Summer Welles Papers
Box 150 Folder 6
Major Correspondents
Roosevelt, Franklin Jan-Feb 1939
My dear Mr. President:

With reference to the telegram from Barcelona signed by a group of Spanish ladies, alleging the murder by the Rebel forces in Spain of two hundred women, which you sent over to me on January 21, I am enclosing herewith two telegrams received this morning from our Chargé d'Affaires in Barcelona which refer to the charges contained in the cable you sent me.

It seems to be clear in the two telegrams I enclose that none of the foreign correspondents have as yet had an opportunity to verify the charges made. Under existing circumstances, of course, this would be almost impossible. Personally, I have no doubt whatever that the reports may be entirely accurate. However, I think you may agree with me that it would be undesirable for the White House to make any comment on the report unless we had some more positive evidence.

The President,

The White House.
than that as yet presented.
Believe me
Faithfully yours,

Sumner Welles

Endorsements:
Te1c. 1187 41187
From Barcelona.
Once more Spanish people shudder in horror and indignation at cruel deed without precedent in history. In Catalan village Santa Coloma de Queralt two hundred women were shot in cold blood after being gathered together in village threshing floor. This horrible crime committed on defenceless women showed up invasions treachery and horror for murderers formed part Italian Littorio Division. We want all women to know of this deed which adds one more crime to those committed by invaders. May women's conscience world over as mothers, wives, daughters rise up in way passionate protest unmasking those coveting our land and opening humanity's eyes to this deed inhumanity which tears at our hearts as women.

LUIZA ALVAREZ DEL VAYO
WIFE MINISTER FOREIGN AFFAIRS

ISABLE OYORZABAL PALENCIA SPANISH MINISTER
STOCKHOLM

MARGARITA NELKEN DEPUTY ETSECRETARY RUP
MATILDE DE LA TORE DEPUTY

JULIA ALVAREZ REÑANO DEPUTY

JOSEFA RUIZ GENERAL DIRECTOR EVACUATION

MATILDE CANTOS GENERAL INSPECTOR PRISONS
MATILDE HUICE SPANISH DELEGATE LEAGUE NATIONS SOCIAL PROBLEMS COMMITTEE

DOLORES PIERA MUNICIPAL COUNCILLOR

TRINIDAD ARROYO DE MARQUEZ DOCTOR MARGARITA COMAS

PROFESOR GENERALITAT NORMAL SCHOOL EMILIA ELIAS

DIRECTOR MADRID NORMAL SCHOOL JUANA ONTANON PROFESSORS

MADRID NORMAL SCHOOL ROSA ROIG DOLORES NOGUES

DOLORES CABALLERO LUISA ESTEVEZ ALL PROFESSORS BARCELONA

NORMAL SCHOOL MARIA TERESA MARTINEZ BUJANDA INSPECTOR

PRIMARY EDUCATION MERCEDES USUA PROFESSOR BARCELONA

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ACTRESS MAGDA DONATO WRITER NATALIA ELASUA VICE PRESIDENT

BASQUE CATHOLIC WOMEN