

## BOLIVIA

### REPRESENTATIONS TO BOLIVIA AGAINST THE IMPOSITION OF A TAX UPON DIPLOMATIC TELEGRAMS

824.733/4 : Telegram

*The Chargé in Bolivia (Trueblood) to the Secretary of State*

LA PAZ, April 15, 1931—11 a. m.

[Received 11:50 a. m.]

33. Manager of the All America Cables notified the Legation yesterday that beginning today he would be required by the Government to collect the taxes prescribed by the law of February 14th, 1929, on all cables except press and Bolivian official. Tax on Legation's cables to the Department will amount to 20 centavos per word plus 50 centavos message. Will protest to Foreign Office on grounds international comity subject to the Department's approval.

TRUEBLOOD

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824.733/4 : Telegram

*The Secretary of State to the Chargé in Bolivia (Trueblood)*

WASHINGTON, April 23, 1931—11 a. m.

15. Your 33, April 15. Department approves of your protest on ground of international comity in so far as Legation's telegrams are concerned.

With respect to taxes on consular telegrams mention may be made of Article XXXIII of the Treaty of 1858.<sup>1</sup>

If exemption is granted to diplomatic or other agents of any country under provisions of a treaty or otherwise you should insist upon like treatment under Article XXX of the same treaty.

STIMSON

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824.733/6

*The Minister in Bolivia (Feely) to the Secretary of State*

No. 192

LA PAZ, July 27, 1931.

[Received August 12.]

SIR: I have the honor to refer to this Legation's telegram No. 33, dated April 15, 1931, informing the Department of the statement of

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<sup>1</sup> Malloy, *Treaties*, 1776-1909, vol. I, pp. 113, 123.

the local manager of the All America Cables, Incorporated, that he would be required by the Bolivian Government to collect the taxes prescribed by the Law of February 14, 1929, on all cables except press despatches and official messages of the Bolivian Government, and to the Department's telegram No. 15 of April 23, 1931, approving the protest of the Legation against the requirement that such taxes should be paid by this mission.

The Director of Protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in a note to the Legation dated July 24, 1931,<sup>2</sup> transmitted a legalized copy of a Supreme Decree issued by the President of the Republic on July 7, 1931, whereby all diplomatic representatives accredited to Bolivia are exempted from the payment of this tax, as well as consular officers to whom exemption from the payment of such taxes has been granted by treaties in effect. A copy of this decree, together with an English translation thereof, is enclosed herewith.<sup>2</sup> It is believed that the matter may now be considered closed.

Respectfully yours,

EDWARD F. FEELY

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<sup>2</sup> Not printed.