Already it is clear that the pilots of the Royal Air Force in 1939 are imbued with the same indomitable spirit as the young men whose gallant deeds between 1914 and 1918 have written an imperishable page in the annals of British heroism. Moreover, the Air Force today has aeroplanes of unrivalled quality. Here we see, high above the clouds, three of its crack machines. Supermarine Spitfires, they can climb to a height of 11,000 feet in 4-6 minutes, and their speed of 362 miles per hour makes them the fastest machines in the world.

R.A.F. Official Photograph, Crown Copyright Reserved
Poland's Stand for Freedom:

Here we tell the story of the brutal invasion of Western and Southern Poland during the second week of the war. It was supported without ruth or scruple by at least 80 per cent of the world's strongest single air force and three-quarters of the Nazi land forces. The Russian invasion on September 17 brought the campaign to an effective close.

Ten days after the opening of the War, practically the whole of Poland lying to the west of Warsaw was in the hands of the Nazi invaders. The Polish Corridor, the western plains, and the "industrial triangle" of Polish Silesia and Cracow had all been overrun, and in the south the German divisions were pressing on towards Lwow with a view to seizing the oilfield on the Carpathian slopes and cutting Poland's communications with Rumania. To the west of Warsaw, however, there still existed a considerable salient held by the Polish army entrusted with the defence of the capital.

According to all reports, the German general staff had expected that the advance to the gates of Warsaw would take four weeks. That their progress was far more rapid is due in the first place to the fine weather, and secondly to the German army's mechanized forces. Along the roads and lanes and even across the open country the armoured cars and tanks were able to make quite good going. The retreating defenders were given no rest. Harried out of one line of defence, they were pursued and often outflanked before they had time to consolidate themselves in fresh positions.

Furthermore, the German High Command flung against the Poles practically the whole weight of their air force. At first they made a pretence of not bombing open towns but only places of military importance, such as entrenchments, munition dumps, railway stations, and the like. As the struggle increased in intensity, however, and the Poles, while retreating, refused to surrender, the German airmen did not hesitate to drop their bombs on places which were not militarily defended. In a communiqué issued by the Polish Embassy in London, it was announced that even at the very commencement of the war, Warsaw, Bialystok, Bydgoszcz, Czestochowa, Gdynia, Grudziadz, Poznan, Tomaszow, Torun, Wilno, and many other open towns had all been bombed by the German air force, and that on September 11 the Germans began the methodical bombing of open towns far removed from the battle zone, employing this barbarous...
Her Fight for Existence Against Fearful Odds

method of warfare with a view to paralysing the very life of the country.

Nevertheless, the Polish army, though it was in retreat, was still intact and as yet not demoralized. Again and again the Poles turned upon the invaders and drove them back despite the heavy shelling and bombing that they were compelled to endure with little chance of making any effective reply. It was well understood that the Polish High Command had long realized that it would be impossible to make any really effective stand against a German army equipped with all the very latest machinery of warfare in the open plains of Western Poland. All that they could hope to do would be to withdraw their forces as slowly and in as orderly a fashion as possible to lines already prepared beyond the Vistula. This they succeeded in doing, though with heavy loss and some disorganization. And however necessary the retreat may have appeared to those in charge of Poland's destiny, the Polish population were

stunned by the rapidity and extent of the disaster which had come upon them. As the invaders clattered through their towns and villages they retired to their houses, bolting the doors and shuttering the windows. With hate burning in their eyes they watched them pass, and they cursed them with the heaviest curses known to their vocabulary. Small wonder that some snatched up their ancient guns from the chimney-corner and as franc-tireurs played their part against the merciless aggressor who was sweeping through their country with fire and sword.

Back, then, went the Poles, resisting still with dogged bravery, but wellnigh overwhelmed by the weight of men and armament ranged against them. Arrived on the traditional line of defence on the country's great rivers, the defending army rallied and dug itself in. Attacks by the Germans were fiercely repulsed, and, moreover, the Polish forces in the salient before Warsaw were reported to have escaped from the German pincers and rejoined the main army on the Vistula.

For a day or two the situation seemed to have taken a definite turn for the better. Warsaw breathed again as the Nazi troops who had penetrated to the suburbs were ejected and pushed back several miles. But held as they were before the capital, the Germans developed
a further thrust from the north-east which very shortly carried their outposts across the river Bug. Surrounded already on three sides, Warsaw was now threatened from the east, and such was the weight of the Nazi numbers, such the quantity of their mechanized forces, such the preponderance of their airmen, that the Polish line along the Vistula and the Bug began to give way. Then it was that the Polish front disintegrated. The orderly retreat became a rout. The line of battle developed into a confused medley of raids and skirmishes as the German motorized columns pushed far ahead of their infantry and penetrated to near Brzez Litewski (Brest Litovsk), Przemyśl, and Lwow (Lemberg).

Mown down by the fire of the tanks, machine-gunned from the air, even the smallest concentration of Polish troops was spotted by the Nazi planes and blown to pieces or dispersed. The Poles resisted with fierce courage, but their tanks and artillery were all out of action, their aerodromes bombed into nothingness, their aeroplanes shot down or immobilized for want of petrol. Wireless communication, too, had broken down, with the result that the Polish High Command was out of touch with much of the battle-front. Time after time it moved its location, only to be mercilessly chassed and bombed afresh.

So the struggle developed until a fortnight after the war began Poland was practically overrun by the enemy, Warsaw was on the verge of surrender to escape the bombardment with which it was threatened, and the frontier with Rumania was practically closed by the German flying columns. This was the moment chosen by Soviet Russia to order her troops to cross the frontier and take what was left of the Polish armies in the rear.

On the morning of Sunday, September 17, the vanguard of the "Workers' and Peasants' Red Army" invaded Poland at a number of points between Latvia and Rumania. Local forces of Poles tried to stem their onset, but the invaders were in such overwhelming numbers that at midnight the first Soviet communiqué announced that the Russian army had advanced more than 30 miles into Poland and had occupied, with but little fighting, a number of towns. This stab in the back completely put the finishing touches to Poland's military collapse.
Marshal Smigly Rydz—Poland’s Leader

If anything should happen to me,” told President Moscicki, “Rydz will replace me in the army.” A year later, Pilsudski was dead, and within a few hours of his passing the President appointed General Smigly Rydz Inspector-General, in other words, the Commander-in-Chief of the Polish army. That was on May 12, 1935, and the four years which have since elapsed did much to strengthen still further the ties binding the Marshal and the people whom he leads.

Edward Rydz was born at Brzezany in south-east Poland in 1886, and in his youth he was an art student at Cracow; in that city’s art gallery hangs a picture of our Houses of Parliament which he painted from the Embankment. Ere long, however, he was drawn into politics, and became an ardent disciple of Joseph Pilsudski. He was one of the first to join Pilsudski’s semi-military organization, and during the Great War he played a distinguished part as an officer in the Polish legion. A colonel in 1916, in the following year he was appointed by Pilsudski to command the army which was being formed in secret ready for the day when Poland would be able to strike a blow for her own independence. When Pilsudski was imprisoned Rydz carried on, and after the Armistice, when Poland was in a state of indescribable chaos as a result of the withdrawal of the alien armies which for years had been battling on her soil, it was entirely due to Rydz and his Polish military organization that order was re-established and the foreign invaders were repatriated. When, on November 10, 1918, Pilsudski returned in triumph to Warsaw, his first act was to make Rydz a general.

Defeating the Bolsheviks

In 1919 General Rydz lead the Polish army which saved the independence of Latvia and freed Wilno from the Russians. During the war with the Soviets General Rydz commanded the Polish army which swept through the Ukraine and captured Kiev, and when, in 1920, the tide turned and the Russians invaded Poland, it was Rydz who defeated the attack of Budenny’s cavalry at Lwow. In August of that fateful year, when the Russians were at the very gates of Warsaw and it seemed as if Europe were about to be submerged beneath a wave of Bolshevism, it was Rydz who led the centre of the Polish army to complete victory. In the last battle of the war, fought on the Niemen shortly afterwards, Smigly Rydz was again the commander of the triumphant Poles.

