

Iceland G 109/44/4.

SECRET

July 3rd, 1941.

Personal and Confidential

My dear Welles,

-/38
You will remember that I told you the other day that I had been asked by the Iceland Government through the British Minister in Reykjavik to see the Iceland Consul General and explain the situation to him.

You may be interested to know that when I saw the Consul General this morning he told me that he had been expecting some such development for some time past and that he felt that this was the best arrangement. He added that relations between the Icelanders and the British troops had been very cordial and that he had no doubt that they would be
equally/

The Honourable

Sumner Welles,

Acting Secretary of State of the
United States,

Washington, D. C.

equally cordial with the American troops. I of course emphasised the importance of the necessity for secrecy to the Iceland Consul General.

I have been looking through the texts of the two messages to be published and, apart from the deletion of the word "perhaps" in the first paragraph of the Iceland Prime Minister's message and in the first and third-from-the-end paragraphs of the President's message, I have noticed two other minor verbal points in the President's reply to which I hope you will not mind my calling your attention.

After the first paragraph of the President's reply the various "considerations" set out in the Iceland message are rehearsed. These considerations are repeated in exactly the same language as that used in the Iceland message./

message. It might, however, be clearer if for the words "this country" in the third consideration the words "that country" were substituted, and if for the word "here" at the end of the second sentence of the fourth consideration the word "there" were substituted.

(SGD) HALIFAX