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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.

*Recognition of independence of Czecho-Slovaks, August 13, 1918.*<sup>1</sup>

[New York Times, Current History, 8 (pt. 2), 491.]

Since the beginning of the war the Czecho-Slovak Nation has resisted the common enemy by every means in its power. The Czecho-Slovaks have constituted a considerable army, fighting on three different battle fields, and attempting in Russia and Siberia to arrest the Germanic invasion. In consideration of their efforts to achieve independence, Great Britain regards the Czecho-Slovaks as an allied nation and recognizes the unity of the three Czecho-Slovak armies as an allied and belligerent army waging regular warfare against Austria-Hungary and Germany. Great Britain also recognizes the right of the Czecho-Slovak National Council as the supreme organ of Czecho-Slovak national interests and as the present trustee of the future Czecho-Slovak Government to exercise supreme authority over this allied and belligerent army.

## HONDURAS.

*Declaration of war against Germany, July 19, 1918.*

[Official U. S. Bulletin, No. 367, p. 2.]

Francisco Bertrand, drafting constitutional president of the Republic of Honduras,

Considering that the motives which originated the severing of the diplomatic relations of this Republic with the German Empire have become accentuated, being characterized every day by greater gravity for the international life of all the peoples;

Considering that continental solidarity imposes upon the States of America the duty to contribute according to the measure of its abilities toward the triumph of the cause of civilization and of right which, with the allied nations, the United States of America defends, and consequently demands a definite attitude in the present conflict of the world;

Therefore, in council of ministers, decrees:

ARTICLE 1. It is declared that there exists a state of war between the Republic of Honduras and the Government of the German Empire.

ART. 2. Account shall be rendered to the National Congress at its next sessions.

Given in Tegucigalpa the 19th day of July, 1918.

(Signatures of the President and of all the members of the cabinet follow.)

## ITALY.

*Royal decree relating to the extent of jurisdictional waters, August 6, 1914.*

[Official Gazette, Italy, Aug. 10, 1914.]

ACT NO. 282—ROYAL DECREE NO. 798.

Vittorio Emanuele III,

By the grace of God and by the will of the Nation, King of Italy.

In accordance with articles from 246 to 251 of the code for the merchant marine, concerning the neutrality of the States with regard to belligerent powers;

<sup>1</sup> Recognition by United States, Sept. 3, 1918, *infra* p. 209.

In accordance with the provisions of the international convention signed at The Hague the 18th of October, 1907, which Italy declares to observe as far as existing laws of the Kingdom permit, even though the same agreements shall not yet have been ratified by the Kingdom of Italy;

In accordance with the declaration of neutrality proclaimed by the Government of Italy the 4th of August, 1914;

The Cabinet having been consulted;

By recommendation of our minister of marine, acting in concert with the ministers of war and of foreign affairs;

We have decreed and do decree—

ARTICLE I. Concerning articles from 246 to 215 of the code of the merchant marine and the international agreements accepted by Italy relating to the rights and duties of neutral powers in case of maritime war, by territorial waters is understood the zone of water included between the coast line and a line 6 nautical miles (11,111 meters) due seaward of the said coast line.

ART. II. In bays, inlets, and gulfs the territorial waters, for the purposes stated in the preceding article, are those included within the external (seaward) straight-line tangent to the two circumferences of 6-mile radius struck with the extreme outer points of the bay, inlet, or gulf as centers, provided that the distance between the said points does not exceed 20 nautical miles (37,040 meters).

If the distance between the extreme outer points of the opening exceeds 20 nautical miles, the territorial waters are those included within the straight line drawn between the two most seaward points of the bay, inlet, or gulf distant from each other at least 20 nautical miles.

We order that the present decree, with the State seal affixed, shall be inserted in the official collection of the laws and decrees of the Kingdom of Italy, requiring all concerned to observe it and to enforce it.

Done in Rome this 6th day of August, 1914.

VITTORIO EMANUELE,

SALANDRA,

MILLO,

GRANDI DI SAN GIULIANO.

*Notice to Mariners, mine infested regions of Adriatic, November 20, 1914.*

[Avis aux Navigateurs, publiés par, le Service Hydrographique de la Marine, 70 Rochefort, Etr. Col. 58, 14 décembre 1914.]

ADRIATIC SEA. PRESCRIPTIONS.

312, 1914 (Rochefort). The minister of the Italian marine has brought to the knowledge of navigators the following prescriptions relative to navigation in the Adriatic Sea.

