

GENERAL MATSUI'S STATEMENT

At this juncture, on the afternoon of October 8th, at 5, p.m. General MATSUI Iwane, Highest Commander in the Shanghai Area, issued the following statement to clarify the Japanese Army's righteousness:

Having received the Imperial command, I, with heavy responsibilities of carrying out foreign expedition, landed some time ago at the Kiang-nan Area which is in the south of the Yangtze River. Since that time, our Army's influence has been sufficiently increased, and the devil subduing sharp bayonets are just on the point of being unsheathed so as to develop their divine influence. The mission of the Army, based upon the principle of the Japanese Government's statement, is to fulfil all its duties of protecting our rights and interests and of safeguarding Japanese residents, and to chastise the Nanking Government and the outrageous Chinese, as well as to have them throw away all their anti-foreign and anti-Japanese policies which are being generally influenced by communism so as to establish firmly the foundation for the pleasant and peaceful East Asia. I deeply sympathize with the innocent people in all operation areas, that is to say, although our Army does not regard the people in general as its enemy from the outset, yet those who would resist to or injure our Army, irrespective of soldiers or civilians, would be punished without the slightest

Def. Doc. No. 1077-A

reserve. I cannot help sympathizing with the various foreign officials and peoples who are exposed to war disasters, or whose lives and properties are being threatened. As for the rights and interests of the powers, they have been respected as well as protected, and they have never been damaged even in the slightest degree. I am of the firm belief that all the Japanese forces, ever virtuous and strong, will, with perfectly united Army and Navy, most certainly clear away all war clouds above all Kiang-nan areas and, in this way, will be able to establish the happy dawn of peace at no distant date.

General MATSUI Iwane

The Imperial Japanese Army,
Highest Commander of the Army
in the Shanghai Area,
October 8th, 1937.

Identif. 2536

Def. Doc. # 1077-A

松井將軍の聲明

此際、十月八日、午後五時、松井最高指揮官は、日本軍の大義を明かにする聲明を發表した。

「本歳大命を拜して、關外征虜の重責を負ひ、遂に江南の地に上陸せり。爾來、軍の勢力充實し、降魔の利劍は、今や鞘を放れてその神威を發揮せんさす。軍の使命は、日本政府聲明の趣旨に基き、我權益並に居留民の保護を全うするに共に、南京政府及び暴戾支那を懲懲し、その赤色勢力を苟令せる排外抗日政策を一擲せしめ、以て明朗なる東亞平和の基礎を確立するにあり。作戦地方無辜の民衆に對しては、憐愍切なるものあり、即ち軍は素より一般民衆を敵とせず。雖、苟も我に抵抗加害するものは、その軍民の何たるを問はず、寸毫も假借することなかるべし。既に兵燹の災禍に遇ひ、或は生命財産の脅威を受けつつある諸外國官民に對しては、同情眞に禁ずる能はざるものあり。列國權益に對しては、最善の努力を以て、これを尊重保護し、秋毫も冒すところなし。日本軍

は克く仁、克く威、海陸一致し、誓つて江南の妖雲を拂掃すべく、和平の
開天を彼等の日方に近きにあるは、本城の確信するところなり。

昭和十二年十月八日

上海方面陸軍最高指揮官

陸軍大將

松

井

石

根