

Telegrams from  
**THE MEXICO** Mexico City to  
**MURDERS.** American news-  
papers show that  
the murder of innocent Chinese  
workmen and capitalists at  
Torreon was not only wholly  
unprovoked but that the acts of  
savagery committed by the Mexican  
rebels stand out as almost un-  
matched.

These reports are full of horrors. They tell of men torn to pieces between horses; of heads cut off and pitched into the streets; of men sliced to pieces; of the refusal of the rebel officers to stop the slaughter. Incidentally, also, the reports tell of heroic acts of one American woman, of one Mexican girl and of the courage of the American Consul who braved death to threaten the rebel chieftain if he did not call off his soldiers. The American woman threw her arms about a Chinese boy, pursued by the mob, and dared his assailant to touch him. The Mexican girl hid nine Chinese in her house and kept them there after her own father had been murdered for protesting against the slaughter of Chinese. An official report on the massacre, robbery and destruction of property of the Chinese colony of Torreon dated May 15, 1911, says:—

On September 16, 1910, the centennial anniversary of Mexican independence, there was a large crowd in the main square of the city of Torreon, Coahuila, and many speeches were made. Some of them excited the people greatly, as they advocated an anti-foreign crusade. The men who addressed the crowd declared that foreigners came into Mexico to steal everything the Mexicans had and proposed that they should either be driven out of the country or killed. They advocated killing the Spaniards first and then the Chinese. A mob then started out and stoned the Chinese stores, breaking the windows. They went no further on this occasion.

The Chinese residents thought this was nothing more than the effervescence caused by the public festivities and did not anticipate any further trouble, but the bad element among Mexicans evidently had acquired a strong feeling against the Chinese, which was demonstrated by subsequent events. Meanwhile the revolution started in the republic, and on May 10, 1911, it was known in Torreon that the revolutionary forces would attack the city. A

meeting of the Chinese merchants and laborers was held in the hall of the Reform Society. At this meeting the secretary of the society reminded those present of the speeches made on September 16, and fearing that the bad feeling still prevailed it was agreed at the meeting that should the rebels enter the city all the Chinese would close their places of business and board up their windows. It was also agreed that no resistance whatever should be made, and if the revolutionists broke into the stores and demanded goods or money they should be allowed to take what they pleased so as to save the lives of the Chinese.

The report then goes on to give the names of many of the Chinese who were slain in Torreon and the details of the scores of tragedies.

LEGACION DE MÉXICO  
EN CHINA.

Anexo número..(solo)...  
á la nota número 3.....  
de...7...de Julio de 1911.



July, 10th 1911.

## THE MEXICAN MASSAORE.

Story of Atrocity to the Chinese.

Mexico City, via Galveston, June 25.—Frightful atrocities are detailed in the report of the special investigators from official quarters in Mexico City on the massacre of Chinese at Torreon. The report, after setting forth the prejudice against foreigners, as displayed on previous occasions, thus details the sacking of Torreon and the attendant atrocities:—

"There were several Chinese workmen outside the city of Torreon cultivating vegetable gardens. On May 12 the rebels began sacking the houses of these market gardeners robbing them and killing some of them. They made a special point of stealing their horses and mules. As the rebels had cut off all communication with the city it was impossible for these gardeners to send any news of what was going on to their countrymen in the city.

"On May 14 the rebels began the attack on the city, and the fighting went on all day, when the federal troops found that their ammunition was exhausted. To excuse the slaughter of the Chinese the rebels alleged that the reserve ammunition was left by the federals in the hand of the Chinese and that the latter, in order to defend the ammunition, fired on the rebels.

"This story is absolutely false. At an early hour on the following morning the federal forces evacuated Torreon and marched to Saltillo. As soon as this was discovered the mob rushed about the town shouting 'Death to the Chinese' and exciting the disorderly classes to pillage. The rebel forces at once entered the town without any opposition. Many of the rebels joined the mob in sacking the Chinese stores. They began with the restaurant kept by Park Jan Jong, where they broke open the door and killed every one present.

"From this place they went to the dry goods store of Hoo Nam, where they drove everybody in the house to an upper floor and there killed them after entirely looting the store. They then proceeded to the store of Mar Young, a merchant in the leather business, and stole everything it contained. The proprietor tried to hide in the cellar, but he was found and dragged into the street, where he was stabbed and shot to death, as well as his nephew.

