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REEL No. A-0266

0307

アジア歴史資料センター

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ハネー號事件ニ関スル情報部長談話

(十二月十三日)

十二月十二日(時未詳)折柄敗走中ノ支那軍ヲ追跡中
ナリシ帝國海軍機ハ南京上流約二十哩ノ地莫ニ於テ支那
軍輸送船ト覺レシ汽船十数隻ヲ発見シ之ヲ爆震セリ後ニ
至リ右ノ中ニハ「スタンダード」石油會社所屬船三隻アリシト明カ
トナレルカ其際附近ニアリタル米國砲艦ハ「ハネー」號ヲ沈没ニ至ラ
シメタリ。

右ニ就テハ米々詳報ニ接セサルカ帝國政府ニ於テハ斯ル不祥
事件ノ發生ヲ深ク遺憾トシ廣田外務大臣ハ本十三日午後
三時在京「カレル」米國大使ヲ同大使館ニ往訪シ帝國政府
名ニ於テ陳謝ノ意ヲ表シ同時ニ在米齊藤大使宛同國政府
ニ對シ同枚措置ヲ電訓セリ。

外務省

尚上海ニ於テ川越大使岡本總領事及支那方面艦隊參
謀長ハ十三日夫々米國側ニ對シ遺憾ノ意ヲ表シタル旨
報告ニ接シタリ。

外務省

STATEMENT OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE SPOKESMAN

DECEMBER 13, 1937.

On the 12th December, Japanese naval aeroplanes, in the course of their pursuit of retreating Chinese forces discovered and bombed at a point about 20 miles upstream from Nanking more than ten steamers which seemed to them to be Chinese military transportships. Later it was found out that among the bombed vessels were three vessels belonging to the Standard Oil Company and that the American gunboat Panay which was in the neighbourhood was sunk.

The Japanese Government deeply regret the occurrence of the unfortunate incident, although we have not yet received detailed reports regarding it. The Foreign Minister, Mr. Koki Hirota, called at 3.00 o'clock this afternoon on the American Ambassador, Mr. Joseph C. Grew, at the American Embassy and tendered, on behalf of the Japanese Government the expression of profound regret and their apologies. Simultaneously, telegraphic instructions were sent to Ambassador Saito in Washington to tender, on behalf of the Home Government, a similar expression to the American Government.

We have received official information to the effect that at Shanghai Ambassador Kawagoe, Consul General Okamoto and the chief-of-staff of the Japanese fleet in China waters expressed regret respectively to the American authorities there today.

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REEL No. A-0266

0310

アジア歴史資料センター

「レディバード」號並ハネー號事件ニ関スル
 外務省発表 (十二月十四日)
 米國砲艦「ハネー」號及商船「三夏」爆沈事件ニ関シテハ十二月十三日
 廣田外務大臣ハ不取敢在京「ケル」米國大使ヲ往訪シ帝國政
 府ノ遺憾及陳謝ノ意ヲ表シ同時ニ在米齊藤大使ニ同様ノ措置
 ヲ執ルル電訓シ更ニ十四日公文ヲ以テ「ケル」大使宛帝國政府陳謝
 ノ意ヲ表明セリ尚米國ニ於テハ齊藤大使ハ十三日「バル」國務長官
 ヲ往訪シ帝國政府ノ訓令ニ依リ深甚ナル遺憾ノ意ヲ表明スル
 所アリタル処右ニ對シ國務長官ハ國際案件ハ絶テ冷靜且精
 効的ニ處理スル建前ナルモ今回「ハネー」號事件ハ喫驚ヲ集
 シ得サリテ首ヲ述ヘ既ニ本件ハ大統領ニモ報告セラレ大統領
 モ亦大ノ関心ヲ有シ居レリ(以下「レディバード」號ニ関スル記事
 省略)

外務省

「ケル」米國大使宛廣田外相公文(十二月十四日)
 以書翰啓上致候陳者貴國海軍砲艦「ハネー」號及「スタン
 ガート」會社所屬汽船「三夏」南京上流約二十六哩ノ揚子江
 上ニ於テ本月十日帝國海軍飛行機ノタメ爆轟ヲ蒙リ沈没
 セレメラレタル事件ニ付テハ不取敢本大臣ヨリ閣下ニ對シ帝
 國政府ノ陳謝ヲ米國政府ニ依違方申入ノ次第有ニ候處其
 後本件ニ関シ先閣官憲ヨリ接受セル報導ニ依レハ支那
 軍隊南京ヲ脱出シ汽船ニテ揚子江上流ニ向ヘリトノ情
 報ニ接シタル帝國海軍航空隊ハ之ヲ追索シテ前記地奥ニ
 到リ之等艦船ヲ発見シタル處機上ヨリノ視認状況良好ナラ
 サリシ爲爆轟ニ當リ相當低高度迄降下シタルモ何等米國艦
 船タルノ標識ヲ認識シ得サリシ爲「ハネー」及「スタンガート」會社
 所屬船ヲ以テ脱走支那兵輸送ニ從事スル支那汽船ナリト誤信

