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.

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182 Action of Luxemburg, Mexico, Montenegro.

LUXEMBURG.

Notification of violation of neutrality by Germany, August 2, 1914.

[French Yellow Book; see also British White Paper, No. 147.]

No. 131.—M. Eyschen, Minister of State for Luxemburg, to M. René Viviani, President of the Council, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

LUXEMBURG, August 2, 1914.

I have the honor to bring to your excellency's notice the following facts:

On Sunday, August 2, very early, German troops, according to the information which has up to now reached the Grand Ducal Government, penetrated into Luxemburg territory by the bridges of Wasserbillig and Remich, and proceeded especially toward the south and in the direction of Luxemburg, the capital of the Grand A certain number of armored trains with troops and Duchy. ammunition have been sent along the railway line from Wasserbillig to Luxemburg, where their arrival is immediately expected. These occurrences constitute acts which are manifestly contrary to the neutrality of the Grand Duchy as guaranteed by the treaty of London of 1867.¹ The Luxemburg Government have not failed to address an energetic protest against this aggression to the representatives of His Majesty the German Emperor at Luxemburg. An identical protest will be sent by telegraph to the secretary of state for foreign affairs at Berlin.

The Minister of State, President of the Government.

EYSCHEN.

MEXICO.

Declaration of foreign office of neutral attitude toward war, March 17, 1917.

In view of the answer of the United States to the note which the First Chief directed to the Governments of the neutral countries in favor of peace, the Government of Mexico proposes to cooperate with its efforts to avoid that any of the countries of this continent take part in the European conflict, and will continue its efforts with neutral countries with the object of securing European peace.

MONTENEGRO.

Notice of declaration of war against Austria, August 7, 1914. [London Times, Aug. 10, 1914, p. 6, d.]

VIENNA, August 7, 1914.

It is semiofficially announced that the Government of Montenegro has informed the Austro-Hungarian minister in Cettinje that they consider themselves in a state of war with Austria. The minister has left Cettinje.—REUTER.

¹ British and Foreign State Papers, 57:32.

Declarations of Netherlands and Norway. 183

Notice of breaking diplomatic relations with Germany and opening of hostilities with Austria-Hungary, August 9, 1914.

[London Times, Aug. 12, 1914, p. 6, c.]

NISH, August 9, 1914.

The Montenegrin Government has handed the German minister his passports, and hostilities with Austria began yesterday. The Austrian fleet has bombarded Antivari.

NETHERLANDS.

Declaration of neutrality, April 17, 1917.

ROYAL LEGATION OF THE NETHERLANDS, Washington, D. C., April 17, 1917.

Mr. SECRETARY OF STATE: By order of the minister of foreign affairs at The Hague, I have the honor to inform your excellency that in view of the state of war existing between the United States of America and Germany, the Royal Government of the Netherlands will observe strict neutrality.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to your excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

W. L. F. C. DE RAPPARD.

NORWAY.

Declaration by Norway, Denmark, and Sweden in reference to neutrality rules, December 21, 1912.

DECLARATION.

The Governments of Norway, Denmark, and Sweden;

Having in view the fixing of similar rules of neutrality in accord with the conventional provisions signed at The Hague, have undertaken negotiations which have resulted in an agreement on all the points of principle as is proved by the annexed texts of rules adopted separately by the three respective Governments;

And appreciating at its just value the importance that this agreement so happily existing should be maintained equally in the future;

Have agreed that none of the three Governments will make any changes in the approved rules by themselves, without having first advised the two others sufficiently early to permit an exchange of views in the matter.