

Secret

TERMINATION OF THE ANGLO JAPANESE

5.8.39

C150024

J-101
v. 11

COMMERCIAL TREATY AND THE POSITION OF CANADA.

J-102
v. 1

(1) On the assumption, which now seems a probable one, that the Canadian Government may be asked by the Government of the United Kingdom within these next weeks whether they would object to the termination of the Anglo Japanese Commercial Treaty of 1911, consideration should be given to the following points:

- (i) the consequences from a Canadian viewpoint of the termination of present arrangements; and
- (ii) the form in which Canada's concurrence in the ending of the present Agreement might be expressed.

(2) The effect of terminating the Anglo Japanese Treaty on commercial relations between Japan and the various parts of the British Empire to which the Treaty applies would vary:

- (a) in accordance with the method of termination i.e. whether 12 months notice of termination were given or whether it were held to be immediately and automatically voided by Japanese breach of its obligations;
- (b) in accordance with the tariff structure and policies of the different parts of the British Empire to which the Treaty now applies.

(3) If it should be decided to give formal notice of termination of the Treaty in accordance with its provisions, existing commercial relations would be carried on undisturbed until the prescribed twelve months period had elapsed. The United Kingdom and Canada would remain obligated to accord Japan unconditional most favoured nation treatment in respect of import and export trade. This limitation on the United

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