2. Letter, dated May 12th, 1932, from the Chinese Delegation to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations.


According to repeated reports, Japan has been continuously committing acts of provocation in the direction of Shanhaikwan through the instrumentality of the puppet Government. For the past several days, Japanese troops have been opening gun and rifle fire with the object of disturbing peace and order.

General Ma Chan-shan, Chairman of the Heilungkiang Provincial Government, has reported in a telegram that Japanese troops have entered the town of Tungho, on the southernmost border of Heilungkiang and about 105 miles east of Harbin. They set fire to buildings, looted foodstuffs in the market, disarmed the police force, arrested and imprisoned on their gunboat the magistrate, the director of the Public Safety Bureau, etc., killed women refugees with bayonets and sealed the mouths of pits where civilians have been hiding for safety and put them to death by burning. Atrocities against all principles of humanity have been perpetrated.

(Signed) T. Y. Lo,
Chinese Delegate to the Assembly of the League of Nations.

A.(Extr.).121.1932.VII.


I have the honour to communicate to you the following telegram, dated to-day, which I have just received from Mr. Wen Tsung-yao, Chairman of the National Crisis Salvation Association, and to request that you will be good enough to pass it on to the Members of the Assembly:

“ All the troops that Japan has so far evacuated from Shanghai have been sent to invade and occupy Manchuria which, according to the Nine-Power Treaty of Washington and the Covenant of the League of Nations, is still part and parcel of China in spite of its name having been cunningly changed into the so-called ‘Manchukuo’ to suit Japan’s ulterior motive and to throw dust into the eyes of outsiders. What is still worse, unruly Japanese soldiers are daily challenging our garrison forces around Shanhaikwan. Unless Japan be warned by the Assembly of the League to desist from further hostile and aggressive acts against us, there is every probability and possibility of the already aggravated situation being developed into a world war. — Wen Tsung-yao, Chairman, National Crisis Salvation Association.”

(Signed) W. W. Yen.

A.(Extr.).122.1932.VII.


Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to communicate to you a memorandum in French on the severe campaign now being waged by Japanese troops against Chinese forces in North Manchuria. More Japanese troops are being transferred from other places to the fighting area and military activities are being undertaken on a large scale, causing only further loss of life and most distressing aggravation of the situation, in violation of the resolutions of the Council and of the Assembly.

I shall be obliged to you to circulate the memorandum among the Members of the Committee of Nineteen and of the Special Assembly.

(Signed) W. W. Yen.
The Council resolution of December 10th, 1931, calls upon "the Chinese and Japanese Governments to take all steps necessary to assure" the execution of the resolution of September 30th, "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 same resolution of December 10th notes "that the two parties undertake to adopt all measures necessary to avoid any further aggravation of the situation and to refrain from any initiative which may lead to further fighting and loss of life".

The resolution of December 10th also invites "the two parties to continue to keep the Council informed as to the development of the situation" and invites "the other Members of the Council to furnish the Council with any information received from their representatives on the spot". The President of the Council, in his declaration of the same date, stated that "the Powers who have the possibility of sending such representatives to various localities...will keep in touch with the two parties, so that the latter may, should they so desire, indicate to them the localities to which they would desire the despatch of such representatives".

Without prejudice to the carrying out of the above-mentioned measures [execution of the resolution of September 30th, information to be furnished to the Council by the parties and by other Members of the Council, etc.], desiring, in view of the special circumstances of the case, to contribute towards a final and fundamental solution by the two Governments of the questions at issue between them", the Council, by the same resolution, decided to appoint a Commission of Enquiry. The President of the Council stated further: "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 [i.e., if the withdrawal of the Japanese troops has not been effected], the Commission should, as soon as possible, report to the Council on the situation". The foregoing shows clearly the importance attached by the Council to the withdrawal of the Japanese troops, which was not to be delayed in any way by the fundamental settlement of the questions pending between China and Japan.

The delegate of China, when accepting the resolution of December 10th, had submitted inter alia the following observations:

"The present arrangement evidenced by the resolution and the statement made by the President of the Council is regarded by China as a practical measure embodying four essential and interdependent elements:

(a) Immediate cessation of hostilities;
(b) Liquidation of the Japanese occupation of Manchuria within the shortest possible period of time;
(c) Neutral observation and reporting upon all developments from now on;
(d) A comprehensive enquiry into the entire Manchurian situation on the spot by a Commission appointed by the Council.

