

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Nanking, December 2, 1937.

CIRCULAR

TO ALL AMERICANS IN NANKING:

The Embassy has issued repeated warnings to Americans of the increasing danger to those who remain in Nanking. Under telegraphic instructions from the Department of State, this circular is issued as a final warning to all Americans that they should withdraw from Nanking as soon as possible and proceed up river to a place of greater safety.

The Embassy would be grateful if each American in Nanking would indicate on the accompanying sheet whether he is planning to leave the city by arrangement independent of the Embassy or whether he desires to take refuge on the U.S.S. Panay, when advised to do so by the Embassy, probably within the next few days.

It should be noted that in an emergency it may be necessary for the naval vessel to move out of range of artillery in order to protect those taking refuge on board and that accordingly those who do not embark with the main body of Americans may later find difficulty in reaching the vessel. It should also be borne in mind that if fighting occurs near Nanking egress from the city gates will probably be impossible.

For the Ambassador:


George Atcheson, Jr.,
Second Secretary of Embassy.

Accompaniment:
1. As stated.