"It was at this time that three Chinese were tied to horses and dragged along the streets to the plaza where two of them were killed and the third, who was a boy, was saved by an American woman, who put her arms around him and defied the mob. The mob then proceeded to the stores of King Chaw of Peking, which they looted, but the proprietors and the employes escaped.



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PEKING DAILY NEWS

"The next place was the Shanghai branch store, which they also broke open, taking all the goods and killing all the people. After this they proceeded to Yee Hop's general store, which they looted and from which they dragged thirteen Chinese out into the streets and killed them with hatchets and knives. The Shanghai Company and the Wah Yick Bank occupied the same building. The premises of both were broken into, all the goods of the store were stolen as well as the money in the bank. The employes of the two establishments lived in the upper floors and the whole of them, numbering twenty-five, were killed by the mob. Two of them were cut to pieces, one of them the treasurer of the bank. Another man's head was cut off and thrown out a window into the street.

"The Reform Club building was attacked and all the furnitures, &c., were destroyed or stolen, as well as the money in the safe. In this building fifteen or sixteen men were killed, among them being the secretary of the club.

"The foregoing list only covers the principal Chinese places of business in the centre of the city, but besides these there was an immense number of stores scattered throughout the city and the whole of these were sacked and their owners killed. The same thing was done to the numerous Chinese provision and vegetable farmers in and around the market. All the market gardeners who were working in the fields near the city suffered loss of their properties and lives.

"There were many cases in which Chinese were simply held up, made to deliver the money they had on their persons and then shot.

"It is to be observed that every Chinese house was carefully closed and the windows boarded up. In many cases most of them displayed their flags, but in every case the flag was pulled down and torn to pieces.

"The terrible state of affairs continued until a committee of the principal men of business, headed by the American Consul, waited on

the commander that such outrages be stopped. More than two hundred Chinese who had escaped the general slaughter were then taken to the city jail and kept there for two nights, but even there they did not get any real protection, as the members of the prison guard searched them one by one and took away all the money they had and articles of clothing which they fancied so that on leaving the prison they were moneyless and almost naked.

"In all this slaughter there was a most extraordinary display of barbarous and savage cruelty. Some of the Chinese were shot first and stabbed afterward. In other cases they were first stabbed and then shot. Others were cut up into small pieces; others beheaded; others tied to horses by their feet and then dragged along the streets, while others had their arms or legs tied to different horses and were in this manner torn asunder. Others were stood up naked in the market gardens outside the city and there each one of them was assigned to a marksman, who made a victim."



Anexo número... (Anexo)

à la nota número 23.....

de... 1. de Ago. de 1911.

August 1st 1911.

## PEKING DAILY NEWS

## CHINA AND MEXICO.

Three investigators, who returned to Mexico City recently, placed in the hands of Shen Ai-sun of the Chinese legation a detailed report of the slaughter of 303 Chinese subjects and the destruction or theft of their property in Torreon and vicinity. It shows that many of the victims were slain in a most inhuman manner. They were tied to horses by their arms and legs and their bodies torn asunder, dead and half dead Chinese were dragged about the town at the end of ropes attached to horses, heads were cut off and savagely rolled about the streets, and bodies were cut into small bits. Blood dripping through the floors of the Chinese Bank was terrible evidence of the murder of 25 men in the second story. This building, the club house and 89 places of business were sacked. The report says the slaughter was kept up until a party of business men, headed by the American consul, demanded that the rebel leader stop the massacre. It was stopped and the 200 Orientals left were put in jail for safe keeping. There the prison guards took all their money and most of their clothes. All Chinese not killed, the report says, were saved from starvation only by the Red Cross, the American consul and foreign banks. The report says the federals gave no notice that they were going to evacuate the city and when ruffians

in the town knew the soldiers had gone, they began an anti-Chinese demonstration, killing many. Then the rebels entered the city and the carnage was given impetus. The federals are blamed for not giving notice they intended evacuating and the rebels for joining in the massacre.

