

Warrleur, at Sea off the Old Cape  
5<sup>th</sup> December 1702.

Sir!

Whereas three considerable Squadrons of the Enemy's Line of Battle Ships are daily expected at Cape Francois, one from Europe, another from the Bayanna, and a third from Boston, according to the intelligence I have received from Rear Admiral Rowley, Governor Campbell &c. And it being of great Importance to the King's Service, That Ships should be stationed at different Places, to look out for, and give me Notice of the Approach of either of the said Squadrons.

I am very earnestly to desire, that such of His Majesty's Captains, as may be cruising amongst the Keys, will be vigilant in looking out for the Spanish Squadron, or the one from America, and not lose one Moment's Time in coming to me, in case of falling in with either; I shall be exact in keeping off the Old Cape or between that and Isabella Point, about eight or ten Leagues from the Land. Exact and particular attention to this Service, is of that vast Importance, that I trust every other consideration will give way to it; and the respected Captains will so place themselves as to give me early notice of the Approach of an Enemy's Fleet through the Keys; Whatever Captain this Letter is shewn to, is requested, to communicate and give a Copy of it, to such others as he may meet with.

To  
The respected Captains, whom  
Capt. Smith, of the Fury, may  
fall in with, or such others as  
this Letter may be shewn to. [a Copy]

Copy of Lord Hood's  
~~Letter~~ Letter, to the respective  
Captains of such ships  
spoken with by His Majesty's  
Ship, Fury, Decr 1781.