



Greater Germany's Battle for Freedom  
Volume 2

# Greater Germany's Battle for Freedom

Der großdeutsche Freiheitskampf

Volume 2

Published by Reichsleiter Philipp Bouhler

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## Forward

The first volume of the speeches of the Führer in the war ends with the address on the occasion of the 1940 Heroes Remembrance Day. This second volume, which I hereby present to the public, finds its conclusion in the speech, which the Führer delivered on Heroes Remembrance Day in Berlin in the year 1941. It thus encompasses the second phase of the Greater German freedom struggle, the year in which the dice of the fate of the world fell and which will one day be designated by history as the year of decision.

In the memory of the immortal laurels of the German troops in the World War, in the honoring of the heroic deeds of the Greater German Wehrmacht in the Polish Campaign and in the premonition of the coming events, the Führer spoke the proud words on March 10, 1940: “No folk has more right to celebrate its heroes than the German.”

And if the truth of this statement had still required a final proof: On land, on water and in the sky, the German Wehrmacht has provided it without gap in the year lying behind us!

When the great offensive in the west began, nobody in Germany doubted victory for even just a second. But that France, which up until then was the strongest military power on the continent and which bragged about the invincibility of the Maginot Line, would, within a few weeks, lie on the ground defeated, exceeded all expectations. A great miracle had occurred!

But this is the miracle of the German victory: the reciprocal supplementation and harmonic tie between Führer, Wehrmacht and folk. A strong, internally united, unbending nation and a Wehrmacht, incomparable in spirit, organization and training, under a brilliant political and military leadership!

For what only a few could previously know and surmise - now it become clear to the whole German folk, to the whole world: that we may see in Adolf Hitler not only the towering statesman, rather that, in him, the genius of the field commander is also alive in unprecedented perfection. His bold decisions in light of looming dangers, his operational plans thought out down to the smallest detail and their death-defying execution made possible by the unique action of our troops, have likewise gone down into history.

Where England, true to its methods tested for three centuries, through plots and intrigues, sent other folks into the fight for its interests, it had to experience a harsh disappointment. Everywhere, the Führer anticipated through his lightning fast actions Albion's treacherous blows and struck the opponent with the weapons that were supposed to strike Germany. And England, which had hoped to bring Germany to its knees through encirclement and blockade, today sees itself politically isolated and itself feels painfully for the first time the effects of the blockade war invented by itself. It still fights, but it fights with the desperation of the cornered criminal, of the arsonist, whose overpowering is only a question of time.

So this year, whose reflection shines at us from these pages, has indeed not brought us the conclusion of this struggle of folks, but Germany's position has expanded and solidified itself in a decisive manner during this period. Vast regions are in German hands, nearly the whole European continent has been removed from the British sphere of influence; a series of states has affirmed the policy of the Axis; Italy fights as ally at Germany's side.

But this struggle has hence expanded beyond the stage of being exclusively Germany's struggle for its freedom and independence, and become a struggle of the folks against the arrogant suppression and exploitation by Jewish-British capitalism. Again, like once already in history, the bearing mission in this struggle has fallen to the Reich, at whose end stands Europe's permanent new order.

With relentless determination, the German folk, certain of the final victory, has assembled for the final battle.

March 1941  
*Philipp Bouhler*

**On March 10, the western powers begin to stand out more pronouncedly with their intentions to broaden the war. One of their hopes is thwarted by the Russian-Finnish peace treaty in Moscow on March 13<sup>th</sup>.**

**On March 18th, the Führer meets with II Duce at the Brenner.**

**On March 19th, Prime Minister Churchill admits in the House of Commons the intention of the western powers to land an army of roughly 100,000 men in Norway. In Paris, England strengthens its influence. Daladier is overthrown. Former Finance Minister Reynaud is entrusted with the formation of a new government.**

**The neutrality violations by enemy pilots increase. It is openly admitted that the neutrality of Norwegian waters as well will, in the future, no longer be respected.**

