A SYNOPSIS
OF
THE BOYCOTT IN CHINA

The Chinese Government encourages and directs the Anti-Japanese Boycott.

The Anti-Japanese Boycott by China is tantamount to an act of war.

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FIRST BOYCOTT
From March to November in 1908

THE "TATSU-MARU" AFFAIR

Causes of Boycott

Basic cause of Contempt for Japan

Chinese students who received modern education abroad began, on their return home, directing their attention to the recovery of Chinese national rights, heedless of the fact that China was internally far from having all the attributes of a modern civilized nation. Revision of existing treaties should be achieved through proper diplomatic negotiations and this presupposes putting one's house in order. Impatient to realize their ideal of full enforcement of national demands in the shortest possible time, however, the students began advocating anti-foreign sentiment. Because of the complexity of the many historical interests existing between Japan and China, and because of their belief that Japan was a much smaller nation in comparison with their own land, they generated and propagated the idea of holding Japan in contempt. The prevalence of this idea brought about the first boycott when the affair mentioned below took place.

On February 5, 1908, the Japanese steamer Tatsu Maru No. 2 which left Kobe on January 26, the same year, for Macao with a proper permit issued by the Japanese Customs at Kobe as well as a landing permit from the authorities at Macao for the cargo of arms on board, was suspected by the Chinese Government of illegally smuggling arms into China and the entire cargo was seized unlawfully by a Chinese gunboat. The Japanese Government immediately lodged a strong protest against such illegal holding of the Japanese steamer and her cargo. While the matter was finally settled by the formal apology of the Chinese Government, the public sentiment of China was much agitated because of the strong attitude of the Japanese Government in this affair and also because of what was called the weakness of the Chinese Foreign Office in apologizing to Japan. The Chinese people in Southern ports, as a result, instituted a boycott against Japanese goods; consequently, the Sino-Japanese trade was seriously affected.

Methods Employed in Anti-Japan Movements and the Leaders Thereof

Boycotts against Japanese goods were prevailed in various parts of China and the Far East where Chinese colonists reside.

Damage to Japan and Extent to Which Boycott Spread

1. Loss due to the illegal seizure of the Tatsu Maru No. 2.
2. Insult to the Japanese flag by Chinese authorities.
3. Losses due to boycott of Japanese goods:
   Japanese export—¥25,000,000
   Japanese import—¥8,000,000 decreased as compared with the figures for 1907.
4. The boycott spread to Hongkong, Canton, and Singapore.

Cessation of Boycott

The matter was settled by the apology of the Chinese Government on the ground that the Tatsu Maru had been seized at a place outside the Chinese territorial waters by the use of the Chinese naval force, disregarding international law, at a time when the matter in question admitted diplomatic settlement. The boycott, which was the first anti-Japanese demonstration, came to an end after about seven months.
SECOND BOYCOTT
From August to October in 1909

THE ANTUNG-MUKDEN RAILWAY CASE

Causes of Boycott

Violation of Agreement

A strong anti-Japanese movement was started in Manchuria when the Japanese Government notified the Chinese Government on August 6, 1909, of the commencement of the reconstruction work on the railway line between Antung and Mukden, this project being based on the provision of Article 6 of the Peking Treaty of 1905, by which Japan acquired the right "to maintain and work the military railway line constructed, during the Russo-Japanese War, between Antung and Mukden and to improve the said line so as to make it fit for the conveyance of the commercial and industrial goods of all nations." The Chinese Government instigated the people to launch a boycott, with a view to strengthening its position in protesting against the improvement, declaring that the work should be confined to the repair of the existing line.

Methods Employed in Anti-Japan Movements and the Leaders Thereof

1. Objection to the improvement of the Antung-Mukden Line.
3. Chinese students staying in Japan were the instigators of the movement.

Damage to Japan and Extent to which Boycott Spread

1. Japan could not buy land for the said railway line.
2. Delay in the improvement of the line.
Japanese export—¥12,000,000, decreased as compared with the figures for 1908.
Japanese import—¥12,000,000
3. The boycott spread to Peking, Tientsin, all Manchuria, Canton, and all over South China.

