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小川書記官
至急情報
至急情報

電 信 案	十六日大會返上ヲ決議シI.O.C.此旨電	第十一回オリンピック東京大會組織委員會ハ	往電第一二四六號ニ関シ	電送第18887 18894 號	管主
				昭和十三年七月十六日午後五時三十分發	情報部長
外 務 省				宛 件 名 スル件	任主 第一課長
				東京大會取止ニ関	昭和十三年七月十一日起草
				發 宇垣大臣	

電信課長
發電係
16 66

小川書記官
至急情報

電 信 案	十五日閣議ハ一九四〇年東京オリンピック開催取止ヲ 通告ト認め東京大會組織委員會ニ通達スルニトナレリ。	至急情報通り電報アリタシ	至急情報先	電送第18705 18743 號	管主
				昭和十三年七月十三日午後五時三十分發	情報部長
外 務 省				東京大會取止ニ関	昭和十三年七月十五日起草
				發 宇垣大臣	

電信課長
發電係
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(原議用紙乙)

報シタル所此機會ニ本官ヨリモ大會東
 京招致ニ盡カシ吳シタル各國当局並ニ
 國際「オリンピック」關係者ニ一應挨拶致シ
 度キニ付大會返上ハ一ツニ物心西面ニ巨
 リ益々國家ノ總力ヲ擧ゲテ今次事變
 ノ目的達成ニ邁進シ以テ東亞永遠
 ノ平和ヲ確立セサルベカラストスル國民一

電信案

外務省

(原議用紙乙)

致ノ決意ニ依ルモノナルコトヲ説明ノ上關
 係方面へ從來ノ援助ニ對シ非公式ニ
 懇篤ナル謝意ヲ表スルト共ニ東京市
 ハ一九四四年第十三回大會開催運動
 ヲ爲スノ決意ヲ有スルニ付右ニ對シ重
 不テ後援方可然ニ依頼アリタシ

電信案

外務省

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第一課長

相
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事
印

昭和13年 二〇四五二 略

經府 七月十五日發
本省 十六日夜着

太田領事

第四五號

電信寫

東京「オリンピック」大會中止方ニ關スル報道ハ土地柄位ニ從來各
種會合ニ於ケル觀光局笠井代議士等ノ宣傳振ニモ鑑ミ各方面ニ大ナ
ル「シニ」ヲ與ヘタルモノノ如ク殊ニ從來日本側ノ立場ヲ支持
シ來レル米人ヨリハ「全ク友達ニ會ハス願ナシ」等ノ苦請ヲ申出ツ
ル始末ナル處十五日當市「タイムス」紙ハ今回ノ突如タル大會取消
決定ハ無益ノ對支侵略戰爭ヲ履行シツツアル日本軍部ノ犯セル第一
ノ大失敗ニシテ取消ノ理由モ人ヲシテ肯定セシムルニ足ルモノナシ

今日日本程外國トノ親善關係ヲ必要トスル國ハナキ筈ナルニ其ノ唯
一ノ據所タル大會ヲ自ラ放棄シ日本國民多年ノ宿望ヲ水泡ニ歸セシ
メタリ國民ノ離間ヲ示ス之ヨリ明カナルハナシト論說ヲ揭ケ「ガー
ランド」氏モ其ノ旅行先ニテ今回ノ決定ヲ見タルハ殘念ナル旨述ヘ
タル由新聞ニ報道セラレ居レリ
本件ニ關シテハ其ノ對外的ニ及ホス影響等ヲモ充分御考慮ノ上廟議
決定セラレタル次第ニテ此ノ上ハ大會中止ニ依リ事情不案内ナル米
人ニ斯クナリシハ日本從來ノ聲明モ何等變更セラルヤモ知レストカ
或ハ日本ハ財政的ニ行詰マレリ(十三日ノ當地新聞「Japan going
to the dogs」ト題シ) 蘆ノ皮三十錢、鼠ノ皮三錢トノ東京發A、P
及U、P電ヲ揭ケ居レリ)トカノ印象ヲ與ヘサル様努力致スコト肝

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電信寫

要ナリト存セラルルニ付テハ右御舎ノ上此ノ上共啓發御取計相成度
ク尙當地米人中ニハ特ニ「オリンピック」見物ノ爲毎月貯金ヲ積メ
來レル等熱心ナル者モアリ土地柄當地ニ於テモ何等カノ發達ヲ爲ス
コト必要ト存セラルルニ付大會中止ノ理由ニ關スル英文ノ説明紙
返シ同電アリタシ

米、紐育、桑港へ暗送セリ

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long the fighting should last. In such circumstances we have come to realize that the Olympic Games should be cancelled." Such is the opinion of those responsible for the policies of the nation. We can but bow to their wishes.

In times of emergency, a nation should be united as a man. That is the traditional trait of our people and we fervently hope that our stand will be well understood by you all. Even under the present circumstances, we could hold the Games. But we are afraid that the welcome, the scale of the preparations would not be up to the standard of our hopes and your expectations. What we do, we want to do to the fullest extent -- we feel that our friends are entitled to a welcome beyond their expectations, that that is what courtesy and amity demands.