1. The service of searching out and destroying mines is confided to special tugs.

2. Vessels ought to regulate their speed in a fashion to assure an effective observation and to plan their routes in a manner to pass by day the zones crossed by currents.

3. Up to the present no mines have been observed south of parallel 44° 20' N.

4. From Venice to Manfredonia hold so far as possible to the axis of the Adriatic and navigate by day.

5. Landing ought to be made perpendicularly to the coast with all precautions possible when in a zone where there is no current; recall that currents run lengthwise of the land.

(Instructions No. 832, p. 57.)

*Agreement with Great Britain, France, and Russia with reference to entry into war, April 26, 1915.*

[Published by Leon Trotzky, Russian people's commissary for foreign affairs, Nov. 23, 1917.<sup>1</sup>]

The Italian ambassador, Marquis Imperiali, under instructions of his Government, has the honor to deliver to the minister of foreign affairs, Sir E. Grey, the French ambassador (in London), and the Russian ambassador (in London), Count Benckendorf, the following memorandum:

ARTICLE I. Between the general staffs of France, Great Britain, Russia, and Italy must forthwith be concluded a military agreement. This agreement shall define the minimum military forces which Russia must move against Austria-Hungary in the event the latter should concentrate all her forces against Italy, and Russia against Germany. In an equitable fashion the agreement shall regulate the questions of armistice in so far as these relate to the commanding staffs of the army.

ART. II. On her side Italy obligates herself, with all the forces at her command, to enter into the campaign in combination with France, Russia, and Great Britain against all of the governments at war with them.<sup>2</sup>

ART. III. The naval forces of France and Great Britain will actively and fully cooperate with Italy until the Austrian fleet is completely destroyed or until the conclusion of peace. Between France, Italy, and Great Britain shall be signed forthwith a military naval agreement.

ART. IV. Under the imminent treaty of peace Italy must receive the district of Trentino; the entire southern Tyrol to its natural geographic boundary, the River Brenner; the city and suburbs of Trieste, Goritzia, and Gradisca, all of Istria to Quarnero, including Volosca, and the Istrian Islands of Cherso and Lussino, and also the smaller islands of Plavnik, Unia, Canidole, Palazzuolo, San Pietro dei Nembi, Azinello, Grutzo, together with the neighboring islands.

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<sup>1</sup> Other agreements relating to territorial arrangements in Greece, Turkey, Arabia, Egypt, etc., were published at the same time.

<sup>2</sup> Italy declared war against Austria May 24, 1915; Turkey, Aug. 21, 1915; Bulgaria, Oct. 19, 1915; Germany, Aug. 28, 1916. Naval War College, International Law Documents, 1917, pp. 163 et seq.



ART. V. In the same manner Italy is to receive the Province of Dalmatia in its present form, with the inclusion within its limits on the north of Lissariki and Trebino. and on the south of all lands to a line drawn at Cape Planca to the east along the watershed in such a manner that in the Italian domains shall be included all the valleys along the rivers flowing into Sebiniko, such as Chicollo, Kerka, and Butisnitza, with all their tributaries. In the same way Italy is to receive all the islands located to the north and west of the shores of Dalmatia, beginning with the islands of Premua, Selva, Ulbo, Skerd, Maoñ, Pago, and Puntadura, and farther to the north, and to Meled on the south, with inclusion therein of the islands of St. Andrew, Buzzi, Lissa, Lessino, Tercola, Curzola, Kaisa, and Lagosta, with all the islands and bluffs belonging to them, as well as Palagozza, but without the islands of great and little Zirona, Bua, Satti, Brazza.

ART. VI. Italy shall receive in full right Vallon, the Islands of Sasseno, and a territory sufficiently extensive to safeguard them in a military way, approximately between the River Voyuss on the north and the east, and to the boundaries of the Schimar district to the south.

ART. VII. On receiving Trentino and Istria in accordance with Article IV, of Dalmatia and the Adriatic Islands in accordance with Article V, and the Bay of Vallon, Italy is obligated in the event of the formation in Albania of a small autonomous neutralized state, not to oppose the possible desire of France, Great Britain, and Russia to a redistribution among Montenegro, Serbia, and Greece of the northern and southern districts of Albania. The southern shore of Albania from the boundary of the Italian district of Vallona to the Cape of Stilos is subject to neutralization.

