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Not original
TASS COMMUNIQUE ON THE CHANGKUFENG INCIDENT
AUGUST 8, 1938

Taken from PRAVDA, organ of the Central
Committee of the All-Union Communist Party
(of Bolsheviks), Moscow, August 8, 1938.

CONCERNING THE CONFLICT IN THE REGION OF LAKE KHASAN

The Japanese Ambassador, Mr. Shigemitsu, yesterday, the 7th, again visited the People's Commissar for Foreign Affairs, Comrade Litvinov. Taking advantage of this occurrence, Comrade Litvinov reminded the Ambassador that several days ago the latter had made in the name of the Japanese Government a proposal concerning the cessation of military operations and that he had been informed in reply thereto that as soon as the attacks and bombardments from the Manchurian side will cease the Soviet side will have no need to have recourse to counter military operations. Therefore, the cessation of military operations depended exclusively on the Japanese side. Unfortunately on the following day the attacks of the Japanese armed forces on Soviet territory had been repeated. The artillery bombardment, including bombardment from heavy pieces from the territory of Manchuria, had been renewed, which had compelled the Soviet side to reply by artillery and to bring its aviation into action. Although the Japanese attacks had been beaten off and the remnants of the Japanese units forced from Soviet territory, it is impossible not to regret what has occurred and not to place on the Japanese Government the responsibility for the victims on both sides. Comrade Litvinov noted that the recourse to the armed clashes in the region of Lake Khasan could not be characterized as a border incident suggesting a brush between frontier soldiers. In general, frontier guards do not have artillery and in the present instance the first attack of the Japanese had been undertaken with the help of artillery. It would appear therefore that there had taken place an attempt in times of peace to seize Soviet territory or even to involve Japan in a war with the Soviet Union. From this flows the entire danger of the present clash to which the Japanese Government should devote its most serious attention. To the observation of Mr. Shigemitsu that the Japanese forces are occupying only a defensive position, having the duty to defend Manchurian territory, Comrade Litvinov rejoined that no one had attacked or had any intention of attacking Japanese territory and that the Japanese armed forces evidently have a strange conception of defense if they understand thereby an attack on Soviet posts, artillery bombardment thereof, and the occupation of a line on Soviet territory.

Mr. Shigemitsu stated that he had come with the intention of renewing his proposal concerning the cessation of military operations on the part of the forces of both sides, which must remain in that position in which the agreement would find them. Following this, in his opinion, it would be possible to proceed to the creation of a commission of representatives of the Soviet Union and Manchukuo with the participation of the Japanese for the definition of the frontier. Comrade Litvinov pointed out that the situation on the spot may change and that both sides will strive to occupy the most advantageous position up to the moment of agreement, which means the continuation of military operations. In any case no agreement is possible if there remains on Soviet territory even an insignificant Japanese military unit. At the present time there is none but one might reappear there if the proposal of the Ambassador were accepted. If the Japanese side guarantees up to the time fixed the cessation of attacks on Soviet territory and of firing from Manchurian territory, then the Soviet side will give similar guarantees in regard to Manchurian territory.

Mr. Shigemitsu for a long time insisted on his proposal concerning the cessation of military operations on the basis of the actual situation in fact existing at that given time and subsequently advanced a proposal concerning the withdrawal of the forces of both sides to a fixed distance. For the redemarcation of the frontier Mr. Shigemitsu proposed to use in addition to the Hunchun Agreement also other materials which may be in the possession of Manchukuo or Japan.

