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ours are both trying to get assistance to prisoners of war in Hong Kong through the channel of the Vatican and the Roman Catholic Bishop in Hong Kong. Conceivably, if the Vatican receives a Japanese envoy, it will also appoint a Nuncio in Tokyo who might prove to be another useful neutral channel through which we could make representations on behalf of our prisoners of war and civilians in the Far East. These considerations, plus the inadvisability of taking any position which might embarrass the Roman Catholic church and the support it is giving the general war effort in Quebec would seem to me to justify a telegram to the United Kingdom Government suggesting that they refrain from any recriminations if the Vatican ultimately decides to receive a Japanese representative.

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