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International Law Documents

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.*¹

[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;

¹ Recognition by United States, Sept. 3, 1918, *infra* p. 209.