

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE

INDEXED 6540
FILE NO. 7-54
132

look up

OFFICE OF COMMERCIAL ATTACHE
PEKING, CHINA

JUN 1 1913 8 15 11 12

American Legation.
April 18th, 1918.

Subject: Anti-American Feeling at Kalgan.

INDEXED

H.S.

Chief, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce,
Department of Commerce,
Washington.

FOR. DOM. COM.
DIV. OF COM. 41
JUN 1 1913
DEPT. OF COM.

Sir:

I am forced to withdraw the remarks made in a letter in the last pouch to the effect that the Japanese were behind the suppression of Coltman's motor car route from Kalgan to Urga, the capital of Outer Mongolia.

Mr. Coltman sent down an appeal, signed also by Andersen, Meyer & Co., and the Standard Oil Co. for somebody to come up to Kalgan and talk to the Chinese governor about the motor car controversy and other troubles. The minister sent Mr. Burr, the vice consul, who found that the Chinese governor had been refusing to let the Mongolian Trading Company, the Standard Oil or Andersen, Meyer send anybody out the north gate, which leads to the pass, and also that soldiers had been seizing carts etc. contracted to these companies on alleged orders from the governor.

The governor told Mr. Burr that it was necessary to requisition means of transportation for military purposes, but that hereafter he would give six hours notice before any carts were taken, and would not allow the goods of the American companies to be touched. It appears that heretofore when the soldiers seized carts they threw off the American merchandise into the mud, and sometimes even eloped with some of it.

The governor also gave orders that the American caravans were to be allowed to go through the north gate hereafter, but no progress was made toward obtaining a revocation of the edict suppressing the motor car line to Urga.

The trouble, according to Mr. Burr, is between the American companies and the governor solely, and the Japanese have nothing to do with it. In fact, he says that the governor appears to be anti-Japanese as well as anti-everything else foreign. Coltman had reported that the feeling against all foreigners was intense, and that their

lives

INDEXED
FILE NO. 6540
7-54

lives are in almost as much peril as they were in 1900; but Mr. Burr states that he saw little to confirm this.

I have been planning to go to Kalgan, but had been waiting for Mr. Lamb, who has been in the French hospital trying to have typhoid fever. Today the doctor decided he had no typhoid germs and let him out, and perhaps next week he will be well enough to go up with me. Lamb speaks Chinese most fluently and knows all the ropes in dealing with Chinese officials, as well as being a most level headed chap in an emergency.

Sincerely yours,

A. W. Ferrin

Commercial Attaché.