

916

December 23, 1937.

Personal

My dear Mr. Burlingham:

I was very glad to have your note of December 20 and I have often wished that I could sit down for a real talk with you. We have been having rather hectic days here and I have been very hard at it day and night since I came to this desk in July. I am leaving today, Noon, for Fleetwood to spend Christmas with my aged mother who is now 88 but I will be returning here on Sunday evening and, as we shall be getting the report of our Naval Court of Inquiry on the Panay matter in the next day or two, you will appreciate that our next week will be another full one. I am glad to see that the people on the Hill are at last waking up to the fact that internal politics must stop at the water's edge. This is no time for division among ourselves for it only gives aid and comfort to those who are plotting against everything that we hold dear and who are flouting our vital interests in so many places. I think public opinion is solidified in a direction so that this Department will not be hamstrung as it has been for months.

This situation in Haiti and Santo Domingo has been causing us great preoccupation for weeks and I may tell you confidentially that war between these two little republics was only avoided with the greatest difficulty. We had to use a pretty strong hand in the end but I must say that those who handled it here from Washington did it very well and it looks now that the matter will be arranged. You may be sure that we have been hard at work on this.

There

Mr. Charles C. Burlingham,
27 William Street,
New York, New York.

Burlingham, Charles C.

9/16

-2-

There is so much that I would like to write you about that I can't even begin so this is just a word to tell you how much my wife and I wish you and yours a Happy Christmas and a New Year filled with all good things.

Cordially yours,

A-M: GSM: VNG