After the war with Russia Rydz cooperated whole-heartedly with Pilsudski in the rebuilding of the Polish state, and on the Marshal’s death he was appointed a marshal and designated the first person in Poland next to the President. His position as head of the army—that army to which Poland’s independence is due and by which it has always been maintained—makes him in effect the leader of his country.

Trust in the Army

His belief in the necessity for a strong army is grounded in a study of his country’s history as well as in the grim experience of today. “Poland’s pathway has not been strewed with roses,” he said once. “Although we honestly desire to live with the whole world in peace and concord, we remember the bitter past which proved that the fate of nations is decided by war... In order to be able to devote oneself to art and learning, to cultivate civic and social virtues, to spend the Christmas holiday in pious repose, to muse how to build best our State and apply the wisest means towards that end—a strong and valiant army is necessary.”

“In his company,” said Pilsudski once of Smigly Rydz, “I always felt the atmosphere of calm and security.” Never had the Poles people so needed a man of this character as in those early days of September 1939, when Poland was submerged by the full tide of Nazi aggression.
JUST as the Nazi attack on Poland was launched, Herr Hitler declared that he had given orders that his air force should restrict itself to attacks on military objectives. The war was not many hours old, however, before many a Polish city was being subjected to a hail of bomb and shell, and little more than a week had passed when the German High Command blandly stated that, with a view to crushing the obstinate civilian resistance, open towns and villages would henceforth be bombarded without further scruples. Thus, on land as on sea, there was launched by the Nazis a campaign of unrestricted "frightfulness" which rivalled in all its horror the worst features of the Great War that ended in 1918. In one respect, indeed, the present struggle is far worse for indiscriminate air bombing such as has been used in Poland has brought the whole civilian populace into the front line.

Among the buildings in Warsaw reported damaged by Nazi bombs was Belweder, the former residence of Marshal Pilsudski.

Time and again Warsaw has been bombed by Nazi raiders. Above is the damage done by one German bomb in the heart of the city. While some of the citizens were engaged in clearing away the debris others marched to the outskirts to dig trenches. (top, bottom right.)

Photos: Sport and General, Associated Press and Planet News.
Though the Polish army was not so fully mechanized as the German, it had tanks and armoured cars of first-class workmanship which were handled by the soldiers with the greatest skill and daring. Above, a number of armoured cars are seen passing through the outskirts of Warsaw on their way to meet the enemy. Such little machines are valuable for reconnaissance work and in establishing contacts.

Photo: Planet News
Young Britain Puts on Khaki

Wartime troops have come to a halt in a street in the City of London, watched with admiration and perhaps envy by those who are still in "civvies."

Somewhere in England Miss Frances Day gave a much appreciated entertainment to the troops, and then witnessed an entirely unmilitary "march past" of fatigue parties.

The young soldiers of 1939, like those of 1914-18, show their cheerful spirit in community singing. These lads, on a route march, have plenty of breath left for a sing-song.

The soldiers of the 1939 Army want to be smart, but the proper adjustment of their equipment requires some skill. Above, left, a new recruit is being shown just how it should all be done. There are peaceful hours even in wartime and, right, a member of an anti-aircraft battery in Kent takes "forty winks" and forgets Hitler.

Photos: Central Press, Keystone, Platt's News and Fox
Men from an anti-aircraft battery somewhere in Kent are blackberrying on a neighbouring common, and find the early rain and late sun have provided an excellent crop.

Top, an anti-aircraft searchlight in London illuminating the sky. In that immediately above a camouflaged anti-aircraft gun, also "somewhere in London," is seen.

London is ringed by anti-aircraft batteries manned in many cases by young Territorials who have learnt in their spare time to serve their country in war. In the photograph centre right signallers of an anti-aircraft battery are operating a telephone at night. In daytime, as the photograph immediately above shows, a football makes the young troops happy.
Nazi Submarines Engage in Ocean-Wide Piracy

Urged on by the necessity of striking as heavy a blow as possible at Britain's merchant fleet before the defensive tactics could be developed, the German naval authorities sent out to all seas every possible submarine about a month before the actual opening of hostilities. Germany started rebuilding her notorious U-boats in 1935, and up to April last, when the Anglo-German Naval Agreement was denounced by Hitler, 71 submarines were built or under construction. Since then 28 more are understood to have been begun, and no doubt the German naval yards are busy with further boats. Further examples of U-boat piracy with eyewitness stories appear in our "I Was There" section, pages 85-87.

Here we see the chief officer of the Goodwood, who was injured when the ship was torpedoed, being wheeled from hospital. The heroic behaviour of captain, officers and crew of this victim of the U-boats fully upheld the finest traditions of the sea.

Photo, Associated Press
Some Victims of the Early U-Boat Campaign

Such U-boats as those seen above are making what was Germany's last desperate bid for victory in 1917, but is their first bid now.

One of the early tragic results was the sinking of the trader 'Olivegrove' 200 miles off the coast of Spain. The crew were ordered by the submarine's commander to take to their boats, and were towed until the American liner 'Washington' was sighted, when they were cast off and the submarine submerged (see page 87). Centre, right, one of the 'Olivegrove's' boats is coming alongside the 'Washington.' Centre, left, Captain James Barstow of the 'Olivegrove' is seen on board the 'Washington.' Bottom, survivors of the 'Maiden,' several of them injured, are being landed from a lifeboat. A personal narrative of the sinking of the ship is in page 88.
Gamelin’s Hammer Blow at Nazi Western Forts

Propriety shrouded, for military reasons, in obscurity though they were, enough was disclosed of the French military operations in the first weeks of war to realize that the attack on the Nazi lines of defence was being pushed ahead, and that from the outset Germany had been invaded and a definite threat was being developed against her famous Siegfried Line.

For some days after France and Britain declared war on Germany there was no news of fighting on the Western Front. In Poland the Nazi forces were rapidly making progress towards Warsaw, but where France and Germany meet it seemed that the great garrisons of the Maginot and Siegfried Lines rested immobile, watching and waiting for the first move from either side. Not a gun was fired, not a bomb was dropped; it was, indeed, “All quiet on the Western front.”

When the French issued their first war communiqué on September 4, it merely stated that operations had begun by “the whole land, sea and air forces,” and, later on the same night, it was added that contacts had been progressively made on the front and that aerial forces were proceeding with the necessary reconnaissances. The communiqués issued in the days that followed were couched in similarly laconic terms, and conveyed little information beyond the fact that the French forces were engaged in occupying the territory which lies between the Maginot and Siegfried Lines.

This “No man’s land” is very different from that which was so described in the Great War of 1914–1918. Instead of vast expanses of shell-pocked waste, where towns and villages, roads and streams, had been all obliterated and merged into one foul and evil-smelling whole, there is a picturesque countryside, hilly and well-wooded, dotted with villages and with numerous signs of industrial activity.

Through this difficult country—difficult in the military sense—the French now gingerly proceeded. There was nothing in the nature of a break through, for there were no fortified lines to break through. Rather it was a question of “mopping up”—destroying machine-gun nests and flattening acres of barbed wire with these massive tanks of which the French army is so justly proud; of battering the concrete posts with heavy gun fire, of discovering and rendering harmless the numerous tank traps with which the whole district was strewn.

Probably the number of troops engaged in these preliminary operations was quite small. Unlike the Great War, which opened as a war of movement and then, after a few months, developed into a war between huge armies occupying heavily fortified positions, the war of 1939 opened between armies already entrenched behind the most massive fortifications that the skill of military engineers could devise and the labour of hundreds of thousands of workpeople could bring into being.

Some ten days or a fortnight after the campaign began it was possible to get some understanding of the method of operation, and of the results

In the upper photograph men of an anti-aircraft battery are practising loading before moving up to the Maginot Line. The other picture shows huge tanks similar to those that constitute the formidable spearhead of the French attack.
In the Maginot Line—France’s Base of Attack

achieved. Along the whole 90 miles’ front between the Moselle and the Rhine the French had carried the war into the enemy’s country. The “No man’s land” between the Maginot and Siegfried Lines had been practically cleared by the French mopping-up parties, and the invaders were now in contact with the advanced field works of the main German fortifications. So successful had been the operations isolated, and there were reports to the effect that the civilian population had been evacuated. The Warndt Forest to the west of the town had been cleared of German machine-gunnery, and far behind the enemy lines road junctions and railways had been heavily bombed from the air and shelled by the great guns in the Maginot emplacements. In the air operations, though not as yet in those conducted on the ground, units of the British Expeditionary Force were already playing a conspicuous part.

