

Exhibit 2755

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The Record of the Conversations between Minister Toyoda and Ambassador Grew on 27 July. (These conversations were conducted strictly confidentially and informally off the record at the request of the American Ambassador.)

AMBASSADOR GREW: "The reason why I wanted to see you today is because I have just received a telegram from my Government, which I have just read and found it to be of great importance and I wanted to inform you of it immediately. I am doing this at my own discretion and not by any instructions from my Government. Therefore, I should like to talk with you strictly confidentially and informally "off the record". Then he read the entire copy of the telegram concerning the contents of the strictly confidential, informal and "off the record" conversations between Ambassador Nomura and the American President, conducted on 24 July at the White House at the request of the Ambassador.

The points referred to by the President in the conversations are as follows:

1. "As the American President, I have still been permitting the export of oil to Japan in spite of the strong pressure of American public opinion, because I earnestly hope that the relations between Japan and America should not become worse."
2. "The ambition of the Nazi Germans to conquer the whole world is now menacing more than ever and this menace will not only affect the Western World but will extend to the Far East."
3. "With regard to the encirclement against Japan, America is not taking these steps in the sense of turning against Japan but merely to guarantee the acquisition of her industrial raw materials. And therefore the steps taken by America are ones of self-defense."
4. "In case Japan should send her forces to the Netherland Indies, Great Britain would immediately stand up to help them

and, in view of the present close relations between Great Britain and America, we too would be obliged to wage war against Japan."

5. "My proposal at this moment is that if Japan would refrain from occupying French Indo-China or, in case such steps have already been begun, would withdraw such forces, I as the President, am prepared to guarantee to the Japanese government that I would do everything in my power to obtain from the Chinese government, the British government, and the Netherlands government, and the Government of the United States would of course itself give a binding and solemn declaration to regard French Indo-China as a neutralized territory."

FOREIGN MINISTER: "I should like to say on a few points that have caught my attention regarding the contents of the telegram."

1. "The steps taken by the Japanese government this time to advance her troops to French Indo-China were never enforced by the pressure of the Nazi Germans, but were taken according to Japan's own independent view. Moreover, ours is not such a state that would do anything because of the pressure of Nazi Germans."

Regarding this point, Ambassador Grew replied:

"I had already reported in detail to my Government on the point you have just made, because you strongly asserted the point in our previous conversations."

The Foreign Minister reiterated:

"According to my opinion, I am afraid the American Government has a prejudice against the Nazi Germans."

Then Ambassador Grew replied:

"The American Government is obliged to acknowledge through experience the fact that the Nazi Germans have a scheme to conquer the world and are putting the plan into practice."

"As I already reiterated in the past two

meetings, the purpose of the steps taken this time to advance our troops to French Indo-China was nothing but defensive and precautionary measures on our part to cope with the situation which indicated a formation of an encirclement against Japan and we had no other intention whatsoever."

Ambassador Grew replied that concerning encirclement, the President had touched upon it in his talk with Ambassador Nomura.

Then the Foreign Minister, in order to confirm again the contents of the latest American proposal, requested him to paraphrase a part of the copy of the telegram.

Thereupon, Ambassador Grew consented to his request to take notes on condition that the Minister should keep it absolutely secret and for his own information only.

"At this juncture when the relations of Japan and America are getting worse and worse and are even threatening to deteriorate," Ambassador Grew reiterated and expressed his hope that the Foreign Minister would dwell upon the American proposal and use his statesmanship to tide over the present crisis.

The Foreign Minister replied:

"I understood well all that your Ambassador has said just now. To my regret, however, it is too late to think over the proposal. Besides concerning the proposal of the President, I have received no report yet from Ambassador Nomura, and therefore I cannot give the proposal any consideration immediately. But I promise you that I will give the matter careful consideration upon receipt of a report from Ambassador Nomura."

Here Ambassador Grew repeatedly called the attention of the Minister and said:

"I have absolutely no intention of inter-

fering in the internal affairs of Japan. Up to this moment, the Japanese government has tried to check the excited feelings of the nation, but the report that the American Government has recently frozen the Japanese funds in America greatly stimulated the feelings of the Japanese people. Under such circumstances it is absolutely impossible to take up immediately the proposal of the American President. Anyhow, I regret very much to say that the proposal is too serious for me to handle it single-handed."

Then Ambassador Grew said:

"Of course, I know quite well how important the-time element is in a matter such as this. Besides, I myself am here with no authority whatsoever. The contents of the telegram however, are so serious that I did not wish to lose even a moment in seeing and informing you of them. So whenever you want my assistance, please do not hesitate to call me."

With that the interview came to an end.

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CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY

I, who occupy the post of Chief of the Archives Section of the Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document hereto attached, written in Japanese, consisting of seven pages and entitled "The Record of Conversations Between Minister Toyoda and Ambassador Grew on 27 July" is a copy of the excerpt from an official document in the custody of this office and is true and correct.

Certified at Tokyo,

On this 27th day of May 1947

HAYASHI, Kaoru

(seal)

I hereby certify that the above signature and seal were affixed hereto in the presence of the Witness.

At the same place

On the same date

Witness: URUBE, Katsura

(seal)

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