

as conditional so far as our possible acts might be concerned, and continued to make clear our inability to interfere in a matter of that kind.<sup>5</sup>

C[ORDELL] H[ULL]

860d.24/21

*The Finnish Minister (Procopé) to the Secretary of State*

No. 1206

WASHINGTON, April 17, 1939.

EXCELLENCY: I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that my Government pending the proposed nomination of a Military Attaché to this Legation, have decided to send an Officer of the Finnish Army, Colonel Paavo Talvela, to Washington on a special mission. The purpose of Colonel Talvela's mission is to study the possibilities of arranging for future deliveries from the United States to Finland of certain materials and commodities.

I shall be very grateful if through Your Excellency's good offices Colonel Talvela be permitted to establish contact with the competent United States Military and other Authorities and to obtain from them the assistance which is necessary for the fulfillment of his mission.<sup>6</sup>

Colonel Talvela will arrive in Washington about May 1st and will stay here for two months.

Accept [etc.]

HJ. J. PROCOPÉ

758.60d/160 : Telegram (part air)

*The Minister in Finland (Schoenfeld) to the Secretary of State*

HELSINKI, June 2, 1939—3 p. m.

[Received June 5—5:40 a. m.]

97. See last paragraph my telegram No. 92, May 25.<sup>7</sup> Minister for Foreign Affairs told me today that Soviet Government had made no further reference to previously proposed cession of Seiskari and Levensaari Islands in exchange for certain small areas in Soviet Karelia.

<sup>5</sup>The Minister of Finland had similar interviews on this day with James C. Dunn, Adviser on Political Relations, and Pierrepont Moffat, Chief of the Division of European Affairs. (760d.6114/3, 4) The American Minister in Finland, H. F. Arthur Schoenfeld, in his telegram No. 73, May 3, 1939, reported to the Secretary of State that the Finnish Minister for Foreign Affairs, Eljas Erkkö, had explained that the *démarche* of the Minister at Washington "had been designed primarily to apprise you of the Soviet suggestions regarding islands in eastern part of Gulf of Finland and not as a request for action which was considered neither necessary nor desirable at the Foreign Office." (760d.6114/6)

<sup>6</sup>Assistant Secretary of State George S. Messersmith, in his acknowledgment of April 26, 1939, assured the Finnish Minister that "this Government will be happy to assist Colonel Talvela in the fulfillment of his mission." (860d.24/21)

<sup>7</sup>Not printed.