The brunt of the attack seems to have fallen, however, on the French tanks—huge armoured fortresses weighing 70 tons apiece, and whose armament includes one of the famous 75 mm. guns slung below the tractors. On September 14 observers in Luxemburg watched eight of these tanks making their way towards the German lines. As they advanced the German outposts were compelled to withdraw, and engineers blew up the railway line in their efforts to stem the advance of the monstrous engines of war.

The roar of battle could be heard in the streets of the city of Luxemburg, many miles away, and it was obvious that the struggle, hitherto a matter of outposts, of long-range artillery fire, of bombing raids, was developing an unprecedented intensity.
The Great Siegfried Line is Threatened

Top right, an anti-aircraft gun is being camouflaged. Centre, the framework of steel reinforcement for a concrete strong-point.

Although for more than a year some hundreds of thousands of engineers and workmen had been engaged on the construction of the Siegfried Line, Germany's western wall of defence was far from completed when war broke out. The work was pushed on with all speed, but it is hardly surprising that there were reports of criticisms by German soldiers who were stationed in the Line. According to these statements received through neutral sources, the ventilation was so bad that the air in the dug-outs was foul, and the more heavily protected dug-outs were not yet habitable—in some cases only the foundations had been laid.

Furthermore, those dug-outs which had been completed were crammed with munitions, and the garrison were in consequence exposed in open trenches to the terrible bombardment of the French artillery and aircraft. Food supply difficulties were also experienced. Semi-official French sources stated that the first heavy bombardments showed that the concrete of the fortifications was inferior.
It was an official German commentator who said that "it would be a mistake to think that the German army has an easy task in Poland. This war is not a 'walkover.' The German army has to meet a brave and resolute enemy." Since that statement was issued, the German war machine has overwhelmed the Polish armies in the field and has captured practically every important centre of resistance. Nevertheless, the Nazi tribute to the quality of the Polish troops is unaffected by the outcome of the battle.

In the top photograph Polish troops are moving forward to take up positions in advance trenches in front of Warsaw on September 12. Middle right, Polish tanks are moving forward preparatory to taking part in an attack on the enemy lines. In the photograph immediately above, Polish infantry are having some last-minute practice with gas masks before going into action.

Photos, Planet News and Wide World
Nazi Terrorism in Poland Knew No Mercy or Limits
Hitler's Plighted Word Broken Yet Again

This remarkable photograph brings home forcibly the sufferings of the Polish people and the callous cruelty of the invaders. A German staff car and some dispatch riders are halted in a Polish village while an officer observes the effect of incendiary bombs and shells. This happened before Hitler, maddened by the Polish resistance, ordered the ruthless bombing of open towns and villages. Thus, though he had promised at this time to refrain from making war on civilians, he had actually already perjured himself once more.

Photo, Associated Press
Murder Most Foul from the Air

In earlier pages (24 and 60) there appear clear and ample statements and examples of Hitler's declared policy of the grand lie—"the bigger the lie the greater its value." Here is presented the most heinous of all his broken words. Other photographs appear opposite.

"...will not war against women and children," said Herr Hitler in his speech to the Reichstag meeting in Berlin just as his legions were thrusting their way across the Polish frontier. "I have ordered my air force to restrict itself to attacks on military objectives."

Such was the Fuhrer's declaration—a declaration which was paralleled by his reply to President Roosevelt's appeal not to bomb civilian populations and unfortified cities in which he stated that he "agreed unconditionally to the proposal." The sentiment was irrefutable, but, alas, it was belied by the event.

A statement issued by the Polish Embassy in London on September 13 gave a list of towns which, even before Britain and France declared war on Germany, had been bombed by German aeroplanes—a list which included not only Warsaw, but all the principal centres of Polish industrial life.

"Since September 3," the statement went on, "scores of Polish towns and even villages have been raided by German bombers. Warsaw was raided repeatedly every day, and even residential quarters and working-class districts suffered grievously from deliberate bombing. The casualties among the civilians, especially among women and children between September 1 and September 3, amounted, according to official figures, to over 1,500 killed and many thousands wounded. Furthermore," the statement went on, "during the last two days the Germans began the methodical bombing of open towns far removed from the battle zone.

If the Polish Ambassador be regarded as a prejudiced witness, the same cannot be said of the United States Ambassador in Poland, who, in a telegram to the Department of State in Washington, gave a vivid picture of the bombing by Nazi airmen of the small town in which he and other members of the diplomatic corps in Warsaw had taken refuge.

"This place, a defenceless open village, was bombed at 11 a.m. today by a flight of four German planes, which dropped at least 12 bombs, not only on the outskirts but also along the main street 300 yards from this Embassy."

In a further telegram, Mr. Biddle declared that:

"In my opinion, the German forces are taking advantage of every opportunity without regard to the danger to the civilian population which may be involved. It is also evident that the German bombers are releasing the bombs which they carry even when in doubt as to the identity of their objectives."

He referred to the bombing of a clearly marked hospital train in Warsaw station, and the wiping out of a detachment of twelve Girl Guides in their hut.

Among the other instances cited by the Ambassador were:

"attacks on my villa and that of my neighbour; a heavy attack on modern apartment buildings in the suburbs of Warsaw situated one kilometre from military barracks; the destruction of a sanatorium involving the death of ten children in woods near Otwock, and the bombing of a refugee train on the way from Kutno."

In the face of such indubitable proofs of the most flagrant violation of Herr Hitler's professed concern that his 'planes should spare women and children, the world learnt with a shrug of pardonable cynicism that the German High Command had announced that open towns, villages and hamlets were henceforth to be bombed and shelled, in order to break what they called the obstinate resistance of the civilian population. The excuse given by the German official news agency was that women, old men and children were erecting traps and organizing a guerilla warfare against Nazi troops.

Lord Halifax, Britain's Foreign Secretary, was not slow in replying to this further chapter in Nazi Germany's campaign of frightfulness. If the statement were true, he declared in the House of Lords, that the German High Command were intending to throw off all restraint in their air bombing, then:

"It would seem to be in direct contradiction to the statement of purpose expressed by the German Chancellor in his Reichstag speech, when he declined any desire to make war on women and children... Whatever may be the rights of belligerent armies as against franc-tireurs, there can be no sort of justification for what must be indiscriminate bombardment, whether from the sea or air, of the civilian population. The British Government must hold themselves completely free if such restraint is not in fact observed to take such action as they may deem appropriate."

Hitler himself is the grand franc-tireur.
This is the Way Nazis Made War

In the light of photographs such as these, what becomes of Herr Hitler's declaration to the Reichstag on September 1, that he would not wage war against women and children? All the accounts from the scene of battle in Poland are agreed in stating that from the outset the Nazi airmen paid small regard to the safety of the civilian population; and after the first few days of war even the mask of humanitarianism was thrown aside, and the air terror was developed with a view to crushing the Polish resistance. Far behind the battle zone, towns and villages were bombed by the raiding 'planes; crowds doing their Saturday shopping in the market-places of peaceful villages were machine-gunned from the air; and on the great towns—Warsaw in particular—were dropped many tons of bombs. According to Polish broadcasts, 400 bombs were dropped on Vilna alone in one day and a total of 20,000 civilian deaths was estimated up to September 17.

Above, a woman suffering from shock is being helped away. Right, a badly-injured civilian is receiving first-aid. All through the days of intensive bombing from the air the people of Warsaw showed remarkable courage in working in the open among the injured.

Photos, Planet News

In this page we give incontestable evidence that the civilian population of Warsaw was unmercifully bombed from the air. Above, working-class dwellings are on fire as a result of the dropping of incendiary bombs. The photographer who took the pictures was wounded while doing so. He said that the German bombing 'planes passed over the city with systematic regularity in their work of destruction.
THE EMPIRE’S HELP IN FIGHTING HITLER

When Britain is at war the British Commonwealth is at war, too. taken up the challenge thrown down by the Nazi aggressors when member after member of the great family of nations of which she is the head hastened to offer her their unstinted support in men, money, and materials.

Ox the very day, September 3, 1939, that Britain declared war on Germany, Mr. R. G. Menzies, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia, in a broadcast to the Australian people declared that “there is unity in the Empire ranks—one King, one flag, one cause. We stand with Britain.”

On the same day New Zealand hastened to make it plain that she, too, stood shoulder to shoulder with Britain and her fellow Dominions. New Zealand’s fullest co-operation was promised by Mr. Fraser, acting Prime Minister, in a broadcast to the nation, and it was stated that the British Government had been informed that New Zealand concurred entirely with her determination to honour her pledged word. A week later the decision was announced to raise a special military force to serve within or beyond New Zealand.

Canada, too, was quick in making it plain where she stood. Mr. Mackenzie King, the Prime Minister, in a broadcast speech to the nation on the first Sunday evening of the war, referred to the King’s broadcast from London, in which he had appealed to all to make this their own fight to destroy once for all the doctrine that might be right. “Canada,” said Mr. Mackenzie King, “has already answered that call.” He went on to say that the Canadian parliament was to be called immediately, and that war measures were to be put in operation. “There is no home in Canada,” he added, “and no man, woman or child whose life is not bound up with this struggle.” On September 10 a state of war between the German Reich and His Majesty’s Dominion of Canada was declared to exist. In his speech in the House Mr. Mackenzie King said that Canada’s liberties came from “those men in England and France who never hesitated to lay down their lives when their freedom was threatened.”

Measures of economic, naval and air co-operation were immediately instituted, and, as “down under,” huge sums were voted for war purposes.

In South Africa there was at first an attempt by the Prime Minister, General Hertzog, to adhere to the Union’s neutrality in the struggle, but anti-Hitler, anti-Nazi opinion in his cabinet, as in Parliament and amongst the South African people as a whole, proved too strong. The Prime Minister resigned, and his place was taken by General Smuts, the famous soldier-statesman who had captained South Africa in the last war.

Hardly had Britain from India, too, there came a stream of offers of service. “Nothing could be more significant,” said Lord Linlithgow, the Viceroy, “than the unanimity of approach of all in India—princes, leaders, great political parties, the ordinary man and woman—or of their political contributions, and the offers of personal service which have already reached me from the princes and people of India.”

So from all the British Crown Colonies, the Protectorates, the Mandated Territories, in every corner of the globe, the answer came in no uncertain voice: “Where the Motherland stands, there her children stand beside her.”

THE EMPIRE STANDS TO ARMS!

Australia declared war, Sept. 3rd.
New Zealand went to war, Sept. 3rd.
Men of Newfoundland rushed to enlist, Sept. 4th.
Nepal offered troops, Sept. 4th.
Queens of Tonga put all resources at Britain’s support, Sept. 4th.
Legislative Council of Malta reaffirmed people’s loyalty, Sept. 5th.
State Council of Ceylon declared wholehearted support, Sept. 5th.
Emir of Transjordan telegraphed offering support, Sept. 5th.
Bahamas declared loyalty, Sept. 5th.
Legislative Council of Fiji declared loyalty and devotion, Sept. 5th.
South Africa declared war, Sept. 6th.
Governor of Sind Province, India, sent loyal message, Sept. 6th.
More than 50 princes of India declared loyalty by Sept. 6th.
Canada declared war, Sept. 10th.
Arabs and Jews of Palestine had responded in support of Britain by Sept. 10th.
Message of support from Sultan of Oman, Sheik of Bahrain, etc., by Sept. 10th.
Legislative Council of Tanganyika’s loyal readiness reported, Sept. 10th.
Natives of Nigeria declared loyalty, Sept. 10th.
Legislative Assembly of British Honduras passed loyal resolution, Sept. 11th.
Governor of Northern Rhodesia conveyed loyal messages on behalf of native chiefs, Sept. 11th.
Upper House of Central Legislature of India sent a message of admiration to Poland, Sept. 12th.
Aga Khan placed his services at disposal of Government of India, Sept. 12th.
Trinidad and Montserrat passed resolutions of loyalty, Sept. 12th.
House of Assembly of Barbados passed address of loyalty, Sept. 14th.
Kabaka of Buganda sent through Governor of Uganda loyal message, Sept. 14th.
High Commissioner for Basutoland, Bechuanaland, and Swaziland sent loyal resolution on behalf of Swazi nations, Sept. 6th.

Above is the scene in the Senate Chamber of the Canadian Houses of Parliament on September 7, when both houses met in a special session. Lord Tweedsmiss, the Governor-General, is reading the speech from the Throne asking the house to provide for war expenditure.

Photo, Planet News
How We Bombed the Nazi Ships at Kiel

By now the battleship's crew were all at action stations, and the third pilot, as he said, "some hot stuff." This pilot dropped his bombs and made a half circuit round the battleship. Wheeling he noticed three bursts of A.A. fire at the leader's machine.

By 7.30 p.m. the flight were back at their station.

Another vivid account was given by the officers and crew of aircraft from another squadron which took part in the raids in the Kiel area.

One of the aircraft was hit several times both by shells and bullets, but returned home safely, although two of the petrol tanks were punctured. The remaining two bombers were not hit.

"We set out in fine weather," said the leader of this attack. "We were flying at 2,000 feet, but we soon ran into a belt of cloud and came down to 300 feet. In the thick mist, one pilot became separated from the others, but he took up station again after ten minutes or so.

"We were near the German coast when half a dozen enemy fighters came out to engage us.

"A game of hide and seek in the clouds followed and our craft were successful in eluding their pursuers and left them behind.

"Conditions grew worse and there was heavy rain for an hour. Then the weather improved and my bombers gained height, giving a wide berth to all the islands along the German coast. We observed considerable activity by enemy merchant shipping.

"We made our landfall accurately and flew up the Elbe estuary until we sighted a number of German naval vessels. We were then flying at 6,000 feet under a thin layer of cloud.

"The enemy held his fire until we were almost over our target."
"Then suddenly he opened with every gun he could bring to bear on us; it was terrific, especially the firing from the big ships, which seemed to carry seven anti-aircraft guns on either beam.

"You could watch the tracer shells rising after the flash of the gun in spirals and follow the whole of their course. We made our aircraft as difficult targets as we could by maneouvrin. We then straightened out and dropped our bombs.

"At once we rose up into the clouds with the shells bursting round us and made for home, after an effective smash at the enemy. Our flight all returned home safely."

The leading aircraft was hit by a shell which almost singed the trousers of the wireless operator. Two of the petrol tanks were perforated and several bits of fuselage shot away, but in spite of everything it made its home station safely and landed without incident.

OTHER aircraft taking part in the raid returned independently. Two of them sighted a submarine making for Germany on the surface at high speed as was shown by her wake.

At the sight of the British aeroplanes she dived precipitately. An observer thought she left smoke behind her.

As all the bombs had been dropped on the objectives in Germany, unfortunately not one was left, otherwise she would have been an easy victim. Another bomber passed right over the top of the Heligoland fortifications, but was unmolested either by fighters or anti-aircraft fire.

We Were Victims of the Nazi U-Boats

Having taken up their positions in the High Seas days and weeks before War was declared, the German U-boats were able to sink quite a number of British merchant-vessels before the convoy system could be instituted. What British holidaymakers saw of the sinking of the “Magdapur” is told below, and the account is followed by stories of other sinkings reported in “The Daily Telegraph” and “The Sunday Times.”

When the Liverpool steamship “Magdapur” (8,640 tons) was torpedoed by a German U-boat on Sunday, September 10, thousands of holidaymakers at a British seaside resort saw from the beach the ship go down.

