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Chapter 18 - Sidelights

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But once, in the summer of 1928, Peking's indifference was replaced by the keenest anxiety. The Northern faction had been in retreat for many days. The Nationalists, when they captured Tsinanfu, the capital of Shantung province, had come into violent conflict with the Japanese. There had been eight days of fighting, with the Japanese victorious. But many Japanese civilians had been murdered, and their bodies frightfully and shamefully mutilated by the Chinese. American missionaries had been murdered by advancing Nationalist troops. The Nationalists had, in many newly captured cities, looted extensively, and had carried out summary "punishments" against civilian Chinese who had been identified with the old regime.

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