Italy shall have the right to conduct the foreign relations of "Albania." In any event Italy obligates herself to leave certain territory sufficiently extensive for Albania, in order that the boundaries of the latter may be contiguous on the west from Lake Ochrida to the boundaries of Greece and Serbia.

ART. VIII. Italy is to receive in full right all the islands now occupied by her at Dodekanese.

ART. IX. France, Great Britain, and Russia in principle recognize the interests of Italy in preserving the political balance in the Mediterranean Sea and her right to receive on the division of Turkey an equal share with them in the basin of the Mediterranean, and more specifically in that part of it contiguous to the province of Adalia, where Italy had already obtained special rights and has developed certain interests vouchsafed to her by the Italo-British agreement. The zone subject to transfer to the sovereignty of Italy will be more specifically defined in due time, and in correspondence with the vital interests of France and Great Britain. Likewise the interests of Italy must be taken into consideration, even in the event the territorial inviolability of Asiatic Turkey shall be sustained by the Powers for a further period of time, and if only redistribution of spheres of influence is to take place.

Should France, Great Britain, and Russia, in the course of the present war, occupy certain districts of Asiatic Turkey, the entire district adjacent to Adalia, and herewith more specifically defined, shall remain with Italy, which reserves for itself the right to occupy the same.

ART. X. In Libya all the rights and privileges which prior to this date have been acquired by the Sultan on the basis of the treaty of Lausanne are recognized as belonging to Italy.

ART. XI. Italy shall receive such share of the military contribution as shall correspond to the measure of sacrifice and effort made by her.

ART. XII. Italy joins in a declaration made by France, England, and Russia as to leaving Arabia and sacred Mohammedan places in control of an independent Mohammedan power.

ART. XIII. In the event of expansion of French and English colonial domains in Africa at the expense of Germany, France and Great Britain recognize in principle the Italian right to demand for herself certain compensations in the sense of expansions of her lands in Eritria, Somaliland, in Libya, and colonial districts lying on the boundary, with the colonies of France and England.

ART. XIV. England obligates herself to assist Italy immediately to negotiate on the London market on advantageous terms of a loan in a sum not less than £50,000,000.

ART. XV. France, England, and Russia obligate themselves to support Italy in her desire for nonadmittance of the Holy See to any kind of diplomatic steps for the purpose of the conclusion of peace or the regulation of questions arising from the present war.

ART. XVI. This treaty must be kept secret. As to Italy joining in the declaration of September 5, 1914,<sup>1</sup> only said declaration shall be made public immediately after the declaration of the war by or against Italy.

Taking into consideration the present memorandum, the representatives of France, Great Britain, and Russia, having been duly empowered for this purpose, agreed with the representative of Italy, who in his turn was duly empowered by his Government, in the premises as follows: France, Great Britain, and Russia expressed their complete agreement with the present memorandum presented to them by the Italian Government. With regard to Articles I, II, and III of this memorandum relating to the cooperation of the military and naval operations of all four Powers, Italy declares that she will enter actively at the very earliest opportunity, and at all events not later than one month after the signing of the present document by the contracting parties. The undersigned have set their hands and seals at London in four copies, the 26th day of April, 1915.

SIR EDWARD GREY.  
CAMBON.  
MARQUIS IMPERIALI.  
COUNT BENCKENDORF.

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<sup>1</sup> Naval War College, International Law Documents, 1917, p. 89.

*Decree No. 1605, relating to the requisition of merchant vessels, November 11, 1915.*

[London Gazette, Dec. 7, 1915, p. 12190.]

Thomas of Savoy, Duke of Genoa, lieutenant general of His Majesty, King Victor Emanuel III, King of Italy, by the grace of God and the will of the Nation.

In virtue of the authority delegated to us;

In view of the law of May 22, 1915, No. 671, which confers extraordinary powers on the Royal Government;

In view of the royal decree dated January 21, 1915, No. 29, which is to become law, and its subsequent modifications and additions;

In view of the lieutenant's decree of June 17, 1915, No. 957,<sup>1</sup> concerning the use of confiscated or requisitioned enemy merchant ships;

In view of the advisability of regulating by special measures the requisitioning of merchant ships of foreign nationality;

After consultation with the council of ministers;

On the proposal of the minister of marine, in concert with the ministers of foreign affairs, of the exchequer and agriculture, and of industry and commerce;

We have decreed and decree—

ARTICLE I. The rules laid down in the lieutenant's decree No. 957 of June 17, 1915,<sup>1</sup> are extended to the requisitioning of merchant ships and yachts flying a foreign flag, and boats and floating craft of foreign ownership, lying in the harbors and territorial waters of the Kingdom and its colonies, subject to the conditions laid down in the following articles.

