PRELUDE TO WAR 1313

asking you to complete the submission. You will inform the King that His Majesty's Government in Canada desires that His Majesty's approval be communicated immediately by telegram, either directly or through you, for publication in Canada by Proclamation in His Majesty's name in the Canada Gazette. Formal submission in writing will follow.

## 1086.

Le ministère des Affaires extérieures au haut commissaire en Grande-Bretagne Department of External Affairs to High Commissioner in Britain

**TELEGRAM** 

Ottawa, September 9, 1939

PRIORITY. MOST IMMEDIATE. Complete submission at earliest possible time. Insert date of September tenth. Advise approximate time you anticipate The King's approval will be given.

1087.

Le consul général d'Allemagne au sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures German Consul General to Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs

Ottawa, September 9, 1939

Sir,

I have the honour to draw the attention of the Canadian Government to an A.P.-dispatch from Budapest published e.g. in the Montreal "Gazette" of September 9th and stating that an appeal over the radio has been launched to the Polish population urging

"Polish civilians to defend their villages against German Hordes with bare hands if necessary. All men, women and children"—so this appeal goes on—"must take up arms against the invaders. The population of villages must be prepared to defend themselves against the invaders behind barricades."

Taking into consideration the possible consequences of this or similar appeals, I beg to draw attention to the established rules of international law and the laws of war, setting forth the conditions under which irregular forces may expect to be treated as legally fighting bodies, and failing which, according to the laws of war as set forth by L. Oppenheim, "International Law Vol. II War and Neutrality, London 1921 § 80, p. 106", they are "liable to be shot".