

I write therefore to enquire what the state of affairs actually is, and why the arrangements previously made have been cancelled. The people must eat and when they are deprived of rice, or of the fuel with which to cook it, they are reduced to a bitter condition indeed. Permit me to ask you to straighten out this matter at once with the military authorities so that there will be a dependable supply of rice and fuel made constantly available for the people. Whether the rice and fuel comes through our own Committee or through the *Tze Chih Wei Yuan Hwei* makes no difference to us. What our Committee does desire is that some adequate supply of these essentials of life be made available to the people. It would be well to have this done so far as possible on a commercial basis.

In closing, let me add a word. If you have any suggestions as to how the service which our Committee is rendering can be improved, we shall be most happy to have them.

With kindest regards and thanks for your untiring help in these matters, I am,

Respectfully yours,
(Signed) JOHN H. D. RABE,
Chairman International Committee
for Nanking Safety Zone.

The urgency was further emphasized by a telegram to the National Christian Council and letter to the three foreign representatives by then in Nanking: Messrs. Allison (American), Prideaux-Brune (British), and Rosen (German).

DOCUMENT No. 15

Boynton National Christian Council Shanghai.

Food question more serious because no regular supply available civilian population. Only twenty-two hundred bags rice one thousand bags flour released for sale from large stocks on hand to two hundred fifty thousand people since December thirteenth. Population has existed on private family stocks which are now running out. We are feeding fifty thousand daily free rice. Request to truck in rice wheat purchased here and request for necessary passes to ship six hundred

tons foodstuffs from Shanghai turned down. Please try negotiations Shanghai. If you can buy Chinese green beans Shanghai get permission and ship one hundred tons as soon as possible. Go ahead raising funds. We will find way to use them. Release. Fitch.

January 18, 1938.

3 p.m.

DOCUMENT No. 16 (B Z 40)

January 19, 1938.

Mr. Allison, American Embassy,
Mr. Prideaux-Brune, British Embassy,
Dr. Rosen, German Embassy,
Nanking.

GENTLEMEN:

You have each individually expressed a friendly interest in the problem of seeing that the 250,000 civilians in this city are fed. As indicated in Mr. Smythe's letter to Mr. Allison on January 17, of which you all have copies, we have pressed three propositions on the Japanese: (1) speed up the commercial distribution of rice, flour and coal through the *Tze Chih Wei Yuan Hwei*; (2) give the International Committee passes for trucking in 3,000 bags of rice and 9,000 bags of wheat (in Hsiakwen, San Chia Ho, and outside Hansimen) we had purchased for relief purposes from the Shanghai Commercial and Savings Bank; and (3) give the International Committee the necessary passes for shipping 600 tons of supplementary foodstuffs from Shanghai.

Yesterday Mr. Smythe went for the third time to ask an answer to these propositions. Mr. Fukui referred him to Mr. Tanaka. So Mr. Smythe and Mr. Fitch interviewed Mr. Tanaka. He said the Army had confiscated the rice and wheat in the said godowns. When they pointed out that it was private stocks instead of military he said that the Army had probably used it for the civilian population. Then they asked if the Japanese authorities would give us permission to ship 3,000 bags of rice from Shanghai. He said, "No." With regard to that and the shipment of 600 tons of supplementary foodstuffs from Shanghai he said there were no boats. They told him it could be brought on Japanese boats. He said their boats were busy

for the military. They suggested the Japanese let a British boat bring it. He did not reply. So they asked him what the Japanese proposed to do about it.

To this question, Mr. Tanaka replied that the Army would assume responsibility for feeding the civilian population. So then we told him that so far the Army had only assigned 2,200 bags of rice and 1,000 bags of flour for sale to the civilian population since December 13. He thought they had done more but had no figures. (The Army let the *Tze Chih Wei Yuan Hwei* have 1,200 bags of rice on January 10th. On the 17th the Army gave them another assignment of 1,000 bags of rice and 1,000 bags of flour to be sold in the southern part of the city. Both of these assignments the International Committee has had to help them truck because the Army made no offer to truck it.) In concluding the interview, Mr. Smythe asked Mr. Tanaka if he should inform me that they refused both our requests for permission to haul rice and wheat purchased in Hsiakwan etc. and our request for permission to ship foodstuffs from Shanghai. He said, "Yes."

With regard to the Shanghai consignment, we immediately telegraphed to Mr. Boynton of the National Christian Council in Shanghai (who has been corresponding with us about the matter) as per enclosed telegram signed by Mr. Fitch. This was to see what could be done in Shanghai.

I do not know how much you gentlemen want to do in this matter, but we are attempting to keep you informed of developments and pass on to you the best suggestions that we can make. We do not think it advisable at this juncture to ask you to press for the Japanese to grant our two requests. But since Mr. Tanaka said the Japanese Army wanted to feed the civilian population itself, you could informally suggest to the Japanese, "Now let's see you do it!"

That, or better the restoration of order and communications so commercial distribution of rice can function normally, is the only solution of the problem. The International Committee is only interested in arousing the Army's awareness of the seriousness of the problem and in the meantime provide relief in the form of free food to those who are unable to buy.

What seems to be necessary is to impress upon the Army what it means to assume responsibility for feeding this population. So far they have only been playing at it with an occasional grant of 1,000 bags of rice which they sell to the *Tze Chih Wei Yuan Hwei*. Here is what feeding this population really means:

(1) A regular supply of rice to the extent of 2,000 *tan* (or 1,600 bags) of rice *per day*, or approximately the same weight of flour. (250,000 people at the normal daily consumption of one *tan* per 100 adults per day would be 2,500 *tan* per day, but small children in the population would not need so much per day.)

(2) At least 40-50 tons of coal per day and other fuels.

(3) Since the *Tze Chih Wei Yuan Hwei* does not have the trucks available for trucking in this much supplies every day and the Army has trucks standing around all over town, the Army should deliver this rice, flour and fuel to the *Tze Chih Wei Yuan Hwei* shops. (In our negotiations with Major Ishida of the Army Supply Department to buy such supplies, he was quite willing to deliver to us. That arrangement broke down because of instructions from outside his department.)

In addition to the rice and flour there should be some provision for supplementary foodstuffs in order to reduce the danger of disease and possible epidemics. This was our object in getting such supplies from Shanghai. The Army could do this.

If the *Tze Chih Wei Yuan Hwei* is assured of adequate supplies, they can manage the distribution.

Of course, as any efficient government would do, the Japanese must provide adequate protection to civilians returning to their homes as well as provide for regular commercial distribution of food and fuel.

Thanking you for your friendly interest in this matter, I am,

Most respectfully yours,
(Signed) JOHN H. D. RABE.
Chairman, International Committee
for Nanking Safety Zone.

On January 26 and 28 the Committee sent the foreign representatives urgent requests for assistance. The first one follows:

DOCUMENT No. 17 (Z 43)

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR NANKING SAFETY ZONE

5 Ninghai Road

January 26, 1938.

Mr. Allison, American Embassy,
Mr. Prideaux-Brune, British Embassy,
Dr. Rosen, German Embassy,
Nanking.

GENTLEMEN:

We called the attention of the Japanese authorities to food supplies assigned to the International Committee in our letter of December 14 and interviews on December 15. At their request we pointed out the locations of the rice. But since then all our representations to the Japanese authorities on this question have been ignored.

Therefore we are presenting you herewith the facts regarding the food supplies assigned to the International Committee for use in feeding the population in the Safety Zone.

In his letter of November 30, former Mayor Ma promised the Committee 30,000 *tan* of rice, and in another letter of December 3 he gave us 10,000 bags of flour. Later he verbally promised us another 10,000 bags of flour.

On December 2 we received an assignment voucher for 15,000 bags of rice and on December 5 another assignment voucher for 5,009 bags of rice. Of this amount we were able to haul in only 8,476 bags and assigned 600 bags to refugees in Hsiakwan, or a total receipt of 9,076 bags containing 11,345 *tan*. But since the bag vouchers only totalled 20,009 bags, we can only claim 10,933 bags of rice as still coming to us when the Japanese took the city on December 13.

