

BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON, D.C.,

January 19th, 1939.

No. 70.

My Lord,

I have the honour to report that Senator Key Pittman, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, is reported as having in a press interview given his rather grudging approval to the attitude of His Majesty's Government as set forth in the note presented by His Majesty's Ambassador at Tokyo on the 14th January, towards the Japanese "new order" in the Far East.

2. "I think the action of the British Government", he is reported as saying, "following the action of our government in refusing to accept the repudiation of the Nine-Power Pact by Japan and in insisting that the sanctity of treaties cannot be violated under the excuse of a new order in the world, is very encouraging. This is only the second time, however, in over seven years that Great Britain or any other party to the Nine-Power Pact has supported our government in its efforts to maintain obedience to peace treaties. It is unfortunate that this action was not taken by Great Britain in support of the protest made by our government to Japan at the time of the invasion of Manchuria."

3. I/

The Right Honourable,

VALM:ACEM:NT

The Viscount Halifax, K. G.,

etc., etc., etc.

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3. I am sending a copy of this despatch
to His Majesty's Ambassador at Tokyo.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,
humble servant,

'SGD) V.A.L. MALLET

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires.