

Shanghai, March 28th, 1938.

Dear Bates,

There still has not been an opportunity to send you my letter of March 21, enclosed herewith, and meanwhile I have received yours of that date returning the manuscript with detailed suggestions for revision.

Your suggestions were most useful and just what I wanted. I have incorporated nearly all of them. One of the few exceptions is the suggestion that a comparison should be made with Belgium. It seems to me that this would tend to weaken the case by drawing a red herring across the trail. I do not want to risk getting involved in a controversy on a side issue about which I know very little despite my own war service in France and Belgium.

You will note that in Appendix F we have given the names of the Japanese military units participating in the capture of the Yangtze Delta cities, these particulars having been culled from the "Japan Advertiser". I think I shall add a note to the effect that the Yamamoto, Nakayama and Akiyama detachments are also mentioned in reports received from Nanking.

In your letter you ask why I have done nothing about Shanghai, Sungkiang and Kashing. I think you will find that Chapter VII fills the gap. When we looked into the matter we found that there was very little authentic evidence of Japanese outrages against the civilian population around Shanghai and that the case against the Japanese rested chiefly on aerial bombings such as that at the South Station and machine gunning of civilians by aeroplanes. Hence we decided to deal with Shanghai in Chapter VI. As regards Sungkiang you will notice that I have added an account (page VII-1a), by a British correspondent who visited the city on January 14. This was Chancellor, who very kindly gave me access to his despatches to London. The foreign observer quoted in the first paragraph on that page is Father Jacquinet, who is quite certain that his figure of 500,000 Chinese civilian casualties is correct.

I have decided to omit the Kashing account on pages VII-15, 16 and 17 for the reason that, as you will see by referring to the third paragraph, anti-aircraft batteries were stationed a few yards away from the refuge. There are plenty of cases of wanton bombings without dragging in those which may be considered accidental. I am afraid that the chapter on air bombings was put together rather hurriedly and I plan to go over it very carefully before okaying it for publication.

Most probably Appendices I and J will be thrown out altogether. They were put in simply as a make-weight in case you people thought that Appendix E ought to be omitted. Incidentally, Ronald has just telephoned that Miss Eva Spicer, who looked through the manuscript over the weekend, feels very strongly that Appendix E ought to be included.

Ronald has been checking up with various colleagues of his and will continue the process during the next day or two. So far everyone approached has been in favor of publication, as he is himself. Miss Spicer feels that the book should be distributed as widely as possible and this is another reason, in addition to speedy production, for entrusting it to Gallanz.

After receiving your letter and realising therefore how many revisions it would be necessary to make, I decided tentatively to push off to London myself by air in order to see the thing through personally in London. This would have meant leaving here on April 12. Reflecting upon certain heavy commitments, however, and upon the advisability of keeping in touch with you as long as possible, I decided that it would

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be better to send somebody else. I am therefore arranging for Hubert Freyn, formerly a special student at Yenching, who has assisted me very greatly with the preparation of the manuscript and actually knows much more about the mechanics of it than I do myself, to leave here by the Conte Rosso the day after to-morrow, taking your and other revisions along with him. He would arrive in London on April 25 and would supervise publication with a full knowledge of the pitfalls to be avoided and of general conciseness of opinion as to the form publication should take. I feel that it is essential to have somebody on the spot who is thoroughly familiar with the circumstances under which the work has been produced. This will be specially important when it comes to revising the manuscript. I shall go over the whole thing with him very carefully and indicate the parts which I feel must be retained.

That is how matters stand at this time of writing - 11 a.m. March 28. There is still no definite word of any boat going up to Nanking but G.C. Thompson advised me to get everything ready in case there is a last minute opportunity.

With grateful thanks for your valuable cooperation and that of the group at Nanking,

Sincerely yours,

P.S. Rees has suggested that perhaps it might be advisable to omit the names of missionaries mentioned in the text - e.g. "I took Smythe and Biggs"... What do you think about this? Personally I think we should keep deletions down to a minimum.

D.K.

LATER (12 noon, March 28)

I just received word from Hankow urging me to proceed to London personally and it looks as though I had better go, though in some ways the suggested arrangements regarding time would have been better. In any case I will arrange that Freyn forward on to me any further suggestions from you or from the people here.