We did not get any of the 10,000 bags of flour for which we had assignment vouchers. We hauled in 1,000 bags of flour but that was a separate gift from the Ta Tung Flour Mills arranged by the Asiatic Petroleum Company.

This matter is summarized in the following table:

	Assignment Vouchers	Actually received	Confiscated by Japanese authorities
Rice	20,009 bags	9,076 bags	10,933 bags x 96 kilograms
Flour	10,000 bags	none	10,000 bags x 50 lbs.

You will note that this amount, 10,933 bags of rice and 10,000 bags of flour, was confiscated by the Japanese authorities from an international relief committee.

We would be pleased if you would support our claim in this matter.

Thanking you for your continued help, I am,

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) JOHN H. D. RABE,
Chairman.

When Mr. S. Hidaka, Counsellor of the Japanese Embassy, was in Nanking the Committee asked Mr. Allison to approach him informally on a number of outstanding questions, including their claim to stores of rice and flour confiscated by the Japanese Army. In reply Mr. Hidaka asked whether the Committee would be willing to co-operate with the local Self-Government Committee in the distribution of such supplies. The following letter was the Committee's answer:

DOCUMENT No. 18 (Z 54)

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR NANKING SAFETY ZONE

5 Ninghai Road

February 6, 1938.

Mr. John M. Allison,
American Embassy,
Nanking.

MY DEAR MR. ALLISON:

The International Committee is concerned only with carrying out its responsibilities for using on behalf of civilians in Nanking the money and supplies given to it. Therefore the Committee is ready to distribute its rice in cooperation with the Self-Government Committee, or under the name of the latter.

However, the International Committee cannot rightly shirk the duty of arranging the actual methods of distribution, which greatly affects the degree of service rendered to the needy population. The Committee must also point out that the attitudes of large sections of foreign opinion both in China and abroad would be unfavorably affected by confiscation of means legally given to the Committee.

It would seem that the position taken in the first paragraph is a fair and friendly solution of the problem.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) JOHN H. D. RABE,
Chairman.

These representations were followed up by another letter to the Japanese Embassy under date of January 27:

DOCUMENT No. 19 (Z 44)

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR NANKING
SAFETY ZONE

5 Ninghai Road

January 27, 1938

The Japanese Embassy,
Nanking.

Attention: Mr. Fukui

DEAR SIRs:

From the time of our first contact with the Japanese authorities in Nanking on December 14 up to the present, we have had frequent conversations with you about the local food situation. We made an early request to get delivery of the food supplies assigned to us by the former Nanking Municipality. Later we offered also to purchase supplies for relief work. However, this latter offer was refused by the authorities. In the meantime only very small additional supplies of rice have been available in the city. Therefore, since private rice stocks are now running low, and our own supplies are also being

exhausted, we feel that we must urge upon you again our original request that we be allowed to secure all the food supplies assigned to us by the former Nanking Municipality.

Consequently, we are now writing to you stating the full facts in the case in order to clear up the matter.

In his letter of November 30, former Mayor Ma promised the International Committee 30,000 *tan* of rice, and in another letter of December 3 he gave us 10,000 bags of flour. Later he verbally promised us another 10,000 bags of flour at the press conference.

On December 2 we received an assignment voucher for 15,000 bags of rice and on December 5 another assignment voucher for 5,009 bags of rice. Of this amount we were able to haul in only 8,476 bags and assigned 600 bags to refugees in Hsiakwan, or a total receipt of 9,076 bags containing 11,345 *tan*. But since the bag vouchers only totalled 20,000 bags, we can only claim 10,933 bags of rice as still coming to us when the Japanese troops took the city on December 13.

We did not get any of the 10,000 bags of flour for which we had a written assignment. We hauled in 1,000 bags of flour but that was a separate gift from the Ta Tung Flour Mill arranged by the Asiatic Petroleum Company.