**On April 5th, England's attempt is exposed to make the Danube on the iron gate impassable through dynamite attacks.**

**On the same day, Prime Minister Churchill declares that regard for the rights and interests of the neutrals must now cease.**

**On April 8th, the western powers inform Norway that they had placed mines in Norwegian waters in order to prevent exports to Germany.**

**On April 9th, the Führer acts. The German Wehrmacht, under his orders, takes over Norway's and Denmark's armed protection.**

**Still on the same day, all militarily important strongholds of both lands are in German hands. Sweden declares itself neutral.**

**The German Luftwaffe ascertains that enemy troop transports are on the way to Norway. The Führer has beaten them by 10 hours.**

**British attempts to penetrate via Narvik into northern Norway fail. Torpedo boats under the command of Commodore Bonte cover themselves with immortal glory.**

**While the German troops secure the Reich's north in battle, the Führer issues his appeal to the War Winter Aid Work of the Red Cross.**

## **To the War Winter Aid Work for the German Red Cross**

**F**or seven months, the German soldier has been risking his life on land, on water and in the sky for the protection of the homeland. He expects in exchange that, if he is wounded or becomes ill, the homeland will give him the best care and take care of him. The men and women of the German Red Cross, equipped with the best experience and technical means, stand at the disposal for this task day and night. As manifold as the activity of the German Red Cross is, so great is also the need for means. I have hence ordered for the coming months the carrying out of the War Winter Aid Work for the German Red Cross and appeal to the German folk to prove themselves worthy of the soldier's sacrifices through donations.

Berlin, April 17, 1940.

*Adolf Hitler*



**On April 20th, the German folk celebrates the Führer's 51st birthday.**

**On April 21st. the land link from Oslo via Kristiansand to Stavanger is established, Gjøvik and Lillehammer are taken.**

**On April 24th, the British airforce opens the air war against undefended towns through the bombardment of non-military targets on the island of Sylt.**

**On April 30th, German troops establish the land link Oslo-Drontheim.**

**On the same day, the Führer directs the following order of the day to the troops fighting in Norway.**

## **The Führer's Order of the Day to the Soldiers of the Norwegian Theater**

Soldiers of the Norwegian theater!

**I**n irresistible advance, German troops have today established the land link between Oslo and Drontheim. The intention of the allies to nonetheless still force us to our knees through a late occupation of Norwegian soil had thereby been definitively thwarted.

Units of the army, of the navy and of the Luftwaffe, in exemplary coordination, have brought about an achievement that in its daring brings the highest honor to our young German Wehrmacht.

Officers, non-commissioned officers and enlisted men! You have found in the Norwegian theater against all the hardships at sea, on land and in the air and against the resistance of the enemy. You have solved the tremendous task that I had to put to you in faith in you and your strength.

I am proud of you. The nation expresses its gratitude to you through me.

As outward sign of recognition and of this gratitude, I bestow upon the supreme commander in Norway, General v. Falkenhorst, the Knights Cross to the Iron Cross.

I will also decorate the bravest among you upon suggestion by your supreme commander.

The highest reward for you all, however, may now already be the conviction that you have made a decisive contribution in our folk's most difficult struggle of fate for existence or nonexistence.

I know you will also continue to fulfill the task put to you.

Long live our Greater Germany!

Berlin, April 30, 1940

*Adolf Hitler*

**English troops ship out on May 2nd at Andalsnes and leave the Norwegian troops fighting there in the lurch.**

**On May 6th, the High Command of the Wehrmacht declares the pacification action in central and southern Norway finished.**

**On May 9th, the Führer directs the following order to the supreme commander of the German troops in Norway:**

## **To the Supreme Commander of the German Troops in Norway**

**C**ontrary to the will of the German folk and its government, King Haakon of Norway and his cabinet have called for war. In this struggle, the following facts could be ascertained: On the occasion of the war in the east, German soldiers who had the misfortune to fall into their hands wounded or not wounded were usually mistreated in the most horrible manner and massacred by the Poles. Quite differently, it must be ascertained of the Norwegian army that in it not a single case of such dishonorable degeneration of warfare has shown itself.

