

Mail Address: PHILLIPS HOUSE,
KOWLOON, HONGKONG

Cable " : PHILIPPIC, HONGKONG

January 11, 1938

Dear Mr. Paul:

The enclosed material was prepared January 8th to be sent by Clipper air mail. As the Clipper has been delayed by bad weather, I have had opportunity to add the fourth page of copied letters, --- one from Miss Priest which came today; and the enclosed newspaper clippings with some later items of interest to us.

This Clipper mail is of course fairly expensive, but as I know that you are eager to hear and we wish you to have reports promptly, I have continued to use this method, but have refrained from sending cablegrams, which would be much more expensive.

There are a number of persons in the States who during this time of emergency have been depending on our China Mission News Letter for such news as we give about the China situation. I dislike to disappoint them, even though we did not get out a regular News Letter in December. They are all included on the mailing list of the China News Letter. They look especially, I believe, for the articles Searle Bates has contributed, one of which is herewith enclosed.

I hardly know exactly what to suggest, but if you could have a selected portion of the enclosed material mimeographed, especially Searle's article, and the "Work of the International Committee in Nanking and possibly Mr. Farrior's letter, and have it sent to those who are on the mailing list, at our expense for the postage, etc. it would be appreciated. Miss Priest's report on the University of Nanking would be in the same class.

It would be simpler, I am sure, if I had prepared a copy suitable for mimeographing as such, but I have had to write this in fits and starts, under pressure of time, and with many interruptions. The main point is, that as I know so many not only of our churches but others outside our Disciples ranks are depending on this source of news, we shall be grateful for any assistance you can give us in making it available to them.

As ever, yours cordially,

(signed) Edwin Marx,
Mission Secretary

THE PHILLIPS HOUSE
KOWLOON, HONGKONG

January 8, 1938

Cable: "Philippic, Hongkong"

Mr. Alexander Paul,
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dear Mr. Paul:

International Train. The fourth international train for which consular authorities secured safe conduct from Chinese and Japanese officials brought central China refugees from Hankow to Hongkong, leaving Hankow on December 30th and arrived in Hongkong at 11:00 a.m. on January 1st. There were 289 foreigners aboard. Members of our mission were: -- Dr. and Mrs. Brady and family; Mrs. McCallum and her children; Mrs. Lewis Smythe and children. Mrs. Gish took an ordinary train, in order to travel with some Chinese friends, and arrived here on January 5th.

We immediately conferred as to what was the best steps to take next. Hongkong is an excellent place for them to stay for the time, from the standpoint of peacefulness and security, but living accommodations are rather difficult to obtain, especially for families; and there is no way for the children to continue their American school program. Shanghai has the American school, but is little if any better than Hongkong with respect to living quarters, and the whole atmosphere is such as to put a strain on the spirit. On this phase, see the copy of Mr. Farrier's letter enclosed.

After much discussion and inquiries, and weighing all the pros and cons, the following is the decision arrived at for the present:

Mrs. McCallum decided to go on to Shanghai, primarily for the sake of school for the boys, especially for Robert who is in second year high school. Mrs. Gish is going to Shanghai about January 21st, where she feels she can assist in community services that will give her a satisfying way to occupy her time. Bradys have taken a place (one large room, with a veranda and private bath), and plan to stay here at least a month, Mrs. Smythe also with her two children prefers to remain here for the present while watching development of affairs in China. Mrs. Marx and Miss Schutze also are remaining here for the present. Miss Schutze will engage in language study.

For myself, I am planning to go on to Shanghai as soon as I finish certain work here. Since arrival I have been pretty fully occupied getting ourselves settled and attending to formalities such as police registration, passport visas, etc., for all members of our group. I have set no date for leaving, but I expect that it will be the latter part of this month. So far as I can gather, there would be no immediate advantage in getting to Shanghai, as it is impossible to get to any of our stations, and Shanghai itself is more or less isolated. But I wish and intend to be there as soon as there is any prospect of getting into touch with our stations and workers from Shanghai. Until further notice, you may address mail or cablegrams to me here. If I leave here, Mrs. Marx will probably remain, and anyway, we will leave a forwarding address.

Location of Missionaries. For your convenience, I give here a complete list of our missionaries, according to best information I have on this date:--

Hofei: Mr. & Mrs. Burch, Misses Teagarden, Wilkinson, Young.
Hongkong: Dr. Brady & family, Mrs. Gish, Mr. & Mrs. Marx,
Miss Schutze, Mrs. Smythe and children.
Kuling: Miss Fry, Mrs. Hagman.

