

GERMANY AND NAZI

CHAMBERLAIN TELLS GERMANS WAR IS FORCED

Message Broadcast in Their Language Citing Hitler's Broken Word

PEOPLE SACRIFICED

London, Sept. 4 (CP).—A message by Prime Minister Chamberlain to the German people is being broadcast in German every few hours, it was learned tonight, seeking to impress upon them Chancellor Hitler's long record of broken promises.

"Your leader is now sacrificing you, the German people, to the still more monstrous gamble of war to extricate himself from the impossible position into which he has led himself and you," the Prime Minister said.

"In this war we are not fighting against you, the German people, for whom we have no bitter feeling, but against the tyrannous and fore-sworn regime which has betrayed not only its own people, but the whole of western civilization and all that you and we hold dear."

The text follows:

German people, your country and mine are now at war. Your country has bombed and invaded the free and independent State of Poland, which this country is in honor bound to defend. Because your troops were not withdrawn in response to a note of the British Government to the German Government, war has followed.

With the horrors of war we are familiar. God knows that this country has done everything possible to prevent this calamity, but now that the invasion of Poland by Germany has taken place, it has become inevitable.

You are told by your Government that you are fighting because Poland rejected your leader's offer and resorted to force. What are the facts? It is to be recalled the offer was made to the Polish Ambassador at Berlin on Thursday evening, two hours before announcement by your Government that it had been "rejected."

Far from it having been rejected, there had been no time even to consider it. Your Government had previously demanded that a Polish representative should be sent from Poland within twenty-four hours to conclude an agreement. At that time the sixteen points subsequently put forward had not been indicated to the Polish Government.

The Polish Government's representative was expected to arrive within the fixed time to sign an agreement which he had not seen. This is not negotiation. This is dictation. To such methods no self-respecting and powerful State could assent. Negotiations on a free and equal basis might well have settled the matter.

You may ask why Great Britain is concerned. We are concerned because we gave our word of honor to defend Poland against aggression. Why did we feel it necessary to pledge ourselves to defend this

eastern power when our interests lie in the west and when your leader has said he has no interest in the west?

The answer is, and I regret I have to say it, that nobody in this country any longer places any trust in your leader's word. He gave his word he would respect the Locarno treaty. He broke it. He gave his word that he neither wished nor intended to annex Austria. He broke it. He declared he would not incorporate the Czechs in the Reich. He did. So. He gave his word after Munich that he had no further territorial demands in Europe. He broke it.

He gave his word he wanted no Polish Provinces. He broke it. He has sworn to you for years that he was a mortal enemy of bolshevism. He is now its ally. Can you wonder that his word for us is not worth the paper it is written on

The German-Soviet pact was a cynical volte-face designed to shatter the peace front against aggression. This gamble failed. The peace front stands firm. Your leader is now sacrificing you German people to the still more monstrous gamble of war to extricate himself from the impossible position into which he has led himself and you.

In this war we are not fighting against you, the German people, for whom we have no bitter feeling, but against the tyrannous and fore-sworn regime which has betrayed not only its own people but the whole Western civilization and all that you and we hold dear.

May God defend the right!

812-007-015

Handwritten notes:
The
English
1939
A. J. ...