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Panama

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Personal

Panama
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THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

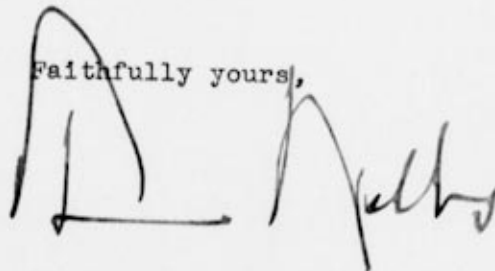
February 6, 1941

My dear Mr. President:

I have received today under date of January 31 a personal letter from former Ambassador Boyd of Panama. Dr. Boyd has been living in Panama since his resignation as Ambassador, and I believe that the information contained in his letter will be of interest to you in view of the disquieting situation which has been developing in the Republic. I am enclosing a copy of his letter herewith.

Believe me

Faithfully yours,



Enclosure:
From Dr. Jorge E. Boyd,
January 31, 1941.

The President,
The White House.

Personal

P. O. Box No. 494
Ancon, C. Z.,
January 31, 1940 (sic)

Hon. Sumner Welles,
Washington, D. C.

My dear friend:

I had not written you before as I wished to be able to give you some accurate information about local matters after having seen the Ambassador, Governor, General and Admiral, which I have done at different occasions. It gave me pleasure to deliver the messages of the President about his preoccupation regarding the recent policy established by the Arias Administration in connection with the defense not only of the Canal but of the Western Hemisphere. I had lengthy conversations with the Ambassador, General Van Voorhis and the Governor and I told the first one of the wishes of the President that I should get in touch with him through the Ambassador acquainting the Ambassador with any developments I should know.

Governor Edgerton told me he was planning to see President Roosevelt soon during his visit to Washington in connection with the annual appropriations for the Canal. The General informed me that notwithstanding the recent cablegram addressed to President Roosevelt by President Arias the latter had not shown any signs of changing his policy. Ambassador Dawson expressed no opinion. The marked lack of friendliness towards American Officials, citizens and interests, on the part of President Arias and his Government, is patent even in small matters, to such an extent that the high American dignitaries of the Canal Zone have adopted a policy of not coming to Panama City except on unavoidable occasions. The Panamanian police in several instances have shown uncalled disrespect to them and their wives, backed by their superiors.

In an interview I had with President Arias upon my return I demanded from him an explanation as to the unprecedented conduct of his Government towards me, as his Ambassador and that I was ready to hear and answer any questions or charges that he wished to present. He repeated that not only his Government but the nation at large had nothing but praise as to the manner in which I had discharged those delicate duties but that his

Government had decided to establish very radical policies especially towards the United States and that he knew that the State Department was going to offer a strong resistance but that he was determined to face it and that he counted with the will of almost the whole nation to carry out his determination. That his Government was firm in its will to show that it was able to conquer that resistance and that he was afraid that I would have been placed in an embarrassing position when asked to carry out this policy of his Government judging by my continual declarations that I would rather separate myself from any connection with his Government than to advocate a policy towards the United States with which I was entirely in disaccord. I replied that in that respect he had appreciated my feelings correctly, for I was convinced that such policy was not only utterly erroneous but harmful to the extreme to the interests of my country. That the actual American Administration had demonstrated in all ways its best disposition to help Panama and the other American nations and that, in my judgment, to fail to recognize this generous and friendly attitude not only was unwise but revealed total ingratitude. I was very strong in my declarations for I sincerely regret that my country should be forced to suffer such humiliation by representatives so totally divorced from its real sentiments. The Panamanian people like the peoples of all the Americas, I know, are sincerely grateful to President Roosevelt and his collaborators for the true spirit of Pan-Americanism they show daily in all their acts towards these countries. President Arias added that he was not a statesman nor diplomat, but a mere surgeon, and that as such he was going to perform the operation of cutting the leg of the patient if he as a medical man thought it best, without consulting the patient nor any one else, and for that reason he was going ahead with his determination to implant radical policies internal and external no matter what Government or people faced him.

He said Dr. Brin promised him that he was ready to carry out all this and that was why he sent him to Washington.

I have no doubt that your representatives here keep you fully informed about the numerous arbitrary acts towards aliens that take place all the time, except towards the totalitarian States. I shall be pleased to cooperate with you in whatever may be within my ability

to try to stop this unwise antiamerican policy and I mean against all the three Americas, before it reaches too far and cause harmful effects in our Continent, so if you wish you may let me hear from you to my P.O. Box at Ancon, No. 494.

I warned Dr. Arias that he would be isolated if he persisted in that road for no Latin American country shared his views and he said he was above them in not bending his knees. He and his entourage, Isaza and Company, take the friendly demonstrations, like the Military review in his honor of yesterday at Fort Clayton, as evidence that he is right and that the American Officials have to give up any resistance fearing that he might face them with strong allies behind him.

Regarding the recent cablegram of congratulations sent by President Arias to President Roosevelt I am reliably informed that three of the Diputados of our Assembly worded it and took it to the Secretary of the Presidencia, Cristobal Rodríguez, asking him to please use his influence with Dr. Arias to sign it, for it was to his interest to show at least in one instance that he was not totally against the American Nation including its President. They were told to pass into Dr. Arias Office where after some insistance on their part he reluctantly agreed to send it. One of the Congressmen told me of this incident.

I do not doubt that President Roosevelt and you have already expressed your views, as usual in a forceful and clear way, to our actual diplomatic representative there. I would like to have when published copies of the speeches of presentation of credentials and reply, even though these naturally only slightly may reflect what was told afterwards orally.

Please convey to your charming wife our kindest regards.

We had the pleasure of hearing from you all through Edith Wilson and Edith Bayne and to know that you were well.

Lo abraza su afectísimo amigo que lo aprecia altamente,

JORGE E. BOYD

PSF: Panama Folder

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

July 7, 1941.

My dear Mr. President:

I am enclosing for your information a copy of a personal letter I have received today from our Ambassador to Panama. I believe you will find it of interest since it gives an estimate of the present situation in Panama by Harmodio Arias, in whose judgment and wisdom I have considerable confidence.

Believe me

Faithfully yours

Enc.

The President,
The White House.

COPY

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Panamá, July 2, 1941

Airmail
Personal and
Strictly Confidential

Dear Sumner:

I regret to seem to be bombarding you with letters as I know how terribly busy you are with matters of utmost importance. Nevertheless there are developments of importance in this situation which I feel that you must be informed of in connection with our policy regarding Panamá and the carrying on of the present negotiations.

This morning Harmodio Arias came to see me and we had a long talk. He gave me many details concerning what I shall mention hereafter: I will try to boil it down to the essentials. He stated in the first place that what he had to say was extremely embarrassing to him, as it had to do with his brother, for whom he had deep personal affection. He felt, nevertheless, that he must tell me of certain matters. He said that over a period of time his brother had been trying to get control of Panamá-América, Harmodio's paper. The reason he wished to get control was to change the editorial policy of the paper which has been strongly in favor of the United States and the democratic cause and openly critical of totalitarianism, and to make it friendly to the totalitarian cause. He told me of recent pressure brought to bear on him to sell his 65 percent interest in the paper to the President at a price more than it is worth. He had refused to do so. He now has certain reason to believe that steps are being taken to force him to do this. He told me that the paper is not paying for itself, that he has to make the deficit up out of the money he earns from his law practice and from his other business venture, which is a meat slaughtering concern. Recently the Mayor of Panamá, Barletta, the head of the gang of racketeers close to Arnulfo, has been making it increasingly difficult for this meat concern to do business, refusing them permission to ship meat to Colón, etc. Clients of his law firm are beginning to be told that if they continue

The Honorable
Sumner Welles,
Under Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

REGRADED UNCLASSIFIED

with him they will fail to have any support in connection with Government contracts. There is also beginning a campaign to intimidate advertisers in Panamá-América.

Something along these lines took place last February and at that time Harmodio had what he says is the only interview with his brother since the latter has been in office. At that time Arnulfo warned him to stop saying anything about the totalitarians in his paper. He also insisted that if Harmodio would not sell his paper, he appoint as editor Cristóbal Rodríguez, the Secretary General of the Presidency and the present editorial writer for the Government paper, La Tribuna. Harmodio refused both requests.

Harmodio also told me of efforts being made by Arnulfo to buy the 15 percent interest in Panamá-América still owned by Nelson Rounsevell, who formerly owned the controlling interest. (Rounsevell himself came to me three weeks ago to say that the strongest pressure was being put on him to sell this stock but that he would not do it because it would embarrass Harmodio through permitting a minority interest owned by Arnulfo to make consistent trouble in the management of the paper. Rounsevell added that a few years ago he had received an offer of \$280,000 for his controlling interest in the paper from a representative of the German Government. He refused to sell.)

Harmodio said that the situation was becoming too much for him. He would not sell Panamá-América but he felt that before long he would have to shut it down. He said it was not only a question of financial difficulties but that the Government was making trouble for him in every way regarding the running of his paper. The Government had deported his editor some months ago, Ted Scott. They had forced another editor, Octavio Fábrega, law partner of Harmodio, to leave editorship because they threatened to ruin him and his family. They had forced various others of his employees on the editorial staff, linotype workers and others to leave his paper, either through giving them Government jobs or threatening to discharge their relatives who work for the Government, or else by direct personal threats of violence. Now, with the pending legislation to throttle the press, which will probably be voted in the next few days, any reporter or editor or newspaper worker will be subject to direct control by the Ministry of Government and without the approval of that Ministry will be unable to

carry on the newspaper profession. The situation, Har-modio said, is simply becoming too strong for him, and while he will not permit his paper to be taken over by Arnulfo, he will be obliged before long to close it.

