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Feb. 25, 1908.

Hon. E.R. Taylor,

Mayor of San Francisco, and

Hon. Thos. Jennings,

Chairman of the Board of Supervisors,

San Francisco, Cal.

Dear Sirs:

In the month of May, 1907, a restaurant and bath house occupied and conducted by certain Japanese residents of the City and County of San Francisco were demolished by a mob. The Japanese authorities laid the matter before the Department of State at Washington, and as a result of considerable correspondence it was determined that the best course to pursue was for the Japanese injured to bring suit against the City and County of San Francisco to recover such damages as the law might allow. Such suit has been commenced and is now pending in court. In the complaint, damages were asked for loss of business, etc, but the Court has ruled that only actual damages can be recovered. These damages, I understand by the complaint on file, amount to \$575.

I was directed to appear on behalf of the United States Government to render such assistance as I could, and should a trial take place, I shall probably participate in it. The United States Government is desirous that full justice shall be done to any Japanese who has been injured, and my purpose in writing to you now, is to suggest that the matter involved has got down to such a small amount that it ought to be settled without further litigation. I think under the

circumstances, it would be the proper thing for the City authorities to agree upon the amount of actual damages done, and offer to pay the same to those injured, without putting them to further expense in the trial of the case. This would have the effect of removing in a friendly way, a grievance made by these Japanese residents.

Yesterday I had a conference with Mr. Percy V. Long, City and County Attorney of San Francisco, and he advised that I should take the matter up with you, and suggested that any course you gentlemen would advise, would be agreeable to him.

If you desire to see me personally in the matter, I am at your command.

Yours very truly,



United States Attorney.

P.S. I write you gentlemen jointly, as I understand you are the proper persons to address on the subject.