

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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consideration for the adverse opinion of the world, now the Government of the Republic, having been disappointed in this hope, in order to manifest proper respect for the law of nations and to protect the lives and property of its citizens, declares that a state of war exists with Germany and Austria-Hungary from 10 o'clock in the forenoon of the 14th instant, and that it will observe all the stipulations of the conventions signed at the International Peace Conferences at The Hague and other international agreements relating to civilized warfare.

Accept, sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

VI KYUIN WELLINGTON KOO.

COSTA RICA.

*Note stating attitude toward war between United States and Germany April 12, 1917.*¹

[Note delivered by R. Fernandez Guardia, diplomatic agent of the Tinoco Government.]

The United States having declared that a state of war exists with the Imperial Government, my Government has instructed me to reiterate to your excellency the assurances of Costa Rica's most loyal and sincere friendship for the United States.

The Costa Rican Government considers that it is the duty of all American Republics to support, at least morally, the noble attitude assumed by the United States in defense of the highest ideals of law, of right and justice, and of democracy.

The Republic of Costa Rica regrets that because of its lack of material strength it can not in this crisis tender to the United States a more substantial cooperation, but if it might be permitted to demonstrate its solidarity with the Government and the people of its great sister Republic of the North in such manner, for instance, as by permitting the use of its waters and ports for war needs by the American Navy, that cooperation would be undertaken with the greatest satisfaction.

CUBA.

Declaration of war against Germany, April 7, 1917.

[Gaceta Oficial, Edicion extraordinaria, No. 20, p. 3.]

MARIO G. MENOCA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA.

Whereas the Congress has voted and I have sanctioned the following Joint Resolution:

ARTICLE 1. *Resolved*, That from to-day a state of war is formally declared between the Republic of Cuba and the Imperial Government of Germany, and the President of the Republic is authorized and directed by this resolution to employ all the forces of the

¹ Costa Rica declared war upon Germany May 24, 1918, preceded by Nicaragua on May 7, 1918. (Associated Press dispatches.)