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THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

May 22, 1961

*Staff
in Embassy office
should inform
S and this of the
visit - see
Ambassy letter
on file*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Request of Three Official Visitors
from Sierra Leone for an Appointment
With You

Sierra Leone Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance M. S. Mustapha, Minister of Natural Resources Albert Margai and the Minister for Development S. C. G. King are now in Washington at the beginning of a thirty-day visit to the United States. They will be in Washington through Wednesday, May 24.

I think it would be most desirable for you to receive the three Ministers for a brief courtesy call during their visit to the United States if your schedule permits.

The three Ministers are in the United States under the auspices of the State Department to discuss the economic development problems of their newly-independent country. They will visit in the South, in Puerto Rico where they will observe "Operation Bootstrap," and in the Middle West.

This is a very important delegation. Albert Margai, in the opinion of many observers, is the logical successor to his brother, Sir Milton Margai, the Prime Minister. Mr. Mustapha is also considered a likely compromise candidate for the top position in Sierra Leone, especially if a power contest should develop between the two large tribes in the country, the Temne and the Mende.

A meeting with you would enhance the prestige of the

visiting

visiting Ministers in Sierra Leone and would solidify our contacts with them. Such a gesture would do much to secure the good will of the people of Sierra Leone.

David Rank

Dean Rank



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON

July 6, 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROBERTS C'DONNELL 
THE WHITE HOUSE

Through: Mr. McGeorge Bundy 5

Subject: Presentation of Credentials by
Sierra Leone Ambassador Kelfa-
Gaulker

Mr. Richard Edmund Kelfa-Gaulker, newly appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Sierra Leone in Washington, has assumed the duties of his office and is awaiting the pleasure of the President to receive him.

I am enclosing a copy of the remarks which the Appointed Ambassador will hand to the President and a copy of the suggested reply. A short biographic sketch of the Ambassador is also transmitted.

The Embassy of Sierra Leone has indicated that Ambassador Kelfa-Gaulker will not wish to discuss sensitive matters during his call. A separate memorandum indicating which officers will accompany Ambassador Kelfa-Gaulker on his call will be forwarded when an appointment is arranged.

If you will be good enough to advise me as to the date and hour when it will be agreeable for the President to receive the Ambassador, I shall be pleased to inform him.


L. D. Bailey
Executive Secretary

Enclosures:

1. Ambassador's remarks.
2. Proposed reply.
3. Biographic sketch.

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Dr. Richard Edmund Kalfa-Coulter
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of
Sierra Leone to the United States

Dr. Richard Edmund Kalfa-Coulter was born March 24, 1909 at Koko, Orange Bay Area Chiefdom, Sierra Leone.

He received his primary and secondary education at R.O.S. School in Orange and at Albert Academy in Freetown. Dr. Kalfa-Coulter then traveled to the United States where, in typical American fashion, he worked his way through Otterbein College at Charlestown where he received his Diploma in Education and was awarded later a doctorate in Human Letters. He took graduate work at Columbia University and received a Masters Degree.

Upon his return to Sierra Leone, Dr. Kalfa-Coulter held various posts at Albert Academy, serving as printing instructor from 1937 to 1938, as senior assistant teacher in 1938, and as Principal from 1939 to 1944. Until his appointment as Ambassador, he served as Sierra Leone and Gambia Commissioner in London from 1944 to 1946.

In addition to his vocation, Dr. Kalfa-Coulter has been actively concerned with numerous voluntary educational, social and religious organizations. He also has served as Chairman of the Sierra Leone Maritime and waterfront workers Wage Board and Deputy Chairman of the Mining workers Wage Board.

In 1948 he married Miss Lillette Stuart. They have six children.

Dr. Kalfa-Coulter speaks English.

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THE MESSAGES OF
THE HOUSE APPOINTED AMBASSADORS OF SIERRA LEONE
MR. RICHARD S. ELLIS-JONES
OPEN THE COURTESY OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Mr. President:

In the name of Her Majesty Elizabeth II, Queen of England and of Sierra Leone and of her Representatives, His Excellency Sir Maurice Jones, Governor General, and the Right Honourable Sir Milton Margai, Prime Minister, and other members of his cabinet, and all the people of Sierra Leone, I bring greetings to you, your government, and all the people of the United States of America.

Sir, I consider it a special honour that Her Majesty the Queen has been pleased to appoint me as Sierra Leone's first Ambassador to the United States. Although Sierra Leone is the newest nation to establish a mission in your great country, the connection between our two countries dates back to 1786 when American freed slaves, who were loyal to the British, together with other fugitive slaves from Canada and the West Indies, were settled on the Sierra Leone peninsula on the West Coast of Africa of which the capital city became to be known as "Freetown." With the advent of American Slaveships to Africa,

the United

all.

