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A-M

January 5, 1939.

CONFIDENTIAL

U
Mr. Welles

PA/D
Mr. Dunn

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Mr. Moffat

In a private letter that I have had from Armstrong in New York he tells me that he has been told that Jules Henry has been playing an important part in developing Bonnet's policy. Armstrong remarks that, knowing him as some do in this country, it is rather ludicrous to think of him as a statesman helping to determine the destinies of France let alone of Europe. He further says that he has been given to understand that Henry has been doing some "dirty work" recently to discredit Saint-Quentin in Paris hoping that a change in the Washington Embassy will occur before Bonnet falls, as he, Henry, has the refusal of the job from Bonnet but is far from sure that some successor of Bonnet would favor him. Armstrong says that it is interesting that Henry is to go as Ambassador to Spain and remarks in this connection that when he had lunch with Henry in Paris last summer, Henry told him that the maximum number of Italians in Spain was 10,000. When Armstrong expressed

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expressed grave doubt as to these figures, Henry reprov-
ingly said to him that he "hadn't the official sources at his
disposal". Armstrong remarks that since then 10,000
Italians have been withdrawn from Spain and that we have
read in the papers during the last few days of five different
Italian divisions operating there.

G. S. Messersmith.

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