

To Vice Admiral the Hon^{ble}
Sir Alex^r Cochrane KB

Capt.

SECRET and CONFIDENTIAL

Admiralty Office
10th August 1814

Sir,

I received on the 8th instant and communicated to my Lords Commissioners your letter N^o 48 dated from Bermuda 20th June relative to the expediency of undertaking an expedition against the Enemy's settlements in the Gulf of Mexico.

This letter my Lords have communicated to His Majesty's Government and they have commanded me to convey to you the following observations and directions on this subject.

You will have perceived by Lord Bathurst's dispatches to Major General Ross, and by Lord Melville's private letter to you which have been sent by the Riquey and Vesta, that the object of attacking the Enemy from the side of the Gulf of Mexico I had already occupied the attention of His Majesty's Government, and that a considerable force under the command of Lieutenant General Lord Hill was destined to cooperate with the Naval force which you could have supplied on this service.

Circumstances have however since induced His Majesty's Government to defer their intention of employing so considerable a force in that quarter; but as your letter holds out an expectation that a severe blow may be struck against the Enemy by a force not so large as was at first proposed it has been determined to enable you to carry the operations proposed by you into effect.

Cost?