

Mexico Fascists Aid Japanese In Smuggling

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MEXICO CITY, Oct. 9. — The Japanese freighter "Azuma Maru," docking in the Pacific coast port of Manzanilla, is taking on a shipload of Mexican lead and mercury despite the fact that President Avila Camacho has forbidden further export of these metals to Japan, it has been reliably learned here.

Fascist-minded Mexican customs agents, it is stated, have actively aided the Japanese smuggling activities. The mercury was taken aboard the "Azuma Maru" in flasks holding 76 pounds each, camouflaged as other merchandise, informants said.

United States and British consuls are not unaware of what is taking place, it is reported, and have protested. They are watching to see whether or not this case is an isolated affair or a part of a long-term contraband smuggling plan.

Japan was formerly one of Mexico's leading buyers of mercury, until a recent commercial pact between Mexico and the United States provided that Mexico's entire surplus product of this war material is to be sold to the United States.

It is also reported here that members of the Japanese Embassy at Washington, D. C., came to Manzanilla earlier this week to await a special envoy from Tokyo, one Mr. Wakasagu, who is expected to arrive on the steamer "Terukawa."