The Panamá-América, as you know, is the one paper here which has been courageous and independent. The only other paper that amounts to anything, the Star and Herald, owned by T. Gabriel Duque, is clearly subject to Government control. Duque has been intimidated, and has also been led along by financial inducements, so that he does not oppose Arnulfo on any point of importance. Harmodio told me that Duque gets \$3,000 a week on a Government contract for printing lottery tickets - much more than the work is worth. He is being coaxed along with promises of renewing his dog racing license, which was cancelled a while ago.

The closing down of the Panamá-América will be a most serious blow to us in this situation. I tried to encourage Harmodio to carry on, asked him to think the matter over and talk again with me and see what we can work out to be of some help. He is, however, about ready to give up the fight.

We spoke about the negotiations with Panamá. He said to me three times, with emphasis, that he felt it would be a serious mistake on our part to reach any agreement with the Government of Panamá under present conditions which would give that Government important concessions and put it in a position to increase its prestige. He said that I knew how he had worked to obtain satisfaction for Panamá's just claims, and he hoped that Panamá would some day obtain satisfaction. Nevertheless, he felt that concessions made to this Government at present would be the worst possible thing for us in the long run. We would merely find that once the agreement had been reached this Government, true to totalitarian methods, would immediately raise other claims and make other troubles for us.

In response to my repeated inquiries as to what was really wrong in this situation in Panamá, he finally said to me as clearly as any one could, without using the definite words which I am employing, that he felt that Arnulfo was in some way committed to the Nazis and was definitely playing their game.

I told him of our negotiations and what we had already indicated we would be prepared to do for Panamá in return for a satisfactory lease contract for the sites. He said that he only hoped that we might find some way of holding on for the time being to what we were offering and not turning it all over to this Government at the present time. It is not an opportune time to do it, he repeated, saying again that anything in the nature of an apparent victory for this Government would make the gangsters and racketeers who are running it so sure of themselves that they would be doubly difficult for us to deal with in the future.

He said (and this is also my observation) that the people of Panamá had become apathetic about Arnulfo's high-handed tactics, because they were intimidated and in fear of their lives and their properties. Arnulfo is employing true totalitarian tactics: he threatens one man's business on one score, another man's on another score; every one is so worried about his own difficulties that he is unable and unwilling to join in any general movement to oppose the action of the Government. He said that if the United States enters the war he fears that we shall have a most difficult situation here. The people are so apathetic and intimidated, and take for granted that the present Government is totalitarian in sympathies and that nobody, not even the United States, is taking any action to oppose it, that they will make no opposition to any pro-Axis moves which the Government may take.

I know what regard and high opinion you have for Harmodio Arias. I also think most highly of him. He has heretofore, since I have been here, refrained from any serious criticism of the present régime. I feel that what he had to say is of the utmost importance in gauging this situation. It confirms what I have already written you regarding the motives and tendencies of the people in power.

Yours as ever,

EDWIN C. WILSON

(2251)

lmo

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 29, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF STATE:

FOR PREPARATION OF REPLY FOR
MY SIGNATURE.

F.D.R.

(Please return enclosures)

Message and translation of same from the Panamanian
Ambassador; copies retained for our files.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 29, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Dear Mr. President:

As per your instructions, I sent this original to the State Department for translation, hereto attached. In the meanwhile, the Panamanian Ambassador also sent you a translation, which you also have.

I am informed this morning that General Brett apologized officially for the incident described herein, and that also the State and War Departments are preparing a statement giving the President both sides of the question.

E. M. W.

(TRANSLATION)

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

EMBASSY OF PANAMA

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM

TO HIS EXCELLENCY FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

In obedience to confidential instructions emanating from His Excellency the President of the Republic of Panama and brought to Washington by his Private Secretary, the Ambassador of Panama in Washington takes the liberty of informing His Excellency the President of the United States of America of the existence of a delicate situation which threatens to disturb the cordiality of the relations existing between the Republic of Panama and the United States of America.

Even though it may seem unnecessary, it is useful to recall at this time that since the treacherous Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor the relations between Panama and the United States have been growing daily closer and more cordial, without it being possible to doubt for an instant the sincerity with which the people and the Government of Panama have cooperated, are cooperating and will continue to cooperate with those of the United States in the present emergency.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)

State Dept. letter, 3-31-76
by SLR Date JUN 17 1976

Panama did not hesitate to declare war on the Axis powers and fall in line with the United Nations in their struggle for the principles of right, of justice and of civilization. Panama leased more than one hundred defense sites, on her own territory, for the use of the military forces of the United States. Panama has labored in a thousand different ways for the cause of Victory, which is hers and that of the United States as will always be those which are based and founded on principles of friendship, cordiality and reciprocal respect among nations.

Notwithstanding this, it is painful to observe that since the separation from the command of the forces quartered in the Canal Zone of the splendid General Frank M. Andrews, whose course of action made possible complete harmony between the Panamanian authorities and the military authorities of the Canal Zone, repeated incidents provoked by members of the American military forces assigned to the Zone, on defense sites or on maneuvers through Panamanian territory have come to create a situation which is from every point of view undesirable, which is now reaching its climax and may subsequently be of lamentable consequences.

In point of fact, it has frequently been the case that United States military officers exceed the license

granted by Panama to execute maneuvers in certain areas of her territory, by devoting themselves outside of the areas to halting and inspecting vehicles which are passing over Panamanian national highways, as well as the occupants of such vehicles, in that way incurring in persistent, manifest and repeated violations of Panamanian sovereignty, and that United States soldiers have not hesitated to halt, more than once, the official automobile of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Panama, and to halt also that of His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Relations.

Such abuses on the part of the United States soldiers could not fail to give rise to repeated protests on the part of the Government of Panama, which has made strong but fruitless representations to the United States Embassy, the absence of His Excellency Ambassador Edwin C. Wilson making itself felt in this and other respects.

Moreover, such conduct in United States soldiers has not failed to awaken at the same time a sentiment of surprise and an attitude of protest and disapproval in the Panamanian people, upon seeing its sovereign attributes publicly and repeatedly disregarded.

Political opponents of the present Administration, in addition to elements of totalitarian ideas, are also

exploiting the existing conflicts and differences with the purpose of producing an internal effervescence to the prejudice of both countries.

In view of these circumstances the Government of Panama has been compelled, in order to silence the criticisms which were formulated against it that it did not defend with proper energy our sovereign rights, to make public the text of note D.P. 6189-A, with which the protests of the Panamanian Chancelery to the United States Embassy culminated.

The result of the said note, the copy and translation of which form annexes A and B of this Memorandum, was not what the Government of Panama expected, that is: the demonstration of greater zeal in putting a stop to such disagreeable incidents. Much to its regret and with notable surprise it has observed that its legitimate protest is interpreted as an offense against the American Army, thus taking on the character of an unfriendly act which it was never intended that it should have. Panama is not trying to wound the feelings of the United States forces, which are respected and worthy of respect on many grounds, but to maintain the integrity of her sovereign attributes which have been repeatedly violated.

In a recent interview, held after the publication of the note D.P. 6189-A between the Minister of Foreign Relations and the Honorable the Chargé d'Affaires of the United States, the latter stated: "Mr. Minister, the Army has made an issue out of this. They consider that their dignity has been affected by the note".

Also subsequent to the publication of the said note, the Government of Panama has learned that a member of the United States Military Police (M.P.) arrested a Panamanian citizen on the national highway; that the Panamanian launch "J.D.AROSEMENA" after having received permission to pass the Colon breakwater, was the object of two cannon shots from an American vessel; that the stopping of vehicles is so frequent that it takes on an alarming aspect.

These facts, added to what was said by the Chargé d'Affaires ad interim, betray the existence of a state of affairs which should not continue, for three fundamental reasons: first, because it violates sovereign attributes of the Republic of Panama, which looks out for them jealously and patriotically and trusts that in this hour of trial the United States of America will know how to respect them for the sake of the sacred

principles of liberty and independence which it has ever supported; second, because it is not possible to allow to grow cool the cordiality which has characterized the relations between Panama and the United States, who have known how to write together more than one chapter of sincere, close and fertile international collaboration. The cooperation of Panama has been full, total, but she cannot compromise her dignity nor her sovereignty. An intemperate attitude with respect to her justified complaints is less conducive to the good harmony between our two countries than the attitude which may result from the frank and open communication of the different claims which may exist on the one side against the other; and third, because situations of this nature may be exploited by the common enemy in order to sow discord among the United Nations, through subversive propaganda, which should be prevented at any cost, and in order to divide those who at every moment have known how to make a common front against him because of their community of interests, ideals and principles.

Because of what is set forth above, His Excellency the President of the Republic of Panama has received a painful surprise by the attitude assumed by certain high authorities of the American Army in the Canal Zone.

His Excellency the President of the Republic of Panama knows that His Excellency the President of the United States of America will understand the delicacy and gravity of the situation set forth, and trusts that his proven sense of justice will be able to dictate to him the prompt and judicious action which will cause to disappear the existing causes of friction and bring back the harmony and complete agreement which always existed in the past between the United States military authorities and those of the Republic of Panama.

December 28, 1943.

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Confidential

December 31, 1943

~~SECRET~~

My dear Mr. President:

I have given careful consideration to the memorandum which, in obedience to Your Excellency's confidential instructions, was brought to Washington by your private secretary and was handed to me on December 28, 1943 by the Ambassador of Panama. I desire to express to you the very real concern and regret with which I have learned of the situation described in the memorandum.

I wish to take this opportunity to express once more my own profound appreciation of the contributions which Panama has made to the war effort in which our two countries are cooperating with the other free peoples of the world. The Panama Canal is one of the greatest assets for the promotion of our common cause. The requirements of its defense make of the territory of the Republic a scene of military operations on an extensive scale. The people of Panama have shown an eager acceptance of the hardships, the risks and the dangers

DECLASSIFIED

By Deputy Archivist of the U.S.

incumbent

By W. J. Stewart Date FEB 14 1972

incumbent upon them not only as allies in the great world struggle but also as partners in the defense of the Panama Canal.

