but were prevented by Shanghai volunteer corps in whose sector gate situated. This gate leads to railway station.

Chinese military authorities had not complied with Japanese admiral's demands to withdraw their troops. Would appear moreover even had they decided to comply with this demand, would have been impossible in short time at their disposal to arrange for the actual withdrawal of Chinese troops in that area. Account must also be taken of tension created by situation of previous days which would induce Chinese authorities to interpret measures taken by Japanese naval authorities as representing part of larger military operations. Japanese marines subsequently met with resistance on the part of Chinese regular troops. They succeeded in reaching railway line so far south as Paoshing Road, but do not appear to have succeeded in reaching line south of that point and their line then ran east of railway until it reached Settlement boundary between North Honan and North Szechuen Roads. Japanese were harassed by Chinese armoured train, which issued from station and patrolled Woosung line. Subsequently, it took refuge in the station, which was also strongly defended by Chinese troops. Thereupon Japanese, during January 29th, bombed station and destroyed train with aeroplanes. Other buildings along Paoshan Road also set on fire by incendiary bombs and it is generally thought this was done deliberately in order to destroy vantage posts overlooking Japanese lines. Casualties not known but believed considerable loss of life resulted.

Mayor Greater Shanghai had lodged protest against the Japanese action with consular authorities. Japanese authorities contended that their action was not connected with demand they had made and which had been accepted, but was based necessity protecting Japanese population living in part of area they decided to occupy. Also maintained that action, which met with armed resistance, and for which they took full responsibility, was within limits admitted, in case necessity arose, by the International Settlement defence plan. Fighting continued during greater part of January 29th.

In the afternoon of January 29th, at the request of the Mayor of Greater Shanghai, American and British Consuls-General succeeded in arranging for truce, which started from January 29th at 8 p.m. Truce amounted only to an agreement to refrain from further firing.

On January 31st, at meetings held between Japanese Consul-General, Admiral commanding Japanese naval forces, Mayor Greater Shanghai and commander local Chinese troops, in presence of American and British Consuls-General, it was agreed that Japanese Consul-General should report to Japanese Government a suggestion that Japanese troops should be withdrawn from the salient. If reply was unfavourable Chinese would refer to their Government and until final reply was received both sides agreed that they would not fire unless first fired upon. — CIANO (Chairman Committee). (Report ends.) — HAAS.

(Signed) CIANO (Italy),
(Signed) KOECHLIN (France),
(Signed) J. F. BRENAN (United Kingdom),
(Signed) FERRER (Spain),
(Signed) KOLLENBERG (Germany),
(Signed) N. AALL (Norway).

C.209.M.109.1932.VII.

2. COMMUNICATION FROM THE CONSUL-GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES AT SHANGHAI WITH REGARD TO THE FIRST REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE.

Shanghai, February 9th, 1932 (received 5 p.m.).

Consul-General United States has communicated officially to Chairman of Shanghai Committee by letter February 8th that he concurs in general in the first report of the Committee, on the understanding that, as set forth in the first paragraph thereof, it may require subsequent correction in detail or amplification. — HAAS (Secretary-General of the Shanghai Committee).
3. INFORMATION SUPPLEMENTARY TO THE FIRST REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE, COMMUNICATED BY THE LATTER IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF CHINA.

(a) LETTER FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF CHINA TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL.

[Ref. 210.]

February 9th, 1932.

Referring to the first part of the report from your Shanghai Committee (document C.185.M.90.1932.VII), I have the honour to request you to telegraph to Shanghai for some supplementary information regarding two items contained therein.

1. On page 4, paragraph 31, it is stated that "Japanese admiral notified commanders other national defence forces he proposed to take action following morning . . . Municipal Council of International Settlement held meeting during the morning and decided that state of emergency should be declared as from 4 p.m. Declaration of state of emergency is effective notice . . . to defend their (commanders') sections."

It is clear from the above that it was the Japanese who intended to attack and not the Chinese. Such being the case, what was the motive for the Council to declare a state of emergency, which, as stated above, is "effective notice to defend"? Was it meant to defend the Settlement against the Japanese, the attacking party, or against the Chinese troops, the attacked party, which would, of course, be absurd?

2. On page 6², seventh line from the bottom of page, it is stated that "the final party of about 100 marines, . . . attempted to pass through gates dividing Settlement from Chinese territory . . . but were prevented by Shanghai Volunteer Corps . . ."

I should be grateful if you will be kind enough to ascertain in this case why the volunteer corps prevented the Japanese marines, accompanied by armoured cars, from passing through the gates. Did the volunteer corps have orders from the municipal council to do so, and, if in the affirmative, were not these orders based on the notion of neutrality of the International Settlement?

(Signed) W. W. YEN.

(b) REPLY FROM THE COMMITTEE.

Shanghai, February 13th, 1932 (10.10 p.m.).

Drummond, Nations, Geneva.

Shanghai Committee has adopted following text in reply to your request for further information regarding two points which you transmitted by your telegram of 12th:

Reply begins: Question 1. — Declaration of state of emergency brings into operation defence scheme. Purpose of defence scheme is twofold: (i) to protect foreign area from internal disorder and (ii) to defend it against external aggression.

When state of emergency was declared Council had in mind that either (a) Chinese would not accept Japanese terms, in which case Japanese would take some action and there might be a rush of excited refugees and possibly of disorganised military elements attempting to enter Settlement, or (b) that Chinese would accept Japanese terms, in which case there might be storm of protest in a part of Chinese population, resulting in riot and disorder both inside and outside Settlement. Mayor himself was apprehensive of this. Therefore, although there was reason to expect trouble, it was not known from what direction it would come, and declaration of state of emergency was merely precautionary measure not directed against any particular party.

Question 2. — Honan Road Gate gives access from Settlement to Chinese territory not comprised in defence scheme, and strict instructions, based on principle that the duties of defence force are defensive and not offensive, had been given by commandant Shanghai Volunteer Corps, in whose sector it is situated, that in no circumstances was it to be opened to permit of either entry or egress. — CIANO (Chairman), HAAS (Secretary-General).

1 See above page 55, paragraph 3.
2 See above page 55, last paragraph.
4. SECOND REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE.

Shanghai, February 12th, 1932.

1. I am requested to transmit following second report Shanghai Committee.

2. By 8 p.m. January 26th, that is, after beginning of arranged truce, firing had died down, but next day Japanese admiral protested to American and British Consuls-General that Chinese armoured train in the railway station re-opened fire. This Chinese denied, alleging, on the other hand, that it was Japanese who had fired.

3. During the morning of January 31st, 17 Japanese aeroplanes flew over Shanghai and Chinese positions but without any bombardment. Japanese naval authorities contended this demonstration was effected as a result of fresh breach of truce by Chinese. This was hotly denied by the Chinese. On this day took place the meetings referred to in last paragraph of first report, at which suggestions for a neutral zone were made, and it was agreed that the truce should continue, pending final reply both sides.

4. February 1st: Truce was more or less observed, though there was again some intermittent firing.

5. February 2nd: Japanese commander again alleged breach of truce by the Chinese on previous day, adding that, as it seemed clear Chinese were massing forces with a view to surrounding Japanese, he was going to send up aeroplanes to reconnoitre.

6. About midday Japanese aeroplanes flew over Shanghai and Chinese positions. They were fired upon by the Chinese, whereupon aeroplanes dropped bombs in Chapei and in a short time general firing both sides recommenced. About 3 p.m., that is, after fighting had re-opened, Japanese Consul-General informed consular authorities that the Japanese Government had rejected proposal for neutral zone referred to above.

7. Same day, the Mayor of Greater Shanghai sent to consular authorities a letter, received by them February 3rd, referring to agreement for an armistice reached at meeting January 31st, and stating Japanese had repeatedly broken this agreement by attacking Chinese troops and in particular by bombing them from the air as described in the preceding paragraph.

8. February 3rd: Japanese naval authorities announced, as the Chinese authorities had consistently failed display sincerity in the carrying out of their engagements, Chinese troops must be withdrawn sufficient distance from Chapei, and to effect that object Japanese aeroplanes might be forced to bombard Chinese positions. Later on same day, Japanese Consul-General informed consular authorities that three Japanese destroyers had been fired upon from the Woosung forts, and Japanese therefore intended occupy forts. This firing was again denied by the Chinese.

9. Since February 3rd, state of open warfare exists, any pretence truce being abandoned. Firing continues intermittently, both in Chapei and Woosung areas, with the use of artillery and, on the side of Japanese, by aerial bombardments. Offensive is entirely in the hands of Japanese, whose avowed object is to capture Woosung forts and drive all Chinese troops considerable distance from Shanghai.

10. It must be noted, in relation to the question of breaches of truce, that complete truce never really existed, and also that, in the absence of foreign observers in the firing lines, it is impossible to establish which side should be held responsible for breaking truce. Individual units on either side, even "agents provocateurs" may have been responsible.

11. Apart from question of resumption of hostilities between regular troops on the fighting lines, it is necessary to recall briefly events, internationally important from the point of view of the status of Settlement, which during this period were occurring inside Japanese sector.

12. From the beginning of the Japanese movement on the night of January 20th, Japanese sector was invaded by Chinese plain-clothes troops, who concealed themselves inside, or on roofs of houses, whence they fired on the Japanese patrols in the streets with automatic pistols. It should be mentioned that the Japanese, who seem to have had insufficient regular forces for the defence of the area they occupied, had mobilised and armed all their so-called reservists, who wore civil clothes distinguished by brassards.

13. Marines and reservists responded to the sniping of the Chinese plain-clothes soldiers by machine-gun fire, and also by house-to-house search in order to locate snipers, in course of which very considerable damage was done, houses even being set on fire to dislodge snipers.
14. Japanese naval authorities took complete control of Hongkew district inside Settlement, barricaded streets, disarmed police, and paralysed all other municipal activities of the Settlement authorities, including fire brigade. Police posts were prevented from all communications with their headquarters. Shanghai Municipal Council was forced to evacuate schools and hospitals. Numerous excesses, including summary execution, were committed by marines, reservists and roughs, last mentioned, who had no official standing, being actuated probably by mere spirit of revenge against Chinese for earlier anti-Japanese activities. Reign of terror resulted, and almost entire non-Japanese population of area ran away.

15. Owing to large number of Chinese who were believed to have been arrested or put to death by the Japanese, and of whom no trace could be found, Municipal Council, February 5th, asked Consular Body to approach Japanese authorities with a view to enquiry. Japanese Consul-General admitted that excesses had been committed by his nationals at a time when feeling was running high and chaotic conditions prevailed, but the situation was greatly improved and he agreed that all persons arrested as suspect by the naval authorities within the Settlement should be handed over to municipal police. This was accordingly done, but the number of Chinese still unaccounted for is very large. Municipal police have already collected details of about 300 cases.

16. Sniping has now been greatly reduced but Japanese control is still severe and police and other municipal functions can only slowly re-assert themselves. Japanese authorities were much concerned at the excesses committed by their nationals, and considerable number of undesirables have been deported to Japan.

17. Shanghai Committee do not propose for the time being to send any further report unless they come in possession of some fresh information which will necessitate correction of previous statements, or until it is required to amplify or supplement any particular point in statements made in their first and second reports. — CIANO (Chairman).

(Signed) CIANO (Italy),
(Signed) KOECHLIN (France),
(Signed) J. F. BRENNAN (United Kingdom),
(Signed) FERRER (Spain),
(Signed) v. KOLLENBERG (Germany),
(Signed) N. AALL (Norway).

5. COMMUNICATION FROM THE JAPANESE DELEGATION REGARDING THE FRENCH TRANSLATION OF THE SECOND REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

Geneva, February 14th, 1932.

[Translation.]

With reference to the Second Report of the Shanghai Committee which you were good enough to forward to me to-day, I venture to draw your attention to a few points of translation which appear to be in need of correction, as they might leave an impression which is not conveyed by the English text. It would be extremely regrettable if the remarkably impartial and objective work of the Committee were to suffer in any way.

It will be understood that my remarks refer only to questions of translation. I reserve the right to submit further explanations of the words used in both reports should such explanations appear necessary.

Paragraph 3: "Contended" has been translated "ont prétendu que". The word "affirmé" would appear more appropriate.

Paragraph 3: "on this day" should apparently be translated "le même jour".

Paragraph 6: "whereupon". It would be advisable to add to the French text "et alors ont jeté".

Paragraph 8: "This was again denied" is translated "Cette allegation également..." which appears to express an opinion on the declaration made by the Japanese authorities.

Paragraph 12: "so-called reservists". The translation "prétendus réservistes" gives a shade of meaning which does not exactly correspond to the sense of the English text.

Paragraph 14: "Reign of terror resulted". The translation "Ainsi s'établit le règne de la terreur" is noticeably stronger than the English text.

I should be much obliged if you would, if possible, arrange for the incorporation of the corrections which I have ventured to suggest.

(Signed) N. SATO,
Representative of Japan on the Council.
6. OBSERVATIONS OF THE JAPANESE DELEGATION ON THE SECOND REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

[Translation.]

Geneva, February 18th, 1932.

1. The report mentions that the offensive is entirely in the hands of the Japanese. In this connection it should be borne in mind that the present combats are merely the outcome of the clash between the Chinese forces and the Japanese troops who were proceeding to occupy their line of protection on January 28th. At first, the Japanese marines numbered only 1,500, and this small force, which subsequently reached some 3,000 men, had to defend a large sector inhabited by some 30,000 Japanese against hostile forces numbering more than 30,000 men. The Japanese delegation has already mentioned the special circumstances in which the 9th Chinese Army was placed and which explain the violence of its attitude.

