

# Invaders Despoil Cringing Nanking

## Looting and Rapine General in City, Uncensored Reports Say

BY HALLET ABEND  
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SHANGHAI, Jan. 24 (Uncensored)—Stripping away all the Japanese excuses of military necessity and pleas that the situation is unsafe, the stark and horrible fact is outstanding that conditions in Nanking since the victorious Japanese army crashed the gates of China's former capital, are so lawless and so scandalous that the Japanese authorities continue to refuse permission to any foreigners except diplomatic officials, who cannot be denied, to visit the city.

The day after Christmas high Japanese authorities in Shanghai, while admitting looting and raping was proceeding in Nanking, assured this writer that the undisciplined and defiant Japanese troops there were being removed, and that their places were being taken by picked forces of unimpeachable discipline and good behavior.

### Troops Out of Hand

Again on January 7 the Japanese authorities apologetically admitted to this writer that conditions in Nanking were still deplorable, but gave assurances that the division of troops which at that time were out of hand, and daily criminally assaulting hundreds of women and very young girls, would be removed within two or three days. Yet as late as January 20 the reign of lawlessness and bestiality was still continuing unchecked, and if the promised shift of troops was actually achieved, the new arrivals were as undisciplined as those formerly garrisoning the city and supposedly acting as guardians of law and order.

Japanese authorities in Shanghai on January 21 announced frankly that cables concerning this situation would not pass the censors, declaring in effect that "malicious reports tending to discredit the Japanese army will not be permitted to circulate abroad."

The summary of conditions in China's former capital which is arriving at Shanghai from missionaries and welfare workers who risked their lives to administer refugee camps during the siege, and other reports from consular and other foreign officials now residing in Nanking, can scarcely all be malicious, yet all these reports agree and all contain eye witness accounts of the horrible brutality and unrestrained license of the Japanese forces presently in Nanking.

### Mutiny Reports Spread

These reports, the major portions of which actually are unprintable, are arousing the gravest speculation here. Some observers ask whether a virtual state of mutiny exists in the Nanking area with the misbehaving troops refusing to obey orders to evacuate the city and move northward to join the advance toward Suchow. Others ask whether the lack of discipline has spread through all the Japanese divisions at present in the Yangtze delta area and whether General Iwane Matsui and others of the high command have become powerless to administer checks.

Foreign correspondents in Shanghai are forbidden under the Japanese censorship to cable stories appertaining to the Nanking atrocities while foreign-owned Shanghai newspapers fearlessly declare the present conditions in the Nanking area are a disgrace to the Japanese army and tend utterly to destroy the army's reputation for decency and good behavior.

### Pays With Life



General Han Fu-Chu, war lord of Shantung province in China, executed for treason. (AP Wire-photo.) Story on page 1.

## ENGLAND ELUDES MENACE OF DAM

EBBW VALE, Monmouth, England, Jan. 24 (AP)—Calm was restored tonight in the town of Beaufort, from which inhabitants had fled in terror a few hours previously when air raid wardens warned them a dam holding back 200,000,000 cubic feet of water might burst.

Frantically working gangs, directed by engineers brought from London, succeeded in relieving most of the strain on the dam by partly emptying the reservoir it formed. Repair work then was begun.

## SOVIETS CONTINUE PURGE OF FILMS

By Transradio Press

LENINGRAD, Jan. 24—The purge of the soviet film industry was reported continuing today with the arrest of Assistant Manager Rosenblatt and five employees of the or-