INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR NANKING SAFETY ZONE

5 Ninghai Road

January 15th, 1938.

The Japanese Embassy,
Nanking.

Dear Sirs:

This morning we received a radiogram from Shanghai saying that they have arranged for large quantities (about 600 tons) of supplementary food supplies for Nanking. They will ship this just as soon as we can get permission from your military authorities here in Nanking.

In our discussion with Major Ishida he said the Japanese army did not have any beans, peanuts or oils, green vegetables or substitute that they could sell to us for civilians in Nanking. If this large population has only rice for many weeks in the winter, there will be more danger of sickness. Consequently, we sent a radiogram to Shanghai for funds and arrangements to secure these supplementary foods.

Will you please ask your military authorities to give us permission to ship, unload, and haul into the city these food supplies as soon as possible?

Thanking you for your help in this matter, I am

Respectfully yours,

John H. D. Hobe, Chairman.