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DEPT OF STATE

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October 14, 1907.

Robert T. Devlin, Esq.,

United States Attorney,

San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The Department is duly in receipt of your letter of the 7th instant in reference to Japanese applications for licenses to conduct intelligence offices. The terms of your letter of the 27th of September to the Board of Police Commissioners have been noted, and the Department desires to call your attention to one expression therein, namely:

"The only thing the Government desires is that the Japanese shall receive the same fair treatment under the law as is accorded to other foreign residents in our midst."

This does not exactly represent the views of the State Department in this matter. These views would, however, be accurately represented if the words "reputable persons" were substituted for the words "foreign residents," so that the sentence would read:

"The only thing the Government desires is that the Japanese shall receive the same fair treatment under the law as is accorded to other reputable persons in our midst."

It would not, under all the circumstances, be advis-

able that you should seek to withdraw your former letter and substitute a letter framed in accordance with the advices herein, but you should, in any further communication to the Board of Police Commissioners and in your further conduct of this matter, bear in mind the views of the Department as herein indicated.

In other respects your course in the matter is wholly satisfactory, and you will be good enough to advise the Department of any further developments which may arise.

Very respectfully,

Attorney General.