

Department of State  
Washington 22 January 1850

Logan Hunter Esqr

United States District Attorney, for the Eastern District of Louisiana New Orleans  
for

The Minister of Spain residing in this City, under date of the 19<sup>th</sup> inst., has again invoked the attention of the Executive, to probable designs against the Island of Cuba cherished by persons in the United States, of whom and of whose schemes he has received intelligence through channels which he conceives to be worthy of credit. Besides the organization of juntas & their secret introduction into Cuba of papers inciting the inhabitants to revolt, they are said to have issued bonds payable on the rents of the Islands in order to raise money for the purpose of recruiting men; and that bodies of men are actually exercising themselves in the use of arms, holding meetings and clubs in New York, New Orleans & other places & that the same are also forming plans for making use of the Steamers which touch at Havana on their way to Chagres.

In view of these reports of renewed attempts against Cuba, I am directed by the President to call again your special attention to the subject & to instruct you to keep a vigilant watch upon all movements of the kind indicated, with a view to detect & to bring to punishment the individuals & combinations of individuals, who may be found concerned in any overt act in violation of the act of Congress of April 1818, intended to disturb the tranquility of Cuba.

The President as in duty bound, will exercise all the powers with which he is invested, to prevent aggressions, by our own people, upon the territories of friendly nations, & he expects you to use every effort to detect & to arrest for trial & punishment, all offenders engaged in any armed expedition prohibited by our laws.

I am Sir respectfully

Your Obedient servant

John M. Clayton

Clerks Office U. S. C. C.

I certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the original letter, read & offered in evidence <sup>on</sup> the trial by the defense. Witness my hand & seal of said Court at New Orleans this 13<sup>th</sup> January 1851. J. H. Greenleaf  
Clerk