

LEGAÇÃO DE PORTUGAL

EM
LONDRES

Londres, 16 de Março de 1916.

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Exmo. Snr. Ministro dos Negocios Estrangeiros.

Comunicações
à imprensa sobre
declaração de
guerra.

Proc.

Tenho a honra d'acusar recepção ao telegram-
ma de V.Exa. de 14 do corrente, como segue:

"Ao deixar Berlim Ministro de Portugal suas бага-
"gens revistadas portuguezes mesmos mulheres im-
"pedidos sair Alemanha desde alguns dias antes de-
"claração de guerra Ministro da Alemanha deixou
"Lisboa comboio especial oferecido Governo portu-
"gues sem qualquer revista bagagens e com todas
"deferencias que reiteradamente reconheceu.
"Alemães deixaram Portugal livremente mesmo depois
"da declaração de guerra. Mesmo capitães tripula-
"ções que haviam averiado maquinas navios não fo-
"ram perseguidos. Convinha V.Exa. obtivesse im-
"prensa fazer estes contrastes abtendo-se V.Exa.
"falar adção represalias."

de que dei immediata comunicação á imprensa com a re-
dacção do "recorte" incluso.

No dia 12 fiz tambem á imprensa a communica-
ção que consta do recorte do "Standard" incluso, a qual
foi publicada na quasi totalidade dos jornaes ingleses.

SAUDE E FRATERNIDADE.

M. A. S. S. S. S. S.

"THE STANDARD" 13/3/16.

PORTUGAL AND THE GERMAN NOTE.

MINISTER'S OPINION.

"TO IMPRESS SOUTH AMERICA."

The Portuguese Minister has informed Reuter's Agency that no further telegrams have been received from Lisbon regarding Germany's declaration of war, and that none are expected. There is no news of Portugal having replied to the German Note, and it is not unlikely that no reply will be sent. Asked why Germany had now taken this step, the Minister said that in his opinion Germany's chief object was to impress South American opinion. "She is," he added, "doubtless anxious to impress those States with the fact that Germany will resent any step similar to that taken by Portugal on the part of any of the South American Governments."

Speaking of Portugal's relations with Germany during the last few months, the Minister said: "After the unjust and entirely unprovoked aggression of Germany in violating our frontier in Angola, my Government resolutely refused on every occasion to give any explanation or reply as demanded by Germany in the almost daily Notes she has sent to us until she had herself explained and apologised for her invasion of our territory.

"This apology Germany has never offered, but has always regarded Portugal with suspicion as being the oldest Ally of Great Britain. These Notes of Germany always had reference to assistance that we had rendered to Great Britain, and in this connection it is necessary to explain that from the beginning of the war we made it quite clear to Germany what was our position to England as her Ally. We purposely refrained from making any declaration of neutrality, and the action taken by Portugal is perfectly legal."

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GERMAN TREATMENT OF
PORTUGUESE.

A CONTRAST.

Reuter's Agency is informed that according to official telegrams from Lisbon Germans have been treating Portuguese subjects in Germany with great severity. The Minister last evening said to Reuter's representative:—

The way in which the Germans have been treating the Portuguese affords a great contrast to the manner in which Portugal is treating Germans. Some days before the declaration of war, the German authorities refused to allow Portuguese subjects, including women, to leave Germany, and none are allowed out of the country. The Portuguese Minister has been subjected to great indignities. All his personal belongings were searched before he was allowed to leave.

In Portugal the Government provided a special train to carry the German Minister to the frontier, and provided him with all the necessary escort and guards. The Minister acknowledged this with thanks before he left Lisbon. All German subjects in Portugal, both before and after the declaration of war, were allowed to leave without any hindrance whatever. This privilege was also extended to the commanders and crews of the German ships which have been requisitioned, and even in cases where the officers had damaged the ships the Portuguese Government permitted the offenders to leave without taking any proceedings. The Portuguese Minister wished to emphasise the fact that even after more than eighteen months of war Germany is still entirely regardless of the accepted customs of civilised countries.