

Despatch No. 347.



AMERICAN EMBASSY,
TOKYO.

July 26, 1907.

MR. WRIGHT to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

SUBJECT: American-Japanese relations, - salutary
effect of Admiral Yamamoto's visit to
the United States; failure of the joint
meeting organized to protest against the
action of the United States; the San Diego
incident.

Despatch No. 347.

AMERICAN EMBASSY,
TOKYO.

July 26, 1907.

TO THE HONORABLE
THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
WASHINGTON.

Sir:

Referring to the closing paragraph of my despatch No. 325 of July 10, I am glad to report that the derogatory remarks concerning the American Navy, attributed to Rear-Admiral Sakamoto, were withdrawn by the Hochi Shimbun on the following day, and that a more complimentary estimate of our Navy by a Japanese naval expert was published in the same issue.

The accounts of the visit of Admiral Yamamoto to the United States, his cordial reception and the frank exchange of views with the President on the general situation have been received with great satisfaction in Japan and may be said to have closed the discussion of "the American affair" for the present.

Conclusive evidence of this fact is furnished by the failure of the joint meeting of the organizations interested in the subject held on the 22nd instant, as described in the Kokumin Shimbun. This meeting had been planned for some time in advance and a great deal talked of, so that it may be taken as a fair test of the strength of the anti-American faction at present. According to the press accounts

INDEX BUREAU

AUG 19

1797/314-319-7

DEPT. OF STATE

SEP 1 6 1907
O. G. S.

Relations between Japan and the U.S.

Encl. 314-319. Japan.

Am. Embassy (Wright) #347.

Refers to his #325, of July 10, and reports that the derogatory remarks concerning the Am. Navy, attributed to Rear-Admiral Sakamoto, were withdrawn by Hochi Shimbun and a more complimentary estimate of the U. S. Navy was published.

Calls attention to the great satisfaction with which news of the cordial reception of Admiral Yamamoto in the U. S. was received in Japan, as shown in particular by the failure of a joint meeting organized to protest against the action of the U. S.

Encl's newspaper articles in regard to these matters, and also concerning remarks made by General Teranuchi with respect to the reported arrest of a Japanese officer who was making sketches of fortifications at San Diego, Cal. (Rec'd Aug. 16, 1907)



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accounts, Count Okuma, the chief speaker of the evening, was plainly on the defensive, and a resume of his remarks is herewith included.

The reported arrest of a Japanese army officer at San Diego for making plans of Fort Rosencrans called forth some comment, the most interesting of which was that of General Terauchi, Minister of War, a translation of which I have added to the enclosures with this despatch.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Lucas E. Wright

Ambassador.

Enclosures:

- 1 - 2. Correction by the Hochi Shinbun.
3. Comment on Admiral Yamamoto's visit to the United States.
4. Joint meeting of organizations interested in the American affair, - Count Okuma's speech.
5. Arrest of Japanese army officer at San Diego, - General Terauchi's comment.