

1304.

Skelton Papers, PAC

Le chargé d'affaires au Japon au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
Chargé d'Affaires in Japan to Secretary of State for External Affairs

TELEGRAM 117

Tokyo, July 17, 1941

Resignation of Cabinet late last night is subject of much speculation with no reliable facts available yet. It is significant that resignation occurred while large scale mobilization of troops and equipment is still in progress. Some circles mention Konoye as next Premier if willing.

1305.

592-40

Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures au secrétaire aux Dominions
Secretary of State for External Affairs to Dominions Secretary

TELEGRAM 130

Ottawa, July 20, 1941

SECRET. Reference your telegrams Circular D.422¹ and No. 115 of July 14th. Restrictions of imports from Japan.

Imports into Canada from Japan for the years 1938, 1939 and 1940 amounted respectively to \$4,642,672, \$4,864,090 and \$5,887,330. During the first five months of 1941 the tendency has been downwards. For this period January to May inclusive imports in 1940 amounted to \$2,197,001, in 1941 to \$1,698,463. A substantial decrease in the months of April and May indicates that the restrictions imposed by exchange conservation measures, effective from March last, are beginning to be felt.

Except as incidental to exchange conservation we have not considered the restriction of imports from Japan as a possible measure of economic pressure. While the total of our imports is small we would be prepared to co-operate in this field and any action which we might be able to take would be the more effective were it in line with any action in the same field which the United States might feel able to take. We are, therefore, examining in detail our import trade with Japan to determine on what non-essential commodities further restrictions might be placed.

¹ Non reproduit.

¹ Not printed.