

No. 2753

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Berlin, 23 July 1941

U.S.T.S. Pol. No. 701

Minister Cosmelli brought out to-day, as announced by the telegram No. 636 of 22 July from Rome, the following:

The Japanese Ambassador asked upon instruction the Italian Government to take steps to the French Government in order to support the Japanese note to France concerning the concession of fleet bases etc. in Indo-China. Anfuso answered that Italy is not represented in Vichy and that (which is not mentioned in the telegram from Rome) the contact with the French Government exists only through the armistice commission, which cannot usually be appealed concerning such questions.

Mr. Cosmelli inquired upon instruction whether we received corresponding Japanese request and whether we had taken a step in Vichy.

I told Mr. Cosmelli that the Japanese Government informed us of the matter and also expressed the wish that we may use our influence on Vichy. Meanwhile however the French Government accepted the Japanese requests, although with some changes and with the statement that this happened under duress. The French government declared to us that it wanted to make contact with us beforehand, but the Japanese requests were so urgent that it could not do so. Under these circumstances there was no case for us to use our influence on the French government. The Japanese government knows that we shall not obstruct her in the matter.

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I said to Mr. Cosmelli that this was a temporary information and that I will transmit the question immediately to the Foreign Minister.

I ask for instruction, if the information should be further amplified or changed.

Herewith presented to
the Bureau RAM

With the request for transmission be telephone or ticker for
the presentation to the Foreign Minister.

Signed Woermann

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CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

I, YALE MAXON, Chief of the Document Division, IPS, hereby certify:

1. That I am Chief of the Document Division of the International Prosecution Section, GHQ, SCAP, and as such have possession, custody, and control of original or copies of all documents obtained by the said Section.

2. That frames 60402-60403 being 2 sheets of a photostatic copy of memorandum signed by Woerman of 23 July 1941 and contained in IPS Document 4052 were received by the IPS from the office of the Chief of Counsel of the Nuremburg War Crimes Trials.

/s/ YALE MAXON