

Anglo-American Naval
Staff Conversations 2
G 70/8/39

RA

see also
G 70/17
N. A. 12/15

Accuracy to the letter
conversation on March 24
a definite decision was
to be communicated
Foreign Office, 15th
jm



[F 3017/2963/61]

(No. 285.)

Sir,

March 27, 1939.

G 70/5/39

I ASKED the United States Ambassador to call and see me this morning in order that I might clear what seemed to be a discrepancy between what he had said to me on the 24th March on the subject of the United States fleet returning to the Pacific, and your Excellency's telegram reporting your conversation on the same subject by telephone with the Under-Secretary of State on the same day.

2. The Ambassador said that there was no essential discrepancy between the two positions, inasmuch as he had very little doubt that the reply given to you and reported in your telegram had been thrown into that form in order that the position of the President should be all right on the record. It would obviously be of advantage to him, should the need ever arise, to be able to say that it had been his own original intention to bring the fleet back to the Pacific about the 20th May.

3. I thanked the Ambassador for his explanation and told him that, if we had any reason to change our general view as to the desirability of this move, I would let him know.

4. In a short reference to the general situation, the Ambassador told me that he understood the United States Ambassador in Paris had been in touch with the United States Ambassador in Warsaw, and had heard reports of the German Government having made proposals about Danzig to the Polish Government, which the Polish Government had rejected.

5. I told him that, so far as I was aware, we had not so far received similar information.

598 dd-1

I am, with great truth and respect,
Sir,
Your Excellency's obedient Servant,
(For the Secretary of State)

R. G. Howe

His Excellency
The Right Honourable
Sir Ronald Lindsay, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,
etc., etc., etc.,
Washington.

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undoubtedly