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# Exchange of Cables between J.B. Matthews, Chief Investigator of the House Special Committee on Unamerican Activities in Washington, DC and Leon Trotsky in Mexico City, October 12, 1939.

From a photocopies in the Herb Romerstein collection; second copies in Tim Davenport collection.

## 1. Matthews to Trotsky.

Washington, DC, October 12, 1939

Leon Trotsky  
Mexico City, Mexico

Dies Committee of the United States House of Representatives invites you to appear as witness before it in the city of Austin, Texas, a city designed with a view to your personal convenience. Date of your appearance to be approximately four weeks from now. Dies Committee agrees to arrange for your entry into the United States for the purpose of testifying before it. Will also arrange for proper protection. The committee desires to have a complete record on the history of Stalinism and invites you to answer questions which can be submitted to you in advance if you so desire. Your name has been mentioned frequently by such witnesses as Browder and Foster. This committee will accord you opportunity to answer their charges. You will please treat this invitation as not for publicity for the present.

J.B. Matthews, Chief Investigator,  
Special Committee on Unamerican Activities.

*Official Business.*

## 2. Trotsky to Matthews

1939 Oct 12 PM 9: 50 [rubberstamped]

NA1012 80 Collect=Mexico City 12 75OP  
J.B. Matthews, Chief Investigator,  
Special Committee on Unamerican Activities  
Wash DC

I accept your invitation as a political duty. I will undertake necessary measures in order to overcome practical difficulties. Please arrange under the same conditions entry for my wife. She is indispensable for the purpose of locating the necessary documents, quotations, dates in my files. Necessary to have your questions as soon as possible in order to select the necessary documents. Also desire exact quotations from depositions of Foster and Browder concerning me personally.

Leon Trotsky.

*Edited by Tim Davenport. Telegraphese converted to standard English.  
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