

Exhibit 2951

3

Def. Doc. No. 1401-D-3

From Tōgō to Nomura
3 December 1941
No. 878

In reference to your telegram No. 1225.

1. It is observed that the United States makes much of the statement of our Government, the trend of public opinion and the troop-movements in the south, and expresses apprehension on account of them over our sincerity in the negotiations. However, the facts about the statement of Premier Tōjō were as contained in my telegram No. 866, and we consider that the unexpected repercussion was caused by an extreme inappropriateness of translation (made by the Dōmei news agency). As to the direction of public opinion, I have been taking great pains over it. It is understood that Ambassador Grew has made report to his Government on this point, and even Secretary Hull himself expressed satisfaction with the improvement, as you reported in your telegram No. 1148. In spite of this, the recent tone of the press in the United States has been very provocative, and the radio broadcasts (especially the short-wave broadcasts from San Francisco in the last several days) are daily giving reports of the delicate subjects of the negotiations. Such broadcasts can never be made unless there is close contact with quarters familiar with the course of the negotiations. It is inappropriate for the United States to blame Japan without considering her own faults.

2. The United States, Britain and other countries have increasingly of late intensified their military preparations against Japan and adopted a provocative attitude toward us. On the 20th of last month, for instance, an American plane made a reconnaissance flight over Garambi in the south of Formosa. (Protest concerning the matter was made to the American Ambassador in Tokyo on the 27th.) This is not an isolated case of such American and British actions. It is our desire in view of the delicate situation that they should themselves refrain from repeating such actions.

3. You are directed to make further explanations to the United States that our proposal of 20 November was made from the standpoint of fairness, and that we believe it the best measure to save the situation at this moment. (It is assumed that the United States refers, when she asserts that our proposal is inconsistent with the general principles, to the provisions of Article 4 relative to non-interference with the peace between Japan and China.) Our assertion is, as repeatedly made clear to the United States, that she should stop assisting Chiang when peace talk is commenced between Japan and China through the introduction of the President. You should bear in mind, therefore, that our position by no means conflicts with what the United States calls fundamental principles.