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Blagoveschensk on August 6.

Locations of Japanese and Soviet Consulates.

1. Prior to the temperary closing of Japanese Consulates in Novosibirsk and Odessa

Japanese Consulates	Soviet Consulates
Odessa	Токус
Novosibirsk	Wolfenhouse
Vladivosvok	Kobe
Habarovsk	Keijo
Alexandrovsk	0taru
Oha	Tsuruga
Petropavlovsk	Dairen
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At the above closure (December	Hakodek.
Blagoveschensk	•
At the above closure (December	1937)
At the above closure (December Vladivostok	193 7) Kobe
At the above closure (December Vladivostok Habarovsk	1937) Kobe Keijo
At the above closure (December Vladivostok Habarovsk Oha	1937) Kobe Keijo Otaru

3. After the temporary closing of Japanese Consulates at Habarovsk and Blagoveschensk.

Viadivostok Keljo
Alexandrovsk Hakodate
Cha Tsuruga
Peterpavlovsk Dairen

3.

refused, contending that since the Soviet principle had no basis in international law nor had it ever been recognized by Japan, and the question of maintaining or closing of Japanese consulates was a matter to be decided solely by the Japanese Government, the Soviet demand was a violation of both law and courtesy of nations. The negotiations have since been pending.

Suddenly on August 2 Consul General Shimada at Habarovsk was served notice by the Foreign Commissariat representative of the city saying that he and his staff (including Chinese employees) were to evacuate within 48 hours and passports and facilities for travel would be provided to that end.

The Consul General demanded explanations, and also made a request to be permitted to send a code message to Tokyo as he wanted to ask for instructions. His request was refused.

He complained that the time limit of 48 hours was too brief, but he was told that the Soviet decision, was irrevocable. The Soviet telegraph effice refused to accept his plain-word message to the Tokyo Foreign Office, to Moscow and to Vladivostok.

Moreover, he found it impossible to communicate with radivostok by telephone. Payments were demanded for electric light, water, telephone bills. The owner of the consular building returned

the rent for August and asked for the evacuation of the premises by 7 o'clock p.m., August 4. It was under these circumstances that on that day the Consul General left Habarovsk, together with the members of his staff. (As for the Chinese employees, they were first told to the effect that they would not be permitted to leave the country unless the passports were visaed with Sinkiang as the destination. But through the demand made by Consul General Shimada, they were finally allowed to leave with the party via Vladivostok.

It was on August 4 also that Acting Consul Shimomura received a note by messenger from the Police, ordering him to come to the office by 6 o'clock p.m., that day. The consul refused to accept the note, and sent back the messenger telling him that message should come through the representative of the Foreign Commissariat. Soon the latter telephoned to the consul, domanding his withdrawal within 48 hours and adding that facilities for that would be duly extended. Besides, the police came to ask him to sign a pledge of his departure within the above time limit. This the consul refused to sign. But because of the intolerable pressure that was exerted, as in the Habarovsk case, our consul and his staff left

Blagoveschensk

Circumstances of the temporary closing of the Japanese Consulates in Habarovsk and Blagoveschensk.

Ever since the closing by the Soviet Union of her consulates in Tokyo and Yokohama the Soviet Government have insisted upon what they called "the equal numbers principle" -- that is to say, the maintenance of an equal number of consulates by Japan and the Soviet Union within each other's territory. Although the aforementioned closure of the Soviet consulates was carried out for reasons of their own, the Soviet Government demanded Japan to close her consulates in Novosibirsk and Odessa. Upon our rejection of this demand they at once resorted to various oppressive measures. By sutting off even the supply of water and electricity, they made it absolutely impossible for our consular staffs to live, to say nothing of executing their official duties, so that they were withdrawn temporarily.

This year the Soviet Union closed her consulates at Kobe and Otaru on her own account, and once more put forward her "equal numbers principle," demanding our consulates at Habarovsk and Blagoveschensk be closed as from April 15. Our Government

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