外務省

レ之ニ爆撃ヲ加ヘテ終ニ沈没ニ至ラシメタルコト判明致候之
 事依リ觀ルニ本件ハ全ク過誤ニ依リテ發生シタル事件ナ
 ルコト明カナルモ米國軍艦及汽船ニ損害ヲ與ヘ其ノ乘員
 ニ死傷者ヲ生セシムルニ至リタルハ帝國政府深ク遺憾ト
 スル所ニシテ茲ニ厚ク陳謝ノ意ヲ表シ候尚帝國政府ハ
 本件ニ依リテ生レタル一切ノ損害ニ對スル保償ヲヤシキ
 ニ責任者ニ對スル適切ノ處置ヲ講スヘク且出先官憲
 ニ對シテハ重テ此種事件ヲ繰返サシムル虞最モ嚴重ナル
 命令ヲ既ニ發出セリ次第ニ有リ候
 帝國政府ハ此ノ遺憾ナル事件ニ依テ西國間ノ關係ニ累ヲ及
 ハシメサランコトヲ衷心ヨリ冀望シ前記ノ通帝國政府ノ
 誠意ヲ披瀝致候ニ付テハ右ノ趣本國政府ノ御依違相成度
 此段申進旁本大臣ハ茲ニ重テ閣下ニ向テ敬意ヲ表シ候敬具

外務省

昭和十二年十二月十四日
 外務大臣 廣田弘毅
 並米利加合衆國特命全權大使
 シヨセフ、クラウズ、カール、閣下

外務省

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The Spokesman of the Foreign Office made public today the contents of the Official Note which the Foreign Minister, Mr. Koki Hirota, sent on 14th December to Mr. Joseph C. Grew, the American Ambassador at Tokyo, with respect to the incident of the sinking of the American gunboat Panay and three vessels of the Standard Oil Company, in which he requested Ambassador Grew to convey the sincere apologies of the Japanese Government to the American Government.

TEXT OF THE NOTE

December 14, 1937.

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur:

Regarding the incident of the 12th December in which the United States gunboat Panay and three steamers belonging to the Standard Oil Company were sunk by the bombing of the Japanese ^{naval} aircraft on the Yangtze River at a point about twenty-six miles above Nanking, I had the honour, as soon as unofficial information of the incident was brought to my knowledge, to request Your Excellency to transmit to the Government of the United States the apologies of the Japanese Government. From the reports subsequently received from our representatives in China, it has been established that the Japanese naval air force, acting upon information that the Chinese troops fleeing from Nanking were going up the river in steamers, took off to pursue them, and discovered such vessels at the above mentioned point. Owing to poor visibility, however, the aircraft, although they descended to fairly low altitudes, were unable to discern any mark to show that any one of them was an American ship or man-of-war. Consequently the United States gunboat Panay and the vessels of the Standard Oil Company, being taken ~~for~~ for Chinese vessels carrying the fleeing Chinese troops, were bombed and sunk.

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While it is clear, in the light of the above circumstances, that the ~~present~~ present incident was entirely due to a mistake, the Japanese Government regret most profoundly that it has caused damage to the United States man-of-war and ships and casualties among those on board, and ~~we~~ desire to present hereby ~~my~~ sincere apologies. The Japanese Government will make indemnification for all the losses and deal appropriately with those responsible for the incident. Furthermore, they have already issued strict orders to the authorities on the spot with a view to preventing the recurrence of a similar incident.

The Japanese Government in the fervent hope that the friendly relations between Japan and the United States will not be affected by this unfortunate ~~affair~~ affair, have frankly stated as above their sincere attitude, which I beg Your Excellency to make known to your Government.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the expression of my highest consideration.

signed: KOKI HIROTA

Hin Excellency

Mr. Joseph C. Grew,

Ambassador of the United States to Japan.

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ハネー號設機事件ニ際シ伊國記者遭難事件ニ

關スル情報部長談話 (十二月十六日)

ハネー號設機事件ニ際シ伊國記者遭難事件ニ
死亡事件ニ就テハ昨十五日夕不取敢井上政重局長ヲ在京伊太利
大使ノ許ニ派シ弔意ヲ表スル所カアツタカ同夜「サントリ」氏死之
ニ關スル公電ニ接シタノテ厄ノ通同大使范廣田外務大臣公
文ヲ以テ更メテ申入ルル所カアツタ。

尚羅馬ニ於テ堀田大使ハ伊國政府ニ弔意ヲ申入ルト共ニ松
官參事官ヲ「トリ」市ニ派シ「スタンパ」紙「サントリ」氏遺族ノ
平向方取計ハレメタ。

以書翰啓上致候陳者本月十二日揚子江上ニ於テ帝國海
軍飛行機カ誤テ米國砲艦「ハネー」號ニ爆轟ヲ加ヘタル
際偶々同艦ニ乗合セタル貴國人新聞通信員「サントロ」

外務省

「サントリ」氏ハ右爆轟ニ依リ終ニ死亡シタル事件ノ發生ヲ見タルハ
今次日支事變以來貴國官民ノ我方ニ示サレタル極メテ有難友好
的「ル」態度ニ願ニ帝國政府ノ特ニ遺憾トスル所ニ有之茲ニ帝國
政府ノ名ニ於テ深厚ナル弔意ヲ申入候ニ付右貴國政府へ御依
相或度候尚帝國政府ハ本件被害ニ對シテハ充分補償ノ責ニ任
スルノ用意アル旨ヲ附言致候

