

Shipping: Athenia 1461/22/39

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON
November 8, 1939

Excellency:

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I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Embassy's note no. 461 of October 30, 1939, in which, having reference to a recent press statement in this country featuring an affidavit by Gustav A. Anderson filed with the Department in connection with the sinking of the S.S. Athenia, you state that "the 'Athenia' was not sunk by contact with a British mine, by a British submarine, by gunfire from one of His Majesty's ships or by internal explosion; according to the evidence in the possession of His Majesty's Government she was sunk by a submarine".

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

For the Secretary of State:

His Excellency

The Right Honorable

The Marquess of Lothian, C.H.,

British Ambassador.

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