BRITISH EMBASSY, WASHINGTON, D.C., July 8th, 1940.

1642/ 2 /40

No. 312.

Sir,

Under instructions from His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, I have the honour to inform you that the Imperial War Graves Commission established by Royal Charter in 1917 for the purpose of caring for the British graves of the Great War have now received a Supplemental Charter empowering them to care for the British graves of the present war. The Commission have made arrangements for receiving information about such graves from the present theatre of war and from those countries with which they are in direct touch. The Commission now desire the assistance of the competent authorities in other countries where it is likely or possible that British serving officers or men may be buried, or where the bodies of members of His Majesty's Forces or of British merchant seamen who

have died as the result of enemy action at sea may be washed ashore.

I am to request therefore that the United States Government may be good enough to notify me without delay of any such burials or of the recovery of bodies from the sea in the circumstances described. 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.

ACEM:NT