An indemnity of \$6,000,000 gold will be demanded of Mexico by the Chinese Government. In addition there will be demanded an apology for insult to the Chinese flag, that aid be extended to destitute families of the victims, that those guilty of the massacre be punished, and that the constitutional guarantees of protection to Chinese lives and property be made effective. Shen Ai-sun says that a cruiser has been sent by the Chinese Government to Mexican ports, carrying persons who will continue the investigation of the treatment of Chinese throughout the republic and who will also assist in pacifying the Chinese residents in the country. This is the diplomatic way of announcing that China will back up her demands with a show of armed force.

It is probable that the new Mexican Government, when it is permanently established, will make every effort to comply with China's demands. The chief difficulty in the way will be the apprehension and punishment of those guilty of the massacre. The prompt and determined action of the Peking Government in this case is another significant sign of the awakening of China. It indicates that, when that awakening is complete, she will be in a position to enforce demands for fair treatment from every nation on



Peking, Tuesday, August 1st, 1911.

Demanding in-  
THE TORREON demnities is a  
MASSECORE novel, if not a  
unique experience  
for China, says the Dallas News.  
In paying them it has accumulated  
volumes of experience; though if  
China had been able at all times to  
enforce redress of its grievances  
there would be many entries on the  
credit side of its indemnity account.  
The injury which its citizens and its  
own dignity have suffered in Mexico  
is too great and flagrant to be  
ignored without tacitly confessing  
that it is utterly a derelict nation,  
important to make even a pretense  
of demanding the respect of other  
Nations. Nor does the amount  
demanded, \$6,000,000, seem exces-  
sive, if the slaughter and robbery  
of Chinese in Torreon was as  
great as is charged. If the indem-  
nities which China was made to pay  
as a consequence of the Boxer upris-  
ing are to be used as a criterion,  
\$6,000,000 is a very modest demand  
indeed for the injuries suffered at  
Torreoa. It will probably be thought  
unfortunate that this demand was  
made pending the institution of a  
permanent Government in Mexico.



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Ta Kung Pao (Tianjin edition). "Mexico Agrees to Execute the Murderers of Chinese Nationals"  
(墨允正法殺害華僑兇手). September 9, 1911.<sup>1</sup>

<p>全文內容： 墨允正法殺害華僑兇手○昨接墨西哥來電云 駐美欽使張蔭棠於本日(十一日)晉謁國新 任總統德 拉巴君該總統允將殺害華僑之匪首現在監 禁之二十餘人一併正法(用鎗擊斃)以蔽其 辜</p>	<p><b>Mexico Permits Execution Of Those Who Murdered Overseas Chinese</b></p> <p>Yesterday a telegram was received from Mexico stating that the Chinese Minister to the United States, Zhang Yintang, on this day (the 11th) had an audience with the newly appointed President of that country, Señor de la Barra. That president agreed that the more than twenty bandit leaders who murdered overseas Chinese, now under detention, would all be executed (shot to death) in order to atone for their crimes.</p>
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Ta Kung Pao (Tianjin edition). "The Appeal of Chinese Nationals in Mexico"  
(旅墨華僑之呼籲聲). September 24, 1915.

<p>全文內容： 旅墨華僑之呼籲聲○旅居墨西哥華僑以受國 革命之種種損害致書廣東甘善堂云哀啟者 國內亂革命之種種損 寶數不知多少 連年黨人相甘不顧大局祇知自私自利濫發 紙幣實數不知多少此等紙幣全無抵押不過 兩黨人任意發 故疆民使用而已目下已經全失甘用每獎金 一元換墨國紙幣四十元近日本省信那罈省 總督禁各埠貨 物來往惟總督之親戚朋友可以運貨餘外一 概不能也因此之故連繫各埠百物貴火車雙 倍如本 省或罵埠埠及磨時耀埠與各埠仔華人大商 店該土人與官兵搶劫者百餘萬元墨京雖有 事因亂事之故 險工失秉</p>	<p><b>Appeal From Overseas Chinese In Mexico</b></p> <p>The overseas Chinese residing in Mexico, having suffered various harms due to the revolution in that country, write to the Ganshan Hall in Guangdong, saying:</p> <p>We humbly lament that, because of the internal chaos and revolution, the various losses cannot be counted.</p> <p>For successive years, party factions have struggled against one another, disregarding the greater situation, knowing only selfish gain, recklessly issuing paper currency in unknown amounts. These paper notes have no backing whatsoever and are merely issued at will by the two factions; the people are forced to use them. At present they have entirely lost value. Now, one unit of silver can be exchanged for forty units of Mexican paper currency.</p> <p>Recently, in this province, it is reported that the provincial governor has prohibited the movement of goods between ports; only</p>
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<sup>1</sup> Original Chinese articles provided courtesy of Botao He, author of [Racial Violence Beyond the Revolution: Chinese Migrants in the Making of the Mexican State](#).

