

TRANSLATION\*

SUBLIME PORTE

December 15, 1915

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
No. 75271/295.  
Note Verbale.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note verbale of the Embassy of the United States of American dated the ninth instant, No. 975.

In reply, this Imperial Department cannot help expressing its astonishment, as well as its regrets, that a common law crime which is reported to have been committed in the vicinity of Ourfa by several Ottoman subjects against the persons and property of other Ottoman subjects, should have formed the subject of a note verbale from the Embassy of the Republic.

The Embassy of the Republic will certainly agree, in its enlightened appreciation, that the Imperial Ministry cannot favorably receive nor take any action with respect to claims of this nature, which have to do with respect to claims of this nature, which have to do with domestic affairs of the Empire, and of which the settlement, in conformity with the laws of the country, is of the exclusive competence of the Imperial authorities.

To the Embassy of the United States of America

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\* Source: LC/HM(Sr.)/Reel 7/778