

Ch/S 263790

TELEGRAM

**From THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN GREAT BRITAIN
To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA**

CYPHER

LONDON, December 16, 1941.

NO. 2402

No. 2402. My telegram No. 2383, December 15th.
Swiss Government have agreed to take over British
interests in Japan should occasion arise. They are
at present treating the matter as (word omitted, repeat
requested).

HIGH COMMISSIONER

Rec'd Ottawa, 3:12 p.m.

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TELEGRAM

cm/J

263791

From THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN GREAT BRITAIN
To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA

CYPHER

NO. 2403

LONDON, December 16, 1941.

No. 2403. My telegram No. 2383 of December 15th, British Ambassador at Washington has been instructed to ascertain from the United States Government what plans they are making to secure withdrawal of diplomatic consular staffs from Japan. If United States intends to arrange safe conduct for a ship across the Pacific Ocean United Kingdom Government wish to secure accommodation for the purpose of exchanging British and Japanese officials.

United Kingdom Government propose to give an assurance that safe conduct will be given to Japanese officials, families and staffs and to ask for a similar Japanese assurance. Japanese officials in this country would be sent to the United States to join the ship.

MASSEY

Rec'd Ottawa, 6:04 p.m.

DS/General
263792

TELEGRAM

From THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN GREAT BRITAIN

To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA

CODE

NO. 2406

LONDON, December 16, 1941.

No. 2406. Your telegram of December 11th, No. 1994. British Minister at Berne is being instructed today by telegram from Foreign Office

(a) To ask the Swiss to take over protection of Canadian interests in Germany, Italy, Poland, Denmark, Norway, Belgium, The Netherlands, Luxemburg, occupied France, Greece and Yugo Slavia.

(b) To act similarly in regard to Hungary, Roumania, Bulgaria and Finland if and when relations between the United States and these countries are severed.

A similar communication has been made on behalf of the United Kingdom Government, except that they include unoccupied France in category (b) as above.

In view of Dupuy's position, it is assumed that you do not wish to include unoccupied France. South Africa is in a similar position to ours in this respect and has not included unoccupied France in their request.

In the event of severance of relations between the United States and Vichy, however, it is assumed that you would wish the Swiss to take over the control of Canadian interests in Vichy controlled Africa. Please confirm on this point.

MASSEY

Rec'd Ottawa, 5:52 p.m.

R
FROM: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, OTTAWA

TO: THE CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER IN LONDON,

CM/5
263793

CYPHER

NO. 2620

OTTAWA, December 16th, 1941.

My telegram No. 2500 of Dec 12th.

Canadian Minister Buenos Aires reports that British Ambassador at Buenos Aires thinks that the protection of Canadian interests in Japanese Empire and Manchuria should be transferred from Argentina to Switzerland as soon as assurances are received that Swiss Government are prepared to take over and prior to transfer of British interests. I am telegraphing British Minister at Berne requesting him to enquire whether in the event of Argentina relinquishing the protection of Canadian interests in Japanese Empire and Manchuria, Swiss authorities would be prepared to take over. On receipt of an affirmative reply from Berne, I shall telegraph Canadian Minister, Buenos Aires, requesting him to approach Argentine Government with reference to his interview with Argentine Foreign Minister reported in my above mentioned telegram enquiring whether they would agree to the transfer.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

263797 C.M.I.

FROM: SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, OTTAWA, CANADA
TO: HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN GREAT BRITAIN, LONDON, ENGLAND

TELEGRAM NO. 2026

CYPRUS

Ottawa, December 17, 1941.

Your telegram No. 2405 of 16th December.
I am advising Canadian Legation Washington of contents thereof and requesting Canadian Minister consult British Ambassador in order to determine whether similar action can be taken on behalf of Canadian Government to secure accommodation for the purpose of exchanging Canadian and Japanese officials.

Please enquire whether British authorities have been informed of ~~some of~~ country named to protect Japanese interests in United Kingdom. We have not yet been advised from any source of country named to protect Japanese interests in Canada.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

TELEGRAM 263800 ^{cm 15}

From THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN GREAT BRITAIN
To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA

CYPRUS

LONDON, December 19th, 1941.

NO. 2432

No. 2432. Your telegram No. 2026 of December 17th. British authorities have been informed that Japanese have asked Swiss to take over protection of Japanese interests in the United Kingdom and Colonies. We have asked the Foreign Office to enquire through British Minister at Berne whether Swiss have been approached by Japan in the matter of taking over Japanese interests in Canada.

MASSEY

8 CMJ
FROM: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, OTTAWA
TO: THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, LONDON

263808

CODE

NO. 2080

OTTAWA, December 23, 1941.

Understand that before outbreak of war with Japan a number of Canadian Nationals were evacuated with other British subjects from Japan and Japanese occupied territories. Last group of evacuees definitely known here were on Hikawa Maru which arrived Vancouver November 1.

Please cable any information available concerning such evacuations, including names and destinations where possible. We are chiefly concerned about Canadians, other than Government officials, who were in north China, Shanghai and Hongkong.

What civilian evacuations have been made or are anticipated from Singapore, Malaya and the East Indies?

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

263811 C

FROM: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OTTAWA
TO: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DOMINION AFFAIRS LONDON.

IMMEDIATE

SECRET

Ottawa, 26th December, 1941

CYPHER

NO. 265

Your Circular M.465 of 17th December. I have received following information from Canadian Minister at Washington. Quote.

Tentative United States plans for departure of United States, Latin American and Canadian officials from Japan provides for exchange of these officials against Japanese officials from the same countries at Lourenco Marques, Mozambique, under Portuguese supervision, but diplomatic protection and safe conducts for ships to be arranged by Swiss for United States. It appears urgent that Canadian authorities should keep in close touch with representative of Protecting Power in Japan to ensure accommodation for Canadians.

Present plan of State Department do not include transport of British and Australian officials from the Far East but British Embassy intends to press their inclusion.

State Department would like to have as soon as possible lists of names of Canadian officials in Japan and Japanese officials in Canada. End quote.

I propose to advise Canadian Minister Buenos Aires in order that representative of Protecting Power in Japan be informed with a view to ensuring accommodation for Canadians. I also propose to send lists referred to above to State Department Washington. I assume British and Australian officials will ultimately be included in plan of State Department.

/ SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

263823

TELEGRAM

For W/J

From THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN GREAT BRITAIN

To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA

*WW II - Enemy Aliens & Internees outside Canada
"- Prisoners of War in the Far East."*

CODE

LONDON, December 29th, 1941.

NO. 2500

No. 2500. My telegram of December 12th, No. 2356. After consultation with United States, United Kingdom authorities have decided to apply in practice provisions of Prisoners of War Convention of 1929 vis a vis Japan.

As this attitude corresponds with views expressed in your telegram of December 8th, No. 1970, I have given assent to have Canada associated in official approach through Protecting Power in this sense. Following telegram has been sent to Buenos Aires:-

"Please request Argentine Government to inform the Japanese Government that His Majesty's Governments in the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and New Zealand are observing provisions of International Convention relative to treatment of prisoners of war (Treaty Series No. 37, 1951) so far as concerns Japan, and to ask for an assurance that Japan will do likewise.

MASSEY

Rec'd Ottawa 10:11 A.M.