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SECRET.

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W.M. (39)

81st Conclusions.

TO BE KEPT UNDER LOCK AND KEY.

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WAR CABINET 81 (39).

CONCLUSIONS of a Meeting of the War Cabinet held at 10 Downing Street, S.W. 1, on Monday, November 13, 1939, at 11.30 A.M.

The Netherlands.
The grant of asylum to Queen Wilhelmina, the Government and the ex-Kaiser in the event of a German invasion.

7. *The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs* drew attention to telegram No. 197, dated the 11th November, 1939, from His Majesty's Minister, The Hague, asking whether, in the event of German invasion of the Netherlands, we should be prepared to grant asylum in this country to Queen Wilhelmina and her family and to the Netherland Government. No approach had been made to him on this question, but he was anxious to be able to give an immediate answer if the question were asked.

The War Cabinet agreed—

That the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs should inform His Majesty's Minister, The Hague—

- (a) that, if the question were put to him officially, he was authorised to state that His Majesty's Government were prepared to grant asylum in this country to Queen Wilhelmina and her family and to the Netherland Government;
- (b) that, as regards the ex-Kaiser, we should greatly prefer that arrangements should be made for him to find asylum in Sweden, but that, if this were to prove impracticable, we should in the last resort be prepared to receive him and members of his family in this country.