

Hsia Zoh-Tsung
1947

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

Hsia



In reply refer to
VD 811.111 Hsia Zoh-Tsung

Handwritten signature: Hsia

July 14, 1947

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have your letter of June 12, 1947 with its enclosed correspondence from Mr. Hsia Zoh-Tsung of Singapore who wishes to come to the United States.

It is not clear whether Mr. Hsia has applied at the American Consulate General at Singapore for a visa to enter the United States. The Department is communicating with that office and is suggesting that if Mr. Hsia has not already taken up the question of obtaining a visa he be invited to call in order that his case may be discussed with him.

In view of the responsibility placed upon consular officers for arriving at decisions regarding the eligibility of aliens to receive visas, I believe you will agree that it would be desirable for the Consulate General at Singapore to have the information contained in Mr. Hsia's communication and I have, therefore, forwarded a copy thereof to that office for its confidential information.

As to Mr. Hsia's reference to insufficient travel money, there is of course nothing the Department or the Consulate General can do to assist him in this respect.

Faithfully yours,

Handwritten signature: L. B. Nichols

Enclosures:

1. From Mr. Hsia,
March 20 and
June 4, 1947.
2. To Mr Hsia,
April 1, 1947.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
Apartment Six A,
29 Washington Square West,
New York 11, New York.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION CABLEGRAM

JOSEPH L. EGAN
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

LC	Deferred Cablegram
PM NLS	Cable Night Letter
	Ship Radiogram

Received at

N126 INTL=N SINGAPOREPO VIA WUCABLES 15 4 1330

LC MRS ROOSEVELT CARE BUANBYE (MRS ROOSEVELT CARE
GEORGE T BYE & CO)=NYK (535 FIFTH AVE=

JUST RECEIVED YOURS SHOW LETTER BY ALL MEANS:

=HSIAZOTTSUNG

HSIAZOTTSUNG

April 1, 1947

My dear Mr. Hsia:

I have received your letter of March 20th. May I show your letter to the State Department?

I am afraid there is no other way I can help get permission to enter the United States.

Very sincerely yours.

c/o Chan Sze Onn & Co.,
96, Market Street, Singapore.
March 20th 1947

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:-

I wish to thank you very much for your kindness to introduce me to Mrs. A.D. McNeil. I will send her a biographical sketch of myself, several suggested lecture titles with a brief resume (25 words or so) of each, and a recent photograph...as she suggested in her letter.

I have, in my possession, 68 pictures - actual scene of the Communists War effort for the preservation of the World Peace - during the Eight Years War against the Jap's aggression. After my talk with the Communists' Representatives at Chungking I toured China to verify the Truth. Madam Chou En Lan intended to take the above mentioned photos to you herself. But, owing to her difficulty in getting a Passport to attend your conference, she trusted the matter in my hand...to be forwarded to you before publication.

The Communists have cut their relation with Russia ever since the Sino-Japanese War started. They have been real comrades to the People, Undergrounds and Geurillas during the Eight Dark Years - many of us were saved from the clutches of Death by them. We, Wartime People Undergrounds, have our Vow to remember:-that is:"TO SACRIFICE LIFE, NAME AND WHATEVER WE POSSESSED FOR OUR FATHERLAND - CHINA. AND, IF WE EVER LIVED THROUGH THE WAR, WE WERE TO GO BACK TO OUR OCCUPATION WITHOUT CLAIMING RECOGNITION OF OUR SERVICE OR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO OUR LOSSES!" But, the Communists are a fighting Unit - unless their War Service to our Fatherland remembered and recognized, they will fight on till the Proper Recognition awarded them.

I have, also, in my possession two written testimonies from the Communists Representatives...pledges of their Faithfulness to China. Eversince last December I have been trying to reach you but I am still here. The British Government only allows me three hundred gold out of Malaya.... How am I going to travel with that much pocket money only? I hesitate to ask my cousin, Mr. Wang Kong Sieu (the Consul at Boston), for an invitation because of the Communists's War Record - it may effect his job. Kindly suggest a way for me to send the above mentioned things, to reach you at the earliest possible date.

