

Nanking, China.

December 21st, 1937.

The Imperial Japanese Embassy,
Nanking.

Dear Sirs:

We come to petition in the name of humanity that the following steps be taken for the welfare of the 200,000 civilians in Nanking:

1. That the burning of large sections of the city be stopped and what remains of the city be spared from either reckless or systematic burning.

2. That the disorderly conduct of Japanese troops in the city, which has caused so much suffering to the civilian population for one week, be immediately stopped.

3. In view of the fact that the looting and burning have brought the business life of the city to a standstill and consequently reduced the whole civilian population to one vast refugee camp, and in view of the fact that the International Committee has reserve food supplies to feed these 200,000 people one week only, we most earnestly beg you to take immediate steps to restore normal conditions of civilian life in order that the food and fuel supply of the city may be replenished.

The present situation is automatically and rapidly leading to a serious famine. We plead for the bare essentials of normal life: housing, security, and food.

Most respectfully submitted,

THE FOREIGN COMMUNITY OF NANKING