Even the exigencies of this cruel and far-flung war, a war which is total, involving as it does not only the armed forces of all participating countries but civilian populations as well in unpredictable emergencies, cannot excuse or condone acts committed in disregard of the sovereign rights of an independent country. It is for the safeguard of such inherent sovereignty that the United Nations struggle against a tyrannical foe. No misunderstanding between allies in this struggle or more particularly between sister Republics of this Hemisphere should be permitted to arise and no disputes should remain unresolved or left to breed distrust.

I have, therefore, been particularly gratified with the action taken by the Panamanian Ambassador under your instruction in calling at the Department of State on December 31, 1943 to express your opinion that full satisfaction for these disturbing incidents has been given to you personally and jointly by the United States Chargé d'Affaires in Panama and the Commanding General of the Caribbean Defense Area and that these matters may therefore be considered closed.

I have

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I have instructed that prompt and conclusive measures be taken to avoid the repetition of incidents of the type mentioned. I am confident that these measures will prove successful and that the continued cooperation of the Government and people of your great country may be counted upon in the difficult and critical days which will precede the final triumph of the cause to which our two peoples are jointly pledged.

Believe me, with the assurances of my highest regard,

Yours very sincerely,

S/ Franklin D. Roosevelt

His Excellency

Ricardo Adolfo de la Guardia,
President of the Republic of Panama.

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ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

January 1, 1944

~~SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

I attach an informal letter to the President of Panama for your consideration as a reply to the memorandum from him left at the White House on December 28, 1943 by the Panamanian Ambassador.

The Ambassador called at the Department this morning. He said that the President of Panama had instructed him to state that the incidents of which complaint was made in the memorandum were considered closed by the visit that the United States Chargé and the Commanding General of the Canal Zone paid to the President yesterday.

If you approve of the letter I will be glad to see that it is put in the hands of the Ambassador.

CH

Enclosures:

Letter to the President of Panama.
Memorandum from the President of
Panama with enclosures.

Translation of Note.



DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. letter, 1-11-72

By JS Date FEB 14 1972

~~MEMORANDUM CONFIDENTIAL~~

AL EXCELENTISIMO SEÑOR FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT
PRESIDENTE DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA.-

En cumplimiento de instrucciones confidenciales emanadas del Excelentísimo Señor Presidente de la República de Panamá y traídas a Washington por su Secretario Privado, el Embajador de Panamá en Washington se permite llevar a conocimiento del Excelentísimo Señor Presidente de los Estados Unidos de América la existencia de una delicada situación que amenaza perturbar la cordialidad de las relaciones existentes entre la República de Panamá y los Estados Unidos de América.

Aún cuando parezca innecesario, es útil recordar en estos momentos que desde el alevoso ataque japonés a Pearl Harbor las relaciones entre Panamá y los Estados Unidos han venido haciéndose cada día más estrechas y cordiales, sin que pueda por un instante dudarse de la sinceridad conque el Pueblo y el Gobierno de Panamá han cooperado, cooperan y seguirán cooperando con los de los Estados Unidos en la presente emergencia.

Panamá no vaciló en declarar la guerra a las potencias del Eje, y en formar fila con las Naciones Unidas en su lucha por los principios de Derecho, de Justicia y de Civilización. Panamá dió en arrendamiento

más

más de cien sitios de defensa, en su propio territorio, para uso de las fuerzas militares de los Estados Unidos. Panamá, de mil maneras distintas ha laborado por la causa de la Victoria, que es la suya y la de los Estados Unidos como lo serán siempre las que se apoyan y encuentran fundamento en principios de amistad, cordialidad y recíproco respeto entre naciones.

Esto no obstante, es doloroso observar que desde la separación del comando de las fuerzas acantonadas en la Zona del Canal del caballeroso General Frank M. Andrews, cuya actuación hizo posible una completa armonía entre las autoridades panameñas y las militares de la Zona del Canal, reiterados incidentes provocados por miembros de las fuerzas militares norteamericanas destacadas en la Zona, en sitios de defensa o en maniobras por territorio panameño han venido a crear una situación a todas luces inconveniente, que alcanza ahora su clímax y puede ser de ulteriores lamentables consecuencias.

En efecto, ha sido frecuente el hecho de que funcionarios militares norteamericanos se extralimiten en la licencia concedida por Panamá para ejecutar maniobras en áreas determinadas de su territorio, dedicándose fuera de ellas a detener e inspeccionar vehículos que transitan por carreteras nacionales panameñas, así como a los ocupantes de tales vehículos, incurriendo de tal modo en violaciones persistentes,

manifiestas

manifiestas y reiteradas de la soberanía panameña, que soldados norteamericanos no han vacilado en detener, más de una vez, el automóvil oficial del Excelentísimo Señor Presidente de la República de Panamá, y en detener también el de Su Excelencia el Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores.

Tales abusos por parte de militares norteamericanos no han podido menos que originar reiteradas protestas de parte del Gobierno de Panamá, que ha hecho enérgicas pero infructuosas representaciones ante la Embajada de los Estados Unidos, dejándose sentir, en este y otros respectos, la ausencia de Su Excelencia el Embajador Edwin C. Wilson.

Por otra parte, conducta semejante en militares norteamericanos no ha dejado de despertar, al mismo tiempo un sentimiento de extrañeza y una actitud de protesta e inconformidad en el pueblo panameño, al ver pública y reiteradamente desconocidos sus atributos soberanos.

Adversarios políticos de la actual administración, aunados a elementos de ideas totalitarias, explotan también los conflictos y diferencias existentes con el fin de producir una efervescencia interna en perjuicio de ambos países.

En vista de estas circunstancias, el Gobierno de Panamá se ha visto obligado, para acallar las críticas que se le formulaban de no defender con la debida energía nuestros derechos soberanos, a hacer

público

público el texto de la nota D.P.6189-A, con la cual culminaron las protestas de la Cancillería panameña ante la Embajada de los Estados Unidos.

El resultado de dicha nota, cuya copia y traducción forman los anexos A y B de este Memorandum, no fué el que esperaba el Gobierno de Panamá, a saber: la demostración de un celo mayor en hacer cesar tan desagradables incidentes. Muy a su pesar y con notable sorpresa ha observado que su legítima protesta es interpretada como ofensa inferida al Ejército Americano, asumiendo así el carácter de acto inamistoso que jamás pensó revestir. Panamá no pretende herir los sentimientos de las fuerzas norteamericanas, por muchos conceptos respetadas y respetables, sino mantener la integridad de sus atributos soberanos vulnerados reiteradamente.

En reciente entrevista, celebrada después de la publicación de la nota D.P.6189-A entre el Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores y el Honorable Encargado de Negocios de los Estados Unidos, el último expresó: "Mr. Minister, the Army has made an issue out of this. They consider that their dignity has been affected by the note".

Con posterioridad también a la publicación de dicha nota, el Gobierno de Panamá ha tenido conocimiento de que un miembro de la policía militar norteamericana (MP) arrestó en una de las carreteras nacionales a un ciudadano panameño; de que la lancha

panameña

panameña "J.D.AROSEMENA" después de haber recibido permiso para cruzar el rompe-olas de Colón, fué objeto de dos disparos de cañón por parte de un barco norteamericano; de que las detenciones de vehículos son tan numerosas que asumen un cariz alarmante.

Estos hechos, sumados a lo expresado por el Encargado de Negocios a.i., delatan la existencia de un estado de cosas que no debe perdurar, por tres razones fundamentales: primero, porque vulnera atributos soberanos de la República de Panamá, que vela por ellos celosa y patrioticamente y confía que en esta hora de prueba los Estados Unidos de América los sabrá respetar en aras de los sagrados principios de libertad e independencia que siempre ha mantenido; segundo, porque no es posible que se deje entibiar la cordialidad que ha caracterizado las relaciones entre Panamá y los Estados Unidos, que han sabido escribir juntos más de un capítulo de sincera, estrecha y fecunda colaboración internacional. La cooperación de Panamá ha sido plena, total, pero no puede comprometer su dignidad ni su soberanía. Una actitud intemperante ante sus quejas justificadas es menos conducente a la buena armonía entre nuestros dos países que la que puede resultar de la comunicación franca y abierta de los distintos reclamos que existan de una parte para con otra; y tercero, porque situaciones de esta naturaleza pueden ser explotadas por el enemigo común para sembrar discordia entre las Naciones Unidas, mediante propaganda subversiva

que

que a todo precio se debe evitar, y para dividir a quienes en todo instante han sabido hacerle frente unidos por comunidad de intereses, de ideales y de principios.

Por lo anteriormente expuesto, el Excelentísimo Señor Presidente de la República de Panamá ha recibido una dolorosa sorpresa por la actitud asumida por determinadas altas autoridades del Ejército Americano en la Zona del Canal.

El Excelentísimo Señor Presidente de la República de Panamá sabe que el Excelentísimo Señor Presidente de los Estados Unidos de América habrá de comprender lo delicado y lo grave de la situación expuesta, y confía en que su bien probado sentido de justicia sabrá dictarle la pronta y atinada acción que ha de hacer desaparecer las causas de fricción existentes y devolver la armonía y el completo acuerdo que siempre, existieron en el pasado entre las autoridades militares norteamericanas y las de la República de Panamá.

28 de Diciembre de 1943.

ANEXO A

TEXTO DE LA NOTA D.P.6189-A

C
P
I
A.-

D.P. 6189-A.-

Panamá, diciembre 11 de 1943.

