

AMERICAN EMBASSY,
TOKYO.

Despatch No. 270

May 28th, 1907.



MR. WRIGHT to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

SUBJECT: Reported attacks upon Japanese stores and
their customers in San Francisco - Confirma-
tion of telegrams.



Despatch No. 270

AMERICAN EMBASSY,
TOKYO.

May 28th, 1907.

The Honorable Elihu Root,
Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:-

I have the honor to confirm my telegram to the
Department sent May 25th, 1907, as follows:

"Secstate, Washington:

Japanese newspapers publish sensational
cables from San Francisco reporting repeated
attacks on Japanese stores and their customers
(period) So far no comments or apparent ex-
citement. Have you any advices as to the
facts?

Wright."

and to confirm the Department's telegram in reply of May
26th as follows:

"Amembassy, Tokyo:

We have heard nothing here of any attacks
on Japanese stores or customers in San Francis-
co (period) There is however very serious
street railroad strike in San Francisco and
much disturbance. All business probably in-
terfered with but have no reason to believe
Japanese more than others. Will investigate
immediately.

Root."

My attention was first called to the matter by
telegrams appearing in the vernacular press on the 23rd
and 25th instant, translations of which I append hereto
together with copies of more recent reports. I thereupon
despatched my telegram of inquiry in order that I might
have the real facts at my command in case the matter should
go further.

On receipt of your reply I called upon the Min-
ister for Foreign Affairs and repeated to him its substance.
Viscount Hayashi said that the reports that had been re-
ceived looked bad and indicated a degree of disturbance
which was unfortunate. I explained to him fully the situ-
ation in San Francisco and expressed my belief that there

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Confirms his telegram, May 25,
1907, and ack's Dep't's telegram
of May 26th.

Reports interview with the Minis-
ter for Foreign Affairs on the sub-
ject of the recent riots in San Fran-
cisco.

States that no especial excite-
ment has been manifested on this
occasion.

Encl's newspaper clippings in re-
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would be no question of giving full protection to Japanese subjects; I at the same time said to him that it was a very unfortunate state of things existing there and it was a matter of regret which would doubtless be remedied in a short time.

There has been no especial excitement manifested on this occasion. Such of the newspapers as have referred to the matter (including the "Jiji Shimpō") have pointed out that Japan has every reason to believe that the American people will not allow the present unfortunate state of things in San Francisco to continue or presume upon the lasting patience of the Japanese nation.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Wm. E. Wright



Enclosures - translations from vernacular press.