

International Law Studies—Volume 17

International Law Documents

Neutrality

Breaking of Diplomatic Relations

War

With Notes

U.S. Naval War College (Editor)

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fact that several Greek regiments are taking part in the hostilities on the Balkan front, the Greek Government considers that it is no longer possible to maintain official relations with the German Government. (Same *mutatis mutandi* to Austro-Hungarian Government.)

GUATEMALA.

*Notification of breaking diplomatic relations with Germany, April 28, 1917.*¹

Foreign office to M. Mendez, Guatemalan Minister to the United States.

The Government of Guatemala to-day broke off relations with the German Empire, handing passports to Minister Lehmann and canceling the exequaturs of the German consuls accredited to Guatemala. Advise the American Government.

Minister Mendez accompanied the dispatch from his Government by the following:

"In communicating the action of my Government to your excellency, I take pleasure in reiterating that Guatemala from the first has adhered to and supported the attitude of the United States in the defense of the rights of nations, the liberty of the seas and of international justice, and that it has always considered itself in unity with your great Nation in the lofty principles which it has so wisely proclaimed for the good of humanity.

"Therefore, Guatemala takes the greatest pleasure in offering to the United States of America her territorial waters, her ports and railways, for the use in common defense, as also all elements which may be available for the same purposes."

HAITI.

Neutrality regulations, October 3, 1914.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS.

By reason of the declaration of neutrality² published in the *Moniteur* of August 12 last, it is recalled that all those who reside in the territory of the Republic, functionaries, employees or others, are obliged to observe the greatest moderation in reference to the European war, to emit in public no opinion and to do no act in favor of or against any of the belligerent powers.

¹ "GUATEMALA CITY, April 22, 1918.

The National Assembly, at its session to-day, declared the Republic of Guatemala to occupy the same position toward the European belligerents as does the United States." (Associated Press dispatch.)

² International Law Topics, 1916, p. 58.

The Government of the Republic will not tolerate any departure from the principles flowing from neutrality.

PORT-AU-PRINCE, *October 3, 1914.*

ITALY.

WAR DECLARATIONS.

Declaration of war against Austria-Hungary, May 23, 1915.¹

[2nd Austro-Hungarian Red Book.]

No. 204.—Baron Burián to Baron Macchio.

[Telegram.]

VIENNA, *May 23, 1915.*

The Duke of Avarna this afternoon handed to me the following declaration of war:

[Translation from the French.]

In compliance with the orders of his noble Sovereign the King, the undersigned Royal Italian ambassador has the honor to communicate the following to his excellency the Austro-Hungarian minister of foreign affairs:

On the 4th of this month the Austro-Hungarian Government was informed of the grave reasons for which Italy, confident of being in the right, declared that her alliance with Austria-Hungary was null and void, and without effect in future, since this alliance had been violated by the Austro-Hungarian Government, and that Italy resumed her full freedom of action. Fully determined to protect Italian rights and interests with all the means at its disposal, the Italian Government can not evade its duty to take such measures as events may impose upon it against all present and future menaces to the fulfillment of Italy's national aspirations. His Majesty the King declares that from tomorrow he will consider himself in a state of war with Austria-Hungary.

The undersigned has the honor at the same time to inform his excellency the minister of foreign affairs that to-day the Austro-Hungarian ambassador in Rome will receive his passports, and he would be grateful if his excellency would hand him likewise his own passports.

¹ San Marino is reported to have declared war upon Austria-Hungary June 3, 1915. (American Year Book, 1915, p. 813; Am. Jour. Int. Law, 9: 27.)