

No. 2957

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From TŌGŌ to NOMURA
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Ex 2957

(1) On the occasion of my interview with the Diplomatic Corps on 30 October, while having a talk with the American Ambassador in Tokyo, I expressed my regret over the recent aggravation of the tense relations between Japan and the United States and pointed out the danger that things might, if left alone, have serious consequences. I called his attention to the fact that the Japanese nation had become impatient with the slow progress of the negotiations which had dragged on for six months and I expressed my desire to bring them to a conclusion promptly, and requested further cooperation on the part of the American Ambassador. I emphasized that, in order to break the deadlock, the American Government also should consider some measures for the settlement of the matter fitting to the actual situation of the Far East, without clinging to theories.

I referred, by way of explaining the complicated circumstances of the Far East, to the problem of the withdrawal of Japanese forces from China, pointing out that there were certain countries besides Japan whose forces were actually stationed in China, and also to the situation in Outer Mongolia where the Soviet Union had stationed forces of considerable strength in spite of the fact that China regarded it as a part of her territory, and requested that the American Government should recognize the real state of affairs there and fully understand the Japanese viewpoint. The American Ambassador listened to my opinion, promised to cooperate, and replied that it was desirable to proceed with the negotiations simultaneously in Tokyo and in Washington.

(2) When the British Ambassador called on me for some other business on the 29th, I told him that the attitude of the United States tends to be so doctrinarian and unrealistic that there is present little prospect of success of the negotiations, and the situation is one of deep concern; that should the negotiations end in failure the development of the situation would be unpredictable, and that inasmuch as such development would not be in the interest of Great Britain, who has important rights and interests in the Far East, it would be proper for her to strive at this moment for the improvement of Japanese-British-American relations and the maintenance of world peace. The Ambassador promised that he would immediately transmit the matter to his Government, and left. When I saw the Ambassador on the 30th I repeated to him the same effect and impressed upon him that the situation is very acute and allows of no further procrastination.

Transmit to London.