

# Halsey Upholds U. S. Right to Send Its Warships Wherever It Wishes

By **SIDNEY SHALETT**

Special to **THE NEW YORK TIMES.**

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28—Fleet Admiral William F. Halsey, back from a six-week good-will tour of Latin America that left him brimming with praise for our southern neighbors, expressed a curbstome opinion after a news conference today that "it's nobody's business" when the United States chooses to send its warships to visit a friendly nation.

He had concluded a conference in which he advocated more good-will cruises by the fleet to Latin-American countries, when reporters asked him how he felt about the criticism that some nations (e. g., Russia) were voicing over our good-will trips to Greece, Turkey and other Mediterranean ports.

[The State Department both requested and planned the en-

tire Mediterranean "good-will" cruise of the aircraft carrier Franklin D. Roosevelt and accompanying warships, the Navy disclosed Wednesday night, The United Press reported.]

The Admiral, who had noted earlier that "I always get in trouble when I talk," flashed back that it was "nobody's damn business where we go" and that "we will go anywhere we please," meaning anywhere on the high seas or anywhere where we were welcomed by foreign friendly powers.

Admiral Halsey, who flew some 28,000 miles to cover Mexico, Cuba, Brazil, Uruguay, Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Panama and Guatemala, said that the Latin American people had never been "more enthusiastic" about the United States and its citizens than

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**'WE WILL GO ANYWHERE WE PLEASE'**

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they are now. "We're going to need all the friends we can get, and we've got some good ones down there if we've got sense enough to keep them," he observed.

He was asked whether he thought that good-will navy cruises to Latin America might be misinterpreted as a form of "big stick" brandishing, and he emphatically denied it.

"The one thing we don't want to do," he warned, "is to try to wield any big stick. They are a very fine and sensitive people. We don't like anyone interfering in our business, and they don't like anyone interfering in theirs. No domination, no domineering powers, no intervention."

He refused to discuss questions concerning American air and naval bases in South America, saying that he had gone there with "nothing to sell, nothing to buy, and nothing up my sleeve." He also passed questions why he did not visit Argentina, observing merely: "An official making a trip does not control his itinerary. No further comment."

Admiral Halsey is on duty in Washington as an adviser to the Navy Department. Questioned about the possibility that he might leave the Navy, he said that he had "no more idea than a jack rabbit" about his future plans.



**Admiral William F. Halsey during interview yesterday**

Associated Press Wirephoto

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