FINAL ACT
OF THE
MEETING OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE AMERICAN
REPUBLICS FOR CONSULTATION UNDER THE INTER-AMERICAN
AGREEMENTS ON INTENSUS AEROS AND LIAO

Panama, Republic of Panama
September 23 to October 3, 1959
REUNION CONSULTIVA DE LOS MINISTROS DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES
DE LAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS
SECRETARIA GENERAL

FINAL ACT
OF THE
MEETING OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE AMERICAN
REPUBLICS FOR CONSULTATION UNDER THE INTER-AMERICAN
AGREEMENTS OF BUENOS AIRES AND LIMA.

Panama, Republic of Panama
September 23 to October 3, 1959

The Governments of the American Republics, desirous of
having their respective Foreign Ministers or their substitutes
meet for the purpose of consultation under the agreements
adopted at the Inter-American Conference for the Maintenance of
Peace held at Buenos Aires in 1956, and the Eighth International
Conference of American States, which met at Lima in 1958,
appointed the delegations hereinafter listed in the order of
precedence as determined by lot, who assembled in the City of
Panama from September 23 to October 3, 1959, on invitation of
the Government of the Republic of Panama.

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MEXICO
His Excellency, General Eduardo Ray, Secretary of Foreign Affairs
His Excellency, Alfonso Rosenweig Díaz
Mr. Ángel de la Riva
Mr. Antonio Basurto de los Monteros, Financial Adviser

ECUADOR
His Excellency, Dr. Julio Toper Bonasa, Minister of Foreign Affairs
His Excellency, Dr. Antonio Quevedo
REUNION CONSULTIVA DE LOS MINISTROS DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES
DE LAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS
SECRETARIA GENERAL

His Excellency, Dr. Eudoro Salazar
His Excellency, Miguel Angel de Ycaza
His Excellency, Victor Hugo Escala
Mr. Luis Eduardo Lazo, Financial Attaché
Mr. César Echeverría, Secretary

CUBA

His Excellency, Dr. Miguel Angel Campa, Secretary of State
His Excellency, Aniceto López Góme
His Excellency, Dr. Pedro Martínez Praga
His Excellency, Dr. Emilio Núñez Portuondo
Dr. Ramiro Guerra, Technical Adviser
Mr. Gonzalo Quell, Secretary General
Mr. A. Rojas, Treasurer, Attaché
Mr. Leonardo García, Press Officer
Mr. Francisco O. Bedrínena, Attaché
Mr. Valentín Riva Patterson, Attaché

COSTA RICA

His Excellency, Tobias Zúñiga Montúfar, Secretary of Foreign Affairs
His Excellency, Enrique Fonseca Zúñiga
His Excellency, Reul Gutiérrez
His Excellency, Modesto Martínez
Hon. Alvaro Zúñiga Quijano, Private Secretary to the Secretary of Foreign Affairs

PERU

His Excellency, Dr. Enrique Goitigolo Bolognesi, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Mr. Fernando Puch, Financial Adviser
REUNION CONSULTIVA DE LOS MINISTROS DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES DE LAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS

SECRETARIA GENERAL

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Dr. Luis Alverns, Legal Adviser
Mr. Juan Chávez Cortezo, Commercial Adviser
Mrs Rosita Varela Castro, Secretary

PARAGUAY

His Excellency, Dr. Justo Piñera, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Mr. Juan Erin Jr., Secretary

PERU

His Excellency, Dr. Pedro Umintí Ríos, Representative of the Minister of Foreign Affairs

His Excellency, Dr. Hugo V. de Pano
Dr. José A. Moro Otero, Adviser

HONDURAS

His Excellency, Dr. Jesús García Raseleros Jr., Representative of the Secretary of Foreign Affairs
Mr. José Augusto Gadilla, Secretary

CHILE

His Excellency, Manuel Blanco, Representative of the Minister of Foreign Affairs

His Excellency, Joselín de la Mata, Delegate
His Excellency, Benjamín Cohen, Delegate
Its Excellency, Cayetano Vizarr, Delegate

His Excellency, Luis Malquínes Concha, Adviser
Mr. Rodrigo González, Adviser

Mr. Javier Urrutia, Assistant Secretary

COLOMBIA

His Excellency, Dr. Luis López de Lezo, Minister of Foreign Affairs

His Excellency, Dr. Esteban Jaramillo, Delegate

His Excellency, Alberto Bayón, Economic Adviser

Dr. Guillermo Torres García, Commercial Adviser
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DE LAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS
SECRETARIA GENERAL

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Dr. Cayetano Betancur, Legal Adviser
Mr. Daniel Jaramillo, Secretary

VENEZUELA
His Excellency, Dr. Santiago Rey Ayala, Representative of the Minister of Foreign Affairs
His Excellency, Dr. Mario Eriechi Tragórry, Delegate
Mr. Delfín E. Pérez, Secretary
Dr. Victor Manuel Rivas, Secretary

ARGENTINA
His Excellency, Dr. Leopoldo Mello, Representative of the Minister of Foreign Affairs
His Excellency, Dr. Luis A. Podestá, Delegate
Dr. Luis Adelmo Zuberbühler, Secretary General
Dr. Luis Lastorga, Secretary
Mr. Juan Carlos Suyenscha, Secretary

