

JAPAN, FRANCE AND THE SUBMARINE TONNAGE PLAN

The French representatives have not entirely caught the spirit that prompted Senator Borah to initiate the movement for the limitation of armaments...

HUGHES WITNESSES PLAN ON SUBSEA TONNAGE

Official Report Shows U. S. Ready to Scrap 35,000 Tons of Submarines.

BRITAIN ALSO TO CUT

Other Powers Oppose Idea of Keeping Submersibles on Present Basis.

BALFOUR IN LAST PLEA

On Record Against Undersea Craft Before Agreeing to U. S. Compromise.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24 (Associated Press).

The American proposals submitted by Secretary Hughes as to submarine tonnage at today's meeting of the naval committee of the Washington conference were given as follows in the official communiqué:

"The American delegation was entirely willing to accept, instead of 90,000 tons proposed as the maximum limit for the United States, 60,000 tons, thus scrapping 35,000 tons of the existing submarine tonnage, on the basis that Great Britain should also accept 60,000 tons as the maximum limit of submarines and scrap 22,464 tons—her present amount of submarine tonnage being 32,464 tons, according to the American figures.

"Then in a desire to make whatever accommodation was possible to meet the views entertained by the other delegations, the chairman suggested that if the United States and Great Britain each reduced the maximum limit of their submarine tonnage to 60,000 tons, France, Japan and Italy should retain the tonnage they have—in other words, maintain the status quo as regards submarine tonnage. He made the suggestion in order to show that so far as the American Government was concerned it was not in favor of anything that favored expansion. This was a conference limitation."

Hughes Discusses Question. Before submitting the proposals, Chairman Hughes discussed the general question, saying, according to the communiqué:

"The chairman then said that unless further discussion of the principle of the abolition of the submarine was desired, he would propose that the committee should, in each case, recommend its instructions, numbers, tonnage, etc."

"The point of limitation of armaments as regards submarines had been reached. In respect to the point of proposing and considering about construction of international law in connection with submarine warfare and to consider and debate what could be done to strengthen the laws governing the use of this weapon."

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"The formal expression of the British delegation on the question of submarines, as submitted for the record by Admiral De Bon, was not far from that which the British Empire delegation desires formally to place on record its opinion that the use of submarines, while of small value as a defensive purpose, is inevitably to acts which are inconsistent with the laws of war and the dictates of humanity, and the delegation desires that united action should be taken to bring about their abolition, maintenance, construction or employment."

Long Debate on Submarines. Mr. Hughes in discussing the submarine question said he was quite aware that in the United States there was "widespread sentiment against the submarine, largely due to the feeling that it has been outlawed by the law of nations to which the submarine had been put."

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"What will happen," he asked, "if these other countries continue to build submarines either for their own use or for some one else? . . . The countries I have in mind, which are not represented here, and which therefore preserve their freedom of action and their submarine forces—what have you got of persuading them or of forcing them to follow our example?"

Cites Absence of Guarantees. "You cannot assume here," he added, "certain obligations in the matter of submarines in the name of countries not taking part in the conference. You can neither persuade nor force them."

"Hence, in the absence of guarantees, I consider that we cannot come to a decision. We have come to an agreement on the reduction of offensive naval armaments. But the question of means of defense must be left to the consideration of the countries interested."

"I readily understand that a meeting of the general conference might be suggested in which would be represented all the countries interested in the question of submarine tonnage. It is not my duty to suggest such a meeting, but I am sure that it would be most desirable."

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THE NEW YORK HERALD, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1921. 17 NEWS ST. TO CHITA BY JAPAN

Political and Economic Penetration of Siberia Insisted On.

'JOKERS' ARE BARED

Provide for Validation of Accord With Semenov and Others.

ASKS FORTS BE RAZED

Dismantling of Vladivostok Fortress and Troop Withdrawal Sought.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Seventeen points, with three secret paragraphs, comprise the demands made by the Japanese Government on the Russian Government in Siberia, which for disregard of sovereignty and as unveiled political and economic penetration can only be compared with the notorious twenty-one Chinese points.

Ururi, representative of Far Eastern Foreign Affairs at Moscow, and Shiversky, head of the group representing the Far Eastern Republic in Washington during the conference on Far Eastern affairs, gave the gist of the Japanese demands to a correspondent of THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Jokers in One Paragraph. These terms would oblige the Russians to dismantle the fortresses of Vladivostok and others along the Pacific coast. The Russians must withdraw their troops from along the Korean frontier. Japanese officers would receive freedom of the country in Siberia—freedom to travel wherever they choose and to inspect everything. Most of the other paragraphs deal with economic concessions, such as giving the Japanese the right to own land and concessions priorities to mines.

Most of the jokers are in one paragraph, and would oblige the Russian Government at Chita to recognize all accords concluded by the Japanese with other Russian governments. When questioned the Japanese admitted that this would validate not only the old Czarist agreements but—and here is the joker—such accords as those reached by Russian adventurers such as Gen. Semenov, who made a deal about Vladivostok and still are in Japanese pay.

