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Deptels 2216, 2298. Embtel 3132.

Nishiyama

Steeves took up matter of Trust Territory claims with ~~Nishiyama~~ Nishiyama yesterday, along lines Deptel 2216, with emphasis on ex gratia payment on basis moral obligation of Japan to compensate Trust Territories inhabitants. Steeves referred to good will which had accrued from Japanese reparations payments in Southeast Asia; mentioned ~~possibilities of possible moral obligation~~ on possible moral obligation noted ~~Japan in line~~ last year's Tokyo press report/~~reference~~ refotel; and expressed hope Japanese Government would give ~~matter~~ mentioned careful consideration. Nishiyama said he would report to Foreign Office but expressed personal opinion that it would be extremely difficult to ask Diet recognize payment outside Article 4(a). He specifically asked if ex gratia payment would be outside Article 4(a) settlement and was informed that it would be.

Embassy should make similar approach to Foreign Office emphasizing that main purpose of settlement at this time is to solve problem arising as result Trusteeship Council visiting mission's report. Embassy might stress good will which would be likely accrue for Japan in UN and among inhabitants Trust Territory from action of this sort and desirability removing item which annually is cause of adverse comment in TC. FYI Department reviewing situation re relationship

Drafted by: REacon
FE:NA:RTHaverkamp/hc 4/14/60

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: FE - Mr. Steeves

Clearances: Dorman (In substance)

ODA - Mr. ~~Bane~~

NA - Mr. Bane

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re relationship ex gratia payment to Article 4(a). End FYI.

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