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Vienna, September 10, 1933.

No. 134.

SUBJECT: TRANSMITTING MEMORANDUM COMPARING CERTAIN
ASPECTS OF THE SITUATIONS IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES
OF EUROPE IN 1914 AND IN 1933.

CONFIDENTIAL.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

1/ I have the honor to transmit herewith a memorandum
which I have prepared comparing various aspects of the situation
in most of the countries of Europe in 1914 and in 1933. In
view of the disturbed situation which prevails politically,
socially, and economically in Europe, I prepared this memorandum
more for the purpose of clarifying my own views than with the

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and of submitting it to the Department. I believe, however, that it may have some interest for the Department as it does present in a fairly compact form basic information which is essential to forming any estimate of the possibilities of war or the maintenance of peace.

In submitting this memorandum to the Department I should state that I realize its preparation was a rather ambitious undertaking and wish to repeat therefore that it was prepared primarily for the clarification of my own views rather than for the use of the Department. Any such memorandum adequately covering the comparisons briefly attempted in the enclosure would have assumed much greater length, which would necessarily have restricted any use which may be made of it in the Department.

Respectfully yours,

George S. Messersmith.

Enclosure:

1. Memorandum.

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