

December 7th, 1940.

Dear Mr. Secretary,

As you may be aware, Sir Hubert Young, the Governor of Trinidad, has recently paid a flying visit to Washington. I thought it would be useful to take advantage of his visit to arrange for an informal meeting between him and Admiral Greenslade and the members of the Board which is considering the various questions connected with the new American bases in the British possessions in the Caribbean and elsewhere.

At this meeting, which took place on December 6th, the Governor explained the reasons for which he felt obliged to call attention to certain objections to the proposal to establish the United States Naval base in the North Western Peninsula/

The Honourable
Cordell Hull,
Secretary of State of the United States,
Washington, D. C.

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Peninsula. He also pointed out certain factors arising from the climatic conditions and the nature of the subsoil which seemed to render the Cumuto reserve site unsuitable for the proposed army and air base. In addition he explained the intentions of the Government of Trinidad to reclaim the Caroni area and suggested that it might be possible to establish both the proposed naval base and the proposed army and air base within this area. In support of his arguments, Sir Hubert Young quoted from four memoranda which had been drawn up at his request by certain persons in Trinidad.

The American representatives at the meeting were good enough to say that they would give full consideration to the arguments advanced by the Governor, would study the four memoranda, and would consider whether in the light of the information now placed at their disposal it would be possible for the United States authorities to modify their original proposals in regard to the location/

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location of the proposed bases. I therefore enclose copies of the four memoranda herein and hope that they, together with the Governor's statements, may be sympathetically considered by the United States authorities.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. Secretary,

Very sincerely yours,

(SGD) LOTHIAN