

life outside the Railway Zone without value. A very good case indeed can be built up for Japan insofar as Manchuria is concerned, and I do hope to have the opportunity of conversations with you when I return to Canada.

In respect to Shanghai and the attitude there of Japan, the situation is entirely different from that of Manchuria. There was a case where the Japanese, having taken up a defensive position on the night of the 28th/29th of January, could have turned to the world and said "We are here to protect our nationals: what are you going to do in order to see that conflict is avoided?". That was not done. It is quite true that the Japanese marines in moving up their positions were fired on; but one must not forget that on the very afternoon of the day when that occurred, the Japanese Consul-General, Mr. Murai, had assured the Mayor of Greater Shanghai that everything was in order and that nothing further would be done. Hence, there was naturally complete astonishment when a few hours later Admiral Koichi Shiosawa, in charge of the Japanese fleet, issued his ultimatums, which were received by the Mayor of Greater Shanghai an hour or so before the Japanese marines landed. This landing took place without any previous warning to the Chinese at all.

In my opinion the Shanghai incident was an admirable case which could have been placed before the League of Nations by Japan, and Japan by doing so would have strengthened herself immeasurably in the eyes of the world. Of course the whole Shanghai incident is now looked upon in Japan as the greatest blunder imaginable, and so it was; but at the same time the loss of property and life was enormous. It is extremely difficult, no matter how favourably disposed one is towards the Japanese people, to condone what they did in the Shanghai incident.

I must admit I was not very impressed by the attitude of the Great Powers, but there again one must

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