

LEE TO JONES.^aLEE TO ALLEN.^b

(No 150)

LEGATION OF TEXAS

Washington [City] 21 Oct 1845.

DEAR SIR

There has been no dispatch recd. at this Legation since the 30th. Ult. the date of the last dispatch from this Legation to your Department.

I have the honor to transmit herewith Copy of a Communication from the Hon. W. L. Marcy Secy. of War of the U. S. on the subject of a Commission sent to treat with the Comanche Indians to which please be referred.

The informal intercourse between this Legation and the Govt. of the United States continues to be of the most friendly character, nothing having occurred to place our intercourse upon a different footing since the date of Col. Kaufmans last dispatch No. 149. Col. K. is visiting his friends in Pennsylvania but I expect his return here in a few days.

I have the honor to remain

Dear Sir

Respfy

Yr obdt Servt

W. D. LEE

Hon. EBENEZER ALLEN—

Secretary of State

(Copy.)

WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington [City] October 10, 1845.

SIR

The President has directed this Department to designate P. M. Butler and M. G. Lewis to treat with the Comanche Indians and to renew and strengthen the friendly intercourse between them and the United States

It is proper that the objects of this mission should be made known to the Authorities of Texas to the end that the Government there may cooperate with these Commissioners in accomplishing results alike beneficial to all parties. It is conceived that the Agents and traders of Texas that are or may become residents among the Indian tribes not only in that Country but in the vicinity will without doubt under the advice and direction of their Govt. cheerfully lend their

^a October 20, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

^b A. L. S.

assistance to United States Commissioners in making arrangements to maintain and perpetuate friendly relations between these tribes and the United States.

Permit me respectfully to invite your attention to this subject and ask from you such communication to the Authorities of Texas in relation thereto as under the circumstances you may deem proper.

I have the honor to be with great respect

Yr Obedt Servt

Signed.

W. L. MARCY
Secretary of War

Hon. DAVID KAUFFMAN
Agent etc. etc. etc.

KAUFMAN TO JONES.^a

KAUFMAN TO ALLEN.^b

(No 151)

LEGATION OF TEXAS
Washington [City] 3d. Nov 1845.

DEAR SIR

No communication has been received at this Legation from your Department since my arrival (Sept. 19th.) and consequently no reply to Mr. Lees communication of the 8th. September and mine of 30th. idem. I am without advice and instructions as to the course the Department would have me pursue. Of one thing however I am persuaded, and that is that the Government here will not under any circumstances change its position in regard to the relations that Texas bears to it.

Consistency, pride of opinion, interest, and perhaps in some degree the triumphant consummation of annexation itself, demand a steady adherence to the course originally taken and promulgated by the official organ.

Under these circumstances, I feel persuaded that the Department would not request me to ask a reconsideration of the question of my reception, to be followed, as it would be, by a second rejection. To remain here as agent etc or in any other capacity than that in which I have been sent, I would not be willing, even admitting that our laws recognized such an officer. Under all the circumstances therefore I have determined to leave for Texas and to day I leave this City via Baltimore and Wheeling for the South

Mr. Lee will however remain and faithfully carry out any instructions he may receive from the Department and I am highly gratified

^a November 3, 1845. See addenda to Calendar of Correspondence with the United States.

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that I am enabled to leave the interests of the Legation in the hands of one whose fidelity ability and tact eminently entitle him to your favorable consideration.

The most kind and friendly unofficial intercourse has been kept up between the President, Secretary of State and members of the Cabinet and myself. Wherever, I could suggest any thing that I considered of benefit to our Country I have not failed to do so and my suggestions have been treated with great attention and respect.

I sincerely trust that the course I have determined to pursue will be entirely acceptable to his Excellency President Jones and to the Department over which you have the honor to preside. Certain it is it has been determined on out of the highest regard and respect for the Government that honored me with its confidence, and did I not feel morally certain that the course I am now pursuing is the one that would be recommended and will be fully approved at home, I should wait here until I heard from your Department.

It would afford me much pleasure to secure the approbation of his Excellency and your Department on my course and if I shall be so fortunate as to do so (which I sincerely trust) I should be much gratified to receive an evidence of that fact from you addressed to me at my residence in Sabine Town

I have the honor to remain

With high regard

Your Very Obdt. Servt.