The said arrangement being in effect and in spirit predicated upon these fundamental factors, its integrity would be manifestly destroyed by the failure of any one of them to materialise and be effectively realised as contemplated. "China understands and expects that the Commission provided for in the resolution will make it its first duty to enquire into and report, with its recommendations, on the withdrawal of the Japanese forces, if such withdrawal has not been completed when the Commission arrives on the spot."

As regards the above-mentioned decisions of the Council and the observations of the representative of China, what is the situation at present? Can one say, since the adoption of the aforesaid resolution:

(1) That hostilities have ceased;
(2) That the Japanese troops have withdrawn;
(3) That there has been no further aggravation of the situation;
(4) That there has not been on the part of Japan any initiative leading to further fighting and loss of life;
(5) That the other Members of the Council have furnished the Council with information received from their representatives on the spot?

To all those questions, the reply must be in the negative.

(1) Hostilities have never ceased;
(2) There has been a continual extension of the Japanese occupation;
(3) The creation by the Japanese of the "independent" Government has only helped to aggravate the situation;
(4) The sending of Japanese reinforcements to Manchuria can only lead to further fighting and loss of life;

(5) For some time past, the Council has not received any information from the individual representatives of the Powers.

It is true that the Commission of Enquiry, in conformity with the decision of the Council, sent the Council a preliminary report, in view of the fact that on its arrival in Manchuria the withdrawal of the Japanese troops had not been effected. That report, which was sent on April 30th (document C.407.M.225.1932.VII), simply bears witness to an aggravation of the situation in Manchuria, and the Chinese delegation submitted a memorandum (document C.427.M.231.1932.VII) on the subject on May 6th. Since then, the situation has become still further aggravated and no longer corresponds to what is stated in the above-mentioned preliminary report, which, moreover, was based for the most part on information of Japanese origin. Even the Japanese delegation, in its communication to the Council of May 14th (document C.461.M.236.1932.VII), informed the Council that the troops of the 14th Division who were at Shanghai "have already begun to be transferred to Manchuria". According to information in the possession of the Chinese delegation, further Japanese forces have been sent to Manchuria and are being concentrated with a view to attacking the Chinese troops who are in Northern Manchuria. Hostilities on a big scale seem bound to break out at any moment.

It is most urgent then, in order to have a basis for a decision of the League of Nations with the object of preventing such hostilities and further bloodshed, that the League of Nations should be informed as impartially and as fully as possible as to the present military situation in Manchuria. Information should be furnished as soon as possible and in conformity with the resolution of December 10th:

(1) By the Powers having representatives on the spot; in the Chinese Government's view it is important that such representatives should examine at Harbin the activities of the Japanese troops along the Sungari, which is at present the region in which an encounter between Chinese and Japanese troops is imminent;

(2) By the Commission of Enquiry, which is now in a better position than at the time of its preliminary report to make known the results of its investigations and the real aspect of the state of affairs in the three eastern provinces.

A.(Extr.).133.1932.VII.

5. LETTER, DATED JULY 20TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.


I have the honour to inform you that I have just received the following telegram from my Government, dated to-day, and to request that the same be circulated to the Members of the Assembly:

"General Chang Hsueh-liang has transmitted a report from Chaoyang (principal city of Jehol Province) that, at 2 p.m. on the 18th instant, five Japanese aeroplanes arrived at Chaoyang, bombing and machine-gunning the barracks, telegraph office and many shops. The exact number of casualties is still under investigation, but at least half a dozen persons and a score of horses were killed. Chinese troops are prepared to resist any Japanese attack on Jehol."

(Signed) W. W. Yen.

A.(Extr.).136.1932.VII.

6. LETTER, DATED JULY 21ST, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.


I have the honour to transmit herewith to you the following telegram, dated July 20th, which I have just received from my Government, and shall be most grateful if you will be so good as to circulate the same immediately to the Members of the Assembly:

"General Chang Hsueh-liang transmitted a report, dated July 18th, from Tang Yu-lin, the Chairman of the Jehol Provincial Government, informing us that, on
July 17th, at 1 p.m., a battalion of our troops, when pursuing bandits who had attacked the train proceeding from Peiping to Chinchow, met a Japanese armoured train proceeding to Chaoyang (a city on the eastern border of Jehol, about 55 miles northwest of Chinchow). When asked by our soldiers to explain its movements, the armoured train opened fire on our troops, who resisted and now defend the line at Nanling (a city on the border of Liaoning and Jehol provinces).

