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Epreuve illisible

COLOURED PAPER
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TELEGRAM

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From THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DOMINION AFFAIRS
To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA

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LONDON,

time to starve us out.

I will now deal a little with the character of this warfare. From time to time the German U-Boat Commanders have tried their best to behave with humanity. We have seen them give good warning and also endeavour to help the crews to find their way to port. One German Captain signalled to me personally the position of a British ship which he had just sunk and urged that rescue should be sent. He signed his message "German submarine". I was in some doubt at the time as to what address I should direct a reply. However he is now in our hands and is treated with all consideration. But many cruel and ruthless acts have been done. There was the "Athenia". Then later the "Royal Sceptre," whose crew of thirty-two were left in open boats hundreds of miles from land and are assumed to have perished. Then there was the "Hazelside" only the day before yesterday, twelve of whose sailors were killed by surprise gunfire in an ordinary merchant ship and whose captain died in so gallant a fashion, going down with his vessel. We cannot at all recognize this type of warfare as other than contrary to all the long acquired and accepted traditions of the sea. We cannot recognize it as other than a violation of the laws of war to which the Germans themselves have in recent years so lustily subscribed. But it is a measure of the success of our attack upon the U-Boats in the last few days that they seem as the