

# Foreign Relations of the United States

Diplomatic Papers

1942

(In Seven Volumes)

Volume III

Europe



UNITED STATES  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
WASHINGTON : 1961

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## PREFACE

The principles which guide the compilation and editing of *Foreign Relations* are stated in Department of State Regulation 045 of December 5, 1960, a revision of the order approved on March 26, 1925, by Mr. Frank B. Kellogg, then Secretary of State. The text of the current regulation is printed below:

### 045 DOCUMENTARY RECORD OF AMERICAN DIPLOMACY

#### 045.1 *Scope of Documentation*

The publication *Foreign Relations of the United States, Diplomatic Papers*, constitutes the official record of the foreign policy of the United States. These volumes include, subject to necessary security considerations, all documents needed to give a comprehensive record of the major foreign policy decisions within the range of the Department of State's responsibilities, together with appropriate materials concerning the facts which contributed to the formulation of policies. When further material is needed to supplement the documentation in the Department's files for a proper understanding of the relevant policies of the United States, such papers should be obtained from other Government agencies.

#### 045.2 *Editorial Preparation*

The basic documentary diplomatic record to be printed in *Foreign Relations of the United States, Diplomatic Papers*, shall be edited by the Historical Office, Bureau of Public Affairs. The editing of the record shall be guided by the principles of historical objectivity. There shall be no alteration of the text, no deletions without indicating where in the text the deletion is made, and no omission of facts which were of major importance in reaching a decision. Nothing shall be omitted for the purpose of concealing or glossing over what might be regarded by some as a defect of policy. However, certain omissions of documents or parts of documents are permissible for the following reasons:

- a. To avoid publication of matters which would tend to impede current diplomatic negotiations or other business.
- b. To condense the record and avoid repetition of needless details.
- c. To preserve the confidence reposed in the Department by individuals and by foreign governments.
- d. To avoid giving needless offense to other nationalities or individuals.
- e. To eliminate personal opinions presented in despatches and not acted upon by the Department. To this consideration there is one qualification—in connection with major decisions it is desirable, where possible,

Mr. Harold H. Tittmann, Assistant to the President's Personal Representative to Pope Pius XII, to the Cardinal Secretary of State (Maglione).<sup>7</sup>

## MEMORANDUM

In accordance with instructions received from his Government, the Chargé d'Affaires of the United States to the Holy See<sup>8</sup> has the honor to call the attention of His Eminence the Cardinal Secretary of State to the cruel and inhuman treatment by the Hitler forces of the civil populations in areas occupied by the Germans. He desires to point out that these incredible horrors have been universally condemned and that this universal condemnation has been reflected in the expressions of all free peoples.

The Chargé d'Affaires has also been authorized by his Government to point out the helpful effect that a similar condemnation of these atrocities by the Holy Father would have in bringing about some check on the unbridled and uncalled-for actions of the forces of the Nazi regime.

VATICAN CITY, September 14, 1942.

740.00116 European War 1939/584: Telegram

The Minister in Switzerland (Harrison) to the Secretary of State

BERN, September 18, 1942—2 p. m.  
[Received September 18—12:29 p. m.]

4261. From Tittmann. No. 156, September 14. My 153, September 8.<sup>9</sup> Upon learning that the Brazilian Ambassador to the Holy See made his approach to the Vatican this morning by sending to the Secretariat of State a memorandum addressed to the Cardinal Secretary of State, I took similar action later on in the day by sending in a memorandum<sup>10</sup> in the sense of the Department's telegram No. 1911, August 4. My British and Uruguayan colleagues also sent in their communications today, Mr. Osborne's<sup>11</sup> in the form of a first person note.

A *démarche* in the same sense on behalf of eight occupied countries but unrelated to the Accioly proposal was made by the Polish and

<sup>7</sup> Copy transmitted to the Department by Mr. Tittmann in his despatch No. 114, September 15; received October 14.

<sup>8</sup> Myron Taylor, the Personal Representative of the President to Pope Pius XII, was absent from the Vatican. In his absence, Mr. Tittmann was Chargé at the Vatican, but he was not accredited to the Holy See.

<sup>9</sup> Not printed.

<sup>10</sup> *Supra*.

<sup>11</sup> Francis D. G. Osborne, British Minister to the Vatican.

Belgian Ambassadors when they handed a joint note to Monsignor Tardini<sup>12</sup> (in the absence of the Cardinal) on September 12. It is not expected, after all, that the Yugoslav representative here will make a separate *démarche* since his country is included in the joint note. The texts of the communications cited above are being forwarded by air mail.<sup>13</sup> [Tittmann.]

HARRISON

121.866A/302

The President's Personal Representative to Pope Pius XII (Taylor) to the Cardinal Secretary of State (Maglione)

VATICAN CITY, September 26, 1942.

MY DEAR CARDINAL MAGLIONE: I have the honor to bring to the attention of Your Eminence the following memorandum which has been received from my Government:

"The following was received from the Geneva Office of the Jewish Agency for Palestine in a letter dated August 30th, 1942. That office received the report from two reliable eye-witnesses (Aryans), one of whom came on August 14th from Poland.

"(1) Liquidation of the Warsaw Ghetto is taking place. Without any distinction all Jews, irrespective of age or sex, are being removed from the Ghetto in groups and shot. Their corpses are utilized for making fats and their bones for the manufacture of fertilizer. Corpses are even being exhumed for these purposes.