Cessation of Boycott

As Japan strongly protested against such a demonstration and insisted upon her treaty right to perform the said reconstruction work, the Viceroy of Manchuria finally yielded to Japan's just insistence and issued an order prohibiting the anti-Japanese boycott agitation. The boycott was in effect between August and October, 1909.
THIRD BOYCOTT
From May to October in 1915

THE SINO-JAPANESE NEGOTIATION

Causes of Boycott

Unreasonable Demands by China

Within 10 days of the capture of the Kiaochou Bay Concession and while Japan was still at war with Germany, the Chinese Government

1. demanded withdrawal of the Japanese army from along the Shantung Railway Line (formerly Germany property);
2. demanded payment of indemnity by Japan for loss of life and property among Chinese in Shantung Province; and
3. declared the end of the state of war in the Shantung belligerent zones.

Confronted with these outrageous demands and declaration, on top of numberless instances of China's obstructive politics, Japan sensed the exigency and for the sake of lasting peace between her and China, opened negotiations with the latter for the settlement of these issues.

After several discussions between the representatives of Japan and China, a treaty respecting South Manchuria and Eastern Inner Mongolia, which is commonly called "the Twenty-One Demands," was signed.

With the opening of the negotiations, there arose a serious anti-Japanese movement throughout China. These negotiations were seized upon by the Southern Government of China as a weapon with which to attack the Peking Government, and in order to achieve their ends, the Southern leaders stirred up anti-Japanese sentiment among the public and an anti-Japanese boycott was started in Hankow. This spread like wildfire throughout China, lasting until October, 1915.

Methods Employed in Anti-Japan Movements and the Leaders Thereof

1. The General Chamber of Commerce at Peking, as the headquarters of anti-Japanese agitation, sent out circular telegrams to rouse the masses.
3. Organization of anti-Japanese bodies and agitation of the masses by means of spoken and written words.


Damage to Japan and Extent to which Boycott Spread

5. Injuries to more than 10 Japanese residents. Japanese export—¥21,000,000 decreased as compared with that of 1914.
6. The boycott spread all over China, including such places as Shanghai, Hankow, and Canton. It was also carried out by Chinese traders and merchants in Indo-China and Singapore and in San Francisco, Seattle, and other cities of the United States.

Cessation of Boycott

1. For the sake of a peaceful settlement, Japan made tremendous concession in her terms in a friendly and self-sacrificing manner.
3. Enforcement of the decree by Chinese officials.
FOURTH BOYCOTT
From May to December in 1919
THE SHANTUNG QUESTION

Causes of Boycott
Nullification of Treaty
At the Versailles Peace Conference, the Chinese delegation, headed by Lu Chang-hsiang, strove in vain to nullify the Sino-Japanese Treaty of 1915, demanding that the Kiaochou Bay Lease, the Shantung Railway, and other rights in Shantung formerly held by Germany should be directly restored to China without any compensation. At the session of the above Conference held on April 30, 1919, however, it was decided that the disposal of the former German rights in that region should be duly settled by direct negotiations between China and Japan, which latter took these rights from the German hands at the beginning of the World War. Upon receipt of the news that China's attempt with reference to the Shantung issue in the Versailles Conference had come to naught, there was at once started an anti-Japanese boycott agitation on a gigantic scale throughout the country, with the "National Humiliation Day," May 7, as the pivot. During this anti-Japanese boycott, Japanese goods were seized and burned and many other acts of violence were committed. Chinese students, who played a prominent part in the movement, were much elated because of the agitation's effect on Japan.

Methods Employed in Anti-Japan Movements and the Leaders Thereof
1. Urging the boycotting of Japanese goods.
2. Enforcement of consumers' strike against Japanese goods and the supervision thereof.
5. Organization of Anti-Japanese Speakers Bureau by students.

Characteristics of Boycott:
2. Violation of treaties.
3. Anti-foreign movements by organized bodies.

Leaders: Student bodies of Peking, Wuchang, Hankow, etc., and the chambers of commerce of several cities.