Following a loud explosion which rocked many of the buildings on shore, a column of water shot into the air alongside the steamer. Two hours later she had gone to the bottom. Two ships took off the crew, most of whom were Lascars, and 70 of the survivors were brought ashore by the coast lifeboat. When news of the sinking spread, the local A.R.P. services were mobilized to deal with the injured, who were rushed to the homes of fisherfolk and given clothes and a hot meal.

The survivors were loth to talk about their terrible experience, but one of them said: “There was a terrific explosion amidships and then the boat listed. We were all thrown from our seats. I heard no warning.”

Another victim of the U-boats during the same week was the British tanker “Regent Tiger” (10,176 tons). “It was a terrifying spectacle after the torpedo had struck,” said one of the ship’s officers. “There was an explosion, and flames 1,000 feet high roared into the sky. We were in two ship’s lifeboats about 500 to 400 yards away, but at that distance the fumes were suffocating and the heat unbearable. The tanks of our ship were filled with petrol. As the fire spread the tanks blew up. We have since heard that the tanker is still ablaze and the sea around her.”

The “Inverlifey” was another British submarine—this time in the open sea of the Atlantic. Third Officer Albert Lang had this thrilling story to tell when he landed in England.

“It was about one o’clock in the afternoon,” he said, “when a submarine fired at us. We sent out an S.O.S. and tried to get away, but shells continued to burst all around us.

“We had a crew of forty on board. We lowered the boats as soon as we could. The captain and several of the officers left in the last boat. There were eight of us in this boat, and as we rowed away the submarine fired into the ‘Inverlifey’ amidships. She went up with a roar.

“Flames and smoke went up 500 or 600 feet. We rowed for our lives until we could row no more, and when we thought we were done the commander of the submarine steered his ship alongside and told us we could stand round the conning-tower. We were nearly waist-deep in water.

“The submarine commander said that if any British warships turned up he would have to submerge and leave us. This would have meant that we should have been struggling in the water with no boats near.

“Sooner or later we had all got on to the submarine than it got up speed and took us out of danger.

“The commander, a young man, treated us decently. The submarine cruised away until we got near one of our own lifeboats. Then the captain waved his hand in farewell, submerged his ship, and we swam to the boat.

“Some hours later we were picked up, and afterwards transferred to another vessel.”
THE story of the sinking on September 7 of the "Olivegrove" (Glasgow freighter, 4,060 tons) comes from the lips of Chief-Officer William Watson.

Mr. Wilson, who was torpedoed at the Dardanelles in the last war, said that after the submarine had fired a shot across the "Olivegrove's" bows and signalled to her to abandon ship, the crew of 33 were given 20 minutes to get the lifeboats away.

"Everything was done in a leisurely way," he said, "as if the submarine had a week to do the job.

"The submarine commander hailed our two lifeboats to come alongside, and in perfect English he gave us our course to land. Nevertheless, he kept following us for nearly three hours. Then he came alongside, and, still very courteous, told us: 'There is a vessel coming to your assistance. I thank you.'

"Half an hour later we were taken on board the rescue ship, which was the American liner Washington."

When Mr. Wilson's lifeboat was bobbing in the sea beside the submarine after the ship had been sunk he was able to judge from the "grass"—marine growth—on the plating of the U-boat that she had been away from her home port for about a month—long before war was declared.

He added: "And from what I could see of the crew as they stood round the conning-tower they were all pretty 'jumpy,' dejected and shabbily dressed. The name on their hatbands was so faded that it was unreadable."

Cathal Maclean, an 18-year-old member of the crew, said:

"The commander—he seemed to be a man under 30, and, like the rest of the crew, had a long board—told us to set a course for the north and we would be picked up by a liner. Later he fired a rocket to the "Washington" notifying her of our position."

WHEN the captain and 31 members of the crew and the solitary passenger of the Cunard White Star steamer "Bosnia" were landed at Liban, they had a tale to tell of stern ruthlessness on the part of the U-boat which sent their ship to the bottom.

"The ship was stopped off the Portuguese coast by two warning shots. The crew were permitted to leave in the lifeboats but they were forbidden to take anything with them. Captain Walter H. Poole, however, the master, who is a veteran of the Great War, managed to salve his binoculars. As soon as they had entered the boats, the submarine torpedoed the "Bosnia." Some of the eye-witnesses said that just before the U-boat submerged her captain bowed and saluted his victims and their doomed vessel. Fortunately a Norwegian vessel, the "Eidanger," was in the vicinity and the survivors were picked up and landed safely.

Our Trawlers Met a U-Boat

When peacefully engaged in reaping the harvest of the sea, several British trawlers encountered German U-boats in the early days of the war. Below we print accounts of two such incidents, reprinted from the "News Chronicle" and the "Daily Herald."

"W e were steaming along in the darkness," one of the crew of the British steam trawler "Roman" said, "when suddenly lights of a vessel low down in the water were switched on.

"The mate dropped one of the wheelhouse windows and said to me: 'That's no trawler.'

"Looking through the binoculars, he asked: 'Have you ever seen a submarine?' I replied: 'Only in dock.'

"'Then take a look at this,' he replied.

"Next minute we saw the outline of a submarine.

"She was only about 150 yards away.

"To prove we were a fishing vessel, we switched on all our deck lights, but for a quarter of an hour the submarine continually 'stemmed us' (kept abreast).

"Wondering what was going to happen we kept on steaming.

"I shouted down the engine room to one of the engineers: 'Ike, come on and look up here.'

"The engineer climbed the ladder and I pointed to the submarine.

"All he said was: 'Crikey, why didn't you tell me before? This is the first submarine I've seen.'

"It seemed a silly game we were playing:

"No one on the submarine hailed us and we never spoke to them, and eventually the submarine straightened out and steamed away nor-east.

"All her lights were switched off as soon as she fell astern of us.'

This remarkable photograph shows the explosion which immediately preceded the disappearance of the 'Bosnia,' which was taken by a survivor of the torpedoed ship's crew from the deck of the Norwegian tanker 'Eidanger.' Other photographs are in page 78.
We heaved a sigh of relief, of course, when the submarine departed, but we were too surprised by her sudden appearance to get in a panic.

Our second story tells how seven unarmed trawlers risked destruction in order to save an eighth trawler which was menaced by a German submarine.

"All the eight vessels were fishing together," one of the skippers said when the boats returned to port. "On the horizon appeared what we thought was a fishing smack.

"Our binoculars proved it to be a submarine. Several vessels chopped away their gear and we made off. The eighth trawler broke down and fell behind.

If we had left her she would probably have been sunk, so all seven of us turned round. We went back, formed an escort, and the danger was over."

I Saw the Frenchmen Called Up

Isolated in a farm in the French mountains, the writer of this contribution, H. Pattinson Knight, turned his car England-wards through a France in the throes of mobilization. The story is reprinted from the London "Star" of September 11.

Bared from the outside world on a farm in the heart of the Puy de Dome, miles away from the nearest town, it was only on the eve of war, by the arrival of an official in command of horses, that I learned of recent momentous happenings.

Motoring over the mountain track, we reached La Bourboule for more detailed information, and we were at lunch when orders for general mobilization came over the wireless.

By the time we had finished our meal, the restaurant and hotel to which it was saying that the job had got to be done, and, in any case, it meant the end of Hitler's régime.

The official announcement of general mobilization was made, as usual, in French towns, by the local town-crier, after beating a tattoo on a kettle-drum.

The fellow at La Bourboule made use of a bicycle to get around.

On a carrier over the front wheel he had mounted his drum, and all he had to do to draw attention was to turn a little handle that controlled the drumsticks. After listening to him, the little crowds attached were being stripped of carpets and made ready for their war-time use: the staff was being paid off, and a full inventory being taken. Incidentally, I learned that only one teaspoon could not be accounted for!

Yet, there seemed to be no hurry. Everybody knew his or her job—both peace-time and war-time—and got on with it without any fuss. There was no flag-wagging, no cheering.

On the other hand, there was no depression, and no long faces. Everybody quietly dispersed without the least excitement.

The casino announced by loudspeaker that it would remain open to visitors that afternoon. It became a bigger meeting place than ever for a few hours. The terrace was crowded with people sipping their drinks, and everybody appeared eager to have a last flutter at the tables.

