

event of severance of Diplomatic relations between the United Kingdom and Germany. The United Kingdom Government have replied that they have no objections to this course.

Subsequent communication from Swiss Minister makes it clear that request was intended to cover also German interests in New Zealand.

Shall be glad to know whether concurrence of your Government may be communicated to Swiss Minister. Please telegraph reply immediately.

1050.

Le secrétaire aux Dominions au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
Dominions Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs

CIRCULAR TELEGRAM B. 324

London, September 3, 1939

MOST IMMEDIATE. MOST SECRET. Following for your Prime Minister, Begins. My telegram Circular B. 322.¹ Following is text of communication to be handed to German Minister for Foreign Affairs or other representative of German Government by His Majesty's Ambassador at 9 A.M. today, Begins:

Sir,

In communication which I had the honour to make to you on September 1st, I informed you on instructions of His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs that unless the German Government was prepared to give His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom satisfactory assurances that the German Government had suspended all aggressive action against Poland and are prepared promptly to withdraw their forces from Polish territory, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom would, without hesitation, fulfil their obligations towards Poland.

2. Although this communication was made more than 24 hours ago, no reply has been received but German attacks have been continued and intensified. I have accordingly the honour to inform you that unless not later than 11 A.M. British summer time today satisfactory assurances to the above effect have been given by the German Government and have reached His Majesty's Government in London, a state of war will exist between the two countries as from that hour. Ends.

If desired German assurance is received Ambassador must inform His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom before 11 A.M.

Failing receipt by that hour German representative in London will be informed as from that hour, a state of war exists, and His Majesty's Ambassador in Berlin is to act accordingly.

This should be treated as very secret until expiry of our time limit. Ends.

¹ Non reproduit/not printed.