昭和十二年十二月十五日

外務大臣 廣田 弘毅

伊太利特命全權大使

「シ」アチント、アウリツケ閣下

外務省

ルネ一ノ號事件=關スル情報部長談話(十一月十八日)

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Concerning the deeply regrettable occurrence of the sinking of the American gunboat PANAY through a mistake on the part of the Japanese force, the Imperial Japanese Navy have expressed their profound regret and concern over the matter. In connection with this, they have decided to detail a company of bluejackets on the spot to honor the dead. In the meantime, the members of the Third Fleet of the Japanese Navy, who are stationed in the waters in the vicinity of Shanghai, have decided to collect among themselves a sum of ¥ 5,000, to be contributed towards the Naval Fund of the United States.

The sentiment dominant among the Japanese Navy is that the sinking of a man-of-war, even though by mistake, is a matter to be greatly deplored. They further express their heartfelt appreciation to the American Navy on the spot who are maintaining a calm attitude with regard to the regrettable affair, and it is their earnest hope that this unfortunate occurrence will prove in the end to have served as a step, though grievous in itself, towards a rapprochement and a still closer understanding and mutual sympathy between the Navies of the United States and Japan.

STATEMENT OF THE SPOKESMAN OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE

DECEMBER 16, 1937.

Upon receiving unofficial information late in the afternoon of the 15th instant concerning the death of Mr. Sandro Sandri, Italian press correspondent, at the time of the sinking of the American gunboat Panay, the Foreign Office promptly caused the Director of the European and Asiatic Bureau, Mr. Kejiro Inoue, to call on Mr. Giacinto Auriti, the Italian Ambassador at Tokyo, and to tender to the latter the expression of condolence. As we received later in the evening official report of the death of Mr. Sandri, the Foreign Minister, Mr. Koki Hirota, sent to the Italian Ambassador the following official Note in connection with the unfortunate incident.

In the meantime, Ambassador Hotta at Rome tendered similar expression to the Italian Government, sending at the same time Counsellor Matsumiya of the Embassy to Trino in order to express condolence to the Stampa and the bereaved members of the late Mr. Sandri.

December 15, 1937.

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur:

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that, in view of the very friendly attitude shown by the Italian Government and people toward Japan since the outset of the present Sino-Japanese affair, it is specially a matter of regret for the Japanese Government that, Mr. Sandro Sandri, the Italian press correspondent, who happened to be on board the American gunboat Panay at the time the Japanese naval aircraft bombed her by mistake on the Yangtze River on the 12th instant, passed away as the result of the bombing.

I hereby tender, on behalf of the Japanese Government, the expression of their most sincere condolence, which I request Your Excellency to transmit to your Government. I wish to add, Your Excellency, that the Japanese Government are

prepared to bear full responsibilities of making the necessary indemnification
for the losses involved in this unfortunate incident.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances
of my highest considerations.

His Excellency

Mr. Giacinto Auriti

Ambassador of Italy to Japan

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ハネー号事件ニ関スル中間報告

(大本管陸軍部十一月二十日夜八時発表)

ハネー号爆撃當時陸軍機動艇ヨリ射撃ヲ受テ且日本兵カ
 同艦ニ乗リ込ミタリトノ件ニ関シテハ鋭意真相調査ニ努メ
 タルモ當時部隊各所ニ分散シ通信連絡亦意ノ如クナラザリ
 為之カ調査遷延セシハ遺憾ナリ當局ハ事件發生後直ニ大
 本管陸軍部参謀ヲ派遣シ現地核實ト協力調査中ニシテ現在
 迄ニ判明セル所ニ依リハ好意ヲ以テ短時間ハネー号ニ乗
 ル事莫アルモ該艦ヲ目標トセン射撃ノ事莫ク發見セズ
 尚其ノ情况モ如シ

一某部隊ハ十二月十日午後二時頃各種発動艇ニ依リ太平ヲ
 出發シ浦口ニ向ヒ下航中其先遣斥候艦發動艇ニ隻ハ太平
 下流ニ於テ汽船五隻ニ遭遇シ當時ノ戦況上之ヲ支那軍ノ

外務省

利用セルモノト判断シ直ニ引返シ本隊ニ報告セリ。

右ノ報告ニ依リ全負石岸ニ上陸シ視察中海軍機來リテ該船
 団ヲ爆撃ス。當時部隊ト戦田トノ距離約ニ千米ナリ。

ニ我部隊ハ右船団中第二回爆撃ニ依リ被リタル負傷者ヲ右岸ニ
 上陸セシムルヲアルヲ自喜シ第三回爆撃直後小隊長ハ
 之ニ接近シ其米船ヲ知ルモ直ニ上陸シテアリテ負傷者ニ対シ

看護兵ヲテテ手當セシム。次テ來着セル中隊長等ト共ニ米
 船負ト米船ノ保護ニ関シ協議中該地附近ニ排雷第三回ノ爆撃
 フ受テタルヲ以テ中隊長ハ之ヲ中止セシムヘク約十名ノ兵ニ日章旗ヲ