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Japan: Mrs. Bates and children.
Nanking: Messrs. Bates, McCallum, Smythe, Miss Vautrin.
Nantung: Miss Mushrush.
Shanghai: Miss Lawrence, Mrs. McCallum and children.
Wuhu: Dr. Hagman.

I am enclosing copies of the latest word I have had from Chuchow, Hofei, and Nantung. I have absolutely no direct word from any of these places, or our people there, later than the enclosed copies.

As for Wuhu, I have had no word from Dr. Hagman, but Mrs. Brown, wife of the superintendent of Wuhu General Hospital is here. She had a telegram from her husband as late as Christmas, conveying Christmas greetings. From that she assumed that he was well, and by inference we judge that Dr. Hagman was also.

An officer of a British cruiser which came to Hongkong from Shanghai, told us that he saw in a Shanghai newspaper the name of Margaret Lawrence as having arrived there on December 23d. Mrs. Brown told me that Miss Lawrence and others had the opportunity to travel from Wuhu to Shanghai on the British gunboat "Ladybird." I am expecting to hear from her soon.

So far as I know, all our members at present are unharmed and in good health, but I repeat that I have no word since December 11th from Hofei, and none since the 19th from Miss Mushrush at Nantung.

Miss Fry and Mrs. Hagman decided not to evacuate Kuling with the others. The principal reason given was that they had with them in Kuling eight Chinese young women, former students in the Nursing School of the Nantung Hospital, for whom they feel responsible. The homes of the young women are in various places where they could not travel, and Miss Fry and Mrs. Hagman felt it was impossible to leave them in Kuling to their own resources. Mrs. Hagman has sent her adopted daughter, Louise, to a school somewhere in Hunan, but still has Barbara with her.

I will attempt to summarize what I know of the situation in the various places where our work and workers are as follows:--

Shanghai. Shanghai is very important to us, since it is the source of our banking and supplies, and the port of entrance and exit to our territory. The enclosed copy of letter by Mr. Farrior gives quite a comprehensive and fair picture of the Shanghai situation, as I judge it from inquiries I have made, and newspaper reports. There is not much more I can add without going into too much detail. Many persons believe the Japanese desire to acquire complete control of the International Settlement, and that they will stick at nothing to gain their end. This presents the Settlement with the constant threat of ugly incidents which might even result in a grim catastrophe to the city. At best, it seems the city will be an unpleasant place for a long time. The economic prospects are very gloomy, as well as the political and military situation.

Nanking. Nanking is nothing more than an armed military camp of Japanese army, and nobody up to the present has been permitted to enter or leave it, neither can any mail be sent into or out of the place. Mr. A. R. Kepler who recently returned from Shanghai expressed the opinion that it might be six months before any civilians could return there. However, this morning's newspapers report that two members of the American Embassy staff had disembarked from the U.S.S. "Oahu" and re-entered the city to open the Embassy. If they remain, it may be the opening wedge for other foreign civilians to return. Incidentally, they reported that all foreigners in the city were unharmed, but there had been extensive looting of foreign property. We are prepared to learn that all our homes and other mission property have been completely cleaned out.

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Hofei. Ever since the fall of Nanking, there have been persistent reports that Hofei was one of the main objectives of the Japanese drive north of the Yangtse. Yesterday the papers stated that Hofei was taken on January 2d. For some time before that it had been the scene of large concentrations of Chinese troops. The struggle for the city leaves little hope that our workers could have stayed in the city, and yet Mr. Burch wrote on December 11th that even then the problem of bandits and defeated soldiers made the country so dangerous that they could not consider going there. In view of these circumstances, you may understand that we are considerably anxious for our people there, but there is nothing we can do but wait until some word comes from them, or till the situation settles down a bit more.

Nantung. Miss Mushrush's letter written the 19th of December, was some time after the tide of battle had moved up the Yangtse so far that there should have been no further occasion for any crisis at Nantung. If that be so, we may assume that nothing has happened there, and that locality may be so fortunate as to escape active hostilities. We hope that is true.

