

you, my good friends, is that you understand me correctly and have no doubts. You should not laugh at my request to kiss the Queen's hand. All you need to say is that I have not yet reached such a stature to deserve this and in that case all I have to do is to work, work, work.

27. S: Our work has been progressing properly and seriously. Your guidance has been top grade and in fact I know that with your consultations not only you but one hundred people are working on our materials. At the same time, however, I beg you to understand me and not to be offended by such requests. Although my morale is excellent, after all, I am a soldier, not a young girl. I do feel slightly hurt and at a loss to understand why, if the work I have done is indeed valued, why I am refused this gesture which would mean so much to me in the sense of my morale. Materially I am more than spoiled and I am indeed deeply grateful for all that has been done for me in this respect. All I can say for this is many times thanks. I do feel, however, that others before me who also did so much to help the West were perhaps shown more appreciation and more encouragement by prominent people personally, purely from the morale point of view. I do appreciate that Lord MOUNTBATTEN's representative met me but I think if there were more trust in me---. Perhaps you have not studied me enough to feel sure, but I think that a request for such recognition is correct.

28. S: I think if I were a big man and a soldier--such as I am--would come to serve, I would consider such a recognition proper and desirable, and I would find time to meet, inspire and thank such a soldier. If there is not enough yet to thank me for, then let's not talk any more about it. Maybe it will take another six months or a year but understand me correctly. Perhaps I am a romantic; after all romanticism is an integral part of the work I am doing. Although I am slightly hurt I would have never brought the matter up at all, had it not been raised officially by you. I have given myself heart and soul. All my thoughts and feeling I have dedicated to this work. In spite of all the difficulties facing me I have surmounted many obstacles to achieve what I planned. Why couldn't some enthusiasm, some encouragement be shown to me in exchange by your leaders of the West? Of course if I have not yet earned this, then all is clear and I will continue to work to earn it. Such encouragement is essential to me more especially if say, in a month's time I am caught and finished! What if say, they would raise a fireman's ladder outside my window and catch me in the act of photographing documents when I myself think I am not observed? Maybe I will be forced to come out in a month's time. All this I mention as negatives and reject them.