That night there was hardly a man of military age to be seen anywhere. They slipped away quietly, in small batches, and no one saw them set forth on their crusade.

Sketchy black-out regulations were already in force, and nobody, except officials, could use the telephone, even to ring up in their own townships.

The route chosen took us diagonally across the famous Beauce, where on our run down a fortnight earlier a sea of golden corn stretched as far as the eye could see for well over 200 miles, with an occasional vast farmstead, like an oasis in a desert of plenty.

Already, the fields had been swept bare, the corn was threshed, and in various spots emergency flying fields had sprung up overnight.

At the townships that we could not avoid, farmers were delivering up their horses, while their womenfolk carried on the land work with ozen, and often with cows. At the various points of mobilization, troops were grimmed and yelled salutations, and waved to us as they quoted our Union Jack.

Now the roads were beginning to show evidence of the evacuation of Paris. Every few hundred yards one met cars laden to capacity with people and luggage. Bundles were tied on to the wings, mattresses covered huge packages on the roofs, and, as often as not, a cycle was tied on to the radiators.

Everybody seemed astounded to find a private car travelling in the opposite direction, until they spotted that we were British folk scurrying back home. Recognition brought joyful little tootles on sirens, to which we responded as long as we were within hearing distance.

One old fellow, as he approached us, signalled us to stop, and insisted on our drinking wine with him and his family by the roadside.

At Mantes, one street was completely blocked with horses. Officials were busy checking to make sure that every available animal had been delivered, and countrywomen were returning home in cars of ancient vintage, but of surprisingly good performance.

Yet here, as everywhere, no upheaval of life was apparent. One would have thought that everything was quite normal, that the people were carrying on the routine to which they had been accustomed for years.

Once in Northern France things began to change and progress became more difficult, with long lines of transport on the roads, and huge convoys being organized with military precision in the streets of towns to which the troops—wearing their everyday civilian clothes—were reporting.

Here too, every bridge across river or railway was guarded by two armed sentries, and there was apparent a certain tension, a feeling of waiting for something big to happen—but waiting quite calmly, with complete confidence, mingled with a determination to get on with the job and see it through.
Every War Has Its Lighter Side

Above is one way of minimizing the disadvantage at which a black dog stands in a black-out.

This London balloon barrage team has found a really good use for Berchtesgaden as a "Funkhofer.

In the middle photograph above, the Siegfried Line becomes as unsubstantial as a fried egg, while the Maginot Line shows imagination in its privacy. The Chinese gentleman above walking in London is doing his bit in the British Red Cross, but the sunshade would doubtless be discarded in an air raid. Right, an early edition of Hitler's "Mein Kampf," among other books, is being used as a substitute for sand-bags to protect the roof of a London building.

Photos, Keystone, Central Press and "Daily Mirror"
In Wartime France

PARIS, like every other capital of the belligerent countries, is "blackened" at night, though not so completely as London. But though the streets may be dark, Paris is not downhearted. The cafés and restaurants that are still open are almost as full as usual and conversation is animated, for French men and women love to exchange views and to hear news by word of mouth. Moreover, in times of crisis the Frenchman feels the need of the company of his fellows more than ever. Paris by day, as the photographs in this page prove, shows many signs that the country is at war; but French men and women when once their country is in danger face the future with a calm dignity, and indifference to hardship, going about their daily work unperturbed.

The complete mobilization of the army taking all men of military age has caused far more difficulties in business than in London, but French women have filled many gaps.

Above, French women of all ages are interviewing Miss. Hazard, head of the recruiting department for volunteers for every sort of service.

These twelve trailer fire pumps drawn up for inspection are part of the Paris A.R.P. or Defense Contre-Arienne. As in London, wartime services have been formed to deal with the results of air raids, though owing to the facts of the army most of them are over military age.

Like London's girls, Parisiennes carry gas masks. Like them, too, they keep smiling, as these two mademoiselles on their way to work show.

Paris has taken the fullest precautions against air raids, and, left, workmen are piling sandbags to protect the Opera House. Right, Czech refugees in Paris are lining up to enlist in the Czech Legion, so that they may strike a blow for their country's freedom.

Photos, Topical, Wide World and Associated Press
Red Russia's Weight in the Scales of War

Though this Russian sailor is serving a formidable looking anti-aircraft machine-gun, the Red Fleet, with the possible exception of the submarine fleet is almost negligible. Below are bombers of the Soviet air fleet.

With fixed bayonets and machine-guns these soldiers of the Red Army are taking part in manoeuvres near Moscow. Their equipment is obviously based on the German model.

Photos, Planet News

The exact numbers of the Red Army are not accurately known, but the last official figures given in January 1938 state that the strength of the army was about 1,100,000. Since then, however, there has been a considerable expansion until the total strength is now estimated at about 2,500,000. Against this number has to be set the fact that lack of railway communications and the bad state of the roads must immobilize a large proportion of the Russian forces in time of war. On paper, at least, the Russian Air Force is formidable, with its stated total of nearly 7,000 machines. As regards the Russian Navy, no battleships have been built since 1911, but reports give a good impression of the Soviet service.

On September 17 Soviet troops began the invasion of Eastern Poland, and by midnight the Red Army was more than 30 miles over the frontier. One of the first invading contingents of Red infantry is here seen marching towards the frontier.
WORDS THAT HISTORY WILL REMEMBER

Sunday, September 3
Leaflet distributed by Royal Air Force in W. & N. Germany:

"Deliberately and coldly the Government of the Reich has forced war upon England.
Never before has any Government driven its citizens to death on such futile pretexts. This war is perfectly unnecessary. The soil and the rights of Germany were never invaded by any nation. Such is the satanic principle of the whole German people, and this is why they..."

Tuesday, September 5
Message to the Independent Labour Party from the Independent Socialists of Germany, smuggled across the frontiers at great risk to their bearers:

"In the moment before the cannons speak, before we fall, we send our message to you. The German workers do not want this war, the German peasants do not want this war, but the German generals do.

"We love Germany, the country where we have been born and educated, but we have nothing in common with the present régime.

"In our illegal pamphlets, spread even among the fortification workers watched by the Gestapo, we have protested against the occupation of Austria against the annexation of Czechoslovakia against Hitler’s policy of aggression and war.

"This war is not our war, this fight is not our fight. Our common Fatherland is humanity."

Saturday, September 9
From the Broadcast to the British people made by the Polish Ambassador in London, Count Edward Raczyński:

"September I will go down in history as a day of shame for the brutal aggressors, and as the opening of a new chapter in the life of Europe.

"Since that day my country has been incessantly batters by practically the whole of the German army and continuously bombarded by its artillery. Germany, perished by its own Guests, is breaking down, Poland in its territory and economic resources are certainly great, and owing to the crushing priority of the enemy in equipment the Polish army had not as yet a chance of making full use of their skill and daring of manoeuvre.

"But our resistance has not been broken. Reserves are called up, the troops are occupying new positions and the fighting goes on. The day of aggression was fixed by the enemy were chosen deliberately and cunningly. It was well known to be planned for the beginning of September and some excuse or other had to be found by that time. When Nazi Germany guaranteed Poland’s independence, it knew that Poland had no choice but to take up arms in defence of her independence.

"The huge force invested by the fertile brain of the German Führer was the alleged maltreatment of the German minority in Poland. The excuse is poor and the Führer himself was aware of the position of the German minority in Poland, small in numbers but enjoying an important status due to its money power and to the spirit of Polish nationalism. In European history, for Poland was the first nation which dared to defy Hitler’s challenge and stand against his attacks. The spirit of courage was a great service rendered to all the free nations of the world.

"The time was bound to come when the Nazi régime would be confronted with strong resistance. But the fact is that Poland was not the first nation to do it, and she accepted this unequal struggle rather than to join the ranks of those who allowed themselves to be the victims of Nazi blackmail."

Third Leaflet distributed by the R.A.F. over Central Germany.

WARTUNG!

"England on the deutsche Brot!

Die Nazis-Siegesehrung steht in der Verringerung der Handelsbeziehungen, die Börsen und in die Geschäfte. Die Nazis-Ausbeutung und die Nazis-Regierung sind die durch die Nazis-Politik und die Nazis-Handlungen.