ヲ振ラシメタルモ遂ニ之ヲ發見セシムルニ至ラス引続キ爆撃ヲ受テ
 為ニ船ハ火ヲ發シ我將兵モ亦死傷セリ(死者ニ負傷中隊長以
 下三)其後更ニ米人員傷者ニ手當中日漸ク没セントシタル
 フ以テ之ヲ附近高地上ニテ洋式家屋ニ向ハシメタリ。

外務省

三、此頃第三回爆撃ニ依リ別ニ左岸寄リニ於テ沈没シテソアル
 汽船モ亦米船ナルヲ知リ之レカ救助ノ爲他ノ中隊長ハ発動艇
 三將校ニ兵士ヲ派遣セリ。
 該將校及兵士ハ急遽該船ニ乗込ミニニ介捜索セシモ船上ニハ
 既ニ人影ナク且沈没ノ危険迫リレヲ以テ退船セリ。(後ニ至リ
 本船ハ「バネ」號ナリシヲ知レ)
 四、當時恰モ十四五名ノ支那兵ヲ乗セシ小蒸気船(後ニ至リ立
 大號ト判明ス)該地附近ヨリ上流ニ向ヒ逃走スルヲ見テ之ニ対
 シ距離約千八百米トモ陸上ヨリ射撃ヲ加ヘ又ニ発動艇ヲシ
 テ機銃銃ヲ射撃シテ追撃セシト莫ニ以テ発動艇ヲ派遣シ
 上流ニ三料ニテ之ヲ捕獲セリ該船ノ舷側ニ六弾痕ヲ認ム。
 前記ノ如ク此射撃ハ立大號ニ対シ行ハレタルモノニテ決シテ米
 艦船ヲ目標トセルモノニ非ス所謂「バネ」號ニ対シ射撃セリ

外 務 省

トイフハ想ラク本射撃ヲ誤認セシモノナリト推察セシレ又米
 艦ニ対シテモ跳丸彈アリシニ非ス又トモ思惟セラル射撃ノ真相ハ
 尙引續キ調査中ナリ。
 五、之ヲ要スルニ陸軍部隊ノ行動ハ米艦及米人ニ対シ何等
 敵意ヲ有セザリシハ勿論米艦ト知リソフ計畫的ニ之ヲ攻
 撃又ハ復讐スルカ如キハ全クアテ得ヌ却テ第一線部隊ノ一般
 外人特ニ米人ニ対スル深キ同情ハ彼等遭難者ニ対スル軀身
 的救護ニ之ヲ見ルヲ得ヘシ。

外 務 省

THE FOREIGN OFFICE SPOKESMAN MADE PUBLIC THE FOLLOWING
INTERIM REPORT OF THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES
CONCERNING THE ALLEGED MACHIN-GUNNING
OF THE PANAY BY ARMY MOTOR LAUNCHES.

It has been reported that at the time of the bombing of the Panay, army motor launches fired on that American junkboat, and also that Japanese soldiers boarded the same. The Japanese military authorities did everything in their power to ascertain facts regarding the incident. But unfortunately, various army units were then scattered over a wide area, and the means of communications there were inadequate so that the investigations have had to be delayed.

Investigations are still in progress which are being conducted by the military authorities on the spot in cooperation of a staff officer of the Imperial Headquarters who was despatched from Tokyo immediately after the incident.

So far it has been established that Japanese soldiers with friendly intentions visited the Panay for a brief period, but no evidence has been discovered showing that the ship was made a target of intentional shooting.

1. At about 2 o'clock on the afternoon of the 12th of December, a certain unit in motor launches left Taiping for Pukow. In the course of the journey down-stream two launches that had preceded the rest, acting as scouts, met at a point below Taiping five steam vessels, which they judged from the circumstances of fighting at that time as being used by Chinese troops, and accordingly went back to report it to the main unit.

On receipt of this report, the entire unit landed on the right bank of the river. And as they were looking about, they sighted Japanese naval aircraft come and bomb the abovementioned group of steam vessels. The distance between the ships and army unit was then about 2,000 meters.

2. The Japanese soldiers saw the wounded in the first bombing being carried to the right bank from one of the ships. Immediately after the second

bombing, a section commander approached the ship and discovered it to be an American ship. Thereupon, he at once ordered to take care of the wounded who had been carried ashore. Soon a company commander arrived on the scene. The two army officers were discussing with the American crew as to the means of safeguarding the American ship, when a bomb was dropped in the vicinity for third time. The company commander then caused ten soldiers to wave Japanese flags in order to make the aircraft to stop bombing. But the latter failed to recognize the signal, and continued to bomb the ship, which finally caught fire. There were casualties among the Japanese (two dead, and three wounded, including the company commander). It grew late as they continued to attend to the American wounded, so that these were removed to a foreign style house on top of a small hill nearby.

3. At about this time, it was discovered that another vessel which was sinking near the left bank of the river as the result of the third bomb was also an American vessel. Another company commander sent to her two motor launches with an officer and ten men for rescue work.

