

International Law Studies—Volume 17

International Law Documents

Neutrality

Breaking of Diplomatic Relations

War

With Notes

U.S. Naval War College (Editor)

The thoughts and opinions expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily of the U.S.

Government, the U.S. Department of the Navy or the Naval War College.

*Attitude of Salvador, Serbia.**Notification of mined area, November 5, 1914.***Ambassador Marye to the Secretary of State.**

[Telegram.]

AMERICAN EMBASSY,  
*Petrograd, November 5, 1914.*

Russian Government officially notifies embassy that it has placed mines in zone from fifty-eight fifty north latitude and to east of twenty-first meridian also at entrance of Gulf of Riga and around Aland Islands and consequently entrance and exit of Finnish and Riga Gulfs forbidden.

MARYE.

**SALVADOR.***Attitude on war between United States and Germany, October 6, 1917.*SAN SALVADOR, SALVADOR, *October 6.*

The United States Government has made an inquiry in regard to the significance of the declaration by the Government of Salvador of neutrality friendly to the United States.

The foreign office has replied that Salvador considers herself associated with the United States by reason of her sentiments in favor of Pan-Americanism, in the world struggle.

**SERBIA.***Notification of Austro-Hungarian breaking of diplomatic relations, July 25, 1914.*

[Serbian Blue Book.]

**No. 41.—M. Pashtich, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, to All the Royal Legations.**BELGRADE, *July 12–25, 1914.*

To-day at 5.45 p. m. I delivered the answer to the Austro-Hungarian note.<sup>1</sup> You will receive to-night the exact text. You will see that we have gone as far as we could go, even to the extreme limit. When he received the note, the minister of Austria-Hungary declared that he must compare it with the instructions and that he would give me the answer immediately. As soon as I had returned to the ministry, the minister of Austria-Hungary in-

<sup>1</sup> *Supra*, p. 42.

formed me by letter that he was not satisfied with our answer, and that he would leave Belgrade this very evening with all the personnel of the legation. He intrusts to the minister of Germany the protection of the legation with all the furnishings and the archives, as well as the protection of the Austro-Hungarian subjects and interests in Serbia. Finally, he states that by the delivery of his letter diplomatic relations between Serbia and Austria-Hungary are completely broken.

The Royal Government has summoned the Skupshtina for the 14-27 of July at Nish, whither are going to-night all the ministries with their officials. In the name of the King, the Hereditary Prince has signed the order of mobilization for the army; tomorrow or the day following, a proclamation will be published in which citizens who are not soldiers are invited to remain quietly at home, and the soldiers to join the colors and to defend Serbia in the measure of their strength, in case she should be attacked.

*Note breaking diplomatic relations with Germany, August 6, 1914.*

[Serbian Blue Book.]

**No. 50. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Serbia to the German Legation at Nish.**

NISH, July 24 (August 6), 1914.

The royal ministry of foreign affairs has the honor to inform the imperial legation of Germany that, owing to the state of war existing between Serbia and Austria-Hungary, ally of Germany, as well as the state of war existing between Russia and Germany, ally of Austria-Hungary, the royal Government of Serbia, uniting itself with Russia and its allies, considers as ended the mission in Serbia of his excellency, Baron Griesiner, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of Germany. The Government begs his excellency to leave, with the staff of the legation, the territory of Serbia, and gives him herewith the necessary passports.

*Notice of breaking diplomatic relations with Bulgaria, October 8, 1915.*

[London Times, Oct. 13, 1915, p. 9, f.]

According to an official message which we have received from Nish, the Bulgarian minister to Serbia was handed his passports on Friday (October 8, 1915).

*Notification of a state of war with Bulgaria, October 16, 1914.*

[Rev. Gén., Doc., 23 : 150.]

Serbia, having been attacked by the Bulgars without declaration of war on the part of the Government at Sofia, is obliged to consider herself as being, by the force of circumstances, in a

state of war with Bulgaria. The official date of the state of war between Serbia and Bulgaria is October 14, 1915, at 8 o'clock in the morning.

### SIAM.

*Notification of declaration of war against Germany and Austria-Hungary, July 22, 1917.*<sup>1</sup>

[U. S. Official Bulletin, No. 62, p. 1.]

A telegram to the Department of State from the American legation at Bangkok, dated July 22, states that Siam declared war against Germany and Austria about 6 o'clock that day. German and Austrian subjects were being interned. The German and Austrian legations were protected by special guards. All German ships were interned at once.

### SPAIN.

*Exposition of decree relating to the treatment of submarine vessels in neutral jurisdiction, June 29, 1917.*<sup>2</sup>

[Am. Jour. Int. Law, Supp. 11:175.]

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER.

#### EXPOSITION.

SIR: Realizing the convenience of definitely fixing the rules to which Spain, as a neutral power, during the actual war conditions should adjust its conduct, it was declared by royal decree of November 23, 1914, that for the purpose of the neutrality proclaimed by Spain in relation to the present war, all authorities and state officials should adjust their conduct and their order to the precept contained in the XIII Hague Convention of 1907, relative to the rights and duties of neutral powers in case of maritime war, which convention was provisionally accepted by Spain until the restoration of peace.

By virtue of that decree, which has not been modified heretofore by any special provisions, the Spanish Government has been applying the rules established by The Hague convention both generally and, in many instances, subsidiarily, inasmuch as the application of the provisions of several of the articles of that

<sup>1</sup> A Reuter dispatch of July 23 1917, says the object of the declaration was "to uphold the sanctity of international rights against nations showing contempt for the principles of humanity and respect for small States."

<sup>2</sup> Annex to the royal circular order No. 601.