

1403.

28-C(s)

*Le ministre aux États-Unis au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*  
*Minister in United States to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

TELEGRAM 536

Washington, December 2, 1941

MOST SECRET. Our telegram No. 534. Welles asked the Japanese this morning purpose of their troop movements. President has replied in the negative to British enquiry whether he would like them to ask similar question through the British Ambassador at Tokyo, saying that he preferred for political reasons to handle it alone.

Welles yesterday made a strong speech off the record to a group of senior newspapermen. He said that Japanese had reached farthest line that could be tolerated and their entry to Thailand by force or agreement of Thai Government given under duress cannot be allowed by the United States or Great Britain. If the British occupied Thailand, United States would move in behind them.

1404.

804-35

*Mémoire du sous-secrétaire d'État adjoint aux Affaires extérieures*<sup>1</sup>  
*au sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*

*Memorandum from Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs*<sup>1</sup>  
*to Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs*

MOST SECRET

[Ottawa,] December 3, 1941

THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN  
 CONTINUATION OF MEMORANDUM OF NOVEMBER 28, 1941<sup>2</sup>

In view of the urgency of the situation which is described in the immediately preceding section of this memorandum, the President returned to Washington from Warm Springs, arriving at noon on December 1st. The following indications of the American viewpoint have been received, from sources other than the White House, since the return of the President:

- A. Hull, Stimson and Knox have all indicated that they would wish to support the British if the latter took action in defence of Thailand;
- B. Late on December 1st the Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Welles, made a strong speech to a group of senior newspapermen in which he indicated that the Japanese had reached the farthest line that could be tolerated and that their entry into Thailand by force, or by

<sup>1</sup> H. L. Keenleyside.

<sup>2</sup> Voir les documents 1392, 1395.

<sup>2</sup> See documents 1392, 1395.