GUATEMALA
His Excellency, Carlos Salmaz, Secretary of Foreign Affairs
His Excellency, Alfonso Carrillo

PANAMA
His Excellency, Dr. Narciso Gerzay, Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Communications
His Excellency, Dr. E. Fernández Jafó, Financial Adviser
His Excellency, Ernesto Móndez, Economic Adviser
His Excellency, Dr. Augusto S. Boyd, Adviser
His Excellency, Delmirio Porras Jr., Adviser
Dr. Ricardo Chistel, Legal Adviser
Mr. Tomás H. Jácome, Economic Adviser
Mr. Octavio A. Vallarino, Economic Adviser
Mr. Pedro Moreno Correa, Secretary
REUNIÓN CONSULTIVA DE LOS MINISTROS DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES
DE LAS REPÚBLICAS AMERICANAS
SECRETARIA GENERAL

Nicaragua
His Excellency, Dr. Samuel Cordero Reyes, Minister of Foreign Affairs
His Excellency, Dr. José Jesús Sánchez, Delegate
His Excellency, Adolfo Altamirano Browne, Delegate
Mr. Emilio Ortega, Secretary

Dominican Republic
His Excellency, José Ramón Rodríguez, Representative of the Secretary of Foreign Affairs
Mr. Nicolás Vega, Economic Adviser

Brazil
His Excellency, Cárlos Martins, Representative of the Minister of Foreign Affairs
His Excellency, Manoel Góes de Goes Monteiro, Delegate
Mr. Abílio Britto Franca de Prado, Adviser
Mr. Júlio Bonomi de Resende Góes, Adviser
Mr. Hugo Gualter de Oliveira Cardim, Secretary
Mr. Fernando Soares de Medeiros, Secretary
Mr. Guilherme Correia Araújo, Attaché

Bolivia
His Excellency, Dr. Alberto Cartín Gutiérrez, Minister of Foreign Affairs
His Excellency, Luis F. Guschella
Mr. Franklin Antepara, Financial Adviser
Mr. Gustavo Medeiros Queijada, Secretary

United States of America
His Excellency, Sumner Welles, Representative of the Secretary of State
His Excellency, Edwin C. Wilson, Adviser
REUNION CONSULTIVA DE LOS MINISTROS DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES DE LAS REPÚBLICAS AMERICANAS

SECRETARIO GENERAL

Dr. Herbert Feis, Adviser
Dr. Warren Kellogg, Adviser and Secretary General
Dr. Harlottie B. Whiteman, Legal Adviser
Mr. Sheldon Thomas, Press Officer
Mr. Paul C. Daniels, Private Secretary to the Representative of the Secretary of State
Miss Anna L. Clarkson, Assistant to the Representative of the Secretary of State

HABitä

His Excellency, Leon Lejau, Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Public Works
His Excellency, Mael Lizardo, Adviser
Mr. Max H. Dorsinville, Secretary
Mr. Manuel J. Castillo

HABitä

His Excellency, Dr. Patricioio Suedhn Triquero, Representative of the Minister of Foreign Affairs
Mr. Jorge Argüeta Can, Secretary

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The President of the Republic of Panama, His Excellency, Dr. Juan Díaz-Llórente, officially inaugurated the meeting at a plenary session held on September 23, 1939, at 5:00 P.M., in the National Institute. The Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Communications of Panama, His Excellency, Dr. Narciso Garay, acted as provisional president, and Mr. Jeptha B. Dunson acted as secretary general.

His Excellency, the Mexican Secretary of Foreign Affairs, made a motion that the work of the meeting should be placed under the auspices of the Liberator, Simon Bolívar; and at the proposal of His Excellency, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs...
of Panama, Provisional President, this motion was approved.

The latter also made a motion — which was approved and carried out — that all those present, the Secretaries of Foreign Affairs or their representatives, other delegations, the personnel of the Meeting, and the general public, arise and remain silent for one minute in homage to the memory of Bolívar.

His Excellency, Dr. Narciso Caney, was elected permanent president of the meeting at the plenary session held on September 25, 1939. The regulations of the meeting were approved at a preliminary session held on September 23, 1939.

In accordance with the regulations, a committee on credentials was appointed composed of His Excellency, Dr. Carlos Salazar (Guatemala) as Chairman, His Excellency, Dr. Alberto Castaño Vélez (Colombia) and His Excellency, Dr. Ramon de Gomán Troche (El Salvador).

A committee on coordination was also appointed composed of His Excellency, Dr. Manuel Gómez de Goes Kenttah (Brazil), His Excellency, Dr. Julio Topar Donoso (Ecuador), His Excellency, Honorable Ionu Sauleu (Haiti) and the Honorable Summer Welles (United States of America).

The program of the meeting was approved by the Governing Board of the Pan American Union on September 18, 1939.

As a result of the consultations, the Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the American Republics approved the following declarations and resolutions.

1. TRIBUTE TO THE DECEASED

IN MEMORIAM:

The meeting of the First Pan-American Congress of
1826 is close to the monument erected to the glory of the Liberator, by the gratitude of the 21 Republics represented at this Consultative Meeting; and

for reasons, the enumeration of which is superfluous, it is fitting that there be held a joint public manifestation of respect by this Meeting in memory of Simon Bolivar.

The Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the American Republics

RESOLVES:

To go in a body to the statue of the Liberator, immediately after the closing session of the Meeting, to deposit a floral wreath as an expression of the sentiment of gratitude of the 21 Republics of our Continent. Those attending shall be invited afterwards to visit the Sala Capitular where the First Pan-American Congress, conceived by the Liberator, was held.

(Approved, October 3, 1939).

II

TEXTS OF RESOLUTIONS ON NEUTRALITY

For the purpose of keeping each other fully informed regarding the measures of neutrality taken by the American Republics during the continuance of the existing European conflict,

The Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the American Republics

RESOLVES:

To recommend that the Governments of the American Republics transmit to the Pan American Union the texts of all the decrees
and regulations approved by each country relative to its neutrality in the present conflict in order that the Union may communicate copies of these documents to the various governments for their information. (Approved October 5, 1933).

III

DISCUSSION AND VOTES AT THESE MEETINGS

WHEREAS:

Several Governments represented at this Meeting, following precedents established at regular Pan-American Conferences, have accredited to this Meeting plural delegations associating with their respective Ministers or Secretaries of Foreign Relations persons eminent in their national public life whose Governments understood that their participation would be on equal terms with the Foreign Ministers; and

This interpretation, applicable at a first Consultative Meeting having neither precedents nor established jurisprudence for its guidance, has placed certain of these Governments and their representatives at this Meeting in a difficult position which it is just and advisable to remedy by all possible means; therefore,

The Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the American Republics

RESOLVES:

That in view of these facts and with the understanding that this situation will not arise in later meetings of this kind and that it cannot be taken as a precedent in the future, the plenipotentiary delegates who accompany their Foreign Ministers on this occasion shall be permitted to take their places
at the council table with the right to participate in discussions, but with the right to vote reserved to the Foreign Minister or to his duly accredited representative. (Approved October 5, 1939).

IV

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

The meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the American Republics

RESOLVES:

1. In view of the present circumstances, to declare that today it is more desirable and necessary than ever to establish a close and sincere cooperation between the American Republics in order that they may protect their economic and financial structure, maintain their fiscal equilibrium, safeguard the stability of their currencies, promote and expand their industries, intensify their agriculture and develop their commerce.

2. To create an Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee consisting of twenty-one (21) experts in economic problems, one for each of the American Republics, which shall be installed in Washington, D. C., not later than November 15, 1939, and which shall have the following functions:

(a) To consider any problem of monetary relationships, foreign exchange management, or balance of international payment situation, which may be presented to it by the Government of any of the American Republics, and to offer to that Government whatever recommendations it deems desirable.

(b) To study the most practical and satisfactory means of obtaining the stability of the monetary and commercial relationships between the American Republics.
(c) To provide, with the cooperation of the Pan American Union, the means for the interchange of information between the Governments of the American Republics with reference to the matters mentioned in the two preceding sub-paragraphs, as well as for the exchange of production, foreign trade, financial and monetary statistics, custom legislation and other reports on Inter-American commerce.

(d) To study and propose to the Governments the most effective measures for mutual cooperation to lessen or offset any dislocations which may arise in the trade of the American Republics and to maintain trade among themselves, and as far as possible, their trade with the rest of the world, which may be affected by the present war, on the basis of those liberal principles of international trade approved at the Seventh and Eighth International Conferences of American States and the Inter-American Conference for the Maintenance of Peace. These principles shall be retained as the goal of their long-term commercial policies in order that the world shall not lack a basis of world-wide international trade in which all may participate after world order and peace may be restored.

(e) To study the possibility of establishing a customs truce, of reducing custom duties on the typical commodities which an American country may offer in the market of another American country, of abolishing or modifying import licenses on such commodities, as well as all the other obstacles which render difficult the interchange of products between the said countries, of adopting a uniform principle of equality of treatment, eliminating all discriminatory measures, and of giving ample facilities to salesmen travelling from an American country to another,
(f) To study the necessity of creating an inter-American institution which may render feasible and insure permanent financial cooperation between the treasuries, the central banks and analogous institutions of the American Republics, and propose the manner and conditions under which such an organization should be established and determine the matters with which it should deal.

(g) To study measures which tend to promote the importation and consumption of products of the American Republics, especially through the promotion of lower prices and better transportation and credit facilities.

(h) To study the usefulness and feasibility of organizing an Inter-American Commercial Institute to maintain the importers and exporters of the American Republics in contact with each other and to supply them with the necessary data for the promotion of Inter-American trade.

(i) To study the possibility of establishing new industries and negotiating commercial treaties, especially for the interchange of the raw materials of each country.

(j) To study the possibility that silver be also one of the mediums for international payments.

The Inter-American Economic Advisory Committee shall communicate to the Governments the results of the studies made in each case and shall recommend the measures which it considers should be taken.

3. To recommend to the Governments of the American Republics:

(a) To take measures in accordance with their own
respective legislation, with a view to avoiding increases of
rates or premiums to an extent not justified by the special
expenses and risks incurred because of the present state of war,
by shipping companies which maintain transportation services
between the countries of the continent, and maritime insurance
companies operating in their territories.

