C 268587

MEMORANDUM.

MOST SECRET.

The Netherlands Minister for Foreign Affairs informed His Majesty's Minister at the Hague on March 30th that the suggestion had been most carefully considered by the Dutch Cabinet, but that it had been decided that the traditional policy of complete independence must be maintained. In answer to a specific question the Minister for Foreign Affairs said that what applied to us applied also to Belgium, i.e. that the Netherlands Government had and wished to have no engagement with the Belgians.

2. In reply to the question whether on the assumption that the Netherlands Government persisted in their present attitude we could count on them to lose no time in getting into touch with us if a real crisis arose, the Minister for Foreign Affairs replied in the affirmative.

1st April, 1940.

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1940-1950, ... MG 26 J 4, Volume 383, pages C268550-C269295

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