

# OFFICIAL CIPHER DISPATCH DIRECT FROM PEKING ANNOUNCES FOREIGNERS IN THE LEGATIONS ALIVE

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE CALL

CALL BUREAU, WELLINGTON HOTEL, WASHINGTON, July 29.—Again the veil which shrouds the fate of the foreigners in Peking has been lifted. A foreign Government has received a cipher message from its Minister in the beleaguered legation building, dated well past the middle of July. The authenticity of the dispatch is beyond question. It was brought from the capital to the coast by a runner sent by a foreign Consul to Peking for the purpose, who returned with a dispatch in the Government cipher. Naturally the message gave no news of casualties, except in the legation concerned. It stated, however, that attacks had become less severe, and expressed the opinion that the besieged foreigners could hold out for some weeks more.

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CHEFU, Friday (via Shanghai), July 29.—The Japanese Consul at Tientsin sent a runner on July 15 to Peking. On the 19th the runner left Peking, bringing a cipher telegram to the Japanese Government. It reads:

"We are defending ourselves against the Chinese very well, but now the attack has stopped. We will keep up to the last of the month, although it will be no easy task. The Japanese casualties are: Killed—Kozima, diplomatic attache; a captain and one student and also a few marines. Wounded—Five or six. Slightly wounded—Very many."

The Chefu Consul says that nothing was written about the other Ministers.

## SITUATION THAT NOW CONFRONTS THE POWERS.

A NEW situation, scarcely less appalling than would have been the massacre of all foreigners in Peking, confronts the world. In the light of the dispatch to The Call, credence can at least be given to the messages announcing the safety of the legations in Peking which have been sent out in profusion by the Chinese authorities. The Ministers are safe, but they are held as hostages. Li Hung Chang himself admits this, being apparently unable to see, as a special dispatch from Shanghai says, the enormity of the crime against international rights.



MINISTER CONGER IN FRONT OF HIS OFFICE AT THE AMERICAN LEGATION, PEKING. From Harper's Weekly.

## "MINISTERS LIVING," REITERATES EARL LI

Wily Chinese Diplomat Favors Holding Them to Coerce Foreign Powers.

[Special Cable to the New York Herald. Copyright, 1900, by the New York Herald Publishing Company. Republication of this dispatch is prohibited. All rights reserved in the United States and Great Britain.]

LONDON, July 29.—The Daily Telegraph publishes this dispatch from its special correspondent: "SHANGHAI, July 29.—Li Hung Chang was questioned to-day. He says he is very much gratified by the amicable attitude shown by America and believes a friendly settlement with the allies is possible. He explains that the intense heat prevents him continuing his journey northward. He declares that the Emperor, the Empress Dowager and the foreign Ministers are all safe, but he has no more compunction than benefits an Oriental for the condition of the women and children in Peking. He is unable to explain why, if the Ministers are safe, he cannot produce such proof as would satisfy the powers, but he strongly favors holding the Ministers as hostages so as to secure favorable terms for the Empress Dowager and the rebel Government. He does not see how holding the envoys as hostages would be only a lesser crime than killing them. "It is obvious now that the object of Li Hung Chang's visit here is to sow discord among the allies through the Consuls, who virtually represent their Governments, but I think he has not met with success as yet."

## PLOT TO MASSACRE ALL FOREIGNERS IN CANTON

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LONDON, July 29.—The Canton correspondent of the Daily Telegraph in a dispatch dated Saturday says: "The Triads have become numerous and threatening in Hainan. The Taotai and the local mandarins are terror-stricken and decline to protect foreigners. All the missionaries except three have left with their wives and families. The natives of the Nodda district of the island were so frightened that they joined the ranks of the Triads. "Serious disturbances are expected between August 1 and August 15, during the festival to be held to appease the shades of the dead. The Boxers are charging large sums to the Chinese for passports from Peking to Tientsin. Lao Yun Fu, the Black Flag chief, has refused to march on Peking unless Viceroy Taku will furnish him with 20,000 soldiers. "The Chinese authorities have just disclosed a Boxer plot devised by Soon Mun to blow up the Mansiao temple and to destroy the Cantonese officials while performing ceremonies in honor of the Empress's birthday. If the plot had succeeded, the Boxers would have attacked Canton, looting the city and murdering foreigners and all persons friendly to foreigners."