(b) To promote the negotiation of bilateral or multi-
ilateral agreements for the organization and maintenance of
regular and connected steamship services between the countries
of the Continent in order to facilitate the direct traffic of
passengers and cargoes. These agreements are to make special
provisions for traveling salesmen and commercial samples.

(c) To study the possibility of reducing to a minimum
consular fees on manifests of vessels in the above-mentioned
services, so as to make possible the shipment of reduced
quantities of commodities which require rapid and special trans-
portation.

(d) To study the possibility, in accordance with their
legislation, of reducing to a minimum port, sanitary and other
formalities applied to the traffic of merchandise between the
American Republics.

4. To recommend to the Governments that they do everything
possible to abolish obstacles to the free inter-American movement
of capital.

5. To recommend to the Governments that, when deemed
necessary, they negotiate agreements in accordance with the
circumstances and legislation of each country, with a view to the
establishment of bases that would make feasible and secure the
granting of inter-American credits which may serve to intensify
the interchange of products as well as for the development of
natural resources.

6. To request the governments of the most industrialized
countries of the Continent to do whatever is possible, within
their legal faculties and circumstances, to prevent excessive
and unjustified increases in the prices of manufactured articles
destined for export.

7. To recommend that the American Governments promote the
negotiation of arrangements, in accordance with their legislation
and within their possibilities, with a view to obtaining able
facilities with regard to the treatment or re-embarkation of
merchandise sold or acquired by American countries, detained at
the present moment on board merchant vessels of countries at war
which are unable to transport it to its original destination.

8. To recommend to the respective Governments that they
preserve in a reciprocal and generous form the legitimate prin-
ciple of freedom of communications and transit through the ports
and territories of the American nations, in accordance with the
legislation and international agreements in force.

9. To recommend that countries bordering on each other
hold, among themselves, meetings of their Ministers of Foreign
Affairs, or of their Ministers of Finance, or of special plen-
potentiaries, in the capital of one of them, in order to arrive
at agreements for solving common problems of a financial, fiscal,
or economic character, in conformity with the relevant general
principles of commercial policy approved at recent inter-American
Conferences.

10. To make every effort in order to complete their respect-
ive sections of the Pan American Highway and to recommend to the
countries which have ratified the Buenos Aires Convention that they designate as soon as possible one or more experts to expedite the fulfillment of the recommendations of the Third Pan American Highway Congress. (Approved, October 3, 1959).

V

JOINT DECLARATION OF CONTINENTAL SOLIDARITY

The Governments of the American Republics, represented at this first meeting of their Foreign Ministers,

Firmly united by the democratic spirit which is the basis of their institutions,

Desirous of strengthening on this occasion the solidarity which is the outgrowth of that spirit, and

Desirous of preserving peace in the American Continent and of promoting its remembrance throughout the world,

DECLARE

1. That they reaffirm the declaration of solidarity among the nations of this Hemisphere, proclaimed at the Eighth International Conference of American States at Lima in 1955;

2. That they will endeavor with all the appropriate spiritual and material means at their disposal to maintain and strengthen peace and harmony among the Republics of America, as an indispensable requirement to the effective fulfillment of the duty that devolves upon them in the world-wide historical development of civilization and culture;

3. That these principles are free from any selfish purpose of isolation, but are rather inspired by a deep sense of universal cooperation, which impels these nations to express the most fervent wishes for the cessation of the deplorable
state of war which today exists in some countries of Europe, to the grave danger of the most cherished spiritual, moral and economic interests of humanity, and for the reestablishment of peace throughout the world -- a peace not based on violence, but on justice and law. (Approved, October 3, 1939).

VI

GENERAL DECLARATION OF NEUTRALITY OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS

WHEREAS:

As proclaimed in the Declaration of Lima, "The peoples of America have achieved spiritual unity through the similarity of their republican institutions, their unshakable will for peace, their profound sentiment of humanity and tolerance, and through their absolute adherence to the principles of international law, of the equal sovereignty of States and of individual liberty without religious or racial prejudices";

This acknowledges spiritual unity presupposes common and solidarity attitudes with reference to situations or forces which, as in the case of the present European war, may threaten the security or the sovereign rights of the American Republics;

The attitude assumed by the American Republics has served to demonstrate that it is their unanimous intention not to become involved in the European conflict; and

It is desirable to state the standards of conduct, which, in conformity with international law and their respective internal legislation, the American Republics propose to follow, in order to maintain their status as neutral states and fulfill their neutral duties, as well as require the recognition of the rights inherent in such a status.

The Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the American
RESOLVES

1. To reaffirm the status of general neutrality of the American Republics, it being left to each one of them to regulate in their individual and sovereign capacities the manner in which they are to give it concrete application.

2. To have their rights and status as neutrals fully respected and observed by all belligerents and by all persons who may be acting for or on behalf of or in the interest of the belligerents.

3. To declare that with regard to their status as neutrals, there exist certain standards recognized by the American Republics applicable in these circumstances and that in accordance with them they:

(a) Shall prevent their respective terrestrial, maritime and aerial territories from being utilized as bases of belligerent operations.

(b) Shall prevent, in accordance with their internal legislations, the inhabitants of their territories from engaging in activities capable of affecting the neutral status of the American Republics.