This matter is summarized in the following table:

	<i>Assignment vouchers</i>	<i>Actually received</i>	<i>Not secured either before or after December 13th.</i>
Rice	20,000 bags	9,076 bags	10,933 bags x 96 kilograms
Flour	10,000 bags	none	10,000 bags x 50 lbs.

You will note that the above food supplies were definitely assigned to an international relief committee for use in its relief work in Nanking.

We would be pleased if you would favor us with a written reply of how your authorities wish to handle this matter in order that it may be perfectly clear.

Thanking you for your continued help, I am,

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) JOHN H. D. RABE,
Chairman.

On January 28 the Japanese authorities threw the inhabitants of the Safety Zone into a state of consternation by announcing that plans had been made for their transfer to other parts of the city. The Committee's view of the situation was stated in the following communication from the Chairman to Dr. Rosen:

DOCUMENT No. 20 (Z 48)

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR NANKING

SAFETY ZONE

5 Ninghai Road

Herr Dr. Rosen:
German Embassy,
Nanking.

January 30, 1938.

MY DEAR DR. ROSEN,

In answer to your inquiries regarding the position of the International Committee at the present juncture, we briefly report as follows:

It is now common knowledge that on the afternoon of January 28 a responsible officer of the Special Service Organ, with the cooperation of the Self-Government Committee, informed leaders of refugee camps of plans for the prompt return of refugees to other parts of the city.

We heartily approve the announcement of specific measures for the better protection of residents throughout the city, and the provision of houses for those whose dwellings have been burned or who for other reasons need shelter in Nanking.

The International Committee has from the beginning of its relief work desired a return to normal living conditions as early as possible. The prolonged strain resulting from general insecurity and consequent crowding in the Safety Zone, has been highly unsatisfactory to us as a Committee and also as individuals. We have encouraged many Chinese to return to their homes in other parts of the city, and long ago gave instructions to the same effect in various refugee camps. Indeed, on several occasions the number of refugees in certain camps has fallen by reason of such efforts to return. But considerable numbers have come back into the refugee camps. Why is this?

The minimum needs for normal residence throughout the city are these: (1) Security against violence, raping, and robbery by soldiers.

(2) A regular and assured food supply, both of rice and flour in dependable centers of distribution, and of vegetables which cannot be provided until the surrounding country and the roads are safe. (3) Protection against fire, which from military hands has long continued to destroy homes and shops. If these simple needs can be met in actual experience, the people will rapidly go to their homes, which they desire to protect and use. But some time is needed to carry out the new measures of order and protection and to enable the people to realize that they can be safe.

Meanwhile the order that refugees must return by February 4 or they will be driven out from the refugee camps by soldiers, and that all merchants will be forcibly driven from the Refugee Zone, is a serious matter. We respectfully suggest for your consideration that this threat or use of violence arouses difficulties: (1) Resentful feelings among the people if they are pushed by bayonets from relative safety into danger. Such action seems contrary to the declared policy of the Japanese military and civil authorities to give kindly treatment and good conditions of life to the common people. (2) An unfavorable movement of world opinion, which is already watchful of conditions in Nanking and would severely judge any use of military force upon unarmed civilians. (3) Possibly an unfavorable attitude among foreign governments, some of whom are already concerned with the humanitarian aspects of the situation in Nanking, and would be still further disturbed by fresh difficulties. (4) Because of the points just mentioned, it would seem that the Japanese authorities in Tokyo would wish to avoid difficulties that would arise from the action proposed.

In cooperation with the purpose of restoring the city of Nanking to orderly conditions of life, we suggest that statements be made immediately to the public, in order to remove fear and increase confidence: (1) That the Japanese authorities and the Self-Government Committee are taking certain clearly specified steps to promote order and improve conditions in all parts of Nanking. (2) That progress in removal from the Safety Zone to other parts of the city should be prompt, but force will not be used. If "(1)" is carried out satisfactorily in practice, the people will return of their own accord and therefore force will be unnecessary.