DAVID S. KAUFMAN

LEE TO BUCHANAN.^a

LEE TO ALLEN.^b

(No 152)

LEGATION OF TEXAS

Washington [City] 8 Nov 1845.

DEAR SIR

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt on yesterday by the hands of Captn. Munson of your dispatch dated Washington 15th. October last, and in compliance with your Instructions I shall leave this city this afternoon and after a hasty visit to New York shall return immediately to Texas.

Col. Kaufman left here as he advised you in his dispatch No. 151, dated the 3d Inst. on that day.

^a November 6, 1845. See Lee to Allen, November 8, 1845, with which—though no mention of the fact appears—this letter must have been inclosed.

^b A. L. S.

I have the satisfaction to inform you that both the President of the U. S. and the Secretary of State have assured me that the attention of Congress will be called to the claims of Texas for indemnity in the Snively and Red River Custom House Cases and the Secretary of State further promised me that he would request his friend Mr. Allen of Ohio to introduce and read a Bill in his place in Congress at as early a day as practicable after the meeting of Congress to provide for the payment of these claims.

I have been urging this matter upon the attention of this Government. They needed reminding of it for when I first spoke to Mr. Buchanan on the subject, he told me that he had never heard of it as Secretary of State altho' he had some slight recollection of it as a member of Congress.

So soon as he had time to look into the records of his Department relating to the claims, however, he with earnestness assured me that it should be attended to. And altho' as an invariable rule he declined to state in a written communication any thing which will appear in the Presidents message he told me he had prepared a paragraph which will be inserted in the message recommending an immediate appropriation to pay these claims.

I have not had the pleasure to be assured that any of my private letters to yourself or his Excellency the President have been received, nor have I any intimation from your Department whether my desire to secure the approbation of his Excellency has been successful. Should I be so fortunate, as I sincerely hope I may be, an intimation of that fact will be a source of great gratification to me. I have the honor to remain with sentiments of high regard for yourself and his Excellency the President of which please assure him on my part

Very Respectfully
Yr obdt Servt

W. D. LEE

The archives of this Legation are sealed with the seal of the Legation and placed in the care of Lewis R. Hamersley Esq Clerk in the office of the Adjutant Genl. subject to orders from your Department
W. D. L.

LEGATION OF TEXAS
Washington 6 Nov 1845

DEAR SIR

As the time is near at hand when the Congress of the U. S. will assemble, permit me to call your attention to the claims of Texas for indemnity in the cases of the disarming of the forces of Col. Snively of Texas by Captn. Cooke of the U. S. Army and of the outrage upon the Collector and Custom House of the District of

Red River in Texas by citizens of the U. S. both of which occurrences took place in the spring of 1843, and have heretofore been the subject of negotiation and correspondence between the two Govts. I shall very soon return to Texas and it will be a source of much gratification to my Govt. if I am enabled to assure the President of Texas on my return that the attention of the U S Congress will be called early to these matters in order that an appropriation may be made to meet these long standing claims of Texas on the justice of the United States.

I have the honor to remain

With high regard

Dear Sir

Yr obdt Servt

Sgd. W D LEE

Hon JAMES BUCHANAN
Secretary of State,
etc etc etc.

JONES TO POLK.^a

JONES TO POLK.^b

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Austin, Novr. 12th. 1845.

To His Excellency JAMES K. POLK

Etc. Etc. Etc.

SIR.

By request, I have the honor to transmit to your Excellency a recommendation by the Members of the recent convention, held at Austin, in favor of the officers of the Army and Navy of Texas, whose commissions will be vacated upon Texas becoming a State of the Union and those who have been honorably discharged for want of funds to keep them in Commission.

Confident that your Excellency will readily appreciate the superiority of a recommendation upon principle, like this, by those who are in the performance of an implied duty, to one of a private and personal character, obtained by individuals where signatures are easily obtained; and feeling assured that your Excellency will give the subject that deliberation and decision it merits.

I have the honor to be

With High respect

Your most obedient servant.

ANSON JONES

^a November 10, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

^b See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 47, p. 41.