The Norwegian soldier abhorred all the cowardly and treacherous means that were daily routine among the Poles. He fought openly and honorably and decently treated, respected and cared for our wounded and prisoners to the best of his ability.

The civilian population has proven a similar bearing. It participated in the fighting nowhere and took in our wounded in a caring manner.

I have hence decided, in respect for these facts, to issue the permission to again free the captured Norwegian soldiers. Only the professional soldiers must remain incarcerated until the former Norwegian government has withdrawn its call to fight against Germany or until the officers and soldiers individually, through solemn word of honor, obligate themselves under no circumstances to participate in further military action against Germany.

Berlin, May 9, 1940

*Adolf Hitler*

**In secret agreement with the supposedly neutral governments of the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg, the English and French armies prepare to advance through their lands into Reich territory.**

**In the morning dawn of May 10th, the German army hence marches across the Reich borders into Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg.**

**The Führer goes to the front for direction of the overall operations. He issues the following appeal:**

## To the Soldiers of the Western Front

Soldiers of the western front!

**T**he hour of the most decisive struggle for the German nation has come. For three hundred years, it was the goal of English and French rulers to prevent any real consolidation of Europe, above all, however, to keep Germany in weakness and impotence. For this purpose, France alone declared war against Germany 31 times in two centuries.

For decades, however, it has also been the goal of British world rulers under all circumstances to prevent Germany from its unification, to deny the Reich those life goods that are necessary for the preservation of an 80 million folk.

England and France have carried out this policy without concerning themselves about the regime that ruled in Germany at the time. What they wanted to strike, was always the German folk. Their responsible men today also quite openly admit this. Germany is supposed to be smashed and dissolved into nothing but small states. Then the Reich loses its political power and thus the possibility to secure for the German folk its life rights on this earth.

For this reason, one has also rejected all my peace attempts and on September 3rd of the previous year declared war against us.

The German folk had no hatred and no hostility toward the English or the French folk. But it today stands before the question, whether it wants to live or perish.

In a few weeks, the brave troops of our armies knocked down the Polish opponent sent ahead by England and France and thereby eliminated the threat from the east. England and France thereupon decided to attack Germany from the north. Since April 9th, the German Wehrmacht has nipped this attempt in the bud as well.

What we have for months already seen before us a looming threat has now come. England and France, under utilization of a gigantic diversionary maneuver in Europe's southeast, attempt to invade the Ruhr region through Holland and Belgium.

Soldiers of the western front!

The hour has hence come for you, the struggle beginning today decides the fate of the German nation for the next thousand years!

Now do your duty!

The German folk is with you with its good wishes.

Berlin, May 10, 1940

*Adolf Hitler*

**On May 11th, the strongest fort of Fortress Lüttich, Eben Emael, falls. German troops occupy the Dutch province of Groningen.**

**Prime Mister Chamberlain steps own. The former First Lord of the Admiralty, Winston Churchill, is named to re-place him.**

**After the first ever action by paratroops in this war, the city of Rotterdam capitulates on May 14th. The Dutch Supreme Commander gives up the hopeless resistance and orders the Dutch army to cease hostilities.**

**On May 16th, the Führer directs the following appeal to the troops engaged in Holland:**

## To the Soldiers of the Dutch Theater

Soldiers of the Dutch theater!

**I**n five days, you have attacked a strong, well-prepared army, which tenaciously defended itself behind seemingly almost invincible obstacles and military fortifications, eliminated its airforce and finally forced it to surrender. You have thereby performed an achievement that is unique. The future will prove its military significance.

Only through your exemplary coordination, through the equally determined leadership as well as the valor of the soldiers, but especially through the heroic action of the death-defying paratroopers and glider troops, has this success become possible.

I express to you gratitude in the name of the German folk and my admiration.

