Vienna, September 4, 1935.

MEMORANDUM:

In the Radio News Bulletin No. 132, of September 1st, received from the Department through the Embassy at Berlin, the following paragraph of the President's statement on signing the Neutrality Resolution passed by Congress is significant:

"It is the policy of this Government to avoid being drawn into wars between other nations, but it is a fact that no Congress and no Executive can foresee all possible future situations. History is filled with unforeseeable situations that call for some flexibility of action. It is conceivable that situations may arise in which the wholly inflexible provisions of section one of this action might have exactly the opposite effect from that which was intended. In other words the inflexible provisions might drag us into war instead of keeping us out. The policy of the Government is definitely committed to the maintenance of peace and the avoidance of any entanglements which would lead us into conflict. At the same time it is the policy of the Government by every peaceful means and without entanglement to cooperate with other similarly minded Governments to promote peace."