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Very confidential

Proposed Treaty between the U.S. and Japan.
Encls. 388-389. November 5, 1907.
The President (Ikeb.) Confidential.
Enclosures for the confidential use of the Dep't a copy of the reply of the Japanese Government to Viscount Aoki's telegram.
Go. (Rec'd Nov. 6, 1907.) 3:10 P.M.

Acknowledged
Nov. 7, 1907.
JST

Reply of the Imperial Government to Viscount Aoki's telegram.

The Imperial Government fully share your views regarding the desirability of effectively dissipating the sense of uneasiness and vague misgivings expressed by some sections of the press both in America and in Europe. Nevertheless the Imperial Government are afraid that an agreement or a declaration touching solely on topics, regarding which there has never been the slightest discrepancy of views between the two Governments and leaving wholly untouched the question of immigration to which the public attach exaggerated importance, would be a source of popular disappointment rather than of satisfaction. On the other hand the Imperial Government are persuaded that an attempt to arrive at a formal agreement looking to the final adjustment of the immigration problem would not only be futile but may even be inadvisable. In the presence of obvious difficulties in the way of a formal comprehensive agreement, the Imperial Government believe it to be wiser to rely on the unwritten friendly sentiments which bind the two peoples, rather than make an attempt to reduce to writing the views of the two Govern-

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ments on certain well-recognized points of policy.

Regarding the immigration question the Imperial Government are actually cooperating in good faith to bring about the result contemplated by the President's executive order, and the most stringent restriction is being exercised against the emigration of Japanese laborers to the continental territories of the U. S.



You are authorized to give positive assurance to this effect and express the hope of the Imperial Government that the President will be pleased to await the result of his Executive Order of March 14th.