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E.D.

FOREIGN OFFICE,

S.W.1.

26th May, 1939.

Sir,

I am directed by Viscount Halifax to refer to War Office letter 683/6126(M.O.1) of the 19th May on the subject of the position of British nationals in Shanghai in the event of war with Japan and of the attitude to be adopted by the British garrison in the event of a Japanese occupation of the International Settlement at that place.

2. Before approaching the United States and French Governments in the matter Lord Halifax would propose to await the comments of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, to whom a copy of this letter is being addressed. In the meantime he agrees that the matter should be included in the agenda of the conversations between the local British and French commanders in the Far East, which he notes it is proposed to hold shortly.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sd.) N. B. RONALD.

The Under-Secretary of State,

War Office.