The United States' influence and prestige spread throughout my country. Indeed it is worth mentioning that the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Sir Milton Margai, the Minister of Internal Affairs, Honourable Mr. Karefa-Darck, the Minister of Health, Honourable Mr. Fomah, and myself have all had education in American institutions in Sierra Leone, and the last two Honourable gentlemen and myself, are graduates of American Universities. You will therefore be proud to know, Sir, that your country has played a great part in the systematic development towards Sierra Leone's national sovereignty. I assure you therefore, that there is a very strong foundation for Honourable Institutions.

Sir, my government is aware of your personal interest in my country, and I would like to bring to your attention the fact that my country, though rich in natural resources, is still very much underdeveloped. Apart from agricultural products, such as palm kernels, coffee, pineapples, and ginger, which are our main export crops, Sierra Leone is a land of great mineral resources, most of which is still untapped. At present, the following minerals are mined: diamonds, iron ore, bauxite, and pyrope. A big is now in progress for rutile, bauxite, gold and platinum.

To develop

To develop our natural resources, we must rely upon outside capital. To translate independence to our people, my government must improve their standard of living. With this aim in view government has selected upon the open door policy to attract foreign capital, and has enacted legislation which provides for relief from certain taxes. American businessmen are invited to visit Sierra Leone and to build up personal contacts.

Through the International Cooperation Administration, your country has already started to give technical assistance in our economic development. Soon to be established is a rural training school which will be run by Hampton Institute of Virginia on behalf of the International Cooperation Administration. At the invitation of your administration, three of the Ministers of my government, Honorable S.S. Mestegbe, Minister of Finance, and Deputy Prime Minister, Honorable A.S. Norgel, Minister of Natural Resources, Honorable S.S.S. Wang, Minister of Development, recently visited this country and had talks with the United States aid agencies, international agencies, and private American businessmen. It is hoped that from these talks American businessmen will show positive interest in Sierra Leone. The Ministers, during talks with officials of your government,

expressed the

emphasized the urgency for a loan or grant from the United States and other friendly nations to enable my government to put on foot the development program.

In so far as available funds will allow, facilities for education are being expanded along specific lines laid out by my government. But there is great need for more teachers, buildings, and equipment to meet the increase in the number of children who should be in school. My Ministry of Education has already submitted its requirements to the Peace Corps for teachers.

In the field of higher education, my government makes provision for a certain number of scholarships for those qualified. But these are all inadequate for the growing needs of the country. Under the sponsorship of the African American Institute, the International Institute of Education and other private agencies, our students in this country have been able to receive financial assistance. My people are indeed grateful to these agencies for helping to train the future leaders of my country. It is expected that through the International Cooperation Administration program, more students will be coming to the United States of America for higher education.

On the way

of

in the age of Independence, my Prime Minister declared that "as we witness the birth of our new nation we should not forget, as we build the new on the old, that our continued stability depends on the cooperation of all, on the people of Sierra Leone and our genuine friends throughout the world." It may interest you to note, Sir, that the three colours of our flag have the following significance: leaf green for Sierra Leone's agriculture, natural resources and her abundant white for unity and justice and white stars for the hope that Sierra Leone's unique natural harbor may make its contribution to peace throughout the world.

Mr. President, I believe it is a great honor for me to be the first Ambassador of my country to your great country, and in presenting my credentials, I wish to say that it is my dedicated pledge, with the cooperation of your government to work towards a better understanding between our two peoples and towards strengthening the ties of friendship between our two countries.

Mr. President:

In the name of Her Majesty Elizabeth II, Queen of England and of Sierra Leone and of her Representatives, His Excellency Sir Richard Buxton, Governor-General, and the Right Honourable Sir Milton Margai, Prime Minister, and other members of His Cabinet, and all the people of Sierra Leone, I bring greetings to you, your government, and all the people of the United States of America.

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On the eve of Independence, my Prime Minister declared that "as we witness the birth of our new nation we should not forget, as we build the new on the old, that our continued stability depends on the cooperation of all, on the people of Sierra Leone and our genuine friends throughout the world." It was important for us to note, Sir, that the three colors of our flag have the following significance: red stands for Sierra Leone's independence, natural resources and her potentiality when for unity and justice; and white blue for the hope that Sierra Leone's unique cultural heritage may take its contribution to peace throughout the world.

