

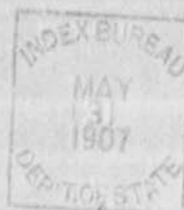
TELEGRAM SENT. *in cipher*



Department of State,

Washington,

May 29, 1907.



AMEMBASSY

TOKYO.

Report from United States Attorney at San Francisco shows that the lack of police protection in San Francisco is due to the fact that most of the San Francisco police were required to guard the street cars. Furthermore, *Marshal is convinced* ~~it seems probable~~ that the injury to two Japanese establishments was simply incidental to rioting between Americans. *is entirely probable since* There is now much violence in San Francisco owing to serious labor troubles, but special efforts will be made to protect property. At your discretion you may use this information to minimize any impression that the trouble is particularly anti-Japanese.

Wilson, Acting

Enciphered by *E.W.S.*

Sent by operator *W.H.*

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1797/209

DEPT. OF STATE

RECEIVED
JUN 18 1907

Treatment of Japanese in California.

Encl. 209. San Francisco, Calif.

May 27, 1907.

R. F. Devlin, U.S. Atty. Gen. His telegram, in substance, is as follows:

The fact that the restaurant and bath house was attacked and injured is indisputable.

As to the cause leading up to the difficulty, there is much conflict. The Japanese Consul claims that it was a rioting instigated by animosity toward the Japanese and that the fight was started for the purpose of giving an excuse for the action. The police authorities of San Francisco state the facts to be that two laborers entered the restaurant and ordered a teamster to take off his union badge which he refused to do and a fight then started. The Japanese cook ran from the kitchen with a carving knife and threw it at the men who left the restaurant and were on the street. A crowd of boys had congregated by this time and smashed the windows with rocks.

WRAPPER.

Having struck, cars are run under police protection, and because of this there are only five officers available after six P.M. who patrol the territory in which the attack on the Japanese occurred. An active officer in civilian dress has been detailed for the purpose of protecting the business houses conducted by Japanese. Has requested the Japanese Consul to bring the Japanese and other witnesses to his office and he will take down their statements. Some of the persons engaged in the attack have as yet been identified. If the Government desires to know exactly whether the attack was occasioned by a mob hostile to the Japanese or whether it was a fight between laborers which occurred in a Japanese restaurant only as an incident, in his opinion, it will be necessary to have some secret service agent detailed for the purpose, as the men are all scattered and no one is able to locate them or identify them. Everything is quiet at present and the Japanese restaurant keepers assure the marshal that they expect no further trouble. (This telegram referred to Department by the Department of Justice.) Sw. (Rec'd May 29-07.) 9:55.

