

Synopsis of Document No. 2853-A-(1)-(73)

- 12 Feb. 1942 (A-1) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Togo)
U.S. will facilitate visits by protecting power to Japanese subjects. Asks for information as to attitude of Jap. Govt. on application to civil internees of Geneva Convention and visits to internees
- 17 Feb. 1942 (A-2) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Togo)
Asks if Jap. Govt. will apply Geneva Conv. to civilians and also asks to be permitted to visit American prisoners of war and internees.
- 3 Mar. 1942 (A-3) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Togo)
Asks permission to visit internees camps and for list of American citizens.
- 3 June 1942 (A-4) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Togo)
U.S. is disturbed as to fate of U.S. Nationals in Japanese occupied territories, and asks for permission to visit prisoners of war and internees there.
- 5 June 1942 (A-5) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Togo)
Britain asks for information relating to British subjects in Japanese occupied territories, and also asks for permission to visit all camps for prisoners of war and civilian internees.
- 11 June 1942 (A-6) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Togo)
Repeats letter of 5 June as to Dominion subjects.
- 12 June 1942 (A-7) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Togo)
Informs Japanese that Japanese prisoners of war or civilian internees in United States can interview representatives of protecting power and Int. Red Cross without restriction. Asks for reciprocal facilities.
- 29 July 1942 (A-8) Minister of Foreign Affairs (Togo) to Swiss Minister
Replies to letters of 5 and 11 June. Japanese Govt. will not recognise protecting powers in occupied territory, therefore visits in those areas to prisoners or internees cannot be made. In Shanghai such visits may be allowed by competent authorities.
- 30 July 1942 (A-9) Minister of Foreign Affairs (Togo) to Swiss Minister
Replies to letter of 3 June. Reply similar to 29 July letter.

- 1 September 1942 (A-10) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Togo)
Reply to 30 July letter. U.S. protests at Japanese decision and requests access to all places of internment of American nationals.
- 2 September 1942 (A-11) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Togo)
Reply to 29 July letter. British protest at Japanese refusal to permit visits to prisoners of war and civilians in territories under Japanese control.
- 3 September 1942 (A-12) Swiss to Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs (Tojo)
States application has been made to competent authorities to visit British nationals in Shanghai. This has been refused because only Tokyo can give consent. Asks for information as to what formalities are necessary in order to visit camps at Shanghai.
- 10 September 1942 (A-13) Swiss to Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs (Tojo)
Refers to letter of 1 Sept. to Togo. Asks what is the attitude of the Japanese Government on visits to camps.
- 7 October 1942 (A-14) Swiss to Foreign Minister (TANI)
States Japanese Mission in Saigon has refused permission to visit prisoners of war camps because of the temporary nature of the installations, and also because some escapes had occurred. States this is contrary to Japanese assurances to observe Geneva Convention. Asks Japanese Government to revise its decision.
- 24 October 1942 (A-15) Swiss to Foreign Minister (TANI)
Repeats 7 October letter and asks that decision be reversed.
- 28 October 1942 (A-16) Swiss to Foreign Minister (TANI)
States that some visits have been made to camps in Japan. Asks when visits may be made to camps in occupied territories.
- 6 November 1942 (A-17) Swiss to Foreign Minister (TANI)
Asks for information as to the attitude of the Japanese Govt. respecting visits to prisoner of war camps in China, Indo-China and Thailand.

- 13 November 1942 (A-18) Swiss to Foreign Minister (TANI)
Protests at Swiss having been refused permission to visit camps in Thailand and to send gifts in kind. Asks for permission to make such visits and to send such goods. Also asks Japanese Government to communicate lists of names of prisoners of war.
- 24 December 1942 (A-19) Swiss to Foreign Minister (TANI)
Acknowledges permission to visit certain camps in Japan. Asks for same rights in Japanese occupied territory.
- 5 February 1943 (A-20) Swiss to Foreign Minister (TANI)
Acknowledges permission to visit certain camps in Japan, Korea, Shanghai and Hong Kong. Asks for similar permission to visit other camps in Japan and in occupied territories.
- 16 March 1943 (A-21) Swiss to Foreign Minister (TANI)
Asks for right of Swiss representative to converse with prisoners without witnesses. States that previous requests to this effect made on 12 June 1942 and 18 June 1942 have not been replied to.
- 27 March 1943 (A-22) Swiss to Foreign Minister (TANI)
Repeats request made on 13 January 1943 to be permitted to visit camps in Taiwan.
- 31 March 1943 (A-23) Swiss to Foreign Minister (TANI)
States that several previous requests for permission to visit camps in occupied territories have not received any reply. Once more asks for that permission and also for information as to internees in Malaya.
- 22 April 1943 (A-24) Foreign Ministry (Shigemitsu) to Swiss
Reply to letters of 24 December and 31 March. States that as was mentioned in the letter of 30 July 1942, visits to camps in occupied territories cannot be permitted.
- 22 April 1943 (A-25) Foreign Ministry (Shigemitsu) to Swiss
Reply to letters of 16 and 19 March. Cannot allow Swiss to make unrestricted visits to prisoners of war and that correspondence of prisoners is permitted according to the circumstances in each camp.