ART. II. Payment in compensation for requisitioning (to be calculated in accordance with Article V of the above mentioned decree) will be made in monthly instalments, not paid in advance, to the interested persons or their legal representatives. The Government has power, however, to suspend payment if special circumstances arise rendering such a course advisable.

ART. III. The requisitioned vessels which come under the terms of the present decree will be temporarily inscribed in a special register at the marine department of Genoa, and will be authorized to fly the Italian flag in virtue of a special temporary permit.

We order that the present decree sealed with the seal of the State, shall be inserted among the laws and decrees of the Kingdom of Italy, commanding all concerned to obey it and cause it to be obeyed.

Given at Rome, this 11th day of November, 1915.

THOMAS OF SAVOY.

*Decree relating to the requisition of foreign merchant vessels, February 3, 1916.*

The provisions contained in the regent's decrees of June 17, 1915,<sup>1</sup> and November 11, 1915,<sup>2</sup> remaining unchanged, should the foreign merchant

<sup>1</sup> Naval War College, International Law Topics, 1915, p. 29.

<sup>2</sup> *Supra*.



ships and also those belonging to the enemy as well as other craft belonging to foreigners be sequestered and required, they should be given for use to navigation companies or to private shipowners, the conditions relating to the use of the said ships and craft shall be regulated through special agreements which shall be entered into by and between the navy's administration and the user; such agreements shall fix also the standards in order to ascertain and to liquidate the profit coming from said use.

The navigation companies, as well as the private shipowners, shall be obliged, in any case, to furnish the amount of compensation due to the owner of the ship or of the craft, according to the existing provisions on the point in question. Said amount shall be deducted when there will be calculated the net profit resulting from the operation thereof, and said net profit shall be divided at the rate of three quarters for the treasury and one quarter to the company or the shipowner.

*Decree restricting transfer of national vessels, February 5, 1916.*

[United States Commerce Reports, 1916, p. 60.]

**Prohibition of transfer of Italian ships.**

La Finanza Italiana, in the edition of February 5, 1916, published a decree establishing the method by which transfer of Italian vessels to foreign flags may be prohibited. The text is:

ARTICLE 1. The minister of marine has the power of prohibiting or of suspending for the time in which the Kingdom will remain in the present condition of war the transcription upon the registers of the offices of any harbor master or officer at ports of the Kingdom or of consular authorities accredited to foreign countries of binding contracts or of maritime changes which bind in any manner the property of mercantile vessels flying the Italian flag. No opposition, appeal, or recourse is admitted against the decision of the minister of marine.

ART. 2. In the case in which the minister of marine intends to avail himself of the power accorded him by the preceding article, he will inform the authorities, both maritime and consular, apprising, in the meantime, the owner of the ship. The maritime or consular authorities to which the title of transcription be presented for binding contracts, maritime changes, or others which may in any manner bind the property of Italian mercantile vessels must, however, take charge of them, making note of the date and hour of such presentation in a special register, save the transcription of such when so authorized by the minister of marine. According to the last paragraph of article 674 of the Code of Commerce, in the competition of several credits, preference is determined according to priority of the presentation of petition of transcription.

ART. 3. The minister of marine will provide by special instruction for the execution of the present decree.

ART. 4. The present decree will go into force on the day of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Kingdom.

*Royal decree concerning the sale, transfer, and chartering of merchantmen by Italy, April 19, 1916.*

The Gazzetta Ufficiale makes known the regent's decree which forbids the sale of merchant ships, and which regulated the working of the national mercantile navigation. The new regulations are as follows:

1. Until new provisions are made, the juridical power, be it in the Kingdom of Italy or in its colonies, concerning the sale and the transfer



as well as any other change in ownership rights of national ships and concerning also the agreements about warranty and maritime exchange, wherever they be fulfilled, is subordinate to the preventive approval of the minister for the navy. Deeds which are not stipulated according to the provisions are null and void, and they must not be accepted by the maritime or the consular offices to which they may be presented for transcription.

Said provisions apply also to boats, barks, and craft of every kind that are not provided with a certificate of nationality, and they apply also to motor boats used for every purpose.

