

REDUCTION OF CHINESE MILITARY FORCES

*Resolution adopted by the Conference on the Limitation of Armament
at Washington February 1, 1922*

Conference on the Limitation of Armament, Washington, November 12, 1921–February 6, 1922 (U.S. Government Printing Office, 1922), p. 1654; Senate documents 124 and 125, 67th Congress, 2d session

RESOLUTION REGARDING THE REDUCTION OF CHINESE MILITARY FORCES

Whereas the Powers attending this Conference have been deeply impressed with the severe drain on the public revenue of China through the maintenance in various parts of the country of military forces, excessive in number and controlled by the military chiefs of the Provinces without coordination;

And whereas the continued maintenance of these forces appears to be mainly responsible for China's present unsettled political conditions;

And whereas it is felt that large and prompt reductions of these forces will not only advance the cause of China's political unity and economic development but will hasten her financial rehabilitation;

Therefore, without any intention to interfere in the internal problems of China, but animated by the sincere desire to see China develop and maintain for herself an effective and stable Government alike in her own interest and in the general interest of trade;

And being inspired by the spirit of this Conference whose aim is to reduce, through the limitation of armament, the enormous disbursements which manifestly constitute the greater part of the encumbrance upon enterprise and national prosperity;

It is resolved:

That this Conference express to China the earnest hope that immediate and effective steps may be taken by the Chinese Government to reduce the aforesaid military forces and expenditures.

[For parties, see bracketed note p. 331.]