"More than thirty bombs were thrown during the Japanese aerial attack on Chaoyang, mentioned in our previous telegram."

(Signed) W. W. YEN.

A.(Extr.).138.1932.VII.

7. LETTER, DATED JULY 28TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.


Under instructions of my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the following telegraphic information, with the request that you will be good enough to circulate the same among the Members of the Assembly:

"The following report has been transmitted to us by General Chang Hsueh-liang, who received it from Chairman Tang Yu-lin, of the Provincial Government of Jehol:

'At noon of the 23rd instant, Japanese aeroplanes arrived at the towns of Lingyuan and Pingchuan (to the west of Chaoyang and in the vicinity of Chengteh, capital of Jehol Province) and distributed handbills. On the same day, two Japanese aeroplanes encircled Chengteh (the capital of Jehol) for over twenty minutes, dropping handbills which denounced the Chinese authorities and incited the population against the same.'"

(Signed) W. W. YEN.

B. BRIGANDAGE AND DISORDER IN MANCHURIA.

C.456.M.233.1932.VII.

SUMMARY OF OFFICIAL TELEGRAMS RECEIVED BY THE JAPANESE DELEGATION.

[Translation.]

1. The following acts of brigandage have taken place in the neighbourhood of the South Manchurian Railway zone:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st to 10th</td>
<td>1st to 10th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of attacks</td>
<td>574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bands of more than 200 men</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Killed and wounded</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hostages</td>
<td>248</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. The former rulers of Manchuria have resumed an active campaign of stirring up disorder. In this connection, the increase in the number of large bodies of brigands should be noted. The fomenters of trouble redoubled their efforts on the arrival of the League Commission of Enquiry. The communist elements are conducting an active campaign, more especially in Northern Manchuria and Chientao. Evidence has been secured that Chang Hsueh-liang is issuing large quantities of counterfeit "taiyang" notes of the three eastern provinces.

3. General Wangtienchung, commanding the railway guards of the Mukden-Tienchuantai line, has been engaged since the end of March in putting a stop to the activities of the brigands in the region of Hankow and Tienchuantai. General Ushishan is protecting the railway in his absence. General Chang Haipeng's army is fighting the brigands in the vicinity of the Taonan-Angangchi railway.

Nine battalions of Manchurian troops have been sent to put down the disorders fomented by Chang Hsueh-liang's people in the Tsunghua area.

Disorders have also been fomented in the province of Jehol.

In Northern Manchuria, the forces opposed to the Kirin Government are continuing to pillage the eastern part of the Chinese Eastern Railway area and Chientao.

The Manchuri area is relatively quiet.

The Heilungkiang area is relatively quiet.

The Kirin area is relatively quiet.

The Heilungkiang area is endeavouuring to disperse large bodies of brigands in the Anta area (about 1,500) and the Putalki area west of Angangchi (about 700).

Japanese residents in the Peiho area have been obliged to take refuge temporarily in Soviet territory on account of the disturbances in that district.
C. SITUATION IN MANCHURIA RESULTING FROM THE PASSING BY THE JAPANESE DIET OF A RESOLUTION RECOGNISING THE “MANCHUKUO”.


LETTER, DATED JUNE 23RD, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SPECIAL ASSEMBLY.


Under the instructions of my Government, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency the following telegraphic message, dated June 22nd and signed by His Excellency Dr. Lo Wen-kan, Minister for Foreign Affairs, with the respectful request that the contents of the telegram be brought to the knowledge of the Committee, meeting to-morrow.

“In view of the serious situation created by the Japanese Diet passing resolution for recognition of the ‘Manchukuo’, please make an urgent appeal to the Special Committee of Nineteen to take immediate steps calling upon the Japanese Government to observe obligations under the September and December resolutions of the League Council to refrain from taking initiative, which will further aggravate the situation, and to desist from such recognition, which is sure to render work the Commission of Enquiry abortive and prepare way for grave conflict in the Far East.”

(Signed) W. W. YEN.

D. SEIZURE OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT POSTAL SERVICE IN MANCHURIA.

A. (Extr.). 132.1932.VII.

1. LETTER, DATED JULY 16TH, 1932, FROM THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Ref. A. 41.

Geneva, July 16th, 1932.

I have the honour to enclose herewith copy of a telegram, dated July 15th, from my Government, and shall be grateful to you if you will be good enough to have the same circulated among the Members of the Assembly.

