

● PSF Ecuador

Inds

PSF: Ecuador

ID

This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (C)

Quito

Dated December 19, 1941

Rec'd. 9:43 a.m., 20th

Secretary of State,
Washington.

RUSH

548, December 19, 9 p. m.

Reports from British sources in Guayaquil have been received that a German push is being planned using the German-owned Ecuapetrol property near Salinas as a base. The movement would be accompanied by a Peruvian advance on Guayaquil, riots in principle cities, overthrow of the government and elimination of allied personnel. It is reliably reported that Germans have been moving out of Salinas. I have just informed the President of this report. He stated that he was willing to give us Salinas or any other place as an air or naval base and asked whether we planned to base any of our planes at Salinas. The Military Attache has informed the War Department and the Canal Zone.

LONG

PEG

November 15, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The Secretary of State.

Subject: The Galapagos Islands.

In consultation with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, I have given consideration to a memorandum of November 11th on the subject of the Galapagos Islands signed by Mr. Stettinius.

I approve the State Department recommendations:

- (1) that plans be made now to work out at a later date some arrangements satisfactory to the War and Navy Departments perhaps through inter-American action, and
- (2) that the agreement already drafted and accepted by both governments be signed without change at once.

P5F: Ecuador

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

15 November 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE:

Subject: The Galapagos Islands

The President, in consultation with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has given consideration to a memorandum of 11 November on the subject of the Galapagos Islands signed by Mr. Stettinius.

The President approves the State Department recommendations:

- (1) that plans be made now to work out at a later date some arrangement satisfactory to the War and Navy Departments perhaps through inter-American action, and
- (2) that the agreement already drafted and accepted by both Governments be signed without change at once.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

November 11, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: The Galápagos Islands

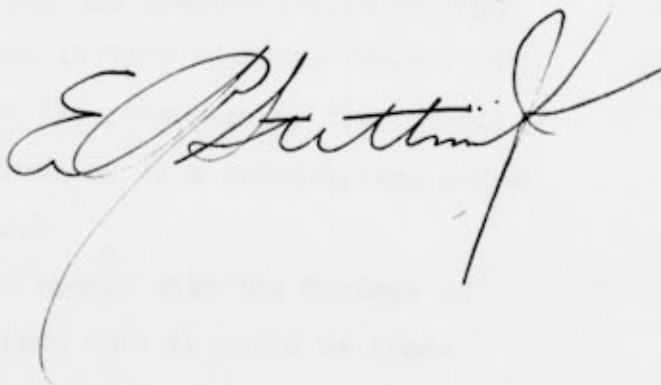
The War and Navy Departments have recently informed us that, from the point of view of national security, it would be desirable for the Galápagos Islands to continue to be occupied by our armed forces permanently.

No agreement of any kind has ever been signed with the Ecuadoran Government covering the Galápagos Islands although that Government has recently indicated its willingness to sign an agreement which was accepted in principle about a year ago. That agreement provided for occupation of the area during the present emergency only although it did state that it "may continue thereafter, if, in the opinion of the two governments, there still exists the danger of aggression by a non-American power against an American power."

We of course want to comply with the desires of War and Navy, but we believe that it would be inadvisable at this time to raise the issue of a definitive agreement covering the post-war use of the Galápagos Islands by our armed forces. Such an agreement would

not improve our present position. It would, on the other hand, jeopardize the eventual chances of working out a satisfactory arrangement at a later date. The political situation in Ecuador is not such as to permit the President of that country at this time safely to enter into the discussion of a post-war arrangement for the Galápagos. Furthermore, if a question of this kind is raised with Ecuador, all of the other republics in which we have acquired military facilities of one kind or another will immediately become concerned at our post-war intentions.

It is therefore recommended (1) that plans be made now to work out at a later date some arrangement satisfactory to the War and Navy Departments perhaps through inter-American action, and (2) that the agreement already drafted and accepted by both Governments be signed without change at once.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "E. D. Buttrick". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

November 11, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS GRACE TULLY

I hate to bother you with the attached
but the American Republics Division says
it is a matter in which the President is
tremendously interested, and he would want
to be consulted before a position is taken.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 16, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

ADMIRAL BROWN.