Mr. President, I return in a great honor to be the first
Ambassador of my country to your great country, and in presenting my
credentials, I wish to say that it is my dedicated pledge, with the
cooperation of your government to work towards a better understanding
between our two peoples and towards strengthening the ties of friend-
ship between our two countries.

R. E. Kelly, Ecuador

Talking points

There is no indication that the Ambassador will raise any substantive issues with the President. However, the following points might come up:

1. The Prime Minister, Sir Milton Margai, has expressed an interest in visiting the US this fall, probably during the UN General Assembly meeting.

2. The visit of three cabinet-level ministers to the US this spring under the auspices of the State Department has been a success. They were interested in the economic assistance provided Sierra Leone
(over)

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by the US and in attracting private US investment.

3. Reports from Sierra Leone indicate that they are pleased with the way the Fitzjohn incident was handled.



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Op. Right Space
Washington

UNCLAS 14 08 5 13

American Embassy,
Freetown, Sierra Leone,
August 7, 1964.

Dear Mr. President:

I have just returned to Freetown from Lagos where I had the privilege of attending a six-day conference of Chiefs of American Missions in the African countries south of the Sahara, and I would like to convey to you some very brief impressions of this meeting in which I believe you will be interested. As a member to the field aspects of the Foreign Service, the Lagos Conference has assisted me immeasurably in gaining a better understanding of the challenges the United States faces in Tropical Africa and the policies and programs by which we can meet, I am certain, will gain our objectives here in the long run. The opportunity to discuss common problems with Department officials and with several of my colleagues from other African posts has helped place in a sharper perspective some of the problems in my own patch of Sierra Leone. All in all I would venture to say that the conference, from my point of view, has been the equivalent of a full year's experience in the field and I trust will enhance considerably my ability to carry out my mission here according to the guidelines of your letter of May 19. Moreover, periodic gatherings of this nature, I believe, should be made a permanent facet of our diplomatic practice.

While several factors contributed to the success of the Lagos meeting, the two most important in my view were the administrative and working insights and directives so succinctly provided by Assistant Secretary Williams and the perceptive explanation of the problems and aspirations of less developed peoples presented so inspirationally by Under Secretary Beales. The leadership, encouragement and guidance supplied by these gentlemen have induced me to return to Freetown with every intention of expending that extra measure of effort to further our country's interests on this important West Coast of Africa.

My sincere and warmest regards,

Faithfully yours,

A. J. Sparnahan
A. J. Sparnahan

The President,
The White House.

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December 9, 1961

Dear Mr. Minister:

The visit of Secretary of Commerce Luther E. Hodges to Sierra Leone affords an opportunity for me to reaffirm the interest of the Government and people of the United States in creating steadily closer ties between our two countries.

I am gratified that the members of my Cabinet most closely concerned with development of trade and investment opportunities for the American business community abroad has the opportunity to visit Sierra Leone during its first year of independence to discuss ways and means of expanding trade and investment relations. While a number of the members of my Administration have had the pleasure of meeting with Sierra Leone officials in the United States during the past year to discuss their development and trade problems, I sincerely hope the visit of my Secretary of Commerce will result in an even greater interest on the part of American businessmen in the many opportunities existing in Sierra Leone.

We in the United States experienced very difficult days in our early history. We, therefore, deeply appreciate the problems which confront young nations, as they seek to strengthen their institutions and develop their natural and human resources. It is my sincere hope that the United States will be able to build closer relations of mutual interest with Sierra Leone in a free and peaceful world.

Sincerely,

(s) John Kennedy

The Honorable
Mohammed Saad Montaga,
Acting Prime Minister of Sierra Leone,
Freetown.

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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ACTION: Embassy, PORTKAIT 104 VICTORIAN TEST

Please deliver following message from President to Sir Milton Margai:

OFFICE

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

It gives me great pleasure to extend, both personally and officially, cordial greetings and congratulations to you and the people of Sierra Leone on the first anniversary of your country's independence.

This first year of your nationhood has been a momentous one. It has seen Sierra Leone take its place with distinction among the family of free nations and make steady progress in achieving social and economic betterment for the people of Sierra Leone. I am confident that your statesmanlike leadership and the will of the people of Sierra Leone are bringing to reality your dream of a free and happy nation.

The people of the United States join me in expressing the hope that the coming years will be marked by peace and prosperity for Sierra Leone and by increasingly close relations between Sierra Leone and the United States.

