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LEGATION DE SUISSE, LONDRES

20 AUG 1940 10829
DOSSIER NO. X 9.7.40

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W. 1.

19th August, 1940.

Sir,

With reference to your note of the 16th August, and to your subsequent representations on the night of the 17th - 18th August, concerning the alleged flights of British aircraft over Swiss territory, I have the honour to inform you that I have caused enquiries to be made into this matter.

2. I am informed that on investigation it has been found that aircraft of the R.A.F. did inadvertently fly over Swiss territory on the dates in question, and I am to express, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, my deep regret at this circumstance.

3. Aircraft of the R.A.F. are instructed to take all possible steps to avoid flying over neutral territory, but it is clear that conditions of wind and weather have on occasions rendered it impossible to comply with these instructions.

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His Excellency
The Swiss Minister.

Dodis





4. I am to add that if such violations should unfortunately recur, His Majesty's Government fully recognise the right, and indeed the duty, of the Swiss authorities to take steps to defend their neutrality.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest consideration,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Salvaj