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I am grateful to Odeen Ishmael for his generosity in sharing this extremely rich and valuable archive with the public by making it available on the internet at: <www.guyana.org/western/cover.htm>. This collection, containing 709 records, translated into English from Dutch Spanish and French, Ishmael informs us, ‘is a compilation of many of the historical documents gathered and examined by the United States Venezuelan Boundary Commission and the Arbitral Tribunal’ (1897), and which he has titled *Guyana's Western Border*. As per Ishmael, the ‘Spanish manuscripts were gathered from the records of the “Indies” existing in the “Archivo de Simancas,” in the “Archivo de Indias,” at Seville, and in various public Departments of the Spanish Government. Extracts were also made from the private library of the King of Spain, and the Manuscript Department of the “Biblioteca Nacional,” Madrid’ while ‘the Dutch documents were copied from the Rijksarchief of the Hague’.
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