In the present sad circumstances, when our men, young and old, are engaged in a deadly struggle for the very life of the Empire, we are afraid that our hearts could not be entirely devoted to the festivities of reception -- our thoughts would partially be diverted to the sacrifices of the battlefield, to the mourning in the families of the youths of both China and Japan, who have not come back to partake in the fraternal competition of the Games.

I want to assure you on behalf of those who have rendered services for the preparations of the Games, and if I may, on behalf of those who pin their faith in Olympism, of their determined and never changing adherence to the Olympic cause. They

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will offer their utmost efforts whenever desired for fostering Olympism wherever the Games may be held. At the next Games, Japan will exert herself to be among the most enthusiastic and representative participants. Invariably, Japanese athletes have felt inspiring pleasure and invigorating enthusiasm whenever they held contents with American participants, both within and without the Olympic arena. As true interpreters of the Olympic spirit and faithful guardians of the Games, American Olympic enthusiasts are esteemed and loved by their Japanese friends.

The original idea of Olympism centers on the thought that the body of man, as well as his intellect and spirit, has its glory, that body and mind should alike be disciplined, and that it is by the harmonious discipline of both that man attains the highest stand.

The Japanese people are now entering into a phase ~~involving~~ ~~extraordinary~~ of self-imposed discipline for a cause of supreme spiritual as well as physical importance. When they are released from their present duties, they will be only too happy to hail and respond to the Olympic call. They have already expressed the wish to have application made for the Games in 1944. I am sure that America will support it and lead other countries in the same direction. As Baron de Coubertin wished it, the Torch of Olympia will then burn brilliantly in the Eastern sky.

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I answer them categorically with one simple "No". I do tell you unequivocally that these are not the true picture of the actual conditions of the country. We have had these days parties of American visitors who were surprised to find how differently Japan looks from what they had heard while in the U. S. A. through the press and otherwise. Upon setting foot on the shores of this country, gloomy illusions and biased expectations are soon cleared. The impressions they then accumulate are totally new and pleasantly surprising. Ask any of those who have visited here recently whether my statement is genuine or not. There are now in Japan a number of American athletes -- a dozen wrestlers under their coach, Mr. Arduin; a party of educators -- the American and Canadian high school teachers; a group of young people -- fifty boys and girls who have come over for the America-Japan Student Conference -- . These are at present touring in this country and I am sure they will give you word on their return home how we Japanese lead our national life and I sincerely hope you will receive the true conception of this country. Yet in the face of all these most encouraging features, the Government wished that we stop our work. You will ask why. I answer that it is because the Government, which naturally possesses information concerning the situation, particularly about the important phases of the present trouble with China, has until a recent time come to the conclusion that the campaign cannot be ended in as short a period as expected. A protracted struggle requires that ample measures be taken to ensure

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a steady effort. Consumption control of certain materials is necessary; the people are being warned against the waste of ~~expensive~~ staple articles. All this is not from dire and pressing necessity, but as measure of wisdom and precaution, as a broad scheme for preventing the life of the nation to be thrown into confusion by the particular circumstances of war economy. Legislation has recently been enacted for a general mobilization of the country's resources and ~~assures~~ ^{assures} the subsistence of the national life, though not without some restrictions in our daily life. In such circumstances, the Government is of the opinion that anything which may require considerable endeavor and labor for its achievement, particularly anything which must be done on a large international scale, if it is to be perfected, should be temporarily kept aside in order to concentrate the national mind on the principal object. Marquis Kido, Minister for Welfare, under whose jurisdiction lie the Olympics question, stated, in giving his advice to the O. O. C., that "In view of the earnest efforts made in all quarters, I have on every available occasion, including the last session of the Diet, stated my hope that the Games would be held in Tokio, in spite of all difficulties. However times are such now that the nation must give undivided attention to achieving the goal of the China hostilities. In mind, as in matter, the entire resources of the nation must be mobilized to push the warfare to a satisfactory consummation, with the determination to persevere, no matter how

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adjacent pool for swimming contests and training ground as well. The distance from the heart of the town is 12 kilometers, much nearer than the distance in the case of ^{the} Berlin stadium. It has a spacious field for the Olympic village too. The plans and designs for the stadium are decided upon by ^a ~~the~~ committee of expert architects, amalgamating suggestions and requirements expressed by those who have experiences with regard to such buildings and stadium accommodations. The results of the researches by scientists for applying up-to-date ideas are fully considered.

Great progress has been made in the work of digging the rowing canal; the ceremony of the ground-breaking of the site for the Cycling Hall has been held and labor service is being tendered by college students. The beautiful modern horse-race course, the great historical amphitheater for Japanese wrestling, the national institute for physical culture, the covered courts and lawn grounds belonging to colleges and private institutions around the town, etc. have been leased and are going to be still further improved. In short, the preparations have been making progress and all feel most hopeful.

The question which will be raised by you surely is why then are we obliged to ask the I.O.C. to release us from the duty of holding the Games here? Why can we not go forward with the work? Why do we disappoint the youths of the world by not giving them a chance of coming to Japan? Are

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general conditions in Japan so bad ^{that} as the visit of foreigners in large number may be found uncomfortable and even dangerous? Is the national life so intensely affected by the present trouble that no ordinary daily life can be anticipated? Is the spirit of the nation so low that no physical exercises, nor refined amusement, can be had?