Señor Encargado de Negocios:

Cúpleme manifestar a Vuestra Señoría que a pesar de las reiteradas representaciones que el Gobierno de Panamá, por conducto del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, ha hecho ante la Embajada de los Estados Unidos, con el propósito de que las autoridades militares de la Zona del Canal tomen las providencias necesarias a fin de que soldados del Ejército de los Estados Unidos, en tránsito o en maniobras en territorio bajo jurisdicción panameña, no traspasen, en el desarrollo de sus actividades, las limitaciones que encierra el permiso que el Gobierno de Panamá concede con tal objeto, se han repetido últimamente casos muy desagradables, por decir lo menos.

Durante los últimos meses y después de la última representación hecha por este Ministerio, han sido frecuentes los incidentes que han tenido lugar con motivo de detenciones, por parte de soldados norteamericanos, de vehículos que transitan por los caminos nacionales, violando abiertamente en esa forma la jurisdicción de la República de Panamá. Dichas detenciones se han efectuado a distintas horas del día, bajo diversos pretextos y, en muchos casos, la detención ha incluido la inspección y registro

Su Señoría
John J. Muccio.,
Encargado de Negocios a.i.,
de los Estados Unidos de América,
Presente.-

Señoría que el Gobierno está contemplando la necesidad y registro del interior de los vehículos y hasta de sus ocupantes.

El caso más llamativo ocurrido recientemente se refiere nada menos que al Excelentísimo Señor Presidente de la República.

En la noche del 22 del presente mes, como a las 9:30 p.m., pasaba el Excelentísimo Señor Presidente en su automóvil oficial por la carretera que conduce a Panamá la Vieja y, cerca del Puente del Rey, observó que algunos soldados detenían a los automóviles que por allí transitaban, registrando a sus ocupantes. El chofer del automóvil del señor Presidente se vió obligado a usar la sirena y a ignorar las señales de detención que hacían al acercarse el carro presidencial. Sólo así pudo pasar dicho vehículo sin ser detenido.

Han sido tan repetidas estas detenciones de vehículos, no obstante las reiteradas expresiones de que los funcionarios militares correspondientes han tomado medidas para evitar su repetición, que en los círculos oficiales de mi Gobierno se está llegando a la creencia de que las autoridades militares competentes no le prestan la atención debida a los casos denunciados.

Como sin duda alguna no escapa al ilustrado criterio de Vuestra Señoría, los actos denunciados constituyen una extralimitación del permiso que el Gobierno de Panamá concede al Ejército de los Estados Unidos para que efectúe maniobras en el territorio nacional o para que transite por él y una violación de la jurisdicción panameña.

Por tales motivos, deseo manifestar a Vuestra Señoría

que

3.-

Señoría que mi Gobierno está contemplando la necesidad de tomar medidas drásticas que hagan cesar definitivamente tales abusos.

Aprovecho la oportunidad para reiterarle las seguridades de mi más distinguida consideración.

ANEXO E

Octavio Fábrega.,
Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores.-

TRADUCCION DE LA NOTA D.F. 1277-2.

MJM/
dmr.-

ANEXO B

TRADUCCION DE LA NOTA D.P.6189-A.

C O P Y

D.P. 6189-A

Panama, December 11, 1943.

Sir:

I beg to inform you that notwithstanding the reiterated representations made by the Government of Panama, through the Ministry of Foreign Relations, to the Embassy of the United States with the purpose that the military authorities in the Canal Zone take the necessary measures in order that soldiers of the Army of the United States, in transit or maneuvers in territory under Panamanian jurisdictions, shall not transgress, in carrying out their activities, the limitations implied in the permit granted by the Government of Panama for that purpose, there have occurred recently most unpleasant incidents, to say the least.

During the last few months and following the last representations made by this Ministry there have been frequent incidents arising from the detentions, on the part of the northamerican soldiers, of vehicles in

Honorable John J. Muccio,
Charge d'Affaires a.i.
of the United States of America,
Panama, Republic of Panama.

transit over national highways, thus openly violating the jurisdiction of the Republic of Panama. Those detentions have occurred at different hours of the day, under diverse pretexts and, in many cases, the detention has extended to the inspection and searching of vehicles and of their occupants.

The most telling event recently occurred refers to no other person than His Excellency the President of the Republic.

On the night of the 22nd. instant, about 9:30 p.m. His Excellency the President was riding in his official car over the highway to Panama-Viejo, near Puente del Rey, and noticed that a few soldiers were detaining all cars and searching their occupants.

The driver of the President's car was forced to use the siren and to ignore the signals for stopping made as the car drew near. Only thus, the President's car passed along without being detained.

These detentions of vehicles have been so frequent, notwithstanding the reiterated statements that the military officials concerned had taken measures against their recurrence, that official circles of my Government are beginning to believe that the appropriate military authorities are not giving due considerations to the cases reported.

As undoubtedly will not escape from your enlightened criterion, the facts denounced constitute an extra-

limitation of the authorization given by the Government of Panama to the military forces of the United States to hold maneuvers within the national territory or in transit therein, and a violation of the jurisdictional rights of Panama.

For these reasons I wish to express to you that my Government is thus contemplating the necessity of adopting drastic measures in order to put and end to such abuses.

I avail myself of this opportunity to reiterate to you the assurances of my most distinguish consideration,

(signed) Octavio Fábrega,
Minister of Foreign Relations.

c:em.

ANEXO C

TRANSLATION OF THE CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ MEMORANDUM

TO HIS EXCELLENCY FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT, PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.-

In fulfillment of confidential instructions given by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Panama, and brought to Washington expressly by his Private Secretary, the Ambassador of Panama in Washington takes the liberty of presenting to His Excellency the President of the United States of America, for his consideration, the existence of a delicate situation that threatens to disturb the cordiality of the relations existing between the Republic of Panama and the United States of America.

Even though it may seem unnecessary, it is important to remember in these moments that ever since the treacherous Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor the relations between Panama and the United States of America have become day by day more cordial and firmly established, making always evident the sincerity with which the people and the Government of Panama have cooperated and will continue to do so with the United States of America in the present emergency.

Panama did not hesitate, to declare war upon the Axis nations, to join the United Nations in the struggle for the principles of Right, Justice and Civilization. Panama granted in lease more than one hundred sites for defense, in its own territory, for the use of the armed forces of the United States. In an thousand different ways Panama

has

DECLASSIFIED

2. O. 11/22, Sec. 5(E) and 5(D) or (2)

State Dept. letter, 3-31-76

SLR

Date JUN 17 1976

has contributed for the cause of Victory as common now to both the United States and Panama, as will ever be the causes that base its principles in friendship, cordiality and mutual respect among nations.

Notwithstanding this, it is painful to observe that since the transfer from the General Command of the armed forces in the Canal Zone of General Frank M. Andrews, who achieved a complete understanding between the Panamanian authorities and the Military authorities of the Canal Zone, repeated incidents provoked by members of the U.S.A. armed forces stationed in the Canal Zone, in sites of defense or in maneuvers through the Panamanian territory, have brought about a most unpleasant situation, which has reached its climax and may yet be of far greater and regrettable consequences.

The fact of the matter is that quite frequently U.S. Army officials have gone beyond the limitations expressly established in the permit granted by the Government of Panama for the purpose of carrying out military maneuvers in specified areas of its territory, detaining and searching, outside of the specified areas, vehicles and their occupants transiting through the Panamanian national highways, thus incurring openly and persistently in violations of Panamanian sovereignty. North American soldiers have not hesitated, in more than one occasion, to stop the official car of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Panama, and that of the Minister of Foreign Relations.

Such

Such abuses from members of the armed forces could not but demand strong protests from the Government of Panama, and many have been the representations made to the American Embassy in this respect. Much to the surprise of the Government of Panama the results have been fruitless. All these incidents and others not mentioned here have made the absence of His Excellency Ambassador Edwin C. Wilson greatly felt.

The conduct of the military has awakened a sentiment of resentment, of surprise and an attitude of protest in the people of Panama after seeing publicly and repeatedly disregarded their sovereign rights.

Political adversaries of the present administration together with those of totalitarian ideas, develop to their advantage and in detriment to both our countries these existing differences with but one purpose in mind: that of creating an internal effervescence in the country.

In view of these circumstances the Government of Panama has deemed necessary to make public the text of the Note D.P.6189-A, with which the protests of the Foreign Office of Panama to the American Embassy culminated, so as to counteract the harsh criticism formulated to the administration for not defending with the proper energy its sovereign rights.

The result of the referred Note, copy and translation of which are the anexes A and B of this Memorandum, was not what the Government of Panama expected; that is to say: the evidence of a higher zeal with the purpose to put an end to such unpleasant

Incidents

incidents. Much to its regret and deep surprise it has been observed that its legitimate protest has been interpreted as an offense to the American Army, thus assuming the character of an unfriendly act, which, in truth, was never intended. The intention of Panama has not been that of hurting the feelings of the American Military forces, by many reasons respected and appreciated, but has been that of maintaining the integrity of its fundamental rights of sovereignty repeatedly violated.

In a recent interview held after the publication of the Note DP 6189-A, between the Minister of Foreign Relations and the Honorable Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the United States, the latter stated: "Mr Minister, the Army has made an issue out of this. They consider that their dignity has been affected by the note."

With posteriority to the publication of such note, it has come to the knowledge of the Government of Panama that a military patrol arrested a Panamanian citizen in one of the national highways, that the Panamanian motorboat "J.D. Arosemena" after having obtained the appropriate authorization to pass Colon's breakwater, was the object of gun fire from an American warship; that detentions of vehicles have become so numerous that our authorities are alarmed.