I dared not mention anything about it in my first letter

to you because I didnot know whether my letter would ever reach you. This is the chief reason why I wish to come almost immediately. I am now working as a general assistant at the above mentioned company. I shall keep on working here till my chance of coming to America getting into shape My uncle, Dr. C.T.Wang, has re-married. And I have no news direct from him eversince his second marriage. Yes, I have heard about him from my aunt (C.T.'s youngest sister) just day before yesterday.

May this letter reach you in the best of health.

Yours respectfully,

Hsia Zoh-Tsung

HSIA ZOH-TSUNG.

P.S. It would be a great favor if you could keep my information confidential as all my people are on the Kuomintang side and, moreover, I am the FREE AGENT of the Chinese Ministry of Information. I am presenting the whole matter for your confidential information solely in the interest of TRUTH.

Hsia
June 12, 1947

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am enclosing all the correspondence I have with Mr. Hsia.

I do not know whether it is wise to allow this man to come to this country and I certainly do not want to hurt his uncle and he evidently does not either.

I will leave it entirely in your hands.

Very sincerely yours,

Hsia Teh-Tung
c/o Chan See Gum & Co.
94 Market Street
Singapore, Malaya

Told you
reply

ask both

Geo Beys ^{sent copies}
Calston Leigh ^{of letters to}
both

if they are

interested

*Gene
I think to
write to
Plate to
about this*

c/o Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corp.,
Collyer Quay, Singapore, Malaya,
June 9th, 1947.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt,
Appartment Six A,
29 Washington Square West,
New York 11, N.Y. ,
U.S.A.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

Your kind letter came to hand
on the 3rd. inst. I have sent ^{you} a reply by tele-
gram on the day following, through the care of Mr. G.
T. Bye, because he has a cable Address. I hope
that you will not mind the said procedure, as I am
trying to save every cent for the trip to America.

I know with God's love and
America's Sympathy and Sense of Justice, and your
co-operation; Peace will come to China and automa-
tically to the world. I belong to no Party - I
belong to the People - and we, People, want Peace.
I am sure that the Secretary of the State will
help us out. Please do show the ^{other} letter to the
State Department.

May God bless you for all you
have done for China and the work you are going to
do for China.

Please address all my letters
to the above address, so that you can reach me easily.

Yours gratefully,

Hsia Zoh Tsung
HSIA ZOH-TSUNG

Telephone: MUrray Hill 2-8775

Cable Address: ~~Bye~~ N.Y.

GEORGE T. BYE
AND COMPANY
535 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

*former
affair*

*Hsia
Hsinglong Shanghai Banking Corp
Singapore
Malaya*

February 21, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have written the lady Mrs. Hsia Zoh-Tsieng of Ananda Villa, 721 North Beach, Penang, Malaya, who wrote you on December 1.

I am telling this lady, who is an agent of the Chinese Ministry of Information, about the lectures in the United States, about book publishing in this country, and have offered to introduce her to people who might be interested in her films when she arrives here.

Faithfully yours,

*G. T. Bye
for I. S. Gentry*

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
29 Washington Square West,
New York 11, N. Y.

P.S.

Mr. Bye is snowed in up at home so was unable to sign his letters.

I.G.H.



*Wang Kong-Sieu
J.B.
Singapore*

ANANDA VILLA,
72 1, North Beach,
Penang, Malaya.
Dec. 1st, 1946.

MERRY X'MAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:-

I take great privilege to write you this letter because I know both you & Mr. Roosevelt are great friends of my uncle, Dr. C.T. Wang, the first Chinese Ambassador to the United States. I still have a cousin, Mr. Wang Kong-Sieu, who is a Chinese consul in the States now. The last I have heard of him, that he was stationed at Boston. Two weeks after my arrival (from my world trip after my happy student's days at the Y.W.C.A. college, Sally-Oak, England) at Shanghai the Sino-China War started. Being a hot-head patriot I joined the War Underground to help the soldiers at the rear to fight the Japs. Most of us stuck to this dare-devil work to the end and I was one of them. You will read about my work in the Underground in the book I am hoping to publish in the near future. My three years of Underground work in China, comparatively speaking, was much easier than my career as an Underground in Malaya. When my husband was called to Malaya to join the Colors I was still in Shanghai working in the British Embassy as a broadcaster, to help the Allies at the same time. Then orders came that I was to come down to Malaya to organize a Resistance group in case the Japs attack the South Sea Islands.