Efforts were made to bring about a suspension of hostilities, which was naturally desired by us in view of the disproportion between the conflicting forces. In spite of the truce arranged, a Chinese armoured train opened fire against us on the 31st at about 5.20 a.m. and this firing lasted for an hour and a half. At about 5 a.m. the Chinese opened fire on our headquarters and on our positions along the railway. On the 31st, at 1.20 and 4.40 p.m., they again violated the truce and by dawn about 100 soldiers were advancing near the Rokusan Garden and opened fire on our headquarters. Moreover, plain-clothes soldiers, whose activities are referred to in the report, continued to invade our lines. The second attempted truce was again violated on February 1st and 2nd, while the Chinese forces were manoeuvring for the purpose of surrounding us.

It was becoming evident that the Chinese could not be trusted to observe the truce; a pacific attitude on our part led to increasingly greater losses, and the movements of the Chinese forces, who brought up reinforcements and surrounded the salient of the Extension, rendered the position of our marines more and more critical. It was on this account that from February 3rd onwards our forces were compelled to attack the Chinese positions.

2. It is not quite correct to speak of the mobilisation of reservists. No general measure of this kind was adopted. A small number of volunteers armed with pistols was deputed to take action against Chinese snipers and to assist the police. These volunteers were disarmed some time ago and only a few reservists are still employed as interpreters, guides, etc.

3. As regards the slowing down of the municipal activities of the Concession authorities, it should be noted that the municipal police forces had at one time abandoned their posts. Their return and co-operation were requested by the Japanese authorities and they have now resumed their normal work. As regards the firemen, in particular, their co-operation was requested even for the quarters neighbouring on the Concession and the Extension. (The normal activity of the municipal council's firemen is in principle confined to the Concession and the Extension.) The Japanese authorities hope that the other municipal activities will shortly be fully resumed.

The flight of the police forces and the evacuation of schools and hospitals mentioned in the report were certainly due only to the dangers of the situation and were not a consequence of the measures taken in this connection by the Japanese authorities. It is, however, true that at the commencement of the incidents, in the general disorder, a few Chinese policemen were disarmed by mistake. On the other hand, the co-operation of the Chinese municipal police having proved ineffective in the struggle against soldiers in mufti, these police were on certain occasions temporarily replaced by Japanese forces.

Owing to this struggle, barricades had been built at various points, but they have at present been taken down.

4. The report says that excesses were committed by sailors, reservists and other elements having no official standing. The Japanese delegation feels bound to deny this assertion as regards the sailors and reservists.

The report mentions the attitude which the Japanese authorities adopted with regard to undesirable elements, against whose activities very severe action was taken. Many of these individuals are now in custody at the Consulate-General, while others have been deported.

5. As regards the number of Chinese whose fate is unknown, it should be noted that very probably a large number of these have taken refuge in the outskirts of Shanghai and in other towns. (Anyone who knows China will agree how difficult it is to follow the movements of the population in that country, particularly in large inhabited areas like Shanghai.)

6. It is to be regretted that the report has not verified certain facts which, though denied by the Chinese, are indisputable, as for instance the firing by the Woosung forts on three Japanese vessels which were leaving Shanghai on February 3rd. These vessels were taking back to Japan the mortal remains of our sailors killed during the fighting of the previous days, and, that being their mission, they would certainly not have opened fire on the forts. This action, which took place in full daylight, and which the Chinese deny, affords a further example of the value of allegations from Chinese sources.
7. If it is correct that orders were given to the Chinese soldiers regarding the truce, the frequent disregard of those orders by the said soldiers bears eloquent witness to the state of disorder and indiscipline existing in the Chinese forces. As regards the Japanese forces, orders had been issued that they should fire only in the case of hostile acts on the part of the Chinese in violation of the truce. The known discipline of the Japanese troops is sufficient guarantee that these orders were obeyed.

C.258.M.147.1932.VII.

7. THIRD REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE.

Drummond, Nations, Geneva.

Shanghai, February 20th, 1932.

In conformity with request contained in your telegram of February 19th I send hereafter Third Report of Shanghai Committee. (Report begins.)

Through intermediary neutral diplomatic representatives suggestion for meeting of military commanders on both sides was accepted with a view to discussion on the basis of mutual evacuation.

Meeting held morning of February 18th, Chinese and Japanese commanders being represented by their Chiefs of Staff. Japanese representatives presented Japanese terms which Chinese representative declared were unacceptable. After two hours’ fruitless discussion Japanese representative said Japanese side would send in written communication of their terms before 9 p.m., and he hoped Chinese would return reply as soon as possible. Meeting then broke up.

About 9 p.m. separate despatches containing Japanese terms were delivered to the Mayor and the Commander of the Chinese 19th Army. Terms differed in words, but following is substance:

Paragraph 1: Chinese forces to cease hostilities and complete evacuation of their first line by 7 a.m., February 20th, and complete evacuation whole area by 5 p.m. same day to a depth of 20 kilometres north of following line, including “szetseline” forts, namely, line formed by north border of Settlement and the Soochow Creek to Pusunghchen and on the East of Whangpoo, line from Lannidu to Changchiachiao (this is practically line of the Soochow Creek extended eastward). All fortifications and military works in the evacuated area to be removed and no new ones created.

Paragraph 2: Japanese troops will not attack or pursue but aeroplanes may be sent out on observation duty. After Chinese evacuation Japanese troops will maintain only the municipal roads area adjacent to Hongkew, including Hongkew Park.

Paragraph 3: Japanese investigators with Japanese military guards and flags to be sent to evacuated area after evacuation of the first line by the Chinese.

Paragraph 4: Chinese to assume responsibility for safety of Japanese lives and property outside evacuated area, failing which Japanese would take necessary steps. Plain-clothes men to be effectively suppressed.

Paragraph 5: Question of the protection of foreigners in vicinity of Shanghai evacuated area to be dealt with subsequently.

Paragraph 6: As regards anti-Japanese movement, mayor’s promise of January 28th to be strictly enforced and the matter to be dealt with by diplomatic negotiations between Japanese Foreign Office and Chinese civil officials of Shanghai. Failing compliance with above articles Japanese troops will be compelled to take action.

On the following day, namely February 19th, replies were delivered by mayor to Japanese Consul-General and by Chinese commander to Japanese commander. Mayor stated that grave situation in Shanghai was due to invasion of Chinese territory and brutal murder of Chinese people by Japanese troops in violation of all international treaties and law. Inasmuch as measures called for in Consul-General’s letter had direct bearing on general relations between China and Japan, they should be dealt with by diplomatic authorities of the two countries, and he had therefore transmitted Consul-General’s letter to his Government for consideration and reply to Japanese Minister through Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He pointed out, further, that Chinese indignation had been daily intensified by continued acts of provocation by...
Japanese troops, and it was natural, therefore, so-called anti-Japanese activities should fail to cease. Chinese commander’s reply was to the effect that his troops were part of national forces and subject to directions of National Government, to whom accordingly he had submitted Japanese commander’s letter. It is not yet known what reply, if any, has been sent by Chinese Government.

During the night February 19th-20th, Japanese reinforcements were moved from their bases in the International Settlement to the Japanese lines, and after preliminary aerial reconnaissance which satisfied Japanese that Chinese had not evacuated their lines in conformity with demands, Japanese opened attack February 20th at 7.30 a.m. in Kiangwan and Woosung areas. Hostilities continued whole day. — CIANO. (Report ends.) — HAAS.

(Signed) CIANO (Italy),
(Signed) KOECHLIN (France),
(Signed) J. F. BRENNAN (United Kingdom),
(Signed) FERRER (Spain),
(Signed) v. KOLLENBERG (Germany),
(Signed) N. AALL (Norway).

C.272.M.160.1932.VII.

8. SUPPLEMENT TO THE THIRD REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE.

Shanghai, February 24th, 1932. (Desp. 11.12 p.m.)

I am requested to transmit following supplement to the Third Report of the Shanghai Committee.

In reply to an enquiry whether any answer had been sent by Chinese Government to the Japanese Minister on the subject of Japanese demands, following communication was received by the Secretary of the Shanghai Committee from the City Government of Greater Shanghai:

"Chinese Foreign Minister’s reply to Japan, despatched on February 20th, took the form of vigorous protest lodged with Japanese Minister in China against the action of the Japanese Commander and the Japanese Consul-General in delivering their identical notes to the Commander of the Chinese 19th route army and Mayor of Greater Shanghai.

"The Chinese Note stated that ever since their unprovoked attack on Mukden on September 18th, Japanese military forces have kept pushing forward and have occupied many important areas in the North-East. Then on January 28th they suddenly shifted the scene of their military adventure to Shanghai and staged a surprise attack on the Chapei district, and for twenty days Japanese army, naval and air forces have carried on a terrific bombardment of the Chapei and Woosung districts. Local Chinese garrison forces were constrained to resist the onslaught as a measure of self-defence. As though this were not enough, Japanese Commander and Japanese Consul-General now present to Commander of the Chinese 19th route army and Mayor of Greater Shanghai respectively a set of demands of an impossible nature. The note concluded by declaring that should Japanese forces attempt to renew their attack, Chinese troops would not hesitate to resist to the best of their ability, and stating that the Japanese Government would be held entirely responsible all consequences. CIANO (Chairman); CHARRÈRE (Secretary)."

C.283.M.170.1932.VII.

9. OBSERVATIONS BY THE JAPANESE DELEGATION ON THE THIRD REPORT OF THE SHANGHAI COMMISSION.

[Translation.]

1. The text of the demands addressed on February 18th by the Officer Commanding the Japanese forces to the Officer Commanding the 19th Army does not appear to have been taken from the official communication of the Japanese authorities (text of which is appended), but from a document probably of Chinese origin. It is not in exact accordance with the demands in question—e.g., in the case of the limits of the zone to be evacuated.

2. The last paragraph of the report suggests that all the Japanese forces had made the Concession their basis of operations. The report omits to state that a large part of the Japanese forces were stationed outside the Concession, and commenced operations from Woo-Sung.

1. The Chinese troops shall withdraw from all the points within a distance of twenty (20) kilometres from the boundary of the International Settlement to the north of the following lines—namely, the northern boundary line of the Settlement; a line connecting the north-westernmost end of the Settlement, Tsoachiatuchen, Chouchiachiaochen and Pusungchen and running outward from the last-named position and on the right of the Whangpoo River; a line connecting Lannitu and Changchia Louchen and running outward from these positions respectively; the aforesaid withdrawal of the Chinese troops shall be effected by completing the withdrawal of the forefront by 7 a.m. on February 20th, 1932, and that of the remainder by 5 p.m. on the same day. All the forts and other military equipments of China shall be removed from and shall not be reinstalled or newly erected within the aforesaid distance of twenty kilometres. The Shizulin forts shall be deemed to be within the same distance.

The Chinese authorities shall protect the lives and property of the Japanese subjects in districts around Shanghai other than the aforesaid area evacuated by the Chinese troops; in the event of the protection accorded by the Chinese authorities being unsatisfactory, the Japanese authorities may take such measures as they consider necessary. The Chinese authorities shall completely suppress all the activities of plain-clothes gunmen.

2. Upon having ascertained the withdrawal of the Chinese troops, the Japanese forces will maintain only the Extension Road area in the Hongkew district including the area around the Hongkew Park. The Japanese forces will not engage in attacks, shooting or bombardments after the commencement of the withdrawal of the Chinese troops but may carry on reconnitring flights.

3. After the withdrawal of the forefront of the Chinese troops, the Japanese forces will despatch their representatives accompanied by bodyguards to ascertain the completion of the withdrawal.

4. Further negotiations shall be made with regard to the protection of foreign residents in districts around Shanghai, including the area evacuated by Chinese troops.

A.[Extr.]15.1932.VII.

VI (a). FOURTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY SET UP AT SHANGHAI UNDER ARTICLE 15, PARAGRAPH 1, OF THE COVENANT.

Shanghai, March 5th, 1932.

(Desp. 2.41 a.m., local time.)
Chinese troops had, on the other hand, been confined to self-defence, and if Japanese forces should continue to attack Chinese forces, latter would be compelled to defend themselves, all responsibility in this connection must rest entirely with Japanese.

The Japanese 11th division arrived in Chinese waters on February 28th and 29th. Some of these troops were landed at Woosung but the main body was disembarked near Luiho on the Yangtze after preliminary bombardment of the Shih tzulin forts in that neighbourhood. Some troops were landed in the Settlement on February 29th and on preceding day, but the Japanese maintained that these were replacements for the 9th division and 24th mixed brigade.

On March 1st, two explosions took place in the Whargpoo close to Japanese flagship and another Japanese cruiser. Japanese state that these were caused by submerged mines laid by Chinese in attempt to destroy the vessels.

In the early morning of March 2nd, Japanese aeroplanes in fulfilment of threat made on February 29th destroyed a portion of Shanghai-Nanking Railway track near Quinsan.

On the afternoon of March 1st, fire broke out in Chapei which developed into a huge conflagration causing enormous damage. It is not certain which side was responsible.

The landing of the 11th division near Luiho exposed the flank of the Chinese position. At the same time, the Japanese launched a strong offensive in Kiangwan area and, about 4 p.m. on March 1st, Chinese military authorities issued orders for general withdrawal from the whole Shanghai area including Nantao and Lunghua. Japanese followed up retreating Chinese forces and, by midday March 3rd, had occupied the whole area as far west as Kiating and Nanziang. Woosung, which had not been evacuated at the same time as the rest of the area, was assaulted and occupied by the Japanese forces on the morning of March 3rd.