(c) Shall prevent on their respective territories the enlistment of persons to serve in the military, naval, or air forces of the belligerents; the retaining or inducing of persons to go beyond their respective shores for the purpose of taking part in belligerent operations; the actings on foot of any military, naval or aerial expedition in the interests of the belligerents; the fitting out, arming, or augmenting of the forces or armament of any ship or vessel to be employed in the
service of one of the belligerents, to cruise or commit hostili-
ties against another belligerent, or its nationals or property; 
the establishment by the belligerents or their agents of radio 
estations in the terrestrial or maritime territory of the 
American Republics, or the utilization of such stations to 
communicate with the governments or armed forces of the belliger-
ents.

(d) May determine, with regard to belligerent warships, 
that not more than three at a time be admitted in their own 
ports or waters and in any case they shall not be allowed to 
remain for more than twenty-four hours. Vessels engaged exclusive-
ly in scientific, religious or philanthropic missions may be 
exempted from this provision, as well as those which arrive 
in distress.

(e) Shall require all belligerent vessels and air-
craft seeking the hospitality of areas under their jurisdiction 
and control to respect strictly their neutral status and to 
observe their respective laws and regulations and the rules of 
international law pertaining to the rights and duties of 
neutrals and belligerents; and in the event that difficulties 
are experienced in enforcing the observance of and respect 
for their rights, the case, if so requested, shall thereupon 
become a subject of consultation between them.

(f) Shall regard as a contravention of their neutral-
ity any flight by the military aircraft of a belligerent state 
over their own territory. With respect to non-military aircraft, 
they shall adopt the following measures: such aircraft shall 
fly only with the permission of the competent authority; all 
aircraft, regardless of nationality, shall follow routes 
determined by the said authorities; their commanders or pilots
shall declare the place of departure, the stops to be made and their destination; they shall be allowed to use radio-telegraphy only to determine their route and flying conditions, utilizing for this purpose the national language, without code, only the standard abbreviations being allowed; the competent authorities may require aircraft to carry a co-pilot or a radio operator for purposes of control.

Belligerent military aircraft transported on board warships shall not leave these vessels while in the waters of the American Republics; belligerent military aircraft landing in the territory of an American Republic shall be interned with their crews until the cessation of hostilities, except in cases in which the landing is made because of proven distress. There shall be exempted from the application of these rules cases in which there exist conventions to the contrary.

(g) may submit belligerent merchant vessels, as well as their passengers, documents and cargo, to inspection in their own ports; the respective consular agent shall certify as to the ports of call and destination as well as to the fact that the voyage is undertaken solely for the purposes of commercial interchange. They may also supply fuel to such vessels in amounts sufficient for the voyage to a port of supply and call in another American Republic, except in the case of a direct voyage to another continent, in which circumstance they may supply the necessary amount of fuel. Should it be proven that these vessels have supplied belligerent warships with fuel, they shall be considered as auxiliary transports.

(h) May concentrate and place a guard on board belligerent merchant vessels which have sought asylum in their
waters, and may intern those which have made false declarations as to their destinations, as well as those which have taken an unjustified or excessive time in their voyage, or have adopted the distinctive signs of warships.

1. Shall consider as lawful the transfer of the flag of a merchant vessel to that of any American Republic provided such transfer is made in good faith, without agreement for resale to the vendor, and that it takes place in the waters of an American Republic.

2. Shall not assimilate to warships belligerent armed merchant vessels if they do not carry more than four six-inch guns mounted on the stern, and their lateral decks are not reinforced, and if, in the judgment of the local authorities, there do not exist other circumstances which reveal that the merchant vessels can be used for offensive purposes. They may require of the said vessels, in order to enter their ports, to deposit explosives and munitions in such places as the local authorities may determine.

3. May exclude belligerent submarines from the waters adjacent to their territories or admit them under the condition that they conform to the regulations which each country may prescribe.

4. In the spirit of this declaration, the Governments of the American Republics shall maintain close contact with a view to making uniform as far as possible, the enforcement of their neutrality and to safeguarding it in defense of their fundamental rights.

5. With a view to studying and formulating recommendations
with respect to the problems of neutrality, in the light of
experience and changing circumstances, there shall be established,
for the duration of the European war, an Inter-American Neutral-
ity Committee, composed of seven experts in international law,
who shall be designated by the Governing Board of the Pan
American Union before November 1, 1939. The recommendations of
the Committee shall be transmitted, through the Pan American
Union, to the Governments of the American Republics. (Approved
October 3, 1939).

VII

RATIONING OF WAR

WHEREAS:
The American nations have unanimously condemned war as
a means of settling international controversies;
These states have adhered to non-American pacts and have
signed agreements in the various International Conferences of
American States with a view to mitigating the unnecessary
horrors of war and prescribing the methods by which they are
occasioned; and
The peoples of the American Republics have given tradi-
tional proof of their humanitarian feelings, lending effective
aid to the victims of war and disaster;
The Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the American
Republics

RESOLVES

1. To make a fervent appeal to the European countries
now in conflict to arrive at a settlement of their controver-
sies through pacific means, on the essential basis of justice
and law and not on the dictators of force; and that they
abstain from:
(a) The use of poisonous gases and other chemical
methods of warfare which produce irreparable and permanent
injuries;
(b) Bombarding open cities, objects and places
without military value, whether from land, sea or air;
(c) Employing inflammable liquids;
(d) Poisoning waters and disseminating bacteria;
(e) Employing offensive weapons which increase the
suffering of the wounded;
(f) Imposing unnecessarily rigorous measures upon
civilian populations;
(g) Sinking merchant vessels without having first
plumbed the passengers, crew and ship's papers in a place of
safety.

