LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

C117835

Communicated to the Council and Members of the League.

C.133.M.72.1036.VII.
Geneva, April 4th, 1936.

DISPUTE BETWEEN ETHIOPIA AND ITALY.

REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF THIRTEEN.

At the meeting which it held in London on March 23rd, 1936. the Committee of Thirteen adopted two decisions.

The first was in the following terms: "The Committee of Thirteen takes note of the replies given by the two parties to the dispute to the appeal addressed to them on March 3rd. It requests its Chairman, assisted by the Secretary-General, to get into touch with the two parties and to take such steps as may be called for in order that the Committee may be able, as soon as possible, to bring the two parties together and, within the framework of the League of Nations and in the spirit of the Covenant, to bring about the prompt cessation of hostilities and the final restoration of peace."

The Committee of Thirteen, further, instructed its Chairman to write to the Italian Government calling its attention to certain allegations made by the Ethiopian Government regarding the use of "asphyxiating and similar gases" contrary to the undertakings entered into under the auspices of the League of Nations and registered in the Declaration of June 17th, 1925.

In accordance with this second decision, the Chairman of the Committee addressed to the Italian Government, on March 23rd, a letter, copy of which is appended hereto. On April 1st, the Chairman of the Committee asked the Secretary-General to inform the Italian Government that he would be glad to receive a reply to this letter as soon as possible. It is understood that the reply will be received very shortly: it will be circulated without delay to the Committee.*

Further, the Chairman, assisted by the Secretary-General, in the discharge of the duty entrusted to him by the Committee's first decision, at once got into touch with the representative of

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1933-1939 (M.G. 26, J 4, volume 165, pages C117603-C118550)

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^{*} This answer has just been received by the Secretariat. It is annexed to this report (Annex 4).