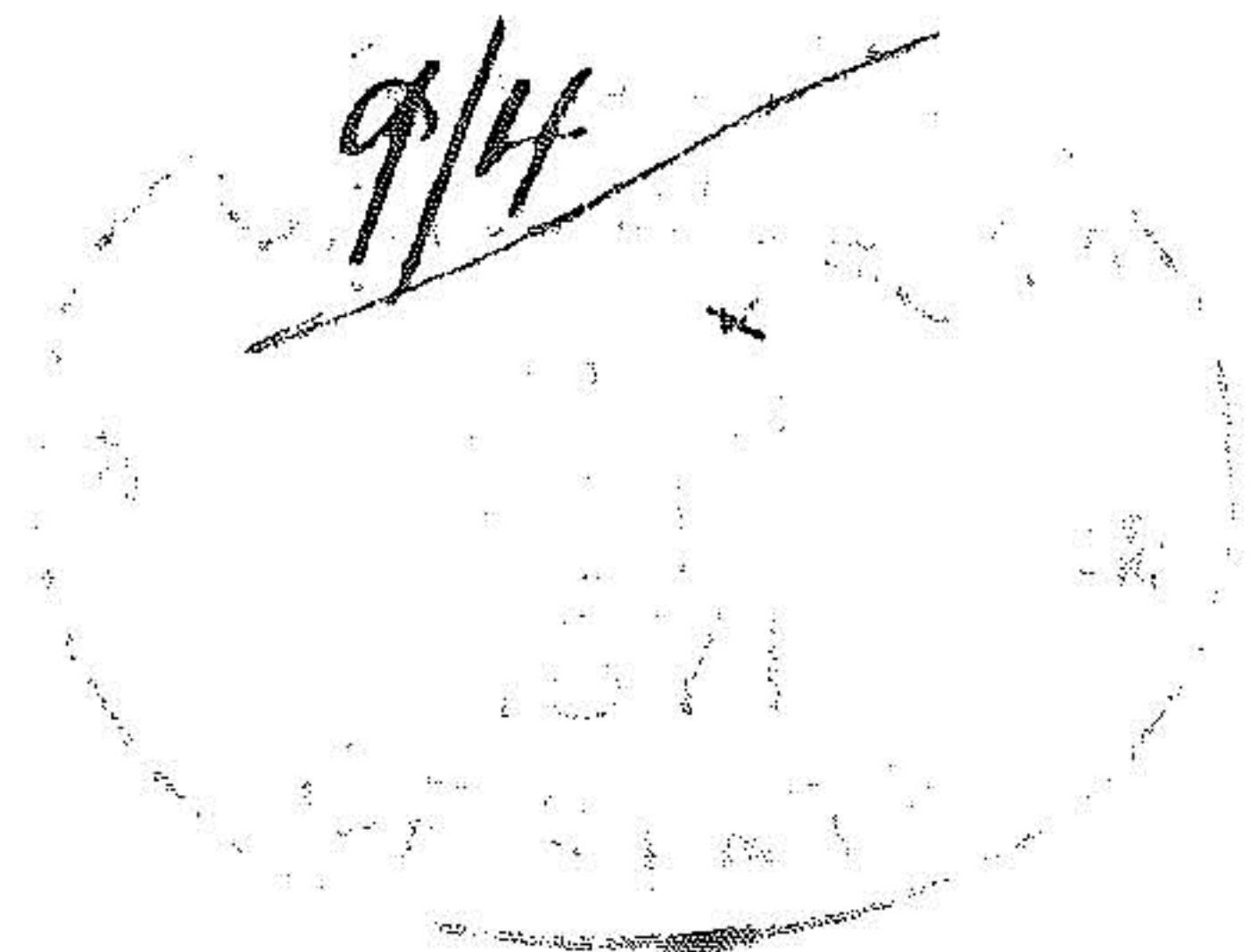


Document forwarded to enquire into the case  
I respect fully  
Mr Wood



No 528.

U. S. Consulate General Hav<sup>a</sup>.

August. 26. 1871.

Mr Hall, to the Department of State.

Subject. Execution of Don Juan Clemente Xenea.



