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INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR NANKING SAFETY ZONE

5 Ninghai Road

January 17th, 1938.

The Japanese Embassy,
Nanking.

Dear Sirs:

Attention: Mr. Fukui.

We have filed three requests with you to which we have to date received no answers:

- (1) January 14th, that we be informed how soon commercial distribution of rice and coal will begin again.
It will be a week tomorrow that the arrangements for distribution of rice through the Tze Chih Wei Yuan Hwei broke down and no regular distribution has occurred since then.
- (2) January 15³th, that we be given the necessary passes for trucking in the rice and wheat we have purchased from the Shanghai Commercial and Savings Bank.
- (3) January 15th, that necessary passes be given for shipping 600 tons of foodstuffs from Shanghai.
(Last night we received further word from Shanghai that they are ready to send these foodstuffs as soon as we secure the necessary passes.)

Action must be taken on these matters promptly if serious suffering is to be avoided. On point (2) we would like to start trucking in this rice and wheat tomorrow. Regarding point (3) we would like to telegraph to Shanghai today that we have the necessary

Japanese Embassy, Jan. 17th.

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passes and they can proceed with arrangements for shipping.

Thanking you for your help in this matter, I am

Most respectfully yours,


John A. D. Rabe, Chairman.

P.S. Since writing this letter this morning, we learned at noon that regarding point (1) the Japanese authorities have assigned 1,000 bags of rice to the Tze Chia Wei Yuan Hwei, delivery of which started this morning. We trust that this amount will soon be increased to 1,000 bags of rice per day in order to ^{more} adequately meet the needs of 250,000 people.

