

Ex 2926

Def. Doc. No. 1401-D-2

From Tōgō to Nomura  
5 Nov. 1941  
No. 735

1. Our proposals in the Japanese-American negotiations mentioned in my telegram No. 725 were approved at the Imperial Conference held today, the 5th. You are directed, therefore, to commence negotiations immediately in accordance with the previous instructions.

2. In view of the course of negotiations so far, we consider that it will meet the desire of the United States if we proceed with the negotiations on the basis of the 21 June proposal -- 25 September proposal from our side. It is therefore considered more convenient for the speedy conclusion of the negotiations first to present Proposal "A" (my telegram No. 726). (We are not quite satisfied with the form and expression of the proposed Japanese-American understanding which has so far been discussed, but we mean to present Proposal "A" first for the sake of convenience.) You are directed to explain the above to the United States, together with the circumstances detailed to you in my telegram No. 725, and to do your best to conclude the negotiations within as short a time as possible.

3. It is our intention to present Proposal "B" (my telegram No. 727) as the last resort to save the situation in case Proposal "A" fails to conclude the negotiations owing to its rejection by the United States. You are directed to learn the attitude of the United States toward Proposal "A" as promptly as possible and make report. You are not to present Proposal "B" without previously requesting instructions.

4. As stated in detail in the previous telegram, this instruction is the final proposal of our Government. It is repeated that you must realize that the situation is extremely pressing, and no further procrastination is permissible. Do your best with full understanding of the circumstances.

5. Although speed is necessary in the negotiations, it is desired to avoid making an impression of setting a time-limit to the negotiations or of serving an ultimatum. It is desired that you impress upon the United States that we want to conclude the negotiations through friendly intercourse.

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