Early in the afternoon, the Japanese Military Commander issued an announcement that as the Chinese forces had retreated out of the area designated in the Japanese demands dated February 18th, hereby removing the menace to the safety of the Japanese nationals as well as of the International Settlement, he had decided to order the Japanese forces to halt, for the time being, at the points actually held, and to stop fighting, provided the Chinese forces did not resort to further hostile action. Japanese Naval Commander issued announcement in the same sense. In the evening, Chinese Commander also announced he had ordered all Chinese forces to cease hostilities against Japanese troops unless attacked by them.

Important to make clear that all attempts to obtain an agreed armistice have hitherto failed. Japanese have ceased their advance for the time being, but local fighting nevertheless occurred in outlying districts during the night.

Interference by the Japanese with the police and other municipal functionaries reported in our second telegram continued during the whole of the period under review and formed the subject of repeated protests to the Japanese authorities. — Ciano (President).

(Signed) Ciano (Italy),
(Signed) Koehelin (France),
(Signed) v. Kollenberg (Germany),
(Signed) J. F. Brenan (United Kingdom),
(Signed) N. Aall (Norway),
(Signed) Ferrer (Spain).

VII. OBSERVATIONS OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT ON THE THIRD REPORT (SUPPLEMENTARY OBSERVATIONS) 1 AND THE FOURTH REPORT OF THE SHANGHAI COMMITTEE.

[Translation.]

A.[Extr.]77.1932.VII.


Third Report (A.[Extr.]3.1932.VII.) 2

It is regrettable that, when giving the Chinese reply to the Japanese demands, the report only mentioned the contents of these demands (subject to the previous observations with regard to this matter), and did not state the reasons therewith which were given in the text handed to the Chinese authorities. The presence of the 10th army in the neighbourhood of the Settlement constituted an increasingly grave danger for the Japanese nationals and for the International Settlement itself. It was absolutely necessary that the army be moved further away. The object of the Japanese Command in asking for the withdrawal of the Chinese forces to a distance of twenty kilometres was to remove this menace, while avoiding further bloodshed.

1 For the first observations of the Japanese Government, see Annex VI, 9.
2 See Annex VI, 7.
1. The report states that at about 4 p.m., on March 1st, the Chinese military authorities issued orders for a general withdrawal. The report appears to be based on the Chinese version, according to which the 19th army had withdrawn without any fighting, in the absence of support from the Nanking forces. It should be observed, however, that on the morning of the following day, March 2nd, the 19th army was still vigorously defending the positions before Tazang and that our troops only reached that place at 12.30 p.m., March 2nd, after serious losses.

2. The announcement issued on March 3rd by the Japanese Military Commander stated that the threat to the safety of the Japanese nationals and to the International Settlement had apparently been removed owing to the withdrawal of the Chinese forces out of the area designated on February 18th, and accordingly ordered the cessation of hostilities.

3. The Japanese delegation has already corrected statements with regard to the relations of the Japanese naval authorities and the authorities of the Municipal Council of the International Settlement in its observations on the Committee's second report. The statement in the last paragraph of the fourth report that "interference by the Japanese with the police and other municipal functionaries reported in our second telegram continued . . . and formed the subject of repeated protests to the Japanese authorities" does not represent the matter in the correct light. The protests related only to unimportant cases, such as acts of Japanese sentries in the discharge of their duties as municipal police officers. The very special state of affairs which existed during the first few days of the Shanghai incidents has undergone a complete change and increasingly harmonious co-operation has been established between the naval and the municipal authorities. For example, a first agreement was soon reached for the purpose of putting a stop to the activities of soldiers in civilian clothes within the International Settlement; this was followed by a second agreement in accordance with which the municipal police and the marines were to work together in searching for soldiers in civilian clothes, except in urgent cases; persons guilty of offences against the military laws were to be handed over to the gendarmerie. This agreement entered into force on February 26th. (The handing over of General Wong Kang to the Japanese gendarmerie by the superintendent of the municipal police at Hongkew is an example of this co-operation.)

The Japanese sentries have been gradually withdrawn from March 2nd. On the 3rd, their number had been decreased by half, and on the 6th by two-thirds. Their number was at that moment reduced to about a hundred, and when the fourth report was transmitted, it was hoped that normal conditions would soon be re-established. There were then no longer any Japanese sentries in the Hongkew district concession and on the roads of the Extension.


A.[Extr.]/Com. Spec.i.

1. LETTER, DATED MARCH 19TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, PROTESTING AGAINST THE PROPOSAL THAT THE COMMISSION SHOULD PROLONG ITS STAY IN SHANGHAI.


I have the honour to inform you that I have just received a telegram from the Hon. T. V. Soong, Vice-President of the Council of Ministers, to the effect that it is possible that the Commission of Enquiry will prolong its stay in Shanghai for the purpose of participating in the discussions of the so-called Shanghai problem. He continues by saying that the Chinese Government is not at all in favour of such a change of plans on the part of the Commission, as, in the first place, its principal duty is to study and report on the situation in Manchuria, and, in the second place, as the Chinese Government understands, this Commission has been asked through the Council to submit as soon as possible a report to the Special Committee of Nineteen on the general situation in Manchuria. It is evident a prolonged stay in Shanghai would be contrary to what is expected by all parties concerned of the duties of the Commission of Enquiry.

1 See Annex VI (a).

2 A person whose manner aroused suspicion was observed about 11.30 p.m. on February 27th near the side door of the Japanese Consulate-General. The marines on guard accordingly asked the Japanese municipal police to question him. The man fled, pursued by the police and took refuge in Astor House. The Russian hotel superintendents turned him out and handed him over to the police. After questioning him, the head of the Hongkew station handed him over to the Japanese gendarmerie. As his identity was known he was treated with consideration and was liberated on March 1st.
The Chinese Government expresses, therefore, a strong desire that the Commission of Enquiry proceed as early as possible to Manchuria as originally planned as far back as the end of last year.

I shall be obliged to you to bring the above to the knowledge of His Excellency M. Hymans, President of the Special Committee, and through him to the Members of the same.

(Signed) W. W. Yen.

2. REPLY, DATED MARCH 21ST, 1932, FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO THE CHINESE DELEGATION'S LETTER DATED MARCH 19TH, 1932

(See above).


I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. A (5), of March 19th, with reference to the programme of work of the Commission appointed by the Council on December 10th, 1931.

I presume that your Government has taken the necessary steps to communicate its views direct to the Commission, either through the Chinese assessor, or otherwise.

With reference to the statement in your letter that the Chinese Government understands that this Commission has been asked through the Council to submit as soon as possible a report to the Special Committee of Nineteen on the general situation in Manchuria, I venture to draw your attention to the contents of document A(Extr.).64.1932,1 which was communicated on March 18th to the Assembly, and which makes clear the action which has been taken. I need hardly add that no change has been made in the terms of reference of the Commission as set out in the resolution of the Council of December 10th.

I am communicating your letter and this reply to the members of the Assembly Committee and also to the Japanese representative.

(Signed) Eric Drummond,
Secretary-General.

3. LETTER, DATED MARCH 25TH, 1932, FROM THE JAPANESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL COMMENTING ON THE LETTER FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION DATED MARCH 19TH, 1932 (see communication No. 1 above).

[Translation.]


Document A.[Extr.]/Com.Spec.1 reproduced a letter dated March 19th from the Chinese representative communicating the contents of a telegram from M. Soong, Vice-President of the Council of Ministers, protesting against a prolonged stay by the Commission of Enquiry at Shanghai. I have the honour to point out to you that according to information I have received from the Japanese Consul-General at Shanghai the Chinese newspapers of March 24th having mentioned this protest by the Chinese delegation, M. Kuo Taichi publicly announced on March 25th that the Chinese Government had not given the Chinese delegation at Geneva any instructions in that sense. The communiqué adds that the Commission of Enquiry is at present being fêted at Shanghai by the authorities and the various corporations; that the situation in the three eastern provinces is clearly causing anxiety to the Chinese Government, but that if it were true that the Chinese delegation had made such a communication to the League of Nations it must have been due to some telegraphic error.

(Signed) N. Sato

C.332.M.201.1932.VII.


Shanghai, March 26th, 1932.

Commission of Enquiry arrived in Japan February 29th and left March 11th remaining most of time Tokio. In spite of short stay, Commission of Enquiry was able through interview with Foreign Minister, War Minister, Minister for Navy, and with leading personalities in business circles and circles specially interested relations between Japan and League of Nations

1 See Annex XVI.
to ascertain views prevailing as to main points of its enquiry. During its visit to Osaka, Commission of Enquiry was also able to discuss with leaders of business activities.

Commission of Enquiry arrived at Shanghai March 14th and is leaving for Nanking March 26th. During stay at Shanghai, Commission of Enquiry was able to hear views of many representatives of political, educational, religious, business circles, both Chinese and foreign, on main aspects of question relations China and Japan. Commission of Enquiry also started official contact with representatives of National Government of Republic of China and held interview with Vice-Chairman Executive Yuan and with Vice-Foreign Minister.

Commission of Enquiry intends to stay four days at Nanking, arrive Peking end of first week in April and arrive Manchuria beginning of third week in April.

C.338.M.205.1932.VII.

5. TELEGRAM, DATED APRIL 1st, 1932, FROM THE COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY NOTIFYING ITS DEPARTURE FROM NANKING FOR HANGKOW, TIENTSIN AND PEKING.

Shanghai, April 1st, 1932.

Lytton Commission desiring to be in touch with as many circles as possible in China within limited time at its disposal leaves to-day for Hankow where will pass two days, arriving Tientsin April 9th morning, Peking same day evening. — HAAS.

A.[Extr.]102.1932.VII.

6. LETTER, DATED APRIL 6TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TRANSMITTING EXTRACTS FROM SPEECHES DELIVERED AT NANKING BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY, LORD LYTTON.


I have the honour to communicate herewith a telegram, dated April 5th, containing quotations from the speeches of Lord Lytton and Messrs. Wang Ching-wei, President of the Executive Council, and Lin Sen, President of the National Government, upon the occasion of Lord Lytton's visit to Nanking in March, as follows:

Repeating to Mr. Wang Ching-wei's speech of welcome on March 28th, Lord Lytton said:

"We recognise that China has shown great forbearance under trials that must have stirred the deepest emotions of her people. Your Government, too, has shown courage in placing your case unreservedly in the hands of the League. We are certain that the League wishes to prove to you that your confidence is not misplaced; and I can assure you that we will do everything in our power to bring about that result. When you say that the Chinese people have only one aspiration—the maintenance of their territorial and administrative integrity—I can assure you at once that that would necessarily be a condition of any settlement effected by the League. The League could not recommend to its Members any course which was inconsistent with their treaty obligations."

Mr. Lo Wen-kan, Minister of Foreign Affairs, in a speech on the same evening, declared that China is trying "to adapt herself to the political and social conceptions of modern times" and desires to continue her efforts in that direction "without external dangers and with the sympathy and friendly support of all nations, particularly those whose territories are adjacent to ours."

Lord Lytton replied:

"We appreciate the special difficulties which China is encountering in this period of transition from the old order to the new. The obstacles you speak of in the way of her progress towards unity under the Republic are inevitable. They are facts which must be borne in mind in any settlement of the Sino-Japanese dispute. If they are faced with courage and resolution by the National Government, they can be overcome and the League will endeavour to secure for you the condition of external peace necessary for the accomplishment of that object."
Following a visit to the Sun Yat Sen Mausoleum, Lord Lytton, at the Central Party Committee reception, said:

"I think this monument does credit to the architect who designed it and to the builder who constructed it. But the real monument to Dr. Sun is to be found not merely on this hill, which we have visited, but in the whole of China herself. In the China of to-morrow is to be found the real monument of Dr. Sun. It is there that his principles are being carried out, and that his great constructive work is being put into execution, and I am glad to learn that international peace and co-operation are amongst the foremost of those principles which he bequeathed to this country."

Lord Lytton was also entertained by Mr. Lin Sen and General Chiang Kai-Shek, Commander-in-chief, and complimentary speeches were made. Replying to Mr. Lin Sen, Lord Lytton said:

"You have spoken to us with the dignity which is in keeping with the high office you hold, and with an elocution that I cannot hope to rival. In admirably chosen words you have described our mission as an agency for maintaining the peace of the world. You have also stated with moderation and fairness the hopes and aspirations of the Chinese people."

I shall be glad if you will be good enough to circulate the above to the Members of the Assembly.

(Signed) W. W. Yen.

C.364.M.209.1932.VII.

7. COMMUNICATION, DATED APRIL 11TH, 1932, FROM THE COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY WITH REGARD TO THE ADMISSION OF THE CHINESE ASSESSOR TO MANCHURIA.

Geneva, April 11th, 1932.

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the Members of the Council the following information which he has received from Lord Lytton, Chairman of the Commission of Enquiry:

"The Commission has seen a statement in the Press to the effect that its Chinese assessor, Dr. Wellington Koo, would not be authorised to enter Manchuria. The Commission has discussed this eventuality and has thought it well to inform its two assessors that, should this information be confirmed, a serious situation would, in its opinion, arise, inasmuch as the Commission cannot allow its composition to be called in question. Any objection to its Chinese assessor would be regarded by the Commission as directed against itself, and it would immediately inform the League of Nations."

C.359.1932.VII.

8. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY REGARDING THE FACILITIES TO BE GRANTED TO THE COMMISSION BY THE GOVERNMENTS HAVING REPRESENTATIVES ON THE SPOT.

The Secretary-General has the honour to inform the members of the Council that he has received the following message from Lord Lytton, the President of the Commission of Enquiry:

"At the Council meeting held on November 21st, 1931, the Italian representative stated on behalf of his Government that it would place at the disposal of the Commission all the facilities it possessed on the spot and that all the Italians on the spot would contribute towards the enquiry. The Commission has no doubt that all the other members of the Council with representatives here will desire similarly to facilitate the accomplishment of the Commission's task and that they will, if necessary, send instructions to this effect to their Legations at Peking and their Consulates in Manchuria."

