

Witness Welles: Questions by The Chairman

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2 exercised any such deterrent effect, its withdrawal at that
3 time, in your judgment, would have exercised a very dangerous
4 effect upon the safety and security of the United States be-
5 cause of the interpretation of such withdrawal placed upon it
6 by Japan?

7 Mr. Welles: That is precisely my feeling, Mr. Chairman.

8 The Chairman: That is all.

9 Senator Ferguson: Mr. Chairman, may I just ask one ques-
10 tion?

11 The Chairman: Yes, Senator Ferguson.

12 Senator Ferguson: Did you know, Mr. Secretary, under
13 what circumstances the Fleet first went to Hawaii? Do you
14 know that it went there first as a manoeuvre?

15 Mr. Welles: I could not at this time, Senator Ferguson,
16 tell you with any accuracy as to my memory with regard to
17 the manner in which the Fleet first went to Hawaii. As you
18 made that statement I seemed to remember that I did recall it
19 but if you had not made the statement I could not have an-
20 swered your question.

21 Senator Ferguson: Now, I have one more question that was
22 brought up by Senator Lucas, that the President had promised
23 to give this note of the 17th of August.

24 Did the President tell you that Mr. Churchill or his gov-
25 ernment had promised also to give parallel notes?

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Questions by Sen. Ferguson

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2 Mr. Welles: The President in his conversation with me,
3 so far as I remember, did not make that specific statement,
4 but when he told me that he had promised Mr. Churchill that
5 the United States Government would make a parallel warning
6 I took it for granted that Mr. Churchill must have made that
7 statement to him.

8 Senator Ferguson: The same promise to the President?

9 Mr. Welles: Yes.

10 Senator Ferguson: Thank you.

11 Senator Brewster: Mr. Secretary, in connection with keep-
12 ing the Fleet at Hawaii, I think the record is clear that the
13 Fleet went out to maneuver in March or April and that on May
14 5, 1940 a report was issued by Mr. Knox' office to the ef-
15 fect that Admiral Richardson had requested that the Fleet
16 remain in Hawaii and that the request is approved.

17 Do you recall any conversations in the State Department
18 at or about that time concerning that decision to keep the
19 Fleet at Hawaii and what considerations entered into it?

20 Mr. Welles: My recollection is, Senator Brewster, that
21 conversations did take place between the Secretary of State
22 and the Secretary of the Navy, and the Secretary of State and
23 the President in regard to the Fleet at Hawaii. I did not
24 myself take part in any conversations concerning that question
25 so far as I remember, except in the conversation which I had

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2 with Admiral Richardson, to which I have already referred.

3 Senator Brewster: That is all.

4 The Chairman: Mr. Secretary, the committee thanks you
5 for your presence and for the patience with which you have
6 responded to questions, which have, I am sure, helped to
7 clarify the situation so far as it came within your knowledge.

8 Mr. Welles: Mr. Chairman, may I to you and through you
9 to the members of the committee express my very real gratitude
10 for the consideration shown me by the committee.

11 The Chairman: That is all now. Does counsel have any
12 suggestions to make now?

13 Mr. Gesell: We are ready to keep right on plowing just
14 so long as the committee wants to go ahead.

15 There is one other matter.

16 The Chairman: The chair understood that earlier in the
17 day it was suggested that Mr. Grew had engagements on Monday
18 and Tuesday, I am informed, that might interfere with his ap-
19 pearance. Is that correct?

20 Mr. Gesell: That has been changed.

21 Mr. Mitchell: He has decided to forego them in the
22 interests of the committee.

23 The Chairman: The committee appreciates that, Mr. Grew,
24 and the plan now is that Secretary Hull will resume at ten
25 o'clock on Monday morning.

1 Mr. Gesell: And then following him Mr. Grew will take
2 the stand.

3 The Chairman: Well, with that understanding then we will--

4 Mr. Gesell: I have one small matter, Mr. Chairman.

5 Reference was made in exhibit 18 to a memorandum of a
6 conversation between Dr. Hornbeck and Sir Ronald Campbell,
7 dated November 28, 1941, in which Sir Ronald Campbell refers
8 to the fact that the British army authorities have received
9 a message from our Army authorities stating that inasmuch as
10 the United States-Japanese negotiations have broken down,
11 and so forth.

12 That reference, we believe, will appear, - and I want
13 to point this out to the committee now for purposes of clar-
14 ity, - is based upon the message of November 27, 1941 sent
15 by the Navy, Chief of Naval Operations, to the commanders in
16 the Pacific and to London for information, the so-called war
17 warning message which the committee has copies of, the text
18 of that indicating that the London naval authorities of our
19 government are to inform the British of the war warning mes-
20 sage sent.

21 Senator Ferguson: Mr. Chairman, could counsel tell us
22 if we have a copy of the message to London?

23 Mr. Gesell: Yes, that is before all of the members of
24 the committee in the Navy folder and communications under
25 date of November 27, 1941.

1 Senator Ferguson: Thank you.

2 The Chairman: The committee will recess until ten
3 o'clock on Monday morning.

4 (Whereupon, at 4:17 p.m., November 24, 1945,
5 an adjournment was taken until 10:00 a.m., Monday,
6 November 26, 1945.)

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