I have the honour, under instructions from His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to inform you that the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have learnt with much interest that the memorial at Fort Hancock Military Reservation to the officers and men of His Majesty's Ship "Assistance", who lost their lives off Sandy Hook in 1783, has recently been restored and improved at considerable expense under the direction of the present Commandant of the 7th Coast Artillery, Colonel Forrest E. Williford, and of his predecessor, Colonel L. H. Magruder.

I am instructed to request you to be so good as to convey to Colonel Williford the thanks of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty and, to the United States Military Authorities, their appreciation of this kind gesture on the part of the 7th Coast Artillery, Fort Hancock.

I have the honour to be,

with the highest consideration,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

(SED) R. C. LINDSEY.

The Honourable

Cordell Hull,

Secretary of State of the United States,

Washington, D.C.