The Secretary-General has informed Lord Lytton that the above message is being brought to the knowledge of the Council. ¹

¹ See also Minutes of the fifteenth meeting of the sixty-sixth session of the Council, Official Journal, May 1932.

Geneva, April 14th, 1932.

The Secretary-General, having communicated for the information of the Government of the United States of America the request from the Commission of Enquiry mentioned at the Council meeting of April 12th, 1932, has been orally but officially informed by Mr. Gilbert, American Consul in Geneva, that American officials in China and Japan have been instructed by the Secretary of State of the United States to render the Commission of Enquiry all appropriate assistance.

A.[Extr.]112.1932.VII.

10. LETTER, DATED MAY 2ND, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION, TRANSMITTING INFORMATION REGARDING CERTAIN MEASURES ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN TAKEN AT MUKDEN VIS-A-VIS THE CHINESE STAFF OF THE COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY.

[Ref.A.30.]


I have the honour to communicate to you the accompanying telegram from my Government, dated April 30th, giving some details of the obstructive measures on the part of the Japanese in Mukden, to annoy the Chinese members of the Commission of Enquiry sent by the League of Nations and to prevent them from assisting under the circumstances the Commission in its efforts to obtain any information, for which it has been sent to Manchuria. It is hardly necessary to state that such tactics on the part of the Japanese are entirely contrary to paragraph 5 of the Resolution of December 10th, 1931, accepted by both the Chinese and Japanese Governments, which paragraph declares that:

"The two Governments will afford the Commission all facilities to obtain on the spot whatever information it may require".

I shall be grateful to you to circulate the telegram among the members of the Special Assembly.

(Signed) W. W. YEN.

TELEGRAM FROM THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT, DATED APRIL 30TH, 1932.

According to the report of a person who has returned here from Mukden, the Chinese staff of the Commission have been able to give only one interview to journalists. They are surrounded by detectives; outside their living quarters, six or seven are on duty by turns to watch their movements. When they go to the dining-room or visit other than their own sleeping apartments, they are followed by the detectives. As to taking a walk, outside their living quarters, the watching of their movements is, one need hardly say, intensified, Even the junior members of the Chinese staff are kept under strict observation. The detectives invade even their sleeping quarters and interfere with their conversations. All visitors are debarred, and some of these have been arrested for daring to make the visit. Two nights ago, a Chinese stenographer, on returning to his bedroom after dinner, saw a Japanese in his room. He immediately ran out of his room and found several Japanese waiting for him at the door. Only when he screamed for help and upon the arrival of a Member of the Commission did the Japanese run away. Even the Members of the Commission are not free from surveillance.
IX. CORRESPONDENCE ARISING OUT OF THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY ON MARCH 4TH, 1932.

A. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION.

A. [Extr.] 21.1932.VII.

1. LETTER, DATED MARCH 6TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

[Ref.275.]

March 6th, 1932.

I have the honour to communicate to you the following telegram, dated Nanking to-day, which I have just received from my Government, with the request that you will kindly bring it to the knowledge of the President of the Assembly:

"The following order has been issued by General Chiang to the forces under his command:

"A resolution having been adopted by the Assembly of the League of Nations to the effect that the cessation of hostilities should be made effective by both the Chinese and Japanese sides, it is only right and proper that it should be obeyed. Unless we are attacked by the Japanese troops, we must not attack them. If, however, the Japanese troops, in disobedience to the resolution adopted by the Assembly, should continue to attack us, then our troops are bound to defend themselves. This is an order that all the troops under my command must obey.'"

(Signed) W. W. YEN.

2. LETTER, DATED MARCH 8TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

[Ref. 291.]

Geneva, March 8th, 1932.

I have the honour to inform you that I have received a telegram from our Legation in Washington to the following effect:

"The two understandings contained in your statement in the Assembly before the adoption of the Resolution calling on the Chinese and Japanese Governments to enter into negotiations for a definite armistice in Shanghai, were brought to the notice of Mr. Stimson, American Secretary of State. Mr. Stimson stated that they were agreeable to the American position. In fact, he had telegraphed to Minister Johnson on Saturday, authorising the latter to participate in discussing the liquidation of the military phase of the situation, leaving the rest, if necessary, to a later Conference at Shanghai or elsewhere. He presumed that China would place police in evacuated area to keep order."

(Signed) W. W. YEN.

3. LETTER, DATED MARCH 9TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

[Ref.286.]


I have the honour to inform you that, according to a telegram which I have just received from the Hon. T. V. Soong, Vice-President of the Council of Ministers, the Chinese Government has informed Sir Miles Lampson, His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China, who is in touch with the Japanese Minister, of its readiness to enter into armistice negotiations on the basis of the Assembly resolution and our understandings of the same.

I shall be obliged to you to bring the above to the knowledge of the Assembly.

(Signed) W. W. YEN.

1 See record of the third plenary meeting of the Assembly.
4. LETTER, DATED MARCH 10TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Geneva, March 10th, 1932.

Referring to my letter of March 9th, in which I informed you that my Government had communicated to the Japanese Minister in China through Sir Miles Lampson, His Britannic Majesty’s Minister to China, its readiness to enter into armistice negotiations on the basis of the Assembly resolution 1 of March 4th and of my understandings of the same, I have now the honour to communicate to you the reply of my Government to His Excellency M. Shigemitsu’s communication on the subject, received by my Government through Sir Miles Lampson at 5.30 p.m., on March 9th:

“The Chinese Government, having accepted the resolution of the Assembly of the League of Nations of March 4th, is prepared to enter into negotiations with the Japanese authorities in accordance with the terms of paragraph 3 of the resolution and, on the understanding as stated by its chief delegate, Dr. W. W. Yen, in accepting the said resolution, that (1) such negotiations are limited to matters pertaining only to the definite cessation of hostilities and the complete withdrawal of Japanese forces; and (2) no condition is to be attached to such withdrawal.

“The Chinese Government has already announced, through its chief delegate at Geneva, its readiness to enter into negotiations for the purpose and on the understanding as above-mentioned, and has presumed that the Japanese authorities have been fully aware of this fact.

“ The receipt through Sir Miles Lampson at 5.30 p.m. on March 9th of the communication of the Japanese authorities makes it clear that they are equally ready to enter into the proposed negotiations. The Chinese Government considers therefore the way open for commencing such negotiations.”

(Signed) W. W. YEN.

B. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE JAPANESE DELEGATION.

A.[Extr.]32.1932.VII.

TELEGRAM, DATED TOKIO, MARCH 8TH, 1932, FROM THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TRANSMITTED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS ON MARCH 9TH, 1932.

Incidents at Shanghai.

The Japanese Government, having accepted the resolution of the League Assembly of March 4th, the General Staff sent instructions once again to the Commander-in-Chief of the expeditionary forces in Shanghai to observe strictly the proclamation of March 3rd for the cessation of hostilities. At the same time, the Japanese Government charged the Japanese Minister at Shanghai to the effect that, in conformity with the above-mentioned resolution of the League, he should do his best to expedite negotiations for the consolidation of the cessation of hostilities with the Chinese, with the assistance of the representatives of the Powers interested. So far as the Japanese Government are concerned, they are ready to effect at any time the withdrawal of the Japanese forces from the position they are now occupying, as soon as the satisfactory arrangements for that purpose are arrived at through these negotiations. Notwithstanding that, the Chinese are putting off the opening of the negotiations for the consolidation of the cessation of hostilities, and are engaged in pernicious propaganda against Japan. It goes without saying that it is impossible for the Japanese forces, now facing directly the Chinese Army, to withdraw without the necessary arrangement. Even from the point of view of safety of these forces, it will be patent to everybody that before their withdrawal, arrangements for the stoppage of the advance and offensive action on the part of the Chinese forces as well as for the maintenance of order and security in the zones evacuated by the Japanese forces should be made.

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1 See previous communication No. 3.
X. CORRESPONDENCE ARISING OUT OF THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY ON MARCH 11th, 1932.¹

A. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION.

A.[Extr.]52.1932.VII.

I. LETTER, DATED MARCH 12th, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY.


In accordance with instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that the Chinese Government accepts the resolution adopted by the Assembly of the League of Nations on the 11th instant. As I anticipated in my explanation to the Assembly for my abstention, the acceptance of the resolution has been delayed because of the time required for telegraphic communication between Geneva and Nanking, and for no other reason.

My Government is gratified that practically all the principles of importance, for which it has contended since the very inception of the Sino-Japanese dispute, have been incorporated in the resolution of March 11th. My Government desires to refer in particular to three of these principles:

1. That the settlement of the dispute should not be sought under the stress of military coercion, which it takes to mean that the evacuation of Japanese troops must precede negotiation.

2. That it is the obligation of Members of the League to submit any dispute which may arise among them to procedures for peaceful settlement, which absolves the Republic of China from all responsibility for the present terrible state of affairs in Manchuria, Shanghai and other parts of China.

3. That it is incumbent upon the members of the League of Nations not to recognize any situation, etc., brought about contrary to the Covenant of the League or the Pact of Paris. The word "situation" must, of course, cover the present state of things created in Manchuria through Japanese manipulation, instigation and military support—in particular to the puppet government in Manchuria.

I shall be deeply obliged to you to bring the above to the knowledge of the Assembly.

(Signed) W. W. Yen.

A.[Extr.]62.1932.VII.

2. MEMORANDUM, DATED MARCH 17th, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

In view of the coming recess of the Disarmament Conference and the departure from Geneva of members of the special Committee set up under the Assembly resolution of March 11th, necessitating perhaps the adjournment of the Committee itself until April, I respectfully venture to suggest the following points for consideration.

According to the Assembly resolution of March 11th, the Committee has certain functions with regard to the execution of (a) the Assembly resolution of March 4th and (b) the Council resolutions of September 30th and December 10th.

(1) As regards (a), its task is:

"... to report as soon as possible on the cessation of hostilities and the conclusion of arrangements which shall render definitive the said cessation and shall regulate the withdrawal of the Japanese forces in conformity with the Assembly resolution of March 4th, 1932."

At the time of the passing of the March 4th resolution, it was made quite clear by the Assembly that the resolution rules out the attaching of any conditions to the withdrawal of Japanese troops as being incompatible with the Covenant and that the withdrawal must be complete. It was on these two understandings that the Chinese Government accepted the resolution, and these two understandings were subsequently endorsed by the United States Government. Yet it is clear from a recent telegram that the Japanese Government are attempt-

¹ See records of the fourth plenary meeting of the Assembly.
ing to do precisely what the Assembly and the United States of America have condemned—

namely, to impose political conditions as the price of Japanese withdrawal. Indeed, they are trying under cover of the Assembly’s resolution to force the Chinese Government to accept a

Japanese ultimatum.

It would in the circumstances appear imperative for the Committee to inform the represen-
tatives of the powers at Shanghai and the Chinese and Japanese Governments what is meant

by the Assembly resolution of March 4th.

(2) As regards (b), the Committee is to follow the execution of the Council resolutions of

September 30th and December 10th. The former resolution imposes the obligation on the

Japanese Government to:

“... continue as rapidly as possible the withdrawal of its troops, which had

already begun, into the railway zone in proportion as the safety of the lives and property

of Japanese nationals is effectively assured ...”;

and on the Chinese Government to:

“... assume responsibility for the safety of the lives and property of Japanese

nationals outside that zone as the withdrawal of Japanese troops continues and the Chinese

local authorities and police forces are re-established.”

The December 10th resolution reaffirmed the September 30th resolution and called upon:

“... the Chinese and Japanese Governments to take all steps necessary to assure

its execution, so that the withdrawal of the Japanese troops within the railway zone may

be effected as speedily as possible under the conditions set forth in the said resolution.”

The resolution went on to state explicitly that the appointment of the Commission of Enquiry was without prejudice to carrying out these measures. These two resolutions and the discussion in the Council on October 23rd (see the extracts quoted on pages 12 to 16 of A.[Extr.]1) together with the Assembly’s condemnation of the idea of a settlement under military pressure, makes it clear that the withdrawal of Japanese troops is the essential preliminary to a settlement based on the Covenant.

It would appear to follow that the first task of the Committee is to implement this part of the Assembly’s resolution by requesting the parties to supply information on what steps they have already taken or proposed to execute their obligations under the September 30th and December 10th resolutions, and what they are prepared to do to carry out these obligations in full. The parties might be asked to supply this information in time for the first meeting of the Committee after the Easter recess.

(3) Since the danger of military pressure has been removed by securing Japanese evacuation the Committee is instructed “to endeavour to prepare the settlement of the dispute ... in accordance with Article 15, paragraph 3, of the Covenant, and to submit a

statement ...”

This no doubt will be a lengthy and complex task, to be carried out only in the light of the data received from the Commission of Enquiry on the spot. But it would appear appropriate and consonant with League precedents if the Committee were to give instructions to the Secretariat forthwith to prepare for its consideration a draft programme or agenda, indicating for instance the types of question with which it might expect to deal, the available sources of information, the ways in which and the issues on which League machinery, such as the Court and the technical organisations, could most appropriately be used, etc.