Damage to Japan and Extent to which Boycott Spread
2. Drop in freight carried by Japanese vessels. While the decline in trade was obvious, it cannot be shown in comparison with that of the previous year, on account of the tremendous advance in commodity prices, and also because of the great increase in China's purchasing power due to the advance of the silver exchange rate at the peak of war-time prosperity.
3. The boycott extended to all China, Vladivostok, the Straits Settlements, Java, Siam, San Francisco, etc., wherever Chinese communities existed.

Cessation of Boycott
1. Local chambers of commerce felt the damaging effects of the boycott on their members and had to moderate their once strong stand.
2. Suppression by local Chinese officials.
FIFTH BOYCOTT
From April to August in 1923

MOVEMENT TO RECOVER PORT ARTHUR AND Dairen

Causes of Boycott

Nullification of Treaty

The great concession in the Shantung settlement that Japan made at the Washington Conference, for the sake of permanent peace of the Orient and for the betterment of Sino-Japanese relations, had the opposite effect of encouraging China to attempt the illegal recovery of Port Arthur and Dairen, whose lease to Japan was secured by treaties.

When President Li of China issued a statement on August 17, 1922, respecting the recovery of Ryo­jun (Port Arthur) and Dairen, the Legislature of China resolved on the annulment of “the Twenty-One Demands,” and asked the Government to regain the said territory. On March 10, 1923, the Peking Government formally demanded that the Japanese Government should surrender Port Arthur and Dairen. When Japan flatly rejected this demand on March 14, that year, a nation-wide anti-Japanese agitation was started, and under the slogan of “severance of economic relations with Japan,” boycotts against Japanese goods commenced at many places, with Central China as the nucleus.

Methods Employed in Anti-Japan Movements and the Leaders Thereof

2. Refusal to sell Chinese goods to Japan.
3. Severance of economic relations with Japan in transportation, finance, labor, insurance, leases, etc.
5. Private punishment by assassination, tattooing, etc.
6. Demonstrations and propaganda.


Characteristics of Boycott:

2. Violation of treaties.
4. Influence of Communism.
5. Participation of Kuomintang in directing anti-foreign movements.

Damage to Japan and Extent to which Boycott Spread

1. Sharp decline of export from Japan.
   Japanese export decreased by ¥61,000,000 as against that of 1922.
2. Stoppage of trade.
3. Decrease in ocean freight.
4. Japanese mills in China were unable to buy raw materials or sell products.
6. Serious decrease in marine and fire insurance contracts by Japanese companies.

Cessation of Boycott

1. The Chinese gradually came to realize the impossibility of carrying out a scheme conceived when intoxicated by success at the Washington Conference.
2. The Chinese authorities, alarmed by the rapidly increasing gravity of boycott movements, ordered the dissolution of anti-Japanese bodies.
3. This agitation was carried on between April and August, 1923.
Causes of Boycott

Violent Attempt at Recovery of National Rights

The alarming spread of strikes and anti-foreign activities in various parts of China, advocated and abetted by the Kuomintang Party and the Communist Party, gave rise, under the auspices of the National Committee on Foreign Affairs, to such movements as the recovery of foreign settlements and the abolition of consular jurisdiction.

Following what is known as the May 30 incident, or the Nanking Road incident in 1925, when a number of Chinese rioters demonstrating in connection with the strike at the Japanese owned Naigai Cotton Spinning Mill, were shot by police in the International Settlement at Shanghai, a strike of national proportions was declared in China and anti-foreign activities of every kind were conducted in every part of the country, resulting in the pillage of Japanese establishments and attacks upon Japanese residents. British bluejackets were landed at Shanghai.

On June 23, a demonstration was held at Canton and students of the Military College collided with the British and French soldiers, resulting in 140 Chinese being killed or wounded. This development led to a movement aiming at the severance of economic relations with Great Britain. On July 21, the Chinese workers employed at a Japanese cotton spinning mill at Tsingtao went on strike, and on August 21, a Japanese cotton spinning mill at Tientsin was attacked by a band of lawless Chinese. The anti-Japanese agitation then spread to Manchuria, where the authorities issued instructions to oppress the Japanese residents.