Hankow. We have no members now in Hankow, but some of our Chinese workers are there; and those who remain in Kuling will be directly affected by the fate of Hankow. They have had several severe air raids within the past week. Eventually it must, as I think, become a point of attack, which is only a matter of time. At present the main battlefield is along the Tientsin-Pukow railway, with Hsuchowfu as the objective. When that city has been taken, the Japanese will be in position to proceed along the Lunghai railway to Chengchow in Honan. From Chengchow, Hankow will be open from the north, and simultaneously from the south as columns advance from Kiangsi. For this reason, I am glad that all our missionaries except two are out of the Yangtse Valley (I mean the middle Yangtse, Hankow and Kuling). I only wish Miss Fry and Mrs. Hagman had seen their way to come with the others.

Chuchow and District. As I said before, Japanese columns are advancing northward from Pukow along the Tientsin-Pukow railway, and also along the Hwainan Railway through Hofei. This means that all that territory is a fiercely contended war zone. Nearly all our out-stations have been mentioned in news reports as scenes of fighting: Chuantiao, Wu-yi, Chuchow, and even Wuwei. Between the depredations of Chinese and Japanese soldiers, in addition to the natural hazards of war, I should not be surprised when we get news, to hear that all our mission buildings have been destroyed, or at least badly damaged. It is irony that we cannot hear a single detail so far about any of our places. Just as soon as I have any word, I will let you know.

With best wishes, always,

Yours cordially,

(signed) Edwin Marx

COPY. (Letter from Mr. Farrior, Shanghai)

Miss Mary Lee Sloan,
Phillips House, Kowloon, Hongkong.

14 Route Winling,
Shanghai.

Dear Mary Lee:

This afternoon the members of North Kiangsu Mission now in Shanghai met and talked over a number of things. It was our thought that perhaps all of our folks from Kuling might like to have some word from those of us who are here as to conditions in Shanghai and the advisability of coming here. We decided to send the following telegram: - "Shanghai congested. Recommend those whose furloughs authorized proceed direct to America."

I was also appointed to write a letter giving a little more fully the state of conditions here at the present time. As to getting places in the American School, it is rather difficult. (Note:-This refers to the fact that since summer the American School has not received students as boarders, but have filled their dormitories with refugees. Children who accompanied their parents of course were admitted, but attended school as day pupils.--Marx.) They are full now, and if other students come in some of the refugees will have to move out. In fact, some have left just recently and I hear that others may leave soon. However, it is not safe to assume that rooms are available there. It is very difficult to get places to board at anywhere like reasonable rates. Beaman's is full and another house on Tifeng Road opened under Beaman's management is full also, I understand. About the best opportunity now seems to be to get houses of some of the better class Chinese who are afraid to stay longer on the extra-Settlement Roads and have moved into the Settlement or French Concession. Some of these houses are very nice, I understand, and may be had at a reasonable rate. Just how much furniture is in them I am not informed. Unfurnished apartments, of course, necessitate the purchase of furniture, which entails a considerable outlay.

There are other factors which should be considered by those contemplating coming to Shanghai. One is the matter of health. There is the unavoidable strain of living in this place surrounded by an invading army. While peace has so far been preserved in the settlement, and French Concession, there have been several incidents recently which in the light of past events preclude a feeling of entire security. The crowded refugee camps containing 200,000 or more people constitute a decided health hazard. They also constitute a tremendous food problem. At present sufficient food is obtainable for them but there have been some rather tight moments, or days.

Also, the prospect of getting back to our stations to do any work is by no means bright. So far, with the exception of a special case of some missionaries from Huchow, not a single pass has been given missionaries even to visit their stations, to say nothing of staying there. I hear that one party has been given a promise that a pass will be issued for an inspection trip, but this has not yet been given. The Japanese Consul holds out no hope that missionaries will be allowed to go back and stay any time in the near future. Our stations north of the river are in the line of advance and it does not seem wise to go in now.

On the whole, unless one has some definite work to do here or is coming to join one's family, it is a serious question whether it is wise to come to Shanghai at the present time. Some cottages are available at Baguio in the Philippines. Rent and living expenses there are certainly no more and perhaps less than in Shanghai. The climate is better and there is an absence of the strain which is inevitable here. If one is at all sensitive to the suffering of people, the sight of these thousands of homeless and ill clad people both in the camps and on the streets is wearing and very difficult to get away from. One feels so helpless in the midst of it. My own family is still in Baguio. While many people have come back to Shanghai, I have not felt satisfied yet to bring my family back.

