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SHUHO (Weekly Report) No. 44, Edited by the Information Bureau  
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Government Declaration (Issued 1:10 A.M. 15 Aug.)

Our Empire has long been striving to promote national friendship and collaboration between Japan and China with a view to securing permanent peace in East Asia. However, the Nanking Government has been using an anti-Japanese policy to agitate public opinion and to strengthen her political power. Overconfidence in her own strength, her tendency to slight the potentialities of our Empire and her Bolshevistic tendency have caused her to take an extreme anti-Japanese attitude and she is bent on antagonizing Japan. Every unfortunate incident which has occurred during recent years has been due to these causes. The outbreak of the present incident is but a result of China's taking such an attitude. The fact that the incident broke out on the banks of the Yungting River is merely incidental. Atrocities not to be countenanced by God or man committed at Tungcho were motivated by the same causes. Moreover, because of the challenging actions on the part of the Chinese, the life and property of the Japanese nationals in Central and Southern China have been endangered and, regrettably, our residents were forced to leave temporarily their peaceful residential areas which were established after many years of hardship. In the past, as often announced since the occurrence of the incident, our Empire has been extremely patient and has adopted a policy of not expanding the incident. Its intention has been, as much as possible, to localize and bring the incident to a close peace-

fully. Even when dealing with the illegal actions and provocations often made by the Chinese Army in the district of Peking and Tientsin, our garrison army in China acted only in self-defense and when absolutely necessary for maintaining lines of communications and for protecting our residents. In spite of the fact that the Imperial Government cautioned the Nanking Government to discontinue immediately her aggressive words and actions and not to interfere in our attempts to solve the incident locally, the Nanking Government not only ignored our advice, but on the contrary made further preparations for war against us, shamelessly violated the still existing military pact, and threatened our garrison troops by moving their army northward. In Hangkow, Shanghai, and other places, they made very clear their defiant attitude by massing soldiers. In Shanghai, they finally opened fire on us and went so far as to bomb warships of our Empire.

Since China has thus shown her contempt for our Empire and committed illegal actions and atrocities to such an extent, and inasmuch as the life and property of our residents are endangered, Japan has finally reached the limit of her patience and she is now forced to resort to resolute action to bring sense to the Nanking Government by punishing the atrocious Chinese Army. For Japan, to whom peace in East Asia and co-existence and co-prosperity between China and Japan is most desirable, this is most regrettable. Still, what our Empire hopes for is collaboration between Japan and China. What she desires is to eradicate the anti-Japanese and anti-foreign movements in China, root out the

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causes of such unfortunate incidents, and effectuate a coalition of Japan, Manchukuo and China. Japan has no territorial ambitions whatsoever. Japan harbours no hostile feeling towards the innocent common people, but she intends to induce the Nanking Government and the Nationalist Party, which have been instrumental in creating the antagonistic attitude of the Chinese people towards Japan, to see the light. It is needless to say that Japan will do her best to respect the rights and interests of all countries.

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CERTIFICATE OF SOURCE AND AUTHENTICITY

I, HAYASHI Kaoru, who occupy the post of Chief of the Archives and Document Section of the Foreign Ministry, hereby certify that the document hereto attached, written in Japanese, consisting of 3 pages and entitled "The Government Declaration appearing in the Weekly Report No. 44" is an exact and authorized excerpt from an official document in the custody of Japanese Government (Foreign Ministry).

Certified at Tokyo,  
on this 27th day of February 1947.

/s/ HAYASHI Kaoru (seal)

I hereby certify that the above signature and seal were affixed hereto in the presence of the Witness.

At the same place, on this same date.

Witness: /s/ SATO Takegoro (seal)

TRANSLATION CERTIFICATE

I, Authur A. Misaki, of the Defense Language Branch, hereby certify that the foregoing translation described in the above certificate is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a correct translation and is as near as possible to the meaning of the original document.

/s/ Arthur A. Misaki

Tokyo, Japan  
Date April 10 1947.

Ref

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帝國風に東亞永遠の平和を冀念し、日支兩國の親善提携に力を致せること久しきに及べり。然るに南京政府は排日排日を以て國内紛擾を激化し、自國國力の衰微と帝國の實力輕視の風潮を相俟ち、更に赤化勢力を苟合して反日侮日愈々甚しく以て帝國に對峙せんとするの氣運を醸せり。近年幾度か惹起せる不協事件何れも之に因由せざるなし。今次事變の發端も亦此の如き氣分が其の起發點を爲す。永定河時に過びたるに過ぎず、冀州に於ける華人共に許さざる惡意事件の因由亦茲に發す。更に中東支に於ては支那側の挑戰的行動に起因し帝國臣民の生命財產既に危殆に瀕し、我が居留民は多年營々として建設せる安住の地を涙を吞んで遂に一時撤退するのほむなきに至れり。

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願みれば事變發生以來屢々使用したる如く、帝國は隱忍に徳忍を重むる事件の不利大を方針とし、努めて平和的且局地的に處理せんことを企圖し、北平天津地方に於ける支那軍民次の挑発及不法行爲に對しても、我が支那駐屯軍は交通線の維持及我が居留民保護の爲眞に已むを得ざる自衛行動に出でたるに過ぎず。而も帝國政府は夙に南京政府に對して挑発的言動の即時停止と領地解決を如辭せざる様注意を喚起したるにも拘らず、南京政府は我が勸告しんかざるのみならず、却て益々我方に對し威嚇を爲へ、最近の軍事協定を破りて顧みることもなく、軍を北上せしめて我が支那駐屯軍を脅威し、又漢口上海其の他に於ては兵をよめて益々挑発的態度を露骨にし、上海に於ては遂に我に向つて砲火を開き帝國軍營に對して爆撃を加ふるに至れり。

此の如く支那側が帝國を輕侮し不法暴虐に至らざるなく全支に亘る我が居留民の生命財產危殆に陥るに及んでは、帝國としては最早隱忍其の限度に達し、支那軍の暴戾を虐懲し以て南京政府の反省を促す爲今や斷乎たる指直をこるの已むなきに至れり。

此の如きは東洋平和を念願し日支の共存共榮を企望する帝國として憂心よ

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り進めざる所なり。然れども帝國の庶幾する所は日支の提携に在り。之が支那に於ける排外抗日運動を根絶し今次事變の如き不祥事發生の要因を排除するに共に日滿支三國間の和提携の實を擧げんとするの外他誠なく、固より終末も領土的意圖を有するものにあらず。又支那國民をして執日に歸らしめつゝ、ある日京政府及國民黨の意圖を促さんとするも、無辜の一般大衆に對しては何等の意を有するものにあらず且列國利益の益重には最善の勢力を惜まざるべきは言ふ俟たざる所なり。

Ref Dec 17 1926

文書ノ用所竝ニ成立ニ付スル證明書

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自分、林馨ハ外務省文書課長ノ職ニ居ル者ナル事、茲ニ添付セラレタル日本語ニ依ツテ審シレテ頁ヨリ成ル通稱第四十四號所載政府證明ト認スル事類ハ日本政府（外務省）ノ保管ニ係ル公文書ノ抄萃ノ正確ニシテ眞實ナル寫シナルコトヲ證明ス

昭和二十二年二月二十七日

於東京

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同日於同所

立會人 佐藤武五郎