"(2) These mass executions take place, not in Warsaw, but in especially prepared camps for the purpose, one of which is stated to be in Belzec. About 50,000 Jews have been executed in Lemberg itself on the spot during the past month. According to another report, 100,000 have been massacred in Warsaw. There is not one Jew left in the entire district east of Poland, including occupied Russia. It is also reported, in this connection, that the entire non-Jewish population of Sebastopol was murdered. So as not to attract the attention of foreign countries, the butchering of the Jewish population in Poland was not done at one single time.

"(3) Jews deported from Germany, Belgium, Holland, France, and Slovakia are sent to be butchered, while Aryans deported to the East from Holland and France are genuinely used for work.

"(4) Inasmuch as butcherings of this kind would attract great attention in the west, they must first of all deport them to the East, where less opportunity is afforded to outsiders of knowing what is going on. During the last few weeks a large part of the Jewish population deported to Lithuania and Lublin has already been executed. That is probably the reason why the deportees were not permitted to have correspondence with any one. A great number of the German refugees were taken to Theresienstadt. This place, however, is only an interim station and the people there await the same fate.

<sup>12</sup> Domenico Tardini, Papal Under Secretary of State.

<sup>13</sup> Despatch No. 114, September 15, 1942, not printed.

"(5) Arrangements are made for new deportations as soon as space is made by executions. Caravans of such deportees being transported in cattle cars are often seen. There are about forty people in each cattle car. It is especially significant to note that Lithuanian non-Jews are entrusted with fetching the candidates from the death Ghetto in Warsaw.

"(6) It is a tragedy that the Polish population is being incited by the Germans against the Jews and the relationship between the Poles and the Jews has been aggravated to the last degree. In Lemberg this is particularly true."

I should much appreciate it if Your Eminence could inform me whether the Vatican has any information that would tend to confirm the reports contained in this memorandum. If so, I should like to know whether the Holy Father has any suggestions as to any practical manner in which the forces of civilized public opinion could be utilized in order to prevent a continuation of these barbarities.

I avail [etc.]

[TAYLOR]

740.00116 European War 1939/642

*Mr. Harold H. Tittmann, Assistant to the President's Personal Representative to Pope Pius XII, to the Secretary of State*

No. 117

VATICAN CITY, October 6, 1942.

[Received November 2.]

SIR: With reference to my telegrams nos. 161 of September 29 and 166 of October 6,<sup>16</sup> as well as to my despatch no. 114 of September 15,<sup>17</sup> reporting the progress of the initiative of the Brazilian Ambassador to the Holy See in endeavoring to persuade the Pope to condemn publicly Nazi atrocities against the civil populations in the areas occupied by the Germans, I have the honor to transmit herewith the texts,<sup>17</sup> in the Spanish language, of the first person Notes on the subject which were addressed to the Cardinal Secretary of State by the Peruvian Ambassador and the Cuban Chargé d'Affaires on September 17 and 23, respectively.

It would appear that M. Accioly's efforts are having the full and active support of the Jesuits. . . .

I understand that the Pope is giving careful consideration to the matter and the general impression is that he will say something at an opportune moment. Opinion in the Vatican seems to be divided as to the wisdom of the Accioly *démaroche*. . . .

<sup>16</sup> Neither printed.

<sup>17</sup> Not printed.

The Holy See is still apparently convinced that a forthright denunciation by the Pope of Nazi atrocities, at least in so far as Poland is concerned, would only result in the violent deaths of many more people. Mgr. Montini,<sup>18</sup> however, stated to me that the time may come when, in spite of such a grievous prospect, the Holy Father will feel himself obliged to speak out.

In addition to the reasons enumerated in my despatch no. 109 of September 8, 1942,<sup>19</sup> another motive, possibly the controlling one, behind the Pope's disinclination to denounce Nazi atrocities is his fear that if he does so now, the German people, in the bitterness of their defeat, will reproach him later on for having contributed, if only indirectly, to this defeat. It has been pointed out to me that just such an accusation was directed against the Holy See by the Germans after the last war, because of certain phrases spoken and attitudes adopted by Benedict XV while hostilities were in progress. When it is borne in mind that Pius XII had many years of conditioning in Germany, it will not seem unnatural that he should be particularly sensible to this particular argument.

Respectfully yours,

HAROLD H. TITTMANN

7400.00116 European War 1939/605; Telegram

*The Minister in Switzerland (Harrison) to the Secretary of State*

BERN, October 16, 1942—10 a. m.

[Received 10:14 a. m.]

4675. From Tittmann. 169, October 10. Department's telegram 2235, September 23, and my 163, September 29.<sup>20</sup> For the Under Secretary. Holy See replied today to Mr. Taylor's letter<sup>21</sup> regarding the predicament of the Jews in Poland in an informal and unsigned statement handed me by the Cardinal Secretary of State. After thanking Ambassador Taylor for bringing the matter to the attention of the Holy See the statement says that reports of severe measures taken against non-Aryans have also reached the Holy See from other sources but that up to the present time it has not been possible to verify the accuracy thereof. However, the statement adds it is well known that the Holy See is taking advantage of every opportunity offered in order to mitigate the suffering of non-Aryans.

I regret that Holy See could not have been more helpful but it was evident from the attitude of the Cardinal that it has no practical suggestions to make. I think it is perhaps likely that the belief is held

<sup>18</sup> Giovanni Montini, Papal Under Secretary of State.

<sup>19</sup> Not printed.

<sup>20</sup> Neither printed.

<sup>21</sup> Letter of September 26, p. 775.