Farrior, Shanghai

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Those of us here felt that we ought to put these facts before you so that in case you should decide to come on to Shanghai anyway, you would have some information about what you might expect. I will not enlarge on any of the incidents as you have doubtless seen accounts of them in the papers.

Will you please pass this information around among those of our number who may be in Hongkong.

Sincerely yours,

S. C. FARRIOR

(This letter was undated, but was mailed from Shanghai Jan. 3rd.)

COPY. Postal Card from Cheo Yu-wen, of Chuchow)

Rev. Edwin Marx,
Lutheran Missions Home, Hankow.

The Inland Mission Church
Lai-an Hsien, Anhwei
December 9, 1937

Dear Mr. Marx:--

Because of the situation, I brought my family to Lai-an yesterday. We are staying in the side rooms of the Inland Mission Church. My oldest son is going back to Chuchow tomorrow to see the condition there. If necessary I will be back there in a few days. Our church there began to be occupied by some soldiers of the Eighth Division last week. If the situation becomes worse, I shall have to move my family to the country-side of Lai-an. As you know, unless it is absolutely necessary, I will not do so or leave my post....About three-fourths of Chuchow people have gone away.

Hoping you are well,

Sincerely, CHEO YU-WEN

COPY. Letter from Mr. Burch, Hofei.)

Dear Marx:--

Luchowfu Hospital,
December 11, 1937

All quiet, and westerners all in station. Ladies decided not to leave. Troops have all passed through here on way to Hankow so we have only soldiers in training with no guns stationed in the city. The Pao An Tui (---peace preservation corps, Marx) has five hundred guns and will disarm any defeated soldiers who come to Hofei before allowing them to enter the city. Arrangements have been made to feed those who may come this way and there is a fair prospect that we may get by without trouble. Members of the Tuan family are remaining in the city, which is considered to be a good sign. They are reported to be more or less pro-Japanese. There is no artillery here and probably no attempt will be made to defend the city against the Japanese should they come here. The Hwainan Railway has stopped selling tickets but is transporting those who wish to go to Yu Chi K'ou, if they can secure a place on the few trains which run daily.

We have completed arrangements to open the Girls' School as a center for Christian refugees if the city is bombarded from the air, or in case of trouble in the city. Hospital still has more than forty patients and is carrying on as usual. Captain McHugh, American Naval Attache, stopped with us for two days, with a party of Chinese generals from Nanking. He may call on you in Hankow. He was very nice to us here.

We shall try to carry on in city as it is too dangerous because of bandits and

Burch, Hofei

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defeated soldiers to think of going to the country. Have plenty of supplies in the food and medical line, and the spirit of the Chinese is good. Hope all goes well with you in Hankow.

Regards, ---CLARENCE BURCH

COPY. Letter from Miss Mushrush, Nantung

Nantung, Ku,
December 19, 1937

My dear Mr. Marx:-

This week I received your letter written November 20th. I received it a week or more after your letter of the 23d. I suppose you have received my former letters in which I told you that Pastor Cheo Hsiao-chen had gone to be with his family. He and Mr. Chien arrived at Wuhu safely. Mr. Burch, returning from Shanghai stopped at Nantung a few days, picked up some first year student nurses, and I have had word that they arrived safely at Hofei. Miss Swen Pao-hwa went to her mother's home.

We have for some days heard neither guns nor planes. It has been quite conducive to study. I've rather prided myself on my ability to concentrate in times past. Now I admit it is much easier when the windows are not rattling from firing to high heaven, to study.

For over a month now we have had regular Sunday services in our little church. The congregation runs from 20 to 40 people. They are all sorts: children to old men; students and business men. Mr. Chiang still holds to Mandarin for the sake of the more educated constituency, altho I've wished for the sake of the other poor people he could use his Nantung dialect. He hates it, and it sounds funny coming from him, but he speaks it naturally, having been born here.

This week a Russian and his wife came to visit me. Their property was destroyed in Shanghai and he plans to live here. He is working with a German firm buying eggs. They speak fair English and it is a change for me. I've had a pretty steady diet of Chinese language this past four months. Perhaps I do as well as could be expected with two years' study. I find however it is so inadequate when I want to say many things and also I have difficulty understanding much that is said to me.

