

July 7, 1953

STAT
MEMORANDUM FOR

**Non-Profit Goodwill Tour of Japan by the New York Giants
in Connection with the Perry Centennial Celebration.**

1. The Yomiuri Shinbun, of Tokyo, owner of the Tokyo Giants, has invited the New York Giants to play 12 post-season games in 1953 with Japanese Major League teams.
2. Stoneham, the Giants' owner, and the players want to go. The State Department approves. The Japanese would love it. But the Major League rules say NO post-season games. The problem is to get Ford Frick and the Club owners to agree to an exception. (They are meeting in Cincinnati this week, which is the time to act.)
3. The scheme was largely cooked up by the old big leaguer, Lefty O'Doul who is Mr. Baseball in the eyes of the Japanese kids. The players would get expenses and a royal reception but the profits would go to charity.
4. The Giants are very popular in Japan and the Japanese are crazy for baseball. This tour can do more good than a more formal "cultural" affair — and the fact that both Negro and white players are on the team won't do us any harm.
5. The letter from you to Frick should help to get Frick and the owners' lined up behind this project.

STAT