## SECRETLY MOBILIZING AN ARMY AROUND SHANGHAI

LONDON, July 29.—The general situation in China is steadily becoming darker and a crisis is said to be fast approaching. It is rumored in Shanghai that 10,000 Chinese troops have been secretly moved into that vicinity, and that the commander of the Kiang-Yu forts has been ordered to fire if any further addition is made to the number of foreign ships ascending the river. Fighting has already occurred at Kiu-kiang, the mobs threatening death to foreigners. With the arrivals of the second Japanese division the allied forces at Taku and Tientsin will number 70,000. The river floods near Tientsin are diminishing. It is reported that Russians from Harbin have arrived at a point 150 miles north of Peking after severe fighting. The Shanghai correspondent of the Times, writing yesterday, says: "I learn that Li Ping Hong and Lu Chuan Lin, Governor of Kiang-Su, both rabidly anti-foreign, are advancing toward Peking with large bodies of troops. Their advent must seriously affect the situation there. To-day the consular body decided that the situation demanded the presence of a military force in Shanghai, and the Consuls have notified their governments accordingly."



ASSASSINATION OF BARON VON KETTELER. From Le Journal Illustré, Paris.

Attacked by a mob of Chinese on June 17, while on his return from a visit to the Tsung li Yamen (Chinese Foreign Office), the Kaiser's representative was dragged from his horse and beaten and hacked to pieces.

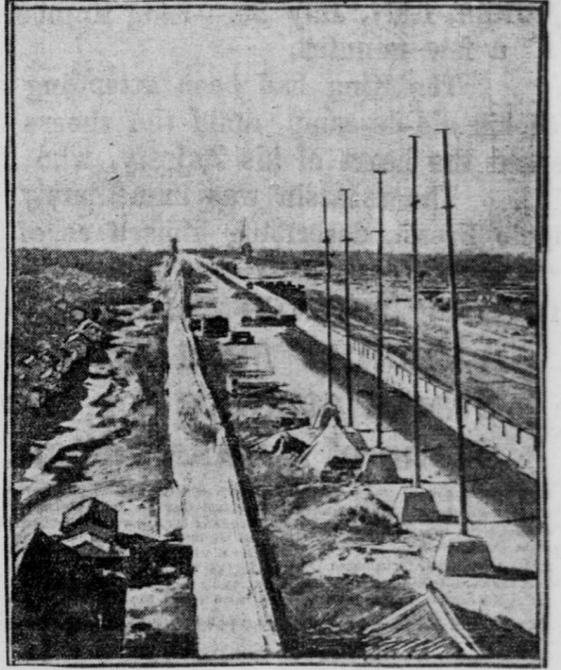
## EDICT SAYS MINISTERS ARE HELD AS HOSTAGES

[Special Cable to the New York Herald. Copyright, 1900, by New York Herald Publishing Company. Republication of this dispatch is prohibited. All rights reserved in the United States and Great Britain.]

LONDON, July 30.—The Daily Mail publishes the following from its special correspondent: "SHANGHAI, July 28.—A telegram was received yesterday from Missionary Morgan at Shian-Fu stating that in Shansi province the natives and converts were being massacred and that five more foreigners had been murdered. Chinese hordes are now deluging the province of Chii with Christian blood. More than two thousand persons have already been butchered. The Catholic cathedral at Huhfung-Kow is besieged and the inmates are doomed. Yu Seen, Governor of Shansi, has ordered that all missionaries and converts be massacred. The China Inland Mission at Ying Chow, Nganwei province, had been burned."

"The Viceroy is also commanded to guard their territories vigilantly against attack and to prevent by all means in their power the advance of the foreign troops, especially along the Yangtse-Kiang. The decree says the officials will answer with their lives for any failure to execute the orders. "Commands are also given that not a single foreigner shall be allowed to escape from the interior, where there are still fully 2000 Europeans connected with missionary work in isolated situations. "When the Governor of Shantung communicated to the Consuls the imperial decree of July 24 he omitted the important passages addressed to Li Hung Chang. "It is admittedly inadvisable to kill all the Ministers, but it is equally unwise to send them to Tientsin. It will be wiser to keep the survivors at Peking as hostages. "You are commanded to hasten to Pe-

king. You are incurring imperial displeasure by delay. You have been appointed Viceroy of Chi-Li because, with your military experience, you will successfully lead the imperial armies against the foreigners in Chi-Li, which Yu Lu, the present Viceroy, is unable to do, owing to his ignorance of military affairs. "Li Hung Chang replied to this edict, asking to be allowed to retire on account of his age. "Sheng now admits that he has had telegrams since July 19, announcing that every foreigner in Paoting-Fu was murdered, including forty British, French and American missionaries, and announcing that two French Jesuits and a thousand converts have been massacred at Kwangling-Fu, on the borders of Shantung and Chi-Li. "A majority of the consuls favor strong measures against Sheng's duplicity. "Local officials assert that the Italian priests murdered in Human-Wen were wrapped in cotton, which had been soaked with kerosene, and were slowly roasted to death. It is believed that all foreigners in Chi-Li have by this time been massacred, and the wave of massacre is spreading toward Ning-Po and Hongchow, from which point thirty English and American missionaries are endeavoring to escape in boats down the river to



VIEW ALONG THE TOP OF THE EASTERN WALL OF THE TARTAR CITY, PEKING. From Navy and Army.