- 12 May 1943 (A-26) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu)
Refers to previous letters of 26 October and 6 November. States that no permission has yet been obtained to visit camps at Shanghai in spite of many requests. Requests inter alia authority to visit all camps.
- 2 June 1943 (A-27) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu)
Repeats request for permission to visit camps in occupied territories. Requests permission to visit other camps in Japan. Requests information as to when he may revisit camps which have already been visited.
- 4 June 1943 (A-28) Swiss to Foreign Ministry (Shigemitsu)
Requests right to talk to prisoners without witnesses.
- 24 June 1943 (A-29) Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu) to Swiss
Reply to 4 June. Regulations prohibit talks without a guard. Therefore request cannot be granted.
- 28 June 1943 (A-30) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu)
Requests permission to visit Hakodate prison camp.
- 8 July 1943 (A-31) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu)
Acknowledges letter of 24 June and asks for text of regulations.
- 16 July 1943 (A-32) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu)
Requests permission to visit all camps and states that prisoners should be evacuated from the zone of combat.
- 23 July 1943 (A-33) Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu) to Swiss
Reply to 2 June. Permission to visit camps in occupied territories will be given as soon as it is opportune. Visits to camps in Japan already visited will be considered when specific applications are made.
- 29 July 1943 (A-34) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu)
Repeats 16 July. Requests permission to visit camps in Phillipines.

- 23 August 1943 (A-35) Swiss to Foreign Ministry (Shigemitsu)
Request to revisit camps at Tokyo and Yokohama.
- 4 September 1943 (A-36) Swiss to Foreign Ministry (Shigemitsu)
Request to visit Hokodate. Inquires as to attitude of Japanese Government on visits to other camps.
- 22 October 1943 (A-37) Swiss to Foreign Ministry (Shigemitsu)
Asks for replies to letters of 23 August, also 28 June, 4th September and 29th July re visits to prison camps.
- 10 December 1943 (A-38) Swiss to Foreign Ministry (Shigemitsu)
Asks for a reply to letter of 22 October re visits to certain camps in Japan.
- 12 February 1944 (A-39) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu)
Complaining that requests to visit camps sent between August 1943 and February have received no reply. Makes a formal demand to visit all camps.
- 13 March 1944 (A-40) Swiss to Foreign Ministry (Shigemitsu)
Requests to visit camps. States that British Government has received alarming reports of physical condition and work of prisoners. Asks to be informed as to the physical condition and work of prisoners of war.
- 25 March 1944 (A-41) Swiss to Foreign Ministry (Shigemitsu)
Requests to visit camps. Quotes statement in Nippon Times that Govt. will facilitate observations by objective parties.
- 30 March 1944 (A-42) Swiss to Suzuki, Tadokatsu (not accused) of Foreign Ministry
States that from 1 Feb. 1942 to 15 March 1944 Swiss have intervened in writing 124 times re visits to camps. There have been 24 replies. In last nine months only 3 replies received. Most of replies have been negative.
- 10 May 1944 (A-43) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu)
States visits are made by protecting power to Japanese prisoners in America without restriction. Requests visits to prisoner of war camps in Japanese controlled territories.