2. Until new provisions be made, charterings and trips of national steamers having a tonnage either equal or superior to 250 tons, and of national sailing craft having a tonnage not inferior to 300 tons, are prohibited when they have for an object or effect—

(1) The use of the ship in foreign waters for transport service, towing, depositing, etc.

(2) The transportation, be it for one trip only, of men or things between foreign harbors.

(3) The plying of the ship without cargo between foreign seaports.

The minister of the navy can grant special chartering and plying between foreign seaports permits, in derogation to the aforesaid prohibition upon application being made by the navigation companies or by the national shipowners that have an interest in it.

The secretary of the navy can forbid, through provisions for each case, the chartering or the trips, in cases foreseen in the preceding regulation, of whatever national ship not subject to the prohibition which is expressed in the regulation itself, and also of any boat, bark, or craft not provided with a certificate of nationality

(4) The trips of national steamers of every tonnage and those of national sailing ships having a clear tonnage of 500 tons and over, between seaports of the kingdom and of its colonies, must be preventively authorized by the minister of the navy.

The following are free from such obligation:

(1) The steamers which are required, chartered, or managed by the State's administration or those which belong to it.

(2) The passenger steamers belonging to subsidized lines or to regular trans-Atlantic lines for trips that are fixed in itineraries approved by the minister of marine.

(5) The carrying of cargoes not destined in the last place to an Italian seaport is prohibited in the trips of national steamers of every tonnage and in those of national sailing ships having a clear tonnage of 500 tons and over, bound from foreign seaports to harbors of the kingdom and of its colonies. The consular officials should look over the cargo manifests of the home steamers sailing from harbors belonging to their jurisdiction, and they shall intimate to the captain not to take on board goods that would not be shipped to seaports of the kingdom and of its colonies.

The minister of marine can, however, grant special permits in derogation to the prohibition informing, then, the proper consulate thereof.

(6) In case of noncompliance with the regulations contained in provisions 2, 3, 4, and 5, as well as of the prohibitions laid down in the third regulation the ships to which such nonobservance may refer, shall be required, and the owners or the brokers shall be entitled to no compensation other than the ordinary managing expenses which they will have incurred.

The naval and consular officials can refuse to let the shipments be made, and can also prevent, by any means, the sailing of negligent ships even before the requisition, without any compensation being ordered.

(7) The juridical powers of the actually existing deeds not yet registered at the date of publication of the present decree itself, are suspended until the secretary of the navy may have given his approval to such deeds.

The naval consular officials shall not proceed to the transcription of such deeds until they have ascertained that the aforesaid approval does not exist, the provisions contained in decree of January 2, 1916, and concerning warranty and maritime exchange agreements remaining unchanged.

*Notice of mine fields in Tyrrhenian Sea, February 27, 1917.*

[Paragraph of telegram received by the Secretary of State from the American ambassador at Rome.]

FEBRUARY 27, 1917.

In a communication dated February 27 foreign office requests Secretary of State be immediately notified of decision of minister of marine on account of blockade of Italy by central empire to take urgent and special measures to protect commerce of Italy by extensive barriers of mines along the Tyrrhenian seacoast from the 1st of March. Some barriers will be variable, others permanent, and others temporary anchored mines. Neutral ships arriving and departing at Italian ports will, through special service organized therefor, be informed routes to follow, as a protection against all danger. Details, geographic position, and danger regions can not be given owing to military exigencies.

*Declaration of Rome by Congress for the liberation of the oppressed nationalities of Austria-Hungary, April 10, 1918.<sup>1</sup>*

[Official United States Bulletin, No. 323, p. 2.]

The representatives of the nationalities wholly or partly subject to the domination of Austria-Hungary—Italians, Poles, Roumanians,

<sup>1</sup> Approved by United States May 31, 1918, *infra*, p. 209, and by Allied Supreme War Council, June 4, 1918, *supra*, p. 98.

Czechs, Jugo-Slavs—have united in affirming as follows the principles by which their common action shall be guided:

1. Each of these peoples proclaims its right to establish its own nationality and State unity, to complete this unity, and to attain full political and economic independence.<sup>1</sup>

2. Each of these peoples recognizes in the Austro-Hungarian monarchy the instrument of Germanic domination and the fundamental obstacle to the realization of its aspirations and its rights.

3. The assembly, consequently, recognizes the necessity for a common struggle against the common oppressors, in order that each people may attain its complete liberation and complete national unity as a single free State.

