

American government to carry into effect any projects of extending its expeditions into territories unquestionably belonging to his majesty; you must therefore, without any further observations or remarks on my part, be satisfied, that the documents contain evident, unequivocal proofs, that an offence of magnitude has been committed against his majesty, and that every individual of this party ought to have been considered as prisoners on the very spot, notwithstanding such substantial and well grounded motives that would have warranted such a measure. Wishing to give the widest latitude to the subsisting system of harmony and good understanding, and above all, finally persuaded that your excellency will take such steps as your judgment may suggest, as best calculated to prevent any bad consequences on the occasion, I have concluded to keep in this general government, all the papers presented by lieutenant Pike, and to give him and his men full liberty to return to your excellency, after having treated them with attention, and offered them every assistance they stood in need of.

I am without reserve, and beyond expression, your most obedient, humble, and respectful and faithful servant, and prayeth God may preserve your excellency many years.

(Signed)

SALCEDO.

*Chihuahua, 8th April, 1807.*

*General James Wilkinson.*