Methods Employed in Anti-Japan Movements and the Leaders Thereof

1. Severance of economic relations with Great Britain and Japan.
3. Desertion of Chinese crews from Japanese vessels.
4. Demands for apologies from the Japanese and British authorities.
5. Recovery of the Japanese and British Settlements.
6. Abolition of consular jurisdiction.
7. Shutting down of offices, mills, and markets.
8. Demonstration and propaganda.
11. Anti-foreign education.

Characteristics of Boycott:

2. Activities of Communist Party.
3. Violent attempts at recovery of national rights and violation of treaties.
4. Participation of Kuomintang in directing anti-foreign movements.

Leaders: Communist Party; Kuomintang; student bodies; Federation of Commerce, Industry and Students; Wuchang-Hankow People's Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Damage to Japan and Extent to which Boycott Spread

2. Stoppage of trade of Japanese merchants in China. Japanese export decreased by ¥23,000,000 as compared with that of 1924.
3. Suspension of Japanese steamship services between Shanghai and Hankow.
4. Destruction and pillage of eight Japanese shops and stores in Shanghai.
5. Murder of one Japanese and injuries to several others.
7. The boycott spread to all China, being especially severe at Shanghai, Nanking, Wuhu, Kiukiang, Hankow, Changsha, Ichang, Chungching and all along the Yangtze River. Boycott was also effected at Hongkong.

Cessation of Boycott

1. Strong protest by Great Britain and Japan.
2. Shooting of Communist leaders and the arrest of the Chinese agitators involved.
3. Withdrawal of chambers of commerce from the boycott movement.
SEVENTH BOYCOTT

From March to April in 1927

NANKING-HANKOW AFFAIR

Causes of Boycott
Effects of China’s Internal Warfare
Bad effects followed the very complex civil warfare in China during 1926–1927, such as the campaign of the Revolutionary Army of Chiang Kai-shek against the Northern war lords, the Wuchang-Hankow Communists’ campaign against the Northern war lords, that of the Shansi group against the Northern Army and the Mukden war clan, that of the Wuchang-Hankow Communists against Chiang Kai-shek, etc. There were many outrages by undisciplined Chinese soldiers during these campaigns.

In 1927, there were many controversies between China and Japan. On March 24, 1927, the American, British, and Japanese consulates at Nanking were raided by the Southern Revolutionary Army which committed plunder and violence, causing loss of lives and property among the Japanese residents there. On April 3, there was a clash in the Japanese Settlement in Hankow between Japanese soldiers and Chinese rioters, of which use was made by the Wuchang-Hankow Communists in stirring the people. The situation became dangerous and marines were landed from Japanese warships for the protection of the Japanese residents.

On May 29, the Chinese authorities objected to the opening of a Japanese Consulate at Linchang (on the northern bank of the Yalu River,) and prevented the entrance of the consulate staff into Manchuria. Furthermore, the building which was intended to be the Consulate, was set on fire.

In view of the loss of Japanese lives and property in Nanking and Tsinan caused by Chinese outbreaks, the Tanaka Government sent troops to Shantung on May 28, 1927, for the protection of the Japanese nationals. In retaliation, China inaugurated anti-Japanese boycotts throughout the country, under the direction of the Nationalist Party of China.

Methods Employed in Anti-Japan Movements and the Leaders Thereof
1. Raid on the Consulates.
2. Attempt at forced recovery of the Japanese Settlement at Hankow.
3. Plunder by Chinese soldiers.
4. Boycott of Japanese goods and severance of all economic relations with Japan.

Characteristics of Boycott:
2. Violation of treaties.
3. Activities of Communist Party.
4. Violent attempts at recovery of national rights.
5. Effect of civil wars by contending warlords.
6. Putting "Down with Imperialism" into practice.

Leaders: Revolutionary Nationalist Army, Wuchang-Hankow Communist Party.