Li Ching, the wounded orderly, has returned from Ju-kao where I sent him to Dr. Hsu for operation. Dr. Hsu said that the whole head of the long bone in the upper arm where it fits into the shoulder was crushed and infected. He removed it and cured the place and now I continue to change the dressing, but the drainage is much less.

Yours sincerely, VINCOE.

(Note:-Li Ching is a member of Nantung Hospital staff who was injured at the time the plant was bombed. --Marx)

COPY. Letter from Miss Elsie Priest, Treasurer University of Nanking

128 Dahlia Building, Hankow
January 8, 1938

Dear Friends:----(By air mail from Hankow)

I will send two letters, one copy to Margaret Turner and one to Claude Thomson. Will the two of you give the other Nanking groups the news.

First and most important is a telegram directly from Nanking:

"Inform Wuyifang and units staff all safe. One servant still mission. Academic buildings not injured. Are now sheltering approximately ten thousand women and children. Many reasons for deep thanksgiving. Have informed Greist. Vautrin."

This is concerning Ginling, of course, and yesterday I sent a message to Searle as follows:

"Grateful for Vautrin's radiogram. Anxious for word from University and Hospital Staff and property. Closing Hankow office January 16th. Moving all staff to Chengtu. Thomson, Smythe, Trimmer, McCallum and Mills families in Hongkong address Phillips House. Priest."

I am hoping for a reply today. None yet received. We know the Embassy people managed to reach the Embassy buildings although they have been sleeping on the gunboat these two nights. However, the gunboat Oahu goes up to salvage the Panay so the men will sleep at the Embassy from today, I understand.

You will see from this message that we are all moving to Chengtu and closing this office. Fan Ru-hsien will remain in Hankow for the present and keep the office open, and Hilda Anderson will be here till the end of February. So if any mail comes, it can be handled easily enough. We have just succeeded in having second class mail addressed Nanking sent to Hankow and will try to have it routed to Chengtu.

News from Chengtu is very promising --- great activity in building and all six of our temporary buildings are going up rapidly, promised within four weeks, even the brick dormitory 130 x 48. That seems like speed of a most amazing type! Dr. Chen and most of the group went off two days ago, while all but one man who stays to help me go on Monday. Ming Shen has arranged three boats to take our group from Ichang to Wanhhsien. About 100 have reached Chengtu already. We are opening second term on March 1st. Entrance tests February 1 in Ichang, Chungking and Chengtu.

Sincerely, ELSIE PRIEST

Jan. 11th: (NOTE:---I take it that the radiogram from Miss Vautrin was sent via naval radio by members of the American Embassy staff after they reached Nanking. Today the American Consulate General here in Hongkong informed me they have also had a message from the men in Nanking,--Smythe, McCallum, Mills and Trimmer -- acknowledging receipt of the news that their families had come to Hongkong. The men expressed the hope that their families would proceed on to Shanghai. EDWIN MARX).

The Chinese armies have suffered critical defeats on the Shanghai-Nanking line, and they are obviously driven out of positional warfare into scattered efforts without appearance of strong planning. Foreign experts estimate that fully half of the well trained and experienced troops are now killed or wounded. They dropped away terribly under long weeks of thorough artillery fire and incessant bombing, against which they could make little reply. Japanese forces in this area were increased to 300,000 effectives at the time of our last reliable report, and a foreign military attache recounted 141 warships and transports from Shanghai to Tungchow.

To the cumulative results of persistence under pounding from these forces and hundreds of airplanes, the Chinese added some poor staff work and the serious inferiority of newly substituted divisions. Most striking among these failures was the operation on the north shore of Hangchow Bay, east of Chapu. That region had been previously in good hands, but the troops on guard were rushed to the Soochow Creek battle west of Shanghai. Two replacement divisions from the Manchurian army of Chang Hsueh-liang were tardy and timid in meeting the Japanese landings, and turned back through Sungkiang and Soochow, disorderly, looting, worse than useless. Both in Soochow and in Chinkiang central units fired upon them to restore order, killing several hundred.

The Japanese flank attacks from Hangchow Bay and from the Yangtse, both strongly supported by the navy, drove the Chinese back from line to line, unable to utilize adequately their long prepared positions. There were several severe struggles, but without doubt as to the main movement. Up to the present, the boom in the river at Kiangyin has held strong against the fleet, although the Chinese lost the protective forts after long bombardment. But on the land the Japanese have rushed forward with great energy, doing well with road and canal transport, and giving the Chinese no time to reform and line of sufficient length to hold against the flank movements. The process is difficult to understand, since many of the Chinese divisions kept their morale and organization well enough; but they have not maintained adequate communication and coordination, or even proper reconnaissance. Despite the enormous Japanese superiority in the air, Chinese planes are still in evidence, and it seems that they should have been of more direct use to their own armies.