Thank God that my husband and my brothers who were all in the war and fought bravely for the country have all come back, safe and well. Both our homes in China and here have been bombed and looted - we have to start all anew - poor but happy to be in each other's arm.

I am now the free agent of the Chinese Ministry of Information. Madam Chiang Kai-Shek gave a cordual welcome when I went back to report my work in Malaya.

After my extensive tour of my homeland - I returned to Malaya on Oct. 1st by S.S. President Polk. (My husband is now one of the chief officers on the coast line). From China I brought back with me strip projection films depicting "China's Eight Years of War", the New Life Movement, Rehabilitation work and other various subjects of interest from War to Industry in China and Burma, such as those on silk, wood-oil, iron and coal, the Sienkong Area - the home of ancient tribes, on the Western border of China; and various notes regarding my tour in China, etc, which might be of interest to students and clubs.

I am planning to give a series of lectures in the States. My trouble is the making of proper arrangements for a lecture tour and



your valuable advice in this matter would be more than appreciated.

On my trip down from China I have shown some of the strip films at Hongkong, Manila, Singapore here in Penang and even on board the Polk. I am glad to tell you that the films drew large crowds who evinced great pleasure and delight in having these glimpses of the War-torn China vividly portrayed to them, responding with interest and fervour to the commentaries.

I am preparing a book on the work and life of our womenfolk during the war time in China and oversea occupied regions, in the compilation of which assistance in the writing of parts covering episodes and matters of interest in all the areas free and occupied is being given me by many of our distinguished countrywomen. I hope to be able to publish this book sometime next spring, providing I can of course get all the material together in time.

I am also preparing a pictorial book on the Eight years of War in China. This book gives a full story of China's effort on the preservation of World's Peace despite shortage of munitions and lack of preparation for a long and strenuous war against the destructive factors of the Axis Powers.

The book will be divided into four sections:

- 1 - Fighting Front with short History of the 8 Years of War.
- 2 - Madam's (Giang Kai-Shek) war work.
- 3 - Underground and Guerillas work in the rear.
- 4 - China's rehabilitation work.

(All materials and pictures with permission of the parties concerned)

It would indeed be a great favour if you could get some well known publisher to be interested in this type of literature. A proportion of the proceeds from sales, should it be successful, to funds designed for popular education of the illiterate mass in China.

I hope and trust that you will cooperate with me in the above mentioned matters by giving me details, at your earliest convenience.

I have book on our National Language and quick methods to teach any foreigner to be able to read and talk within three months. I would be very grateful if you could get me a teaching job in any of the universities just for a change for me ^{just} away from the "night-mares" places where I worked as an underground during the war-time. My husband has given me some money from his family and is willing to let me to have a trip for some time as a holiday. Moreover, my uncle and Dr. W.W. Yen are coming to the States on a Trade mission, and I think it would be a great fun to be with my uncle again. I saw him in China just for a short time because I was traveling from province to province all the time. This will give me a place to stay while tackling the above questions in the States. Thank you very much for your kindness, Yours respectfully,
Hsia Juh-Tsung-

W. COLSTON LEIGH
President

W. Colston Leigh, Inc.
NEW YORK - CHICAGO SAN FRANCISCO

Cable COLLEIGH
521 FIFTH AVENUE
New York 17, N.Y.
Murray Hill 2-6624

February 20, 1947

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
29 Washington Square West
New York 11, New York

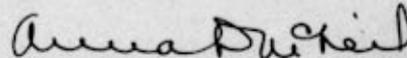
Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Thank you very much for your note of February 7th enclosing the material from Hsai Zoh-Tsieng.

We are writing to get some further information, although I am not at all certain that we can do anything about this.

Very best wishes for a pleasant trip to the Coast.

Very sincerely yours,



Mrs. A. D. McNeil

ADM/mj

P.S. Mr. Leigh is in Florida and will not be back until the 10th of March. Otherwise, he would have most certainly answered your note himself.