Parallel with those demands the Japanese have been digging in throughout Manchuria and in Eastern Siberia. They have been building up the old Czarist lines of the East Chinese Railroad and have made a vigorous effort to get Russia's place on the International Board of Control.

Russians in Moscow recently returned from Siberia and the Chita delegation in Washington told of recent Japanese pressure upon local Siberian authorities to secure both mining and farm concessions.

The Japanese too are exercising full fishing facilities, not only along the Siberian coast, but also in the Amur and other rivers. Now too the Japanese seem to have reversed their recently announced intentions of evacuating Siberia, aiming and provoking the White Guard before the Japanese could begin operations again against the Eastern Republic.

Two Advantages Sought. Most of the diplomatic dealings covering these events have taken place at Dairen, a railroad of the Eastern Chinese railroad in the Liao Tung Peninsula. Negotiations have been going on here between the Japanese and Russians from time to time during the last year. Last spring they were broken off, but this fall were resumed again. When the Washington conference was made before the Japanese took the initiative in seeking to resume negotiations with the Russian Government.

The Japanese saw two distinct advantages to be gained here. They hoped, first of all, to consolidate their penetration of Siberia and of Manchuria, and to secure Russian recognition for the Japanese in the Far East. Secondly, they proposed to react to Dairen to reach easy terms with the Bolsheviks and the Far Eastern Government in view of the fact that they refused to recognize Japanese pretensions in Eastern Siberia.

But the Far Eastern Republic refused to accept the Japanese Seven Points. They want the Japanese out of Vladivostok, but not at the expense of northern Sakhalin. In the demands of the Japanese for reparations, indemnity for the Japanese and Japanese troops by the Russians at Nikolavsk they see merely a pretext for Japanese expansion in Siberia, and a convenient pretext to annex Sakhalin. In the circumstances it is not surprising that the Japanese are not eager to have Siberia raised as a subject of discussion at Washington. It is on the American agenda, though not on the Japanese, and if the subject is raised it is generally believed that the Japanese will only participate in a vague general discussion about work in the Far East, but without any definite application of this highly desirable principle to Siberia.

ADMIRAL BARON KATO CONFINED TO HIS BED

Ordered by Physician to Cancel Engagements.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24 (Associated Press).—Admiral Baron Kato, head of the Japanese armaments conference, who is suffering from a slight indisposition, probably due to the strain of conference work, has been directed by his physician to cancel all social engagements and to remain in bed for a week.

Francis Capitaine De Vaisseau Dupuy-Dutemps. Japan—Vice-Admiral Baron Acton, Commander Prince Fabrizio Ruspoli. Italy—Japan—Not named.

The meeting then adjourned until Tuesday next, December 27, 1921, at 11 o'clock A. M.

Conference Doings

AFTER a debate of four hours the naval committee failed to effect a compromise on the submarine matter, the French experts objecting to the Hughes ratio pending advice from Paris.

It was stated that M. Briand had changed his attitude since his eloquent speech on armaments, particularly in regard to the submarine question.

From French circles it was learned that the delegates fear they will be unable to recede from their position on submarines, and it was expected that an agreement was extremely doubtful.

Sensor Willis made a statement in favor of abolition of submarines by the United States. He takes the side of Great Britain in her plea for elimination of the undersea craft.

JAPAN UPSETS RATIO FOR SUBMERSIBLES

American nor British expert naval opinion would accept such an apportionment.

Present Submarine Strength. American figures on the present submarine strength of the five Powers are: United States, 95,000 tons; Great Britain, 82,000 tons; France, 42,000 tons; Japan, 32,000 tons, and Italy, 22,000 tons. In connection with the Italian desire to accept only equal submarine tonnage with France, it was stated that Italy would prefer to have France scale down her submarine fleet 20,000 tons to equal the present Italian fleet, but if that could not be done Italy would demand the right to build up to the French 42,000 ton aggregate. The 31,500 tons for both was a compromise proposal.

On the basis of capital ship strength, as already accepted, France would have a submarine tonnage of about 30,000 tons, as against 90,000 each for the United States and Great Britain. The new American plan, however, would permit France to have 42,000 tons, as against 60,000 each for the United States and Great Britain.

Aside from their contention for suppression of submarines as a world policy, the British delegation has indicated that if submarines were to be retained they would urge reduction in retained tonnage from the original American plan. They have suggested 45,000 instead of 90,000 tons, as proposed by the Far East committee of the Washington conference. At the same time Japan is represented as prepared to consider such a plan of China's claim which does not affect Manchuria leases or other fundamental privileges acquired in the last thirty years.

The divergence of opinion on whether Article II of the four Power treaty negotiated at Washington applies to the Japanese plan has supplied fresh ammunition for Japanese newspapers opposed to that document. The more important journals, however, so far have taken a more rational view of the philosophy of this much discussed article.

