

Dr. Nicholas Roerich,
c/o Japanese Legation,
Peiping, China.

February 14, 1935

Dear Dr. Roerich:

After a delay which was unavoidably caused chiefly by making enquiries, I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of December 14 last, concerning the unpleasant news appeared in some newspapers published in Harbin.

When I was trying to take up the matter with appropriate authorities in Manchoukuo, we received the reports about it from Mr. Morishima, our Consul General at Harbin, and General Minami, our Ambassador at Hsinking, who had evidently made inquiries upon receipt of your letters.

They inform us that the incidents occurred because of the sheer ignorance and misunderstanding on the part of those people you mentioned in the letter and of the conflicting groups of the white Russians in Harbin, of your noble mission and work.

Mr. Morishima further informs that he has taken adequate measures to eradicate the ignorance and misunderstanding of those ill-informed people, while Ambassador

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Minami's note indicates that he has instructed the Manchoukuo news agency in Hsinking to carry the article explaining the true nature of your meritable work for the advancement of world culture and civilization and your kind cooperation with Japan in the field of culture. This article was printed in almost all newspapers in Manchoukuo including the Harbin papers.

Having all this information in hand, I am happy to be able to assure you that the incident of this sort will not happen again, and I sincerely hope that you may no more be annoyed by such matters.

Hoping your future trip will be a pleasant and beneficial one,

I am,

Yours very sincerely,

(signed) Eiji Amau.

Copy.

Peiping,
March 11th, 1935. 3.

Eiji Amau, Esq.
The Gaimusho,
TOKIO.

Dear Mr. Amau:

Please accept my sincere thanks for your letter of the 14th ultimo which has been transmitted to me by the Japanese Legation. I am grateful to learn that the authorities have taken adequate measures to investigate the whole deplorable incident, and it is my sincere hope that our cooperation with Japan in the field of culture will continue unhampered by incidents of this sort.

I am sure that Mr. Morishima, the Japanese Consul-General in Harbin, will be able to eradicate the sheer ignorance, as you so aptly say, of certain people in Harbin. It is to be regretted that some of them have been recently appointed to official positions in the newly created Bureau for Russian Emigrants in Harbin, and are thus able to continue their detrimental activities.

Since my last letter to you, this group of people actively continued its campaign against myself and our cultural institutions. On January 29th, a certain Mr. Vassily Ivanov made a violent attack against myself during the official dinner function on the occasion of the opening of the Bureau for Emigrants. His speech was printed in extenso in the official Harbin "Kung-Pao". He repeated his attack in a lecture held on Febr. 12th at the Fascist Club in Harbin. On the 15th ultimo the Japanese daily "The Harbin Times" published on the editorial page an anonymous article entitled "Fiction of the Roerich Pact" containing some very detrimental statements about the Roerich Pact and Banner of Peace which project, as you know, has been from its very beginning supported by Japan, and in April will be proposed for World ratification.

Besides "The Harbin Times", the Japanese-financed Russian-language paper "Rebirth of Asia", published on the Japanese Concession in Tientsin, has recently printed a number of slanderous articles against myself (See "Rebirth of Asia" for February 13th, 22nd, 24th and March 3rd).

I take this opportunity to bring the above facts to your kind attention, and sincerely hope that the authorities will succeed to eradicate the root of this evil slander.

I have not seen in the Harbin papers the article which you mention in your letter, and I shall therefore be very grateful if you could kindly send me a copy of it.

Thanking you once more, and with all best wishes,

Yours very sincerely,