

11/30/21

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Department of Justice.

Quoted following telegram from U. S. Attorney at San Francisco:-

"Partially answering telegram Russell Acting Attorney General no licenses have been denied to others than Japanese on account of nationality, and the action of the command is to prevent Japanese having licenses. They do not wish to give Japanese licenses, and claim that under police power they have the right to refuse them and propose to refuse Japanese licenses until otherwise ordered by the courts.

Mayor Schmidt elected as labor party candidate has been convicted of felony and is in jail. New Mayor Tagher appointed. Old board of supervisors resigned and new ones ap-

August 7, 1907.

Secretary of State,

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The first of the two telegrams herewith enclosed seeming very unsatisfactory, I asked the Acting Attorney General yesterday to get further information, which has just been received in the form of the second telegram herewith, which seems to reveal the true facts, painful as they are. In view of this last telegram, it is difficult to see what satisfactory answer can be made to the Japanese

pointed by Taylor. Taylor and new
supervisors in office de facto.
Right to office disputed and mat-
ter now before supreme court. Pre-
sent license commission was appoint-
ed by Schmidt whose term will ex-
pire in January next. Election
in November for new officers. Pre-
sent commission will undoubtedly
continue to refuse licenses to
Japanese. Mayor Taylor if confirm-
ed in office, will probably appoint
new commission. Records of Commission
show. Records of Commission do
not show nationality of holders of
licenses, and it is necessary to
ask each one personally. Some of
the holders have apparently moved
away, offices being closed, others
only had room in houses and diffi-
cult to find them. Shall get in-
formation by personal inquiry as
to their nationality as rapidly as
possible."

DIPLONATIO
BUREAU

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Respectful Compliments

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Compared with

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON.

File No. 1797/311

L. 7

August 9, 1907.

The Honorable

The Attorney General.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters dated, respectively the 5th and 7th instant, quoting telegrams from the United States Attorney at San Francisco in regard to the refusal of the municipal authorities of that city to permit Japanese to take out licenses for intelligence offices.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Robert Bacon,

Acting Secretary.

Ambassador.

Awaiting your instructions in the matter.

Faithfully yours,

Robert Bacon

Enclosures

P.S. Mr. Adey suggests that the difficulty of the situation be frankly stated to the Japanese Ambassador, something in the line of the first paragraph of his pencil memorandum herewith.

R.B.