

## Sec. 3—Legislative, Diplomatic, and Law Enforcement Duties of the President

proval by the President and therefore impliedly beyond those provisions of the act authorizing judicial review of board orders. Elaborating on the necessity of judicial abstinence in the conduct of foreign relations, Justice Jackson declared for the Court: “The President, both as Commander in Chief and as the Nation’s organ for foreign affairs, has available intelligence services whose reports are not and ought not be published to the world. It would be intolerable that courts, without the relevant information, should review and perhaps nullify actions of the Executive taken on information properly held secret. Nor can courts sit *in camera* in order to be taken into executive confidences. But even if courts could require full disclosure, the very nature of executive decisions as to foreign policy is political, not judicial. Such decisions are wholly confided by our Constitution on the political departments of the government, Executive and Legislative. They are delicate, complex, and involve large elements of prophecy. They are and should be undertaken only by those directly responsible to the people whose welfare they advance or imperil. They are decisions of a kind for which the Judiciary has neither aptitude, facilities nor responsibility and which has long been held to belong in the domain of political power not subject to judicial intrusion or inquiry.”<sup>682</sup>

To the same effect are the Court’s holding and opinion in *Ludecke v. Watkins*,<sup>683</sup> where the question at issue was the power of the President to order the deportation under the Alien Enemy Act of 1798 of

<sup>682</sup> 333 U.S. at 111. See also *Oetjen v. Central Leather Co.*, 246 U.S. 297 (1918); *Ricaud v. American Metal Co.*, 246 U.S. 304 (1918). Analogous to and arising out of the same considerations as the political question doctrine is the “act of state” doctrine under which United States courts will not examine the validity of the public acts of foreign governments done within their own territory, typically, but not always, in disputes arising out of nationalizations. *E.g.*, *Underhill v. Hernandez*, 168 U.S. 250 (1897); *Banco Nacional de Cuba v. Sabbatino*, 376 U.S. 398 (1964); *First National City Bank v. Banco Nacional de Cuba*, 406 U.S. 759 (1972); *Alfred Dunhill of London, Inc. v. Republic of Cuba*, 425 U.S. 682 (1976). For succinct analysis of this amorphous doctrine, see Restatement, Foreign Relations, §§ 443–44. Congress has limited the reach of the doctrine in foreign expropriation cases by the Hickenlooper Amendments. 22 U.S.C. § 2370(e)(2). Consider, also, *Dames & Moore v. Regan*, 453 U.S. 654 (1981). Similar, also, is the doctrine of sovereign immunity of foreign states in United States courts, under which jurisdiction over the foreign state, at least after 1952, turned upon the suggestion of the Department of State as to the applicability of the doctrine. See *Alfred Dunhill of London v. Republic of Cuba*, 425 U.S. at 698–706 (plurality opinion), but see *id.* at 725–28 (Justice Marshall dissenting). For the period prior to 1952, see *Z. & F. Assets Corp. v. Hull*, 311 U.S. 470, 487 (1941). Congress in the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act of 1976, Pub. L. 94–583, 90 Stat. 2891, 28 U.S.C. §§ 1330, 1332(a)(2)(3)(4), 1391(f), 1441(d), 1602–1611, provided for judicial determination of applicability of the doctrine but did adopt the executive position with respect to no applicability for commercial actions of a foreign state. *E.g.*, *Verlinden B. V. v. Central Bank of Nigeria*, 461 U.S. 480 (1983); *Argentine Republic v. Amerasia Shipping Corp.*, 488 U.S. 428 (1989). See Restatement, Foreign Relations, §§ 451–63 (including Introductory Note, pp. 390–396).

<sup>683</sup> 335 U.S. 160 (1948).