

1401.

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 534

Washington, December 1, 1941

MOST IMMEDIATE. MOST SECRET. My telegram No. 531. The President sent for the British Ambassador this afternoon after discussion with his advisers. Here follow chief points from Halifax's report of discussion:

1. President considers air patrol over waters near Thailand should be continued. Three United States submarines have also been ordered to observe in this vicinity.

2. He has instructed Welles to ask Kurusu purpose of Japanese troop movements. In event of unsatisfactory answer, he must ask Halifax what the United Kingdom Government would do:

- (a) If troops had arrived in Indo-China;
- (b) If they had not arrived; and
- (c) If they attack Thailand without attempting occupation of Kra Peninsula.

Halifax has sought urgent instructions.

3. President indicated he would be disposed to support British action even if this meant shooting. He said that in the event of attack on Kra Peninsula they could certainly count upon support, but a few days might be needed to get things into political shape; British must clearly do what strategic necessity indicated, whether or not Thai Government invited them in.

4. He has little doubt of complete understanding between Tokyo and Berlin and that Japan is acting at dictation of the Axis.

5. This morning's meeting between Hull and Kurusu was unimportant. Japanese had no new instructions, and Hull was very stiff. There is no hope of any standstill arrangement with Japanese.

1402.

1655-40

*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 222

Tokyo, December 2, 1941

SECRET. Your telegram No. 169 of November 29th. All preparations complete.