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明治三十七年七月十三日

青森縣

公第廿九号

一〇〇四五

戦時於カソリン(Gusokine)用途ニ
関スル件

前米國陸軍歩兵大尉米國アイリス・モントメリー
ナルモノヨリ戦時ニ於ケルカソリンノ特種用途
ニ際シ別紙英文寫ノ通り申出候處右カソリン
ハ小艇水面浮遊力ニ減殺致候而巳ナラス奈火
速カニテ敵艦ノ抗撃手ニ對シ最大ノ効果ヲ収ム
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明治三十七年七月六日


在外公館

在マニラ

領事成田五郎

外務大臣男爵小村嘉太郎殿

別紙の用紙及び返書は
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 こととす
 明治三十七年七月六日
 在外公館
 成田五郎

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 明治三十七年七月六日
 在外公館
 在マニラ
 領事 成田五郎
 外務大臣男爵小村嘉吉郎殿

Dangupan, Province of Pangasinan,
Luzon, P. I.
June 29th, 1904.

The Honorable Consul for Japan,
Manila, P. I.

Sir:-

I have the honour to submit the following for your consideration and that of your Government in case you should decide to forward this communication.

Some years ago, while in the United States, I experimented with gasoline on a large body of water in view of finding its use as a means to prevent boat from being able to exist on said water; this of course for use in case of war against a hostile fleet.

I found that a pint bottle of the fluid spread rapidly over a very large area and when ignited caused a terrific flame.

The idea now occurs to me that it is possible at the right stage of the tide, to flood a whole harbor with a few barrels or to supply continuous flow by means of tanks on shore with concealed pipe lines leading into harbors or rivers emptying into same, letting current or tide do the distributing.

The ignition can be arranged in various ways, probably best by the use of electric sparkles, or as in case of Port Arthur, the many lights aboard the various vessels would probably ignite the gasses arising.

The effect can hardly be imagined, but it is certain that a flame of only a few minutes duration would make a harbor decidedly

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uninhabitable.

Imagine a whole harbor aflame, just before dawn, the surprise and demoralization of the enemy and then a combined land and sea attack.

I do not consider that such an application of gasoline would constitute a cruel method, but rather believe that it would attain the highest results with a minimum loss of life.

This information is given not from any personal or selfish motives, but purely on account of my admiration for your country and people and my sympathy in their present struggle, as a citizen of the United States.

I beg that this communication be in no case given for publication in the papers.

Very respectfully

(Signed) E. G. Montfort,

(late captain 45th U. S. Vol. Infy.)