Führer headquarters, May 16, 1940

*Adolf Hitler.*



**On May 16<sup>th</sup>, the Maginot Line, south of Maubeuge, is penetrated in a breadth of 100 kilometer.**

**The Belgian government flees to Ostende.**

**On May 17th, Brussels falls without fighting into the hands of the German troops.**

**On May 18th, the Führer proclaims the reunification of Eupen, Malmedy and Moresnet with the Reich:**

**Decree of the Führer about the  
Reunification of the Regions of  
Eupen, Malmedy and Moresnet  
with the German Reich of May 18,1940**

**T**he regions separated from the German Reich and annexed by Belgium through the Versailles dictate are again in German possession. Inwardly, they have always remained bound to Germany. They should hence temporarily as well not be viewed and treated as occupied enemy territory.

I hence decree already now:

I.

The regions of Eupen, Malmedy and Moresnet, separated from the German Reich through the Versailles dictate, are again elements of the German Reich.

II.

The named regions are assigned to the Rhine province (government district Aachen).

III.

I reserve the right to regulations about the execution of this decree.

Führer headquarters, May 18th, 1940.  
The Führer and Reich Chancellor  
Signed *Adolf Hitler*

The Chairmain of the Ministerial Council for Reich Defense Signed *Göring*, General Field Marshal

The Reich Foreign Minister  
Signed *von Ribbentrop*

The Reich Minister of the Interior  
Signed *Frick*

The Reich Minister and Chief of the Reich Chancellery  
Signed *Dr. Lammers*

**On May 20th, the great offensive operations find their first effect under the Führer's direction: the French 9th army is smashed. Panzer corps and motorized troops have advanced across the Arras and Amiens toward Abbeville. The cutting off of all French, English and Belgian troops north of the Somme from the channel coast is thereby initiated.**

**On the same day, the Supreme Commander of the French army, General Gamelin, is relieved. General Weygand replaces him.**

**On May 24th, Boulogne falls.**

**After the capture of Calais on May 25th, the encirclement of the enemy in Belgian and French Flanders reaches its highpoint on May 27th. Attempts by enemy tanks to create an escape route toward the south fail.**

**On the same day, the King of the Belgians requests an armistice. He accepts the German demand for unconditional capitulation. The Belgian army, with a strength of about half a million men, thereby ceases to exist.**

**On May 31st, the German Wehrmacht report announces the total annihilation of the enemy in Flanders.**

**On June 1st, the Führer orders through a decree the re-release of the Dutch prisoners of war.**

## The Führer's Decree of June 1, 1940

The German offer for the assumption of the protection of the Netherlands against the proven intention of the western powers to make Holland a staging area against the Ruhr region encountered a deliberate rejection by the Dutch government as a result of its secret agreement with the western powers. It thereby surrendered folk and land to the horror of a war, but took itself to safety outside the land.

The German Wehrmacht, in the struggle with the Dutch army hereby become necessary, has taken every possible precaution for the protection of the population and the preservation of the land. The bearing of both the Dutch military as well as of the Dutch civilian population obliged this stance on the German side to a high degree. It corresponded to the cultural and moral level of the Dutch folk related by tribe to us Germans. The responsible individual persons, who locked German paratroopers in prisons, treated them like criminal and then surrendered them to the English, will be held accountable.

The Dutch soldier, however, everywhere fought openly and honorably and treated our wounded and prisoners correspondingly well. The civilian population did not participate in the fighting and likewise fulfilled the laws of humanity toward our wounded.

I have hence decided for Holland as well to issue approval for the release of the captured Dutch prisoners.

Half of the Dutch army will be released effective immediately. The Dutch armed forces members first come into question who are active in agriculture, in mining, in the food industry, in construction and in related businesses. The remaining members of the Dutch army should be gradually demobilized in order to not overburden the economy and produce unemployment. In this sense, the same regulations apply to those Dutch soldiers who are in war prisoner captivity in Germany. For the professional Dutch soldiers, I will still make a decision.