Telephone: MUrray Hill 2-8775

Cable Address: Byanbye

GEORGE T. BYE

AND COMPANY

535 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

Hsia

me

August 20, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I too had a letter from Mme. Hsia Zoh Tsung sending me a carbon copy of the material she sent to you, and we had already offered it to William Sloane Associates, a publishing house that is specializing in books on China. If they return it I thought I would next try John Day Company.

As for Dr. Seiichi Saiki and your Stokes book, "IT'S UP TO THE WOMEN," I am going to see Bertram Lippincott tomorrow. They took over Stokes and I will see if they have any objection to a Japanese translation.

Faithfully yours,

G.T.B.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
29 Washington Square, West,
New York 11, N. Y.

GEORGE T. BYE & CO.
555 FIFTH AVE., NEW YORK

August 20, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Mac Gregor:

We had a telephone call from the State Department today saying that a Swedish publisher wanted to bring out "THIS IS MY AMERICA" and seems to assume that they could use a great part of the book without any permission of the authors. But even if the authors were acquiescent there are a lot of quotations in the book and the Swedish publisher would have to get in touch with the American publishers to whom acknowledgments were made.

We hope to get a copy of the Swedish publisher's letter in the next day or so. In the meantime we indicated that we had no authority to give any permission. I am seeing Mrs. Roosevelt tomorrow night and will mention this to her.

In the meantime can you tell me if you have been in touch with a Swedish publisher? There is no proposition of course, that we can accept before we have laid it before you -- and we are not asking you to even suggest a proposition at this time.

I hope that you are in fine health.

Faithfully yours,

Mrs. Frances Cooke Mac Gregor,
1611 East Broadway,
Columbia, Missouri.

Hsia

*For you to
see*

c/o The Hongkong Shanghai
Banking Corporation,
Singapore, MALAYA.
Sept. 3rd, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

I trust that my last communication, in which I enclosed a copy of the resume of the book I am bringing out, has reached you safely. I may mention that I also sent copies to Mrs. McNeil and Mr. Bye in New York.

Two weeks ago I received a letter from the United States' Consulate here asking me to report there in person. Accordingly I went, and now have to wait while the consul reports to his Government, because I am identical with the person who has been trying to get a visa since last December, but did not succeed because the British authorities would not allow me \$1000 American exchange for the trip.

I was so worried that the further delay in presenting adequately the Communists' case as represented by the real part that they took in the Eight Years War, might lead to more bloodshed in China, that I risked the chance of endangering my family at the hands of the Kuomintang by sending a resume of my book to publishers interested in Chinese affairs. I trust you will pardon this step, for I feel that I should have consulted you first before taking it.

I am reliably informed that many of the people's guerillas are joining the Communists against the Kuomintang because the latter insisted that they should take up arms against the former and many are reported to have lost their lives by refusing to do so. This explains the new activity in the civil conflict.

Lord Killlearn, a close friend of my uncle (Dr. C.T.Wang) during the time when, as Sir Miles Lampson, he was at the British Embassy in China, is now stationed in Singapore, and he has kindly promised to read over my book and give me his impressions thereof. Should these be favourable, and also if I am fortunate enough to gain your approval, I hope to be able to publish shortly.

Thanking you most sincerely for the interest which you have taken in this matter, and with apologies for again troubling you,

Yours gratefully,

Zoh-Tsung

HSIA ZOH-TSUNG (MADAME)

P.S. Enclosed, please find a copy of the letter to the publishers and a biography of my war work.

Madame Hsia Zoh-Tsung is a niece of Dr. C.T. Wang who was Foreign Minister in the Chinese Government for the long period of some twelve years prior to the outbreak of war with Japan in 1937, and he was also the first Chinese Ambassador to Washington.

Madame Hsia had her early education in China, and then proceeded to take a course in sociology in the Y.W.C.A. College, Sally-oak, Birmingham (England). But as war was threatening with Japan she returned to Shanghai via America and Japan. When hostilities broke out she joined the passive resistance group, first as "shipping woman", in which capacity she had to charter ships and procure cargoes for patriotic merchants, thus obtaining an excuse for visiting various ports, giving news of forthcoming raids, and arranging for the timely retreat of the populace.

In 1938 Madame Hsia was appointed by General Hsu to censor all foreigners wishing to pass through Wenchow to the interior. This was the last port left open for the entry of foreign supplies, and General Hsu was in command there. The port itself is situated on the southern bank of the mouth of the Yangtse, and was only kept open through collusion with the enemy.

