

WP. 17997
No. 90.

AMERICAN EMBASSY,
TOKIO.

October 31, 1906.



Mr. Wright to Mr. Root.

SUBJECT: The anti-American agitation in Japan evoked by the
action of the school-authorities in San Francisco in
segregating Japanese children.

Confirms exchange of telegrams, and transmits trans-
lations and newspaper clippings.

AMERICAN EMBASSY,
TOKIO.

No. 90

October 31, 1906.

To the Honorable Elihu Root,
Secretary of State,
Washington:

S i r :

1. I have the honor to confirm, as enclosed herewith, the Department's telegram of the 24 instant, concerning the anti-American agitation in Japan evoked by the recent action of the school authorities of San Francisco in segregating Japanese children, and my telegram of the 28 instant to the Department, reporting the quieting effect of the publication of the matter of the Department's telegram by the Japanese press.

2. I have the honor to transmit also recent translations and clippings from the Japanese newspapers. The more influential of these, it will be seen, begin to reflect a more quiet tone of confidence in the lasting friendship of the American people, and the justice and good intentions of the American Government to right any local wrong, that may have been suffered by individuals in particular localities. Yet underneath all is a current of feeling which shows how nearly the implied racial discrimination has touched home. The suggestion of the drawing of a color-line in America has created the deepest chagrin. The fact that the question is now engaging the consideration and action of various educational societies and other associations -- notably The American Friends' Association -- is significant of the seriousness with which such a possibility is contemplated. Unless other events

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Enclosed text of Dept.'s. Tel. of Oct. 28 and Embassy's reply of Oct. 28, also numerous clippings from the native and English press of Japan denoting some relaxation in the tense feeling but revealing the strong resentment created by the San Francisco incidents. Again calls attention to the apparent malicious purpose of the Reuters' telegrams published in Japan. (Rec'd. Nov. 19, 1906.) B.S.D.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

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Agreed to the Secy. Nov. 20

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events occur, however, to strengthen and perpetuate ill-feeling, there seems little doubt that the resentment which so quickly came to the surface will soon be forgotten.

In my despatch No. 81, of October 22, I had occasion to refer to the apparent animus of certain press telegrams appearing in Japanese newspapers, sent for the most part through Reuter's news-agency, which, it seemed to me, might be intended for a further purpose than the mere conveyance of news. The editorial published in the Japan Times, October 29, which forms a part of my enclosure No. 3, shows that even the Japanese press is beginning to question, itself, an ulterior motive in the sometimes malign coincidence of certain of the telegrams sent through the Reuter's service.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Wm. E. Wright

- ENCLOSURES: 1. Telegram from the Department , October 24, 1906.
2. Telegram, Mr. Wright to the Department, October 28, 1906.
3. Translations and clippings as above.