(4) According to the seventh paragraph referring to the Committee’s functions, it has to submit a first progress report to the Assembly as soon as possible and at the latest on May 1st, 1932. The Committee’s report will, it is believed, take into account reports from the Commission of Enquiry, as well as from other committees or agents acting on behalf of the League. It may therefore be suggested that the Commission of Enquiry be instructed to make a first report on conditions in Manchuria in time for the next meeting. In view of the statement made by the President of the Council on December 10th when officially interpreting the resolution of that date, that “if the undertakings given by the two parties according to the resolution of September 30th have not been carried out by the time of the arrival of the Commission (of Enquiry), the Commission should as speedily as possible report to the Council on the situation”, this first report would presumably deal with the extent to which Japan has carried out her obligations under the September 30th and December 10th resolutions and what she is prepared to do to complete their execution.

(5) My Government feels great anxiety at the present tense situation in Shanghai

and Manchuria, and feels that the best check on Japanese aggressive activities is the sense of vigilant and constant League supervision.

I have no doubt the President fully appreciates this aspect of the matter and intends to take appropriate measures to keep in touch with events and to have the Committee and if necessary the Assembly itself summoned at short notice should unexpected developments occur.

But it would relieve my Government’s anxiety to have information as to such measures; I therefore respectfully suggest that the arrangements contemplated under this head should be publicly announced as soon as possible.
B. CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

A.[Extr.]50.1932.VII.

1. LETTER, DATED MARCH 11TH, 1932, FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO THE UNITED STATES MINISTER AT BERNE.


I beg to enclose herewith, for the information of your Government, the text of a resolution relative to the Sino-Japanese dispute, which was adopted this afternoon by the Assembly of the League of Nations.

In view of the collaboration which has on several occasions in the course of recent events been effected between the Government of the United States and the Governments of other Powers having special interests in the Shanghai Settlements, perhaps you will allow me to draw your particular attention to Part II of the Assembly resolution, in which the Assembly addresses a request to the Powers Members of the League of Nations which have such special interests.

(Signed) Eric DRUMMOND.

2. REPLY, DATED MARCH 12TH, 1932, FROM THE UNITED STATES MINISTER AT BERNE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S LETTER OF MARCH 11TH, 1932.


I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 11th, enclosing for the information of the American Government the text of a resolution relative to the Sino-Japanese dispute which was adopted yesterday afternoon by the Assembly of the League of Nations.

I am instructed by my Government to express to you its gratification at the action taken by the Assembly of the League of Nations. My Government is especially gratified that the nations of the world are united on a policy not to recognise the validity of results attained in violation of the treaties in question. This is a distinct contribution to international law and offers a constructive basis for peace.

You suggest that I note particularly Part II of the resolution. In this the Assembly recalls several resolutions, and cites especially its own resolution of March 4th, 1932, adopted in agreement with the parties with a view to the definitive cessation of hostilities and the withdrawal of the Japanese forces. My Government, as one of the Powers which have special interests in the Shanghai Settlement, has already authorised its representatives at Shanghai to assist in co-operation with the representatives of other Powers similarly situated toward the consummation of those objectives.

(Signed) Hugh R. WILSON.

A.[Extr.]49.1932.VII.


I take pleasure in handing you a copy of a statement which the Secretary of State made on the evening of the 11th instant regarding the resolution of the Assembly of the same day.

"The nations of the League at Geneva have united in a common attitude and purpose towards the perilous disturbances in the Far East. The action of the Assembly expresses the purpose for peace which is found both in the Pact of Paris and the Covenant of the League of Nations. In this expression, all the nations of the world can speak with the same voice. This action will go far toward developing into terms of international law the principles of order and justice which underlie those treaties, and the Government of the United States has been glad to co-operate earnestly in this effort."

(Signed) Hugh R. WILSON.

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1 See record of the fourth plenary meeting of the Assembly.
XI. GENERAL SITUATION IN THE SHANGHAI AREA.

A. JOINT SITUATION REPORTS Nos. 2 TO 22 OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF FOUR STATES HAVING SPECIAL INTERESTS IN THE SHANGHAI AREA.

A.[Extr.]*33.I932.VII.

JOINT SITUATION REPORT No. 2. ¹

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 4.44 p.m., March 9th, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 2 p.m., March 9th, 1932.

Japanese Command issued statement dated March 8th defining limits of sphere of their military operations.

Statement declares that should the Chinese detachments enter line connecting the points mentioned, the Japanese authorities cannot warrant impossibility of clash with Japanese patrols on duty there and that should trouble arise therefrom responsibility must rest with the Chinese forces.

Western limits of this patrolled area as described in above statement are outside the 20-kilometre zone and run from the north as follows: Fuchiao, Yuehwangshih, Waikang, Anting, Paihucpiang. These places are marked in Chinese postal map of Shanghai district 1⁰/150,000. This constitutes a belt averaging two to three miles wide west of, and in front of, present Japanese outpost line.

Soochow Creek to international settlement forms the southern boundary of area.

Reports that clashes occurred on March 7th between the two sides on the Japanese right wing are unfounded. Our information is that Japanese planes carry out daily reconnaissances along Chinese front and over back areas.

There are no indications of any intention on the part of the Japanese forces to attack. The Chinese are reported to have received reinforcements, some of which are said to have reached Taitsang.

A.[Extr.]*44.I932.VII.

JOINT SITUATION REPORT No. 3.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 1.49 p.m., March 10th, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 9 a.m., March 10th, 1932.

1. Situation generally unchanged. Troops of Japanese 14th division General Matsuki have relieved 9th division in the left sector.

2. Chinese official reports of skirmishes and minor engagements continue to reach foreign military attachés, the places referred to as the areas where these engagements took place are all, with one exception, inside the Shirakawa patrol zone given in Situation Report No. 2.

3. Japanese headquarters state that, while it is possible patrols have exchanged shots during last few days with the Chinese, nothing in the nature of an engagement has taken place.

A.[Extr.]*51.I932.VII.

JOINT SITUATION REPORT No. 4.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 12.38 p.m., March 11th, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 9 a.m., March 11th, 1932.

No change.

¹ For the first Joint Situation Report, see the record of the fifth meeting of the General Commission.
JOINT SITUATION REPORT No. 5.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 2 p.m., March 12th, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 9 a.m., March 12th, 1932.

1. Generally all quiet.
2. Japanese headquarters staff report attack 9.30 p.m. yesterday by 30 mounted Chinese on an outpost company at Lutang. After an hour's fighting Chinese were repulsed with loss. No Japanese casualties.
3. All fighting portion 14th division and attached units have now been disembarked.

JOINT SITUATION REPORT No. 6.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 12.38 p.m., March 14th, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 9 a.m., March 14th, 1932.

1. Noon, March 14th. Nothing important occurred during past forty-eight hours. Headquarters recently arrived. Japanese 14th division is now in line.
2. Japanese headquarters state Tokio War Office is actively considering withdrawal portion troops now in Shanghai, but no order yet been received.

JOINT SITUATION REPORT No. 7.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 1.22 p.m., March 15th, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 9 a.m., March 15th, 1932.

1. Reports regarding clashes between opposing forces becoming less frequent. Information from liaison officers on Chinese side suggests Chinese intend remain on defensive.
2. Orders for return to Japan 11th division and 24th mixed brigade have been received Japanese army headquarters Shanghai.

JOINT SITUATION REPORT No. 8.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 1.31 p.m., March 16th, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 9 a.m., March 16th, 1932.

No change.

JOINT SITUATION REPORT No. 9.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 1.18 p.m., March 17th, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 9 a.m., March 17th, 1932.

Quiet along both fronts. Contrary to Press reports, there have been no important changes troop dispositions either side. Beginning to-morrow, Japanese commence re-embarkation one mixed brigade.
JOINT SITUATION REPORT NO. 10.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 1.30 p.m., March 18th, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 9 a.m., March 18th, 1932.

No activity during past twenty-four hours, except continued Japanese air reconnaissances over Chinese positions. Japanese also propose employ observation balloon and have issued statement that its use does not imply offensive action.

JOINT SITUATION REPORT NO. 11.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 1.5 p.m., March 19th, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 9 a.m., March 19th, 1932.

Embarkation one Japanese mixed brigade for Japan continues. Commander 19th route army protests to neutral observers against continued flights Japanese aircraft beyond Shirakawa patrol zone. Reports from Chinese sources civilians injured owing fire from aeroplanes not been verified.

JOINT SITUATION REPORT NO. 12.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 12.44 p.m., March 21st, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 9 a.m., March 21st, 1932.

Embarkation 11th division for Japan begins to-day. Movement expected be completed March 22nd.
On complete departure of division, there will still be approximately 37,000 Japanese troops remaining.

JOINT SITUATION REPORT NO. 13.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 1.27 p.m., March 22nd, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 9 a.m., March 22nd, 1932.

Embarkation 11th division continues as schedule. Withdrawal certain naval units also in progress.
No other important developments.

JOINT SITUATION REPORT NO. 14.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 3.2 p.m., March 23rd, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 9.30 a.m., March 23rd, 1932.

No change.
JOINT SITUATION REPORT NO. 15.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 8.45 p.m., March 24th, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 2 p.m., March 24th, 1932.

No change.

JOINT SITUATION REPORT NO. 16.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 7.12 p.m., March 25th, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 9 a.m., March 26th, 1932.

No change.

JOINT SITUATION REPORT NO. 17.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 4.23 p.m., March 26th, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 9 a.m., March 26th, 1932.

No important developments to report.

JOINT SITUATION REPORT NO. 18.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 2.45 p.m., March 29th, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 9.30 a.m., March 29th, 1932.

Numerous reports from neutral observers along Chinese front confirm impression incidents are occurring between two sides more especially region Taitsang. A recent incident puts beyond reasonable doubt that strong Japanese patrol made attack on small Chinese escort accompanying neutral observer in vicinity Wunglichiao near Taitsang. Japanese aerial reconnaissances now intensified over Chinese lines. Japanese staff have to-day issued orders with view prevent recurrence incidents reported paragraph one.

JOINT SITUATION REPORT NO. 19.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 12.19 p.m., March 30th, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 9 a.m., March 30th, 1932.

No change.

JOINT SITUATION REPORT NO. 20.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 11.27 a.m., March 31st, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 9 a.m., March 31st, 1932.

No important change in military situation.
JOINT SITUATION REPORT NO. 21.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 7.1 p.m., April 1st, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 2 p.m., April 1st, 1932.

Minor engagements along limits of Shri . . . patrol zone reported in preceding messages have been officially brought to attention of respective military staffs, who are now considering appropriate remedial measures. Both armies continue to strengthen their respective positions.

JOINT SITUATION REPORT NO. 22.

Telegram from His Britannic Majesty's Minister in China.

Shanghai, Desp. 6.15 p.m., May 2nd, 1932.
Geneva, Recd. 12.30 p.m., May 2nd, 1932.

Since date of report No. 21, there have been no important military developments. Japanese ground patrols have frequently reconnoitred to south of Suchow Creek eastward of Nan . . . and Japanese military aircraft have continued flights westwards and southwards of Shirakawa patrol zone. Chinese report states at noon April 25th a Japanese aircraft dropped bomb near Shanghai-Hangchow railway which destroyed a house. This report is denied by Japanese who state that they have, since some time back, ordered bomb racks to be removed from their aeroplanes.

B. INFORMATION COMMUNICATED BY THE CHINESE DELEGATION.

I. COMMUNICATION, DATED FEBRUARY 29TH, 1932, TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.


I have the honour to communicate the following telegram from Shanghai, dated February 28th, 8.16 p.m. (Shanghai time), giving some war news, which I thank you to circulate among the Members of the Council and of the Assembly:

"Quiet to-day, except heavy Japanese bombardment early in the morning. Both sides are strengthening the lines in preparation for the coming contest, when the new Japanese re-inforcements will have arrived."

(Signed) W. W. YEN.

II. COMMUNICATION, DATED MARCH 4TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.


I have the honour to transmit to you herewith two telegrams from my Government, dated to-day (March 4th), the one announcing the cessation of hostilities on the part of our troops near Shanghai, and the other stating that in spite of Japanese assurances, their troops are still attacking us and severe fighting is still going on. The text follows:

(1) "Our Commander proclaimed cessation of hostilities at midnight."
(2) "Despite Japanese assurances to cease hostilities two o'clock Thursday afternoon (March 3rd), the Japanese are still attacking us at Loutangcheng near Kating; severe fighting is still in progress."

I shall be grateful if Your Excellency will bring the above to the urgent notice of the Members of the Assembly.

(Signed) W. W. YEN.
3. COMMUNICATION, dated MARCH 4TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.


As requested, I have the honour herewith to communicate to you the following telegram, which I have just received from the National Crisis Salvation Association of China and to request that you will be good enough to circulate the same among the Members of the Assembly:

"We wish to call the Assembly’s attention to the significant fact that even at this moment, when our defending forces have already completed their withdrawal to a distance of twenty kilometres from the International Settlement, as demanded by Japan, and when Japanese propagandists everywhere are loudly proclaiming Japan’s sincere desire for peace, Japanese forces are still continuing their brutal destruction of civilian lives and private property by bombing, bombardment and incendiarism. We earnestly entreat the Assembly to make Japan fulfil her pledge by ceasing hostilities and withdrawing her forces without delay. March 4th. — The National Crisis Salvation Association of China."

(Signed) W. W. Yen.

5. COMMUNICATION, dated MARCH 5TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Geneva, March 5th, 1932.

I have the honour herewith to communicate to you for the information of the Assembly two telegrams which I have just received from my Government and to request that you will be good enough to circulate them among the Members of the Assembly:

(1) "Wireless message from General Tsai Ting-kai states that the Japanese forces are still attacking our troops between Kating and Tachang. A fleet of enemy aeroplanes bombed Quinsan and attacked Soochow with machine guns."

(2) "Despite the Japanese official communiqué declaring that the Japanese military and naval authorities ‘have ordered all military operations to cease forthwith’ early Thursday afternoon, it was officially reported that at 6 p.m. Japanese forces attacked Nanziang. The Japanese have completed the occupation of Chapei within which, it was announced, no Chinese would be allowed to enter under any circumstances during the next three days."

