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XXXVI. Proclamation Concerning the Neutrality of the United States in the War Between Germany and Italy, and Yugoslavia

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

WHEREAS section 1 of the joint resolution of Congress approved November 4, 1939, provides in part as follows:

“That whenever the President, or the Congress by concurrent resolution, shall find that there exists a state of war between foreign states, and that it is necessary to promote the security or preserve the peace of the United States or to protect the lives of citizens of the United States, the President shall issue a proclamation naming the states involved; and he shall, from time to time, by proclamation, name other states as and when they may become involved in the war.”

AND WHEREAS it is further provided by section 13 of the said joint resolution that

“The President may, from time to time, promulgate such rules and regulations, not inconsistent with law as may be necessary and proper to carry out any of the provisions of this joint resolution; and he may exercise any power or authority conferred on him by this joint resolution through such officer or officers, or agency or agencies, as he shall direct.”

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 the said joint resolution, do hereby proclaim that, Germany and Italy having wantonly attacked Yugoslavia, a state of war exists between Germany and Italy, on the one hand, and Yugoslavia, on the other hand, and that it is necessary to promote the

security and preserve the peace of the United States and to protect the lives of citizens of the United States.

And I do hereby enjoin upon all officers of the United States, charged with the execution of the laws thereof, the utmost diligence in preventing violations of the said joint resolution and in bringing to trial and punishment any offenders against the same.

And I do hereby delegate to the Secretary of State the power to exercise any power or authority conferred on me by the said joint resolution, as made effective by this my proclamation issued thereunder, which is not specifically delegated by Executive order to some other officer or agency of this Government, and the power to promulgate such rules and regulations not inconsistent with law as may be necessary and proper to carry out any of its provisions.

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 hundred and forty-one, and of the Independence
 [SEAL] of the United States of America the one hundred and sixty-fifth.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

By the President:

CORDELL HULL,

Secretary of State.