

make with the Democracies would be made without prejudice to Japanese ultimate aims which are irreconcilable with those of the Democracies. The attitude taken by the Japanese Cabinet appears to resemble that taken during the period 1931-35 when Japanese representatives pleaded (*at the instigation of their government*)¹ for the forbearance of the Western powers on the pretext that opposition would strengthen the position of the extremists. This forbearance furnished the opportunity for further aggression. At present the Japanese Cabinet apparently desires a peaceful settlement with the United States without being obliged to incur the humiliation of abandoning its conquests in China and its wider aims. Failure to secure such a settlement may be fatal to them, but success would appear to us to be fatal to permanent peace in the Far East. Mr. Grew's proposal that leading statesmen in the United States should make public statements explaining the advantages which Japan may expect to derive from loosening her present ties with the Axis and abandoning her policy of economic exclusionism in the Far East would not, we think, be wise, unless these public statements make it clear that the advantages cannot be obtained without the withdrawal of Japan from China. To stop short of this statement would not in our view present a true picture to the Japanese public and would excite false ideas in Japan (and incidentally among our own peoples as well) of what might be expected from bargaining with the United States and Great Britain. We are instructing our Minister at Washington to bring our views on this subject to the attention of the State Department.*

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Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures au secrétaire aux Dominions

Secretary of State for External Affairs to Dominions Secretary

TELEGRAM 196

Ottawa, September 25, 1941

With reference to my telegram No. 192 of September 19th, under Order in Council P.C. 7473 of September 23rd the importation into Canada of goods from Japan, the Japanese Empire or Manchuria, or the growth, produce, or manufacture of Japan, the Japanese Empire or Manchuria is prohibited, except under licence issued by the Minister of National Revenue.

¹ Note du Premier ministre.

¹ Note by Prime Minister.

* Note telle que dans l'original:

* Note as in original:

Mr. Robertson: I wonder if it is wise or necessary for us to express quite so much in way of opinion or views. I should think a short note of agreement with Br. point of view enough on our part. There is no reason why we should put ourselves in the position where if it suits Br. interests, we can be held responsible for having determined or unduly influenced Br. policy towards Japan. K[ing]. 29-9-41.