

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec 3(E) and 5(D) or (E) NND# 760050

894.0031/1-145 -- 12-3146 - 47 - 48 - 49

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FEB 19 1946

Excellency:

I have the honor to refer to your note of December 29, 1945, in which you have presented certain preliminary views concerning the proposals of the United States Government for the disposition of exportable stocks of rubber, tin, and antimony located in Japan.

As you have remarked, the Subcommittee on Trade of the Far Eastern Commission discussed on December 6, 1945, the possibility of exporting 50% of the total quantity of each of the three materials to the United States for sale in this country. This proposal was advanced by the United States Government not only because of the urgent need to make at least some part of these scarce materials quickly available, but also because of the necessity of obtaining funds to pay for essential imports into Japan. The figure of 50% has a further explanation in the fact that the

Supreme

His Excellency

Henri Bonnet,

Ambassador of the French Republic.

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Supreme Commander has stated that some portion, as yet undetermined, of each material will require to be retained in Japan for essential uses. Therefore, pending the receipt of replies from the several Allied governments to the Department's note of December 5, 1945, and pending a more exact determination of quantities required for retention in Japan, the United States Government proposed that 50% of the aforementioned stocks be immediately shipped to the United States.

I observe that the French Government expresses an interest in ascertaining the legal status of these raw materials inventories. This Government holds the belief that the subject of restitution, particularly as it applies to raw material stocks, calls for the most thorough study, but in the meantime there is no objection to ascertaining whether any part of the stockpiles was looted. The views of the French Government concerning the types of information which it desires to obtain concerning various raw material stocks are invited.

At the next meeting of the Subcommittee on Trade of the Far

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Eastern Commission, the United States Government will propose the formation of an Inter-Allied Supply Committee whose function would be to advise on matters relating to Japanese export and import problems. It is respectfully suggested that recommendations concerning particular commodities or proposals regarding general procedure in the field of Japanese trade might expeditiously be discussed, in consultation with the other interested Governments, through the medium of the proposed Committee.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

For the Secretary of State:

William L. Clayton

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OR
FEB 5 1946
FEB 14 1946
FEB 19 1946

A-150

INCOMING AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS TELEGRAPH BRANCH

4146

FROM
LONDON

DATED February 18, 1947

	ACT	INF
ESP		✓
ES		2
GA		
OK	✓	3

UNRESTRICTED

RECD: Feb. 24, 1947
2:56 p.m.

DIVISION OF JAPANESE AND KOREAN
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

*To action required
file
2/27/47*

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ACTION-ESP
INFO:
DC/R
U-E
A-H
EUR
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Secretary of State
Washington
A-335, February 18, 1947

1. Reference Embassy's airgram A-298, February 12, 1947, and previous on general subject of foreign trade with Japan.
2. Following question and answer on raw materials imported into Japan in 1946 occurred in House of Commons on February 13, 1947:

Mr. Rees-Williams (Labor M.P. for Croydon, South) asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs the tonnage and nature of the raw materials imported by Japan in 1946; and from what country or countries did such raw materials come.

Mr. McNeill: (Minister of State for Foreign Affairs): Japan's principal imports of raw materials from September, 1945, to the end of October, 1946, the latest date to which figures are available, were as follows:

Raw Cotton from U.S.A.	162,080	metric tons
Petroleum products from U.S.A.	281,070	" "
Salt mainly from China	201,268	" "
Rock Phosphate from U.S.A., North Africa and China	88,215	" "
Miscellaneous from U.S. Zone of Germany, U.S.A., Korea and China	22,266	" "

*2-25-47
Com-Inf*

GALLMAN

EFDrumright

Copy to Political Adviser,

PERMANENT RECORD COPY.—This copy must be returned to DC/R central files with notation of action taken.

MAR 3 1947
FILED

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