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Tokio, Japan,  
April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1874.

Sir:

In accordance with the suggestion of their Excellencies, Mr. Okuma and General Saigo at the conference today, I have the honor to submit the following in regard to the organization of a small party for signal duty.

The number of men necessary, as already stated, will be forty; this will be sufficient to man, in case of necessity, as many as ten out lying stations, as four men will suffice at any one station. Of these men, at least ten should be of considerable intelligence, and it would be well if they could read or write English, though it is not necessary that they should be able to speak that language.

I would also suggest the propriety of having all the men of this party well armed.

The special equipment of these men will be as follows - i. e. For each party of four men one good field glass or telescope, a sample of which I shall forward for examination. Should it be found impossible to obtain these, the ordinary marine telescope will answer the purpose.

Also for each party of four men six flags made of ordinary cotton cloth, and of the following sizes: Two square flags, six feet on a side, one of which should be of white cloth with a centre square of red cloth two feet on a side, and the other of red cloth with a white square of the same size (two feet) in the centre.

Two flags of cloth four and one half feet in diameter, one of white cloth with a red square in the centre one and one half feet in diameter, the other of red cloth with a white square one and one half feet in diameter in the centre.

Two flags three feet in diameter, one of white cloth with a red square one foot in diameter in the centre, and one of red cloth with a white square one foot in diameter in the centre.

In addition each subdivision of four men should be supplied with a lantern for night work.

The lanterns should be made of tin and so constructed that they will give a large and brilliant flame which will be visible at a long distance, and which will not be extinguished when the lamp has given to it a rapid circular motion over the head by swinging it on the end of a rod from six to twelve feet in length.

For using these flags and lamps, there should be provided poles or staves of the following lengths - i. e. ten bamboo poles six feet long; ten poles nine feet long; ten poles twelve feet long.

The flags should each be provided with strings by means of which they can be attached to the poles and removed at pleasure. The poles should also be prepared in such a manner

that the lamps above mentioned can be attached or removed at will and with facility.

These will be all the articles of special equipment that will be found necessary and are all included in the following:

### Recapitulation.

- 10 Field glasses or Marine telescopes.
- 10 Square flags of white cloth six feet in diameter with a cube square of red cloth two feet in diameter.
- 10 Square flags same as above substituting white for red and red for white.
- 10 flags of white cloth four and one half feet in diameter with a central square of red one and one half feet in diameter.
- 10 flags same as last substituting white for red and red for white.
- 10 square flags of white cloth three feet in diameter with a central square of red cloth one foot in diameter.
- 10 flags same as the last substituting white for red and red for white.

- 10 Tin lamps constructed as above described.
- 10 Bamboo poles, each twelve feet long and of a size convenient for use in the hand.
- 10 Bamboo poles similar to the above and nine feet long.
- 10 Bamboo poles similar to the above and six feet long.

Besides these articles, which are essential, it would be well to provide each party of four men with a canteen (or tin bottle) for carrying a small supply of oil, lamp wicks for the lamps used in night work, matches, paper and pencils - for carrying the latter small articles, some sort of bag or haversack would naturally be suggested.

Should any further details be required I will be happy to supply them at any time, and am

Very respectfully  
Your Obedient Servant

Genl  
C. W. Le Gendre,

(signed) Jas R. Wasson

DAWN 1870