Today the Japanese guns are sounding on three sides of Nanking, and the skies are smoky from the villages burned by the Chinese after the peasants were marched off in weary trek. The Chinese lines near the city seem to have been well prepared, and order in the immediate vicinity is very good. Yet we do not see why the outer defences should have been let go so easily; nor again, how the army can afford to shut up big forces in this precariously held loop of the river. Indeed, we suspect that the final defence will be a relatively small scale and brief effort, as is strategically proper but psychologically difficult for a government so strongly connected with this city of Nanking.

The general fear is very great, because of the awful fate of the Chinese portions of Shanghai, and of Soochow and Wusih, plus the ruin and wholesale abandonment of vast areas of intervening country. And the public indications are all for a serious struggle. We are trying desperately, and with fair success thus far, to get both sides to respect a civilian Safety Zone managed by an International Committee and able to accommodate the remnant of one to two hundred thousand people through a short critical period. Its economic, military and diplomatic problems are a nice side-plot in themselves.

In Shansi the Japanese armies are faltering after gaining two-thirds of that province in a fairly expensive attack. Shantung is still a half stagnant puzzle. Japanese air raids continue to maul the communications, and inexcuseably cruel damage is done daily to some groups of civilians. Chinkiang, Wuhu and points near Canton have been the worst sufferers this week, though Soochow and Wusih experienced the most terrible destruction in their turn. Nanking and Fukow have had their turns with wreckage of bodies that shakes even the nonchalant news-men. A few Soviet planes and pilots arrived at the end of November, the first sign of Russian aid to China. It is not known whether they are more significant than the planes bought and occasional pilots hired from other countries.

The National Government is functioning mainly in Hankow, though its formal seat is in Chungking, and certain units are scattered for practical advantage or for safety. In principal things are set for prolonged guerilla struggles and for wearing out the Japanese by the costliness of their extended occupation. But the crushing military defeats, loss of so much productive territory, practical destruction of the "modern" economy and finance, are cumulative in their damage, and real resistance will now be most difficult. German and other interests are attempting mediation, but we do not yet know of any real hope for middle ground between the sweeping Japanese intentions and the Chinese determination to hold some degree of independence. Meanwhile, misery reigns in much of China, and the problems of the future pile up for both countries.

... M.S.B.

(NOTE: The above was mailed to me by Mr. Bates, apparently just before the Chinese Post Office in Nanking had to suspend its service. the Envelope was postmarked Shanghai, Hankow, and finally Hongkong, where it reached me only on January 8th, 1938. --- Marx.)

ONE WEEK'S WORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR NANKING SAFETY ZONE

December 8, 1937 - M. S. Bates.

A week ago yesterday, December 1, Mayor Ma asked the International Committee for the Nanking Safety Zone to take full responsibility for the administration of the Safety Zone. He further requested the Committee to appoint a Westerner as director and this was done in the person of Mr. George A. Fitch of the Nanking Y.M.C.A. Mr. Han Li-wu, who had helped the Committee greatly in carrying on the negotiations for the Safety Zone Committee. At an organizing meeting the same day Mr. Fitch appointed Mr. Han Hsiang-lin Food Commissioner, Pastor Shen Yu-shu Sanitation Commissioner, Mr. C. Y. Hsu Housing Commissioner, and Mr. Edward Sperling Inspector-General. Mr. Christian Kroger was appointed Treasurer and Dean T'ong Tsong-moo Head of Chinese Secretariat. The Committee and all the staff excepting coolies and a few truck drivers are giving volunteer service.

Mayor Ma requested the Defense Commander, General T'ang Shang-chih to assign to the Committee 21,000 bags (about 30,000 tan) of rice and 20,000 bags of flour for emergency use, and Yuan \$100,000 for expenses, of which Yuan \$40,000 has been received to date. The flour and rice was located outside the city. The Food Commission had to organize a fleet of trucks to haul the rice and flour. This was very difficult to do under present conditions. But by yesterday they had secured 12 trucks and had moved 6,300 bags of rice (7,875 tan). No flour has been brought in yet, but coal was hauled for soup kitchens and 500 bags of salt was secured. No emergency supply of coal is available. Every day the Food Commission can have now for bringing in rice and flour will be that much help. But as yet the stock is not sufficient. Consequently every private dealer who has stocks of food supplies and fuel is urged to move them into the zone to sell. Needless to say the Committee expects dealers to sell at reasonable prices.