The Asahi Shimbun believes the differences of construction will be settled satisfactorily because the article in question is opposed in America and Japan for diametrically opposite reasons; but the Asahi anticipates further difficulties growing out of ambiguity in the wording of the treaty.

"Baron Kato Responsible." The Yamato Shimbun questions whether the Japanese delegates have given their approval of the document, saying: "If Admiral Kato was unaware of the defect all that is necessary will be to ask the Powers to modify the phraseology. Other than that, people must look to Baron Kato responsible."

The Hochi Shimbun expresses the opinion that the Japanese insular possessions in the Pacific are so closely related to the Japanese mainland that any menacing influence must affect both. Therefore, says the newspaper, as a practical problem the issue dwindles to nothingness.

Assuming that Japan will be allowed to proceed with the building of the auxiliary craft, Vice-Admiral Okada recommends such allocation of workmen as to preserve the efficiency of all dockyards.

MAY ABANDON FLEET DRILLS TO SAVE MONEY

Separate Maneuvers Planned for the Two Units.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Joint maneuvers of the Atlantic and Pacific fleets scheduled for February in Panama Bay probably will be abandoned in the interest of economy, it was indicated today at the Navy Department.

Separate drills will be held by the two fleets, orders having been issued for the Atlantic unit to proceed to Guantanamo Bay on January 3. Orders to the Pacific fleet have not yet gone forward.

The new superdreadnought Maryland, designated as the tactical flagship of the United States fleet, which includes the Atlantic and Pacific units, is scheduled to go south with the Atlantic fleet next month, as is the administrative flagship Columbia, formerly the part played by the USS Oregon, which is scheduled to go north with the Pacific fleet.

CHILE HONORS U. S. ENVOY.

SANTIAGO, Chile, Dec. 24.—William Miller Collier, American Ambassador to Chile, received honorary membership of the faculty of laws and political sciences in the University of Chile at special exercises in his honor this afternoon.

ARMY CUT IN JAPAN 5 STUDENTS SLAIN

SOUGHT FROM DIET National Liberals Announce Their Program Against Military Service.

PEACE WORK ESPOUSED Scope of Article II. Relating to Nippon's Mainland Is Disputed.

KATO HELD RESPONSIBLE RAID SURVEY OFFICES

Appeal to Powers to Modify Phraseology Urged to Relieve Ambiguity.

TOKYO, Dec. 24 (Associated Press).—The Diet opened today. Formal opening ceremonies will be held Monday.

Reduction of the army by one-half and the cutting down of the period of military service from two years to one will be part of the program of the Kokumintō or National Liberal party. The needs of the Empire and the people, said Takekichi Inukai, leader of the party, to-day, demand the development of agriculture and industry, to which the youth of the country can be more profitably employed.

In an influential official source it was reported that the Government will make no further concessions to China with regard to Shantung, if China persists in cash payment, which would result in transferring the presser Japanese holdings to a consortium. Japan, it was added, will see no alternative but to await a more favorable opportunity to discuss the question.

Japan to Admit No Discussion. The leading vernacular newspapers credit the foreign office with authorizing the statement that Japan is determined to oppose the discussion of Japan's twenty-one demands on China, as proposed by the Far East committee of the Washington conference. At the same time Japan is represented as prepared to consider such a plan of China's claim which does not affect Manchuria leases or other fundamental privileges acquired in the last thirty years.

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CALDER WOULD FINISH TWO BATTLESHIPS HERE

He Hopes to Continue 600 Workmen on Jobs.

United States Senator William M. Calder will suggest to the Navy Department that the construction of the battleships South Dakota and Indiana at the New York yard be suspended on the grounds that the yard is overworked, and that the 600 men now working on the two vessels will not be laid off and there will be work enough for them and many more mechanics for the next six months.

Senator Calder, Col. Ardolph L. Kline, Representative from the Fifth District in Brooklyn and a member of the House Committee on Navy Affairs, conferred with Capt. C. T. Vogelzang, commandant at the yard, yesterday on the general situation. It was the Senator's view that if work was stopped on the two vessels it would be "scrapped" the loss would be far greater to the Government than if they were launched and then sold for merchant marine purposes.

JAPAN SERVES CHINA, HANIHIRA CONTENTS

Delegate Thanks Correspondents for Fairness.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD. New York Herald Bureau. M. Hanihara, Assistant Secretary of State of Japan, and one of the Japanese delegates to the international conference, took occasion today to criticize those who suggest Japan attempt to gain a pernicious foothold in China. Japan, in fact, the Nippon statesman said, has spent the blood of her sons to maintain China as no other nation has done.

Special Rates to TOKIO. Americans to Have Big Space at Exposition.

More space is to be devoted to United States exhibits than to those of any other foreign country in the great exposition in Ueno Park, Tokio, from March 19 to July 31, under the auspices of the Tokio Prefecture. The cornerstone of the exposition building was laid October 18 with impressive services conducted by Shinto priests, and the construction is being pushed rapidly.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha offers reductions in freight rates and a program for exhibitors, effective until September 20.