

policy, have decided to conclude a treaty and to that end have designated as their respective plenipotentiaries . . . who after exchanging their full powers found to be in good and due form have agreed on the following provisions:

Article One.—The high contracting parties, without any intention to infringe upon the exercise of their rights of legitimate self-defense within the framework of existing treaties, particularly when the violation of certain of the provisions of such treaties constitutes a hostile act, solemnly declare that they condemn recourse to war and renounce it as an instrument of national policy; that is to say, as an instrument of individual, spontaneous and independent political action taken on their own initiative and not action in respect of which they might become involved through the obligation of a treaty such as the covenant of the League of Nations or any other treaty registered with the League of Nations. They undertake on these conditions not to attack or invade one another.

Article Two.—The settlement or solution of all disputes or conflicts of whatever nature or origin which might arise among the high contracting parties or between any two of them shall never be sought on either side except by pacific methods.

Article Three.—In case one of the high contracting parties should contravene this treaty, the other contracting powers would ipso facto be released with respect to that party from their obligations under this treaty.

Article Four.—The provisions of this treaty in no wise affect the rights and obligations of the contracting parties resulting from prior international agreements to which they are parties.

Article Five.—The present treaty will be offered for the accession of all powers and will have no binding force until it has been generally accepted, unless the signatory powers in accord with those that may accede hereto shall agree to decide that it shall come into effect regardless of certain abstentions.

Article Six.—The present treaty shall be ratified. The ratifications shall be deposited at . . . ; within three months from the date of the deposit of the ratifications it shall be communicated by the Government of . . . to all the powers with an invitation to accede.

The Government of . . . will transmit to each of the signatory powers and the powers that have acceded a duly certified copy of the instruments of accession as they are received.

One year after the expiration of the three months' period provided in Article Five, the Government of . . . will send out a statement of the signatories and accessions to all the powers that have signed or acceded.

*Note from the Foreign Minister of Germany to the United States Ambassador at Berlin, in reply to the United States Ambassador's Note of April 13, 1928*

BERLIN, April 27, 1928.

MR. AMBASSADOR,—In the note of April 13 and its enclosures Your Excellency informed me of the negotiations between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of France regarding the conclusion of an international pact for the outlawry of war. At the same time you asked me the question whether the government was disposed to conclude such a pact in accordance with the draft put forward by the Government of the United States or whether it considered certain changes in this draft necessary.

The German Government has studied the question put by you with the care appropriate to the extraordinary importance of the matter. It was