消息不通數年矣經被土人搶劫之後商人商店歇業者+之六七華工廠數失業以本省者有五千餘近因各物騰貴華商自顧不暇華工欲求兩餐不可得飢寒交迫路可行生計能已四年矣弟等遺墨國之亂可謂苦到極頂矣雖有金山華僑賑濟惟是賑濟乃係一時不能有此長力也  
入工縣廠免在  
望列位善長大發慈悲租賃輪船來威罵埠救弟等返國入工藝廠免在外流離失所則弟等感恩無涯矣  
國之亂無窮期來日方長其災禍正未有艾也弟等在祖國俱是有不至盜餘容後詳專此敬請台安旅墨西哥信那罇省全體華工朱侶樵等泣訴再者報粵國或馬埠邊華人所耕之口搶劫銀兩衣嚴臨江五名槍斃該官兵等七月二十、四號四打鐘忽有墨土官兵一隊入園口搶劫銀兩衣服臨去復將華人二十五名槍斃該官兵等  
惟甘從來華人命案並  
從容而去現下已報衙官緝凶云聞死者係香山四邑人惟是從來華人命案並不聞甘破笨將凶手治罪可  
殺害者不知凡幾真冤  
見我等不幸生為中國之人政府空談保護年中被外人殺害者不知凡幾真冤沉海底也伏登報為幸弟  
朱侶樵再訴

relatives and friends of the governor are allowed to transport goods, while all others are completely forbidden. Because of this, connections between ports are cut off, and the prices of all goods have risen sharply; railway freight has doubled.

In our province and in various ports—such as Mazatlán and other places—Chinese merchants' large shops have been looted by local people and soldiers, totaling more than one million yuan. Although the capital (Mexico City) also has affairs, because of the disorder, dangerous conditions have arisen and communication has been cut off for several years.

After repeated looting by locals, six or seven out of ten merchants and shops have closed. Many Chinese laborers have lost their jobs; in this province alone there are more than five thousand. Recently, as prices of all goods have soared, Chinese merchants cannot even take care of themselves; Chinese workers cannot obtain even two meals a day, suffering from hunger and cold, with no way to make a living. This situation has continued for four years.

We who remain in Mexico during this chaos can be said to suffer to the utmost extreme. Although there has been relief sent by overseas Chinese in "Gold Mountain" (America), such aid is only temporary and cannot last.

We earnestly hope that all benevolent gentlemen will show great compassion and charter steamships to come to Mazatlán to rescue us and return us to our homeland, or place us in factories, so that we may not continue to drift abroad without shelter. Then our gratitude would be without limit.

The chaos in the country has no end in sight; the days ahead are long, and these disasters show no sign of ceasing. We, in our ancestral land, were all people of some standing—not reduced to such a state. Details

will be reported later. With respect, we ask for your well-being.

Respectfully submitted by all Chinese laborers in the Sinaloa province of Mexico, including Zhu Lūqiao and others, who weep in appeal.

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#### **Additional report**

Furthermore, it is reported that near Mazatlán, Chinese farmers working the land were robbed of money and clothing; five people were shot to death by soldiers.

On July 24, at four o'clock, a group of Mexican soldiers suddenly entered a settlement, robbed money and clothing, and as they were leaving, again shot twenty-five Chinese people. The soldiers then calmly departed.

The case has now been reported to officials to pursue the criminals. It is heard that the dead were people from Xiangshan and the Four Districts. However, in past cases where Chinese were killed, it has never been heard that the authorities made serious efforts to punish the perpetrators; those who have been killed are too many to count, their injustices sinking to the bottom of the sea.

We lament that we are unfortunate to have been born as Chinese; the government only speaks empty words of protection. Each year, the number of those killed by foreigners is unknown; their grievances are immeasurable. We humbly request publication in the newspaper, which would be fortunate.

Respectfully submitted again by Zhu Lūqiao.