Führer headquarters  
June 1, 1940

*Adolf Hitler*

**The total annihilation of the enemy before Dunkirk continues. Amidst abandonment of huge material, the English flee on ships, which for the larger part fall victim to attacks by the German Luftwaffe. Although this flight was characterized by the dissolution of English troops, London's press calls it, in total reversal of the genuine facts, a "glorious retreat".**

**With the capture of Dunkirk on June 4th, England's and France's military separation is complete.**

**On June 5th' the High Command of the Wehrmacht gives an overall report about the result of the victoriously concluded battle in Flanders: 1,200,000 prisoners, weapons and material of 75-80 divisions captured or destroyed, 3,500 airplanes destroyed.**

**The Führer issues the following appeal to the victorious troops of the western front and to the German folk:**

## To the Soldiers of the Western Front

Soldiers of the western front!

Dunkirk has fallen!

40,000 English and French have been taken prisoner as the final remnant of once great armies.

Immense material has been taken as booty.

The greatest battle in world history has thereby ended.

**S**oldiers! My trust in you was a boundless one. You have not disappointed me. The boldest plan in military history was achieved through your unequalled valor, through your energy in the bearing of great hardships, maximum exertions and efforts.

In a few weeks, you have, in heavy fighting, often against thoroughly brave opponents, forced two states to capitulation, annihilated France's best divisions, beaten, captured or chased from the continent the British Expeditionary Corps. All formations of the Wehrmacht on land and in the sky outdid themselves reciprocally in the noblest competition of action for our folk and the Greater German Reich. Brave men of the navy participated in these deeds.

Soldiers! Many of you have sealed their loyalty with their lives, others are wounded. The hearts of our folk are with them and with you in deep gratitude.

England's and France's plutocratic rulers, who have con-spired to prevent by all means the blossoming of a new, better world, wish the continuation of this war. Their wish should be fulfilled!

Soldiers! As of this present day, the western front assembles again. Countless new divisions join you, which for the first time will see and strike the opponent. The struggle for our folk's freedom, for existence or non-existence for now and for all future, will hence be continued until the annihilation of those hostile rulers in London and Paris, who even now still believe they can see in war the better means for the realization of their folk-hostile plans. Their historical instruction will be our victory!

All of Germany, however, is again with you in spirit.

Führer headquarters, June 5, 1940

*Adolf Hitler*

## To the German Folk

The greatest battle in all history was victoriously ended by our soldiers.

**I**n a few weeks, over 1.2 million opponents fell into captivity. Holland and Belgium have capitulated. The British Expeditionary Corps is, for the largest part, annihilated, the rest captured or chased from the mainland. Three French armies have ceased to exist. The threat of an invasion by the enemies into the Ruhr region is thereby definitively eliminated.

German folk! Your soldiers have won with blood this historically most glorious deed amidst risk of their lives and of their health with unequalled exertions.

I hence command that from now on, in all of Germany for a duration of eight days, the flag be flown. This should be an honoring of our soldiers. I further command for the duration of three days the ringing of the bells. May their sound unite with the prayers with which the German folk should from now on again accompany its sons. For this morning, the German divisions and air squadrons have assembled anew for the continuation of the struggle for our folk's freedom and future!

Führer headquarters, June 5, 1940

*Adolf Hitler*

**On June 6th, former French Foreign Minister Daladier resigns.**

**On the same day, the Weygand Line hastily expanded by the French is broken through by the German troops.**

**On June 7th and 8th, the offensive in northern France assumes ever greater dimensions. The Weygand Line is penetrated everywhere.**

**On June 9th, the Aisne is crossed at several spots.**

**On the same day, a victorious sea battle of heavy German navy units with English naval forces takes place in the northern North Sea. In the process, the aircraft carrier "Glorious" as well as a number of additional English naval vessels are sunk.**

**On June 10th, the English take back to their ships their troops landed at Narvik and abandon the remnant of the Norwegian army. This offers its capitulation. The heroic resistance of the battle group Narvik against the superior English force has thereby received victory as the deserved reward.**

