

German Aggression in Samoan Islands

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The Chamber of Commerce of San Francisco

San Francisco, {December} 20th 1888

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled:

The Chamber of Commerce of San Francisco respectfully and urgently calls your attention to the aggressive action of the German Government at the Samoan Islands, as destructive to American interests; cruel and unjust to the native inhabitants, and hostile to the United States.

The policy of joint neutrality agreed upon, has been openly repudiated, and an aggressive intervention in the Native Government, with the evident purpose of German control and subsequent subjugation, has supplanted it.

Under these circumstances, The Chamber of Commerce of San Francisco as representative of the Commercial interests of the Pacific Coast, respectfully urges upon Congress such a decided policy in Samoa that American interests may be considered, American citizenship respected and the agreement made by Germany with the Governments of Great Britain and the United States in regard to the independence of the Samoan Islands held inviolable.

It is well understood that a policy of inaction by the United States Government, in Samoan affairs, will be followed by the same aggressive policy on the part of Germany in the Hawaiian Islands, and we respectfully represent, that the time has arrived when the United States must maintain its just rights or sacrifice its self respect and its proper influence among the Islands of the Pacific.

Your memorialists present these important facts to the grave consideration of Congress, and respectfully suggest that the Government of the United States cannot, with proper regard to its interests and its self respect, ignore them.

With assurances of our high respect, we subscribe ourselves

Your Fellow Citizens

The Chamber of Commerce of San Francisco

William L. Merry President

Attest {Thomas} J. Haynes, Secretary

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Samoa

Memorial of the Chamber of Commerce of San Francisco concerning American interests in Samoa

Foreign Affairs

By Mr. Morrow