The International Committee is glad to distribute its moderate resources according to needs and opportunities in any section of the city. It hopes earnestly improvement of conditions will within a few weeks lessen need for relief work in which it is interested. General security will automatically remove all need for a Safety Zone in any one section of the city. The International Committee is therefore considering a change of its name to something like the following: "Nanking Relief Committee." Such a name will more accurately indicate the functions of the Committee, particularly after the people can enjoy throughout the city the relatively good protection which the Japanese authorities have recently provided for the Safety Zone.

We trust we have made clear our main purpose of relief only, and of cooperation with practical measures of return of refugees to their homes. Likewise, our friendly anxiety over threats of force to compel return before general security is established.

Thanking you for your good help in this matter, I am

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) JOHN H. D. RABE,
Chairman.

Happily, as a result of representations made to Mr. Shinrokuro Hidaka, Counsellor of the Japanese Embassy, who had arrived in Nanking on a visit from Shanghai, the threatened eviction did not take place. In the following letter Mr. Rabe voices his appreciation of Mr. Hidaka's attitude:

DOCUMENT No. 21 (Z 35)

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR NANKING
SAFETY ZONE

5 Ninghai Road

February 3, 1938.

Mr. Hidaka,
Japanese Embassy,
Nanking.

MY DEAR SIR:

I recall with friendly appreciation your assurance of yesterday that refugees will not be forcibly evicted from the present camps, and am

sure that this wise policy will obviate any danger of serious difficulties over the problem. You will of course realize the importance of securing the detailed cooperation of the military authorities to this end so that all possibility of misunderstanding may be averted. This is the more necessary because repeated and specific instructions were issued for removal by Friday, February 4, under threat of military compulsion and sealing of gates.

We are grateful for the new opportunities of friendly contact with the Japanese authorities, as provided by General Homma, yourself, and the expected arrival of Lieutenant-Colonel Hirota.

With kindest personal regards, I beg to remain,

Most respectfully yours,

(Signed) JOHN H. D. RABE,
Chairman.

This selection need not be made any longer except by the addition of a series of letters addressed between the 10th of January and 19th of February by the Committee to Mr. Allison which are self-explanatory and which are an indication of the sort of problem with which the Committee and the Foreign Representatives had to deal day after day during this whole period—roughly four months—during which conditions improved only with incredible slowness. As lately as early April cases of violence were still occurring.

DOCUMENT No. 22 (Z 32)

3 P'ing Ts'ang Hsiang,
Nanking.

January 10, 1938.

DEAR MR. ALLISON:

In reply to your request for confidential information regarding the status of the International Committee and the stand it has taken regarding any attempt to take over its resources, I will give you a brief summary of the developments.

Our letter of December 17 (File 29) was intended to make this clear to the Japanese authorities because Consul-General Katsuo Okazaki had called on the 16th to tell us that while they could not recognize us legally, they would deal with us as though they had recognized us. We stated on page 6 of the above letter:

"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."

However, regarding supplies, on December 15 the head of the Special Service Corps told us in an interview that we could keep the supplies we had (File 26).

On December 31 and January 1 we were confidentially informed that the Japanese Consul had informed the group organizing the *Tze Chih Wei Yuan Hwei* that they could have the supplies and money that the International Committee had. Consequently we thought out a statement of our position on January 3, as follows:

"We are a private organization for assistance to civilians who suffered from war conditions. This is what the food and money were given to us for. Because the money was given to this Committee, therefore, we continue this Committee but adapt use of resources to conditions around us. Such political services as we had were paid separately from our regular funds. (The police pay was not even turned over to us but handled separately by their office. We have supplied them with rice on the same basis as other refugees or volunteer workers. The three clerks that came to our organization from the City Government had a separate assignment of pay.)"

Consequently, when on the night of January 6, Mr. Tokuyasu Fukuda came to Mr. Rabe to tell him confidentially and informally that the Japanese Army authorities wanted all business in the future to be done through the *Tze Chih Wei Yuan Hwei* and would, therefore, like to take over all our funds and supplies, Mr. Rabe was ready to reply, and told him informally our position. But since Mr. Fukuda said he would be very pleased to have a personal letter

from Mr. Rabe stating our position, Mr. Rabe called a meeting of the Standing Committee of the International Committee immediately and we decided to reply as is given in the letter by Mr. Rabe on January 7 to Mr. Fukuda (File 22, 29).

