

respective missions had been established to stimulate trade, but with economic relations virtually cut off by our action, he felt *raison d'être* of our unjustifiable representation had largely disappeared.

During the course of our conversation, which lasted twenty minutes, I emphasized our own immediate war requirements, and that any failure to secure permission for export of lumber, especially hemlock logs, may be due to fear of such products being converted into cellulose for manufacture of explosives. Mr. Ohashi replied this was not the case, stating that explosives were being made from other material.

While I do not wish to appear alarmist, I feel that further economic action against Japan, unless it can be shown convincingly that Japan is not being discriminated against, may have serious repercussions.

Your failure to reply to my two above-mentioned telegrams has been most embarrassing.

1267.

King Papers, PAC

*Mémorandum du sous-secrétaire d'État par intérim aux Affaires extérieures  
au Premier ministre*

*Memorandum from Acting Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs  
to Prime Minister*

[Ottawa,] April 19, 1941

Mr. Keenleyside and I received the Japanese Minister this morning when he called to enter a further and stronger protest against our refusal of export permits for the shipment of wheat and pulp logs to Japan.

Mr. Yoshizawa repeated the arguments set forth in the attached note,<sup>1</sup> which was delivered to our Chargé d'Affaires in Tokyo by the Japanese Foreign Office on Thursday. I told him that we had received the text of this communication from Mr. McGreer and regretted that it showed no appreciation of the special considerations regarding Canadian Government policy in this matter which had been explained to him on a number of occasions. Mr. Yoshizawa said that he had reported faithfully to his Government the various conversations he had had with us in which we had stressed the sensitiveness of the special situation obtaining in British Columbia, the increasing domestic pressure to which our Government had been subjected in respect of exports to Japan, and our feeling that under present conditions any shipment to Japan from a British Columbian port 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.

<sup>1</sup> Voir le document 1265.

<sup>1</sup> See document 1265.