(Signed) W. W. Yen.

6. COMMUNICATION, dated MARCH 5TH, 1932 FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Geneva, March 5th, 1932.

I have the honour to communicate the following telegram, dated Shanghai, March 5th, 8.22 p.m., from the Honourable T. V. Soong, Vice-President of the Council of Ministers, which I beg Your Excellency to make known to the Assembly:

"General Chiang Kwangnai, reporting from Field Headquarters, states: Commencing from 3 p.m., Friday, Japanese artillery proceeding from Nanziang delivered severe bombardment on our Huangtu line. This was followed by heavy infantry attacks which we repulsed at midnight.

"General Shirakawa issued explanatory statement this morning that occupation of Huangtu (which is well beyond 20 kilometre zone) is necessary in order that Nanziang now held by the Japanese forces can be protected."

It is clearly evident that the Japanese forces now are still advancing into China’s interior, and the pretext put forth is always to protect the last place occupied.

(Signed) W. W. Yen.
7. **Communication, dated March 6th, 1932, from the Chinese Delegation to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations.**

[Ref.273.]


I have the honour to communicate herewith a telegram, dated March 5th, from Shanghai, and to request that you will be good enough to circulate the same among the Members of the Assembly:

"Twelve Japanese aeroplanes flew over the Soochow and Quinsan districts on Friday and Saturday (March 4th and 5th) and attacked the farmers, working in the fields, with machine guns. The casualties were unknown. Numerous reports from the districts attacked have been officially received.

"Eight troopships containing the Japanese 14th division have arrived at Woosung. Other contingents of Japanese troops have landed at Pootung (opposite Shanghai).

"Severe fighting is now in progress on the Kiating and Nanhsiang front and also at Liuho. Adequate reinforcements on our side have arrived, and we are prepared to resist."

(Signed) W. W. Yen.

8. **Communication, dated March 6th, 1932, from the Chinese Delegation to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations.**

(Ref.274.)


I have the honour to communicate herewith a telegram, dated March 6th, which I have received from Shanghai and to request that you will be good enough to circulate the same among the Members of the Assembly:

"Japanese planes bombed the railway towns between Soochow and Quinsan on Sunday (March 6th). We are resisting the severe Japanese attack on the Hwangtu-Kiating-Lotang front. The indications are that the Japanese are preparing to attack Hangchow (capital of Chekiang).

"The Japanese military authorities approached our leading citizens in Chapei with a view to establishing a police administration under the auspices of the Japanese. Our people have refused to consider the suggestion."

(Signed) W. W. Yen.

9. **Communication, dated March 6th, 1932, from the Chinese Delegation to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations.**

[Ref.272.]


I have the honour to communicate herewith the following telegram, dated March 6th, which I have just received from my Government, and shall be grateful if you will circulate it among the Members of the League:

"Up to the noon of March 5th, our line of defence is running from Sing-chwang (a city on the Shanghai-Hangchow railway, about 15 miles south of Shanghai) to Tai-chang (a city about 12 miles west of Kating or 30 miles west of Woosung), passing Tsih-pao (a city on the southern bank of the Soochow creek, about 18 miles west of Shanghai), Hwangdo (a city on the northern bank of the Soochow creek, about 22 miles west of Shanghai) and Anting (a city on the Shanghai-Nanking railway, about 28 miles west of Shanghai). The outposts of the Japanese forces already reached as far as Nanhsiang and Kating, the second line of our defence.

"On the afternoon of March 4th, under the barrage of about 2,000 shots of artillery fire, more than 200 Japanese cavalry, which were closely followed by infantry, launched an attack on our positions at Hwangdo; but they retreated on the same evening.

"Japanese plain-clothes soldiers are proceeding from Nanhsiang to Taichang."
According to a Rengo (Japanese news agency) message from Tokio of March 6th, the Japanese War Office, in an unofficial statement, stated inter alia that although Japanese troops have cleared away the Chinese army after great victory, Japan, in view of many past facts, could not anticipate what action might likely be taken by China; therefore, 'the Japanese troops, which have been originally considered necessary and have completed preparation, will be despatched to Shanghai'.

(Signed) W. W. YEN.

A.[Extr.]22.1932.VII.

I0. Communication, dated March 7th, 1932, from the Chinese Delegation to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations.


I have the honour to communicate to you the following telegram of March 7th, which I have just received from my Government, and shall be most obliged if you will circulate it among the Members of the League:

"According to a report of the Shanghai Maritime Customs, five Japanese merchant ships, loaded to capacity with Japanese troops, entered the port on the forenoon of March 6th."

(Signed) W. W. YEN.

A.[Extr.]25.1932.VII.

II. Communication, dated March 8th, 1932, from the Chinese Delegation to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations.


I have the honour to communicate herewith a telegram, dated March 7th, which I have just received from Shanghai and to request that you will be good enough to bring the same to the attention of the Members of the Assembly:

"Official reports reaching Shanghai at 6 p.m. to-day (March 7th) state that there has been heavy fighting at Kiating, Hwangtu and Taichong. Numerous refugees from Kiating have arrived here and reported the town was burning.

"Nine Japanese aeroplanes followed on Monday the passenger train from Hangchow to Shanghai, throwing the passengers into panic, but the train was not attacked."

(Signed) W. W. YEN.

A.[Extr.]29.1932.VII.


I have just received the following telegram, dated March 8th, from Shanghai, and have the honour, therefore, to request that you will be good enough to circulate the same among the Members of the Assembly:

"A brigade of Japanese troops attacked Chukiachiao, near Kiating, on Monday, March 7th. Fierce fighting ensued. According to official reports reaching Shanghai at 3 p.m., Tuesday, March 8th, the Japanese were completely driven out.

"The Central Executive Committee of the Kuomintang at Lyoang made a declaration praising highly the valour of the 19th Army and repeating the policy of resistance against the Japanese aggression. Regarding the friendly Powers, the declaration said: 'Since international treaties and agreements have all been signed with the free will of the Powers concerned, it is their duty to uphold their sanctity. China is to-day not only resisting in self-defence but also fighting for the preservation of international treaties. If these treaties should be rendered mere scraps of paper and if no sanctions should be applied against Japan, there would be no peace in the Far East. If the matter were not attended to immediately, it would soon be too late.'"

(Signed) W. W. YEN.
13. COMMUNICATION, DATED MARCH 9TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

[Ref.282.]


I have just received a telegram from the Municipality of Hangchow (capital of Chekiang Province), dated March 8th, to the effect that Japanese aeroplanes flew over the city at 11 a.m., March 8th, and opened fire with machine guns upon the population.

In communicating the above to you, I have the honour to request that you will be good enough to bring the same to the attention of the Assembly.

(Signed) W. W. YEN.

14. COMMUNICATION, DATED MARCH 9TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

[Ref.284.]


I have the honour to communicate herewith part of a letter, dated February 8th, which I have just received from Mr. Sherwood Eddy, internationally known as a Y.M.C.A. worker writing from New York, and to request that you will be good enough to circulate the same among the Members of the Assembly:

"I have just completed a tour of twenty-one cities in eleven provinces of China, meeting the officials, students and leaders of the nations . . .

The ruthless military offensive of Japan in Manchuria and down the east coast have pierced China's heart, awakening her people to the realisation of their desperate need . . .

Just before we sailed for home we witnessed the beginning of the trouble which led to the bombing of Shanghai and to the battles which are now in progress. At the invitation of the Japanese, we visited Japan for three days, had a series of interviews and met groups of representative people for discussion. We found here such a tense wartime psychology and tight censorship of Press and platform that no single man in all Japan dare speak out boldly in criticism of the military adventure of army and Government. Instant assassination or imprisonment would follow any such spoken word under the present fascist control of militarism. Indeed, the people are not permitted to hear or know any facts that are unfavourable to Japan. In their propaganda, Japan is proclaimed 'the Redeemer of China'.

During my brief stay in Japan I had frank and friendly conferences with several of the Japanese leaders. I testified to their own continued military offensive, as I had watched it develop for four months after the capture of Mukden, unprovoked by any Chinese attack on the railway, and during the setting up of bogus, puppet 'independence governments' in Manchuria under Japanese military 'advisors'. Much as they carried out their previous plan for Korea, the Japanese in Manchuria have repeatedly and solemnly protested that they have 'no territorial designs whatever'. I testified to the Japanese that their military rule in both Manchuria and Korea is bitterly against the will of more than nine-tenths of the educated people. One week before the events took place a Japanese general told me personally that Japan must first whip China by taking Shanghai and Nanking before they can negotiate on the Manchurian question. This, of course, means ruthless and unabashed war, while at the same hour Japan has advanced boldly into Russian-controlled Harbin.

The crux of the case between Japan and China centres in the treaties of 1915, based on Japan's twenty-one demands. The Chinese maintain that these treaties were extorted from China under threats, and with compulsion to require secrecy. They were never ratified by the Chinese Parliament, which according to the Constitution must approve all treaties. They have been indignantly repudiated by the Chinese people from that day to this. Japan has been unwilling to submit her case to arbitration, while China has been consistently eager to do so. Japan thus breaks her Covenant obligations in taking the administration of justice into her own hands before the dispute has been submitted to arbitration or enquiry by the Council. By her action, she has thus assailed the very foundation of the League of Nations and of all world organisation for peace . . ."

(Signed) W. W. YEN.
15. COMMUNICATION, DATED MARCH 9TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

[Ref. 285.]


With reference to Mr. Sato’s remarks at the morning session of the Assembly on March 5th as to the tendentious character of a communication which I addressed to you on March 4th, I have the honour to inform you that "The National Crisis Salvation Association," from which the said communication originated, is an organisation represented by some fifty to sixty leading Chinese citizens of all walks of life, such as Dr. Chang Po-ling, China’s foremost educationalist; his Excellency Hsiung Hsi-ling, philanthropist and formerly Prime Minister and Minister of Finance; His Excellency Chen Chin-tao, formerly Minister of Finance and Minister for Foreign Affairs; the Honourable Wen Tsung-yao, delegate to the Anglo-Chinese Convention for the revision of commercial treaties, 1903, and formerly Deputy-President at Lhassa, capital of Tibet; His Excellency Huang Yen-pei, educationalist and formerly Minister of Education; M. Chu Ching-lan, philanthropist and President of the Famine Relief Commission, etc. From these names there can be no doubt that what news the said National Crisis Salvation Association has communicated to us is but a fair statement of facts as they found them.

In making the above explanation, I have the honour to request that you will be good enough to convey the same to the Members of the Assembly.

(Signed) W. W. Yen.

16. COMMUNICATION, DATED MARCH 9TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

[Ref. 288.]


I have the honour to communicate herewith the following telegram, dated March 9th, which I have just received from my Government, and shall be grateful, if you will circulate it among the Members of the Assembly:

"According to a report of General Chiang Kwang-nai, our Commander-in-Chief in the front, the Japanese, despite their repeated declarations for the cessation of hostilities, are continuously aggravating the military situation. On the morning of the 8th, several hundreds of Japanese cavalry invaded our positions at Tai-chang by way of the Lotu Bridge (about 6 miles north-east of Tai-chang). They were finally driven off by our outposts after severe fighting lasting several hours."

(Signed) W. W. Yen.

17. COMMUNICATION, DATED MARCH 10TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

[Ref. 291.]

Geneva, March 10th, 1932.

I have the honour to transmit herewith the following telegram, dated March 9th, which I have just received from Shanghai, and to request that you be good enough to bring the same to the knowledge of the Members of the Assembly:

"According to official reports from the front, the Japanese aggressions are unabating. After the failure of the Japanese cavalry to capture Taichang on the afternoon of March 8th, 2,000 Japanese infantry renewed the attack on the morning of the 9th with the same object to capture Taichang, which attack was also repulsed. Several thousands of Japanese troops landed at Liuho on Tuesday (March 8th). The Japanese Commander, General Shirakawa, in a statement said that our preparations might precipitate new clash, from which we infer that the declaration has undoubtedly the intention to justify further attempt to penetrate into our territory."

(Signed) W. W. Yen.
18. COMMUNICATION, DATED MARCH 10TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Geneva, March 10th, 1932.

For the information of the Assembly, I have the honour to request you to circulate the following telegram, which I have just received from my Government:

"General Chiang Kwang-nai, Commander of the 19th route army, reported to-day that Japanese troops in the Liuho region had been constructing an air-field, apparently intending to extend field preparations. It is believed in our military circles that the Japanese military authorities are planning further offensive. Japanese troops have also been forcing our villagers in the neighbourhood of Liuho to hoist Japanese flags and have been burning farmhouses wherever resistance was offered."

March 10th, 11 p.m. (Shanghai time).

(Signed) W. W. Yen.

19. COMMUNICATION, DATED MARCH 10TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Geneva, March 10th, 1932.

I have the honour to communicate herewith the following telegram, dated March 10th, which I have just received from Shanghai, and to request that you will be good enough to circulate the same among the Members of the Assembly:

"Official reports arriving Thursday morning (to-day) stated that Japanese troops set fire to Hsintan village, west of Liuho, thirty-five kilometres from Shanghai and that the whole village was burning. Six thousand Japanese troops arrived at Fouchao, north-west of Liuho, forcing the residents to open shops and fly the Japanese flag. The Japanese troops compelled the natives of Liuho to raze the motor-bus station to pave the way for the construction of a landing field for Japanese planes."

(Signed) W. W. Yen.

