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The Japanese Embassy to the Department of State

Since iron and steel scrap classified as No. 1 heavy melting scrap was placed under export-licensing system on July 26, 1940, permission of the United States Government was obtained up to August 19 of the same year for 99 percent of applications for shipments to Japan.

In the light of this fact, the sudden enlargement of the iron and steel scrap licensing system to include all grades of these materials is hardly explicable from the standpoint of national defense, on which the regulation of September 30, 1940, is purported to be based.

The discriminatory feature of the announcement, that licenses will be issued to permit shipments to the countries of the Western Hemisphere and Great Britain only, has created a widespread impression in Japan that it was motivated by a desire to bring pressure upon her.

The fact that the majority of essential articles and materials that Japan desires to import from America is placed under licensing system is causing a feeling of tension among the people of Japan, who naturally presume that the system is intended to be a precursor of severance of economic relations between Japan and the United States.

In view of the high feeling in Japan it is apprehended that, in the event of continuation by the United States Government of the present attitude toward Japan in matters of trade restriction, especially if it leads to the imposition of further measures of curtailment, future relations between Japan and the United States will be unpredictable.

It is a matter of course that the Governments of both Japan and the United States should endeavor as best they can to preclude such an eventuality. To this endeavor the Japanese Government will devote itself and trusts that it may have the full cooperation of the United States Government.

Pages 224, 225

Excerpt from FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES, JAPAN, 1931-1941, Vol. 11

²¹This undated statement was handed to the Secretary of State by the Japanese Ambassador on October 8, 1940.

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總務部文書一四〇〇一四

日本大使館ヨリ國務省宛

第一重金屬熔解屑として分類された鉛及銅鉛屑が一九四〇年（昭和十五年）七月二十六日輸出認可制度下に置かれて以來、同年八月十九日迄日本向積荷申請の九九％に對しては米國政府の許可が得られた。この事實に照し、鉛及銅鉛屑認可制を突然撤廃し之無あらゆる等級の材料を含ませるに至つた事は一九四〇年（昭和十五年）九月三十日の條例が據つて立つべく意圖された國防の見地からは説明しがたい。

西半球諸國及英國に對してのみ積荷の許可が下りると云ふ差別的特色を有する布告は日本にそれが日本壓迫の欲望に出づるものといふやうな一般的印象をもたらした。

日本が米國より輸入を希望する必需物品及材料の大部が認可制度下に置かれるに至つた事實は日本人の間に緊迫感を生ぜしめてゐる。



彼等は此の制度が當然日米の經濟關係を隔離せしめる前途たるべく企圖せられたものと推察してゐる。

日本に於ける苛立つた感情の動きに鑑み米國政府が貿易制限問題に關し日本に對し現在の如き態度を維持する場合、特に甚し更に一層の削減が加へられるならば將來の日米關係は斷定しかたないものとなるであらう。

日米兩國政府が斯くの如き不測の事件を防止する爲徳らの爲しうる最善の努力をなすべきは當然である。日本政府はこの努力に向ひ獻身するであらう而して之が米國政府の協力を齎すものと信ずる。

合衆國對外關係—日本—一九三一年（昭和六年）—一九四一年（昭和十六年）第二卷二二四、二二五頁より抜萃

之の無日附ステートメントは一九四〇年（昭和十五年）十月八日日本大使より國務長官に手交されたものである。