

*Copy sent to
F.O. by P.H. No. 323,
Mar. 20.*

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.,
March 20th, 1939

No. 111

Sir,

116/3

I have the honour to refer to your note No. 611.41245/49 of the 17th February regarding the question of exempting from United States customs duty supplies and equipment withdrawn from bonded warehouses in the United States for the use of aircraft registered in the United Kingdom. You were so good as to state in this note that the Collector of Customs at New York would be instructed as to the privileges of free withdrawal which should be granted to aircraft registered in the United Kingdom, as soon as the Treasury Department received confirmation from the Department of Commerce that substantially reciprocal privileges are allowed or will be allowed in the United Kingdom in respect of aircraft registered in the United States.

215/20/38

I trust that the information contained in Mr. Mallet's note No. 497 of December 21st last will have satisfied the Department of Commerce on this point. In that event I would venture to express the hope that the necessary instructions may be issued as soon as possible by the Treasury Department in view of the fact that in the meantime Messrs. Imperial Airways are still being required to pay duty on supplies and equipment withdrawn from bonded warehouses in the United States, despite the facilities which as indicated/

The Honourable
Cordell Hull,
Secretary of State of the United States,
Washington, D. C.

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indicated in Mr. Mallet's above mentioned note, have been granted in this respect in the United Kingdom for a considerable time past to aircraft registered in the United States. I should be grateful if I might be informed at an early date of the decision which has been reached in this matter.

I have the honour to be,

with the highest consideration,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

(SGD) R. C. LINDSAY