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Mr. Brundage hold in view. Such common understanding has surely brought Japan and Mr. Brundage closer, and he considers what happenings in the sport circle of Japan is not a matter which does not concern him but as a thing of direct interest. There is no wonder that he was much alarmed by the news that Tokyo might give up the Games ^{with which it was} entrusted. We are ^{very} much touched by his kind thought. The history of sports in this country will surely record it as an incident unforgettable.

My answer to the inquiry of Mr. Brundage was, however, in the affirmative. I telegraphed ~~him~~ ^{to him} back that the prevailing circumstances compelled us to cancel the staging of the Games in Tokyo. My regret was immense and my feeling undescribable. I am more than sure that my response disappointed him and I am afraid that, though I ~~do~~ hope not, he has lost ^{the} faith ^{which he} so kindly ~~held~~ ^{held} so far in us. ~~The~~ A similar feeling certainly prevails, though I sincerely hope to be contrary, among those who have been kindly disposed towards Japan, including Mr. Garland of Los Angeles and Mr. Couderte of New York, and the general public of America who is connected with sport and particularly the Olympic Games. Despite such regret and fear, we have to abandon the preparation for the year of 1940, let me tell you the reasons for it.

First of all, I may be permitted to tell you what I stated at Cairo. I showed the Conference of I.O.C. the

plans and scope of the preparation, elaborate enough to obtain the approval of those present and sufficient for inviting the youths of the world for the contest within the bounds of the Olympic Games. The Japanese Government came to the decision, with the consent of the Imperial Diet then sitting, to give us the financial aid allotted for the current year as promised previously, and the municipality of Tokyo was not slow to respond to our call by augmenting budgetary provisions for the improvement and new construction of so-called Olympic roads and the erection of stadiums and other structures. I promised the gentlemen at the Conference that sport federations of Japan be advised to go ahead speedily for the goal in bringing them into closer relations with their sister bodies abroad and the Organising Committee as well as its bureau for actual execution be well systematised and strengthened with able working facilities to bring them to full functioning.

I have been feeling happy to find that such counsels and instructions soon found their effects and the work of preparation has been found marching smoothly on the right course, giving us a rosy future in sight. The site for the main Olympic stadium has since then been transferred from the Meiji Shrine Outer Garden to the place, in the close suburb of Tokyo, called Komazawa. The site is far better than the originally fixed place. It is surrounded by ^{shady} ~~pretty~~ groves and forests. Good air and picturesque environment provide us with ample space for building a stadium with an

Radio Broadcast by Mr. M. Nagai to America
from J.O.A.K. at 8.45 a.m., July 19, 1938

In addressing the public, the sport world in particular, of the United States, I am happy to announce that the very first telegram with regard to the relinquishment of the Olympic Games received from foreign countries was the one from Mr. Brundage of Chicago. He was evidently shocked by the news emanating from Tokio reporting that the Olympic Games ^{to be held in} Tokyo (1940) was on the verge of cancellation and at once took the trouble of making enquiry of me about the situation. It proves how much interest he takes in us and how anxiously he feels about what we are doing for sport. I take this not only as the feeling of one individual, Mr. Brundage, but as that of the American public. It is most gratifying for me that I was favored with ^{the} good fortune of crossing the Atlantic on the same ship last February with that gentleman on the way to the Cairo meeting of ^{the} I.O.C. I found him most upright in interpreting the spirit of sport and considerate and clear in appreciating the minds of the true sportsmen of the world. He is particularly concerned with the progress of the Olympic movement and wishes in earnest to see the fair and faithful development of the Olympic ideal. One of the points he is determined to bring to the due consideration of those who are directly connected with the Olympic Games and of the general public is "Amateurism" in the Olympic Movement. We all recall the declaration made by Baron Pierre de Coubertin, the founder of the modern Olympic

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Games, in 1894, when he addressed a circular to all the governing bodies of sport. He stated among other things that "before all things it is necessary that we should preserve in sport those characteristics of nobility and chivalry which have distinguished it in the past, so that it may continue to play the same part in the education of the peoples of today as it played so admirably in the days of ancient Greece. Imperfect humanity has ever tended to transform the Olympic athlete into the paid gladiator. But the two things are incompatible. We must choose between one formula and the other". Mr. Brundage too has found, I presume, a growing tendency undesirable in the progress of Olympism to "transform the Olympic athlete into the paid gladiator" and he is convinced that such development would certainly ^{not} mark the preservation of nobility and chivalry in sport. With this resolve, he fought most bravely at the Cairo Conference for the right course and we all know that his colleagues were reminded of this noble spirit. We Japanese concur with him in this sense. The maintenance of the noble and chivalrous characteristics in sport is the object we never overlook. As the time allotted for me to speak here is not enough to give full elucidation, I would briefly say that the "Bushido" knightly spirit and behavior -- our traditional belief in conducting ourselves is nothing but the noble and chivalrous characteristics of sport ^{which} the Baron as well as

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