

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State *file - weapons tests*

407265



43-48

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Action

SAE

FROM: TOKYO

Info

TO: Secretary of State

RMR

NO: 824, SEPTEMBER 17, 2 P.M.

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THERE FOLLOWS IN TRANSLATION FULL TEXT OF JAPANESE GOVT NOTE DELIVERED THIS MORNING TO AMBASSADOR BY KISHI AS ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER:

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"THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND, WITH REFERENCE TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF SEPTEMBER 15, 1957, BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT STATING THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS PLANNING A SERIES OF NUCLEAR TESTS AT THE ENIWETOK ATOLL IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN STARTING IN APRIL 1958, HAS THE HONOR TO STATE AS FOLLOWS:

AS ALREADY STATED IN THE NOTE OF THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE UNDER DATE OF MAY 29, 1957, THE JAPANESE PEOPLE DESIRE MOST EARNESTLY THAT FROM HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS AND IN VIEW OF THE POSSIBLE DANGER TO WHICH SUCH TESTS MAY EXPOSE MANKIND, ALL NUCLEAR TESTS SHOULD BE SUSPENDED WITHOUT DELAY.

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY

S/AE

SEP 17 1957

WHILE THE JAPANESE

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WHILE THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT DEEPLY REGRETS THAT NUCLEAR TESTS IN NEVADA ARE STILL CONTINUED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IN SPITE OF THE EARNEST DESIRE OF THE JAPANESE PEOPLE, IT IS CONSTRAINED TO EXPRESS AN EVEN MORE SERIOUS CONCERN OVER THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THAT A SERIES OF NUCLEAR TESTS WILL BE CONDUCTED AGAIN NEXT YEAR AT ENIWETOK, ALL THE MORE IN VIEW OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL PROXIMITY OF THE SAID AREA TO THE SAILING COURSES OF JAPANESE VESSELS AND FISHING GROUNDS FREQUENTED BY JAPANESE FISHING BOATS.

ALTHOUGH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT STATES IN THE SAID ANNOUNCEMENT THAT IT WILL CONDUCT NUCLEAR TESTS ONLY IN SUCH A MANNER "AS WILL KEEP WORLD RADIATION FROM RISING TO MORE THAN A SMALL FRACTION OF THE LEVELS THAT MIGHT BE HAZARDOUS", THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT HOLDS THE VIEW THAT ALL NUCLEAR TESTS SHOULD BE SUSPENDED AT THE PRESENT STAGE WHERE THERE IS AS YET NO SCIENTIFIC ASSURANCE, EVEN IF SUCH PRECAUTIONS ARE TAKEN, THAT THE HAZARD TO MANKIND FROM REPEATED NUCLEAR TESTS WILL NOT INCREASE.

THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT REGRETS THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS ANNOUNCED THAT IT PLANS TO CONDUCT NUCLEAR TESTS AT ENIWETOK AGAIN NEXT SPRING, AT THIS JUNCTURE, WHEN EXPECTATIONS ARE BEING PLACED ON THE DISCUSSION BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD OF THE ISSUE OF THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR TESTS, TOGETHER WITH THE PROBLEM OF GENERAL DISARMAMENT, AT THE FORTHCOMING SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, AND HEREBY EXPRESSES THE HOPE THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WILL SEE ITS WAY TO SUSPEND THE SAID NUCLEAR TESTS."

SEPARATE TELEGRAM FOLLOWS ON SUBSTANCE OF CONVERSATION.

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