Comrade Litvinov stated that in as much as the Japanese armed forces had attacked Soviet territory and had thereby caused the conflict their-

withdrawal further back might be welcomed in order to avoid repeated attacks and that this would be an additional guarantee. There is, however, no foundation whatsoever for the withdrawal of the Soviet forces, which the entire time have been and are exclusively on their own territory and are not threatening Manchuria. The redemarcation of the frontier must be carried out exclusively on the basis of existing international agreements. The Hunchun Agreement had been produced by the Soviet Government and that agreement alone can form the basis of the redemarcation, unless Manchukuo or Japan will produce a later agreement concluded between Russia and China. But no such agreement exists. No other material can have any influence on the definition of the frontier. Comrade Litvinov made a resumé of his proposal in the following manner:

Military operations are to cease after both sides bind themselves not to cross over and not to fire across a definite line and to withdraw such of their armed forces which at the moment of agreement might find themselves on the other side of this line. The frontier indicated on the map annexed to the Hunchun Agreement will be recognized as such a line and in this fashion will be restored the situation which existed prior to July 29, that is, prior to the first incursion of the Japanese forces onto Soviet territory. Following the establishment of calm on the frontier a bipartite commission consisting on one side of two representatives from the Soviet Union and on the other of one from Japan and one from Manchuria will proceed there and start on the spot the redemarcation of the frontier established by the Hunchun Agreement and the protocols and maps annexed thereto. The Ambassador promised to consider the contents of the conversation which had taken place and to revert thereto. Thereupon Comrade Litvinov made the following declaration to the Ambassador: At the same time that the Japanese Government had advanced proposals concerning the cessation of military operations on one portion of the frontier on another portion and this time in the region of Gredekeve a Japanese company with three machine guns suddenly attacked the Soviet border detachment guarding Height 588.3 situated on Soviet territory and occupied it. The Soviet reinforcements which came up were fired on by machine guns on the part of the Japanese company, which having fled to Manchurian territory left on the height ten Japanese grenades and fifty used grenade cases. During the fight several Red Army men were killed and wounded. There were obviously killed and wounded also on the Japanese side. After numerous pretexts in connection with similar incidents it would be useless to limit oneself to a new pretext. In view of the foregoing it appears essential to declare that the Soviet Government does not intend in the future to permit the unpunished, periodic killing and wounding of its border guards, nor the even temporary occupation of Soviet territory by Japanese forces and that it fully intends in the future in similar instances to use the most severe measures, including the use of artillery and aviation. Let the Japanese Government oblige the Kwantung and Korean Armies to respect the existing frontier. It is time to put an end to the endless "incidents" and clashes on the frontier.

(TASS)

to put

Translation Certificate

I, Miura, Kazuichi, of the Defense, hereby certify that I am conversant with the Russian, English and Japanese languages, and that the foregoing translation is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a correct translation of the original document.

K. Miura

Tokyo.

May 19, 1947.

My Doc # 1616

張鼓峯事件ニ関スル「タス」公表

一九三八年八月八日

一九三八年八月八日附「モスコ」

全聯邦共産黨（「ボルシェヴィキ」
派）中央委員會議決議「アラウタ」
紙ヨリ

哈桑湖地方ニ於ケル事件ニ付テ

日本ノ大使重光氏ハ昨七日再ビ外務人民委員同志
「リトヴィン」ヲ來訪シタ。コト機會ニ同志「リトヴィ
ン」ハ數日前大使カ日本政府ノ名ニ於テ停戦ニ
関スル提案ヲナシ、ソレニ對シテ滿洲側カラノ攻
撃及ビ砲撃ガヤメバ、「ソ」側ハ反撃ノ必要ハナイワケ
テ「アルト」ノ回答ヲ受ケタコトニ言及シタ。從ツテ戦闘
行為ノ停止ハ專ラ日本側ニ依ル「アル」不幸ニシテ翌日

