

BRITISH EMBASSY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

No. 594

May 30th, 1939

My Lord,

I have the honour to transmit herewith copies of a press-release from the War Department, dated the 9th May, announcing that Brigadier General George C. Marshall, Deputy Chief of Staff and Chief of Staff designate of the United States Army, would arrive at Rio de Janeiro on the 26th May, in the U.S.S. "Nashville", accompanied by a staff of five officers and two men, to spend some two weeks in Brazil at the invitation of the Brazilian Government.

2. On his return journey General Marshall will be accompanied in the "Nashville" by General Goes Monteiro, Chief of Staff of the Brazilian Army who has been invited to visit this country by the United States Government. Not long ago General Monteiro was invited to visit Germany as a special guest and was to have been offered the honorary Command of a division. He refused this invitation, and the report is current that the United States Government's invitation was issued in order to provide him with an excuse for doing so.

3. I also enclose copies of a press-release issued by the State Department on May 12th in which

MA:FHM:AM:G

Mr./

The Right Honourable

The Viscount Halifax, K.G.,

Etc. etc. etc.

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Mr. Cordell Hull is stated to have denied a press correspondent's suggestion that General Marshall's visit indicated that the United States Government might be considering a general military understanding with Brazil for the defence of the Western Hemisphere in the event of a world war. The two visits, said Mr. Hull, were purely visits of courtesy.

4. I am sending a copy of this despatch to His Majesty's Ambassador at Rio de Janeiro.

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

(SGD) R. C. LINDSAY