

SECRET

H. E. will perhaps be able to take advantage of a conversation with Mr. Hull or Mr. Welles to raise this point.

2. It is perhaps just worth recording that Mr. Adams of the Far Eastern Division of the State Department said yesterday that his, and apparently the Division's, preliminary reaction about the effect of the Russian war on the Far East was that it should make it possible to "freeze" Japan in their present position. She would not wish to start an adventure to the South when the possibilities of an attack on the Maritime provinces in Siberia seem good. On the other hand it should be possible to prevent her making such an attack by keeping her guessing as to our intentions. We ought to start putting pressure on her over Indo-China and elsewhere to make her think if she attacked Russia she would expose her rear. When I asked Mr. Adams whether the Department were considering any concrete steps to this end he replied in the negative.

W. Grayson
June 24th, 1941.

WGH:GA

Mr. Butler
H.E.

So far this has been discussed by H.E. with either Mr. Hull or Mr. Welles. I could, if desired, talk to Dr Hornbeck.

Walter Lippmann said last night that he thought the Russo-German war created an opportunity for a fresh approach to Japan. But I think F.O. are more inclined to favour pressure.

WMB
24/v.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Will ask Mr Welles to meet him / see him -
H 24/6
how see - /53: