

DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT I

From the German Ambassador in Nanking to the Foreign Ministry

Telegram

Cito!

Top secret

No. 2. from 2. 12.

For the Reich Minister

Nanking, 3 December 1937, 0:55 a.m.

Received: 3 December 1937, 1:50 a.m.

Chiang Kai-shek first expressed to me his profound thanks for Germany's peace efforts. China is ready, he said, to accept Germany's mediation because it regards us as a friend of China. I faithfully recapitulated the latest Japanese statement, to which Chiang Kai-shek then asked whether Japan's . . . [group missing¹] were still the same. I replied that that was the case, saying that their telegram had spoken only of main points, but their previous conditions had also contained only main points. Whereupon Chiang Kai-shek said that he could not accept the standpoint that the Japanese had emerged as the victors in the battle. I replied that the whole world had admired the achievements of the Chinese army. At that,

Chiang Kai-shek . . . [group missing] that he could also not accept an ultimatum from the Japanese. I responded that this was not an ultimatum. Chiang Kai-shek then formulated the Chinese standpoint as follows:

1. China accepts these conditions as the basis for peace talks.
2. The sovereignty and integrity as well as the . . . [group missing¹] autonomy of northern China are not to be violated.
3. Germany should be active as the mediator at all peace negotiations from the start.
4. China's treaties with third parties are not to be affected by peace negotiations.

As to Point 1: I told him that I considered it necessary for China to declare itself willing to discuss these conditions in a conciliatory spirit and with a desire to . . . [group missing]. Chiang Kai-shek declared that he would do this, but that he expected the same from Japan.

Point 2: I called Chiang Kai-shek's attention to the Japanese condition that the chief official in northern China be friendly toward Japan. Chiang Kai-shek responded that, of course, anyone chosen for such a post would not be anti-Japanese.

Point 3: I explained to Chiang Kai-shek that Germany would probably prefer not to be directly involved in peace negotiations, and certainly not to be in charge of them. We would rather try to do what we could to help China from behind the scenes. Chiang Kai-shek said he hoped that we would choose to be of such good service to the last.

Point 4: I called Chiang Kai-shek's attention to the Japanese demand of fighting Communism. I said I was of the opinion that this demand was not contrary to the Sino-Russian nonaggression pact. Chiang Kai-shek did not contradict me.

As to the cessation of hostilities, I told him that I imagined the procedure would be: that once Chiang Kai-shek's declaration had been delivered to the Japanese and Japan's agreement was in hand, the Führer and Reich Chancellor would appeal to both governments to cease hostilities. Chiang Kai-shek agreed. Finally, Chiang Kai-shek urgently requested that the Japanese government keep these preliminary discussions and, most especially, their conditions secret. That would be a precondition for peace. I believe we should support this request to the best of our abilities. Otherwise Chiang Kai-shek's position would be so badly undermined that he would have to resign and leave the government in the hands of those who hold pro-Russian views. Japan should attempt to do everything it can to make it possible for him to conduct negotiations. Since Chiang Kai-shek told me in my earlier conversation that it was impossible for China to accept the demand of an autonomous Mongolia, as that would mean the loss of two provinces, I asked him if he wished to say

anything to me in that regard. He explained that the question of Mongolia could be negotiated with the Japanese. During the entire conversation Chiang Kai-shek was extremely friendly, in a good mood, and showed no signs of nervousness. He was optimistic about his capital's defense. I am traveling back to Hankow, where I shall await further instructions. All embassy staff and local Germans are all right.

Same message to Tokyo

TRAUTMANN²

DOCUMENT 2

*From the German Ambassador in Tokyo
to the Foreign Ministry*

Telegram

Top Secret!

No. 385 from 3. 12.

Sent simultaneously to the Reich War Ministry and Reich Air Ministry

Tokyo, 3 December 1937, 3:00 p.m.

Received: 3 December 1937, 2:25 p.m.

Ongoing discussions of our military attaché with the General Staff have resulted in the following situation as of early December: Northern China has been conquered, the major assault there has ceased, Japanese troops are being reorganized for occupation. No further battle for Shantung Province is expected.

In the main Shanghai theater of war, a rapid advance on Nanking, its fall assumed sometime yet in December.

In official Japanese circles resistance by Chinese troops is regarded as severely weakened, while new battle-ready troops cannot be brought up before summer 1938. Their battle supplies continue to dwindle, and any Chinese hopes that the Japanese economy will falter will prove to be in error.

Thirty airplanes have thus far been secured via Russian military aid, which number is allegedly now increasing to 200.

Within circles of the Japanese General Staff there is renewed consideration being given to accelerated peace negotiations with the Chinese, which serve China's purposes, given their heavy losses and disappointment at the failure of the Brussels Conference, and also serve Japan's, given the constant expansion of the theater of war and its costs.

According to personal and confidential information, the General Staff is holding back from Japan's taking steps toward peace because of radical opposition and an effort by several army groups to remove Chiang Kai-shek entirely. Given this situation, influential persons on the General Staff await an initiative from the Führer and Reich Chancellor that would

open the door for negotiations; they believe that should the Führer and Reich Chancellor receive Chiang Kai-shek's fundamental consent to begin direct negotiations with Japan, the same request would receive Japan's consent as well.

In such a case, the General Staff emphasizes the necessity of full secrecy to avoid any interference by England and America, to which it would strongly object.

Official suggestions in this direction are not to be expected from the Japanese government at present.

DIRKSEN³

DOCUMENT 3

*From Reich Foreign Minister von Neurath
to the German Embassy in Tokyo*

Telegram

At once

Secret

No. 306 from 4.12.

For the Ambassador only

Berlin, 4 December 1937

(Sent: 4.12., 9:15 p.m.)

A. Your wires No. 385⁴ and 386 have crossed with that of Ambassador Trautmann from Nanking on 2 inst. concerning his conversation with Chiang Kai-shek. According to Ambassador Trautmann's wire, almost all the essential points contained in the Japanese suggestions have been satisfied. I therefore believe we have come to a point where the Japanese government must take some step that would lead to an armistice in East Asia and in due course to direct negotiations between the parties.

In order to avoid all misunderstanding, it will be necessary to provide the Japanese government with a written statement of all German actions thus far. Let me again emphasize that these actions are not those of a mediator, but merely those of an informant passing on views brought to its attention by the two parties involved in the dispute. . . .

B. The necessity of delivering this foregoing detailed historical account [omitted here] to the Japanese, and soon thereafter to the Chinese government as well, arises from the great responsibility that the German government is assuming in its attempt to contribute to the cessation of hostilities and the restoration of peace, even if only in the role of a conveyor of information. That responsibility is further increased should the person of the Führer and Reich Chancellor be placed in the foreground at the appropriate moment.

During the presentation of the foregoing written historical account to the Japanese government, it will be your task to insure that it is on this basis that the Japanese government is prepared to take the steps leading to direct armistice negotiations and subsequent peace negotiations, first at the level of the Japanese and Chinese military authorities and later at the political level. I call to your attention that only this written account can be the valid and determinant basis for negotiations, so that no later reference to earlier objections or reservations (e.g., point No. 8 in your wire No. 386, 3 inst.) can be taken into consideration. As soon as Japanese consent is given, Ambassador Trautmann will be authorized to gain the same consent from the Chinese government, after first presenting it in the same written account. Once the secured agreement of both parties is obtained, this can be followed by a solemn appeal by Germany for both sides to cease hostilities for the purpose of restoring peaceful relations.

This appeal, which may very well be made by the Führer himself, would refrain from any political position whatever. It would be founded on the need for a restoration of peaceful conditions in East Asia, which is recognized worldwide and is most strongly felt by the two nations engaged in the conflict; but otherwise it would restrict itself to enjoining both governments involved to establish direct contacts for the purpose of ceasing hostilities, leading to negotiations to conclude a peace agreement. In your démarche, I would ask you to make it clear to the Japanese government the strong Chinese desire, which indeed corresponds to Japan's own express wish, that silence concerning preliminary negotiations must be maintained until the expected German appeal for peace is made. This wish of both parties is fully in accord with that of the German government. It can thus be assumed that all parties involved will comply.

VON NEURATH²

DOCUMENT 4

*From Reich Foreign Minister von Neurath
to the German Embassy in Tokyo*

Telegram

No. 313

Berlin, 10 December 1937

Private and Confidential

For the Ambassador

We, of course, understand that with the continuation of military operations, war goals of the parties involved can change. Despite this fact,

however, we are now no longer certain of our original readiness to forward whatever information that is made available to us and that might contribute to those parties finding their way to the negotiation table. There is, after all, a limit to the function of messenger that we have performed thus far, when demeaning, unacceptable demands are made of China. Nor can we allow ourselves to be put in the position of forwarding conditions to the Chinese, which, then, only a short time later the Japanese deem to be in need of enlargement.

[...]

VON NEURATH⁶

DOCUMENT 5

*Memorandum of Secretary of
the Foreign Ministry von Mackensen*

Berlin, 3 November 1937

On the basis of impressions received thus far, the Reich foreign minister does not believe that in Field Marshal von Blomberg's discussion scheduled for tomorrow with the Führer about the issue of withdrawing German military advisors from China, he will restrict himself to a simple acceptance of such an order. Moreover, he—the Reich foreign minister—will point out to the field marshal that counterarguments are necessary. As a crucial argument I suggested the question of whether the Führer would prefer General von Falkenhausen or a Soviet general on the side of the Chinese.

MACKENSEN⁷

DOCUMENT 6

*From a Memorandum of Secretary of the Foreign Ministry
von Mackensen, Dated 8 November 1937*

*[When asked if in his meeting with the Reich War Minister, Hitler had clarified the question of withdrawing German military advisors, General Keitel said the issue had not been touched upon but] . . . "the Führer had told Field Marshal von Blomberg that the Reich War Ministry should see to it that it rids itself of the odor of pro-Chinese sentiments."*⁸

DOCUMENT 7

Release to Chinese Press and Police of the International Committee for the Nanking Safety Zone, Dated 4 December 1937⁹

Housing Plans.

1. The area is not yet ready for large-scale moving in of the population and the military situation does not yet make any such movement necessary.
2. In order to reduce the numbers of people that have to move when it becomes more urgent, the Committee suggests that individual families who can make private arrangements for houses with friends or others in the Safety Zone do so at once. The Committee reserves the right to put more people in houses later, if necessary.
3. Meanwhile the Housing commission is making a survey of housing facilities in the Safety Zone and will try to make arrangements for those who cannot make their own private arrangements. But these facilities will not be opened until absolutely necessary in view of the military situation. At that time definite announcement of the opening of the area will be made public.
4. In these private arrangements, only private houses are to be used. No public building or institutional building is to be used for this purpose.
5. No furniture or other movable property is to be brought into the Zone because all available housing space is needed for people. People moving in should only bring with them bedding, clothing, and food.

Food Plans.

1. The Zone is not ready for any large numbers of people to move into because there is not enough food in the Zone yet to feed them. All people moving in now should bring with them at least enough food for a week.
2. Private dealers are encouraged to move their stocks of rice, flour and other food supplies and fuel in and carry on their regular business.
3. Supplies of rice and flour assigned to the committee for use in the Safety Zone are to be held in reserve in case the stocks of private dealers run out. Then these reserve supplies will be

sold out through the private dealers having a license from the Committee.

Trucks and Autos.

The Committee needs trucks and cars badly and would welcome any given or loaned to the Committee for use in moving in supplies and other necessary services.

Time Zone will be opened.

The Zone cannot be opened as a Refugee Zone until all Chinese military establishments have been moved out of the area.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR SAFETY ZONE IN NANKING

DOCUMENT 8

Organization of Safety Zone Administration

I. Officers:

1. Chairman of International Committee: John H. D. Rabe.
2. Secretary of International Committee: Lewis S. C. Smythe.
3. Director: George Fitch.
4. 2nd Director: Dr. Han Liwu.
5. Treasurer: Christian Kröger.
6. Chief of Chinese Secretariat: Dean Tang.

II. Commissions:

1. Inspector General: Eduard Sperling.
2. Food Commission:
Han Hsiang-Lin, Chairman.
Hubert L. Sone, Associate.
3. Housing Commission:
Wang-Ting, Chairman.
Charles Riggs, Associate.
Charles Gee.
4. Sanitation commission:
Shen Yü-shu, Chairman.
Dr. C. S. Trimmer, Associate.
5. Transport Control:
E. L. Hirschberg, Chairman.
R. R. Hatz, Associate.

DOCUMENT 9

Press Release, 5 December 1937

1. This morning the Committee received a direct reply from the Japanese authorities in Shanghai through the courtesy of the American Naval Radio.
2. This morning at 11:00 the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. John H. D. Rabe, the Inspector-General, Mr. Eduard Sperling and Dr. M. S. Bates called upon General Tang Sheng-chih concerning the question of moving military establishments out of the area proposed for the Safety Zone. In reply General Tang made the following three comments as explanatory of the letter he sent to the Committee on December 3rd.
 - (1) If the proposed Safety Zone is clearly marked, the military will see to it that no new military establishments come in.
 - (2) Furthermore, no military works including anti-aircraft guns will be continued in the area and all guns and armed men will be excluded.
 - (3) Supplementary and service establishments, which comprise neither armed men nor active military units, will, of course, move out when it becomes necessary.

At a meeting this afternoon, the Committee decided to go ahead on the basis of these comments. The Zone will be marked with flags at a time to be agreed upon with General Tang in order to familiarize the people and military men with the boundaries of Zone. But the Committee will not declare the Zone in final effect until formal notification has been given by the Committee to both sides. That notification will not be given until all the conditions agreed upon have been fulfilled.

DOCUMENT 10

*14 December 1937: Important Notice to
the Refugees in the Safety Zone*

1. From now on people should stay off the streets as much as possible.
2. At the most dangerous moment, everyone should get in houses or out of sight.
3. The Safety Zone is for Refugees. Sorry, the Safety Zone has no power to give protection to soldiers.

4. If there is any searching or inspection, give full freedom for such search. No opposition at all.

DOCUMENT II

*International Committee of the Nanking Safety Zone*¹⁰

Letter to the Japanese Embassy, Nanking

For the kind attention of Mr. Kiyoshi Fukui, Second Secretary

17 December 1937

Dear Sirs:

In view of the statement of Consul-General Katsuo Okazaki yesterday afternoon that the International Committee had no legal status, some explanations of our position seem to be in order.

Vis-à-vis your Japanese authorities we are not claiming any political status whatever. But on December 1, Mayor Ma of the Nanking Municipality turned over to our Committee nearly all the functions of the City government for the emergency of transitions: police, supervision of essential utilities, fire department, housing regulation, food supply, and sanitation. Consequently, when your Army victoriously arrived in the city on Monday noon, December 13, we were the only administrative authority carrying on in the city. Of course, that authority did not extend outside of the Safety Zone itself, and involved no right of sovereignty within the Zone. . . .

The following morning, December 15, we were favored by calls by Mr. Tokuyasu Fukuda of the Imperial Japanese Embassy, and by Mr. Sekiguchi with cards from the Captain and Officers of the H.I.J.M.S. *Seta* at our headquarters. We presented our letter of December 14, referred to above, to Mr. Fukuda and assured Mr. Sekiguchi that we would be glad to cooperate in starting the electricity works. At noon, we had the pleasure of meeting the Head of the T'eh Pei Kwan Chang (specially delegated official) at the Bank of Communications and from him received a formal, oral statement in answer to our letter of December 14. In his reply, among other points, he said that they would station guards at the entrances to the Zone; that the civilian police could patrol within the Zone provided they were armed only with batons; that the Committee could use the 10,000 *tan* of rice it had stored and move in the other stores of rice assigned to it by the former City Government; and that it was essential to repair the telephone, electricity and water works as soon as possible.

But no answer was given to point 4 in our letter of the 14th excepting to say that people should return to their homes as soon as possible.

On the basis of this reply, we encouraged our police to go ahead with their duties, assured the people they would be well-treated now that we had explained to the Japanese officers, and started to move rice.

But since then any truck that appeared on the streets without a Westerner on it has been commandeered; the Red Swastika Society (working under our direction), which started trucks Tuesday morning to pick up dead bodies in the Zone, had its trucks either taken or attempts made to take them and now yesterday 14 of their workers were taken away. Our police were interfered with and yesterday 50 of them stationed at the Ministry of Justice were marched off, "to be killed" according to the Japanese officer in charge, and yesterday afternoon 46 of our "volunteer police" were similarly marched off. These volunteers had been organized by our Committee on December 13 when it looked as though the work to be done in the Zone was greater than the uniformed police—who were on day and night duty—could take care of. These "volunteer police" were neither uniformed nor armed in any way. They simply wore our armbands. They were more like Boy Scouts in the West who do odd jobs in helping to keep crowds in order, clean up, and render first aid, etc.

On the 14th our four fire trucks were commandeered by Japanese soldiers and used for transport.

The point we have been trying so hard to get across to your Embassy and to the Japanese Army is that we were left to carry on the City Government services for the civilian population of Nanking until the Japanese authorities could establish a new City Government or other organization to take over these functions in the city. But unfortunately your soldiers have not been willing to let us continue with our maintenance of order and services for the civilian population in the Zone. This resulted in a breaking down of our system for maintaining order and for providing necessary services which we had carried on up till the morning of December 14. In other words, on the 13th when your troops entered the city, we had nearly all the civilian population gathered in a Zone in which there had been very little destruction by stray shells and no looting by Chinese soldiers even when in full retreat. The stage was all set for you to take over that area peacefully and let the normal life therein continue undisturbed until the rest of the city could be put in order. Then the full normal life of the city could go forward. All 27 Westerners in the city at that time and our Chinese population were totally surprised by the reign of robbery, rapine and killing initiated by your soldiers on the 14th.

All that we are asking in our protest is that you restore order among your troops and get the normal life of the city going as soon as possible. In the latter process we are glad to cooperate in any way we can.

But even last night between 8 and 9 p.m. when five Western members of our staff and Committee toured the Zone to observe conditions, we did not find a single Japanese patrol either in the Zone or at the entrances! Yesterday's threats and marching off of our police had driven all our police from the streets. All we saw were groups of two and three Japanese soldiers wandering about the streets of the Zone and now, as I write, reports are pouring in from all parts of the Zone about the deprivations of robbery and rape committed by these wandering, uncontrolled soldiers. This means that nothing has been done about our requests in our letter of yesterday, December 16, namely, point 2, that stray soldiers be kept out of the Zone by guards at the entrances.

Consequently, as a first step in turning over to your authorities the maintenance of order in the Zone, we suggest:

1. That the Imperial Japanese Army set up a system of regular military police to patrol the Zone both day and night with full authority to arrest soldiers found looting, entering houses, and committing rape or carrying off women.
2. That the Japanese authorities take over the 450 Chinese police assigned to us by the former Chinese Nanking City Government and organize them to maintain peace and order among the civilian population. (This order has never once broken down in the Zone.)
3. In view of the number of fires in the city yesterday and last night, fortunately not in the Zone, we suggest that the Fire Department be reorganized under your authorities and the four trucks be returned by your soldiers to such service.
4. We further respectfully beg to suggest that as soon as possible you kindly bring an expert in Municipal Administration to Nanking to manage the life of the civilian population until a new city government can be formed. (There is nothing left of the former city government excepting the police and firemen in our Zone and three clerks. All others left the city. Your army has taken the physical structure of the city of Nanking and the poorer sections of its population, but most of the trained, intelligent and active people have all moved further west.)

May we again reassure you that we have no interest in continuing any semi-administrative function left to us by the former Nanking City Government. We earnestly hope that you will kindly take up these functions as quickly as possible. Then we will become simply a relief organization.

If the depredations of the last three days continue, this relief problem is going to be multiplied rapidly. We organized the Zone on the basis that every family should make private arrangements for housing and food in order to reduce the administrative load suddenly placed on our *ad hoc* organization. But if the present situation continues, in a few days we are going to have large numbers of people facing starvation; their private supplies of food and fuel are running out; money, clothing and personal articles have been taken from many of them by wandering Japanese soldiers; and little normal business or other activity can be carried on because people are afraid either to open shops or appear on the streets.

On the other hand, since the morning of December 14, our supply trucks have been practically at a standstill. Before your troops entered the city we concentrated on getting supplies into the Zone and expected to carry out distribution later because the people had been urged to bring a week's supply of food with them. But in order to keep some of our camps from going without food over a day, Western members of our staff and committee have had to haul bags of rice to those places in their private cars after dark!

Besides the starvation facing the people if these services cannot be extended quickly, there is the stirring up of the people. Some families have had their houses entered, robbed and their women raped as much as five times in one night. Is it any wonder that the next morning they move out and try to find a safer place?

And yesterday afternoon while three officers of your Army Supply Department were asking us to help get the telephone service started, a small number of telephone workers wearing our insignia were turned out of their houses in the Zone and are now scattered to unknown places in the Zone. If this process of terrorism continues, it will be next to impossible to locate workers to get the essential services started.

It is hard to see how starvation may be prevented among many of the 200,000 Chinese civilians if order is not restored at once among the Japanese soldiers in the city.

Assuring you that we will be glad to cooperate in any way we can in caring for the civilian population of this city, I am

Most respectfully yours,
JOHN H. D. RABE
Chairman

DOCUMENT 12

*List of Foreign Nationals in Nanking on 21 December 1937.*¹¹

NAME	NATIONALITY	ORGANIZATION
1. John H. D. Rabe	German	Siemens China Co.
2. Eduard Sperling	German	Shanghai Insurance Co.
3. Christian Kröger	German	Carlowitz & Co.
4. R. Hempel	German	North Hotel
5. Zaudig	German	Kiesslering & Bader
6. R. R. Hatz	Austrian	Mechanic for the Safety Zone
7. Cola Podshivaloff	White Russian	Sandgren's Electric Shop
8. O. Zial	White Russian	Mechanic for the Safety Zone
9. Dr. C. S. Trimmer	American	University Hospital
10. Dr. R. O. Wilson	American	University Hospital
11. Rev. James McCallum	American	University Hospital
12. Miss Grace Bauer	American	University Hospital
13. Miss Ina Hynds	American	University Hospital
14. Dr. M. S. Bates	American	University of Nanking
15. Charles Riggs	American	University of Nanking
16. Dr. Lewis S. C. Smythe	American	University of Nanking
17. Miss Minnie Vautrin	American	Ginling College
18. Rev. W. P. Mills	American	Northern Presbyterian Mission
19. Rev. H. L. Sone	American	Nanking Theological Seminary
20. George Fitch	American	Y.M.C.A.
21. Rev. John Magee	American	American Church Mission
22. Rev. E. H. Forster	American	American Church Mission

DOCUMENT 13

Letter from Dr. Bates to Mr. Tanaka at the Japanese Embassy

University of Nanking

Nanking, 25 December 1937

Dear Mr. Tanaka:

I have tried for a couple of days to refrain from troubling you further. However, many difficulties occur every day, and today they are worse than usual. New parties of stray soldiers without discipline or officers are going everywhere, stealing, raping, and taking away women. Some cases follow:

1. Just now soldiers forcibly entered the university and towed away a truck used to supply rice to refugees.

2. In our Sericulture Building alone there are on the average more than ten cases per day of rape or of abducting women.
3. Our residences continue to be entered day and night by soldiers who injure women and steal everything they wish. This applies to residences in which Americans are now living, just the same as to others.
4. Soldiers frequently tear down the proclamations put up by your military police.
5. This morning an American member of our staff was struck by an officer who suddenly approached him and angrily tried to tear off the arm band supplied by your Embassy.
6. Other buildings not mentioned above are daily entered several times each, by soldiers who utterly disregard your proclamations, looking for women and for loot.
7. Despite this disorder caused entirely by soldiers, we have no guard whatever and no military police have been seen near us.

With thanks for your continued interest,
M. S. BATES

DOCUMENT 14

*International Committee of the Nanking Safety Zone to
Mr. Fukui of the Japanese Embassy (Excerpts)*

Nanking, Ninhai Lu, 18 December 1937

Dear Sirs:

We are sorry to trouble you again but the sufferings and needs of the 200,000 civilians for whom we are trying to care make it urgent that we try to secure action from your military authorities to stop the present disorder among Japanese soldiers wandering through the Safety Zone.

There is no time or space here to go into the cases that are pouring in faster than we can type them out.

But last night Dr. Bates of our Committee went to the University of Nanking dormitories to sleep in order to protect the 1,000 women that fled there yesterday because of attacks in their homes. He found no gendarmerie on guard there nor at the new University library building. When at 8 p.m. Mr. Fitch and Dr. Smythe took Rev. W. P. Mills to Ginling College to sleep in a house near the gate (as one or more of us have been doing every night since the 14th in order to protect the 3,000 women and

children, yesterday augmented to 4,000 by the panic), we were seized roughly by a searching squad and detained for over an hour. The officer had the two women in charge of Ginling College, Miss Minnie Vautrin and Mrs. Chen, with a friend, Mrs. Twinem, lined up at the gate and kept them there in the cold and the men pushed them around roughly. The officer insisted there were soldiers in the compound and he wanted to find them and shoot them. Finally, he let us go home but would not let Rev. Mills stay so we do not know what happened after we left.

This combined with the marching off of the men at the Ministry of Justice on December 16 (see separate "Memorandum"), among which were several hundred civilian men to our positive knowledge and 50 of our uniformed police, had made us realize that, unless something is done to clear up this situation, the lives of all the civilian men in our Zone are at the mercy of the temperament of searching captains.

With the panic that has been created among the women who are now flocking by the thousands to our American institutions for protection, the men are being left more and more alone. (For instance, there were 600 people in the old Language School at Siao T'ao Yuen up till December 16. But because so many women were raped there on the night of December 15, 400 women and children moved to Ginling college, leaving 200.) These public institutional buildings were originally listed to accommodate 35,000 people; now, because of panic among the women, this has increased to 50,000, although two buildings have been emptied of men: the Ministry of Justice and the Supreme Court.

If this panic continues, not only will our housing problem become more serious but the food problem and the question of finding workers will seriously increase. . . .

The second man on our Housing Commission had to see two women in his family at 23 Hankow Road raped last night at supper time by Japanese soldiers. Our associate food commissioner, Mr. Sone (a Theological Professor), has had to convey trucks with rice and leave the 2,500 people in families at his Nanking Theological Seminary to look out for themselves. Yesterday, in broad daylight, several women at the Seminary were raped right in the middle of a large room filled with men, women, and children! We 22 Westerners cannot feed 200,000 Chinese civilians and protect them night and day. That is the duty of the Japanese authorities.

Yesterday we called your attention to the fact that 50 uniformed police had been taken from the Ministry of Justice, and that 46 "volunteer police" had also been marched off. We now must add that 40 of our uniformed police stationed at the Supreme Court were also taken. The only stated charge against them was made at the Ministry of Justice where the Japanese officer said they had taken in soldiers after the place had been searched once, and, therefore, they were to be shot.

As pointed out in the accompanying "Memorandum on the Incident at the Ministry of Justice," Western members of our committee take full responsibility for having put some civilian men and women in there because they had been driven out of other places by Japanese soldiers.

Yesterday, we requested that the 450 uniformed police assigned to the Zone be now organized into a new police force for the city under Japanese direction. At the same time, we trust the above mentioned 90 uniformed police will be restored to their positions as policemen and that 46 volunteer police will either be returned to our office as workers, or we be informed of their whereabouts. We have on file a complete list of the 450 uniformed police assigned to the Zone, so can help you in this process.

Trusting that you will pardon our venturing to make these suggestions, and assuring you of our willingness to cooperate in every way for the welfare of the civilians in the city,

I am
Most respectfully yours,
JOHN H. D. RABE
Chairman

DOCUMENT 15

List of the Cases of Disorder by Japanese Soldiers in the Safety Zone

According to Rabe's diary, by 5 February the Safety Zone Committee had forwarded to the Japanese embassy a total of 450 cases of disorder by Japanese soldiers that had been reported either directly or indirectly after the American, British, and German diplomats had returned to their embassies. These are a few the cases from this list.

1. Six street sweepers of the second division of the Sanitary Commission of the Safety Zone were killed in the house they occupied at Kulou and one seriously injured with a bayonet by Japanese soldiers on December 15th. There was no apparent reason whatever. These men were our employees. The soldiers entered the house.
2. A carriage loaded with rice was taken on December 15th at 4:00 p.m. near the gate of Ginling College by Japanese soldiers.
3. Several residents in our second sub-division were driven from their homes on the night of December 14th and robbed of everything. The chief of the sub-division was himself robbed twice by Japanese soldiers.

4. On the night of December 15th, last night, seven Japanese soldiers entered the University of Nanking library building and took seven Chinese women refugees, three of whom were raped on the spot. (Full details of this case will be filed by Dr. M. S. Bates, Chairman of the University of Nanking Emergency Committee.)
5. On the night of December 14th, there were many cases of Japanese soldiers entering Chinese houses and raping women or taking them away. This created a panic in the area and hundreds of women moved into the Ginling College campus yesterday. Consequently, three American men spent the night at Ginling College last night to protect the 3,000 women and children in the compound.
6. At noon, December 14th, on Chien Ying Hsiang, Japanese soldiers, entered a house and took four girls, raped them, and let them return in two hours.
7. At 10:00 p.m. on the night of December 14th a Chinese home on Chien Ying Hsiang was entered by 11 Japanese soldiers who raped 4 Chinese women.
8. Last night, December 15th, Japanese soldiers entered a Chinese house on Hankow Road and raped a young wife and took away three women. When two husbands ran, the soldiers shot both of them.
9. On December 15th, a man came to the University Hospital with a bayonet wound and reported that six Chinese men were taken from the Safety Zone to carry ammunition to Hsiakwan and when they got there the Japanese soldiers bayoneted them all. He however survived and got back to Kulou. (*Wilson*)
10. On the night of December 15th, a number of Japanese soldiers entered the University of Nanking buildings at Tao Yuen and raped 30 women on the spot, some by six men. (*Sone*)
11. A man came to the University Hospital on Dec. 15th. He had been carrying his 60-year uncle into the Safety Zone and soldiers shot his uncle and wounded himself. (*Wilson*)
12. On the night of December 16, 7 Japanese soldiers broke windows; robbed refugees; wounded University staff member with bayonet because he had no watch or girl to give them; and raped women on the premises. (*Bates*)
13. December 18, 4 p.m., at No. 18 I Ho Lu Japanese soldiers wanted a man's cigarette case and when he hesitated the soldier crashed in the side of his head with a bayonet. The man is now at the University Hospital and is not expected to live. (*Fitch*)
14. On Dec. 16th, seven girls (ages ranged from 16 to 21) were taken away from the Military College. Five returned. Each girl was raped six or seven

times daily—reported Dec. 18th. Dec. 17th at 11 p.m. the soldiers climbed over the wall and took away two girls but they returned in 30 minutes. (*Tsan Yuen-kwan*)

15. There are about 540 refugees crowded in Nos. 83 and 85 on Canton Road. Since 13th inst. up to the 17th those houses have been searched and robbed many many times a day by Japanese soldiers in groups of 3 to 5. Today the soldiers are looting the places mentioned above continually and all the jewelries, money, watches, clothes of any sort are taken away. At present women of younger ages are forced to go with the soldiers every night who send motor trucks to take them and release the next morning. More than 30 women and girls have been raped. The women and children are crying all nights. Conditions inside the compound are worse than we can describe. Please give us help. Yours truly, All the Refugees. (Translation signed by *Han Siang-lin.*)
16. A Chinese girl named Loh, who, with her mother and brother, was living in one of the Refugee Centers in the Refugee Zone, was shot through the head and killed by a Japanese soldier. The girl was fourteen years old. The incident occurred in a field near the Kuling Ssu, a noted temple on the border of the Refugee Zone. The girl, accompanied by her brother, was gathering vegetables in the field when a Japanese soldier appeared. He made overtures to seize the girl who took fright and ran away. Thereupon the soldier fired at her and shot her through the head, the bullet entering the back of the skull and leaving through the forehead. (Signed *Ernest H. Forster.*)
17. On the afternoon of January 27th, yesterday, just after lunch, Mr. McCallum, business manager of the University Hospital, was called to escort two Japanese soldiers out of a back dormitory. When they got outside on the back road he pointed out the American flag whereupon they became angry and told him to come with them. So he thought he would go along to their headquarters to see. About 100 yards down the road south, one of the soldiers told him to go back. He said, no, he would go with them. Then the soldier drew his bayonet and made a thrust at Mr. McCallum's stomach, but since he stood his ground, the soldier put the point of the bayonet under his chin and gave a short thrust. Mr. McCallum jerked back his head so only received a slight skin cut on his throat. Then the other soldier took this man away. Some people gathered at the gate called to him and he looked around and saw a Consular Policeman coming in a horse carriage. So he got in the carriage with him and overtook the two soldiers at the corner. The Consular Policeman talked to them and got their names. Dr. Trimmer came along. The Consular Policeman said he would go to the Japanese Embassy to report and Dr. Trimmer went to the American Embassy to report. (A written statement was later made by Mr. McCallum to the American Embassy.) Later in the afternoon the

Consular Policeman came to the Hospital to apologize to Mr. McCallum and last evening he and two gendarmes came to 3 P'ing Ta'ang Hsiang to investigate and interview Mr. McCallum. (From a verbal report by Mr. McCallum to L. Smythe.)

18. Feb. 1st. This morning at 6:30 a group of women gathered a second time to greet Dr. Bates when he left the University. They told him they could not go home. Among other cases one woman who feared that she would lose her bedding when the camp was sealed, took her two daughters home yesterday, to Hsi Hwa Men. Last evening Japanese soldiers came and demanded to have a chance to rape the girls. The two girls objected and the soldiers bayoneted them to death. The woman says there is no use going home. If they are going to be killed at home they might just as well be killed at the camp by soldiers attempting to drive them out February 4th. (*Bates*)
19. Jan. 30th, about 5 p.m. Mr. Sone was greeted by several hundred women pleading with him that they would not have to go home on February 4th. They said it was no use going home they might just as well be killed for staying at the camp as to be raped, robbed or killed at home. They said, "You have saved us half way, if you let us go now what use is there unless you save the other half?" One old woman 62 years old went home near Hansimen and soldiers came at night and wanted to rape her. She said she was too old. So the soldiers rammed a stick up her. But she survived to come back. (*Sone*)
20. Feb. 1st. This afternoon about 2:30 a child came running to our house to tell Mr. Forster and myself that soldiers were after women in a house near us next to Overseas Building. We ran there and were admitted by a Chinese family. They pointed to a bedroom door which was locked but when no response was made to our knocking we smashed the door and found two Japanese soldiers in the room. One was reclining on the bed and the other sitting by the bed. The girl was on the bed between them and the wall. One soldier immediately jumped for his belt and pistol and went out through a hole in the wall. But the other one had his trousers down and was so drunk he could not get away quickly and moreover left his belt so his pants would not stay up. We had to help him out through the hole in the wall. Out on the road he wanted to shake hands. Mr. Forster ran ahead to find a military police while I walked behind the soldier. We delivered him to the two sentries at the opening of Shanghai Road where it joins Chung Shan Lu. We were told that the girl was raped before we got there. (*Magee*)
21. Feb. 1st, 11:00 p.m., three Japanese soldiers came to the Nanking Theological Seminary, climbed over the wall, grabbed a girl in a hut, but she ran away and yelled. This woke the camp and they all turned out and yelled. The soldiers climbed back over the wall and drove away. (*Sone*)

22. Jan. 29, evening, Nos. 43, 44, 45, 46 Yin Yang Ying were all visited and searched by soldiers for money and raping. In No. 44 four Japanese soldiers raped one woman and beat her husband.
23. Jan. 30, morning, Tai-ping Hotel, at Sze Hsiang Chiao a woman was dragged by Japanese soldiers to the door and killed at the spot.
24. Jan. 31, Sze Hsiang Chiao an old woman over 60 was first raped and then was stabbed by a bayonet in her vagina and killed.
25. Feb. 3rd, a.m. Mrs. Liu returned home and while she was walking in front of the door of Sung Yuan, Er Tien Hong, Hsi Hwa Men, she was pulled by three Japanese soldiers to a foreign style house and was raped there and also her garment was bayoneted. (Chopped by her right hand 2nd finger.)

Note: These are only sample cases we have had time to check up on more carefully. Many more have been reported to our workers.

LEWIS S. C. SMYTHE
Secretary

DOCUMENT 16

Description of Some Shots from a Film by John Magee, a Missionary

See Rosen's report to the Foreign Ministry of 10 February 1938, p. 187

1. December 16th, 1937. Chinese women on Shanghai Road, Nanking, kneeling and begging Japanese soldiers for the lives of their sons and husbands when these were being collected at random on the suspicion of being ex-soldiers. Thousands of civilians were taken in this way, bound with ropes, carried to the river bank in Hsiakwan, to the edges of ponds, and to vacant spaces where they were done to death by machine-guns, bayonets, rifles, and even hand grenades.
2. This man, Liu Kwang-wei, an Inquirer in the Chinese Episcopal Church at Ssu Shou Ts'un, the model village at Hsiakwan, came into the Refugee Zone with fellow-Christians before the occupation of the city by the Japanese. On December 16, he was carried off by Japanese soldiers with thirteen others of this Christian group. They were joined to another group of 1000 men (according to his estimate), taken to the river bank at Hsiakwan, arranged in orderly lines near the Japanese wharf and mowed down with machine guns. It was dusk but there was no chance to escape as the river was behind them and they were surrounded on three sides by machine guns. This man was in the back immediately next to the water. When the lines of men began to

fall, he fell with them although uninjured. He dropped into shallow water and covered himself with the corpses of those about him. There he stayed for three hours, and was so cold when he came out that he could hardly walk, but he was able to make his way to a deserted hut where he found some bedding. Here he took off his wet clothing and wrapped himself in the bedding, staying there for three days without food. He finally became so hungry that he left the hut to find something to eat, putting on his clothing which was still damp. He went to the China Import and Export Lumber company, a British concern in which he had been employed, but found nobody there. Just then he met three Japanese soldiers who struck him with their fists, led him off to Paohsing Street, Hsiakwan, where they made him cook for them. After several days he was released, being given a note signed with the seal of two of the Japanese soldiers. This enabled him to get through the city gate and back to his family in the Refugee Zone.

3. Yü Hsi-Tang, an employee of the Telephone Office in Hsiakwan, was among four thousand men refugees living at the University of Nanking. On Dec. 26, Japanese officers came there to effect registration, a requirement for all grown Chinese in the city. The officer told them that if any of them acknowledged that they had been soldiers their lives would be spared but they would be given work; that if they did not acknowledge it and were found out they would be killed. They were given twenty minutes to think it over. About 200 men then stepped forward. They were marched off, and on the street many more men were picked up, whom the Japanese claimed were soldiers. Yü was one of these taken on the street. He said they led him with a few hundred others to the hills near Ginling College and there the Japanese soldiers started bayonet practice on them. After being bayoneted in six places, 2 in the chest, 2 in the abdomen, and 2 in the legs, he fainted. When he came to, the Japanese had left and somebody helped him to get to the Mission Hospital. The picture was taken while Dr. Wilson was operating, at which time there did not seem to be much hope of the man's recovery; but he did recover.
4. This woman was taken with five others from a refugee center to wash clothes for Japanese officers. She was taken upstairs in a building apparently used as a military hospital. During the day they washed clothes and at night entertained Japanese soldiers. According to her story, the older and plainer women were raped from 10-20 times per night, while the younger and prettier one was raped forty times per night. The woman in the picture was the one of the plainer ones. On Jan. 2, two soldiers motioned her to come with them. She followed them to an empty house where they tried unsuccessfully to cut

off her head. She was found in a pool of blood and taken to the Mission Hospital where she is recovering. She had four deep lacerations along the back of her neck, severing the muscles to the vertebral column. She also has a slash on her wrists and four on her body. The woman has not the slightest idea why they wanted to kill her, nor does she know the fate of the other women.

5. On December 13th, about thirty soldiers came to a Chinese house at No. 5 Hsing Lu Koo in the southeastern part of Nanking, and demanded entrance. The door was opened by the landlord, a Mohammedan named Ha. They killed him immediately with a revolver and also Mr. Hsia, who knelt before them after Ha's death, begging them not to kill anyone else. Mrs. Ha asked them why they had killed her husband and they shot her dead. Mrs. Hsia was dragged out from under a table in the guest hall where she had tried to hide with her one-year-old baby. After being stripped and raped by one or more men, she was bayoneted in the chest, and then had a bottle thrust into her vagina. The baby being killed with a bayonet. Some soldiers then went to the next room, where were Mrs. Hsia's parents, aged 76 and 74, and her two daughters aged 16 and 14. They were about to rape the girls when the grandmother tried to protect them. The soldiers killed her with a revolver. The grandfather grasped the body of his wife and was killed. The two girls were then stripped, the elder being raped by 2-3 men, and the younger by 3. The older girl was stabbed afterwards and a cane was rammed into her vagina. The younger girl was bayoneted also but was spared the horrible treatment that had been meted out to her sister and her mother. The soldiers then bayoneted another sister of between 7-8, who was also in the room. The last murders in the house were of Ha's two children, aged 4 and 2 respectively. The older was bayoneted and the younger split down through the head with a sword.

After being wounded the 8-year-old girl crawled to the next room where lay the body of her mother. Here she stayed for 14 days with her 4-year-old sister who had escaped unharmed. The two children lived on puffed rice and the rice crusts that form in the pan when the rice is cooked. It was from the older of these children that the photographer was able to get part of the story, and verify and correct certain details told him by a neighbor and a relative. The child said the soldiers came every day taking things from the house; but the two children were not discovered as they hid under some old sheets. All the people in the neighborhood fled to the Refugee Zone when such terrible things began to happen. After 14 days the old woman shown in the picture returned to the neighborhood and found the two children. It was she who led the photographer to an open space where the bodies had

been taken afterwards. Through questioning her and Mr. Hsia's brother and the little girl, a clear knowledge of the terrible tragedy was gained. The picture shows the bodies of the 16 and 14 year old girls, each lying with a group of people slain at the same time. Mrs. Hsia and her baby are shown last.

6. The case of a Buddhist nun and a little apprentice nun (between 8-9 years old). This child was bayoneted in the back, although she ran a fever for weeks after the incident. The adult nun has a compound fracture of the left hip, caused by a bullet wound, from which an extensive infection developed. If she recovers, which is questionable, a very specialized operation will be necessary to enable her to walk. She and some other nuns occupied a building behind a temple in the southern part of the city. When the Japanese entered the city they killed a great many people in this neighborhood. The tailor who brought her to the hospital estimated that there were about 25 dead there. Among the dead was the "Mother Superior" of this nunnery, 65 years of age, and a little apprentice nun between 6-7. They wounded the nun and the little apprentice shown in this picture. They took refuge in a pit where they stayed for 5-6 days without food or drink. There were many corpses in this pit, and an old nun of about 68 years of age was either crushed or smothered to death by the weight of the bodies. After 5 days the wounded nun heard a soldier say in Chinese, "What a pity." She thereupon opened her eyes and begged the man to save her life. He dragged her out of the pit and got some Chinese to carry her to an army dressing station, where an army doctor attended to her. Eventually she was brought to the Mission hospital by a neighbor.
7. On January 11, this boy, between 13-14 years of age, was forced to carry vegetables to the southern part of the city by three Japanese soldiers, who then robbed him of all his money and bayoneted him twice in the back and once in the abdomen. About one foot of the large intestine was protruding when he reached the Mission hospital two days after the assault. He died five days after admission to the hospital. The boy was so ill at the time this picture was taken that the doctor did not dare to remove the dressings to show the wounds.
8. Having heard that his mother had been killed, this man left the Refugee Zone, established by an International Committee, to investigate. He went to the Second District, an area which had been designated as safe by the Japanese and to which they were urging the people to return. He could not find his mother's body, but met two Japanese soldiers who stripped him and a friend of all their clothing except their trousers. (It was an icy cold day, about Jan. 12, 1938.) They also tore up their registration cards which they had received from Japanese officers after the general registration. The soldiers bayoneted

them both, throwing them into a dug-out. About an hour later, when this man recovered consciousness, he found that his friend had disappeared. He was able to make his way back to the Refugee Zone and eventually to the Mission hospital. He had six bayonet wounds, one of which penetrated his pleura giving rise to a general subcutaneous emphysema. He will recover.¹²

DOCUMENT 17

From the Japan Advertiser, 7 December 1937¹³

Sub-Lieutenants in Race
to Fell 100 Chinese
Running Close Contest

Sub-lieutenant Toshiaki Mukai and Sub-lieutenant Takeshi Noda, both of the Katagiri unit at Kuyung, in a friendly contest to see which of them will first fell 100 Chinese in individual sword combat before the Japanese forces completely occupy Nanking, are well in the final phase of their race, running almost neck to neck. On Sunday when their unit was fighting outside Kuyung, the "score," according to the *Asahi*, was: Sub-lieutenant Mukai, 89, and Sub-lieutenant Noda, 78.

Contest to Kill First 100 Chinese
with Sword Extended When Both
Fighters Exceed Mark

The winner of the competition between Sub-Lieutenant Toshiaki Mukai and Sub-Lieutenant Iwao Noda to see who would be the first to kill 100 Chinese with his Yamato sword has not been decided, the *Nichi Nichi* reports from the slopes of Purple Mountain, outside Nanking. Mukai has a score of 106 and his rival has dispatched 105 men, but the two contestants have found it impossible to determine which passed the 100 mark first. Instead of settling it with a discussion, they are going to extend the goal by 50.

Mukai's blade was slightly damaged in the competition. He explained that this was the result of cutting a Chinese in half, helmet and all. The contest was "fun," he declared, and he thought it a good thing that both men had gone over the 100 mark without knowing that the other had done so.

