Invaders Despoil Cringing Nanking
Looting and Rape in General in City, Uncensored Reports Say

SHANGHAI, Jan 26 (AP) — Stripping away all the Japanese excuses of military necessity and plea that the situation is unsafe, the stark and horrible fact is that conditions in Nanking since the victorious Japanese army crashed the gates of China’s capital, are so lawless and scandalous that admission to any foreigners except diplomatic officials, who cannot be denied, to visit the city.

The day after Christmas high Japanese military, while admitting looting and raping was proceeding in Nanking, assured this writer that the underside and defiant Japanese troops there were being removed, and that their places were being taken by more 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 was out of hand, and daily criminally assaulting hundreds of women and very young girls, had been removed within two or three days.

This as late as Saturday the reign of lawlessness and bestiality was still continuing unchecked, and if the promised evacuation was actually achieved, the new arrivals were as undisciplined as the former forces, the city and supposedly acting as guardians of law and order.

Japanese authorities in Shanghai on January 27 announced frankly that cables concerning the conditions in Nanking were being censored, declaring in effect that “malicious reports tending to disturb the peace of the city and stifle any desire for the despatch of information may be permitted to circulate abroad.”

The summary of conditions in China’s capital is that it is arriving at Shanghaifi from missionaries and welfare workers who risked their lives on a rescue mission to rape camps during the siege, and other reports and accounts of Japanese forces now residing in Nanking, can scarcely all be malicious, yet all agree and all contain eye witness accounts of the horrible brutality and activities of the Japanese forces presently in Nanking.

Mutiny Reports Spread

These reports, the major portion of which are unprintable, are arousing grave speculation in this country. Observers ask whether a virtual state of mutiny exists in the area, with the mishandling of refugees refusing to obey orders to evacuate the city and their movement to the advance toward Suchow. Others ask whether the lack of discipline has increased in the Japanese divisions at present in the vicinity of the city.

General Iwane Matsui and others of the high command have become more conciliatory in dealing with foreign correspondents in Shanghai, who are forbidden under the Japanese military regulations to make any reports appertaining to the Nanking atrocities while foreign-owned Shanghai newspapers feebly 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 3.

ENGLAND ELUDES MENACE OF DAM

BEIRV VALE, Monmouth, Eng., Jan. 24 (AP) — Calm was restored tonight in the town of Bath, from which inhabitants had fled in terror a few hours previously to ensure their safety when air raid wardens warned them of the danger of a dam holding back 200,000 cubic feet of water might burst. Frantically working, engineers brought from London, succeeded in relieving most of the strain on the dam by pumping into the reservoir it formed. Repair work then was begun.

SOVIETS CONTINUE PURGE OF FILMS

By Transradio Press

LENOInGRAD, Jan. 26—The purge of the soviet film industry was reported continuing today with the arrest of Assistant Manager Rosenblatt and five employees of the studio.