These facts, added to the statement made by the Chargé d'Affaires a.i., reveal the existence of a state of conditions which must not endure, for three fundamental reasons: firstly, because it injures the sovereign rights

of

of the Republic of Panama who stands by them with due zealousness and patriotism trusting that in this crucial hour the U.S.A. will respect them by virtue of the sacred principles of liberty and independence which this country has always sustained and defended; secondly because it is not possible^{to} let weaken the bonds of cordiality which have always tied closely together our two countries, which have jointly written more than one chapter of sincere, intimate and fruitful international collaboration. The cooperation of Panama has been full and total but it cannot be such as to endanger the dignity and sovereignty of the Republic. An attitude of intemperance to her complaints is less conducive to the good harmony between our two countries than an attitude of frank and open consideration of our common differences that may arise between each other; and last but not least, because situations of this nature may be exploited by our common enemies in order to sow discord among the United Nations, through subversive propaganda, and to separate those which in every moment have known how to face them together, united by common interests, ideals and principles.

His Excellency the President of Panama has been painfully surprised by the attitude assumed by determine high officials of the American Army in the Canal Zone.

His Excellency the President of Panama knows that His Excellency the President of the United States of America will understand how grave and delicate the situation is, and trusts that his well proved sense of

justice

- 6 -

justice will guide him to take a prompt and wise action which will eliminate existing causes of friction and will restore the harmony and complete understanding that in the past had always prevailed between the military authorities of the United States and those of the Republic of Panama.

washington, D. C.
December 28, 1943

(TRANSLATION)

~~STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

EMBASSY OF PANAMA

WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ MEMORANDUM

TO HIS EXCELLENCY FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

In obedience to confidential instructions emanating from His Excellency the President of the Republic of Panama and brought to Washington by his Private Secretary, the Ambassador of Panama in Washington takes the liberty of informing His Excellency the President of the United States of America of the existence of a delicate situation which threatens to disturb the cordiality of the relations existing between the Republic of Panama and the United States of America.

Even though it may seem unnecessary, it is useful to recall at this time that since the treacherous Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor the relations between Panama and the United States have been growing daily closer and more cordial, without it being possible to doubt for an instant the sincerity with which the people and the Government of Panama have cooperated, are cooperating and will continue to cooperate with those of the United States in the present emergency.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)

State Dept. letter, 3-31-76

By **SLM**

Date **JUN 17 1976**

Panama did not hesitate to declare war on the Axis powers and fall in line with the United Nations in their struggle for the principles of right, of justice and of civilization. Panama leased more than one hundred defense sites, on her own territory, for the use of the military forces of the United States. Panama has labored in a thousand different ways for the cause of Victory, which is hers and that of the United States as will always be those which are based and founded on principles of friendship, cordiality and reciprocal respect among nations.

Notwithstanding this, it is painful to observe that since the separation from the command of the forces quartered in the Canal Zone of the splendid General Frank M. Andrews, whose course of action made possible complete harmony between the Panamanian authorities and the military authorities of the Canal Zone, repeated incidents provoked by members of the American military forces assigned to the Zone, on defense sites or on maneuvers through Panamanian territory have come to create a situation which is from every point of view undesirable, which is now reaching its climax and may subsequently be of lamentable consequences.

In point of fact, it has frequently been the case that United States military officers exceed the license

granted by Panama to execute maneuvers in certain areas of her territory, by devoting themselves outside of the areas to halting and inspecting vehicles which are passing over Panamanian national highways, as well as the occupants of such vehicles, in that way incurring in persistent, manifest and repeated violations of Panamanian sovereignty, and that United States soldiers have not hesitated to halt, more than once, the official automobile of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Panama, and to halt also that of His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Relations.

Such abuses on the part of the United States soldiers could not fail to give rise to repeated protests on the part of the Government of Panama, which has made strong but fruitless representations to the United States Embassy, the absence of His Excellency Ambassador Edwin C. Wilson making itself felt in this and other respects.

Moreover, such conduct in United States soldiers has not failed to awaken at the same time a sentiment of surprise and an attitude of protest and disapproval in the Panamanian people, upon seeing its sovereign attributes publicly and repeatedly disregarded.

Political opponents of the present Administration, in addition to elements of totalitarian ideas, are also

exploiting the existing conflicts and differences with the purpose of producing an internal effervescence to the prejudice of both countries.

In view of these circumstances the Government of Panama has been compelled, in order to silence the criticisms which were formulated against it that it did not defend with proper energy our sovereign rights, to make public the text of note D.P. 6189-A, with which the protests of the Panamanian Chancelery to the United States Embassy culminated.

The result of the said note, the copy and translation of which form annexes A and B of this Memorandum, was not what the Government of Panama expected, that is: the demonstration of greater zeal in putting a stop to such disagreeable incidents. Much to its regret and with notable surprise it has observed that its legitimate protest is interpreted as an offense against the American Army, thus taking on the character of an unfriendly act which it was never intended that it should have. Panama is not trying to wound the feelings of the United States forces, which are respected and worthy of respect on many grounds, but to maintain the integrity of her sovereign attributes which have been repeatedly violated.

In a recent interview, held after the publication of the note D.P. 6189-A between the Minister of Foreign Relations and the Honorable the Chargé d'Affaires of the United States, the latter stated: "Mr. Minister, the Army has made an issue out of this. They consider that their dignity has been affected by the note".

Also subsequent to the publication of the said note, the Government of Panama has learned that a member of the United States Military Police (M.P.) arrested a Panamanian citizen on the national highway; that the Panamanian launch "J.D.AROSEMENA" after having received permission to pass the Colon breakwater, was the object of two cannon shots from an American vessel; that the stopping of vehicles is so frequent that it takes on an alarming aspect.

These facts, added to what was said by the Chargé d'Affaires ad interim, betray the existence of a state of affairs which should not continue, for three fundamental reasons: first, because it violates sovereign attributes of the Republic of Panama, which looks out for them jealously and patriotically and trusts that in this hour of trial the United States of America will know how to respect them for the sake of the sacred

principles of liberty and independence which it has ever supported; second, because it is not possible to allow to grow cool the cordiality which has characterized the relations between Panama and the United States, who have known how to write together more than one chapter of sincere, close and fertile international collaboration. The cooperation of Panama has been full, total, but she cannot compromise her dignity nor her sovereignty. An intemperate attitude with respect to her justified complaints is less conducive to the good harmony between our two countries than the attitude which may result from the frank and open communication of the different claims which may exist on the one side against the other; and third, because situations of this nature may be exploited by the common enemy in order to sow discord among the United Nations, through subversive propaganda, which should be prevented at any cost, and in order to divide those who at every moment have known how to make a common front against him because of their community of interests, ideals and principles.

Because of what is set forth above, His Excellency the President of the Republic of Panama has received a painful surprise by the attitude assumed by certain high authorities of the American Army in the Canal Zone.

His Excellency the President of the Republic of Panama knows that His Excellency the President of the United States of America will understand the delicacy and gravity of the situation set forth, and trusts that his proven sense of justice will be able to dictate to him the prompt and judicious action which will cause to disappear the existing causes of friction and bring back the harmony and complete agreement which always existed in the past between the United States military authorities and those of the Republic of Panama.

December 28, 1943.

TR:FGH:BAB



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

February 2, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT.

Attached is the original and translation of a secret note addressed to you by the President of Panama. He is replying to your letter to him of December 31, 1943. I believe you will agree that this closes the incident and clears the record in a very satisfactory manner.

C H

Attachment as stated above.



(TRANSLATION)

REPUBLIC OF PANAMA
THE PRESIDENCY

~~SECRET~~

January 26, 1944

Mr. President and friend:

On his return from Washington my Private Secretary placed in my hands Your Excellency's kind letter of December 31 last, referring to the Memorandum which was sent to Your Excellency through the Embassy of Panama at Washington relating to certain facts that have occurred in Panama and have been affecting unfavorably the relations, so happy and so harmonious, existing between the United States and Panama.

In your letter Your Excellency expresses your keen appreciation of the contribution which Panama has made and continues to make in this Great crusade for the defense of liberty and civilization, in which you have distinguished yourself as the undeniable leader. Your Excellency likewise refers to the great strategic importance of the Panama Canal and to the intense efforts that Panama and the United States are making in defense thereof not only for the cause of democracy but also as partners in that great enterprise in which, according to the Treaties in force, our two nations have "a joint and vital interest". And Your Excellency adds, in a sentence which once more commands our esteem and admiration, that whatever may be the demands of this cruel and unexampled total war, they can not serve as an excuse for the commission of acts prejudicial to the sovereignty of an independent nation, since it is precisely to safeguard such sacred principles that the United Nations are fighting heroically against the unbridled forces of tyranny. And Your Excellency concludes by communicating that you have adopted prompt and decisive measures in order to avoid the repetition of incidents such as those which motivated the representations made to Your Excellency.

The noble thoughts expressed by Your Excellency, to which I have just referred, once more prove to the Government and the people of Panama the profound sincerity and the elevation of views which have ever

guided

~~SECRET~~

U. S. DEPT. OF STATE

State Dept. letter, 3-31-76

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Date JUN 17 1976

and continue to guide Your Excellency in conducting the relations between our two countries, relations which, precisely in virtue of that sincerity and nobility of views, have been maintained and will continue to be maintained on a footing of harmony, of good understanding and efficacious cooperation which may well be called exemplary.

Animated by that spirit, I make bold to assure Your Excellency that, on the part of Panama, there will be no problem, however insoluble it may appear, which will not meet with a happy solution or equitable adjustment and it is precisely because there exists this basis of frankness and sincerity in our relations that I deemed it opportune that the above-mentioned representations should reach Your Excellency direct, being sure that the sincere friendship which unites us made it my duty to do so, in order not to give the slightest opportunity for the rise of misunderstandings or lamentable resentments, especially at such a critical time as the present, when any effort appears insufficient in view of the transcendental importance of the cause which we are so earnestly defending. The favorable reception which Your Excellency has given to those representations has convinced me that I interpreted faithfully that duty which friendship laid upon me.

