AM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Assistant Secretary

A-M

November 17, 1939.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Welles

Mr. Van Cauwelaert, who is at present the President of the Chamber of Deputies in Belgium and the ranking Minister of State and as such the number two man in the Belgian Government, is a very old and valued friend of mine. I have very high regard for him in many ways. We have had very little contact within the last year. you may find the appended letter very interesting, as it gives you an intimate look into the mind of one of the men who is really responsible in Belgium. The letter, of course, was written before the recent threat to Belgium became acute, but I know that he is deeply conscious that that threat has been and is there and it is his opinion that as soon as any move is made by Germany against Holland Belgium must move immediately.

G.S.M.

A-M: GSM: VNG