To CNRRA - Hubei Regional Office and Hubei Provincial Government.

Dear Sirs:-

1. Shayang, situated by the Han River, was the concentration centre of both the land and water communications, and also the calling station for the Hankow - Ichang Highway. Its population was more than 30,000 and it had more than 2,300 houses. A few days after the Wuhan Cities were fallen to Japanese in September of 1940, the enemy planes started bombing it and killed more than 300 of its people and damaged 50% of its houses. Unexpectedly in Spring of 1941 when the Japanese advanced to Yang-kia-fung and Lo-han-shih, they were shooting it with artillery fire and bombing it with planes. In Autumn of 1941 they went across Han River and captured it, burning down its houses and slaughtering its people. Under such circumstances, some of its people had run away to very far places before their arrival but still some, on account of poverty, had only run to its vicinities. It was the Japanese who compelled them to have come back from the vicinities to the so-called "Inner Embankment" of Shayang and to have built reeds cottages as dwelling houses. Then the people understood they had to run 2 risks in dwelling in such cottages there. Because the local of the so-called "Inner embankment" is 30 more feet lower than that of the Shayang City and on the other, the reeds cottages are very inflammable. In case the Han River would overflow or a fire accident would happen, they were the absolute victims. During the Japanese occupation for the last few years commerce came to an absolute halt as the movement of the people was restricted.

2. Losses which people of Shayang suffered during the Japanese occupation, are given as under:

   a. Old style, tile-roofed private houses about 2,300 estimated @ CN$20,000,000 each house = CN$46,000,000,000.

   b. Governmental Buildings.

      1 Building for Police Administration
      2 Buildings " Kingmen Hsiien Food Ware House.
      15 " Hanshanh Middle School and other primary schools
      1 Building for Chamber of Commerce
      1 " Hsin-shan Charity Office
      1 " Fire Station
      1 " Electric Light House with 2 machines and materials and equipments, estimated @ CN$30,000,000 each building = CN$60,000,000,000,

      Total 22 Buildings exclusive of costs of the 2 machines, materials, and equipments. Apart from above, Chinese Temples, foreign Missionary churches, and dwelling houses and other guilds, and so their costs are exclusive too.

   c. Losses incurred to commercial property and utensils and also expenses for people fled out from this place
to others during the Japanese occupation. No estimation of cost on such can be done.

d. There were 10 main public roads in this centre. No estimation of cost on these 10 roads and their equipments can be done too.

3. The people of Shayang have gradually come back since Japanese surrendered. It is a pity that now they have no houses to live, as their houses were burnt down and the shortage of both finance and construction materials prevents them from re-construction new houses. Obviously dwelling houses are very badly needed here.

4. Apart from asking all the people register their damaged houses at our Office, we have to appeal for relief before you on behalf of them. We sincerely hope that you will assign your officials with huge amount of money to Shayang to do a distribution of the money to its people after investigation.

We remain, Dear Sirs,
Yours faithfully,

Chamber of Commerce, Shayang.
Feb. 28th day of the 35th year of the Republic of China,