XII. Regulations Concerning Travel on Belligerent Vessels.

(Dept. of State Bulletin, Vol. No. 20, November 11, 1939, pp. 480-481.)

Section 5 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) it shall thereafter be unlawful for any citizen of the United States to travel on any vessel of any state named in such proclamation, except in accordance with such rules and regulations as may be prescribed.

“(b) Whenever any proclamation issued under the authority of section 1 (a) shall have been revoked with respect to any state the provisions of this section shall thereupon cease to apply with respect to such state, except as to offenses committed prior to such revocation.”

Section 15 of the said joint resolution provides as follows:

“In every case of the violation of any of the provisions of this joint resolution or of any rule or regulation issued pursuant thereto where a specific penalty is not herein provided, such violator or violators, upon conviction, shall be fined not more than $10,000, or imprisoned not more than two years, or both.”

On November 4, 1939, the President issued a proclamation in respect to France; Germany; Poland; and the United Kingdom, India, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the Union of South Africa under the authority of section 1 of the said joint resolution, thereby making effective in respect to these countries the provisions of section 5 of the said joint resolution quoted above.

Section 13 of the said joint resolution provides as follows:

“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.”
The President's proclamation of November 4, 1939, issued pursuant to the provisions of section 1 of the above-mentioned joint resolution provides in part as follows:

"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 pursuance of those provisions of the law and of the President’s proclamation of November 4, 1939, which are quoted above, the Secretary of State announces the following regulations:

American diplomatic and consular officers and their families, members of their staffs and their families, and American military and naval officers and personnel and their families may travel pursuant to orders on vessels of France; Germany; Poland; or the United Kingdom, India, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the Union of South Africa if the public service requires.

Other American citizens may travel on vessels of France; Germany; Poland; or the United Kingdom, India, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the Union of South Africa, provided, however, that travel on or over the north Atlantic Ocean north of 35 degrees north latitude and east of 66 degrees west longitude or on or over other waters adjacent to Europe or over the continent of Europe or adjacent islands shall not be permitted except when specifically authorized by the Secretary of State in each case.

Cordell Hull,
Secretary of State.

November 6, 1939.