Title of Document: "Prince MIKASA Tells That He Reported to Emperor Showa on Cruel Behavior"

Author of Document: Newspaper article of the ASAHI SHIMBUN

Date of Issue: June 16, 2000

Character of Document: This is an article reporting the comments Prince MIKASA, the emperor's youngest brother, made on June 15, 2000.

According to the article, Prince MIKASA informed the emperor of a slaughter by the Japanese military during the war.

Location of the part concerned within the document: (Investigation to be needed)

Quote [Copy of original attached]:

"On June 15, Prince MIKASA (84) attended a party to celebrate the seventieth birthday of a Japanese painting artist, HIRAYAMA Ikuo, held in a hotel in Bunkyo Ward, Tokyo. He said in his address, "I shrank in fear at the sight of the Japanese military's cruel behavior in China during the war and I told Showa Emperor about this." The prince touched upon this matter in relation to HIRAYAMA's contribution to cultural exchanges between Japan and China. Prince MIKASA worked for the General Headquarters in Nanking during the one-year period beginning in 1943. In his autobiography Kodai Orient to Watashi (The Ancient Orient and I), published in 1984, he wrote about the Japanese Military's cruel behavior he personally saw or heard of: "I saw hostages still alive stabbed with bayonets," and "We were forced to see a movie showing experiments in toxic gases done on human beings."

I hereby swear on this day of October 15, 2000, that the information contained above is accurate and the quotation genuine.

NISHINO Rumiko
三笠宮殿が亡くなった日、２０００年６月16日に初の月曜日新聞に掲載されたのは、東京都文化庁のNHKで開催された「日本」と「中国」との交流に関する記事。山田寛さんが、八十四年に出版した自伝『古代オリエンタル史と私』の中で、日中戦時中、中国で見た日本の軍隊の残虐行為を語っている。

三笠宮殿は、昭和天皇に報告したという経験もあり、一九四九年に南征記の総司令官として、対日の戦争体験をしていたが、この出来事は、彼の生涯で最も深刻な衝撃を受けていた。