Das Naziregime hat die Börsen und die Geschäfte in das schwarze Lamm geführt. Es hat den deutschen Arbeitern den Boden, den die Nazis ausnutzen, und die Nazis ausbeuten.


Doch die Nazis-Staat ist in der Börsen und der Geschäfte nicht mehr die gleiche. Sie ist das Lamm der Nazis-Staat in die Nazis-Staat in die Nazis-Staat

Translation:

WARNING!

England on the deutsche Brot!

The Nazi régime has, in spite of the endeavours of the League of Nations, plunged the world into war.

This war is a crime. The German people must quite clearly distinguish between the present German Government so as to unleash war and the principles which have forced England and France to defend their liberties.

From the very beginning the English government has made it clear that the Polish question is not one which can justify a war with all its tragic consequences. Five months after the Munich Agreement the independence of Czechoslovakia was destroyed, and it is clear that Poland shall not suffer the same fate. We must insist that the German Government shall be allowed to live in peace and security through terror, and that in the negotiations which are requisite the Polish right to live must be guaranteed and honourably kept. We cannot accept or admit a Diktat.

If Hitler believes that the English government, out of fear of war, will allow the Poles to be freed, he is mistaken. As long as he has been deceiving himself. In the first place England will not bring his blunder word. Furthermore, it is high time that the brutal force with which the Nazi régime strives to dominate the world should be stopped.

Through this war the German Chanceller places himself against all the principles of the League of Nations and the right of the free peoples to live in peace.

Up to the very last moment the Führer, the President of the United States and the King of the Belgians, in the name of Belgium, Holland, Luxemburg and Norway, Sweden, Norway and Finland, made fruitless appeals to your Nazi Government, urgently requesting the cessation of all acts of aggression and of war.

Now a catastrophe has broken out upon you that the Reich finds itself isolated from the community of civilized peoples, and you have no force that you can call your own. You cannot win this war. Against you are armed forces and resources that are greater than any other Nazi Government, and you are yourselves incapable of defeating them.

For years you have been subjected to the most stringent economic controls by means of which the German people and the secret police and informers the truth has been withheld from you. Against you stands the whole of the civilized peoples, who, with open eyes, will fight for freedom to the last.

This war is in support to us as it is to you, but do not forget that England, once forced into war, will wage it unswervingly to the end. England’s nerves are strong, her resources inexhaustible. We will not retrench.
End of a Glorious Stand

No more gallant stand has ever been made in the history of warfare than that of the garrison of the Polish fort of Westerplatte on the outskirts of Danzig, where a handful of Poles withstood furious attacks by land forces and bombardment by the battleship Schleswig-Holstein for six days. Some idea of what they endured can be gathered from the photograph (left) and that below (right).

Above, the Nazi flag is flying, over the shattered remains of the fort at Westerplatte after the surrender.

The name of Major Kozlowski, seen above, who commanded the Polish garrison at Westerplatte will stand in the roll of Poland's heroic soldiers.

Left are Polish prisoners just after surrendering to the captain of the Schleswig-Holstein, seen at their head. Above, German soldiers are examining the havoc they have wrought.

Photos, Associated Press, Keystone and Central News
GOERING'S COLD CHEER FOR NAZIS

Desirated by Hitler's heir-apparent to the Leadership of the Reich, Marshal Goering's pronouncements may be taken as a true reflection of the official Nazi standpoint.

Here is his first war-time speech.

N
ot long ago Goering told the German people that they could not have both guns and butter... When he addressed the workers in an armament factory in Berlin on September 9 he had to tell them in effect that now the guns were going off there would be still harder times for the German people.

He began his speech with an almost plaintive reference to Britain, which had come to the support of Poland—"a little State that has been invaded in the last few years as one blows up ridiculous little rubber figures." He went on:

"We have never harmed British interests. We have never interfered with their dominion, which is, after all, the fifth of the world. But really England is not in the least concerned with Poland. The Poles are to them as little interest as perhaps the Turks. For Britain there is nothing important in the world but herself.

"What is the situation in Poland, the scene of war? The Polish army will never emerge again from this fiasco. We can hope that within 14 days of beginning the chief things will be achieved, and in a few weeks more the last work will be finished. We can estimate that the whole campaign to the last clearing up will not last more than four weeks.

"If the British aeroplanes fly at tremendous heights at night and drop their ridiculous propaganda on German territory, I have nothing against it. But take care if the leaflets are succeeded by one bomb. Then reprisals will follow and we shall see how it will come out as in Poland.

"Germany, they say, is mortally vulnerable in the economic and internal spheres. When I started the Four-Year Plan I did it with the object of forming a protection that cannot be defeated, and today I can say that Germany is the best armed State in the world. We possess all that we need to defend our enemies. They have more gold, copper, and lead, but we have more workers, more men. That is decisive.

And our production of aeroplanes and guns is still far superior to that of our enemies...."

Nazi Ideas of Honourable Peace

"You (Mr. Chamberlain) cannot doubt the will for peace of the German people. It is great and deep and the peace-will of the Fuehrer is very great. We want peace and are ready for peace. It rests with you, Mr. Chamberlain. Will you give the word for life or death? Then give it and we will take the offer. But never again shall there be a Versailles. We are ready for an honourable peace, but we will fight to the utmost if there is no peace."

"I Know Things Will Get Worse...

"I know there are many things that will get worse. Take, for example, the question of substitute materials. I admit that the suit of substitute material is not so good as a real one, especially since we have made the latest fibres from plants. But that is not the point. It is no longer a question of the life of the individual but of the nation. I know that war soap does not last as long as peace soap, but there is no soap at all. But then we must just have dirty hands...

"I can understand how depressed many of you are after the Great War of the World War. And many say that it will be the same again as it was then. But the situation is not the same...

"I have said that I am not a hard and difficult sacrificer of you. I want you to understand that it cannot be otherwise. You must also understand that at the beginning everything does not go as well as it should. The most important thing is bread, and we have seen to it that there is enough. Of meat, it can be said that we eat far too much

"It is in any case. With less meat we shall get thinner and so need less material for a suit. That is an advantage.

"You shall always be told the truth in this war. Maybe that at the front there is a serious reverse—what must not be hidden from you. If listening to foreign radio stations is heavily punished, it is not because we fear them but because it is discreditable to listen to the dirty tirades of foreign countries...

"We are prepared for an acceptable peace and equally determined to fight to the last under the Leader, who for many years has raised up the German people. Shall we be parted from such a Leader at the wish of Great Britain? It is too monstrous to speak of it. We want peace, but peace at the price of our Leader is not to be thought of. To destroy our Leader is to destroy the German nation. Germany is Hitler, and Hitler is Germany."

Germany's Bankrupt Policy

REPLYING to this tirade, the British Ministry of Information said that in official circles it is regarded that Goering's speech revealed the bankruptcy of Nazi policy. It read:

"It is considered in official circles that Field-Marshal Goering's speech revealed the bankruptcy of German policy.

"Herr Hitler has made many promises to foreign countries: none of them has been kept.

"It is therefore not surprising that no confidence is placed in any assurance he may give, and Great Britain is therefore justified in requiring that peace should be concluded with a Government which can be trusted.

"But the German Government has also misled the German people who were promised peace and honour. They have not got peace because the world recognizes the cradidity and falseness of the German Government's charges against Poland.

The 'sickening technique,' as the Prime Minister called it, has become too familiar.

Field-Marshal Goering, a German air-ace, is head of the Nazi Government. Photo, Associated Press

"Great Britain is fighting for a return to decency in international relations. Until this is achieved no country is safe. Germany may say that she has no aims in the West, but the tale of limited German territorial ambitions has been told too often to inspire the slightest confidence.

"Great Britain does not desire another Versailles, as Field-Marshal Goering falsely alleges, nor the collapse of Germany, but a just and enduring peace with any honourable Government.

"As regards the economic situation, Field-Marshal Goering's remarks can have brought little comfort to his hearers, who already, even before the outbreak of war, have been reduced to such meagre rations.

