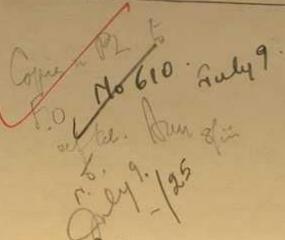
Br. interento in Belgume, ale 1169/14/40



DEPARTMENT OF STATE WASHINGTON

July 3, 1940

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your -/JL note no. 305 of July 3, 1940 inquiring whether the Government of the United States would be willing, if it should prove necessary to withdraw the British consular officers from French North Africa, to undertake the protection of British interests in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia.

> I am happy to assure you that the Government of the United States is willing to undertake the protection of British interests in the territories mentioned should the contingency referred to arise. Every effort will be made to extend to British persons, property and interests such protection as may be possible within the limitations

> > of

The Right Honorable

The Marquess of Lothian, C.H.,

British Ambassador.

Washington, D. C.

of and subject to the reservations imposed by the conditions of modern warfare and subject to the additional reservations which may be imposed by difficulties of communication between the outlying British consular offices and the American consular offices at Tunis, Algiers and Casablanca.

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Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

For the Secretary of State:



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704.4151/