I believe further, Mr. President, that the occasion is opportune for recalling that the happy success in the relations between the United States and Panama - the most powerful nation on earth by the side of one of the weakest - is full of fruitful lessons which irradiate and have their repercussions in the rest of America and over the whole world. The justice, nobility and sincerity with which the fundamental rights of the Panamanian nation are respected by the powerful American nation serve to proclaim that principles, and not material interests nor the might of nations, are respected. This example, given today in the midst of the ideological crisis which all humanity seems to be experiencing, could not be more edifying, since only under the influence of such noble conduct can the foundations of a total and permanent peace be laid.

It is, therefore, with real pleasure that I learned of the measures taken by Your Excellency for

the

the purpose of putting an end to any attitude capable of affecting the happy relations which unite us. Those measures will, without doubt, have the most beneficial result and will serve to the end that the exemplary cooperation between our two Governments and peoples may continue, with all possible success.

In closing, I desire, Mr. President, to avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the expression of the highest sentiments of friendship of the Panamanian Government and people as well as my own, and to assure you of our enduring admiration for the immeasurable services rendered by Your Excellency to the cause of liberty and justice. Your indefatigable effort will be crowned with victory in the near future, and may Heaven grant that your wise, noble and skilful direction may continue in the ordering of a better world which is to rise from the debris, the cruelties and the tears under which suffering humanity is groaning today.

I am, Excellency, with all esteem, cordiality and admiration,

Ricardo Adolfo Guardia.

TC/C:FGH:WLB



Enero 26 de 1944

SECRETO

Excelentísimo Señor Presidente y amigo:

A su regreso de Washington mi Secretario Privado puso en mis manos la amable carta de Vuestra Excelencia de 31 de Diciembre último, la cual se refiere al Memorandum que, por conducto del Embajador de Panamá en Washington, fué enviado a Vuestra Excelencia y que se relaciona con ciertos hechos ocurridos en Panamá y que afectaban, de modo inconveniente, las tan felices y armónicas relaciones existentes entre los Estados Unidos y Panamá.

En su

Al Excelentísimo Señor
Don Franklin D. Roosevelt,
Presidente de los Estados
Unidos de América.

En su carta Vuestra Excelencia expresa su sentido aprecio por la contribución que Panamá ha prestado y continúa prestando en esta magna cruzada por la defensa de la libertad y la civilización, en la cual Vuestra Excelencia se ha destacado como el líder indiscutible. Se refiere también Vuestra Excelencia a la gran importancia estratégica del Canal de Panamá y a los intensos esfuerzos que Panamá y los Estados Unidos realizan en su defensa no solamente en aras de la causa democrática sino también como socios de esa gran empresa en la cual, según los Tratados vigentes, nuestras dos naciones tienen "un interés conjunto y vital". Y añade Vuestra Excelencia, en frase que una vez más obliga nuestro aprecio y admiración, que sean cuales fueren las exigencias de esta cruel y nunca igualada guerra total, ellas no pueden servir de excusa para que se

cometan

cometan actos lesivos para la soberanía de una nación independiente, ya que es precisamente en salvaguarda de tan sagrados principios que las Naciones Unidas luchan heroicamente contra las fuerzas desenfrenadas de la tiranía. Y termina Vuestra Excelencia comunicándome que ha adoptado prontas y terminantes medidas a fin de evitar la repetición de incidentes como los que han motivado las representaciones hechas ante Vuestra Excelencia.

Los nobles conceptos expresados por Vuestra Excelencia, a los cuales acabo de referirme, le demuestran una vez más al Gobierno y al pueblo de Panamá la profunda sinceridad y la elevación de miras que siempre han guiado y continúan guiando a Vuestra Excelencia en el manejo de las relaciones entre nuestros dos países, relaciones éstas que, precisamente por virtud de esa sinceridad y nobleza de miras

de miras, se han mantenido y continuarán manteniéndose en un pie de armonía, de buen entendimiento y de eficaz cooperación, que bien pueden calificarse de ejemplares.

Animado por ese espíritu me atrevo a asegurar a Vuestra Excelencia que, de parte de Panamá, no habrá problema, por insoluble que parezca, que no encuentre una feliz solución o un ajuste equitativo. Y es precisamente porque existe ese fondo de franqueza y sinceridad en nuestras relaciones que creí oportuno que llegaran directamente a Vuestra Excelencia las representaciones mencionadas, seguro como estaba de que la leal amistad que nos une me imponía el deber de hacerlo, a fin de no dar la menor oportunidad a que surgieran malos entendimientos ni lamentables resentimientos, sobre todo en una época tan crítica como la presente,

en que

en que todo esfuerzo parece insuficiente ante la trascendencia de la causa que con tanto ahinco defendemos. La favorable acogida que Vuestra Excelencia ha dado a estas representaciones me ha convencido de que interpretaba con fidelidad ese deber que la amistad me imponía.

Creo, además, Señor Presidente, que la ocasión es oportuna para recordar que el feliz acierto en las relaciones entre Estados Unidos y Panamá -la nación más poderosa de la tierra al lado de una de las más débiles- está lleno de fecundas enseñanzas que irradian y repercuten sobre el resto de América y sobre el mundo entero. La justicia, la nobleza y la sinceridad con que son respetados los derechos fundamentales de la nación panameña, por parte de la poderosa nación norteamericana, sirven para proclamar que son los principios los que se respetan y no los intereses

los intereses materiales ni el poderío de las naciones. Este ejemplo, dado hoy en medio de la crisis ideológica que parece vivir la humanidad entera, no puede ser más edificante, ya que sólo bajo el imperio de tan noble conducta pueden echarse las bases de una paz total y permanente.

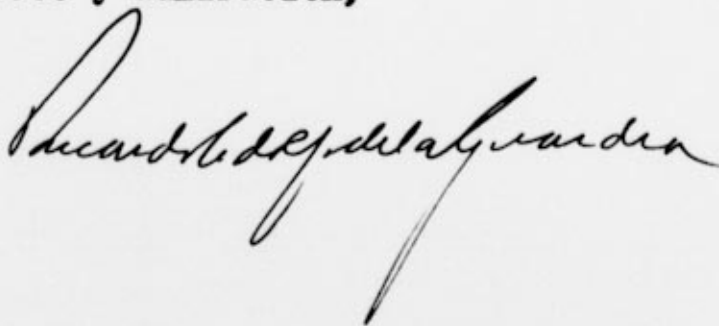
Es, pues, con verdadera complacencia que me he informado de las medidas adoptadas por Vuestra Excelencia con el fin de hacer cesar toda actitud capaz de afectar las felices relaciones que nos unen. Esas medidas serán, sin duda, del más benéfico resultado y servirán para que continúe, con todo el éxito posible, la cooperación ejemplar entre nuestros dos Gobiernos y pueblos.

Al terminar deseo, Señor Presidente, valerme de esta ocasión para reiterar-

los más

le los más altos sentimientos de amistad del Gobierno y pueblo panameños, así como los míos propios, y testimoniarle nuestra perenne admiración por los servicios incommensurables prestados por Vuestra Excelencia a la causa de la libertad y la justicia. Vuestro esfuerzo infatigable será coronado por la victoria en un futuro cercano, y quiera el Cielo que vuestra sabia, noble y acertada dirección continúe en el ordenamiento del mundo mejor que debe surgir de los escombros, las crueldades y las lágrimas bajo las cuales gime hoy día la humanidad doliente.

Soy de Vuestra Excelencia con todo aprecio, afecto y admiración,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ricardo López de la Cruz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial 'R' and a long, trailing flourish at the end.



Al Excelentísimo Señor Don
Franklin D. Roosevelt,
Presidente de los Estados Unidos de América

PSF: Panama folder
1-44

WAR DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 19, 1944

THE WHITE HOUSE
JUL 22 9 30 AM '44
RECEIVED

The President,
The White House.

Dear Mr. President:

I transmit herewith for your confidential information the report of the Governor of The Panama Canal, dated June 22, 1944, showing the operations on the Isthmus for the month of May 1944.

I also inclose a letter from the Governor, dated July 3, 1944, reporting on commissary sales, financial receipts, expenditures, and cash balances available in The Panama Canal appropriations for the month of May 1944, as compared with the same month in 1943 and the monthly average for the fiscal year 1943.

Sincerely yours,

Robert P. Patterson

Acting Secretary of War.

In duplicate.

Inclosures:

Report dated June 22, 1944
Report dated July 3, 1944.





THE PANAMA CANAL
CANAL ZONE
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

CABLE ADDRESS:

"PANCANAL, PANAMA"

VIA AIR MAIL

Balboa Heights, C. Z.,
July 3, 1944

1944 JUL 10 AM 9:00
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
HQS DEPARTMENT

The Honorable
The Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Secretary:

Herewith is a report showing cash balances available in The Panama Canal appropriations, financial receipts, expenditures, and commissary sales, for the month of May 1944 as compared with May 1943, and the monthly average for the fiscal year 1943.

