

EXHIBIT NO. 73

DRAFT TELEGRAM

October 16, 1941.
(Draft no. 2)

His Imperial Majesty

Hirohito,

Emperor of Japan.

I have just been informed that the Cabinet of Prince Konoye has tendered its resignation. As Your Imperial Majesty is aware, discussions have been carried on during the past few weeks between high officials of the Government of the United States and high officials of the Government of Japan directed toward working out a basis in principle for a meeting between the Premier of Japan and myself which we both hoped would be contributory to maintenance and preservation of peace throughout the Pacific area. The original messages I received from the Premier of Japan on this subject were very gratifying. Unfortunately, the concrete proposals subsequently presented by the Japanese Government seemed to present a narrower concept than I had anticipated. The Secretary of State therefore on October 2 suggested to the Japanese Ambassador here that we return to the original concepts and endeavor through re-examination of those concepts to evolve general lines of action which

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would be clear manifestations of the high purposes we have in mind and thus might be expected to establish a durable and fundamental peace in the Pacific area.

The procedure which the Government of the United States and the Government of Japan have been following during these past weeks has not produced the results hoped for. In view of the fact that, as high officials of your Government have repeatedly stated, time presses, I suggest to Your Imperial Majesty that there be a meeting between the Premier of Japan and myself and the Chairman of the Executive Yuan of the National Government of China, General Chiang Kai-shek. I believe that such a meeting, to be held as soon as arrangements therefor can be completed, furnishes in present circumstances the best hope of maintaining and preserving peace in the Pacific area.

I have not as yet consulted General Chiang Kai-shek in regard to this, but I shall be pleased to do so immediately upon receipt from you of a favorable reply.

FE:MMH:HES

*sentative drafts which was discarded
upon receipt of a draft from the White House.*

DRAFT TELEGRAM

October 16, 1941.

His Imperial Majesty

Hirohito,

Emperor of Japan.

I have just been informed through news reports that the Cabinet of Prince Konoye has tendered its resignation to you. As Your Imperial Majesty is aware, discussions have been carried on during the past few weeks between high officials of the Government of the United States and high officials of the Government of Japan directed toward working out a basis in principle for a meeting between the Premier of Japan and myself which we had both hoped would be contributory to maintenance and preservation of peace throughout the Pacific area. The original messages I received from the Premier of Japan on this subject were very gratifying. Unfortunately, it seems to me that the concrete proposals subsequently presented by the Japanese Government seemed to present a more narrow concept than I had anticipated (than that conveyed by the Premier's message). The Secretary of State therefore on October 2

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suggested to the Japanese Ambassador here that we return to the original concept and endeavor through re-examination of that concept to evolve general lines of action which would be clear manifestations (of the lofty concepts) of our original concepts and thus might be expected to establish a durable and fundamental peace in the Pacific area.

The procedure which the Government of the United States and the Government of Japan have been following during these past weeks has not produced the results hoped for. In view of the fact that, as high officials of your Government have repeatedly stated, time presses, I suggest that Your Imperial Majesty signify approval of a meeting between the Premier of Japan and myself and the Premier of China. I believe that such a meeting to be held as soon as arrangements therefor can be completed furnishes in present circumstances the best hope of maintaining and preserving peace in the Pacific area.

I have not as yet consulted General Chiang Kai-shek, the Premier of China, in regard to this, but I shall be pleased to do so immediately upon receipt from you of a favorable reply.

FE:MMH:HES

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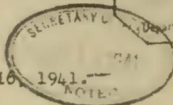
October 16, 1941

DRAFT OF A PROPOSED MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
TO THE EMPEROR OF JAPAN -- SUPERSEDED BY A LATER
DRAFT DATED OCTOBER 17, 1941.

THIS DRAFT WAS NOT USED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 ADVISER ON POLITICAL RELATIONS

October 16, 1941.



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 Mr. Secretary:

Mr. Hamilton does not recommend taking the proposed action. Mr. Ballantine feels that it is premature to come to any decision on the matter. I feel strongly that this proposed message in the form in which it stands should not at this time be sent.

A redraft is submitted here attached. The important paragraphs are, of course, the last two. We all feel that great care should be exercised to avoid making any too broad commitment or any too emphatic threat. I myself feel that we should avoid anything that implies countenance of Japanese operations in China.

CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION

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When I was in the United States, I was in the United States -
 tion with I believe that I was in the United States. I think
 I should be in the United States. I was in the United States. I
 believe that I was in the United States. I was in the United States.
 of formation. As Your Imperial Majesty knows, conver-
 tions have been in progress between representatives of
 our two Governments for many months for the purpose of
 reaching an agreement from any extension in the Pacific
 area. It is our best hope, as I think it is
 equally seen to the full purpose of Your Imperial Majesty.

I personally would have been very glad to travel
 thousands of miles to meet with your Prime Minister, if
 in advance one or two basic accords could have been reached
 so that the success of our conference would have been
 assured. I hoped that these accords would be reached.
 The first related to the integrity of China and the second
 related to an assurance that either Japan or the United
 States would have war in or adjacent to the Pacific area.

If persistent reports are true that the Japanese Government is
 considering

conflicting armed attacks against Russia or against France, Great Britain or the Dutch or independent territory in the South, the obvious result would, of necessity, be an extension of the Atlantic and European war over vast theatres of war to the whole of the Pacific Area. Such attacks would necessarily involve American interests.

The United States opposes any procedure of conquest. It would like to see peace between Japan and China. It would like to see freedom of the seas and trade conducted on a fair basis. If Japan could join with us to preserve peace in the Pacific we would be only too happy to resume normal commercial relations, with the sole exception of certain articles which we must keep at home for our own defense and that of all of the Americas against possible aggression from abroad.

If on the other hand Japan were to start new military operations, the United States, in accordance with her policy of peace, would be very seriously concerned.