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President please read
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HILLMANN'S HOTEL
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KURHAUS
HERINGSDOF
OCT. 26
H/

BERLIN DEN July 2. 1907.

Dear Mr. Root:

3rd ASST. SECRETARY
OCT 23 1907

I arrived in this
city last night and leave tomorrow
for Moscow and thence Sunday
the 7th by trans-Siberian Railway
to Vladivostock and thence to Shanghai.

I feel it my duty to report to
you a phase of popular sentiment
that has been noticeable during
my stay in France and Germany
viz: that Japan has definitely
decided on war with the United
States within the next few years,
a sentiment to which free expression

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HOTEL „DER KAISERHOF“

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BERLIN DEN

dependent on their decision, the unsettled state of popular opinion in Japan aggravated by a financial stringency due to great armaments, all lend color to such apprehensions.

The present attitude of Japan, assuming that she does mean war, bears similarity to her attitude before the Japan-China war of 1895. At that time I was *Chargé d'affaires* of our Legation at Peking and on the opening of hostilities I was placed in charge

is given. I have heard it in France from French officers and merchants and from Americans and other foreigners, officials and civilians, of long residence.

In Germany the opinion is even more emphatically expressed. German officers, among whom I have many friends, regard such a war as certain and German merchants with oriental connections concur with them. I am informed that the outcome of such a war has received technical consideration in military circles in Germany and Great Britain and that the probability of Japan's victory over us is as 5 to 4.

The grounds for the expectation of such a conflict seem to be in general the logical development of Japan's national ambitions and are no further specifically indicated than by reports of the purchase of arms. There are without doubt in this country representatives of the Japanese Government who are negotiating concerning munitions of war if they have not actually placed orders therefor. At the Hotel Bristol in Hanover where I stopped, there were several Japanese said to be naval officers who visited and inspected factories of uniforms. The Consul, Mr. Thompson, said that they were Admiral Togo and two of his staff, which statement was confirmed

of the interests of Japan in China which caused me to carefully note the war and its causes. Looking backward, after the event, it seemed clear that notwithstanding her denials and assurances and in spite of the fact that she had ostentatiously maintained friendly relations with China until the last moment, Japan had in fact carefully planned and prepared her blow and had struck with precision at the moment at which she had long previously decided to strike.

What may be the justification for the above views it is impossible to foretell. I hope you will pardon

in any event my bringing to your notice a state of European opinion which is so persistent and widespread that for this reason, if no other, it deserves attention.

Yours respectfully

Chas. Dentry.

To the Honorable

Oliver Root

Secretary of State

Washington, D.C.

by the hotel manager and the
manufacturers of uniforms.

The above consensus of European
opinion will doubtless be reported
to you by the representatives of
our Government. I may add that
I regard it as worthy of serious
consideration. There is much in
the conditions in the United
States and Japan which makes
it seem probable that Japan would
favorably regard a war with us
at this time, for which such matters
as the California troubles would
serve only as a pretext. The present
vulnerability of the United States,
the great undecided issues of the
Pacific and the immense interests