

Sir

Whitehall 29th October 1739

I am to acquaint You that on Friday the 19th Instant a great Council was held at Kensington, where His Majesty approved and signed a Declaration of War against Spain, and ordered that the same should be published on Tuesday the 23rd Instant by the Herald at Arms, in the usual Places, and with the accustomed Formalities on the like Occasions, which was done accordingly, and I am commanded to send you a printed Copy of the said Declaration, and to signify to you his Majesty's Pleasure, that you cause it to be proclaimed in the Places under your Government, that his Subjects having this Notice may take Care to prevent any Mischief which otherwise they might suffer from the Enemy, and do their Duty in their several Stations to annoy the Subjects of Spain, And His Majesty would have you be very rigorous and severe in preventing any Ammunition or Stores of any kind from being carried to them, and you are to use all proper Methods that may be most effectual for this purpose

Deputy Gov. of Maryland

I am Sir
Your most Obedient humble Servant
Hobbes Newcastle

His Majesty's Declaration of War against the King of Spain

George I
Whereas many unjust Seizures have been made and Depredations carried on for several Years in the West Indies, by Spanish Guarda Costas, and Other Ships, acting under the Commission of the King of Spain, or his Governors, contrary to the Treaties subsisting between Us and the Crown of Spain, and to the Law of Nations, to the great Injustice of the lawful Trade and Commerce of Our Subjects; and great Cruelties and Barbarities have been exercised on the Persons of divers of Our Subjects, whose Vessels have been seized, and the British Colours have been insulted in the most ignominious Manner: And Whereas We have caused frequent Complaints