During 1939 up to May 1940, Madame Hsia carried out the duties of censor of Chinese news at the British Embassy, then in Shanghai, at the same time acting as broadcaster for Sir Archibald Clerk-Kerr, now Lord Inverchapel, British Ambassador at Washington.

From 1941 Madame Hsia followed a passive resistance group down to Malaya, where, in order to cover her real activities, she undertook volunteer service with the Young Women's Christian Association in Penang, and also carried out the duties of honorary secretary of the Malayan Patriotic and China Relief Funds.

When war actually broke out on the 8th Dec., 1941, she promptly enlisted in the transport branch of the Medical Auxiliary Service, and in addition raised funds for a mobile canteen. Ever active, in between whiles she engaged in underground work and got in touch with anti-fascist members of the Japanese forces, from whom most valuable information was obtained, notably plans of mine-fields, which were passed on to the relieving forces, whereby big loss of life was undoubtedly saved. Prior to this, over the last lap of the occupational course, Madame Hsia joined what was known as the "Servants' Corps", carrying out farm work and household duties in Japanese families in order to be in closest touch with the real inner life and forthcoming movement of the enemy.

In conclusion, it should be mentioned that during the long-drawn-out ordeal of the Jap regime she constantly gave invaluable assistance to those in trouble, including several Europeans, even when doing so rendered her liable to instant execution.

In connection with this matter of service rendered locally at Penang during the occupation, it may be mentioned that Madame Hsia received a message through a member of the Masonic Lodge for the Province of Monmouthshire conveying comments by their Grand Master in England on the fortitude she had shown in preserving records and insignia of their craft. Also the officer-in-command of the landing-party of the Royal Marines came to pay his respect to her in person for her war service. Finally, the military arranged for her journey by rail down to Singapore, on priority, in order to enable her to proceed to Shanghai without delay, and the naval

authorities in Singapore made a special arrangements with the master of a cargo-boat carrying cotton for the non-stop voyage of Madame Hsia and a lady friend to the Chinese port.

When Madame Hsia went back to China in 1946, she first visited Chungking to interview Madame Chiang Kai-shek and Madame Chou En-lai, wife of the Communist representative in the war-time capital. After meeting these ladies, and also the heads of different parties, she proceeded to tour the country in order to verify the various reports received, and finally finished, travel-weary, in the reinstated national capital, Nanking.

All arrangements connected with this protracted tour were provided for by the war-time people's undergrounds and their influential supporters.

Madame Hsia is now engaged in carrying out the undergrounds' after-war duties - support of widows and the education of orphans.

As instancing how widely spread are the family interests in patriotic service, it may be mentioned that a brother of Madame Hsia who was a full general in the war-time, is now in-charge of the National Resource Commission in Shanghai; a cousin is consul at Boston, U.S.A., and a niece is married to the present mayor of Shanghai.

c/o The Hongkong Shanghai
Banking Corporation,
Singapore, Malaya.

Gentlemen,

I am now forwarding the Resume of the book I have compiled for publication in England, Canada and America. The said book is an authentic record of the eight years of war in China and an unbiased report of all who took part in the long, passive resistance against the War Aggressors....with about 400 pictures and twenty thousand words to depict the tenacity of Unbreakable China.

Should you be interested in the publishing of this book and secure a sponsor for its publication, I can assure you that your assistance in the matter will be of real help in seeing the establishment of mutual understanding between the contending parties in China, and thereby promote that greatest of all modern desiderata - world-wide peace.

Messrs George T. Bys & Co. (address: 535 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N.Y., U.S.A.) are my literary agents in America, and Mr. V.I. Horne (address: 60 Gladstone Place, Aberdeen, Scotland) is my literary agent in England; and inquiries relative of my standing will have their attention.

All the pictures of the said book have been passed by the Public Relation Department in Malaya, and the book-manuscript is now being sent in for censorship.

Looking forward for your reply with interest....I shall appreciate very much if you will be good enough to let me have your views regarding my proposal by airmail.

Faithfully yours,

HSIA HON-FOUNG (HONGKONG)