

No 2307

Eu 2947

Def. Doc. No. 140-0-2

From Tōgō to Nomura
23 November 1941
No. 816

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It seems that the United States does not concur in the fourth clause of Proposal "B" relative to the undertaking not to indulge in measures and actions prejudicial to the endeavor for the restoration of general peace between Japan and China. We have no objection to President Roosevelt's being the introducer concurrently with Proposal "B", and it is our intention to have China, through the good offices of the President, express friendship toward Japan in accordance with the American proposal (B) of the 12th, and thereby commence peace talks directly with China. As it is expected that an agreement for a truce will be concluded between Japan and China at the opening of such negotiations, American assistance to Chiang would in practice become unnecessary in such an event. It should therefore naturally be made clear that the President, by his introduction, should cause Chiang Kai-shek to propose peace to Japan, that the United States in response should support the efforts for Japanese-Chinese peace with a view to establishing friendly relationships between the two countries, and that therefore the United States should refrain from any action which would disturb such efforts.

You are directed to do your best to get the United States to accept the fourth clause of Proposal "B" and, when the negotiations shall have been concluded, to bring about through the President's introduction, by the time set in my telegram No. 812, the peace proposal of Chiang Kai-shek (preferably a simple one).