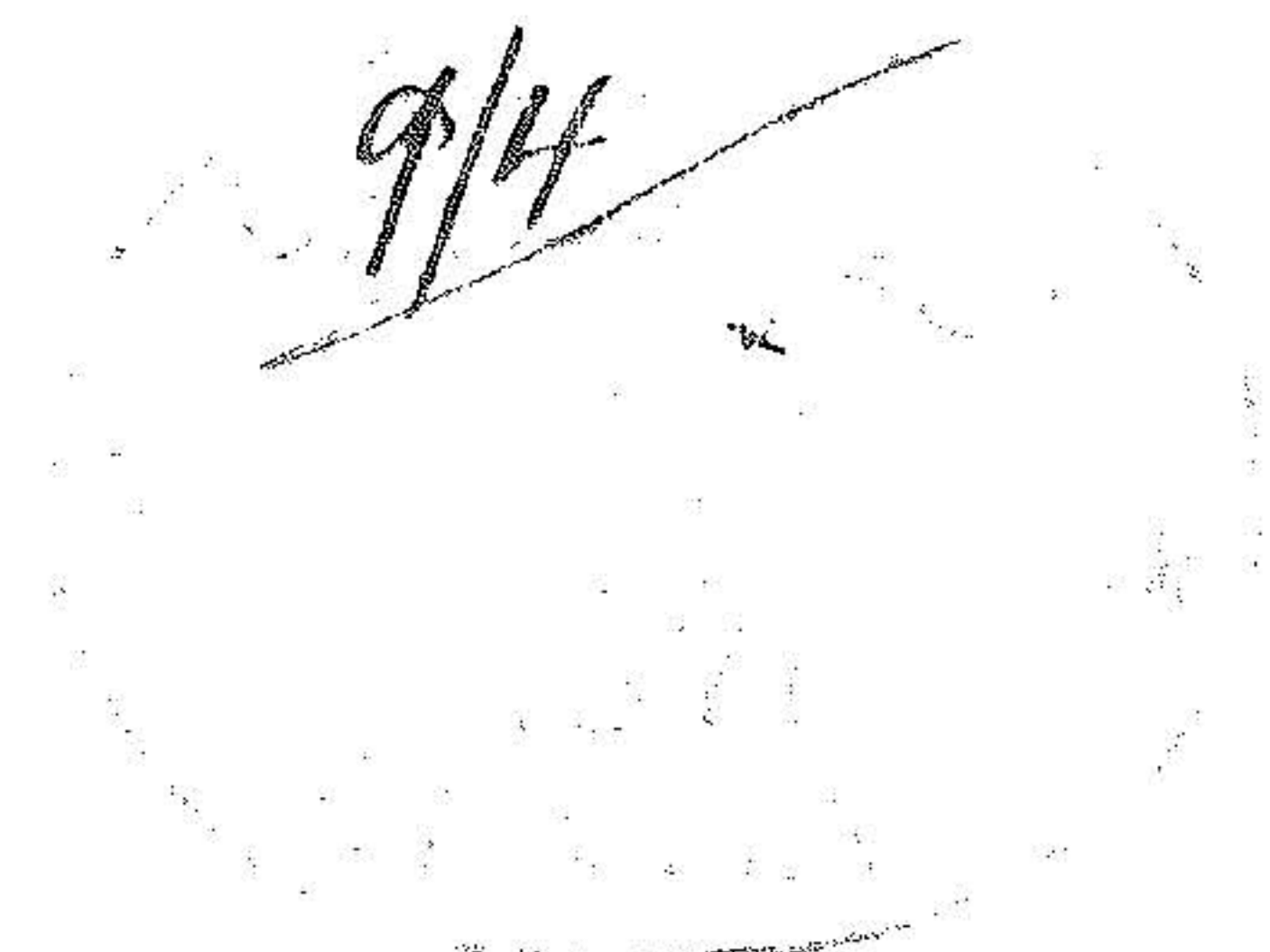
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News paper slips enclosed

Submit journal to enquire into the case  
I repeat hereby page 2

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Ms. 28. U. S. Consulate General

Havana August 26<sup>th</sup> 1871.

Hon. J. C. Davis.

Assistant Secretary of State

Washington.