- 30 June 1944 (A-44) Swiss to Suzuki, Tadokatsu (not the accused) of the Foreign Ministry
Sets out that the Japanese raise the question that the Swiss have not received authority to protect British and U.S. subjects in occupied territories, and asks for permission to visit.
- 1 July 1944 (A-45) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu)
Refers to promise by Shigemitsu to examine the question of visits to prisoner of war camps. Mentions the statements of the U.S. Government re atrocities. Asks for humane treatment of U.S. prisoners.
- 21 July 1944 (A-46) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu)
Refers to Japanese statement that Swiss will be authorized to visit the prisoner of war camps in Japan. Asks when it can visit camps.
- 12 August 1944 (A-47) Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu) to Swiss
Sets out attitude of Japanese Government re denying visits to camps in occupied territories.
- 15 August 1944 (A-48) Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu) to Swiss
Reply to 21 July. Permission to visit camps in Japan will be granted when asked for.
- 17 August 1944 (A-49) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu)
States Swiss have never received list of prisoner of war camps in Japan and therefore cannot undertake the responsibility of making specific applications. Requests permission to visit all camps and asks for a list of camps in Japan.
- 12 September 1944 (A-50) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu)
Asks that humane treatment be accorded to British prisoners and asks permission to visit all camps.
- 28 October 1944 (A-51) Swiss to Foreign Ministry (Shigemitsu)
Reiterates request for permission to visit all camps in occupied territories.
- 10 November 1944 (A-52) Swiss to Suzuki (not the accused)
Asks for confirmation of promise made by Shigemitsu that permission to visit camps in occupied territories would be given on condition of reciprocity.
- 13 November 1944 (A-53) Suzuki to Swiss
Visits to Manila, Shonan and Bangkok may be commenced.

- 16 November 1944 (A-54) Swiss to Foreign Ministry (Shigemitsu)
States that only five camps in Japan have been visited. Asks for permission to visit others.
- 17 November 1944 (A-55) Swiss to Suzuki
Asks reasons why competent authorities will not permit visits in N. E. I.
- 8 December 1944 (A-56) Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu) to Swiss
Reply to 1 July and 12 September. Japanese Government will allow visits to prisoners of war camps in occupied territories provided they do not interfere with military operations and on conditions of reciprocity. Will commence negotiations on this subject with International Red Cross re visits in P.I., Shonan and Thailand.
- 12 December 1944 (A-57) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu)
Acknowledges 8 December.
- 3 January 1945 (A-58) Swiss to Foreign Ministry (Shigemitsu)
Asks when camps may be visited.
- 16 March 1945 (A-59) Swiss to Foreign Ministry (Shigemitsu)
Mentions visits to 2 camps in Japan. Asks when others may be visited.
- 7 April 1945 (A-60) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Shigemitsu)
Reply to 3 December. States reciprocity already exists and has existed for a long time.
- 17 April 1945 (A-61) Swiss to Foreign Ministry (Togo)
States only 2 camps in Japan visited in 1945. Asks permission to visit other camps.
- 19 April 1945 (A-62) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Togo)
Asks permission for M. Rush to visit camps. Mentions that many weeks have elapsed since this request was first made.
- 28 April 1945 (A-63) Swiss to Suzuki (not the accused)
States request made on 16 March, 3, 17 April to visit certain camps in Japan, Formosa and Mukden have been unanswered.
- 10 May 1945 (A-64) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Togo)
U.S. asks if Japs will allow visits to Singapore, Japan, Formosa, and Manchuria.

- 16 May 1945 (A-65) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Togo)
Asks for permission to visit all camps.
- 30 May 1945 (A-66) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Togo)
Informs Japanese that visits to camps for Japanese POW's in Tinian, Saipan, Guam and New Caledonia will be authorized by the United States when the Japanese have given a favourable answer to the letter of 10 May.
- 30 May 1945 (A-67) Swiss to Foreign Minister (TOGO)
Requests to be allowed to visit all camps in Japan.
- 5 June 1945 (A-68) Foreign Minister (Togo) to Swiss
Answer to 7 April. Jap. Govt. "will lose no time" in having a representative of International Red Cross visit prisoner of war camps, in Thailand, and on conclusion of negotiations with Int. Red Cross committee will authorize visits in Malaya.
- 13 June 1945 (A-69) Swiss to Foreign Minister (Togo)
Reiterates that U.S. has agreed to all camps being visited.
- 14 June 1945 (A-70) Swiss to Suzuki, Tadokatsu (not the accused) of the Foreign Ministry
Asks for visits, notification of all names of all prisoners of war and internees and removal of camps from vicinity of military objectives.
- 13 July 1945 (A-71) Swiss to Suzuki, Tadokatsu (not the accused) of the Foreign Ministry
Re visit to Shonan. Difficulties raised by Japanese as to the person who is to visit. Japanese will not allow Swiss to select their representative.
- 13 July 1945 (A-72) Swiss to Suzuki (not the accused) of the Foreign Ministry
Reports of Swiss visitors will be sent in the clear as required by the Japanese.
- 31 July 1945 (A-73) Swiss to Suzuki (not the accused) of the Foreign Ministry
Asks when visits to camps in Thailand and Singapore will be permitted.