2. To condemn in all armed conflict the unrestricted
application of measures causing unnecessary and inhuman suf-
ferring in injuring the enemy.

3. To express the hope that the National Red Cross
Societies in the American Republics broaden the scope of
their humanitarian work for the relief of the Victims of the
present European war, and that the Governments lend every
facility and support to their respective Red Cross Societies
in carrying forward this work. (Approved, October 3, 1939).

VIII

CONTRA-BAND OF WAR

WHEREAS:
The Convention on Maritime Neutrality, signed at
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Havana on February 20, 1929, recites in the preamble thereof
that "International solidarity requires that the liberty of
commerce should be always respected, avoiding as far as pos-
ible unnecessary burdens for the neutrals";

Article 16 of the same Convention stipulates that
"Credits that a neutral state may give to facilitate the sale
or exportation of its food products and raw materials" are not
included within the prohibition contained in that article
against the granting of loans or the opening of credits to a
belligerent by a neutral state during the duration of war;

The American Republics cannot remain indifferent to
measures that restrict their normal commerce with belligerents
in foodstuffs, clothing and raw materials for peace-time
industries;

Elemental humanitarian considerations impel the American
Republics to deplore the deprivation of civilian populations
of the normal means of subsistence;

The American Republics, in accordance with a lofty con-
ception of neutrality, consider unjustified the limitations
which may be placed upon their legitimate commerce and trade
with the neutral countries of other continents; and

The American Republics consider that it is indispensable
to avoid, in accordance with their domestic laws, the effects
of measures within their respective territories and in detri-
ment to their sovereignty, which the belligerent governments
may take to restrict the freedom of trade of their nationals
in neutral countries.

The Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the American
Republics

RESOLVES:
1. To register its opposition to the placing of foodstuffs and clothing intended for civilian populations, not destined directly or indirectly for the use of a belligerent government or its armed forces, on lists of contraband.

2. To declare that they do not consider contrary to neutrality the granting of credits to belligerents for the acquisition of merchandise mentioned in the foregoing paragraph, whenever permitted by the domestic legislation of the neutral countries.

3. That the Neutrality Committee, established by another agreement of this meeting, shall undertake the immediate study of whatever concerns the commercial situation of raw materials, minerals, plant or animal, produced by the American Republics, and shall recommend such individual or collective action that should be taken by the governments for the purpose of reducing the unfavorable effects on the free movement of these commodities, of contraband declarations and other economic measures of the belligerent countries. (Approved, October 3, 1939).

IX

COORDINATION OF POLICE AND JUDICIAL MEASURES

FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF NEUTRALITY

MEMORANDUM:

In order better to safeguard the neutrality of the American Republics to whatever extent it may be affected by unlawful activities undertaken by individuals, whether nationals or aliens, residing therein, with the purpose of benefiting any foreign belligerent State, it is desirable to coordinate the preventive or repressive action of the police and judicial authorities, especially with respect to
the rapid and frequent interchange of information, as well as
the surveillance, apprehension and custody of suspected
individuals;

On February 27, 1920, there was signed in Buenos Aires
an agreement between various American Republics, for the
purpose of coordinating police activity, inseparable as it
relates, in a general way, to common crimes; and

The procedure of extradition, complementing the objective
in the judicial and repressive aspect, should be strengthened
among the American Republics through adequate rules and
by extending it to all of them.

The Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the American
Republics

RESOLVES:

1. That action be taken, as soon as possible, through an
exchange of views between the Foreign Offices, or through an
Inter-American Conference, for the formulation between
themselves of coordinated rules and procedure of a useful,
opportun and effective manner, that will facilitate the action
of the police and judicial authorities of the respective
countries in preventing or repressing unlawful activities
that individuals, whether they be nationals or aliens, may
attempt in favor of a foreign belligerent State.

2. That the necessary steps be taken for the ratification,
as soon as possible, of the Convention on Extradition signed at
the Seventh International Conference of American States, held
at Montevideo in 1933. (Approved October 3, 1939).
X.

MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHRISTIAN MORALITY

The Governments of the American Republics, represented at the First Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the American Republics

DECLARE

1. That they reaffirm their faith in the principles of Christian civilization, and their confidence that, in the light of these principles, the influence of international law will be strengthened among nations;

2. That they condemn attempts to place international relations and the conduct of warfare outside the realm of morality;

3. That they reject all methods for the solution of controversies between nations based on force, or on the violation of treaties, or on their unilateral abrogation;

4. That they consider the violation of the neutrality or the invasion of weaker nations as an unjustifiable measure in the conduct and success of war; and

5. That they undertake to protest against any warlike act which does not conform to international law and the dictates of justice. (Approved, October 3, 1939.)