In transmitting the above telegram, I have the honour to call your attention to the fact that the seizure of the Chinese Government Postal Service in Manchuria by the Japanese will further complicate and aggravate the situation, against the repeated warnings of the Council, the Committee of Nineteen and the Assembly.

(Signed) W. W. YEN.

[Translation.]

Text of a Government Telegram, dated July 15th, received by the Chinese Delegation.

“The unlawful efforts of the Manchu puppet Government to seize the Chinese Government Postal Service in Manchuria have been much more intensified. Reports have been received to the effect that, on June 15th, officers of the Mukden Post Office were arrested by Japanese gendarmerie and questioned under torture in the latter’s headquarters, with the purpose of compelling the former to disclose the elements in the postal service unfavourable to Japanese intrigues. They were released only after three hours’ detention.

“A Japanese by the name of Tohara, who arrived at Shenyang (Mukden) on July 10th with a group of some twenty-four former employees of the Japanese service of communications, has been sworn in as the Director-General of Postal Service of the puppet Government. In an interview with the Chinese Government Postmaster of the Mukden Post Office, he declared that new stamps, which would be valid for all mail matter to all places, and blank forms for postal remittances would be issued for use on August 1st, and that, within three days, six inspectors would be separately sent to the post offices in Mukden and Harbin.

“The authorities of the puppet Government have decided to appoint eight officers and four inspectors to be placed under the control of the Department of Postal Service to supervise postal affairs.”
A. Letter, dated July 22nd, 1932, from the Chinese Delegation to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations.

Ref. A.44.

Geneva, July 22nd, 1932.

With regard to the seizure of the Chinese Governmental Postal Service in Manchuria by the Japanese, I have the honour to transmit herewith to you a further telegram of today's date, which I have just received from my Government, and to request that you will be good enough to bring the same immediately to the attention of the Members of the Assembly:

"The latest reports from the Post Office in Manchuria inform us to the effect that Nakamura and three other Japanese, appointed by the Manchu puppet Government as inspectors and supervisors of postal affairs in Manchuria, have assumed by force their respective offices and that illegal postal stamps, which, it has been decided, are to be employed on August 1st, have already been distributed to different offices.

"The Chinese Government is preparing to take drastic measures to deal with the irregular postal situation thus created."

(Signed) W. W. Yen.

A. Appointment of a Japanese Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary on Special Mission in Manchuria.


Ref. A.46.


Under telegraphic instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that they are in receipt of information of the decision of the Japanese Government to appoint an Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Manchuria, the same official being
at the same time Governor-General of Kwantung Leased Territory. In the opinion of the Chinese Government, the action of Japan should be regarded as a step to the recognition of the puppet Government and the final annexation of Manchuria, as in the case of Chosen. My Government, therefore, deems it necessary to invite the serious attention of the League of Nations to the matter.

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

(Signed) W. W. YEN.

C.594.M.292.1932.VII.

2. Letter, dated August 11th, 1932, from the Japanese Delegation to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations.

[Translation.]

Paris, August 11th, 1932.

Acting upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to forward herewith a note from the Japanese Government concerning the appointment of an Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary on special mission in Manchuria:

"The Japanese Government, having realised for some time the necessity of setting up a suitable institution with a view to co-ordinating the various Japanese institutions in Manchuria, has now succeeded, with this object, in placing the several existing organisations — that is, the consular services, the Kwantung General Government and the armies — under the direction of a single person, while maintaining intact as heretofore the constitution and competence of those organisations. General Muto was accordingly appointed on August 8th, 1932, Commander-in-Chief of the Kwantung Army and at the same time Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary on special mission in Manchuria and Governor-General of Kwantung.

"This appointment as Ambassador on special mission has been made in virtue of Imperial Decree No. 64, of 1917, which provides that an Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary or an Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary may be appointed on special mission should the necessities of the case require that diplomatic agents be sent abroad to carry out special missions. General Muto has been sent to Manchuria to settle necessary matters such as the command and supervision over the Japanese consuls in Manchuria, taking into account the new and actual state of affairs in that territory. He does not, in consequence, bear credentials, and the appointment has been made simply by the unilateral will of our country."

(Signed) S. Sawada,

Director of the Japanese League of Nations Office.
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ABBREVIATIONS

Cl. = Council
Comm. = Commission
Ctte. = Committee
Del. = Delegation
Govt. = Government
Int. = International
Para. = Paragraph
Resol. = Resolution
Sec. Gen. = Secretary-General
U.S.A. = United States of America

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