The walls of Peking have a total circumference of over thirty miles. They vary in height and thickness. At the point shown in the picture the wall is fifty feet high and forty-five feet thick. The poles shown in the middle of the wall near the front are used to expose the heads of persons who have been executed. There is a regular pathway along the top of the wall.

## URGING A HURRIED MARCH ON PEKING

"Immediate Action" Is the Policy Advocated by the State Department.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

CALL BUREAU, WELLINGTON HOTEL, WASHINGTON, July 29.—"Action—and immediate action," said Secretary Hay to me this evening. "Is the policy which the United States is urging in China. We are not waiting for more information, but are proceeding as if we knew all."

Lacking sufficient forces in China to make an advance on Peking independently of the other powers, this Government can urge the American commanders in China to exert their influence to the utmost against delay. This is being done, and it is believed that more energetic action may follow the arrival of Major General Chaffee at Tientsin. "The authorities here attach much importance to the report of the Chinese student who was sent from Tientsin to Peking by Missionary Wilder and who brought back word that he saw no Chinese troops for sixty miles south of Peking, but found 20,000 in the vicinity of Yangtse-San and Pletsang. If this report is correct the international troops are confronted in the immediate neighborhood of Tientsin with the only formidable resistance they will encounter until they reach the neighborhood of the capital, which this student reported to be surrounded with imperial troops. It is thought here that this force of 20,000 could easily be overcome by the international forces, and that their defeat, followed by a steady advance on Peking, would produce a moral effect that would greatly weaken the resistance at the gates of the capital. "Whatever may be the result, his confidence has since been somewhat shaken. Communication with the Ministers is still the first condition insisted upon by the United States as preliminary to any negotiations with the Chinese Government. The attitude of the Imperial Government, which even Minister Wu admits, he does not understand, the State Department is satisfied that many of the most powerful men in China are opposed to the hopeful feature of the situation, and it is believed that if the international forces succeed in defeating in a decisive manner the Chinese forces between Tientsin and Peking strong pressure will be exerted upon the Imperial Government to secure peace on a basis that will guarantee the safety of foreigners and their interests in China in the future."

Though there are many reasons for believing that the Chinese Government is not acting in good faith, the United States will officially accept all its protestations of friendship that come through Minister Wu until it is known to a certainty that they are false. President McKinley's reply to the appeal for mediation and the use of the good offices of the United States to secure peace has not yet resulted in disclosing the real attitude of the Imperial Government, as it was hoped would be the result. Minister Wu did not officially express his opinion to the State Department that his Government would accede to the conditions imposed in the President's letter, but he let it be known that he was confident that this would be the result. His confidence has since been somewhat shaken. Communication with the Ministers is still the first condition insisted upon by the United States as preliminary to any negotiations with the Chinese Government. The attitude of the Imperial Government, which even Minister Wu admits, he does not understand, the State Department is satisfied that many of the most powerful men in China are opposed to the hopeful feature of the situation, and it is believed that if the international forces succeed in defeating in a decisive manner the Chinese forces between Tientsin and Peking strong pressure will be exerted upon the Imperial Government to secure peace on a basis that will guarantee the safety of foreigners and their interests in China in the future."

Kiangsu. Officials have anticipated a general rising along the Yangtse-Kiang about August 1. "An astounding American intrigue has been revealed to the consuls here in the shape of a skilful attempt to get the maritime customs placed in the hands of an American missionary named Ferguson, who, although he was an active ally of Sheng in the latter's endeavors to hoodwink the world with regard to events in Peking, was supported by the American officials in the claim to the appointment of Inspector General."

## FOURTEENTH INFANTRY ARRIVES AT TAKU

Special Cable to The Call and New York Herald. Copyright, 1900, by the Herald Publishing Company. CHEFU, Friday, via Shanghai, July 29.—The Fourteenth United States Infantry from Manila has arrived at Taku. SANTIAGO DE CUBA, July 29.—The Second Battalion of the Fifth United States Infantry, Major Borden commanding, will leave to-morrow for the United States. The companies at Guantanamo and Baracoa will be taken aboard en route. The officers have received instructions to prepare warm clothing for a hard winter campaign and to be ready to re-embark shortly after arriving in New York. All the men are enthusiastic at the prospect of active service in China.