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U.S. Naval War College (Editor)

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XXXVII. Modification of a Combat Area

(Dept. of State Bulletin, Vol. IV, No. 94, April 12, 1941)

WHEREAS section 3 of the joint resolution of Congress approved November 4, 1939, provides as follows:

“(a) Whenever the President shall have issued a proclamation under the authority of section 1 (a), and he shall thereafter find that the protection of citizens of the United States so requires, he shall, by proclamation, define combat areas, and thereafter it shall be unlawful, except under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed, for any citizen of the United States or any American vessel to proceed into or through any such combat area. The combat area so defined may be made to apply to surface vessels or aircraft, or both.

“(b) In case of the violation of any of the provisions of this section by any American vessel, or any owner or officer thereof, such vessel, owner, or officer shall be fined not more than \$50,000 or imprisoned for not more than five years, or both. Should the owner of such vessel be a corporation, organization, or association, each officer or director participating in the violation shall be liable to the penalty hereinabove prescribed. In case of the violation of this section by any citizen traveling as a passenger, such passenger may be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned for not more than two years, or both.

“(c) The President may from time to time modify or extend any proclamation issued under the authority of this section, and when the conditions which shall have caused him to issue any such proclamation shall have ceased to exist he shall revoke such proclamation and the provisions of this section shall thereupon cease to apply, except as to offenses committed prior to such revocation.”

AND WHEREAS on June 11, 1940, I issued a proclamation in accordance with the provision of law quoted above defining a combat area.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, President of the United States of America, acting under and by virtue of the authority conferred on me by section 3 (c) of the joint resolution of Congress approved November 4, 1939, do hereby modify my proclamation of June 11, 1940, defining combat areas into which it shall be unlawful, except under such rules and regulations as shall be prescribed, for any citizen of the United States or any American vessel, whether a surface vessel or an aircraft, to proceed, by eliminating from the scope of that proclamation the combat area defined in the second numbered section thereof as:

“Beginning at the intersection of the North Coast of Italian Somaliland with the meridian of 50° longitude east of Greenwich;

“Thence due north to the mainland of Arabia;

“Thence eastward along the coast of Arabia to the meridian of 51° east longitude;

“Thence due south to the mainland of Italian Somaliland;

“Thence westward along the coast of Italian Somaliland to the point of beginning.”

And I do hereby proclaim that it shall no longer be unlawful for any citizen of the United States or any American vessel, whether a surface vessel or an aircraft, to proceed into or through the area defined above.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this 10th day of
April, in the year of our Lord nineteen
[SEAL] hundred and forty-one, and of the In-
dependence of the United States of
America the one hundred and sixty-fifth.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

By the President:

CORDELL HULL,
Secretary of State.