XI.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF JURISTS

WHEREAS:

The project of convention for the creation of an Association of American Nations, presented to the Eighth International Conference of American States by the Republic of Colombia and the Domin-
Ian Republic in accordance with the request of the Inter-American
Conference for the Maintenance of Peace, was referred for study to
the International Conference of American Jurists,

THE MEETING OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS

RESOLVES

To recommend to the International Conference of American
Jurists that, in studying the said project of Convention for the
creation of an Association of American Nations, it take into con-

Whereas:

On more than one occasion the American Republics have affirmed
their adherence to the democratic ideal which prevails in this
Hemisphere;

This ideal may be endangered by the action of foreign ideologies
inspired in diametrically opposite principles; and

It is advisable, consequently, to protect the integrity of this
ideal through the adoption of appropriate measures,

THE MEETING OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS

RESOLVES:

To recommend to the Governments represented therein, that they
take the necessary measures to eradicate from the Americas the
spread of doctrines that tend to place in jeopardy the common Inter-
American democratic ideal.  (Approved, October 3, 1939)
FUTURE MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

WHEREAS:

On the supposition that the war may continue for a more or less extended period, and the state of emergency which now exists may, a year hence, have become accentuated or that there may exist an abnormal post-war situation which may require consideration.

THE MEETING OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS RESOLVES:

To suggest to the respective Governments the desirability of having their Ministers of Foreign Affairs meet in the city of Havana, capital of the Republic of Cuba, on October 1, 1940, without prejudice to an earlier meeting if this should be found necessary. (Approved, October 3, 1939.)

ORGANIZATION OF THE ECONOMIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE MEETING OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS RESOLVES:

To request the Governments of the American Republics to designate as soon as possible the experts who shall constitute the Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee, the organization of which shall be entrusted to the Pan American Union. (Approved, October 3, 1939.)
The Governments of the American Republics meeting at Panama, have solemnly ratified their neutral status in the conflict which is disrupting the peace of Europe, but the present war may lead to unexpected results which may affect the fundamental interests of America and there can be no justification for the interests of the belligerents to prevail over the rights of neutrals causing disturbances and suffering to nations which by their neutrality in the conflict and their distance from the scenes of events, should not be burdened with its fatal and painful consequences.

During the World War of 1914-1918 the Governments of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru advanced, or supported, individual proposals providing in principle a declaration by the American Republics that the belligerent nations must refrain from committing hostile acts within a reasonable distance from their shores.

The nature of the present configuration, in spite of its already lamentable proportions, would not justify any obstruction to inter-American communications which, engendered by important interests, call for adequate protection. This fact requires the demarcation of a zone of security including all the normal maritime routes of communication and trade between the countries of America.

To this end it is essential as a measure of necessity to adopt immediately provisions based on the above-mentioned precedents for the safeguarding of such interests, in order to
avoid a repetition of the damages and sufferings sustained by the American nations and by their citizens in the war of 1914-1918.

There is no doubt that the Governments of the American Republics must foresee those dangers and as a measure of self-protection insist that the waters to a reasonable distance from their coasts shall remain free from the commission of hostile acts or from the undertaking of belligerent activities by nations engaged in a war in which the said governments are not involved.

For these reasons the Governments of the American Republics RESOLVE AND HEREBY DECLARE:

1. As a measure of continental self-protection, the American Republics, so long as they maintain their neutrality, are as of inherent right entitled to have those waters adjacent to the American continent, which they regard as of primary concern and direct utility in their relations, free from the commission of any hostile act by any non-American belligerent nation, whether such hostile act be attempted or made from land, sea or air.

Such waters shall be defined as follows. All waters comprised within the limits set forth hereafter except the territorial waters of Canada and of the undisputed colonies and possessions of European countries within these limits:

Beginning at the terminus of the United States-Canada boundary in Passamaquoddy Bay, in 44° 46' 36" north latitude, and 66° 04' 11" west longitude;

Thence due east along the parallel 44° 46' 36" to a point 060° west of Greenwich;

Thence due south to a point in 80° north latitude;

Thence by a rhumb line to a point in 80° north latitude, 240° west longitude;

Thence due south to a point in 80° south latitude;
Then by a rhumb line to a point in 65° south latitude, 77° west longitude;
Then due west to a point in 50° west longitude;
Then by a rhumb line to a point on the equator in 90° west longitude;
Then by a rhumb line to a point in 150° north latitude, 120° west longitude;
Then by a rhumb line to a point in 40° 29' 33" north latitude, 120° west longitude;
Then due east to the Pacific terminus of the United States-Canada boundary in the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

2. The Governments of the American Republics agree that they will endeavor, through joint representation to such belligerents as may now or in the future be engaged in hostilities, to secure the compliance by them with the provisions of this Declaration, without prejudice to the exercise of the individual rights of each State inherent in their sovereignty.

3. The Governments of the American Republics further declare that whenever they consider it necessary they will consult together to determine upon the measures which they may individually or collectively undertake in order to secure the observance of the provisions of this Declaration.