20. COMMUNICATION, DATED MARCH 22ND, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.


Referring to the communication of the Japanese delegation of the 2nd instant (A.[Extr.] 94.1932.VII.), wherein it was stated that as the result of an aerial reconnaissance Japanese observers saw a lively fusillade taking place between Chinese soldiers at the north-west edge of Tazang and a force of several hundred Chinese soldiers coming from a northerly direction, I have the honour to inform you that the news as communicated is contrary to facts.

1 See Annex XI, C, Communication No. 10.
According to the report of General Chiang Kwang-nai the loud reports of firing on the night of March 31st near Tazang were due to the fact that Japanese plain-clothes soldiers attacked the Chinese positions north-east of Tazang. He vigorously denies that there was any firing between Chinese soldiers, as alleged by the Japanese communication.

(Signed) W. W. YEN.

A.[Extr.]98.1932.VII.

22. COMMUNICATION, DATED APRIL 5TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

[Ref.A.17.]

Geneva, April 5th, 1932.

I have the honour to inform you that I have received the following telegram from my Government, dated Nanking, April 2nd, and shall be obliged if you will be good enough to have the same circulated among the Members of the Assembly:

"The Kiangsu Provincial Government reported that Japanese planes bombed Anting (a town on the Shanghai-Nanking Railway, about thirty miles west of Shanghai) on March 23rd. Over 100 Japanese soldiers searched Huangtou (about five miles south-east of Anting), destroyed the property of the middle and normal schools and the Chungan Hall, and seized merchandise. Japanese troops stationed at Huangtou were increased by four thousand."

(Signed) W. W. YEN.

A.[Extr.]100.1932.VII.

23. COMMUNICATION, DATED APRIL 6TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

[Ref.A.18.]

Geneva, April 6th, 1932.

I have the honour to inform you that I have just received a telegram from my Government dated Nanking the 5th instant, to the following effect:

"The Mayor of Shanghai reported on the 4th instant that the Japanese have appointed a Chinese, Hoo Li-fu by name, former manager of a bathhouse in Nanking Road, Shanghai, and another Chinese, Wang Tu by name, employee of the Bank of Japan, as Director and Co-director respectively of the so-called Political Bureau of Chapei. Wang Tu has also organised a 'Local Preservation Association', issued a proclamation and appointed a Police Commissioner, a Traffic Manager, a Chief Detective and a Director of Public Safety. To date already 150 policemen and 50 detectives have been enlisted."

(Signed) W. W. YEN.


24. COMMUNICATION, DATED APRIL 14TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

[Ref.A.23.]

Geneva, April 14th, 1932.

At the request of the Chinese delegation, the Secretary-General has the honour to circulate to the Special Committee the following telegram addressed to the said Committee through the intermediary of Dr. W. W. Yen.

[Ref.A.23.]

"Your attention called to fact parley in Shanghai is troops stationing instead of withdrawal. Conference with Japanese firmly demanding surrender of Woosung and other places for stationing troops without time-limit deliberately failing comply League decision Lampson mediation suggestions, also inconsistent with true withdrawal. Shanghai three millions people oppose this. Hope you put into practice responsibility vested in you and effect Japanese unconditional complete immediate withdrawal as decided by League. — Shanghai National Salvation Federation of Chinese Public Bodies."
25. Communication, dated April 28th, 1932, from the Chinese Delegation to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations.

[Ref. A.29.]

Geneva, April 28th, 1932.

I have the honour to communicate to you, at the request of the Chinese Association in London, a telegram from them addressed to the Assembly of the League of Nations in my care. I shall be deeply obliged if you will be good enough to circulate the same among the Members of the Assembly.

"Any arrangement under whatever ingenious formula countenancing continuation Japan's military occupation of Chinese territory Shanghai as lever for exacting any guarantees will render League Covenant and Assembly's explicit resolutions March 4th meaningless. To make clear resolutions and then purposely circumscribe them by whatever clever devices before ink is dry, not only most dangerous, but makes League laughing-stock. As you repeatedly emphasised much safer let Japan ignore and violate Assembly's unanimous clear resolutions by continuing her occupation than legalise under dubious excuses her illegal occupation by compromising League's own conviction, honour and life. The world and posterity look to you for upholding international sense of decency; we trust your wisdom and courage. — London Chinese Association."

(Signed) W. W. Yen.


[Ref. A.31.]


I have the honour to communicate to you the following telegram which I have just received from my Government and to request that you will be good enough to bring the same to the attention of the Members of the Assembly:

"Japanese troops are still interfering with the functions of the Customs officers at the Nanking-Shanghai railway wharf at Woosung. Upon protest from the Customs Commissioner of Shanghai, the Japanese Consul replied that the Japanese military were unable to comply with the wishes of the Chinese Customs."

(Signed) W. W. Yen.

C. Information communicated by the Japanese Delegation.

A.[Extr.]13.1932.VII.


Shanghai Incidents.

Summary of Official Telegrams received on March 4th by the Japanese Delegation.

[Translation.]

The Japanese army and navy has ceased hostilities on the orders given by their Commanders on March 3rd. Japanese troops in the front line are still from time to time being fired upon by Chinese regular soldiers, or by soldiers in civilian clothes and in these cases are returning their fire. In the night of March 3rd, disbanded Chinese soldiers who had fled from Woosung appeared in the district of Louwu and fired on our soldiers, who retaliated. These are only chance skirmishes which even if they recurred from time to time would not modify the attitude of the Japanese forces as defined in the proclamations made by the commanding officer.

The Japanese army has no intention of resuming hostilities, nor of advancing beyond the positions at present occupied, unless the Chinese army undertakes a veritable offensive. You may formally deny any allegation which might be made by the Chinese regarding an attack by our forces despite the cessation of hostilities.
2. COMMUNICATION, DATED MARCH 7TH, 1932, FROM THE JAPANESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Shanghai Incidents.

Summary of Official Telegrams received on March 7th by the Japanese Delegation.

[Translation.]

1. The 11th division reports that in the morning of the 7th, Chinese troops attacked the first Japanese line at Seking (north of Luwula-tsen); the 11th division merely resisted this attack and received orders not to take the offensive.

The British, American, French and Italian officers have been informed of this state of affairs.

2. The reports of our air observers state that, for some days, Chinese forces have been concentrating in the neighbourhood of Taitsang. Since this morning (March 7th) they have been approaching the district of Tungpao.

The following movements of troops have been observed:

(a) Forces proceeding from Shangyentseng to Taitsang;
(b) Other forces proceeding from Shangyentseng to Yowang;
(c) Scattered forces proceeding from the east towards Seking and Luhotseng.

3. COMMUNICATION, DATED MARCH 9TH, 1932, FROM THE JAPANESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Shanghai Incidents.

Summary of Official Telegram received on March 9th, 1932, by the Japanese Delegation.

[Translation.]

The 11th division has announced that no serious fighting occurred with the Chinese troops which were advancing towards our lines, near Seking, on the morning of March 7th, as those troops soon withdrew.

4. COMMUNICATION, DATED MARCH 14TH, 1932, FROM THE JAPANESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Shanghai Incidents.

Summary of an Official Telegram received on March 14th by the Japanese Delegation.

[Translation.]

On March 11th, about 9.30 p.m., a detachment of about thirty Chinese cavalry appeared at Loutang, six kilometres inside the control zone. Under cover of the darkness they attacked our posts, which succeeded in repulsing them at about 10.25 p.m.

5. COMMUNICATIONS, DATED MARCH 10TH AND 14TH, 1932, FROM THE JAPANESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Summary of Official Telegrams received by the Japanese Delegation.

[Translation.]

March 10th, 1932.

1. Since the departure of the Chinese troops from Chapei the Japanese marines have co-operated with the Municipal Council of the International Settlement in repairing the roads in the Extension of the Settlement. These roads have been cleared and are beginning to resume their normal aspect. The police of the Municipal Council is maintaining order in certain of the Chinese quarters by arrangement with the Japanese forces.

2. The Municipal Council has already issued more than 11,000 passes to Chinese desirous of removing their goods from this zone. The Japanese troops are helping to repair the light and gas. This work is progressing slowly, and consequently only a few Chinese have so far been able to return to their homes.
3. Access to the quarters of Chapei west of the railway-line is only allowed to holders of passes, until the shells, grenades, mines, etc., abandoned by the Chinese troops, have been removed and order has been re-established. Rumours having been circulated to the effect that the Japanese were going to set fire to this part of Chapei as a reprisal, a large number of Chinese fled with their possessions. Many cases of looting have been reported.

4. The work of removing dangerous objects from the Woosung zone is practically completed, and with the restoration of order a large number of Chinese and foreigners are returning to this district.

Shanghai Incidents.

March 14th, 1932.

1. The Municipal Council of the International Settlement, in agreement with the Japanese military authorities and the Chinese authorities, decided to take sanitary measures in the quarters of Chapei near the Settlement. After referring the matter to the meeting of the Consular Corps on March 10th, the first measures were taken on the 14th and are being actively pursued.

2. Many refugees have been evacuated from Chapei with the help of the Japanese marines, who have distributed provisions to the inhabitants of this district. Since March 4th, the naval authorities have organised medical rounds of inspection twice daily, and assistance is given to all sick and wounded who apply to the posts of marines. The sanitary units of the Red Cross and Catholic missions made an inspection at Chapei on March 7th, but they considered it unnecessary to continue these rounds in view of the activity already displayed by the Japanese sanitary units.

March 14th, 1932.

Since the proclamation of the cessation of hostilities on March 3rd the following hostile acts have been committed against our troops by the Chinese troops:

1. On March 8th, near Liuho, the Chinese fired on a Japanese patrol.
2. On March 8th and 9th, at Kating, our sentinels were attacked by soldiers in civilian clothes.
3. On the 9th, at Nanziang, shots were fired at the general commanding the brigade; in the course of the evening our troops were twice attacked by Chinese soldiers in civilian clothes near Nanziang station.
4. On the 10th, a group of officers was attacked by a detachment of Chinese soldiers armed with machine-guns, who had crossed the Soochow river at about 6 km. from Nanziang. One Japanese officer was wounded. In the afternoon of the same day shots were fired at the colonel commanding one of the first-line regiments near Nanziang station. During the night sentinels were attacked by soldiers in civilian clothes west of Nanziang station. One soldier was wounded.
5. On the 11th, several shots were fired at a motor-boat between Nanziang and Kating; a patrol was also attacked on the same day south of Kating. During the night some thirty Chinese horsemen launched an attack in this neighbourhood (see previous communication).

A.[Extr.]61.1932.VII.


[Translation.]

The Japanese delegation has already drawn attention on several occasions to the inaccuracy of certain official Chinese communications. In accordance with information obtained from the local authorities, it desires to submit the following corrections.

1. Bombardments from the air mentioned in documents A(Extr.).14 and 19, paragraph 1, 2.

There has been no bombardment from the air since the cessation of hostilities was proclaimed on March 3rd.

On March 4th, aeroplanes reconnoitring in the Kuangsan and Soochow area having been fired at, replied with machine gun fire.

On March 5th, aeroplanes set out to reconnoitre in the Kwangtu area, but did not fire.

2. Establishment of a Japanese police administration at Chapei (document A(Extr.).19, paragraph 2).

There is no truth whatever in the statement that the Japanese forces intend to set up a police organisation at Chapei.


Untrue.

See Annex XI, B, Communication No. 5.
See Annex XI, B, Communication No. 8.
See Annex XI, B, Communication No. 19.
   Untrue.

5. Civilian population compelled to hoist Japanese flags and farm-houses burned wherever 
   resistance was offered (idem). 
   Untrue.

The Japanese troops have sometimes given the inhabitants papers bearing the 
Rising Sun to certify that no soldiers in civilian clothes were concealed in their houses. 
The occupants of these houses have often placed the certificates on their doors. These 
are probably the facts which have been misrepresented in the Chinese official reports.

6. The Japanese troops have strict orders not to cross the surveillance line indicated 
in the commander-in-chief’s communiqué of March 8th. This line is as follows: starting from 
the north, Lobenkao, Fojaochen, Yowongtse, Ywaikangchen, Antingchen, Peikangchen, then 
towards the east; from this village up to the international Settlement along the Soochow 
river.

**Shanghai Incidents.**

*Official telegramm received by the Japanese delegation.*

Tokio, March 16th.

"The order was given on March 14th to the 11th division, the 24th mixed brigade and 
certain special detachments at present in Shanghai, to return to Japan."

A.[Extr.]68.1932.VII.

7. **COMMUNICATION, DATED MARCH 20TH, 1932, FROM THE JAPANESE DELEGATION TO THE 
   SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.**

[Translation.]


I have the honour to inform you that orders have been given to-day to the 3rd naval 
division, the 1st destroyer flotilla, the 1st aircraft-carrier flotilla, and the cruiser “Oi”, 
belonging to the 3rd squadron, now at Shanghai, to leave Chinese waters and return to Japan. 
The naval forces remaining at Shanghai will be only very slightly in excess of those which were 
there before the present incidents.

Requesting you to communicate the foregoing to the Members of the Council and of the 
League.

(Signed) S. Sato.

A.[Extr.]79.1932.VII.

8. **COMMUNICATION, DATED MARCH 23RD, 1932, FROM THE JAPANESE DELEGATION TO THE 
   SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.**

**Summary of Official Telegrams received by the Japanese Delegation on March 23rd.**

[Translation.]

1. On March 20th at about io a.m. the medical corps of the 11th division, which was 
   proceeding to Shanghai, where it was to embark, was attacked north of Tazang Chen by 
   Chinese plain-clothes soldiers, who threw grenades. Three soldiers were wounded, one very 
   seriously.

2. On March 21st, about midday, three Japanese artillerymen were attacked by Chinese 
   plain-clothes soldiers at Kiangwan, outside the University. The members of the Lytton 
   Commission were in the vicinity when this incident occurred.

