

Churchill Claims Hitler Preparing For Isle Invasion

Hundreds of Barges Said Moved to French Coast Opposite England

Hun Fails Conspicuously to Gain Mastery of Air From R.A.F.

London, Sept. 11.—(CP, Via Radio)—Prime Minister Churchill said to-day Germany is preparing for the invasion of Britain by moving hundreds of self-propelled barges down from northern ports to the French coast opposite English shores.

These craft and troop convoys, the prime minister said, are moving into position under the protection of the big German guns set up on the French coast.

"No one should blind himself to the fact that this German invasion is being planned with all the German craft and method characteristic of them," he declared.

The prime minister described to the Empire Nazi air attacks and differentiated between attacks on military objectives and the "barbarous" assaults upon civilians.

Beaten in Air

"So far, they have failed conspicuously," he said of German attempts to obtain mastery of the air in daylight raids. The Royal Air Force, he said, is stronger than at the start while the Nazi force was

being worn down by Hitler's attempts.

To attempt to invade this country without gaining mastery of the air, he said, would be "a very hazardous undertaking."

Nevertheless Germany is preparing for such an invasion. In addition to the barges and vessels moving toward the English channel under the protection of Nazi batteries on the French shore, there were some preparations being made to carry an invading force from Norwegian harbours, he said.

The next week, he said, "must be regarded as a very important one for us in our history."

He compared the German plan with the attempt of the Spanish armada to invade the British Isles and the later attempt of Napoleon.

"Every man and woman must prepare to do his or her duty, whatever it may be, with special pride and care," he said.

Fleet Powerful

"Our fleet is very powerful. . . . Our shores are well fortified and well manned, and behind these lines we have a better equipped and far stronger army than we have ever had before."

He said Britain could not be sure when an order for invasion would be given, but "it may be launched at any time now on England, Scotland, Ireland, or on all three."

If it is to be tried at all, he said, the invasion must, it seems, come soon because of the weather, and because, too, of the constant bombing of the German vessels by the R.A.F.

Every one of the isles must prepare to do his duty in the face of this invasion, he said. The defence forces have been augmented by the 1,500,000 men of the home guard, who will fight every inch of the way in every street.

The "indiscriminate" bombings of the Nazi air force were part of a plan to cow the British people.

Spirit of England

"Little does he (Hitler) know the spirit of the English people," he declared, people whose ancestors started parliamentary government.

What Hitler has done has been to "kindle a fire in British hearts all

over the world which will last long after the fires he has set in London."

These fires will last until Hitler's government is "burnt out" of Europe.

The world that is still free "marvels" at the spirit of the citizenry of London in the midst of bombing whose severity may not be foreseen.

The spirit of the people of London, he went on, is a fine message to the men on the British ships at sea.

The victory is to be won "not only for our own time, but for the time to come."