4. The American Republics, during the existence of a state of war in which they themselves are not involved, may undertake, whenever they may determine that the need thereof exists, to patrol, either individually or collectively, as may be agreed upon by common consent, and in so far as the means and resources of each may permit, the waters adjacent to their coasts within the area above defined. (Approved, October 5, 1933)
DECLARATION OF THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT OF CONTINENTAL WATERS

The sovereignty of the American Continent is founded on the inviolate bases of consultation, non-intervention, conciliation, arbitration, and above all, on the pacific sentiment of the American nations, who are enemies of war and friends of peace.

We do not have and we will not have anything to fear from each other in America; on the contrary, we have in each other, on land, sea and air, the assurance of security for each and all of the nations of America.

Continental security against overseas aggression must be obtained on sounder bases.

It is on the seas that surround us that lies the future fate of our sovereignties, because the protection of American soil will not be possible, as in the past, without the security of the surrounding seas.

The seas, outside territorial waters, only three miles from our coast, from our cities and even from our capitals, not only is not sure, but in it we are at the mercy of any action contrary to the free and peaceful expansion of our sovereignty, of our continental relations and even of the maritime communications between ports of the same country.

To the defense of the continental territorial integrity, we must add, therefore, as an inseparable part of an American political whole, the security of continental waters.

The Meeting at Panama must request and receive from all the belligerents engaged in the war, in which no American Republic is
involved, the assurance that the countries in conflict will abstain
from any belligerent act or activity on the sea, within the limit
of the waters adjacent to the American Continent considered as being
useful or of direct and primary interest to the American Republics.

We expect the belligerent nations, and those which in the
future may take part in the present war, to observe and respect
this Declaration which will be made in Panama as a complement of
the Monroe Doctrine and of the Declarations of Buenos Aires and
Lima.

We believe that the principle of continental waters will not
affect the sovereignty of other nations, but rather that it will
protect the sovereignty of the American countries and will favor
the peaceful relations of all nations.

Our Continent, furthermore, has a right to reduce the effects
of the war, by preventing its conflicts from being brought near our
shores to perturb our tranquility, threatening to compromise or
complicate our neutral status.

Brazil does not make and never has made an issue of formulas
and words, but the idea that it suggested with regard to continental
waters will be defended by Brazil, because it considers the princi-
ple useful for its existence and that of the other Republics of
America.

These are the bases of the Brazilian vote and of the attitude
of its delegates to the meeting of Panama.
DECLARATION OF THE ARGENTINE DELEGATION

The Argentine Delegation declares that in waters adjacent to the South American Continent, in that territorial extent of coasts which, in the zone defined as free from any hostile act, corresponds to the Argentine Republic, it does not recognize the existence of colonies or possessions of European countries, and adds that it specifically reserves and maintains intact the legitimate titles and rights of the Argentine Republic to islands such as the Malvinas, as well as to any other Argentine territory located within or beyond the said zone.

DECLARATION OF THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF GUATEMALA

The declaration and reservation of His Excellency, Dr. Melo, of Argentina, impels me to present, on behalf of Guatemala, a like declaration and reservation, because the controversy of Guatemala with the British Empire is similar and my silence might be interpreted as an abandonment of the legitimate rights now under discussion.

XVI.

TRANSMISSION OF DECLARATION OF PANAMA

The Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the American Republics RESOLVES

To request the President of the Republic of Panama, His Excellency, Dr. Juan Demóstenes Arosemena, to transmit, in the name of all the Republics of America, the Declaration of Panama to the belligerent governments involved in the European war, as well as to any other government who might become a party to the conflict in the future. (Approved October 5, 1939).
REUNION CONSULTIVA DE LOS MINISTROS DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES
DE LAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS

SECRETARIA GENERAL

XVII.

TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY OF GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS OF THE AMERICAS
HELD BY NON-AMERICAN STATES

The Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the American
Republics

RESOLVES:

1. That in case any geographic region of America subject
to the jurisdiction of any non-American state should be obliged
to change its sovereignty and there should result therefrom a
danger to the security of the American Continent, a consultative
meeting such as the one now being held will be convoked with
the urgency that the case may require.

2. It is understood that this resolution shall not apply
to a change of status resulting from the settlement of questions
now pending between non-American states and states of the
Continent. (Approved October 3, 1939).

XVIII.

APPROPRIATION FOR THE ORGANIZATION AND HOSPITALITY BESTOWED
BY THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA

The Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the American
Republics

RESOLVES:

To solemnly express its great satisfaction for the correct
and efficient arrangements made by the Republic of Panama for the
assistance of the Representatives of the American Republics in
the fulfillment of their duties, and to express its deepest
appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Panama for the
cordial hospitality and constant attention extended to the
members of the Delegations. (Approved October 3, 1939).
In witness whereof the following Ministers of Foreign Affairs or their Representatives sign the present Final Act, and hereunto affix their respective Seals.

Done at Panama on the 3rd day of October 1939, in the English, Spanish, Portuguese and French languages, the respective texts to be deposited in the archives of the Pan American Union. The Secretary General of the Meeting shall hand these texts to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Panama for transmission to the Pan American Union.

LIMA:

[Signature]

ECUADOR:

[Signature]

CUBA:

[Signature]
CHILE

COLOMBIA

VENUEZUA

ARGENTINA
GUATEMALA

PANAMA

NEGRITOS

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

BRASIL
BOLIVÍA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

HANTÍ

EL SALVADOR