Damage to Japan and Extent to which Boycott Spread
Japanese export—¥87,600,000 decreased as compared with the figures for 1926.
Japanese import—¥13,000,000
2. Death and injuries to Japanese soldiers and residents.
4. Isolation of the Japanese Settlement.
5. The boycott spread to all China; was especially violent at Shanghai, Amoy, Swatow, and Canton.

Cessation of Boycott
1. Joint protest by Japan, Great Britain, the United States, France, and Italy.
EIGHTH BOYCOTT
From May in 1928 to April in 1929

TSINAN INCIDENT

Causes of Boycott

Persecution of Japanese Residents

The increasing gravity of the civil war between the northern and southern factions threatened the safety of the Japanese residents in China. In view of the murders and outrages at Nanking and Hankow in 1927, the Japanese Government despatched soldiers to Shantung for the protection of the Japanese nationals there.

The plunder of Japanese shops at Tsinan, Shantung by the Nanking Army on May 3 entailed a serious collision between the Japanese and Chinese armies. This gave rise to a violent anti-Japanese movement by the Chinese Government, war clans, and the people.

In that connection, anti-Japanese societies were organized as permanent organs to carry on anti-Japanese agitation as well as boycotts, and the "National Humiliation Day" of May 4 was observed with marked demonstrations against Japan.

Methods Employed in Anti-Japan Movements and the Leaders Thereof

1. Formation by the Nationalist Party of the Association for the Support of Foreign Policy.
2. Enforcement of severance of economic relations.
3. Establishment in various chambers of commerce of Committees of Severance of Economic Relations with Japan.
4. Establishment of permanent anti-Japanese organizations, such as Anti-Japanese Associations of Special Cities.
6. Disruption of trade, transportation, and financial relations with Japan.
7. Issuance of permits for Japanese goods held in stock or contracted for by Chinese merchants; confiscation of goods not so authorized; and private punishment of offenders by fines or imprisonment.
12. Murder, assault, plunder, and other outrages by Chinese soldiers and lawless elements.
14. Violation of treaties.

Leaders: Association for the Support of Foreign Policy under the auspices of the Kuomintang, National Anti-Japanese Association, Anti-Japanese Association, Anti-Japanese Associations of Special Cities, Committees on Severance of Economic Relations with Japan organized by the General Chamber of Commerce.

Damage to Japan and Extent to which Boycott Spread

   - Japanese export — ¥ 48,700,000
decreased as compared with the figures for 1926.
6. Murder of more than 10 Japanese residents.
7. Japan's military casualties; 7 dead, and 117 wounded.
8. The boycott spread to all China, being especially severe in the Shanghai district and at the principal cities along the South China coast; it was also vigorously carried out at Singapore and Bangkok. It extended even to the Dutch East Indies, Indo-China, the Straits Settlements, the Philippines, etc., wherever Chinese settlers were found.

Cessation of Boycott

1. Diplomatic negotiations between Japan and China.
2. With the occupation of the Wuchang-Hankow region by the Nanking Army, strikes against Japanese establishments in that district subsided.
NINTH BOYCOTT
1931-1932

WANPAOSHAN AFFAIR

Causes of Boycott

Anti-Japanese Movement by Chang Hsueh-liang

Chang Hsueh-liang, blindly devoted to the maintenance of his influence and self-aggrandizement, carried on, in cooperation with the Kuomintang Party, anti-Japanese campaigns in the diplomatic, military, economic, and communication fields. Japan's forbearance in dealing with China's acts in infringement of Japan's acquired rights and interests had the opposite effect of encouraging China to further acts inimical to Japan. The anti-Japanese sentiment and attitude reached a climax in Manchuria and Mongolia.