Early Saturday morning, when the *Nichi Nichi* man interviewed the sub-lieutenant at a point overlooking Dr. Sun Yat-sen's tomb, another Japanese unit set fire to the slopes of Purple Mountain in an attempt to drive out the Chinese troops. The action also smoked out Sub-Lieutenant Mukai and his unit, and the men stood idly by while bullets passed overhead.

"Not a shot hits me while I am holding this sword on my shoulder," he explained confidently.

DOCUMENT 18¹⁴

Letter from the Representatives of the District Superintendents and Camp Managers of the Nanking Safety Zone to John Rabe

Dear Mr. Rabe:

We have the honor to transmit to you the following resolutions which were passed on February 15th by the Sixth Joint Meeting of the Superintendents of the Nine Districts and the Managers of the Twenty-five Refugee Camps of the Nanking Safety Zone.

To extend to Mr. John H. D. Rabe, Chairman of the International Committee for the Nanking Safety Zone, a vote of thanks for his valuable services in connection with the organization and administration of the Zone and of the relief work which was followed upon its establishment. We would assure Mr. Rabe of our deep appreciation of his efforts on behalf of the people of this city. His name will ever be held in grateful remembrance among us.

It was further resolved that a copy of the above resolution should be sent to Messrs. Siemens China Company and to the German Embassy, that they also might be made aware of the Nanking Community's gratitude for Mr. Rabe's presence and work among us during this time of crisis.

The undersigned were also instructed by the above mentioned Meeting to convey to Messrs. Siemens China Company the earnest desire of the District Superintendents and Camp Managers to have you continue, if possible, your residence in Nanking and your services as Chairman of the International Committee. Though the need for the Zone as a place of special refuge has of course ceased to exist, nevertheless the need for relief among the people is as great as ever, or even greater, and it is with reference to this work that the Superintendents and Camp Managers would like to have your services continue. The proposed departure of so tried and true a friend as you have been is indeed to us a cause for deep regret.

We therefore earnestly trust that Messrs. Siemens China Company will give favorable consideration to our desire that you should be permitted to continue your good work here in Nanking, and we hope that with their concurrence you yourself will decide to remain among us for a least some time longer. But if this should not be possible, we will still look forward to your early return to Nanking and to a renewal of that constant

association with you which has meant so much to us during these recent months.

Believe us, with gratitude and affection,

Sincerely yours,

Representatives of the District Superintendents
and Camp Managers of the Nanking Safety Zone

J. M. TONG, Y. S. SHEN, HSÜ CHUAN-YING, FRANCIS F. J. CHEN

DOCUMENT 19

*Declaration of the Members of the
Committee of the International Safety Zone*

The resident members of the International Committee for a Safety Zone in Nanking (now become Nanking International Relief Committee), desire to express our hearty appreciation of the services of Mr. John H. D. Rabe, who has served as our Chairman during three critical months. Mr. Rabe's leadership in difficult tasks of benevolence has been fearless and gentle. It will long be remembered among the entire population of Nanking, and among great numbers connected with them by ties of blood and of interest. Our Chairman has combined most splendidly the qualities of effective effort in a large enterprise, with those of close personal sympathy and care for individuals in need.

Among the Chinese community there is grateful recognition of this unselfish service. Among the foreign community there has been set a lasting example of devotion to human welfare transcending commercial duty and national interests. The Siemens China Company, which Mr. Rabe has so ably represented in Nanking, is held in heightened respect because of its contribution to a great public service through the recent work of our Chairman. Likewise the whole standing of German enterprise and of the German community in China has been brought new honor through the well-deserved reputation of Mr. Rabe.

Nanking, February 21, 1938.

Signed with personal affection and regard:

<i>W. P. Mills</i>	<i>John Magee</i>	<i>Eduard Sperling</i>	<i>M. S. Bates</i>
<i>Lewis S. C. Smythe</i>	<i>Chas. H. Riggs</i>	<i>C. S. Trimmer.</i>	

We, the remaining non-official foreign residents of Nanking, desire to associate ourselves with the expressions of the International Committee as to Mr. Rabe and his services:

Minnie Vautrin,
Ernest H. Forster,
Grace Bauer,
Ina Hynds,

Cola Podshivaloff,
R. Hempel,
Jas. H. McCallum,
Robert O. Wilson

O. Zial,
Hubert L. Sone,
R. Rupert Hatz,

DOCUMENT 20

*Letter from Ernest H. Forster
(Written in German) to John Rabe*

Nanking, 22 February 1938

Dear Herr Rabe:

I do not wish to let the opportunity pass to express to you my deepest thanks for everything that you have done here in Nanking over the last few months. It often happens that there is a gulf between commercial people and missionaries that cannot and is not easily bridged; but that bridge is the love of God, Who reveals Himself through our love for our neighbors. And through your selfless devotion to the plight of all classes, you, Herr Rabe, have revealed that love in rich measure during these difficult times. I would like to thank you as well for the precious friendship that you showed me as a newcomer in Nanking. I hope that you and Frau Rabe will have a safe trip back to Germany and a refreshing vacation in your homeland, and then a happy reunion with us here in Nanking.

God be with you!

Yours sincerely

ERNEST H. FORSTER

DOCUMENT 21

*Report of the Nanking Office of the German Embassy
to the Foreign Ministry, 26 February 1938*

The local representative of Siemens China Co., Herr John H. D. Rabe (Party Member), left a few days ago for Shanghai in order, after a short stay there, to return home on a well-deserved vacation.

As I have frequently reported before, Herr Rabe has done meritorious service as the chairman of the International Committee for the Nanking Safety Zone, risking his life and personal safety for thousands of poor refugees, and by his energetic actions has enhanced the regard in which the German cause is held overseas. Both foreigners and Chinese alike appreciate the fact that German businessmen have shown that they not only stand in the front ranks when it comes to doing good deeds dur-

ing peacetime, but also at the risk of their own lives have proved their solidarity with China even in its terrible need as it battles for its honor and freedom.

In a touching farewell ceremony, both foreign and Chinese members of the International Committee expressed their gratitude to Herr Rabe and presented him with warmly felt resolutions, of which I enclose a copy. On the day following the Führer's recent important speech, a Chinese physician asked Herr Rabe to tell the Germans that the Chinese are not and do not wish to become Communists. That they are simply a peaceable nation that wishes to live in quiet cooperation with all other nations, and that China needs the continuing friendship of Germany.

Herr Rabe can presumably be reached in Berlin through the Siemens-Schuckert Works, and he would like to call on the Foreign Ministry and asks especially to meet with Bohle, head of the foreign section of the NSDAP.

Because of poor postal connections with Hankow, I am sending this report directly to the Foreign Ministry. The embassies in Hankow and Tokyo as well as the consulate general in Shanghai will receive carbon copies.

ROSEN¹⁵