Sincerely,

John F. Kennedy

END

Transmitted by APW/STWongy, Jan	Date 4/20/62	Transmitted by APW -	Transmitted by APW -
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Comments P - Mr. Bland S/P - Mr. King S/P - Mr. Little White House - Mr. Smith	OFFICIAL USE ONLY OFFICIAL USE ONLY	APW - Mr. Gault	REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS PROHIBITED UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540

White House does not plan publish but has no objection should State Department wish to do so. In that event notify Department 24 hours in advance if possible to permit consideration of simultaneous release by White House.

END

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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
GROUP 1

UNCLASSIFIED

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CEIA

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120

ACTION Ambulatory PHOTON 18

Please deliver following Congratulatory Message

to Governor General.

CEIA

Dear Governor General:

I have just learned of your appointment as Governor General of Sierra Leone and the additional honor of the Queen's bestowing upon you the award of Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

It is a great pleasure to extend, on behalf of the American people and myself, sincerest congratulations on your appointment and extend our best wishes for every success in carrying out the important task you have assumed.

Sincerely,

John F. Kennedy Governor.

White House does not plan release but has no objection should still do so. In event release Department would appreciate twenty-four hours advance notice.

END.

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P. - Mr. Callahan

1/20 - Mr. Callahan

White House - Crowley

1/1 - Mr. Callahan Mr. Stater

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HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN,

Queen of Sierra Leone and of her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth.

To the President of the United States of America.

Dear Sir:

Our Good Friend!

Wished need scarcely for the services of Our Trusty and Well-beloved Son-in-Law Richard Edmund Keira-Gaulker who has for some time resided with You in the character of Our Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary for Sierra Leone. We have thought fit to notify to You his Recall.

We are ourselves so satisfied with the zeal, ability, and fidelity with which Son-in-Law Keira-Gaulker has executed Our orders on all occasions during his Mission that We trust his conduct will also have merited Your approbation, and in this pleasing confidence we avail ourselves of the opportunity to renew to You the assurances of our constant Friendship, and of Our warmest wishes for the welfare and prosperity of the United States of America.

AND so we commend You to the protection of
the Almighty.

GIVEN at Our Court at St. James's, the
Second day of October, One thousand nine hundred and
Eighty-three, in the Twelfth Year of Our Reign.

Your Good Friend,

Elizabeth

Mr. President,

It gives me great pleasure to present to you my letter of Credence as well as the letter of Recall of my predecessor,

It is indeed an honor for me to be appointed as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at this stage of my country's development. This honors no doubt carries with it many responsibilities and duties. I can assure you, Mr. President that it is my intention to execute these responsibilities and duties to the best of my ability. However, without your assistance and that of your government it will be difficult for me to function successfully, but because of the friendly relations between the United States and my country, I am confident that there exists an atmosphere in which I can perform my duties to the satisfaction of my government.

Quite recently my country's Finance Delegation under the leadership of the Honorable Mr. Abiyeh M. Bahargel, Minister of Finance, completed a series of talks with some of your officials and private investors. I must assure you Mr. President that the Delegation was satisfied with these preliminary talks and one of my first duties would be to pursue further the negotiations were discussed with your officials. In this connection, I would like to assure you that my government has no intention of pursuing a policy of nationalization; it believes in the encouragement of Free Enterprise and any private firm who wishes to share ventures by setting up business there, is welcome. It should also be noted that United States firms which are established or decide to establish themselves in Harar Town with the approval of

the Sierra Leone Government have their interests further safeguarded by an Agreement between the United States Government and the Sierra Leone Government.

Since the Independence of my country, I am proud to refer to the many areas of cooperation which have been established between our two countries, particularly through the activities of the Peace Corps which you were so personally enthusiastic in initiating. The bonds of understanding between our peoples have been further strengthened. It is my confident hope that these areas of cooperation will continue to expand.

Mr. President on behalf of my Government and the people of Sierra Leone, may I assure you that during the tenure of my office I shall endeavor to strengthen the cordial and friendly relations existing between our two countries.

Siaka P. Stevens

SIERRA LEONE 15

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BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

Possible Points for Discussion with the new Sierra Leonean Ambassador

Ambassador Collier has served as his country's representative at the United Nations Headquarters in New York for the past two years so he is already well acquainted with the United States. It would appear from the remarks which he prepared for presentation when he sees the President and from conversations with the Secretary and other officials of the Department that his main purpose will be to interest private American groups in investment in Sierra Leone. However, the resources of Sierra Leone are limited and interest in undertaking projects within the country is probably not too great.

