

PANAY ETC.

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This is the American gunboat Panay. Peacefully patrolling the Yangtze River in which these pictures were secured she was sunk by Japanese bombers. Equipped only with weapons suitable for fighting river pirates she was practically defenceless against attack from the air --- relying on her neutral colours as she steamed away from Nanking. The sinking of the Panay developed into an international incident when her flagship Augusta radioed the news to the Navy Department, ~~10,000 miles away~~. American newspapers reflected the horror of the civilized world and a full apology was demanded By President Roosevelt. ~~the~~ Navy Department pressed for further details. ~~Apology was forthcoming from the~~ ~~Ambassador, Hiroshi Goto.~~ Incidents had also occurred in connection with British ~~naval~~ ships, and in their advance upon Canton the Japanese were moving close to the British Colony of Hongkong. Mr Neville Chamberlain, in the most forceful speech of his career as Prime Minister, bluntly warned Japan that our patience under repeated provocation, ~~did~~ not mean that we would not protect our interests. Japan must show that her assurances and apologies meant something more than ~~mere~~ words. Britain ^{day by day} is keeping in ~~close~~ close touch with the United States, ~~day and night~~ ~~and~~, for the interests of the two great English-speaking nations lie very close together in the Far East. American warships have received sealed orders --- and American anger is rising as a result of further incidents. Britain and America both desire peace --- but neither will be influenced by bullying.