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2607/7/40

2607/8/40

His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires presents his compliments to the Secretary of State and has the honour to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the State Department's memorandum No. 125.5854/72 of the 16th December enclosing a copy of a letter from His Majesty's Consul in Guadeloupe, dated the 29th November, regarding the protection of British interests in that island. Mr. Butler also thanks Mr. Hull for his note No. 125.5854 of the 23rd December informing him that the United States Consul in Martinique has been directed to undertake the protection of British interests in Martinique and to notify the French authorities of his assumption of formal protection of British interests in Guadeloupe pending the effective transfer of those interests when an American Vice-Consulate is opened in Guadeloupe.

As regards British interests in Guadeloupe, Mr. Keeley of the Special Division, Department of State, suggested in a recent conversation with Mr. Rumbold of His Majesty's Embassy, that His Majesty's Consul in Guadeloupe should be requested to inform the authorities on the island that British interests would henceforth be regarded as under the protection of the United States Consul in Martinique, and he suggested further that this request might be transmitted to His Majesty's Consul through the channel of communication established by the United States Consul at Martinique.

Mr. Butler would accordingly be grateful, provided no objection is seen, if the enclosed letter

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INDEX

might be transmitted to His Majesty's Consul in Guadeloupe by this channel, or a message forwarded to him in similar terms if the actual transmission of the letter should prove impracticable.

BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON, D.C.

10th January 1941.