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STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

December 1, 1941.

We saw Japan take Formosa.

We helped Japan take Korea.

We let Japan take Manchuria.

We let Japan take Jehol.

We let Japan take Peiping--and Shanghai and Nanking and Hankow and Canton.

We forgave Japan's sinking of the Panay.

We forgave Japan's bombing of the Tutuila.

We have observed Japan's bombing of civilians in China, her driving of 30 million Chinese from their homes, her rapings of women and her torturings of men and children.

We have tolerated Japan's taking in China of American lives, her assaulting and injuring of American men and women and children, her bombing and destruction of American missions and hospitals and schools, her ruining of American enterprises, her strangling of American trade, her interference with American officials and tampering with American mails, etc., etc., etc.

And now there is talk about drawing "lines" and saying: 'You must not cross these lines; you must not immediately and directly jeopardize the British and the Dutch and the American strategic positions in the Far East; but [we say it

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by implication and tacit assent] you may go on with your activities in and against China, you may smash the Burma Road, you may continue to endanger our nationals and to bomb our properties and to destroy our interests in China, you may "beat China to her knees", you may make peace (under duress) with China and have your armies and your energies and your resources freed of their commitment there: so long as you keep within <u>those limits</u> you may assume that we won't use force to stop you.'