

EXHIBIT NO. 16A

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the

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

C.H.

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Can we do any thing
along this line?

How about talking Japan
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795-1691-374

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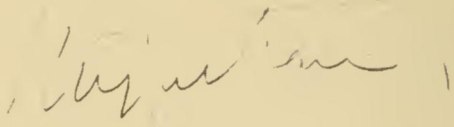
THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

October 30, 1941

My dear Mr. President:

The enclosed message from General Chiang Kai-Shek has just been handed to me at 11:15 o'clock this morning by Mr. T. V. Soong.

Yours sincerely,



The President,
The White House.



MESSAGE FROM GENERAL CHIANG KAI-SHEK RECEIVED TODAY,
OCTOBER 30.

DEFINITE INFORMATION REACHED ME JAPANESE DESIGN ATTACK
YUNNAN IN NOVEMBER (STOP) THIS MOVE MAY POSSIBLY BE
AVERTED IF AMERICA TAKES IMMEDIATE ACTION BY INFORMING
JAPAN THAT ATTACK YUNNAN THROUGH INDO-CHINA WOULD BE
VIEWED BY AMERICA AS DEFINITE STEP IN SOUTHWARD EXPANSION
AND THAT AMERICA CANNOT REMAIN INDIFFERENT (STOP)
SIMULTANEOUSLY MILITARY PREPARATIONS SHOULD BE MADE TO
MEET THIS EVENTUALITY (STOP) I MUST EMPHASIZE THE
CRITICAL NATURE OF THE YUNNAN SITUATION SINCE IF YUNNAN
IS LOST AND LAST LIFE LINE FOR MATERIALS FROM THE OUTSIDE
WORLD SEVERED THE CHINESE PEOPLE AND ARMY MATERIALLY
AND MORALLY WOULD BE UNABLE TO OFFER FURTHER ARMED
RESISTANCE (STOP) I AM CONFIDENT WITH FORCES IN YUNNAN
AND AVAILABLE NEARBY CHINESE ABLE TO HOLD THEIR OWN LAND
FIGHTING IF REINFORCED AIRWARD (STOP) CURRENT CREWING
HAS ONLY 49 PILOTS CONSEQUENTLY STRONG AIR REINFORCEMENT
ESSENTIAL (STOP) URGE AMERICA USE STRONG PERSUASION ON
BRITAIN TO SEND 31. ABOVE AIR FORCE TO COOPERATE WITH
GENERAL CHENGWALT IN HELD SAFE DEMONSTRATION POSITION IN
FAR EAST (STOP) BRITAIN AND AMERICA LOYALLY CONCEIVED

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TO PREVENT LOSS OF YUNNAN AS CHINESE BECAUSE IF JAPANESE OCCUPY YUNNAN THEIR NEXT STOP WOULD INVOLVE ATTACK ON BRITISH FAR EAST COLONIAL POSSESSIONS AND PRECIPITATE WAR IN THE PACIFIC (STOP) IF IMMEDIATE ACTION TAKEN BY BRITAIN IN SENDING AIR REINFORCEMENT THESE POSSESSIONS WOULD BE SAVED AT A FRACTION OF THE COST THAT THEIR DEFENCE WOULD INVOLVE LATER ON AND PACIFIC PROBLEM WOULD THUS BE SOLVED (STOP) JAPANESE WILL CONCENTRATE LARGEST AIR FORCE IN INDO-CHINA AND IF DESTROYED COMBINED AIR FORCES THREAT TO FAR EAST FINALLY REMOVED.