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Letter From Francis Mairs Huntington-Wilson to Federico Mejia, May 1, 1909

Francis Mairs Huntington-Wilson

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Confidential.

May 1, 1909.

My dear Mr. Minister:

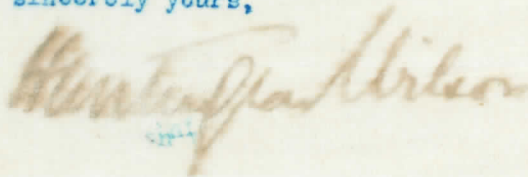
Under telegraphic instructions from your Government, you informed me this afternoon that our naval commander had asked permission to post some men on the Salvadorean Island, Zacatillo, and had made of the Government of Honduras a similar request with regard to the Honduran Island of Zacate Grande. Under your instructions you also stated that while this action was entirely agreeable to your Government, still the President of Salvador feared that it might possibly make an impression in some quarters which might conceivably be a little detrimental to the cooperation of the United States and the Central American Republics in seeking to maintain the conditions which all sought by the Washington Conventions.

Such an apprehension would naturally be cogent in the view of the Department. Accordingly, the matter has been brought to the attention of the Secretary of the Navy. It appears that the Commander, evidently in his anxiety to obstruct

at this time the filibustering expeditions against Salvador and Honduras which you had informed us were apprehended, has asked this permission as a practical measure without, however, having received instructions to do so. At all events, in view of the opinion of the President of Salvador, telegraphic instructions have now been issued advising the Commander of the inexpediency from one point of view of the measure which he ^{thought} seems to have useful in the interests of Salvador and Honduras.

I am, my dear Mr. Minister,

Very sincerely yours,



Señor Don Federico Mejia,

etc., etc., etc.,

Legation of Salvador.