

**Zeitschrift:** Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Herausgeber:** Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Band:** 9 (1943-1944)  
**Heft:** 6

**Artikel:** Some outstanding American leaders in the present war are of Swiss origin  
**Autor:** [s.n.]  
**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-942684>

### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

**Download PDF:** 05.01.2026

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**

The distribution of the departments is therefore as follows:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Head of Department</u>
Economics	Stampfli, President of the Confederation
Foreign Affairs	Pilet-Golaz, Vice-President "
Interior	Etter, Federal Councillor
Justice and Police	von Steiger " "
Defence	Kobelt, " "
Finance and Customs	Nobs, " "
Post and Railways	Celio, " "

SOME OUTSTANDING AMERICAN LEADERS IN THE PRESENT WAR  
ARE OF SWISS ORIGIN.

Generals Eisenhower, Eichelberger, Hershey and Edgar Hoover, etc.

(Copied from the Swiss-American Journal, New York, 19 January, 1944.)

The gigantic tasks, which the present World War has imposed upon the American people, has called for superminds. Out of our ranks new leaders have emerged to guide the destiny of the American nation. New names appear on the front pages of our daily papers. It fills the Swiss element in America with pride that some of the outstanding leaders of today are of Swiss origin. We may begin our citations at the very top of the list with -

GENERALISSIMO DWIGHT DAVID EISENHOWER whose first American progenitor came from Switzerland. Searching through the early ship lists we found that on November 20th, 1741, Johann Peter Eisenhauer, Hans Nicolas Eisenhauer and Johann Isenhauer were passengers on the vessel "Europa", sailing from Rotterdam for Philadelphia, Pa. Imbued with desire for personal freedom, the democratic spirited Eisenhauers left their original home in Germany and settled in Switzerland, where they lived one hundred years before the above-named emigrants departed for the New World.

GENERAL ROBERT LAWRENCE EICHELBERGER, one of the leaders in the Pacific theatre of the present war. We are particularly indebted for information on the Eichelbergers in America and in Switzerland to Edward G. Eichelberger of New York, a cousin of the General. Our Bernese compatriots will be particularly interested to learn that General "Bob" Eichelberger and his ramified relations in U.S.A., of whom many have rendered conspicuous services to this nation, have their rootstock in the Emmenthal, Canton of Berne, where a branch of the family still resides.

A hill northeast of Lützelflüh is called the Eichenberg. In the nearby village of Goldbach members of the family of Eichelberger are still to be found today. According to the Bernese Book of the Family Coats-of-Arms, in which their heraldic coat-of-arms appears, one Daniel Eichelberger became a Burgher of the city of Bern, in 1516. During their temporary settlement in the Palatinate, Philip Friedrich Eichelberger was born, in 1593. Seized by the contagious emigration fever of his time and place, Philip Friedrich Eichelberger joined a group of his friends in their pilgrimage to America. After their arrival in Philadelphia, Friedrich Eichelberger obtained from two brothers of William Penn a grant of land near Lancaster. The original document is still preserved in the archives of Pennsylvania. In the course of time his descendants became prosperous citizens. During the Revolutionary War, his sons embraced the cause of the American patriots and fought bravely on their side. George Eichelberger was delegated from his district to the Provincial Convention held at Philadelphia on January 23, 1776. Grayson Eichelberger served as Secretary of State in Maryland. Col. George Eichelberger was stationed at Fort McHenry during the defence of Baltimore, in 1814. Frederick Eichelberger, son of Col. George Eichelberger, was elected State Senator from York county.

Among our prominent contemporaries we take pleasure in mentioning Clark M. Eichelberger of New York, National Director of the League of Nations Association, and of the Commission to Study the Organisation of Peace.

The Eichelbergers, from the beginning of their American career, have always evinced a keen interest in public affairs of their adopted country, and they have also most honorably fulfilled their military duties whenever the country needed support. It is, therefore, in accord with their family tradition when also in the present war, the Eichelbergers appear on the list of heroes. Among those killed at Pearl Harbor, during the Japanese attack, was Pvt. Paul R. Eichelberger, whose father, Harry Eichelberger, resides at Camp Hill Pa.

GENERAL HERSHEY AND EDGAR HOOVER. Researches into the family history of these two prominent Americans have not been completed so far, but the Swiss American Journal promises the publication of these biographical sketches later on.

#### SUNDAY NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND.

The Federal Department of Economics has given to a committee the task to investigate and report on the increase in cost of living expenses and to recommend figures on which a general increase in wages could be based. This committee gives now the following figures which are based on the income and expenses of a family of four persons.

Pre-war family income S.Frs.	Basis for wage-increases.	
	in % of pre-war income	in % of increase in living-costs.
Up to 3000	44	91
3000 - 4000	36	73
4000 - 5000	30	61
5000 - 6000	29	60
Over 6000	27	55
Average 5259	29	59

Swiss fighter planes shot down a twin-engined German aircraft flying over Swiss territory when the German plane, ordered to land, replied with gunfire, the British radio said Sunday, quoting an official statement from Berne. The British broadcast, recorded by United States Government monitors, said that the plane had been shot down in a dogfight over the Bernese-Jura Mountains.

Literary production in Switzerland, which had been on the decline during the first two years of war, not only shows now an upward trend, but has exceeded all previous output. The average number of books published annually was about 2000, but in 1942, 2870 was registered. The subjects which show the greatest increase are education, agriculture, trade, industry and geography; statistics have doubled, or more than doubled, since 1940. Each of the four linguistic groups of our country has had its share in this revival of literary activity, but French and Italian predominate proportionately over German. In its modest way, Romansch has shown remarkable vitality.

A direct, 18 hour, nonstop air route from Switzerland to the United States will be established as soon as possible after the war, Henry Pillichody, American representative of the Swiss National Office of Transportation, revealed last Wednesday.

Plans already are under way for a big new airport for intercontinental planes, Mr. Pillichody said in the current issue of Air Transportation magazine, and the Swiss Government is prepared to finance its construction as well as the enlargement of existing air terminals in the Alpine country.

The proposed operating schedule calls for 18 hour service direct from New York to Switzerland.