

No 9 D.*

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL,
SEOUL, KOREA.

July 11, 1907.

Subject: Marquis Ito's view in re American and
Japanese relations.

The Honorable

Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to inform you that Mr. Frederick McCormick, representing the Associated Press, and Mr. Josiah Kingsley Ohl, representing the New York "Herald", have been in this city for two weeks or more, reporting matters of news, etcetera.

While the presence of both of these gentlemen has been the cause of considerable conjecture in Japanese administrative circles the attitude of the latter's paper regarding Japan has received exceptional attention. Through instructions from the proprietor of the "Herald", I understand Mr. Ohl has endeavored to secure expressions of opinion from the Japanese press regarding the sending of a number of American naval vessels to Asiatic waters via the Suez Canal.

The Seoul "Press", the organ of the Residency General, today ventures the belief that the occasion for such a move may be misunderstood in Japan; that it may be considered a precautionary measure against threatened danger;

refers

Intelligence Office Licenses in
San Francisco.

Aug. 315. August 9, 1907.

Department of Justice.

Refers to previous correspondence on this subject, and quotes the following telegram received this day from the U. S. Attorney at San Francisco:

"Further answering telegram from Mr. J. H. Bell, Acting Attorney General, Japanese license cases, - of women, six were born in United States, one was born in Ireland. Father of last named came to America when she was an infant and was naturalized.

She came when at the age of eighteen or nineteen. Of six men mentioned in former telegram as not seen five are out of business and cannot be located and other one is out of town and will not return till next Monday. One holding first papers is Englishman. Information to refusal of intelligence office or other licenses to other foreign-ers and American citizens must be obtained from secretary of city police commission, who has promised to furnish it at earliest possible moment. When received, will be telegraphed at once. Will probably be two or three days."

(Rec'd August 9, 1907) 10:55am.

AUG 9 1907

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FILE-S. Y. S.

refers to Admiral Ting's visit to Nagasaki prior to the Japanese-Chinese war and the resulting disturbances, and adds that the British naval visit to the Baltic Sea, of more recent date, was distasteful, etcetera.

The editor of this paper is closely identified with the Residency General.

Marquis Ite informs me, incidentally, that he knows full well why the proprietor of the "Herald" assumed the attitude that he did during the Russo-Japanese war; refers to influences that may be considered too personal to warrant repetition here; concludes that Japan will not be misled by newspapers of this class and, at another time, made a statement substantially as follows:

For two reasons America will not, I am satisfied, go to war with Japan; (a) because of America's sense of righteousness and morality and (b) because of our (Japan's) alliance with England.

He then gave me a somewhat detailed statement why the second of these reasons would prevent a war. He believed that England and America would never go to war in any event and that to be true to its promise England must join Japan should America go to war with that country.

I have the honor to be,

Sir:-

Your obedient servant,

Thomas S. S. S.
Consul General.

1. Copy to American Embassy, Tokyo.

1 Copy to American Legation, Peking.