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At the press conference at the Department of State this morning a correspondent said that the inference has been made that General Marshall's trip to Brazil indicates that this Government may be considering a general military understanding with Brazil for the defense of this hemisphere in the event of a world war. The correspondent asked whether the Secretary cared to comment on this. Secretary Hull said that General Marshall's visit and the return visit of General Goes Monteiro to this country are purely visits of courtesy. The Secretary added that naturally, as in the case of exchanges of visits between high civilian officials and prominent business and professional men of the American Republics, it is hoped that this exchange of visits between the highest ranking military officials of our two nations will form another and a valuable channel for the development of mutual comprehension and understanding of our common problems.