The said officer and one of the men quickly boarded the vessel and looked about for a minute or two; but failing to find any one in the vessel and seeing the imminent danger of her sinking, they left the vessel. (It was found later that this vessel was the Panay).

4. At the time, there was a small steamer (found later to be the Lita) which, with fourteen or fifteen Chinese soldiers on board, was fleeing up-stream from the neighbourhood of the incident. Although the distance from the steamer was

about 1800 meters, the Japanese troops on land fired at her while a motor launch pursued her simultaneously shooting at her with machine-guns. Still another motor launch was also sent in pursuit, and at a point which is a few kilometers upstream, the Chinese steamer was captured. Bullet holes were noticed on her side.

As above stated, the shooting was aimed at the Chinese vessel Lita, and the American ships were never made its objectives. It is supposed that the allegation of shooting at the Panay was made by those who mistook the shooting at the Chinese vessel, and it is also supposed that there might have been stray bullets flying toward the Panay.

Investigations concerning further details of the shooting affair are still continued.

5. In brief, the acts of the Japanese military forces had no hostile intention whatever toward the American ships and nationals. It is impossible that the Japanese force should ever intentionally attack or trespass upon any American ship knowing the vessel as such. As a matter of fact the Japanese soldiers on the front are well disposed toward foreigners in general, especially toward Americans, as may be seen by the way the American wounded were taken care of in the present case.

ハ。ネー。號事件ニ関スル外務省発表

(十二月七日)

昭和十二年十二月二十四日廣田外務大臣ハ在本邦「スル」米國大使ノ來訪ヲ求メハ。ネー。號事件ニ関スル必要旨自答ヲ手交セリ。本月十三日南京上流約二十六哩ノ揚子江上ニ於テ帝國海軍飛行機カ過誤ニ~~起~~リ米國軍艦「ハ。ネー」號及米國「スタンダード」石油會社所有油船三隻ニ對シテ改憲ヲ加ヘ沈没又ハ火災ヲ起サレメ其ノ際乗員ニ死傷者ヲ生センルニ至リタル不幸ナル事件ニ就テハ既ニ十四日附公文ヲ以テ申進ノ次第有之處殆ト之ト時ヲ同シテ貴翰ヲ以テ米國政府御來訓ニ基キ閣下ヨリ今次事件發生ニ至ル~~迄~~ノ事情ヲ縷述セラレタル後向題ノ攻憲事件ニ於テハ日本軍ノ行為ハ米國ノ權利ヲ全ク無視シテ爲サレ米國ノ生命ヲ奪ヒ且米國ノ公私有財産ヲ

外務省

損壞シタルモノナリト断定セラレ此ノ如キ事情ニ鑑ミ「合衆國政府ハ帝國政府ノ正式書面ニ依ル遺憾ノ意ノ表明完全且充分ナル賠償ノ支拂ヲ爲ス旨ノ約束並ニ今後支那ニ在ル米國國民及ニ米國ノ利益並ニ財産カ武装日本軍ノ攻憲若ハ一切ノ日本官憲又ハ日本軍ニ依ル不法ナル干渉ヲ蒙ルコトナルハ身ヲ保護スヘキ確定的且特定の措置カ執ラレタリトノ保証ヲ要求且期待スル旨御申越相成タリ。

今次不祥事件ノ發生スルニ至ル~~経緯~~ニ関シテハ日本軍カ貴國權利ヲ無視シタル結果ナリト御断定ノ次第アルモ其ノ全ク過誤ニ基クモノトゴトハ前顯本大臣公文ニ説述シタル通ニシテ帝國政府ハ右公文送附致後モ猶凡~~レ~~テ手ヲ竭シテ眞因ノ究明ニ努メタル結果全然故意ニ出テタルモノニ非サル次第判明スルニ至リタルコトハ二十三日我海陸軍官憲ヨリ貴大

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使ニ対シテ為シタル説明ニ依リ御諒解相成タル儀ト確信
スルモノナリ。

貴翰御要求中ノ二項即書面ニヨル表謝並ニ損害ノ補償
ニ付テハ當時時ヲ移サス。米國及其他第三國軍艦其
他ノ船舶ノ存在スル地域ニ於テハ最大ノ注意ヲ以テ絶対ニ今回
ノ如キ過誤ヲ繰返サシ様努ムヘキコトヲ嚴ニ通告致シ置
キタルカ尚更ニ出先陸海軍並ニ外務官憲ニ対シ既ニ従来
屢々通達シアリタル通り米國其他第三國ノ權益財産ヲ改
變スヘカラサル事ニ付テハ今回ノ不祥事件ニモ鑑ミ一層ノ注意
ヲ加フヘキ旨嚴命ヲ發セル次第ナリ而シテ之等ノ目的達致ヲ
一層無効ナラシムヘキ一切ノ手段ニ関レ慎重ナル考究ヲ重メ之
カ実行ヲ延期シ居ル次第ニシテ即貴國權益及居留民ノ
所在等ニ関シテハ更ニ貴方ト充分連絡の上調査ヲ進ムルト共ニ

