

Br interests in Belgium, etc. 1169/9/40.

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END

BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

May 27th, 1940

No. 234

Sir,

-/8-

I have the honour, under instructions from His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to enquire whether should hostilities break out between the United Kingdom and Italy the United States Government will be good enough to undertake the protection of persons, property and interests for whose protection His Majesty's Ambassador in Italy and consular officers under his superintendence are normally responsible.

Should the United States Government be willing to undertake the above charge I am to request that the United States diplomatic and consular officers in Italy may be authorised to act accordingly.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest consideration,

Sir,

Your most obedient,
humble servant,

(SGD) LOTHIAN

The Honourable

Cordell Hull,

Secretary of State of the United States,

Washington, D.C.

NMB:DH