 14th, memorandum enclosed, final paragraph. I now propose to send separate announcement of demise to Japanese Foreign Office and to diplomatic colleagues, independent of similar action being taken by British Embassy. Please inform me if this procedure approved.

5. I desire particularly all steps taken by Legation to be separate and distinct from steps taken by British Embassy but in close collaboration and uniformity of procedure. Respectfully submit that British Ambassador should in no way speak for Canada in any approaches to Japanese Government or Court.

6. Please advise immediately of procedure if issuance and presentation of new credentials are required.

9.

Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures au ministre au Japon

Secretary of State for External Affairs to Minister in Japan

TELEGRAM 5   Ottawa, January 21, 1936

IMMEDIATE.   Your telegram No. 4 today, Confidential. It is desired you now make formal announcement of death of His late Majesty. I shall advise you