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之カ手先開官憲ニ通達ラ期シ迅速有效ナル通信法ニ
付テモ一段ノ工夫ヲ加ヘタル次第ナリ。
又前ニ述ヘタル通り右米國艦船過誤ニ基クモノナリト
雖モ充分注意ヲ拂フ莫ク於テ缺クル所アリタルノ理由ニ依リ
關係者ニ対シテ必要ナル措置ヲ行ヒ此種過誤ノ絶無ヲ
期シタル次第ナリ。

以上述ヘタル如ク帝國政府ニ於テ速ニ適當ナル措置ヲ執
リタルコトハ全ク帝國政府カ米國並ニ其他第三國ノ權益
ヲ保障セントスルノ誠意ニ出テタルモノナルコトハ閣下ニ於テ篤ク
御諒解相成ルコトト信スルモノナリ。

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THE FOREIGN OFFICE MADE PUBLIC ON THE 24TH DECEMBER,
1937, THE OFFICIAL NOTE OF THE JAPANESE GOVERN-
MENT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
WHICH THE FOREIGN MINISTER, MR. KOKI HIROTA,
HANDLED TO THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR, MR. JOSEPH
C. GREW, AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE AT 7:00 O'CLOCK
ON THE EVENING OF THE SAME DAY.

TENTATIVE TRANSLATION OF THE TEXT OF THE NOTE IS AS FOLLOWS:

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur,

Regarding the unfortunate incident occurring on the Yangtze River about 26 miles above Nanking on the 12th instant, in which Japanese naval aircraft attacked by mistake the U. S. S. Panay and three merchant ships belonging to the Standard Oil Company of America, causing them to sink or burn with the result that there were caused casualties ~~in~~ among those on board, I had the honor previously to send to Your Excellency my Note dated the 14th of December. Almost simultaneously, however, I received Your Excellency's Note which was sent by the direction of the Government of the United States, and which, after describing the circumstances ~~of~~ prior to the occurrence of the incident, concludes that the acts of the Japanese forces in the attack were carried out in ~~the~~ complete disregard of the rights of the United States, taking American life and destroying American property, both public and private; and which states that, "in these circumstances, the Government of the United States requests and expects of the Japanese Government a formally recorded expression of regret, and an undertaking to make complete and comprehensive indemnifications, and an assurance that definite and specific steps have been taken which will ensure that hereafter American Nationals, interests, and property in China will not be subjected to attack by Japanese armed forces or unlawful interference

by any Japanese authorities or forces whatsoever."

As regards the circumstances surrounding the present unfortunate incident, I ~~desire~~ desire to state that while it is concluded in Your Excellency's Note that the incident resulted from disregard of American rights by Japanese armed forces, it was entirely due to a mistake as has been described in my Note above mentioned. As a result of the thorough investigations which have been continued since then in all possible ways to find out the real causes, it has now been fully established that the attack was entirely unintentional. I trust that this has been made quite clear to Your Excellency through the detailed explanations made to Your Excellency on the 23rd instant by our naval and military authorities.

With reference to the first two items of the requests mentioned in Your Excellency's Note, namely, a recorded expression of regret, and indemnifications, no word needs to be added to what I have said in my aforementioned Note. As regards the guarantee for the future, I wish to inform Your Excellency that the Japanese Navy issued without delay strict orders to "exercise the greatest caution in every area where warships and other vessels of America or any other third Power are present, in order to avoid a recurrence of a similar mistake". Furthermore, rigid orders have been issued to the military, naval, and foreign office authorities to pay, in the light of the present untoward incident, greater attention than hitherto to observance of the instructions that have been repeatedly given against infringement of the rights and interests of the United States and other third Powers. And the Japanese Government are studying carefully every possible means of achieving more effectively the above-stated aims, while they have already taken steps to ascertain, in still closer contact with American authorities in China, the whereabouts of American interests and nationals, and to improve the means of communicating intelligence thereof speedily and effectively to the authorities on the spot.

Although the attack on the man-of-war and other vessels of the United States was due to a mistake as has been stated above, those who were concerned with the

Attack have been duly dealt with, on the grounds of
a failure to take the fullest measures of precaution.
The Japanese Government are thus endeavouring to preclude
absolutely all possibility of the recurrence of incidents
of a similar character. It is my fervent hope that
the fact will be fully appreciated by the Government
of the United States that this drastic step has been
taken solely because of the sincere desire of the
Japanese Government to safeguard the rights and
interests of the United States and other 3rd Powers.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to
Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

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「ハネー」號事件ニ関スル外務省高司談

(十二月二十六日)

十二月二十六日午前十一時三十分駐日「ハネー」米國大使ハ廣田外相ヲ來訪シ本日ハ幸福ナル御報告ヲ為ス為テ參上セリト挨拶シタル後米國政府ノ對日通牒ノ大体ヲ讀ミ上リタル後特ニ通牒最後ニ記載サレタル米國政府ハ日本政府ノ執リタル措置カ今後支那ニ在ル米國民及米國ノ利益並ニ財産ニ對スル日本官憲若ハ軍隊ノ攻害乃至不法干渉ヲ阻止スルカハ上ニ効果アルコトカ証明サレシコトヲ切望スル旨ヲ述ヘテ之ニ對シ廣田外相ハ今次事件ニ對シ米國政府ノ示シタル態度及駐日「ハネー」米國大使ノ書カニ對シ深甚ナル謝意ヲ表シテマ。