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5-11

日本軍ノソ領ニ対スル攻撃が繰返サレタ。満領
 内ヨリノ砲撃殊ニ大キテ砲ニヨル砲撃が又行ハ
 レ、ソ側ハ砲撃ヲ以テ之ニコタヘ且ツ飛行機ヲ出
 動セシメザルヲ得ザルニ至ツタ。日本側ノ攻撃ハ
 撃退セラレ日本ノ残存部隊ハソ領カラ追ハレタ
 ガ、コト出テ事ハ遺憾トセザルヲ得ズ且ツ双方ノ
 犠牲者ニ対スル責任ハ日本政府ニアリトセザルヲ
 得ナイ。同志「リトヴィーフ」ハ哈爾湖地方ニ於ケル
 武力衝突ハ国境守備兵ノ小競合ノ如キ国境
 事件トシテ片ツケルヲ行カナイト注意シタ。一
 般ニ国境守備兵ハ砲兵ヲ有セズ、今回問題ノ場
 合ニ於テハ日本側ノ最初ノ攻撃が砲兵ヲ用ヒテ行
 ハレタリデアル。依ツテ平和ノ時ニソ領ヲ奪取スル至
 日本ヲ対ソ戦ニ捲キ込マウトスル企圖が行ハレタリ
 ケテアル。コト衝突ノ危険性ハ悉クソコカラ来ルノテ

アツテ、日本政府ハ之ニ深甚ナル注意ヲ拂ハルベキデア
ル。日本軍ハ滿洲ノ領土ヲ防衛スル義務ガアルニテ、
防禦的立場ヲ取ツテ居ルニ過ギナイト、重光氏ノ
見解ニ対シ、同志「リトヴィーフ」ハ日本ノ領土ヲ攻撃
シタモノ又ハ攻撃ヲスル企圖ヲ有シタモノハナイデアツテ、
若シ防禦トハ「ソ」聯ノ前哨ニ対スル攻撃、又ハ砲撃
及ビ「ソ」領内ノ線ノ占領ニアルト解スルナラバ、日本軍
ハ防禦ニ関スル奇妙ナ觀念ヲ有スルモノデアルトハ明
カデアル。

重光氏ハ双方ノ軍ガ協定ノ線ニ留ルコトトスル停戦協
定案ヲ再び提起スルヲ来訪レタノデアルト述べタ。
氏ノ意見テハ「ソ」後デ「ソ」聯及ビ滿洲國ノ代表者
ニ日本側ヲ加ヘ國境ヲ確定委員會ノ設立ニ進ミ得
ルト云フデアル。同志「リトヴィーフ」ハ現地ノ情勢ハ
變化^{スル}ニ對シ、双方共協定成立ノ瞬間迄最モ有利ナ

陣地ヲ占領シヤウトスルデアラウ。即チソレハ戦闘行為ノ継続デアルト指摘シタ。イヴレニスルモ「ソ」領言フニ足ラヌ部隊デアルトシテモ日本兵が居ル向ハ協定ハ不可能ナル。現在ハ一ツモ居ナイが、大使ノ提案ヲ容レルト、現レテ来ルカモ知レナイ。若シ日本側が所定ノ時迄「ソ」領ニ対スル攻撃、満領ヨリノ射撃ノ停止ヲ保障スレバ「ソ」側ハ満領ニ関シ同様ノ保障ヲ與ヘルデアラウ。

重光氏ハ其ノ時ノ實際ノ情勢ヲ基礎トシテ軍事行動ヲ停止シヤウトスル案ヲ長ク固守シタガ、次イテ双方ノ兵力ヲ一定距離ヲ引下ゲヤウトノ提案ヲ行ツタ。国境再確定ニ付テハ重光氏ハ琿春界約ノ外ニ滿洲國又ハ日本が持つテ居ルカモ知レナイ他ノ資料ヲ使用スルヤウ提案シタ。