A.[Extr.]81.1932.VII.

9. **COMMUNICATION, DATED MARCH 23RD, 1932, FROM THE JAPANESE DELEGATION TO THE 
   SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.**


With reference to the communication from the Chinese delegation A.[Extr.]74.1932.VII ³, 
to the effect that Japanese aeroplanes had attacked with machine-guns the Hangchow railway 
station on the 20th instant, I am in a position categorically to deny this allegation.

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¹ See Annex XI, B, Communication No. 18.
² See Annex XI, B, Communication No. 19.
³ See Annex XI, B, Communication No. 20.
Aeroplane reconnaissances took place on March 21st in the district of Soochow and Hangchow in order to survey the new earthworks thrown up by Chinese troops in the Soochow district and on the northern bank of the Whanpoo. The Japanese aeroplanes received strict orders not to open fire.

(Signed) N. Sato,

10. Communication, dated April 1st, 1932, from the Japanese Delegation to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations.

Shanghai Incidents.

[Translation.]
[Ref. 76.1932.]

Shanghai, April 1st.

On the night of March 31st, loud reports of gun and rifle fire were heard in the direction of Tazang. The Chinese newspapers of April 1st stated that the Japanese forces had been attacking this place since the night of March 30th and had occupied it on the 31st; the Japanese Command accordingly had an aerial reconnaissance carried out on the morning of April 1st. The observers saw that a lively fusillade was taking place at the north-west edge of Tazang between the Chinese soldiers occupying this place and a force of several hundred Chinese soldiers coming from a northerly direction. There were no troops in the parts of the town facing the Japanese lines.

The causes of this engagement between Chinese forces are not yet known.

A.[Extr.10].1932.VII.


Brigandage in Manchuria.

[Translation.]
[Ref. 78.1932.]

January February

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<td>69</td>
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<td>500 to 1,000 men</td>
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<td>44</td>
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<tr>
<td>Over 1,000 men</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>79</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Killed and wounded</td>
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<td>13</td>
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</table>
12. Communication, dated April 8th, 1932, from the Japanese Delegation to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations.

Shanghai Incidents.

Official Telegram received from the Japanese Delegation.

[Translation.]

Shanghai, April 8th.

On April 7th, at 2:50 p.m., a group of some sixty Chinese soldiers crossed the Suchow river to the north of Chi-Wang-Miao and, advancing in the direction of Nanziang, opened fire on the Japanese troops near Fu-Chia-Pin. Another group of about the same number of men which was on the north bank of the Suchow river joined them in firing on our forces, which were able to repulse the assailants.


Shanghai Incidents.

Summary of official Telegram received on April 15th by the Japanese Delegation.

[Translation.]

Shanghai, April 14th, 1932.

Japanese nationals continue to be the object of violence on the part of the Chinese population even in the International Settlement, although the municipal police there are endeavouring to ensure their protection. On April 13th, a Japanese employee (29 years of age), on going to the French Settlement at about 10 a.m., was assaulted by five Chinese, probably students. He was seriously injured, particularly in the head. On April 14th, at about 10 a.m., a Japanese barber (54 years of age) was assaulted in the International Settlement, in the Sincha Road, by numerous Chinese. His condition is desperate.


Shanghai Incidents.

Summary of Official Telegrams Received by the Japanese Delegation.

[Translation.]

According to reports published on April 14th in a Shanghai newspaper issued in English, Chinese soldiers of the 88th division appeared in small bodies during the night of April 13th in the neighbourhood of the Hunjao aerodrome and the Soochow river. They are stated to have arrived in front of the Japanese positions. The newspaper adds that, since the southern part of the Soochow river is of high strategic importance, it would seem that as soon as a larger force has been collected the Chinese soldiers will attempt to establish themselves there. Further, the Chinese forces in this area are fortifying their defensive positions in the rear. This advance has been noted by foreign military attachés. According to their statements, the number of troops amounts to about one regiment. The attachés are to proceed to the spot on April 16th to ascertain the exact facts.

It is to be noted that at the meeting on March 26th, the Chinese mentioned Hwatsaochen, Hunjao and Lunghwa as their most advanced positions south of the Soochow river, and stated that they had no intention of going beyond those points. The present movements of the Chinese troops have brought them well beyond the line joining these three places. They might seriously threaten the flank of the Japanese army. It is needless to emphasise the serious character of such a movement of troops, in spite of the de facto cessation of hostilities and in the present state of negotiations. The military authorities attach great importance to the outcome of the investigations to be made by the foreign military attachés.
XII. CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO THE
CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES IN THE SHANGHAI AREA AND TO THE
NEGOTIATIONS FOR AN ARMISTICE.

A. COMMUNICATION DATED MARCH 8TH, 1932, FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The American Minister in China has cabled the Department of State under date of March 6th,
1 a.m., as follows:

"Captain Mayer (from office of Military Attaché, Peiping, now in Shanghai), after
confering with British Military Attaché, feels that, while major hostilities between main
Chinese and Japanese forces ceased on March 3rd, minor engagements between contact
groups have occurred on March 4th and 5th particularly near Wangtu (Huangtu) four miles
west of Nanziang, and also near Liuho. These engagements apparently are brought on by
the efforts of the Chinese to establish a favourable line of outposts. Japanese aeroplanes
have been scouting over Chinese lines and rear areas."

B. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT.

Information received by the Netherlands Delegation to the Assembly on March 5th and 6th, 1932.

1. According to the communication of March 5th, the Japanese Commander-in-Chief had
stated that he did not intend to go beyond the Liuho-Kading-Nanziang-Chenju line. However,
Japanese patrols had been observed south of the Nanziang-Chenju line. The Chinese had with-
drawn along the Shanghai-Hangchow railway line to a distance of 16 kilometres from Shanghai
and along the Shanghai-Nanking Railway to 22 kilometres from Shanghai, where the opposing
forces were fairly close to each other. Further north isolated groups of Chinese were withdrawing
from the Woosung fortress to rejoin the Chinese lines at Taitsang and local skirmishes had occurred,
which had terminated at the time the communication was despatched. The headquarters of the
Japanese 9th division were at Nanziang; the Chinese headquarters were probably at Lohkapang.

2. According to the communication of March 6th, the situation had remained unchanged
since the previous day and no further fighting had been reported.

Information received by the Netherlands Delegation to the Assembly on March 7th, 1932.

The Netherlands Consul-General in Shanghai communicates on March 7th that skirmishes
have taken place in the north sector near Liuho and that the Commander of the Chinese 19th
army states that his army took no part therein, but that it was perhaps the Chinese 47th division,
recently arrived, which was engaged. Contradictory rumours were in circulation regarding the
fusillades in the central sector; as regards the Japanese activity beyond the line mentioned in the
communication of March 5th (see document A(Extr.).24), it seems that the Japanese have occupied
the station of Wangtu, six kilometres to the west of Nanziang, and the village of Wangtu, situated
about three kilometres to the south of the railway line. The Netherlands Consul-General was
seeking confirmation of this information. He adds that the Chinese civilian population of the
countryside to the south-west of Shanghai is leaving in the direction of Hangchow and that the
Chinese soldiers have taken away the machinery of the Lunghua arsenal situated near the Whangpu
river some kilometres above Shanghai.
C. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION.

A.(Extr.).9.1932.VII.

1. COMMUNICATION DATED MARCH 2ND, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

[Ref.261.]


I have the honour to communicate the following statement, dated March 2nd, from my Government concerning the recent efforts to bring about a cessation of hostilities at Shanghai, and shall be obliged if you will be good enough to circulate the same among the Members of the Council and of the Assembly:

"In view of the arrival of two more divisions of Japanese troops as reinforcements and their new offensive at Liuho as well as at Woosung, it is important to announce the fact that, at the informal meeting between the Chinese and Japanese representatives on board His British Majesty's flagship Kent under the friendly offices of Admiral Sir Howard Kelly, certain points to form the basis of an agreement for the immediate cessation of hostilities were discussed and an understanding reached as follows:

(1) Mutual and simultaneous evacuation;
(2) No question of permanent dismantling of Woosung or Lion forts to be raised;
(3) Supervision of evacuation on both sides by a Sino-Japanese commission, with neutral observers;
(4) Evacuated area to be administered by Chinese authorities and policed by Chinese police as heretofore;
(5) Chinese to withdraw to Chenju and Japanese to withdraw to the International Settlement and the extra-Settlement roads, after which Chinese to withdraw to Nanhsiang and Japanese to withdraw to their ships (this last point subject to further discussion at a subsequent meeting to be arranged).

It was agreed that if the respective Governments should approve the tentative understanding, a formal meeting of the accredited diplomatic and military representatives was to take place forthwith for the purpose of consummating the arrangement.

In the afternoon of February 29th, the Chinese representative informed Admiral Kelly of the approval of the Chinese Government and requested him to notify the Japanese authorities of the same, so that, should the Japanese Government likewise give its approval, the proposed formal meeting of the accredited representatives might be arranged at once.

Up to the present, however, no word has been received from the Japanese side as to the decision of the Tokio Government. Meanwhile the Japanese military, naval and aerial forces have been launching a new attack against the Chinese forces on all fronts and the Japanese Consul-General has notified the Chinese Mayor of the intention of the Japanese military forces to bomb the two principal railways connecting Shanghai with Nanking and with Hangchow. Should these peace efforts, entirely earnest on the part of China, again fail, the responsibility for the failure must once more rest with Japan."

(Signed) M. W. YEN.

A.(Extr.).8.1932.VII.

2. COMMUNICATION DATED MARCH 3RD, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.


I have the honour to communicate the following telegram from my Government concerning the Japanese reply to the terms of armistice arrived at on board His Britannic Majesty's flagship Kent on February 28th, and to request you to circulate the same among the Members of the Assembly:

"Following Japanese reply was handed to Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Quo Tai-Chi, by Admiral Kelly this evening (March 2nd) as basic conditions of immediate cessation of hostilities:

(1) Should China give assurance for withdrawal of her troops to a certain distance from Shanghai (distance to be determined by Japanese and Chinese authorities) Japan
will agree to cessation of hostilities for a certain period (to be agreed upon between Japanese and Chinese authorities), and, pending subsequent arrangements, Japanese and Chinese forces shall hold their respective positions. Details relating to cessation of hostilities shall be arranged by the Japanese and Chinese military authorities.

“(2) During the period of cessation of hostilities, a Round Table Conference between Japan and China shall be held at Shanghai in which representatives of the principal Powers interested shall discuss with a view to reaching an agreement upon methods for withdrawal of both the Chinese and Japanese forces on such terms as are set out in the following paragraph, together with measures for the restoration and maintenance of peace and order in and around Shanghai and for the safeguarding of the International Settlement and the French Concession in Shanghai and foreign lives, property and interests therein.

“(3) The withdrawal of troops shall be commenced by Chinese troops (including plain-clothes gunmen) to a specified distance and, upon ascertaining the withdrawal of the Chinese forces, the Japanese forces will withdraw to the Shanghai and Woosung areas.

“(4) Should either of the parties infringe any of the terms of the cessation of hostilities, the other party shall have freedom of action. Both parties have the same freedom of action upon the expiration of the period agreed upon under paragraph 1.

“It is to be observed that the contents of the above reply show radical departure from the understanding reached on board the Kent. They are tantamount to conditions of surrender and are absolutely unacceptable. We feel the only alternative is further resistance to the Japanese attacks and regard the continuation of hostilities unavoidable.”

(Signed) W. W. Yen.

A.(Extr.).59.1932.VII.

3. Communication dated March 16th, 1932, from the Chinese Delegation to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations.

Telegram from M. T. V. Soong, M. Wellington Koo and M. Quo Tai-Chi.

On Monday (the 14th inst.), Mr. Quo, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, attended a tea-party given by Sir Miles Lampson (His Britannic Majesty’s Minister), Mr. Johnson (the American Minister), Mr. Wilden (the French Minister), and Mr. Ciano (the Italian Consul-General), and met Mr. Shigemitsu (the Japanese Minister). The following draft agenda for the armistice meeting was drawn up, subject to the approval of the Chinese and Japanese Governments:

“(1) Chinese troops are to remain in their present positions, pending a later settlement.

“(2) Japanese troops are to withdraw to the International Settlement and the extra-Settlement roads in the Hongkew district as before the incident—viz., January 28th. It is understood, however, that, in view of the numbers of Japanese troops to be accommodated, some will have to be temporarily stationed in localities adjacent to the above-mentioned areas.

“(3) A Joint Commission with neutral members is to certify to the mutual withdrawal.

“Note. — It is understood that no other questions of principle will be raised.

“Separate Note (subject to the approval of the Chinese Government). — The following understanding is agreed upon: Provided a definite agreement is reached on the basis of the above points, the Chinese side will voluntarily give an independent undertaking that Mayor Wu’s letter of January 28th stands.”

Yesterday, Minister Shigemitsu visited Sir Miles Lampson, making the following change to paragraph 3 of the original draft:

“A Joint Commission with neutral members is to certify to the carrying out of the Agreement under paragraphs 1 and 2, and watch and observe the general conditions in the evacuated area until a later settlement.”

A formal meeting was arranged for this afternoon (16th instant) to adopt the draft agenda, but is postponed upon the request of Minister Shigemitsu on the ground that no instruction has been received from Tokio. The above information has been communicated to the Lytton Commission of Enquiry.

The Chinese Government considers the proposed amendments by the Japanese Minister as unacceptable. In the opinion of the Chinese Government the separate note as mentioned above should not be raised at the armistice negotiations, because it is tantamount to a political condition for the evacuation of the Japanese forces.