尚ホ斯ル不祥事ノ發生シタコトハ遺憾ニ堪ヘナイカ兩國ノ友好^交的精神ニヨリ茲ニ解決ヲ見ルニ至ラトコトハ慶賀ノ至リテアル。

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米國政府ノ對日通牒全文下ノ如シ

十二月二十六日附米國大使來翰假譯文

以書翰啓上致候陳者本大使ハ本國政府ノ訓令ニ基キ商下ニ向テ先記ノ通申進スルノ光榮ヲ有シ候 合衆國政府ハ米國砲艦「ハネー」号及米國商船三隻ニ對スル日本軍ノ攻害ニ関シ十二月十四日附^{米國政府}公文及十二月二十四日附^{日本政府}公文及十二月二十四日附日本政府公文ニ於テ、合衆國政府ハ日本政府ニ對シ正當書面ニ依リ遺憾ノ意ヲ表明完全且充分ナル賠償ノ支拂及今後支那ニ在ル米國國民權利及財產力日本武裝軍ノ攻害ヲ受ケサルスル一切ノ日本官憲若ハ日本軍ニ依リ不法ナル干渉ヲ受ケサルコトヲ保障スヘキ決

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定の且特定の措置カ執ラレタリトノ保障ヲ要求且期待
スル旨声明致置候

合衆國政府ニ依リ為サレタル要求中最初ノ三項目ニ関シテハ十二月
二十四日附日本政府公文ハ、米國軍艦及汽船ニ損害ヲ與ヘ其ノ
業員ニ死傷者ヲ生ゼンタルニ至リタルハ帝國政府ノ深ク遺憾ト
スルトコロニシテ茲ニ^角深謝ノ意ヲ表スル旨御申越アリタル十二月
十四日附日本政府公文ノ聲明ヲ再確認セラルルモノ有之候合
衆國政府ニ依リ為サレタル要求ノ第三項目ニ関シテハ日本政府公
文ノ字句ニ依リハ、米國其他國ノ權益財産ヲ改竄シ
又ハ不法ナル干渉ヲ加フ可カラサルコトヲ保障スル為日本政府
カ既ニ執ラレタル^角或種ノ特定の且特定の措置ヲ敘述シ且日本
政府ハ此ノ種過誤ノ絶意ヲ期シタル次第ニ有之旨聲明被致
候

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合衆國政府ハ日本政府カ同政府ノ十二月十四日附公文ニ於テ
責任ヲ承認シ遺憾ヲ表明シ且保障ヲ御申出相成タル措
置ノ迅速ナリシコトヲ満足ヲ以テテ承致候

合衆國政府ハ十二月二十四日附日本政府公文ニ於テ聲明セラレタル
通同政府ニ依リ執ラレタル措置ニ関スル説明ハ十二月十四日
附合衆國政府公文ニ於テ^角同政府ニ對シテ要求ニ適應スルモノアリト思
考致候本事件ノ發生原因及経緯ニ関スル諸事案ニ付
テ日本政府ハ十二月二十四日附同政府公文ニ於テ同國政府
ノ調査ノ結果同政府カ到達相成タル結論ヲ言明被致候
此等同一事項ニ関シテ合衆國政府ハ米國海軍査向委員會ノ
決定報告書ニ依據スルモノ有之處同報告書ハ既ニ日本政府
ニ對シテ公式^角通^角達^角済^角ノ次第ニ有之候
合衆國政府ハ日本政府ニ於テ既ニ執ラレタル諸措置カ今後

外 務 省

支那ニ在ル米國ノ民、米國ノ利益又ハ財産ニ対スル日本
官憲若ハ日本軍ニ依ル何等攻襲又ハ不法ナル干涉ヲ
防止スルコトニ有效ナルヘキコトヲ切望スルモノニ有之候
右回答勇本使ハ茲ニ重テ閣下ニ向テ敬意ヲ表シ候

敬具

外務省



other third Powers' and states that 'The Japanese Government are thus endeavouring to preclude absolutely all possibility of the recurrence of incidents of a similar character'.

" The Government of the United States observed with satisfaction the promptness with which the Japanese Government in its note of December 14 admitted responsibility, expressed regret, and offered amends.

" The Government of the United States regards the Japanese Government's account, as set forth in the Japanese Government's note of December 24, of action taken by it as responsive to the request made by the Government of the United States in this Government's note of December 14.

" With regard to the facts of the origins, causes and circumstances of the incident, the Japanese Government indicates in its note of ~~24~~ December 24 the conclusion at which the Japanese Government, as a result of its investigation, has arrived. With regard to these same matters, the Government of the United States relies on the report of findings of the court of inquiry of the United States Navy, a copy of which has been communicated officially to the Japanese Government.

" It is the earnest hope of the Government of the United States that the steps which the Japanese Government has taken will prove effective toward preventing any further attacks or unlawful interference by Japanese authorities or forces with American nationals, interests or property in China."

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the Assurances of my highest consideration.

Signed : Joseph C. Grew.