同志、リトヴィンフ、ハ、日本軍ガツソ領ヲ攻撃シソレニヨ
 ヲテ紛争ヲ惹起シタルテアルカラ、攻撃ノ反響ヲ避ケルタ
 メニハ更ニ撤退スルヲガ望マシト述べタ。然レソソ軍ハ
 此ノ全期間ヲ通ジテ、自國ノ領土ノミニナリ且ツ滿洲ヲ
 脅威ニナカソタルテアルカラ、其ノ撤退ハ何等根據ガナ
 イ。國境ノ再劃定ハ現存ノ國際協定ヲ基礎トシテ
 ノミ行ハルニハナクナイ。琿春界約ハソソ聯政府ガ持出
 シテ居ルガ、滿洲國又ハ日本ガ露支間ニ其ノ後締結サ
 レタ協定ヲ持出サナイ限り、同界約ノミガ再劃定ノ
 基礎トナリ得ルノテアル。然レソソノ様ナ協定ハ存在シテ
 居ナイ。其ノ他ノ資料ハ國境ノ確定ニ何等ノ影響
 ヲ及ボスモノデハナイ。同志、リトヴィンフ、ハ自合ノ提案
 ヲ次ノヤラニ要約シタ。

軍事行動ハ双方ガ一定ノ線ヲ越エズ、之ヲ越エテ殺

砲撃ス、且ツ協定ノ當時右ノ線ノ彼方ニ在ル自國部隊ノ
撤收ヲ約シタ後停止スルニ付アル。瑛春界約附圖ニ示サ
レノ國境ハ斯ル線トシテ認メラルベク、カウシテ七月二十九日
以前即チ日本軍ガソレ領ニ最初侵入スル前ノ狀態
ガ回復セラルカアル。國境ガ平靜トナツタ後、一方ソレ聯
ヨリ二名、他方日本ヨリ一名及ヒ滿洲ヨリ一名ヨリ成ル
兩國委員會ガ現地ニ向ヒソコテ瑛春界約註ニ附属記
文及ヒ地圖ニヨリ定メラレタ國境ノ再劃定ヲ行フベクアル。
大使ハ會談ノ内容ヲ檢討シ、又之ニ言及スルコトヲ約シ
タ。ソコテ自去リトヴィノフレハ大使ニ次ノ言明ヲナシタ。
即チ日本政府ガ國境ノ一地矣ニ荒ん停戦ノ提議ヲ
行フ事居ル一方、他ノ方面即チ今更ハソレガロコゾク地方
ヲ機関銃三挺ヲ持ツタ日本ノ小隊ガソレ領ニアル五八八三
高地守備中ノソレ聯國境守備隊ヲ突然攻撃手シ之ヲ

占領シタ。ソレ側應援隊ガヤツテ来ルト日本側小隊カラ
 機関銃ヲ射撃サレタガ、その部隊ハ右高地ニ日本ノ手榴
 弾十個ノ使ワタ手榴弾ノカウ五十個ヲ遺棄シテ
 満領内ニ去リタ。右交戦中我軍兵士数名ノ死傷ガア
 ツタ。日本側ニモ明カニ死傷ガアツタ。同様ノ事件ニ
 付テ何回モ抗議シタコトデアルカラ、又新ニ抗議ヲ
 スルガケテハ無駄デアル。以上ニ鑑ミ、ソレ聯政府ハ
 將來時々國境守備隊ニ死傷ヲ生ジナガラウ罰セラ
 レナイヤウナコト又ハ日本軍ノソレ領占領ハ一時的タリ
 トモ許容シナイ意向デアリ、且ツ將來類似ノ場合ニハ最モ
 嚴重ノ措置ヲトリ砲兵及ビ飛行機ヲ断然使用スル
 意向デアルコトヲ聲明スルコトガ必要ナヤウデアル。日本政
 府ハ関東軍及ビ朝鮮軍、現存國境ヲ尊重セシメラ
 度イ。今ヤ果シナイ「事件」ヤ國境ノ衝突ニ止メテサ
 スハキ時デアル。(「タラス」)

翻譯證明書

拙者三浦和一ハ辯護團ニ屬シ露、英
日本語ニ通ズルモノニシテ以上ノ翻譯ガ
余ノ知り且信ズル限りニ於テ原本ノ正確ナ
ル翻譯ナルコトヲ證明ス

昭和二十二年五月十九日

東京ニ於テ

三浦和一



Handwritten initials or marks, possibly 'S' and a circled 'P'.