

offensive action by United States aircraft. Hull has communicated with President at Warm Springs. President is expected to give preliminary indication of views Sunday morning. He will probably return here Monday and no earlier decision is likely. Result might be encouragement to proceed with British occupation of Thai territory without definite promise of United States support.

1399.

Skelton Papers, PAC

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

TELEGRAM 531

Washington, November 30, 1941

IMMEDIATE. MOST SECRET. Following from Wrong. Begins. My telegram No. 530. There have been no important developments here today on the Far Eastern situation. President will take no decision in British appeal of yesterday until he has consulted his military advisers on his return tomorrow.

Mr. McCarthy arrived from Warm Springs this afternoon. Ends.

1400.

28-C(s)

*Le secrétaire aux Dominions au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*  
*Dominions Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

TELEGRAM 208

London, December 1, 1941

IMMEDIATE. MOST SECRET AND PERSONAL. Prime Minister has asked me to send you the following telegram despatched yesterday to President Roosevelt. Prime Minister would be glad if you would regard contents of this telegram as of highest degree of secrecy and for your eyes alone. Begins.

It seems to me that one important method remains unused in averting war between Japan and our two countries, namely a plain declaration, secret or public as may be thought best, that any further act of aggression by Japan will lead immediately to the gravest consequences. I realize your constitutional difficulties, but it would be tragic if Japan drifted into war by encouragement without having before her fairly and squarely the dire character of a further aggressive step. I beg you to consider whether, at moment which you judge right which may be very near, you should not say that "any further Japanese aggression would compel you to place the gravest issues before Congress" or words to that effect. We would of course make a similar declaration or share in a joint declaration and in any case arrangements are being made to synchronize our action with yours. Forgive me, my dear friend, for presuming to press such a course upon you, but I am convinced that it might make all the difference and prevent a melancholy extension of the war.

Text ends. Ends.