

the United States, and not of our cooperation therein. Both by reason of general war policy of the United States towards us and their special interest in the Far East, we do not believe they would find it possible not to give us their full support.

5. With these considerations in mind we feel convinced that the proper course is to follow the United States lead boldly and without attaching reservations. If this should lead to a tense situation and Japanese threats of hostile action, then will be the time to raise with the United States, with best prospect of success, question of a guarantee of mutual support.

6. We earnestly trust His Majesty's Governments in the Dominions will feel able to agree to our taking this line with the United States Government. We feel it essential to make known to the United States Government forthwith our willingness to take parallel action with them, and should be grateful therefore for reply by most immediate telegram.

1314.

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

TELEGRAM 284

Ottawa, July 24, 1941

IMMEDIATE. SECRET. Our telegram No. 283 of July 23rd¹ repeated for your information [our] reply to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs' enquiry whether Canadian Government concurred in the following conclusions in respect of policy which had been reached by the United Kingdom Government: Begins.

- (1) That we must on no account discourage action which the United States may wish to take in putting pressure on Japan, and must as far as possible match our action with theirs;
- (2) That we must in paramount interest of co-operation with the United States be prepared to follow a United States lead in forcing issue with Japan over Indo-Chinese bases;
- (3) That if we are called upon to go to lengths which involve plain risk of war with Japan, every effort should be made to obtain the clearest possible indication from the United States that we can count, without reservation, on their active armed support.

Ends.

On understanding that text of communication of British Embassy regarding the United States plans to which these conclusions relate has been made known to you, I am not repeating the messages on this subject sent to us by London. Please keep in closest possible touch with Embassy and State Department during development of present situation. In particular, we should

¹ Voir la note 1 au document 1311.

¹ See Document 1311, footnote 1.