

International Law Studies – Volume 40

International Law Documents

U.S. Naval War College (Editor)

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VI. European Possessions in the Western Hemisphere

(Dept. of State Bulletin, Vol. II, No. 52, June 22, 1940)

The Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull, on June 17 instructed the American Chargé at Berlin and the American Ambassador at Rome to send in writing to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Germany and to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Italy, respectively, the following communication in the name of the Government of the United States:

“The Government of the United States is informed that the Government of France has requested of the German Government the terms of an armistice.

“The Government of the United States feels it desirable, in order to avoid any possible misunderstanding, to inform Your Excellency that in accordance with its traditional policy relating to the Western Hemisphere, the United States would not recognize any transfer, and would not acquiesce in any attempt to transfer, any geographic region of the Western Hemisphere from one non-American power to another non-American power.

“I avail myself [etc.]”

The Governments of France, Great Britain, and The Netherlands have been informed in the same sense.