

Memo no 27.

The drafts of despatches to  
the Chinese authorities at  
Foochow and Taiwanfoo are  
transmitted herewith. In  
my opinion, they should be  
joint communications from  
the High Commissioner, His  
Associate, LeGendre, and the  
Commander of the military  
and naval forces composing  
the expedition. The first  
Despatch, marked A, should  
be dated the 9<sup>th</sup> of April,  
from "on board the

"", which will convey  
General Saigo to Nagasaki,  
and sent by the "Kuruma -  
Maru" for transmission to  
Foochow, from Amoy by

the Japanese Consul at  
that place. The second,  
marked B, should be sent  
from Lialias, as soon as  
the "Kuroda Maru" has  
made a successful landing  
at that place.

Wakai, April 9<sup>th</sup> 1874.

Respectfully Submitted.

Ch. W. L. L. L.

Memo No 27

with 2 Enclosures

April 9 1874

Siariao, Toanang-nack on Kwariang Bay, Tuiaksockang the first stream on the east coast north of South Cape, two bays north of the latter place, situated respectively in about  $22^{\circ} 3'$  and  $22^{\circ} 18'$  north latitude, and Pilam, in about  $22^{\circ} 31'$  north latitude. As this traffic, if allowed to go on while we are engaged against the Bontans, would be the means of furnishing them with valuable aid in resisting us, we have to request you to issue strict orders to Chinese subjects residing within the limits of H. I. C. M. possessions in Amboa not, upon any pretext, to engage in it, and to instruct the civil and military authorities at Pong-lee to seize and disarm all Bontans who, being pursued

by our soldiers, may take refuge there, and deliver them to us.

We also beg to notify you that we have detailed vessels to blockade the bays and creeks of the aboriginal territory above named, that is, from Charatong to Piram, and have established, or will establish military posts there, under the command of skillful officers with instructions to seize any steamer, junk or other vessel that may attempt to proceed there for any purpose whatever, unless, being in distress, they may be compelled to seek refuge from the elements; and all persons that shall be found by our forces within the limits of the territory of the Bontans, or their confederates, giving them aid

or comfort, shall be dealt with according to the law of war.

The success of our operations against the Bontans greatly depends upon the aid which the government of China can give us by conforming to the above. Therefore, relying on the well known feelings of amity which the government of H. M. Majesty entertains for Japan, we look forward with confidence to our request being strictly complied with; and we beg you to receive the assurance of our high consideration and respect.

To their Excellencies, the Liang-kun of Fokien, Lung-tuh of Fokien and Chekiang, and Futai of Fokien.

On board H. J. J. M.

S. S. " " April 9<sup>th</sup>, 1874.

Enclosure A.

with Memo No 27

- A -

General Saigo, High Commis-  
sioner, etc. etc.

hereby make a communication (Tze-wen).

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of December, 1871, sixty  
six Japanese subjects of Tsuchu  
were wrecked on the Eastern coast  
of Aboriginal Formosa. There they  
wandered about, until on the 18<sup>th</sup> of  
December, they entered the territory  
of the Bontans ( ), an aboriginal  
tribe of Southern Formosa. The follow-  
ing day the aborigines seized them  
and stripped them of their clothes  
and everything they had. They then  
escaped to a village, but the  
Bontans, having discovered their

place of refuge, came in force, surrounded the place, and killed fifty four of them. The remaining twelve secreted themselves in the house of a native and were saved. On the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, 1872, they were sent to Taiwanfoo, where they were comfortably lodged and supplied with clothes and food. They were subsequently forwarded to Foochowfoo, from whence they obtained from the provincial authorities, the means of returning to their homes.

These facts having come to the knowledge of the Government of His Imperial Japanese Majesty, it was decided that, while the kind treatment, by the provincial authorities of Fokkien, of twelve of our people in their misfortune

should be held in grateful remembrance, the murder of those who met with such a cruel death at the hands of the aborigines of Formosa called for prompt and severe reprisals, and that steps should be taken to prevent the recurrence of such proceedings in the future. Orders were given accordingly by H. I. J. M. Government. But the coast on which the outrage was committed not being laid down in a reliable way on any of the modern Japanese, American, or European charts, and not at all on the Chinese maps, it was judged necessary to send officers to make surveys and otherwise prepare the way for us to accomplish our mission. This investigation, at last having been completed, we



have left Japan with a large  
force of soldiers and sailors, and  
we propose to advance against  
the Bontans as soon as the season  
will permit.

On looking at the map of the  
western boundary of the country  
of these aborigines, we see that  
they derive a large proportion  
of their supplies of ammunition  
from Chinese subjects living at  
Pong-lee and other places on the  
border to the northward of that  
village, which are under the  
authority of the Governor of the  
Chinese possessions in Formosa;  
and the balance of these sup-  
plies, as they manufacture none  
themselves, they obtain through  
foreign traders at Cha. Za. tong,  
Che. tong. Ka, Hong Kong, Chasiang,

. . .

General Saigo, High Commis-  
sioner, etc. etc.

herby make a communication.

Having arrived at our destina-  
tion in Aboriginaal Formosa with  
A. I. J. M. forces, we beg to hand  
you through the senior consul  
at Taiwanfoo, <sup>copies of</sup> the following com-  
munication (Tze-men) addressed to  
their Excellencies the Tsiang Kinn  
of Fokkien, the Tsung Tub of Fokkien,  
and ~~the~~ Chetiang and the Futai  
of Fokkien, which we have  
already sent to Anoy by A. I.  
J. M. ship of war "Kuroda Maru"  
for transmission to Foochow.

Doubting not that Your Excellency will afford us all the aid we may need in compliance with the terms of our despatch to the provincial authorities, we beg you to accept the assurance of our consideration and respect.

To their Excellencies the Taitai, Chentai and Che-fu of Taiwan.

Sialias, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 1874.

Enclosure B

with Memo no 27