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M. R. ...

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My Lord,

I have the honour to inform Your Lordship that considerable prominence was given in the press to certain passages in the messages which the President sent by wireless on February 18th in connexion with the inauguration of the Golden Gate Exhibition at San Francisco and the De Soto Pan-American Exposition at Tampa, Florida. In these passages Mr. Roosevelt extolled the virtues of democracy and emphasised the determination of the peoples of the Western Hemisphere to defend "the self-governing way of life". Though the President made no specific reference to European affairs nor to the totalitarian countries his remarks seem generally to have been interpreted as intended as "a blunt warning to the dictators to stay out of the Americas".

2. The texts of the relevant passages in the two messages ran as follows.

"Many times, in the elaboration of what I call the good neighbor policy, I have stressed the point that the maintenance of peace in the Western Hemisphere must be the first concern of all Americans - North Americans, South Americans and Central Americans - for nothing is more true than that we here in the New World carry the hopes of millions of human beings in other less fortunate lands.

"By/

The Right Honourable

The Viscount Halifax, K.G.,

etc., etc., etc.

M.H.
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"By setting an example of international solidarity, cooperation, mutual trust and mutual helpfulness, we may keep faith alive in the heart of anxious and troubled humanity, and at the same time, lift democracy high above the ugly truculence of autocracy.

"And so, when I wish the Golden Gate International Exposition all possible success, it is as an instrument of international goodwill as well as an expression of the material and cultural progress of our own West and of our Pacific Ocean neighbors."

and

"It is the certain and unfailing safeguard of our inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Although the peoples of the New World are of many origins, they are united in a common aspiration to defend and maintain the self-governing way of life. That way of life is instinctive in all the peoples of the Western Hemisphere.

"To show our faith in democracy, we have made the policy of the good neighbour the cornerstone of our foreign relations. No other policy would be consistent with our ideas and our ideals. In the fulfillment of this policy we purpose to heed the ancient Scriptural admonition not to move our neighbor's landmarks, not to encroach on his metes and bounds.

"We desire by every legitimate means to promote freedom in trade and travel and in exchange of cultural ideas among nations. We seek no territorial expansion, we are not covetous of our neighbor's goods: we shall cooperate in every proposal honestly put forward to limit armaments; we abhor the appeal to physical force

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except to repulse aggression; but we say to all the world that in the Western Hemisphere - in the three Americas - the institutions of democracy - government with the consent of the governed - must and shall be maintained."

I have the honour to be,
with the highest respect,
My Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient,
humble servant,

(SGD) R. C. LINDSAY