His Excellency ~~///~~

Mr. Koki Hirota,

His Imperial Japanese Majesty's

Minister for Foreign Affairs.

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EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Tokyo, December 26, 1937.

Excellency:

I have the honor, by the direction of my Government, to address to Your Excellency the following note:

" The Government of the United States refers to its note of December 14, the Japanese Government's note of December 14 and the Japanese Government's note of December 24 in regard to the attack by Japanese armed forces upon the U. S. S. PANAY and three American merchant ships.

" In this Government's note of December 14 it was stated that ' The Government of the United States requests and expects of the Japanese Government a formally recorded expression of regret, an undertaking to make complete and comprehensive indemnifications, and an assurance that definite and specific steps have been taken which will ensure that hereafter American nationals, interests and property in China will not be subjected to attack by Japanese armed forces or unlawful interference by any Japanese authorities or forces whatsoever.'

" In regard to the first two items of the request made by the Government of the United States, the Japanese Government's note of December 24 reaffirms statements made in the Japanese Government's note of December 14 which read ' The Japanese Government regret most profoundly that it (the present incident) has caused damages to the United States' man-of-war and ships and casualties among those on board, and desire to present hereby sincere apologies. The Japanese Government will make indemnifications for all the losses and will deal appropriately with those responsible for the incident'. In regard to the third item of the request made by the Government of the United States, the Japanese Government's note of December 24 recites certain definite and specific steps which the Japanese Government has taken to ensure, in words of that note, 'against infringement of, or unwarranted interference with, the rights and interests of the United States and

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STATEMENT OF THE SPOKESMAN OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE, MADE
ON THE 26TH DECEMBER, 1937, CONCERNING THE
BANAY INCIDENT.

His Excellency Mr. Joseph C. Grew, the American Ambassador to Japan, called on the Foreign Minister, Mr. Koki Hirota, at 11:30 o'clock a.m. on the 26th December; and after informing the Foreign Minister that he came to make a happy report, the American Ambassador read essential contents of the Note of the Government of the United States to the Government of Japan, and then said to the Foreign Minister, with special reference to the last paragraph of the American Note, to the effect that the Government of the United States hopes that the steps which the Japanese Government has taken will prove effective toward preventing any further attacks or unlawful interference by Japanese authorities or forces with American nationals, interests or property in China. In response to this the Foreign Minister, Mr. Hirota, giving expression to the profound gratitude of the Japanese Government for the attitude shown by the Government of the United States and the earnest efforts of the American Ambassador Mr. Grew, toward present incident, said that although it was exceedingly regrettable that an unfortunate incident such as this had happened, it was a matter for congratulation that the incident had reached an amicable settlement through the friendly spirit existing between the United States ^{and Japan.} ~~is shown in the attached sheets.~~

The full text of the Note of the Government of the United States is shown in the attached sheets.

「パネー」號事件大本營海軍部公表

(十二月二十四日)

十二月十二日我海軍飛行機カ米國河用砲艦「パネー」及び各
國船舶ヲ爆轟セル事件ニ関シテハ最ニ不取敢大本營海軍部ヨリ
其ノ概要ヲ發表セルカ其ノ後判明セル事實ハ、通ニシテ昨午十月
二十三日午後六時海軍次官ヨリ駐日米國大使ニ對シテ右事實ノ
真相ヲ説明セリ。

一、事件發生ニ至ル迄ノ事情

今次事變勃發後、帝國海軍ハ第三國ノ權益並ニ人命保護ニ
對シ有ニル努力ヲ致シ、米艦船ニ對スル攻襲ニ際シテハ支那艦
艇及直接作戦行動ニ禁ルセル支那船舶以外絶対ニ攻襲セザル
如ク爲シ、東レル處支那ハ屢第三國ノ國旗ヲ詐用シ、或ハ第三
國權益ヲ作戦ニ利用スル等ノコトアリタル爲、我軍作戦行動ニ至大ノ

外務省

不利ヲ蒙リタルコト少ナカラス、現ニ十一月二十七日鎮江攻襲ノ
際支那兵大部隊カ船舶ニ塔架シテ退却シ、ソノアルヲ發見
シタル、我海軍航空隊ハ直ニコレカ攻襲ニ向ヒタルニ敵ハ忽ケ
附近ニ碇泊セル第三國商船周圍ニ聚集シタル爲、遂ニコレカ
攻襲ヲ中止スルニ至リタル如キハソノ一例ナリ。

右ノ如キ事情ニ鑑ミ十二月九日上海在勤帝國總領事ハ各國
總領事ニ對シテ戰闘カ揚子江沿岸全部ニ波及シソノアル情況ニ
於テ日本軍ハ勿論第三國權益保護ニハ最善ヲ盡スヘキ
モ第三國モ亦我軍ノ努力ニ協カシ、其ノ船舶車輛ヲ支那軍
及ヒ支那軍軍施設ヨリ離隔セシメ、出來得ヘクハ戰闘
地域ヨリ完全ニ離脱センコトヲ希望スル旨申入レタリ。
米艦「パネー」ハ十二月十日南京上流ニ碇泊セルカ同
地方面戰闘激烈トシ、米國商船ニ隻ヲ保護シソフヲ

外務省