The representatives of the Italian people and the Jugo-Slav people are agreed in particular as follows:

1. As regards the relations between the Italian nation and the nation of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes—known also under the name of the Jugo-Slav nation—the representatives of the two peoples recognize that the unity and independence of the Jugo-Slav nation is a vital interest of Italy, just as the completion of Italian nationality is a vital interest of the Jugo-Slav nation. And therefore the representatives of the two peoples pledge themselves to use their utmost effort to the end that during the war and at the moment of peace these aims of the two peoples may be fully attained in their entirety.

2. They affirm that the liberation of the Adriatic Sea and its defense against every actual and eventual enemy is a vital interest of the two peoples.

3. They pledge themselves to resolve amicably, in the interest of future good and sincere relations between the two peoples, the various territorial controversies on the basis of nationality, and the rights of peoples to decide their own fate and in such a manner as not to injure the vital interests of the two nations, to be defined at the moment of peace.

4. The nuclei of one people which may have to be included within the frontiers of the other shall be guaranteed the right to have their own language, culture, and moral and economic interests respected.

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<sup>1</sup> Czecho-Slovak deputies declared for home rule in the Austrian Parliament, May 30, 1917. At meetings at Prague, Jan. 6, 1918, and May 16, 1918, independence was demanded. (*New York Times*, *Current History*, 8 (pt. 2): 115.) A provisional government in Paris issued a declaration of independence, Oct. 18, 1918 (*Ibid.* 9 (pt. 1): 492; *Official United States Bulletin*, No. 441, p. 3), and in combination with the representatives of other central European peoples a declaration of independence was proclaimed at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, Oct. 26, 1918. Delegates from Prague and Paris met at Geneva, Switzerland, Nov. 2, 1918, drafted a constitution and elected Prof. Thomas G. Masaryk, president of the Czecho-Slovak Republic, which had been formally proclaimed at Prague Oct. 29, 1918.

Representatives of various Jugo-Slav nationalities met at Corfu July 27, 1917, and concluded an agreement for the establishment of a new State under the rule of the King of Serbia. At a meeting at Wagram, Mar. 2, 1918, Jugo-Slavs, including Slovenes, Croats, and Serbs, demanded independence. (*New York Times*, *Current History*, 8 (pt. 2): 118.)



*Statement by Italian Premier Orlando of attitude toward Czecho-Slovaks, October 3, 1918.*<sup>1</sup>

[New York Times, Current History 9 (pt. 1): 496.]

As early as April 21, 1918, the Italian Government concluded an agreement with the Czecho-Slovak National Council for the creation of a legion to fight on our front, a step which implied the recognition of a de facto government. Since then our relations with this heroic people have been uniformly friendly, and the fraternal bonds between us have been strengthened and hallowed by the blood which its generous sons have shed in the Alps for the defense of Italy as well as of their own land. I believe I am a faithful interpreter of the soul of the whole Italian nation when I say that the union between these two people will continue sincere and indissoluble and will be prolonged through fruitful, economic, and intellectual relations after the war.

## JAPAN.

*Notification of Sasebo defensive sea area, August 23, 1914.*

Navy Department Notification No. 5, August 23, 1914.

From August 23, 1914, the following place will be the Sasebo defense sea area:

ROFURO YASHIRO,  
*Minister of the Navy.*

The sea area within the line connecting Sai-no-hana, south extremity of Imoto-jima, Otate-jima, Shishiki-zaki, and Kanzake-hana. However, Omura Bay is not included in the area.

*Regulations for Sasebo defensive sea area, August 23, 1914.*

The commander in chief of the Sasebo naval station has promulgated the following rules for the control of the Sasebo defense sea area and of vessels navigating therein:

### RULES RELATING TO THE SASEBO DEFENSE SEA AREA AND VESSELS NAVIGATING THEREIN.

ARTICLE 1. The general control over the water within the naval port is in charge of the harbor master of Sasebo and that over the entrance to the port and the waters outside of the entrance is in charge of the commander of defense of the entrance of Port Sasebo.

ART. 2. Any vessel other than those belonging to the army or the navy, which desires to enter or leave the port or to pass it, must obtain the permission of the commander in chief of the Sasebo naval station beforehand. However, vessels less than 20 tons, gross, or vessels less than 200 "koku" capacity, or boats or any other vessels wholly or principally driven by oars, shall, in spite of these rules, stop near the

<sup>1</sup> Italy recognized the Czecho-Slovak National Council by a concluding convention, June 30, 1918; giving them exterritorial rights in Italy.