

DFV. DOC. # 52.

*Not used*

Exchange of Notes Regarding China  
between K. ISHII and ROBERT TANSUNG,  
November 2, 1917

From the Secretary of State to Viscount ISHII.

Department of State,  
Washington,  
November 2, 1917.

Excellency:

I have the honor to communicate herein my understanding of the agreement reached by us in our recent conversations touching the questions of mutual interest to our Governments relating to the Republic of China.

In order to silence mischievous reports that have from time to time been circulated, it is believed by us that a public announcement once more of the desires and intentions shared by our two Governments with regard to China is advisable.

The Governments of the United States and Japan recognize that territorial propinquity creates special relations between countries, and, consequently the Government of the United States recognizes that Japan has special interests in China, particularly in the part to which her possessions are contiguous.

The territorial sovereignty of China, nevertheless, remains unimpaired and the Government of the United States has every confidence in the repeated assurances of the Imperial Japanese Government that while geographical position gives Japan such special interests they have no desire to discriminate against

DEF. DOC. # 52.

the trade of other nations or to disregard the commercial rights heretofore granted by China in treaties with other Powers.

The Governments of the United States and Japan deny that they have any purpose to infringe in any way the independence or territorial integrity of China and they declare furthermore that they always adhere to the principle of the so-called "open door" or equal opportunity for commerce and industry in China.

Moreover, they mutually declare that they are opposed to the acquisition by any Government of any special rights or privileges that would affect the independence or territorial integrity of China or that would deny to the subjects or citizens of any country the full enjoyment of equal opportunity in the commerce and industry of China.

I shall be glad to have Your Excellency confirm this understanding of the agreement reached by us.

Accept, Excellency, etc., etc., etc.

ROBERT LANSING.

DTF. DOC. # 52.

Exchange of Notes Regarding China  
between K. ISHII and ROBERT LANSING,  
November 2, 1917

From Viscount Ishii to the Secretary of State.

Japanese Embassy,

Washington,

November 2, 1917.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of to-day, communicating to me your understanding of the agreement reached by us in our recent conversations touching the questions of mutual interest to our Governments relating to the Republic of China.

I am happy to be able to confirm to you, under authorization of my Government, the understanding in question set forth in the following terms:

In order to silence mischievous reports that have from time to time been circulated, it is believed by us that a public announcement concerning the desires and intentions shared by our two Governments with regard to China is advisable.

The Government of Japan and the United States recognize that territorial proximity creates special relations between countries, and, consequently the Government of the United States recognizes that Japan has special interests in China, particularly in the part to which her possessions are contiguous.

The territorial sovereignty of China, nevertheless, remains

DEF. DOC. # 52.

unimpaired and the Government of the United States has every confidence in the repeated assurances of the Imperial Japanese Government that while geographical position gives Japan such special interests they have no desire to discriminate against the trade of other nations or to disregard the commercial rights heretofore granted by China in treaties with other Powers.

The Governments of Japan and the United States deny that they have any purpose to infringe in any way the independence or territorial integrity of China and they declare furthermore that they always adhere to the principle of the so-called "open door" or equal opportunity for commerce and industry in China.

Moreover, they mutually declare that they are opposed to the acquisition by any Government of any special rights or privileges that would affect the independence or territorial integrity of China or that would deny to the subjects or citizens of any country the full enjoyment of equal opportunity in the commerce and industry of China.

I take etc., etc., etc.

K. ISHII.

Ambassador Extraordinary and  
Plenipotentiary on Special Mission

DEF. DOC. # 52.

CERTIFICATE

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, SHIMODA Takeso, Chief of the Archives Section, Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document hereto attached consisting of 4 pages and entitled "Exchange of Notes Regarding China between K. ISHII and ROBERT LANING, November 2, 1917" is an Exact and true copy of an official document of Japanese Foreign Office

Signed at Tokyo

on this 6th day of August, 1946

(Signed) T. SHIMODA  
Signature of Official

Witness: (Signed) Nagaharu ODO

CERTIFICATE

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, SHIMODA Takeso, Chief of the Archives Section, Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document hereto attached consisting of 6 pages and entitled "Exchange of Notes Regarding China between K. ISHII and ROBERT BRADBINE, November 2, 1917" is an Exact and true copy of an official document of Japanese Foreign Office

Signed at Tokyo

on this 6th day of August, 1940

T. SHIMODA  
Signature of Official

Witness: NAGAHARU ODO

支那ニ關スル交換公文

大正六年十一月二日華盛頓ニ於テ  
同 年同 月七日官報彙報欄掲載

米國國務卿ヨリ石井特命全權大使宛公文

(譯文)

以書翰駐上致候陳者支那共和國ニ關シテ貴我兩國政府ノ共ニ利害  
ヲ感スル諸問題ニ付本官ハ最近閣下トノ會談中意見ノ一致シタル  
モノト一解スル所シ茲ニ閣下ニ通報スルノ光榮ヲ有シ候

