

**July 31, 1978**

**Cable No. 1465, Ambassador Sato to the Foreign  
Minister, 'Treaty of Peace and Friendship between  
Japan and China Negotiations (7th Meeting)'**

**Citation:**

"Cable No. 1465, Ambassador Sato to the Foreign Minister, 'Treaty of Peace and Friendship between Japan and China Negotiations (7th Meeting)'", July 31, 1978, Wilson Center Digital Archive, 2010-367, Act on Access to Information Held by Administrative Organs. Also available at the Diplomatic Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. Contributed by Yutaka Kanda and translated by Stephen Mercado.  
<https://digitalarchive.umd.edu/document/220011>

**Summary:**

Provisions for the Treaty of Peace and Friendship are proposed.

**Original Language:**

Japanese

**Contents:**

Original Scan  
Transcript - Japanese  
Translation - English



秘密指定解除  
情報公開室

極秘

## 注 意

1. 本電の取扱いは慎重を期せられたい。
2. 本電の主管変更その他については電信一般問合せ係 (TEL2172) に連絡ありたい。

## 電 信 写

結局この度の集中的な交渉に入ったわけである。日本側は、総理、外務大臣の指示を得ては権を求めず、は権に反対であるとの二つの点を共同声明とほぼ同文で条約本文の中に書き入れた。日本側としては、出来るだけのことをしたと思うし、何とか条約をまとめたいと思う。

韓副部長はこの条約交渉には3年半以上も携われ、私以上にく労をなされているし、この条約の締結を望み、かつそれに努力されていることは私もよく分っている。この際、韓副部長にお願いしたいことは中国側より前に述べた日本の立場を考慮に入れた何等かのお考え、または示きをいただきたいことである。

第二にこれも前回の少数者会談で私より取り上げた点であるが、第3条以外の条文の討議の問題である。この問題を取り上げる理由は前回にも、御説明したように一つは審議促進の見地からであり、一つは東京に報告して東京の考えを固めるためである。この問題に関し前回の会談で韓副部長は私の気持は十分理解できると言われたが、これらの条文の討議または問題点の指摘をされる考えは依然としてお持ちでないか今一度おたずねしたい。

(7)

写手交済( / 日00時40分)



Number: (TA) R054902 5423  
Primary: Asian Affairs Bureau Director-General

Sent: China, July 31, 1978, 23:20  
Received: MOFA, August 01, 1978, 00:28

To: The Foreign Minister  
From: Ambassador Sato

Treaty of Peace and Friendship between Japan and China Negotiations (7th Meeting)

No. 1465 Secret Top Urgent  
(Limited Distribution)

Outgoing Separate Telegram No. 1464

Today, I would like to talk about two things. I think that in the six meetings to date, particularly in the restricted meeting of the 28th, it became clear that the focus of the issues lies in Sentence 1, Article 3, of the Japanese side's draft, that is to say, the provision "This treaty is not directed against any specific third country." This provision, as Vice Minister Han Nianlong knows, derives from Japan's diplomatic posture, that is to say, from the posture that "Our country in fact maintains to the extent possible friendly relations with all countries of the world, except for those that would conduct hostile acts against us." We appraise Vice Minister Han's having said at the second meeting, in regard to the position of Japan's diplomacy, that you understand Japan's desire.

I would like you to understand that, so long as Japan holds firm to this position, Japan regards as necessary the insertion in some part of the treaty the idea of the sort in Sentence 1, Article 3.

I have been involved in these negotiations now for eight months. There have been various twists and turns, but on this occasion we have entered into intensive negotiations. The Japanese side, with instructions from the Prime Minister and the Foreign Ministry, has written into the treaty draft two points - we do not seek hegemony and are opposed to hegemony - in language nearly identical to that of the Joint Communique. The Japanese side thinks that it has done everything possible and would like, one way or another, to conclude the treaty.

I also understand well that Vice Minister Han has been involved in these treaty negotiations for more than three and a half years, has labored more than I have, wishes to conclude this treaty, and is making efforts towards this. What I now wish to request of you, Vice Minister Han, is some idea or suggestion from the Chinese side that takes into consideration Japan's aforementioned position.

Second, and this is a point that I raised at the previous restricted meeting, is the issue of discussing provisions other than Article 3. The reasons that I raise this issue are, as I explained last time as well: one is from the viewpoint of promoting discussion and another is to report to Tokyo and to solidify Tokyo's thinking. Concerning this issue, Vice Minister Han said at the last meeting that he fully understood my feeling. I now wish to ask once more now whether you are still thinking to indicate these provisions to discuss or points at issue.

(End)