NEUTRALITY. DUTIES OF NEUTRALS.

LIMITATION OF ARMAMENTS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: October 4, 1940.

SUBJECT: Aircraft Shipments to Thailand.

PARTICIPANTS: The Thai Minister, Mom Rajawongse Seni Pramoj;
Mr. Hamilton.

FILE TO:

FPO 1—1493

In the course of a conversation (separately recorded) with the Thai Minister on the subject of probable cancellation of licenses for the export to Thailand of arms, Mr. Hamilton made reference to the policy which the Government of the United States has long followed in restriction of export of aircraft and processes and materials essential in the manufacture of aircraft to countries the armed forces of which are engaged in the bombing of civilian populations. Mr. Hamilton displayed and commented upon an Associated Press despatch from Rome printed in the Washington Evening Star (attached hereto) of the previous day (October 3) referring to a report of Japanese preparations

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preparations to attack Singapore and to increasing Japanese pressure upon Thailand for Japanese-Thai cooperation. In deploring such news reports, Mr. Hamilton made clear that when there occur developments such as these the American Government must take full account of them in making its decisions with regard to control of export of arms, including aircraft.

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