During the week the Housing Commission has made a complete survey of the housing facilities in the zone. If persons living in or owning private houses in the zone are generous and patriotic about taking in friends or renting to others at half peace time rates, there will be enough housing for the present estimated population of the city. Public and institutional buildings are being held in reserve for the very poor. The survey shows that these buildings in the area, if necessary, at the rate of 16 square feet per person will accommodate 35,000 poor refugees. Nearly every institution in the zone has generously and promptly volunteered the use of most of its buildings for this purpose free of charge. These institutions have been busy this week making preparations for the housing of the very poor. Announcement of opening these to the poor will be made as soon as possible but for the present caretakers are instructed not to let any one in.

The Red Swastika and Red Cross Societies have liberally volunteered their services and have been very energetic about preparing soup kitchens in the zone. The Red Swastika Society will bury any poor person unfortunate enough to die in the zone. The University Hospital is in the zone and will be ready to take care of the sick. But they are very short of doctors, so any doctors in the city are asked to volunteer for service.

Pastor Shen is organizing the sanitation work for the zone as rapidly as possible but this has been very difficult because of the shortage of available workers.

At four o'clock on the afternoon of December 7 Mr. Sperling started putting up flags around the zone and completed that the next forenoon. The Chinese military establishments are rapidly moving out and formal announcement of the completion of arrangements can be made soon. The police under Police Commissioner Fang and Captain Jen Chienpeng are cooperating excellently and will maintain order in the zone and guard the boundaries. Four hundred policemen have been assigned to the zone and they will wear the arm bands with the zone symbol.

The International Committee was reluctant to assume the administrative responsibility assigned to it by Mayor Ma but there seemed to be no other way available in this present emergency. But the Committee has assumed this authority only for the period of the emergency and will then, or at such time as the Nanking City Government requests, turn it back to the City Government.

UNITED CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
CHINA MISSION
NANKING, KU

PHILLIPS HOUSE, HONGKONG
January 14, 1938

Dear Mr. Paul:

Following is a copy of a letter I have just received from Mrs. Burch:

Hofei, Anh.
December 22, 1937

Dear Mr. Marx: -- Many of our people have left, but the Rural Center is housing over 100 Nanking and other refugees. They are a very busy group. The hospital keeps fairly full, 57 patients and some refugees. Some of the nurses and students who left have returned. Grace's arm will be out of cast Friday.

Mr. Pao Wen-nien married a very nice girl last week.* We all feel that things will be better here than we feared now that the new turn of affairs has come about. Only one slight bombing since our return a month ago. I have been doing Grace's hospital rounds where I could.

Miss Stocks is with us. Clarence brought her back in the car in which he went to help the Panay refugees. He took Hall Paxton from Chao Hsien back to Han Shan, and took medicines, bandages and some food to the men.

We had Generals Hwang, Lu, Mei, Captain McHugh and Jack Yang with us over two nights. Very interesting.

My cook and amah both went to the country several days ago, so I have to spend too much time in the kitchen.

Did Mrs. Marx get away on the boat? Where is Katherine? Hope you will have a peaceful Christmas somewhere.

Sincerely yours
Miriam Burch.

*Mr. Pao Wen-nien was formerly principal of the Boys School at South Gate Nanking, and recently dean at Chung Hwa Girls School in Nanking. His sister is Mrs. Shao Ching-san (Luther Shao). Mr. Pao's first wife died in childbirth early last summer, leaving him with four small children.

I am glad to have this later word from the Hofei station. As indicated by Mrs. Burch, they may have got through fortunately without serious trouble. However, it has been since this letter was written that the more grave operations around Hofei have been reported in the newspapers. At present the situation there is very obscure. There have been reports that Japanese had taken Hofei, and Chinese have denied it.

Yours sincerely,

(See newspaper clipping of Jan. 13th, reporting bombing at Hofei, attached to enclosed letter.---E.M.)

(Signed) Marx
Edwin Marx.

