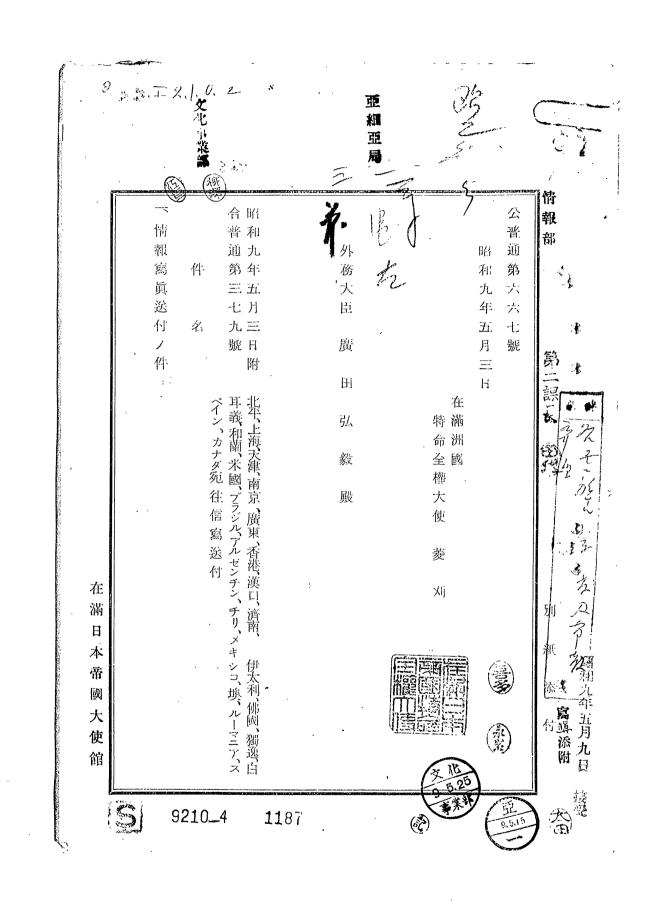


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Vicariat apostolique, de Kirin

Mandchourie.

Hsinking le 18 Abril 1934.

Soif Excellence, Monsieur le Ministre.
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères.
Heinking.

Monsieur le Ministre,

Tai l'hommeur de vous informer que le Saint Siège, désirant voir l'Eglise entrer en relations avec Votre Gouvernement, a dai mé me confier "ad tempus" le soin de traiter avec les autorités du Manchukuo des intérêts de l'Eglise Catholique, au nom et au place de tous les Ordinaires des missions situées sur le territoire de l'Erroire.

A cette occasion, je sereic très heureux de présenter mes hommages à Votre Excellence et vous prie, si la chose est possible, de bien vouloir me faire connaître la date, l'heure et l'endroit où il vous plairade me recevoir.

Daignez agréer,

Monsieur le Ministre,

Avec l'expression de ma haute consideration, l'hommage de mes sentiments très distingués.

F.A. Gaspais, Ev.

Vic Apost.

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1: - I2,1,0,2 會協際國本日共和 外務次官 別紙石井子爵と法王使節間の往復書面寫爲御參考 九 **年** 十二月七日 閣下 之 S 9210_4 1192

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and material aspirations of earthly-minded persons will oppose those whose labors are prompted by spiritual motives. It is sad but true, that it has always been the fashion to place the blame for these misunderstandings upon those of spiritual desires, particularly upon the loyal sons and daughters of the Catholic Church. It is here that the divine origin of the Church asserts itself, namely, that in spite of numberless unjust accusations and cruel persecutions she has always weathered the storm and outlived every accusation.

An address given at a gathering of mutual friends of two great nations would seem to aim at fostering the friendship not only of those present but also of those whose countries were represented. My relations with countless citizens of America during my stay of eleven years in the capitol of the United States, afforded me the opportunity to learn their fair-mindedness and unbiased mentality. To gain the understanding and good-will of an entire nation or at least a representative part, it surely was ill-advised and imprudent to injure the religious convictions of twenty million citizens who adhere to the teachings of the Catholic Church, not to say anything of the millions who respect and honor the Catholic Church, or of the multitudes who have been trained in one or the other of the hundreds of Colleges and Universities staffed by members of the Society of Jesus.

For a long time I have been considering the advisability of addressing these few words to you, but prompted



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and urged by Catholics and even by non-Catholics, who were surprised by your unfair accusations against loyal sons of the Church, in what may be called a good-will address, I have taken it upon myself to make known to you these reactions. Needless to say, this communication is purely confidential and prompted by a sense of justice, and therefore I trust that you will accept it in the spirit which prompted it.

Trusting that I will have the opportunity of making your acquaintance in the near future, I am,

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

Archbishop of Doclea,
Delegate Apostolic to Japan.

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Delegatio Apostolica in Japonia

Tokio May 9, 1934

Your Excellency:

Although the honor and pleasure of making your personal acquaintance has not yet been afforded me, I have heard on numerous occasions of the valuable services rendered by you in behalf of your country in Europe and America, and hence I am taking the liberty to address these few lines to you.

That the cause which prompted me to write is anything but conducive to obtaining the good-will of Catholics is indeed unfortunate, but nevertheless I feel compelled to express for them the deep regret occasioned by the address given at the Banquet of the America-Japan Society on the twenty-sixth of April. It is the more regrettable that a person versed in the art of diplomacy and held in such high regard, should so far forget himself, as to

His Excellency
Viscount Kikujiro Ishii,
Shibuya-ku,
Tokyo.



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bluntly approach an historical problem, in the presence of those whose friendship and good-will be cherished, and with dogmatic mien attempt to place the responsibility for your country's long prohibition of foreign intercourse solely upon the members of the Society of Jesus, which Society forms a highly esteemed part of the Catholic Church.

In order to speak with competence concerning the surpression of the members of this Society in other countries. a thorough and minute study of European History is requisite. It is not unheard of, that those of little education, steak lightly of intricate historical and national problems, but when dogmatical pronunciations, in conflict with the testimony of trustworthy historians, are made with levity by those who can lay claim to sounder training and broader experience, the matter is all the more unbelievable. Leaving aside for the moment the unsound judgement of historical events, let it be mentioned that the menner of making these pronouncements by a persons deemed friendly and worthy of addressing such a gathering, showed poor diplomacy and a lack of appreciation of the sentiments of those who were present. Surely it is not necessary to indicate the unfavorable reactions, nor allude to the fact that it is of much less consequence to place censure upon a religious organisation than upon a civil Government.

As long as earth is not heaven, and human nature not divine, misunderstandings must needs arise in which the greed



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