

BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON, D.C.

10th January 1941.

Sir,

The Department of State have been good enough to forward to me a copy of your letter, dated the 29th November, to the American Vice-Consul in Martinique, describing your own situation and expressing a desire to be informed what the present position is in regard to the protection of British interests in the island.

I am sending a copy of your letter to the Foreign Office with the suggestion that they should furnish me with any comments they may have to make for me to forward to you through the same channel of communication through which the present message is being sent. I hope that by this method any uncertainty that you may feel regarding your general position may in due course be removed.

The protection of British interests in Guadeloupe has been the subject of an exchange of communications between this Embassy and the Department of State. The latter have agreed to a request, made to them on instructions from the Foreign Office, that the United States Consul in Martinique should be charged with the formal protection of British interests in Guadeloupe. It is understood, however, that a United States Vice-Consulate will shortly be opened in Guadeloupe and it has been arranged that as soon as this takes place the United States Vice-Consul will

His Majesty's Consul,  
Guadeloupe.

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assume the protection of British interests. In the meantime the State Department have suggested that in order to clarify the position it would be very helpful if you yourself would confirm to the French authorities that the United States Government have charge of British interests in Guadeloupe. I hope you will see your way to acting on this suggestion.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) H. S. BUTLER.