We consider outside assistance to Sierra Leone to be essentially a responsibility of the United Kingdom, in view of the former colonial relationship, and continue to encourage the British to assume this responsibility. Our foreign aid program in Sierra Leone is modest, amounting to approximately \$2 million per annum. It is directed toward community development, with emphasis on training unschooled rural youth, assisting in health education and agricultural extension. A central statistical service is being established with our assistance and a road survey is being made on the basis of which a IMF loan of approximately \$4 million will be considered. We do not envisage any major expansion of the AID program. There are 130 Peace Corps Volunteers in the country.

The Ambassador is an enthusiastic Pan-africanist. It is not anticipated that he will raise questions of substance, although he may wish to discuss items of current importance at the United Nations, such as the Portuguese territories, the situation in the Republic of South Africa, or major East-West issues.

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E.O. 12812, Dec. 22, 1977 and 1978

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Gordon Beresford Quinton Collier
Newly Appointed Ambassador
of Sierra Leone
to the United States

Mr. Collier was born at Freetown, Sierra Leone, in 1927. He attended local schools in Sierra Leone, including Fourah Bay College, and received a Master of Arts degree at Durham University in 1953. In the same year he received his Bachelor of Civil Law degree and was called to the bar in England. From 1955 to 1960 he enjoyed a successful law practice in Sierra Leone; he was also City Solicitor to the Freetown City Council. In 1960 he served as legal adviser to Sierra Leone's delegation to the constitutional talks in London which led to his country's independence.

Mr. Collier is a Freetown Creole and in 1958 was one of the founding members of a small opposition party (People's National Party). He is a member of the Anglican Church. His wife was an honor graduate in history at Birmingham University in England. Mr. Collier has represented his country at the United Nations for two years and has been outspoken, in the corridors and at social gatherings, in favor of recognizing Red China and reconsidering the value to Sierra Leone of its Commonwealth ties. Mr. Collier is a close friend of the Sierra Leone Finance Minister, Albert Margai, the Prime Minister's brother and likely successor.

Mr. Collier, like many of the educated young men of Freetown, whom he claims to represent, is impatient with the moderate, older leaders of his country and highly critical of "neo-colonialism."

GROUP 4

Downgraded at 3 year
intervals; declassified
after 12 years.

CONFIDENTIAL

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E.O. 12812, Dec. 22, 1977 and 1978

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THE HONOR OF
THE FIRST APPOINTED APPEARANCE OF
KIMIL LONE
MR. CHIEF MINISTER CHIEF MINISTER COLLIER
UPON THE OCCASION OF THE PRESENTATION OF HIS
LETTER OF CREDENCE

Mr. President,

It gives me great pleasure to present to you my
Letter of Credence as well as the Letter of Recall of
my predecessor.

It is indeed an honor for me to be appointed as
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at this
stage of my country's development. This honor so
dense carries with it many responsibilities and duties.
I can assure you Mr. President that it is my intention
to execute these responsibilities and duties to the best
of my ability. However, without your assistance and
that of your government it will be difficult for me to
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Mr. President on behalf of my Government and the people of Sierra Leone, may I assure you that during the tenure of my office I shall endeavor to strengthen the cordial and friendly relations existing between our two countries.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPLY
TO THE SPEECH OF THE
RECENT APPOINTED AMBASSADOR OF SIERRA LEONE
MR. GEORGE KEMAHUO CHRISTOPH COLLIER
UPON THE OCCASION OF THE PRESENTATION OF HIS
LETTER OF CREDENTIALS

Mr. Ambassador:

It is with great pleasure that I formally receive your letter of credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Sierra Leone to the United States of America. I also accept the letter of recall of your predecessor, Mr. Richard T. Kelle-Quillen.

I am pleased to note that the relations between our two countries have prospered since Sierra Leone achieved its independence and I can assure you, Mr. Ambassador, that my Government attaches great importance to maintaining and deepening our already cordial relations. The amicitia you have expressed regarding political cooperation between our two peoples are gratifying and correspond closely to the American view of individual freedom and human dignity.

It is the

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It is the hope of my Government that the economic and social development of Sierra Leone will continue to progress and we shall be happy to continue our efforts to assist you. Your distinguished presence here in this country will certainly serve to strengthen the traditional ties between our two countries. I have been gratified to note the large number of distinguished Sierra Leoneans who have visited the United States in the past few months. I am hopeful that such visits will continue and will provide an opportunity for our peoples to learn more about each other.

I am grateful to you, Mr. Alexander, for your friendly remarks and, in particular, your praise of the Peace Corps. Let me extend to you a warm personal welcome and assure you that the United States Government will offer you every possible assistance during your stay in this country.