	<u>May 1944</u>	<u>May 1943</u>	<u>Monthly Average Fiscal Year 1943</u>
<u>Appropriation and fund cash</u>			
<u>balances, end of month:</u>			
Maintenance and Operation	\$27,681,602.47	\$32,636,056.19	
Sanitation	489,718.26	216,132.15	
Civil Government	292,822.67	333,637.59	
Postal Funds	263,368.05	784,351.08	
Additional Facilities (3d Locks)	34,771,217.29	40,536,856.78	
Repatriation - Aliens	85,636.83	90,110.10	
Goethals Memorial	156,508.58	156,508.58	
Community Facilities, Venereal Disease Control and Recreational (F.W.A.)	254,731.18	346,381.76	
Working Fund, P.C. (Policing Army Civilian Housing Areas)	13,258.35	29,000.00	
Working Fund, P.C. (Access Roads)	546,939.95	349,615.65	
Working Fund, P.C. (Hospitaliza- tion of military personnel) ...	160,326.00	218,261.00	
Working Fund, P.C. (Venereal Disease Control (T.F.)		10,429.42	
Total	<u>64,716,129.63</u>	<u>75,707,340.30</u>	
<u>Pay Rolls:</u>			
Maintenance and Operation	2,670,830.34	3,051,026.13	2,929,410.30
Sanitation	209,538.62	223,869.22	209,448.52
Civil Government	191,024.04	194,454.84	173,107.57
Postal Funds	28,922.87	33,005.77	31,087.36
Additional Facilities (3d Locks)	37,098.18	124,099.69	153,043.56
Venereal Disease Control Program	8,270.28	7,105.62	6,946.56
Policing Army Civilian Housing Areas		10,369.64	10,632.60
Total	<u>3,145,684.33</u>	<u>3,643,930.91</u>	<u>3,513,676.47</u>



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THE PANAMA CANAL
CANAL ZONE
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

CABLE ADDRESS:
"PANCANAL, PANAMA"

Balboa Heights, C. Z.,
June 22, 1944.

THE DATA IN THIS REPORT ARE NOT FOR PUBLICATION

The Honorable
The Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Secretary:

I have the honor to submit the regular monthly report covering operations of The Panama Canal for the month of May 1944.

OCEAN-GOING COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC IN MAY 1944

Ocean-going commercial vessels making transit of the Panama Canal during May 1944 totaled 108 (daily average 3.48) which is the lowest month's traffic thus far in the current fiscal year. In comparison with April 1944, daily average transits last month decreased 25 percent, while in comparison with May 1943 there was a decline of 39 percent.

NEW GOVERNOR ASSUMES DUTIES

Effective May 16, 1944, the undersigned, Brigadier General J. C. Mehaffey, United States Army, having been appointed by the President of the United States as Governor of The Panama Canal, and having duly qualified on that date, assumed the duties of the Governorship, vice Major General Glen E. Edgerton, United States Army, resigned. Effective the same date, Colonel Francis K. Newcomer, Corps of Engineers, United States Army, was appointed Engineer of Maintenance, vice the undersigned appointed Governor.



At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Panama Railroad Company held May 8, 1944, the undersigned was elected President of the Company, vice Major General Glen E. Edgerton, resigned, and Colonel Francis K. Newcomer was elected Second Vice President, vice the undersigned elected President.

RECORD RAINFALL AT CRISTOBAL

All rainfall records were broken at Cristobal, the Atlantic terminus of the Canal, during the month of May 1944, when a total of 25.43 inches fell over this area. This doubles the May average for the 74 years of record of 12.69 inches and was the eighth time during that period when more than 20 inches were recorded. The previous May rainfall record of 23.00 inches was established in 1891. The lowest rainfall for any May on record in Cristobal was recorded in 1871 when only 1.63 inches fell over that area.

The unusually heavy rainfall on the Atlantic side of the Isthmus was not general over the Isthmus, most stations on the Pacific area reporting precipitation below or about normal.

Very respectfully,

(In duplicate)


J. C. MCHAFFEY
Governor

INDEX TO TABLES

<u>Table No.</u>	<u>Titles</u>
1.	Canal transits - tolls paying and free
2.	Ocean-going commercial traffic - fiscal year to date
3.	Cargo handled at docks
4.	Coaling plants
5.	Oil handling plants
6.	Lock operation
7.	Water supply
8.	Seismic disturbances
9.	Dredging work
10.	Mechanical Division work *
11.	Electric power generated
12.	Commercial aviation
13.	Public health *
14.	Financial statement *

* Figures for Mechanical Division work, Public Health, and Financial Statement cover April 1944 business, since May 1944 figures were not available at the time of issuing this report. Figures in all other tables are for May 1944.

Table No. 1

CANAL TRANSITS - TOLLS PAYING AND FREE

	M A Y 1944				
	Atlantic		Pacific		
	to	to	to	to	
	Pacific	Atlantic	Total	1943	1942
Tolls-paying vessels:					
Ocean-going	44	64	108	177	143
Small (a)	5	3	8	20	30
Total tolls-paying	49	67	116	197	173
Free transits (b)	246	117	363	289	171
Total tolls-paying and free	295	184	479	486	344
(a) Vessels under 300 net tons, Panama Canal measurement					
(b) Exclusive of Canal equipment					

Table No. 2

OCEAN-GOING COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC*-FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

(Traffic by month for first 11 months of fiscal year
1944, compared with same months in 1943)

	Number of vessels		Panama Canal net tonnage		Tons of cargo		Tolls	
	1943-44	1942-43	1943-44	1942-43	1943-44	1942-43	1943-44	1942-43
			(in thousands)		(in thousands)		(in thousands of \$)	
July	135	126	531	504	564	648	519	442
August	158	112	683	461	798	571	598	404
September	126	124	487	617	559	733	440	549
October	121	163	478	763	542	1,015	436	678
November	138	142	540	604	675	853	478	538
December	118	170	343	780	356	1,033	366	696
January	129	152	489	739	565	967	439	659
February	140	153	509	711	561	945	448	632
March	144	123	500	583	575	768	451	513
April	140	178	609	806	768	1,081	543	720
May	108	177	436	854	465	1,067	395	748
Total	1,457	1,620	5,605	7,422	6,428	9,681	5,113	6,579

*Ocean-going commercial traffic includes only tolls-paying vessels of 300 net tons or over, Panama Canal measurement.

Table No. 3

CARGO HANDLED AT DOCKS *

	: M A Y 1 9 4 4 :			May 1943
	:Cristobal :	Balboa :	Total :	Total
	(S h o r t t o n s)			
Local cargo received	34,127	26,353	60,480	142,489
Local cargo forwarded	9,995	8,062	18,057	15,592
Transfer cargo received	27,798	60	27,858	28,632
Total cargo crossing docks	71,920	34,475	106,395	186,713
Rehandled cargo	246	58	304	2,036
Transfer cargo forwarded	15,752	24	15,776	31,508
Total cargo handled and transferred	87,918	34,557	122,475	220,257

Table No. 4

COALING PLANTS *

Number of commercial vessels supplied with bunker coal	8	1	9	24
	(L o n g t o n s)			
Amount of coal sales:				
Commercial (bunkers)	2,373	544	2,917	6,478
All other	42	27	69	163
Total coal sales	2,415	571	2,986	6,641
Coal received during month	5,484	--	5,484	5,190
Coal transferred during month (31)		31	--	--
Coal on hand at end of month	15,556	2,104	17,660	32,763

Table No. 5

OIL HANDLING PLANTS

(Total fuel oil, diesel oil, gasoline and kerosene handled)

	(B a r r e l s)			
Receipts	361,868	647,259	1,009,127	1,639,912
Issues	265,540	495,909	761,449	1,430,010
Total all oil handled	627,408	1,143,168	1,770,576	3,069,922

* These activities are handled by the Panama Railroad Company.

Table No. 6

LOCK OPERATION

						<u>Grand Totals</u>		
<u>Ocean-going vessels : All other vessels *</u>						<u>M</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>Y</u>
<u>North</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>Total</u>	1944	1943	1942
<u>Number of Lockages</u>								
Gatun	64	41	105	95	150	245	350	253
Pedro Miguel	63	41	104	145	206	351	455	462
Miraflores	62	40	102	104	159	263	365	285

<u>Number of Vessels put through Locks</u>								
Gatun	65	44	109	158	288	446	555	500
Pedro Miguel	64	44	108	354	483	837	945	625
Miraflores	64	44	108	175	285	460	568	633
								425
								1,106
								435

* Includes tolls-paying craft under 300 tons, Panama Canal measurement, and vessels entitled to free transit.

Consumption of Water account Lockages, Loss by Leakage, and Maintenance

	<u>GATUN</u>	<u>Pedro Miguel</u>	<u>Miraflores</u>
	<u>(Thousands of cubic feet)</u>		
Lockages	1,284,280	1,533,140	1,238,590
Leakage	30,000	70,000	70,000
Maintenance	162,190	---	---
Total, May 1944	1,476,470	1,603,140	1,308,590
Total, April 1944	1,291,830	1,189,240	1,133,280
Total, May 1943	1,110,790	1,120,560	1,155,560

Table No. 7

WATER SUPPLYHydrography

	M A Y				
	30 Years of Record				
	1944	1943	Maximum	Minimum	Mean
	c.f.s.	c.f.s.	c.f.s.	c.f.s.	c.f.s.
Madden Lake watershed, total yield	3,032	2,309	4,657	491	2,071
Gatun Lake watershed: Total yield	6,802	7,578	10,189	1,417	4,821
Net yield	6,259	7,038	9,633	583	4,141
Draft on Gatun Lake for lockages and power	3,242	2,527	---	---	2,394*

* 20-year average, 1920 to 1939

Elevation of Gatun, Miraflores and Madden Lakes

	May 1944			May 1943		
	Maximum	Minimum	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	Mean
	(All figures in feet)					
Gatun Lake	84.94	83.61	84.19	85.87	84.57	85.18
Miraflores Lake	54.35	52.86	53.54	54.56	52.90	53.52
Madden Lake	242.29	237.59	240.19	240.20	237.81	238.98

Table No. 8

SEISMIC DISTURBANCES

Eight seismic disturbances were recorded at Balboa Heights during the month of May 1944, 6 of which were at estimated distances of less than 300 miles from Balboa Heights. No earthquake shocks were felt in the Canal Zone during the month.