近來往々流布セラレタル有害ナル風説ヲ一掃セムカ爲閣下及本  
官ハ皆ニ支那ニ關シ爾前政府ノ等シク懷抱スル希望及意向ニ付  
更ニ公然タル宣言ヲ爲ハテ得策ナリト思惟ス

合衆國及日本兩國政府ハ領土相近義スル國家ノ間ニハ特殊ノ關  
係ヲ生スルコトヲ承認ハ從テ合衆國政府ハ日本國力支那ニ於テ  
特殊ノ利益ヲ有スルコトヲ承認ス日本ノ所領ニ侵襲セル地方ニ

於テ殊ニ然リトス

尤モ支那ノ領土主權ハ完全ニ存在スルモノニシテ合衆國政府ハ日本國カ其ノ地理的位置ノ結果右特殊ノ利益ヲ有スルモ他國ノ通商ニ不利ナル偏頗ノ待遇ヲ與ヘ又ハ條約上支那ノ從來他國ニ許與セル商業上ノ權利ヲ無視スルコトヲ欲スルモノニ非サル旨ノ日本國政府累次ノ保障ニ全然信賴ス

合衆國及日本國兩政府ハ毫モ支那ノ獨立又ハ領土保全ヲ侵害スルノ目的ヲ有スルモノニ非サルコトヲ聲明ス且右兩國政府ハ常ニ支那ニ於テ所謂門戶開放又ハ商工業ニ對スル機會均等ノ主義ヲ支持スルコトヲ聲明ス

將又凡ソ特殊ノ權利又ハ特典ニシテ支那ノ獨立又ハ領土保全ヲ侵害シ若ハ列國臣民又ハ人民カ商業上及工業上ニ於ケル均等ノ機會ヲ完全ニ享有スルヲ妨礙スルモノニ付テハ兩國政府ハ何國政府タルヲ問ハス之ヲ獲得スルニ反對ナルコトヲ互ニ聲明ス

## 石井特命全權大使ヨリ米國國務卿宛公文

以書翰致啓上候原者支那共和國ニシテ貴我兩國政府ノ共ニ利害ヲ感スル諸問題ニ付閣下カ最近本使トノ會談中意見ノ一致シタルモノト了解セララル所ヲ本日附書翰ヲ以テ御通報相成致敬承候  
茲ニ本國政府ノ訓令ニ基キ閣下ニ向テ左記ノ通右了解ヲ確認スルヲ得ルハ本使ノ欣幸トスル所ニ有之候

近來往々流布セラレタル有害ナル風説ヲ一掃セムカ爲閣下及本使ハ茲ニ支那ニ關シ兩國政府ノ等シク懷抱スル希望及意向ニ付更ニ公然タル宣言ヲ爲スヲ得策ナリト思惟ス

日本國及合衆國兩政府ハ領土相近接スル國家ノ間ニハ特殊ノ關係ヲ生スルコトヲ承認ス從テ合衆國政府ハ日本國カ支那ニ於テ特殊ノ利益ヲ有スルコトヲ承認ス日本ノ所領ニ接壤セル地方ニ於テ殊ニ然リトス

尤モ支那ノ領土主權ハ完全ニ存在スルモノニシテ合衆國政府ハ

日本國カ其ノ地理的位置ノ結果右特殊ノ利益ヲ有スルモ他國ノ  
 通商ニ不利ナル偏頗ノ待遇ヲ與ヘ又ハ條約上支那ノ從來他國ニ  
 許與セル商業上ノ權利ヲ無視スルコトヲ欲スルモノニ非サル旨  
 ノ日本國政府累次ノ保障ニ全然信賴ス

日本國及合衆國兩政府ハ茲モ支那ノ獨立又ハ領土保全ヲ侵害ス  
 ルノ目的ヲ有スルモノニ非サルコトヲ聲明ス且右兩國政府ハ常  
 ニ支那ニ於テ所轄門戶開放又ハ商工業ニ對スル機會均等ノ主義  
 ヲ支持スルコトヲ聲明ス

將又凡ソ特殊ノ權利又ハ特典ニシテ支那ノ獨立又ハ領土保全ヲ  
 侵害シ若ハ列國臣民又ハ人民カ商業上及工業上ニ於ケル均等ノ  
 機會ヲ完全ニ享有スルヲ妨礙スルモノニ付テハ兩國政府ハ何國  
 政府タルヲ問ハス之ヲ獲得スルニ反對ナルコトヲ互ニ聲明ス

本使ハ茲ニ閣下ニ向テ敬意ヲ表シ候

敬 具

一千九百十七年十一月二日

在奉盛頓日本帝國大使館ニ於テ  
特命全權大使 子爵 石井 菊次郎