For the present there the matter rests. But on Saturday, January 8 the Japanese Army authorities wanted to come over and close our rice shop forcibly. So in discussion with the new Food Commissioner (under the *Tze Chih Wei Yuan Hwei*), Mr. Wang Ch'en-tien, yesterday, we volunteered to close our rice shop this morning. We had been anxious to do that for ten days but up until yesterday the *Tze Chih Wei Yuan Hwei* was not ready to take over sale of rice. However, we will continue our free distribution as before. We have arranged to start five trucks to haul the 10,000 bags of rice the Japanese Army has assigned them. That for commercial distribution we will charge hauling costs; that for free distribution (an extra 1,250 bags to be distributed *outside* the zone) we will haul free of charge.

One other step in the process of "freezing us out" is that this morning the head of the supply department of the Army, Major T. Ishida refused to carry out his former agreement to sell us 3,000 bags of rice and 5,000 bags of flour for relief purposes. We will not try to buy this from the *Tze Chih Wei Yuan Hwei*. But as long as they keep rice, flour and coal moving into either the Zone or other places available to the civilian population, we will be happy. We are anxious to reserve our supplies against a possible breakdown in these arrangements or any monopoly attempt to raise the price.

Thanking you for your interest in these matters affecting the welfare of the people of Nanking, I am

Most respectfully yours,
(Signed) LEWIS S. C. SMYTHE.

PS. I am enclosing herewith copies of:

1. Mr. Rabe's letter to Mr. Fukuda, January 7 (File Z 29).
 2. "Restoration of Normal Conditions in Nanking" (File Z 30).
- The second was a memorandum we were working out for the *Tze Chih Wei Yuan Hwei* and Mr. Fukuda asked Mr. Rabe for a copy of it.

DOCUMENT No. 23 (B Z 33)

5 Ninghai Road,
Nanking.

January 10, 1938.

DEAR MR. ALLISON,

Because Dr. Bates was the one who investigated the case in which Mr. Riggs was involved last night, I asked him to turn in a separate report to you. I have merely summarized it in this list of cases, "Notes about the Present Situation," Case No. 187. These "Notes" are a continuation of my "Cases of Disorders by Japanese Soldiers in the Safety Zone."

The first four cases show the danger to the civilian population where they live near military offices along Chung Shan Lu (Cases 180-183). Cases 184 and 186 show the difficulties that confront people that try to return to their homes. Case 185 shows lack of common decency or humanity in execution and what concerns us even more is the threat to the health of the population by the continued presence of dead bodies in the area, especially in ponds. So far we have been very fortunate to have no serious outbreak of sickness in the city. But if the present unsanitary measures go on, especially if the city water supply is not dependable, we all live in continual danger of a serious epidemic.

Case 187, as Dr. Bates has already pointed out, shows the character of some of the Military Police upon whom both we and the Chinese are dependent for the maintenance of order amongst the soldiers. Dr. Rosen told me today he had suggested that the Japanese should bring in a high grade group of military police, from Tokyo if necessary.

Hoping that some of this information may be of service to you, I am

Most respectfully yours,

(Signed) LEWIS S. C. SMYTHE.

In order to help eliminate the Japanese Army's misunderstanding of the Committee's continuing as a relief committee after disbanding the Zone as a Zone, the Committee changed its name as reported in the following letter¹:

DOCUMENT No. 24 (Z 58)

NANKING INTERNATIONAL RELIEF COMMITTEE

5 Ninghai Road

February 19, 1938.

Mr. John M. Allison,
American Embassy,
Nanking.

MY DEAR MR. ALLISON,

On February 18 the International Committee for the Nanking Safety Zone decided that from henceforth it would operate under the name of "Nanking International Relief Committee" which is more in conformity with our present functions.

The Committee wishes to take this opportunity to thank your Embassy for its moral support of the Safety Zone from the days of first negotiations regarding the formation of the Zone to the present. We also deeply appreciate your humanitarian interest in the continuing relief work of the Committee.