UNITED CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
CHINA MISSION
NANKING, KU

January 14, 1938

Dear Mr. Paul: ---

The Clipper air mail due to have left here early this week was cancelled, owing to the out-coming plane being too long delayed by bad weather around Guam. The letters I mailed for that plane will leave here tomorrow, we understand, and this one should arrive at the same time.

I reported to you the message from Bates. It was sent by American naval radio from Nanking to Hankow, whence Miss Priest relayed it here. Since it included the information, "Brady needed," I got in touch with the American Consulate here, to see what prospects there are for Brady to get to Nanking. The local consulate having no information, I wired Margaret Lawrence in Shanghai as follows:

LAWRENCE BLACKSTONE APARTMENTS SHANGHAI
BATES RADIOS BRADY NEEDED NANKING. INQUIRE CONSULATE CAN
BRADY RETURN NANKING. WHAT TRANSPORTATION? WIRE MARX
PHILIPPIC HONGKONG.

The message was filed at 10:00 a.m. yesterday, and at 9:30 last night I received the following reply: ---

MARX PHILIPPIC HONGKONG
CONSULATE SAYS RETURN REQUIRES ARRANGEMENTS WITH JAPANESE IN
NANKING. TRANSPORTATION UNCERTAIN POSSIBLE RIVER STEAMERS
PUKOW.

It seems impossible for us to hope to get a message through direct from here to Nanking. However, it is apparently more feasible from Hankow, as the Consulate there can communicate with the American Embassy in Nanking via naval radio, and they are kind enough to handle private messages quite freely, as they have been doing ever since the emergency conditions arose in August last.

Hence, I am writing friends in Hankow, to say that if they can get a message to the members of the University Hospital staff in Nanking, and arrangements can be made to admit Dr. Brady to the city, he is prepared to return at once.

Dr. Brady intended to remain at his post in Nanking as other Western members of the staff did. But for a week about the first of December his daughter Joyce was seriously ill, with a high fever, at Kuling, and just as the Japanese were closing in on the city he received a message that her illness was thought to be typhoid. There were no regularly practicing physicians in Kuling who could be depended on to handle a serious case competently. With her life hanging in the balance, it seemed the only course he could follow was to depart for Kuling to care for her. Fortunately, her case turned out otherwise. By the time he arrived, she was already recovering, but it was then impossible for him to return to Nanking. That is how he happens to be out of Nanking, and he is eager to return at the first opportunity. He will do so as soon as it can be arranged.

I am reporting this not only that you may understand Dr. Brady's situation, but for the light it throws on the possibility of missionaries in the

Yangtse returning to their posts. Enclosed also is a clipping from today's Hongkong paper, regarding proposed resumption of passenger traffic on the Nanking-Shanghai railway. Without wishing to be unduly pessimistic, I am not building precipitate hopes on this. First, you will note that the Japanese are only "making preparations for resumption ... as soon as repairs have been completed." This may be completed soon, but it will doubtless be weeks, and it may be many months before they will open up even restricted passenger traffic. The Japanese Admiral issued a manifesto immediately after the occupation of Nanking urging all residents of Nanking to return to their homes and "pursue their peaceful residence." But that meant nothing at all.

I see also in this morning's paper, that Bayard Lawrence and Mrs. Muckley are expected to arrive here on the President Garfield.

Your cable gram, saying "ALL LETTERS RECEIVED," was delivered to me on the 8th. I was very glad to have it, not only to know that the mail we have sent was received, but that you had the notice of our address here. I expect I shall be receiving some mail from you before leaving here. I am not setting any date for going on to Shanghai, for apart from the possibility of getting into communication with our stations in the Yangtse Valley, it is of considerably more advantage to remain here for the present, where I can get more work done before pulling up to move again.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Marx
Edwin Marx.

The following are copies of newspaper clippings:

RAILWAY TO RESUME

Shanghai, Jan 13

The Japanese are making preparations for the resumption of passenger traffic between Shanghai and Nanking as soon as repairs have been completed.

Strict regulations will be applied to prospective passengers who will be required to record name, age and other particulars on the tickets. -- Reuter.

NANKING HUNGRY

Shanghai, Jan. 9

Food is so scarce in Nanking that it took the Japanese Embassy cook an entire day to gather ten eggs for the meal given in honour of returning United States Embassy officials.

Meanwhile it was announced that the quarter of a million refugees living in Nanking's safety zone since December 13, were permitted to return to their homes.