Sir:

Referring to Mr. Pidal's No. 355, of 14<sup>th</sup> January ult<sup>o</sup>. I have now to inform the Department that, on the 24<sup>th</sup> instant, at an early hour of the morning, a military officer called on me with a message from Don Juan Clemente Xenea, then in the Cabañas fortress under sentence of death, that I would visit him. I complied at once.

The charges against Xenea, and of which he has been convicted and has paid the penalty of his life, were that he had violated the conditions of a safe-conduct given him by the Spanish minister at Washington, in that, instead of presenting it to the central authorities of Havana, he entered the insurrectionary district clandestinely and was captured, when attempting to escape in the same manner; that intercepted letters of his own and documents found upon him at the time of his capture prove that he was

the service of the insurrectionary government.

I shall endeavour to obtain, and transmit to the Department, a summary of the process.

He informed me that he was a naturalized citizen of the United States, his wife who is now in New York having the evidence in her possession, that throughout his trial he had not alleged his adopted citizenship, under the persuasion that it would operate to his prejudice.

That he had been completely betrayed in his mission to Cuba; that he had been persuaded to leave the territory of the United States, upon what was represented to him to be a mission of peace, with the purpose of entrapping him here. He did not however give me to understand by whom he considered himself betrayed, whether by Cubans or Spaniards. That the Government of Madrid was interested in his fate and would have saved him from death, but that Government is impotent here and he had to be sacrificed in gratification of the sanguinary instincts of the lowest classes of the Peninsular population of Havana. And finally he hoped that the Government

Government of the United States would  
inquire into his case in due time.

With the exception of some messages for  
his wife and friends, the foregoing is in  
substance what he had to say to me.

He met his fate with extraordinary  
fortitude.

Inclosure slips from the papers of  
this city of this date referring to  
the event.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant

Henry C. Hall

Vice Colonel General

Inclosure.

Nos. Slips and translations from the  
Havana papers of 26<sup>th</sup> May 1870

Inclosure No 1

with Dispatch No 528.

Havana Consulate Aug 26<sup>th</sup> 1870

Execution of Don Juan Clemente Zenea.

- from the Box de Cuba. -

Ejecucion de justicia.

A las siete de esta mañana ha sido pasado por las armas en los fosos de la Cabaña, D. Juan Clemente Zenea.

El enviado de Azcárate ha pagado con su vida el delito de traicion contra España. Recibió la muerte con serenidad y se negó á admitir los auxilios espirituales, manifestando que era protestante.

¡Paz á sus restos!

Aug 26

At seven o'clock of this morning, Don Juan Clemente Zenea was shot in the moat of the Cabañas fort.

The envoy of Azcárate has paid, with his life, the crime of treason against Spain. He met death with serenity and refused to admit spiritual advice, manifesting that he was a protestant. Peace to his ashes!

From the "Diario de la Marina"

Ejecucion.

A las siete de la mañana se ha cumplido, en los fosos de la Cabaña, la sentencia del consejo de guerra que condenó á pena capital á D. Juan Clemente Zenea. Segun nos ha referido un testigo presencial, tanto en la capilla como en el lugar de la ejecucion, se manifestó profundamente resignado. Manifestó que sus manos se habian manchado con sangre, pero que se creia responsable de parte de la que se habia derramado, por haber trabajado y escrito incitando á la rebelion. Dió las gracias al señor gobernador de la fortaleza, jefes y voluntarios por las muchas consideraciones que le habian tenido, y pidió que le permitieran no arrodillarse, lo que se le concedió, porque tenia una úlcera en una rodilla. Ha ya Dios tenido piedad de su alma.

Execution.

At seven o'clock this morning, the sentence of death, passed by court-martial upon Don Juan Clemente Zenea, was executed in the Cabañas

fortress:

We have been informed by ~~our~~ eye-witness

eye-witness, that both in the Chapel (Capilla) and at the place of execution he manifested profound resignation.

He declared that his hands had not been stained with blood, but he considered himself, in a measure, responsible for what had been shed as he had labored and had written ~~the~~ incite insurrection. He thanked the Governor of the fortress, officers and volunteers for the many considerations shown him and asked that he might be permitted, not to kneel, which was granted, inasmuch as he had an ulcer on one knee. May God have mercy on his soul.