

time by the Japanese Minister in Ottawa. We have not endeavoured to explain restrictions on export of wheat and pulp wood in terms of conservation of supplies nor by reference to risk of commodities in question reaching enemy destinations.

We have, however, repeatedly explained to Mr. Yoshizawa that the sensitiveness of the special situation obtaining in British Columbia has compelled our Government to impose drastic restrictions on exports to Japan that would not otherwise be applied. He has been kept aware of the increasing domestic pressure to which the Government has been subjected in respect of exports to Japan and of our feeling that under present conditions any shipment to Japan from a British Columbian port of goods which might even indirectly and remotely be useful for military purposes might easily be the occasion of a serious incident which would create difficulties for Japanese nationals in Canada and undoubtedly further embarrass relations between Canada and Japan which the Government hoped would remain friendly.

When Mr. Yoshizawa called at the Department on Saturday to support the representations which Mr. Ohashi had addressed to you we told him that we regretted that there seemed to be no appreciation in Japan of the special considerations regarding Canadian Government policy in this matter which had been explained to him on a number of occasions.

The note quoted in your telegram No. 62 of April 17th and supplementary representations from the Japanese Minister here will it is hoped be considered by Cabinet early next week and instructions received for your guidance. The present telegram is, therefore, only for your information and is not to be used in replying to the Japanese Government.

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*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 66

Tokyo, April 23, 1941

Your telegram No. 54 of April [20th]. While appreciating situation in British Columbia, I would like to point out that it is because explanations repeatedly given Mr. Yoshizawa were not deemed satisfactory that Mr. Ohashi called me to the Foreign Office on March 11th [10th] (see last paragraph my telegram No. 35 that date).

Could it not be pointed out that imposition of restrictive measures on our part, independently of other members of the Commonwealth and the United States, does not prevent wheat supplies reaching Japan from the United States, nor does it prevent, to mention another example, 500 tons of lead being shipped here monthly from Burma.