Captain Royal informs that the attached suggested letter to the Secretary of State was prepared by him in accordance with instructions received at the conference of the President and the Joint Chiefs of Staff, yesterday afternoon, November 15th.

Very respectfully,

W. M. Rigdon.

P.S. If approved, I would like to rewrite it on White House stationery.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

15 November 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE:

Subject: The Galapagos Islands

The President, in consultation with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has given consideration to a memorandum of 11 November on the subject of the Galapagos Islands signed by Mr. Stettinius.

The President approves the State Department recommendations:

(1) that plans be made now to work out at a later date some arrangement satisfactory to the War and Navy Departments perhaps through inter-American action, and

(2) that the agreement already drafted and accepted by both Governments be signed without change at once.

Ecuador folder 1-44

*file
Personal*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

November 6, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

The Ambassador of Ecuador left at the Department this morning a personal letter directed to you by President Velasco Ibarra. I enclose herewith Dr. Velasco's letter together with a translation.

E. H. Ruffin

Enclosure:

Letter to President Roosevelt
from Dr. Velasco and trans-
lation.

Department of State

BUREAU
DIVISION

NWC

2 ENCLOSURE S
TO

Letter drafted 11-4-44

ADDRESSED TO

the President.



PRESIDENCIA DE LA REPUBLICA

Quito, 21 de octubre de 1944

Excmo. Sr. Dn. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Presidente de los Estados Unidos de Norte América
Washington.

Señor Presidente:

Recibo la muy amable carta de V. E. en la que se digna expresarme los motivos por los que V. E. no pudo recibir al Sr. Dn. Víctor Emilio Estrada, mi delegado personal para tratar en los Estados Unidos sobre ciertos problemas de interés para la nación ecuatoriana.

Aprecio debidamente la delicada atención de V. E. para conmigo. Las preocupaciones de V. E., en estos momentos en que se debaten en el mundo los destinos de la Libertad humana y de los Estados Unidos, hacen imposible que V. E. pueda atender a otros asuntos de menor importancia, frente al de poner en salvo la dignidad de la especie humana.

El Sr. Estrada regresará a los Estados Unidos y, si las circunstancias lo permiten, saludará personalmente a V. E., en mi nombre.

Aprovecho de esta oportunidad para felicitar a V. E. por los triunfos de los Estados Unidos y de las Naciones Aliadas contra el imperialismo prusiano y asiático.

Naciones sin ninguna pretensión militarista y con sólo el estímulo de la libertad, están dominando, por medio de la fuerza justiciera, las pretensiones de la fuerza esclavizadora.

Con los mejores votos para V. E., y su ilustre Patria, me suscribo muy atento y seguro servidor

M. Vasconcelos



PRESIDENCIA DE LA REPUBLICA

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

TRANSLATION

Quito, October 21, 1944

His Excellency
Franklin D. Roosevelt,
President of the United States of America,
Washington.

Mr. President:

(10/10/44 in file room)
I have received your very kind letter in which you express the reasons why you were not able to receive Mr. Victor Emilio Estrada, my personal representative, who was instructed to negotiate in the United States concerning certain problems of interest to the Ecuadoran nation.

I duly appreciate your position. Your preoccupation in these moments during which the destinies of human liberty and of the United States are being debated throughout the world, make it impossible for you to attend to other matters of less importance while you are faced with saving the dignity of the human race.

Mr. Estrada will return to the United States and, if circumstances permit it, will greet you personally in my name.

I avail myself of this opportunity to congratulate you for the triumphs of the United States and of the Allied Nations against Prussian and Asiatic imperialism.

Nations with no militarist pretensions and with only the stimulus of liberty, are dominating by the forces of justice, the pretensions of the forces of slavery.

With best wishes to you and your illustrious country,

Very sincerely,

J. M. VELASCO IBARRA