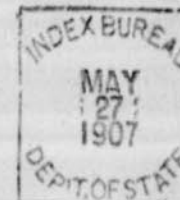


File with 1797/20-117

*From
Jap. Consul
May 25/107*

IMPERIAL JAPANESE EMBASSY
WASHINGTON



Paraphrase of a Telegram Received from His Imperial Majesty's
Consulate at San Francisco.

Dated San Francisco, California,

May 24, 1907.

Japanese Ambassador,
Washington.

On Monday evening the 20th of May about half past seven o'clock a crowd of people numbering about fifty drove in a wagon to the front of a restaurant kept by a Japanese and doing business under the name of Horse-Shoe Restaurant. This mob which arrived at the restaurant with the manifest intention of creating disturbance, summoned the customers who were dining there and violently assaulted them beating and knocking them down. Stones, bricks, and scraps of iron, which were brought in the wagon above referred to to be used as missiles, were thrown by the mob at the windows of the restaurant thus breaking not only all the panes of glass in the windows, but landing the missiles in the dining room. It thus became impossible for the restaurant to continue business. After these acts of violence were so successfully carried out, the same mob turned to attack a bathing establishment which is carried on by a Japanese and is situated on the opposite side of the street vis-a-vis the restaurant. In this case also panes of glass were broken and business had to be given up as in the case of the restaurant. During this riotous proceeding no protec-

IMPERIAL JAPANESE EMBASSY
WASHINGTON

tion whatever was afforded by the police although numerous calls were sounded. From half past seven till half past nine that same evening the mob practically held possession of the street that lay between these two houses.

The next day, that is to say, on the 21st of May, I visited these two houses personally and found most convincing evidence of terrible acts of violence. I found the Horse-Shoe Restaurant then already evacuated. Thereupon, I called on the Chief of Police and, reporting to him the facts of the case, asked the protection of the police in behalf of these Japanese who were made the objects of mob violence. I also informed the Chief of Police of the rumor which came to my knowledge that another attack by a mob was being contemplated for that evening to be perpetrated on another Japanese restaurant called the Lion Restaurant, which had already been attacked the previous evening in the same way as the other restaurant, the customers being maltreated and intimidated.

Notwithstanding the fact that this warning was given by me to the Chief of Police and notwithstanding his formal assurance that efficient protection would be given, a mob succeeded in putting the Lion Restaurant under seige on the evening of the 21st, the customers being seized and beaten. About nine o'clock, P.M. after the mob had dispersed policemen in plain clothes made their first appearance on the spot. On hour later at ten o'clock one officer in uniform came to the scene of outrage. During all the

IMPERIAL JAPANESE EMBASSY
WASHINGTON

time the outrage was perpetrated, the proprietor of the restaurant did not see a single policeman.

I wrote to the Chief of Police asking that the perpetrators of the crime might be located and a repetition of similar outrages prevented in future. I have also called the attention of the Mayor of San Francisco and the Governor of California to these facts.

The Chief of Police made a verbal explanation to me that the absence of officers at the scene of outrage was accounted for by the fact that the police force was needed elsewhere to control the street railway strikers.

(Signed) Matsubara.

From
J. H. Smith
May 25/07

Substance of the telegram received
by the Japanese Ambassador from the
Acting-Consul of Japan in San
Francisco under date of the 24th of
May.

On May 22nd same as the day before
a party of mob again appeared in front of
the Lion Restaurant. Owing, however, to the
presence of policemen specially despatched to
the spot by the Japanese Association, the mob
retreated to a place of some distance from
the restaurant, where they held its patrons
under their watch and intercepted them.

Owing to the day of May 23rd the city
police office having sent a force of policemen
in uniform to the place in trouble, nothing of
particularly disturbing occurred that day.

EX BUREAU

MAY 28 1907
1797/206-207

DEPT. OF STATE

FILED
MAY 28 1907
G. M. G.

Treatment of Japanese in California.

Encl. 206-207. May 25, 1907.

Japanese Embassy.

On this date the Japanese Em-
bassy left at the Department a
paraphrase of a telegram, dated
May 24, 1907, received from the
Japanese Consulate at San Francisco,
reporting, in substance, as follows:
On Monday evening, the 20th
of May, a mob, numbering about fifty
people, made an attack on a Japan-
ese restaurant, called "Horse-Shoe
Restaurant", assaulting the custom-
ers who were dining there and so
damaging the restaurant as to make
it impossible to continue business
there.

A subsequent attack, by the
same mob, was made on a Japanese
bathing establishment, putting the
same out of commission.

On the evening of the 21st
instant a mob succeeded in putting
the Lion Restaurant under siege, and
beating the customers.

During these riotous proceedings
no police protection was afforded.
The Chief of Police made a statement

California from 25/07
Secretary of State.

MAY 25 1907

to the effect that the absence of
officers at the scene of outrage was
accounted for by the fact that the
police force was needed elsewhere to
control the street railway strikers.

Attached is a paper giving the
substance of a telegram received
by the Japanese Ambassador from the
Japanese Acting Consul in San Fran-
cisco, dated May 24th, advising
that on May 22nd a mob again ap-
peared in front of the Lion Restau-
rant, but owing to the presence of
policemen no damage was done.

Since May 22nd a similar at-
tempt has been made against another
restaurant, called "California
Restaurant", nothing serious having
occurred in this case.
(Rec'd May 27-07.)

FILE-S. Y. S.



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JUN 22 1963