"What is to be said of a Government which frivolously embarks on an unnecessary war in economic conditions the gravity of which even Field-Marshal Goering's optimism does not venture to conceal from an audience which is only too well aware of the facts?"

It Is Said That...

There is growing German anxiety at the apparently early failure of their air force, rapidly-mounting casualty lists and the few planes which return after raids on France are making a profound impression in Berlin.

It is being realized that many German pilots are too young and inexperienced. From Washington comes a statement that Germany is killing at least three pilots under training each week.

(Router)

In Western Germany the words 'Hell, Hitler!' are rapidly going out-of-a-greeting. People are singing back the pre-Nazi salutation of 'Cruss Gott!'

At Aschen, Cologne, and Crefeld, travellers said that the police have had to disperse angry fouls. Crefeld meant the destruction, but has been turned into the greeting, and now all the people are singing back at the police their own greeting.

A feature of the German offensive on the Western Front is the use of machine-guns operated electrically by remote control.

Under a decree published by the Ministerial Council for the Reich Defence, any person committing robbery, larceny or violence under cover of a black-out or an air-raid warning will be liable to sentences ranging from long terms of imprisonment to death.

Americans arriving in Copenhagen from Berlin were partially stripped at the frontier. The women were made to remove stockings, shoes, dresses and other garments. All luggage was inspected minutely, even sticks of shaving soap being taken from their cases.

A crowded theatre repeatedly hissed the scenes of German troops marching victoriously through Belgium in the Great War when the film "Nurse Edith Cavell" was given its first presentation in Washington.
On September 9, Field-Marshal Goering, speaking in a Berlin armament factory, devoted some of his speech to some criticism and harsh words of Britain and her Prime Minister. He mingled defiance with pleas for peace, but warned the German people that they must be prepared to make "hard and difficult sacrifices."

Photo, Keystone
OUR DIARY OF THE WAR

Monday, September 11

German attack on Warsaw checked; attacking troops retired to outskirts. Polish broadcasts continued from the capital in spite of some success by the German air force. Polish concentrations on the western side of the Saar. There were bayonet charges by the French in the sector between Merzig and the north of the Saar. There were air raids on troop concentrations behind the Siegfried Line.

It was reported that R.A.F. planes carried out a raid early on September 9 on the island of Sylt. There were also 40 miles east of Warsaw, Polish forces had withdrawn under heavy pressure.

Paris reported that French troops had improved the whole of the positions taken in the course of the last few days.

French War Cabinet was formed, with M. Daladier as Foreign Minister, Foreign Minister and War Minister.

M. Chamberlain gave Parliament a second survey of the war. It was reported from Brussels that Hitler had invited an appeal to all doctors, engineers and other technical experts, whatever their race, who had fled from Germany, to return, with the promise that fortunes confiscated from such refugees would be restored.

Thursday, September 14

Germany claimed to have captured Gdynia and to be making rapid progress in the encircling of Warsaw. Polish reinforcements were hurled to Lwów, where the enemy's front is already 40 miles east of Warsaw. There was a strong reaction by the enemy.

British troops received a warm welcome in France. It was reported that R.A.F. contingents had been stationed in France for some time.

The poles took advantage of the pause in the German attack on Warsaw to consolidate their principal lines of defence. The main German force was held up at Modlin, on the north bank of the Vistula, 15 miles from the capital. A second attack on Warsaw were to the north-east, towards Bialystok, and from the south across the San River.

The German High Command claimed that Polish troops on the area west of the Vistula had failed to break through, and that the equipment of four Polish divisions had been captured.

A German submarine stopped and searched the American freighter "Wacosta" off the coast of Ireland.

Four more British cargo vessels were reported sunk by U-boats, namely, "Invertley", "Firey", "Blairlogie" and "Gartavon". A Finnish barque, "Olivebank", was sunk by a drifting mine in the North Sea.

It was announced that, owing to doubts about the permanence of neutrality, almost all German residents in Eire had left for Germany.

Wednesday, September 13

The German High Command announced that, in order to crush civilian resistance, open towns and villages in Poland will henceforth be bombed and shelled.

Lords declared in the House of Lords that if such action were taken by the Germans, the British Government would hold themselves free to take such action as they might deem necessary.

According to statements issued by the Polish Embassy in London and by the American Ambassador in Poland, German aeroplanes have for some time been bombing civilians in Poland.

Poland stated that Germany had begun a ruthless campaign of bombing open towns. On the Western Front a strong French force reached the outposts of the Siegfried Line.

It was reported that the situation in Palestine had markedly improved since the outbreak of war, and that the French and British forces were co-operating against the common danger.

The Australian Cabinet decided to raise immediately an initial volunteer force of 20,000 for service in Australia or overseas.

The Ministry of Information announced that a selected group of flights intended for Germany, including 28,000 tons of petroleum, had been made by the British Contraband Control.

Saturday, September 16

Germany claimed to have captured Przemysl and Bialystok. The struggle for Warsaw and Brest-Litovsk continued.

French troops advanced still farther on the 40-mile front from the U.S.S.R. to 12 miles east of Saarbrucken.

A Soviet-Japanese armistice on the Manchuko-Mongolia frontier was arranged in Moscow.

Four vessels — "Fanad Head", "Davara", "Rudyard Kipling" and "Cheyenne" — were sunk by U-boats.

"Alex van Opstal" was sunk near Weymouth by either a submarine or a mine dropped by an enemy miner.

Sunday, September 17

Soviet troops invaded Poland without warning along the whole length of the frontier, ostensibly to protect the population of Western Ukraine and Western White Russia. A coup to this effect was handed to the Polish Ambassador in Moscow, and copies of the Note were delivered to the representatives of all states with which Russia maintains diplomatic relations. A broadcast later from Moscow repeated this declaration of "protection," and added that the invasion of Poland would open a new era for the world-wide triumph of the Communist creed.

The Polish front collapsed under crushing German attacks. Germany claimed to have taken Brest-Litovsk. The Polish Government was stated to have removed to Kutno, near the Rumanian frontier; some members of the Government were reported to be in Rumania.

Germany presented terms for the surrender of Warsaw.

German attacks on the Western frontier were reported. The French High Command ordered the arrival of large German reinforcements from Poland.

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OUR WAR

Brzesc-Litewski (Brest-Litovski, Brest-Litovsk, Brest-Litovski), Town on r. Bug. 100 miles E. of Warsaw; pop. 50,000. Known also as Brest-Litovsk, this name was given to treaty signed here, March 3, 1918, between Germany and Russia. A Polish frontier town. Riases near Lwów, L. S.E., passes through Brzesc-Litewski, and joins Vistula 21 miles below Warsaw; of great strategic importance in defence of the Polish line from Russia for 40 miles long.

Bydgoszcz (Bid-goshch). The former German Bromberg. Polish city and trade centre on main lines of communication, at right angles to line of Bug, with population 127,000.

Lodz (Woedl). Poland's second city, 73 miles S.W. of Warsaw; growth due to textile industry, which has been damaged in Great War; pop. 693,000.

Lwow (Lwów). Polish city, the German Lemberg (former capital of Austrian Silesia); the commercial centre of the S.E.; held by Russians, 1914-15; pop. today, 318,000.
SECOND MAP SUPPLEMENT

The War Illustrated

Reference Maps

of

CENTRAL EUROPE

and

THE WESTERN FRONT

Presented with No. Three
of The War Illustrated

The large-scale maps given in this Second Supplement cover the whole of the war areas in the East and West at this date. The map of Central Europe in the centre pages shows the whole of Germany and Poland and Western Russia with the countries on their borders which are closely concerned and may at any moment be directly affected by the aggressive actions of Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia. They include: on the north, Denmark and the independent states of Latvia (part) and Lithuania; on the south, Rumania and Hungary, Italy (part), Switzerland, Belgium, Luxembourg and Holland (parts). All these states have declared that it is their intention to remain neutral. This map is reproduced by courtesy of "The Daily Telegraph," by whom it is copyrighted. The map of the Western Front in the fourth page of this Supplement includes the places and districts affected by the French offensive against the Siegfried Line according to the latest bulletins.