

International Law Studies – Volume 16

International Law Topics: Neutrality Proclamations and Regulations with Notes

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strictly to observe these principles of neutrality, principles which this country does not need to promulgate in the form of a proclamation; all such principles are amply expounded in the fourteen diplomatic conventions subscribed to in the Second Conference of The Hague in 1907 and in the Naval Convention of London, the 26th of February, 1909. Consequently Salvador's line of conduct as a neutral country is clearly marked out in the above-mentioned treaties of The Hague and in the Convention of London. For this reason you will please convey to His Excellency the Ambassador of Germany, and to whatever other diplomatic agent should ask information of you on this subject, that the Government of Salvador has decided to preserve intact the principles and rules of the above-mentioned treaties, in conformity with its character as a neutral country, in the present European conflict, though it has not thought necessary to make a proclamation expressly to this effect."

I take this occasion to convey to Your Excellency the expression of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

FRANCISCO MARTINEZ S.

To His Excellency the Honorable Boaz W. Long, Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of North America.

SIAM.

Declaration of neutrality, August 6, 1914.

By command of His Majesty the King Maha Vajiravudh Phra Mongkut Klao.

To all to whom these presents shall come, *know ye:*

Whereas the III Convention of The Hague, 18th October, 1907, relative to the opening of hostilities, article 2 says: "The existence of the state of war must be notified to the neutral powers without delay, and shall not take effect in regard to them until after the receipt of the notification, which may, however, be given by telegraph. Neutral powers, nevertheless, can not rely on the absence of notification if it is clearly established that they were in fact aware of the existence of a state of war;" and

Whereas a state of war now exists in Austria-Hungary, France, Germany, Great Britain, Russia, and Servia; and

Whereas we are happily at peace and on terms of friendship with each of these sovereigns and chiefs of state and with their respective subjects and the inhabitants of their respective dominions; and

Whereas we desire that our subjects shall continue to enjoy, and shall be secured in the enjoyment of, the infinite blessings of peace; to which end we are determined to maintain a strict and impartial neutrality in the state of war above mentioned;

Now, therefore, we do issue this our royal proclamation, and we do hereby order and command all our subjects to observe

strict and impartial neutrality in and during the said war, and to observe the laws of this Kingdom, her treaty engagements, and the law of nations in that behalf.

Given at our court at Nagara Pathom on this 6th day of August, 2457, year of our lord Buddha, and in the fifth year of our reign (August 6, 1914).

SPAIN.

*Declaration of neutrality, August 7, 1914.*¹

[Gaceta de Madrid, August 7, 1914; 155 Boletín de Legislación, 1914, 132.]

War having unfortunately been declared between Germany on the one hand and Russia, France, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland on the other, and the state of war existing in Austria-Hungary and in Belgium, it is the duty of his majesty's Government to prescribe to Spanish subjects the strictest neutrality in conformity with the laws in force and the principles of public international law.

In consequence, Spaniards residing in Spain and abroad who carry out any hostile act regarded as contrary to the strictest neutrality will lose all right to the protection of his majesty's Government and will undergo the consequences of any measures which the belligerents may establish, and that without prejudice to the penalties which they will incur according to the Spanish laws.

Agents, national or foreign, who, in Spanish territory, are employed or aiding in recruiting soldiers for any of the belligerent armies or navies, will in addition be subjected to the application of article 150 of the penal code.²

SWITZERLAND.

Ordinance forbidding the installation and utilization of radio-telegraph stations. August 2, 1914.

[Bundesgesetze und Verordnungen 1914, 30 : 351.]

The Swiss Federal Council, on the proposal of its military department, orders :

ARTICLE 1. The creation of new radio stations is forbidden on all territory of the Swiss Confederation.

¹ Similar declarations, in reference to war between Austria and Servia, July 30, 1914; Austria and Montenegro, August 14, 1914; Austria and Russia, France and Great Britain, August 16, 1914; Germany and Japan, August 26, 1914; Austria and Belgium, September 1, 1914; Turkey and Russia, France, and Great Britain, November 10, 1914; Italy and Austria, May 29, 1915; Italy and Turkey, August 25, 1915, etc.

² A decree of November 23, 1914, declared XIII Hague Convention, 1907, concerning the rights and duties of neutral powers in naval war, operative. (155 Boletín de Legislación, 1914, 75.)