

of intent and understanding signed on 13th December, 1921, by the plenipotentiaries of the four Powers signatories of the treaty of the 13th December, 1921, as follows:—

“1. That the Four-Power Treaty relating to Pacific possessions shall apply to the mandated islands in the Pacific Ocean, provided, however, that the making of the treaty shall not be deemed to be an assent on the part of the United States of America to the mandates and shall not preclude agreements between the United States of America and the Mandatory Powers respectively in relation to the mandated islands.

“2. That the controversies to which the second paragraph of Article 1 of the Four-Power Treaty relating to Pacific possessions refers shall not be taken to embrace questions which according to principles of international law lie exclusively within the domestic jurisdiction of the respective Powers.”

The instruments of ratification produced, having been found upon examination to be in due form, are entrusted to the Government of the United States of America, to be deposited in the archives of the Department of State.

In witness whereof, the present *procès-verbal*, of which a certified copy will be sent by the Government of the United States of America to each one of the Powers signatory to the said treaty, is signed:

Done at Washington, the 17th August, 1923, at 12 o'clock.

For the United States of America:

CHARLES EVANS HUGHES. (L.S.)

For the British Empire:

H. G. CHILTON. (L.S.)

For France:

ANDRE de LABOULAYE. (L.S.)

For Japan:

M. HANIHARA. (L.S.)

IDENTIC COMMUNICATION MADE TO THE NETHERLANDS (FEBRUARY 4, 1922) AND PORTUGUESE (FEBRUARY 6, 1922) GOVERNMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE, AND ALSO “MUTATIS MUTANDIS” ON BEHALF OF THE OTHER POWERS SIGNATORY TO THE QUADRUPLE PACIFIC TREATY OF DECEMBER 13, 1921.

THE British Empire has concluded on the 13th December, 1921, with the United States of America, France and Japan a Treaty with a view to the preservation of general peace and the maintenance of their rights to their insular possessions and insular dominions in the region of the Pacific Ocean. They have agreed thereby as between themselves to respect their rights in relation to these possessions and dominions.

The Netherlands not being signatory to the said Treaty, and the Netherlands possessions in the region of the Pacific Ocean therefore not being included in the agreement referred to, His Britannic Majesty's Government, anxious to forestall any conclusion contrary to the spirit of the Treaty, desires to declare that it is firmly resolved to respect the rights of the Netherlands in relation to her insular possessions in the region of the Pacific Ocean.