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CC.3.1.43.--FFc. /stamped:/ May 24 1945

By Note No. 113/T2 of 12 May last the Imperial Ministry for Foreign Affairs was pleased to inform the Swiss Legation that the Japanese authorities had commenced an investigation of the matter of attacks carried out by Japanese planes against the American hospital ships "Comfort" and "Hope".

The Legation has the honor to inform the Ministry that in the meantime the Government of the United States of America has called upon the Federal Government to address to the Imperial Government the following notification relative to a second Japanese air attack against the "Comfort":

"On the afternoon of 28th April 1945, the U.S.S. "Comfort", a United States hospital ship left Okinawa at about 20.50 local time. On the same day, at latitude 25/30 north, longitude 127/30 east, when observing full hospital ship procedure, the "Comfort" was attacked and seriously damaged by an aircraft positively identified as Japanese. As a result of this unlawful attack on the hospital ship, 39 persons including nurses were killed and 33 persons were seriously injured.

The notification from the United States Government that the "Comfort" had been designated as a United States hospital ship was acknowledged by the Japanese Government on 6th July 1944.

The United States Government emphatically protests against this deliberate attack on the "Comfort" a flagrant violation of the tenth Hague Convention of 1903 as well as those principles, customs and usages of international law relating to hospital ships.

The United States Government insists that the Japanese Government take positive measures to punish those responsible for this attack and to prevent the recurrence of attacks by Japanese forces upon United States hospital ships."

While requesting the Ministry to be good enough to acknowledge receipt of the present notification and to communicate to it the reply of the Imperial Government to the American protest, the Legation takes this occasion to renew to it the assurances of its high consideration.

Karuizawa 23 May 1945

To the Imperial Ministry
for Foreign Affairs
Tokyo

402061

Certificate:-

I, George W. Buffington, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the French and English languages, and as a result of the comparison between the French and the English texts, I have established that this is a true and correct translation of International Prosecution Document No. 8421.

/s/ George W. Buffington