Table No. 9

DREDGING WORKMay 1944

	E X C A V A T I O N			
			R o c k	
	Total Earth		Unmined	Mined
	(C u b i c y a r d s)			
<u>MAINTENANCE</u>				
Atlantic entrance	387,400	348,600	38,800	
Gaillard Cut:				
Project No. 13	35,400	3,200	12,700	19,500
Other maintenance	6,600	6,600		
Pacific entrance	274,000	274,000		
Total maintenance	703,400	632,400	51,500	19,500
<u>AUXILIARY</u>				
Naos Island, mine dock approach	103,100	103,100		
Chame sand	22,430	22,430		
Total auxiliary	125,530	125,530		
<u>THIRD LOCKS PROJECT</u>				
Construction of by-pass channels:				
Gatun, north approach	174,800	157,900		16,900
Miraflores,north approach	108,700	72,700	13,700	22,300
Miraflores,south approach	273,100	251,700	2,300	19,100
Total, Third Locks project	556,600	482,300	16,000	58,300
GRAND TOTAL DREDGING	1,385,530	1,240,230	67,500	77,800

Table No. 10

MECHANICAL DIVISION WORK

	<u>A P R I L</u>	
	<u>1 9 4 4</u>	<u>1 9 4 3</u>
<u>Value of work billed:</u>		
Commercial	\$ 148,293	\$ 150,287
Panama Canal divisions	156,068	438,045
Panama Railroad Company	85,374	141,246
United States Army	200,356	80,799
United States Navy	240,608	529,715
Miscellaneous	926	102
T o t a l	831,625	1,340,194
<u>Direct labor charges (work load):</u>		
For outside interests	583,747	427,396
For Canal and Railroad	88,720	200,473
T o t a l	672,467	627,869

Table No. 11

ELECTRIC POWER GENERATED

	<u>M</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>Y</u>
	<u>1 9 4 4</u>	<u>1 9 4 3</u>	
(Thousands of K. W. H.)			
<u>Generator output of stations:</u>			
Gatun hydroelectric station	8,190	6,320	
Madden hydroelectric station	12,974	13,339	
Miraflores diesel-electric station	- 38	- 33	
Balboa diesel-electric station	- 13	- 10	
Gatun diesel-electric station	- 7	- 2	
Mt. Hope diesel-electric station	- 4	- 1	
Total generator output	21,102	19,613	
System peak load	43,500 K.W.	39,700 K.W.	
(Millions of cubic feet)			
<u>Water consumption:</u>			
Gatun hydroelectric station	5,790	4,737	
Madden hydroelectric station	4,955	4,650	
Total water consumption	10,745	9,387	

Table No. 12

COMMERCIAL AVIATION

	M	A	Y
	1944		1943
Aircraft entering	233		236

Passenger StatisticsDeplaning:

From the north	2,669	2,495
From the south	935	673
Total deplaning	3,604	3,168

Emplaning:

To the north	3,029	2,715
To the south	613	605
Total emplaning	3,642	3,320

Cargo Statistics
(in pounds)Received:Local:

From the north	60,348	94,522
From the south	29,301	26,237

Transfer:

From the north	59,529	107,415
From the south	23,409	23,209
Total cargo received	172,587	251,383

Dispatched:Local:

To the north	54,183	50,532
To the south	6,987	2,401

Transfer:

To the north	29,546	42,165
To the south	46,679	74,181
Total cargo dispatched	137,395	169,279

Table No. 13

PUBLIC HEALTHMalaria Among Employees

	<u>A P R I L</u>				
	<u>1944</u>	<u>1943</u>	<u>1942</u>	<u>1941</u>	<u>1940</u>
<u>Among Employees, regardless of source of infection:</u>					
Number of cases during month	16	49	39	14	15
Annual rate per thousand during month	6.7	16.6	12.5	5.2	7.7
Number of cases for calendar year to end of month	91	224	175	107	155
Annual rate per thousand for calendar year to end of month	9.2	18.9	14.1	10.1	21.2
<u>Among Employees, including only those infected in Canal Zone, Panama City, and Colon:</u>					
Number of cases during month	8	21	11	10	7
Annual rate per thousand during month	3.4	7.1	3.5	3.7	3.6
Number of cases for calendar year to end of month	41	120	67	60	25
Annual rate per thousand for calendar year to end of month	4.1	10.1	5.4	5.7	10.3

Of the 16 employees reported with malaria during April 1944, 11 were probably infected outside our sanitized areas.

Three deaths from malaria were reported to the Chief Health Officer during April 1944. All of these were non-employees, non-residents of the Canal Zone and the terminal cities, and their infection was apparently acquired outside of these areas.

Table No. 13 (cont'd.)

Hospital ActivitiesApril 1944

	: Admitted :		: Died :		: Discharged :		: Transferred :		: Remaining :	
	White	Black	White	Black	White	Black	White	Black	White	Black
<u>Gorgas Hospital:</u>										
Employees	211	167	2	5	228	159	-	-	108	80
U.S. Army and Navy	345	-	-	-	376	-	-	-	216	-
Panama Government	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1
Charity	34	50	1	3	34	49	-	-	10	19
All others	541	344	3	17	500	351	-	-	245	196
T o t a l	1,133	561	6	25	1,140	559	-	-	579	296
<u>Corozal Hospital:</u>										
Employees	1	1	-	-	1	3	-	-	8	55
U.S. Army and Navy	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-
Charity	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	19	145
All others	1	1	-	1	3	1	-	-	19	13
T o t a l	6	3	-	1	4	5	-	-	52	213
Chronics	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	5	88
Cripples	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	10
T o t a l	1	3	-	1	-	-	1	-	7	98
<u>Colon Hospital:</u>										
Employees	7	81	-	3	9	56	-	1	1	49
U.S. Army and Navy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charity	15	21	-	1	16	26	-	-	3	1
All others	69	148	-	4	67	147	2	1	14	55
T o t a l	91	250	-	8	92	229	2	2	18	105
<u>Margarita Hospital:</u>										
Employees	85	-	-	-	73	-	1	-	31	-
U.S. Army and Navy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All others	60	-	3	-	59	-	5	-	29	-
T o t a l	145	-	3	-	132	-	6	-	60	-
GRAND TOTAL	1,376	817	9	35	1,368	793	9	2	716	712

	<u>A p r i l</u>	
	<u>1 9 4 4</u>	<u>1 9 4 3</u>
<u>Patient Days in Hospitals:</u>		
Gorgas Hospital	28,021	34,277
Corozal Hospital:		
Insane	8,038	9,143
Cripples and Chronics	3,108	2,982
Colon Hospital	3,768	3,797
Margarita Hospital	1,965	1,742
T o t a l	44,900	51,941

Table No. 14

PANAMA CANAL OPERATIONS, APRIL 1944
COMPARED WITH APRIL 1943

	A P R I L		Fiscal Year to date	
	1944	1943	This Year	Last Year
Tolls	\$ 544,346.88	\$ 722,250.66	\$ 4,617,782.28	\$ 5,856,588.20
Other receipts	916,208.53	1,514,892.64	11,808,884.89	14,012,976.36
Total transit revenues	1,460,555.41	2,237,143.30	16,426,667.17	19,869,564.56
Total transit expenses	2,115,399.56	2,465,284.53	21,921,291.37	23,198,209.54
Net transit revenues	(654,844.15)	(228,141.23)	(5,494,624.20)	(3,328,644.98)
3% on net capital investment	1,204,128.62	1,202,645.67	12,014,524.01	12,000,378.32
Business revenues	3,860,557.27	6,500,552.58	52,966,723.83	64,396,206.29
Business expenses	4,046,649.83	5,576,047.84	50,842,038.40	62,784,310.91
Net business revenues	(186,092.56)	924,504.74	2,124,685.43	1,611,895.38
3% on net capital investment	86,171.83	83,372.74	888,480.52	859,805.78
Combined revenues	5,321,112.68	8,737,695.88	69,393,391.00	84,265,770.85
Combined expenses	6,162,049.39	8,041,332.37	72,763,329.77	85,982,520.45
Net revenues	(840,936.71)	696,363.51	(3,369,938.77)	(1,716,749.60)
3% on net capital investment	1,290,300.45	1,286,018.41	12,903,004.53	12,860,184.10

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1-48

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

November 22, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE

I shall be delighted to see the Foreign Minister of Panama and I hope to be back here by the twelfth of December. This, however, is not absolutely certain.

F. D. R.

REGRADED UNCLASSIFIED

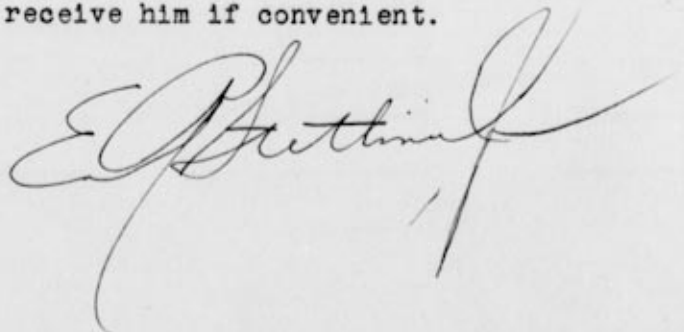
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

November 20, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Visit of Panamanian Minister of Foreign Relations

The Foreign Minister of Panama, Mr. Samuel Lewis, is coming to the United States early in December to visit his wife, who is under medical treatment at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota. He indicated his desire to come to Washington for two or three days and asked whether it would be convenient for him to be here on December 10, 11 and 12. He has been informed that he will be welcome on those dates, except that he should arrive on the eleventh, rather than on the tenth, which is a Sunday; and that the facilities of Blair House will be made available to him. It will not be necessary for you to entertain the Foreign Minister, although you might receive him if convenient.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, likely belonging to E. A. Tamm, is written over the bottom right portion of the typed text.