

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

October 9, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Orders have been issued for these measures to be taken at once:

1. Call the organized Naval and Marine Reserves.
2. Call Fleet Reserve, Navy and Marine, selective basis.
3. Lay nets and booms for drill purposes.

The following steps in preparation for war can be taken to impress the Japanese with the seriousness of our preparations:

1. Army send reinforcement to Hawaii if contemplated.
2. Presidential proclamation for Maritime Commission to requisition merchant ships, in order to
3. Take over tankers, transports, auxiliaries, and begin to assemble Train on West Coast.
4. Coast Guard transfer to Navy.
5. Fill up garrisons of defense battalions in 14th District outlying bases.
6. Presidential proclamation establishing defensive sea areas.
7. Withdraw nationals from China. (Inconsistent with getting merchant ships out of danger).
8. Plan for evacuation of families out of Hawaii and later Panama.
9. Preparations regarding seizure German and Japanese merchant vessels in ports and near our coasts.

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Signature-

Carl S. Lipp

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10. Pressure on Britain to speed leases Bermuda and Newfoundland (essential).

11. Change laws to take limit off naval and marine personnel - limit to President's discretion.

12. Prepare plans for concentration camps (Army-Justice).

13. Executive Order to call Volunteer Reserves, including communication and merchant marine reserves.

14. Withdraw Marines from North China (this means Embassy should be closed). Leave very small token force. Stop sending replacements, Marines Shanghai - let attrition operate. Consider withdrawal when currency situation permits.

15. Netherlands East Indies:- Assist in material; line up for mutual support.

The following are matters for Treasury and State:

1. Freeze credits and assets of Japan.
2. Continue to bolster Chinese credit.
3. Take such steps as may be necessary to insure Chinese currency carrying on in case Shanghai is occupied by Japan.

For consideration, but in abeyance for the moment:

1. Alert the Asiatic Station at once to get ships other than river gunboats out of China. This should be the first secret step.

2. Alert the Naval Establishment (Establish security patrols, etc.)

Military Establishment

Merchant Marine (Clippers)

Department of Justice -- sabotage -

Surveillance of agents

Panama Canal - all security measures.