Most respectfully yours,

(Signed) JOHN H. D. RABE,

Chairman.

Same letter to:

Mr. Jeffery, British Embassy.

Dr. G. Rosen, German Embassy.

¹ A similar letter to the Nanking Self-Government Committee.

THE NANKING "MURDER RACE"

ON DECEMBER 7, 1937, the Japan Advertiser, an American-owned and edited English-language daily paper in Tokyo, published the following item:

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.

On December 14, 1937, the same paper published the following additional report:

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.

HOW THE JAPANESE REPORTED CONDITIONS IN NANKING

LITTLE OR NO mention was made in Japanese papers of conditions in Nanking following the occupation by Japanese forces. A survey of English-language papers in Japan revealed no references to the accounts widespread in Shanghai and the world over reporting Japanese atrocities in Nanking or elsewhere. Some attempts, however, were made to picture Nanking as calm and quiet. The following, which appeared on January 8, 1938, in the Chinese-language paper Sin Shun Pao (New Shun Pao), published by the Japanese in Shanghai, is typical of such efforts.

(Translation from Chinese)

JAPANESE TROOPS GENTLY SOOTHE REFUGEES

HARMONIOUS ATMOSPHERE OF NANKING DEVELOPS

The municipality of Nanking is still as the streets of the dead. The sun's merciful rays spread forth with partiality for the refugees' district in the northwest. The herds of refugees who fled for their lives from the midst of death, have met with the gentle soothing of the Japanese Army. They respectfully kneel by the side of the road in joyful thanks. Before the Japanese troops entered the city, they suffered from the oppression of the anti-Japanese armies of the

Chinese. Indeed, not a grain of rice or millet could reach their hands; the sick could not get medical aid; the hungry could not get food. The sufferings of plain good citizens were infinitely miserable.

Fortunately the Imperial Army entered the city, put their bayonets into their sheaths, and stretched forth merciful hands in order to examine and to heal, diffusing grace and favor to the excellent true citizens. In the region west of the Japanese Embassy, many thousands of herded refugees cast off their former absurd attitude of opposing Japan, and clasped their hands in congratulation for receiving assurance of life. Men and women, old and young, bent down to kneel in salutation to the Imperial Army expressing their respectful intention. This for Chinese has an especial ceremonial significance, and it certainly could not have appeared except from a sincere heart and with a genuine purpose. Within the Refugee Zone they (Japanese soldiers) gave out military bread, cakes, and cigarettes to refugees of both sexes and all ages, all of whom were greatly pleased and who gave thanks. Around the well and Japanese barracks gifts of good will, politely given to the poor and the refugees, were distributed (by Japanese soldiers).

Likewise health squads began to carry on medical and remedial work. Those who had serious eye diseases and had fallen into a condition approaching blindness were completely cured by the Japanese doctors. Children with whooping cough were carried in by their mothers for medical attention, and old women with diseased feet and great swellings received treatment. As soon as they tasted the flavor of the medicine, as soon as they enjoyed the beautiful taste of food, the crowds of refugees, their countenances beaming with joy, could not cease their thanksgiving. After the medical inspection and healing was over, the vast herds gathered around the soldiers beneath the Rising Sun flag and the Red Cross flag, shouting "Banzai" in order to express their gratitude. Along the road opposite, where a merchant was busy preparing to open his shop, a *hsien ping* (gendarme) smiled and passed a little chat. From the Drum Tower beside the Japanese Embassy, there is an elevation for a view around. Near the Embassy is hoisted the American flag; to the north and west, the British flag; to the south, the French; to the east the red flag of the Soviets is reflected in the jade waters of the lotus lake. Amid them all, high on

the iron tower above the Japanese Embassy, is the Rising Sun streaming forth straight and true in the breeze. Looking down, one sees a playground for Nanking Children, with soldiers and Chinese children happy together, playing joyfully on the slides. Nanking is now the best place for all countries to watch, for here one breathes the atmosphere of peaceful residence and happy work.

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