1. The Wanpaoshan incident on July 2, 1931, originated in the issue regarding the use of a certain river for the irrigation of rice paddies cultivated by the Chosenese in Wanpaoshan, North Manchuria, where they were granted permission by the local officials to develop the land. They commenced the irrigation work at the beginning of April, 1931. In May, just about the sowing season, however, the Chinese officials suddenly ordered them to stop the irrigation work and with the purpose of expelling the Chosenese, persistently interfered by force with their work, disregarding the protest made by the Japanese Consul at Changchun. Consequently, a clash between the Chinese and Chosenese took place on July 2, 1931. This incident was accompanied by retaliatory riots of the Chosenese against the Chinese residents in Chosen, these being reported by all the Chinese newspapers in an extremely exaggerated manner. At Shanghai and elsewhere there were organized "Anti-Japanese Societies for the Aid of Chinese Residents Abroad" under the direction of the Nationalist Party. A violent anti-Japanese campaign began about the middle of July, 1931, this agitation continuing until the outbreak of the Manchurian affair.

2. Japan has been patient and has endured the overbearing attitude of the Chinese as much as possible. Unfortunately, however, taking advantage of this peaceful attitude on the part of Japan, the Chinese Government and its people dared to commit such outrages as the Wanpaoshan and Captain Nakamura incidents. What made this situation in Manchuria most regrettable was the wanton destruction by Chinese soldiers of the railway tracks of the South Manchuria Railway Company as well as attacks made upon the Japanese railway guards on the night of September 18, 1931. The Manchurian affair had its beginning here and the anti-Japanese campaign went from bad to worse until the Shanghai affair.

3. Since the outbreak of the Manchurian conflict, the activities of the anti-Japanese organizations in China have been accentuated with the encouragement of the Chinese authorities. As an instance of this, on January 9, 1932, a vernacular Chinese paper, "The Minkuo Daily News," in Shanghai published an article insulting the Imperial House of Japan. Shortly afterward, on January 18, a party of Japanese Buddhist priests and their companies were brutally attacked, one of the priests being killed, by a Chinese mob at Shanghai. The situation became so serious that Japan was obliged to land marines to protect the lives of her nationals there. This finally led to the unfortunate Shanghai affair which necessitated the further despatch of Japanese troops.

With the outbreak of the Shanghai affair, a nation-wide anti-Japanese boycott agitation was planned under the leadership of the Nationalist Party, enforcing the severance of all economic relations with Japan.

Methods Employed in Anti-Japan Movements

and the Leaders Thereof

1. Refraining from buying, selling, transporting, and using Japanese goods.
2. Refusal to supply Japanese with raw materials or any other goods.
3. Refraining from taking passage, loading, or discharging cargoes on Japanese vessels.
4. Depositing no money with Japanese banks and ceasing to deal with them.

5. Prohibition of personal intercourse.
7. Ban on the Chinese going to Japan for business or study.
8. Circulating and posting the slogan "Anti-Japanese Campaign is a Patriotic Movement."
9. Promulgation of all sorts of private regulations, and mailing threatening letters to the Chinese affected by them.
10. Circulating rumors of assassination of offenders, and inflicting private punishment.
15. Plundering and outrageous acts by Chinese soldiers and mobs.

Characteristics of Boycott:

2. Violation of treaties.
3. Influence of Communism.
4. Violent attempts at recovery of national rights.
5. Effect of civil wars by contending war lords.
7. Direction by Kuomintang.
9. Attempt at nullifying Japan's rights and interests in Manchuria and Mongolia.
10. Severance of economic relations as a means of carrying out the policy of the Nanking Government to ruin Japan.

Leaders: Kuomintang, National Salvation Association for Resisting Japan, and Student Bodies.

Damage to Japan and Extent to Which Boycott Spread

1. Complete disruption of trade with Southern China.
   Japanese export—¥105,000,000
   Japanese import—¥40,000,000
   Decreased as compared with the figures for 1930.
   The decrease in foreign trade for 1932 is expected to be even more pronounced.

2. Shut-down of Japanese mills at Shanghai and Hankow.
5. The boycott spread all over China and Manchuria, also to Chinese communities in Bangkok, Singapore, Rangoon, Batavia, Manila, etc., as well as to Vancouver, San Francisco, and Chicago.

Cessation of Boycott

Although the Sino-Japanese armistice agreement, signed on May 5, 1932, marked an end to the strife which broke out on January 28, that year, the anti-Japanese movement is still going on in the form of violence.