**On the same day, Italy joins the war against England and France. Il Duce speaks to the Italian folk in Rome.**

**The Führer sends a telegram to the King of Italy and to Il Duce:**



**To His Majesty the King of Italy  
and the Emperor of Ethiopia**

Your Majesty  
The King of Italy, Emperor of Ethiopia  
Rome

**P**rovidence has wanted it so that, contrary to our own intentions, we have been forced to defend our folks' freedom and future in the fight against England and France. At this historical hour, in which our armies unite in loyal comradeship of arms, I am compelled to convey to Your Majesty my sincerest greetings. I am of the firm conviction that Italy's and Germany's mighty strength will carry the victory over our opponents. The life rights of both our folks will be ensured for all time.

Führer headquarters, June 10, 1940

*Adolf Hitler*

## To Il Duce of Fascist Italy

Sr. Excellency  
The Royal Italian Chief of State  
Cav. Benito Mussolini  
Duce!  
Rome

**T**he world historical decision, which you proclaimed today, has moved me most deeply. The whole German folk thinks at this moment of you and your land. The German Wehrmacht is pleased to be able to stand at the side of the Italian comrades in battle.

In September of the past year, the British rulers declared war against the German Reich without reason. They rejected any offer of a peaceful arrangement. Your mediation proposal as well, Il Duce, was rebuked with a hard “No” back then. The increasing disrespect of Italy’s life rights by the rulers in London and Paris has now definitively brought us, we who have already always been most closely bound in terms of worldview through both our revolutions, politically through treaties, together definitively in the great struggle for the freedom and future of our folks.

Il Duce of Fascist Italy! Accept the assurance of indissoluble community of struggle of the German folk with the Italian folk.

I myself send to you as always in loyal comradeship the heartiest greetings.

Führer headquarters  
June 10,1940

*Adolf Hitler*

**On June 12th, German troops stand 20 kilometers before Paris. The French government has left the capital in panic.**

**On the same day, the Seine and Marne are crossed at several spots.**

**In Norway, all strongholds previously still in enemy hands are occupied by German troops.**

**The action in the north has thereby ended.**

**The Führer issues the following order of the day to the Norway fighters:**

## **To the Norway Fighters!**

Soldiers!

**T**he campaign in Norway has ended. The British attempt to take control of this region so life essential for Germany has failed thanks to your death-defying courage, your readiness for sacrifice and your tenacious perseverance.

I have had to put the greatest demands on you. You have more than fulfilled them.

I express my recognition and gratitude to the leadership:

To General of the Infantry von Falkenhorst for the organization and direction of all land operations,

To General-Admiral Saalwächter, Admiral Carls and Vice- Admiral Lütjens for the preparation and the action of the navy as well Admiral Böhm for the expansion of the coastal defense.

To Senior General Milch, Lieutenant-General Geissler for the action and leadership of the Luftwaffe.

I express my gratitude and my recognition to all the soldiers of the army, the navy and the Luftwaffe, who through their valor and their sacrifice helped to divert a great threat from the German Reich.

I express my gratitude especially to those nameless soldiers whose heroism unfortunately so often remains hidden to our age.

I convey the expression of the German folks' proud admiration to the fighters of Narvik.

All of you, who stood together there in the high north, soldiers of the Austrian mountains, crews of our warships, paratroopers, war pilots and transport pilots, will go down in history as the best representatives of highest German soldiery.

To Lieutenant-General Dietl, I express the gratitude of the German folk for the honorable page that he has added to the book of German history.

Führer headquarters June 13, 1940

*Adolf Hitler*

**German troops march on the morning of June 14th into Paris without fighting, after the French government has, at the last moment through a declaration, removed from the capital the character of a fortress.**

**The French government flees from Tours to Bordeaux.**

**Minister-President Reynaud directs a desperate cry for help to America.**

**On June 15th, Verdun falls.**

**The Reich war flag flies over the castle of Versailles.**

**The Führer receives the American newspaper correspondent Karl von Wiegand:**

## **The Führer's Conversation with the American Newspaper Correspondent Karl von Wiegand on June 15, 1940**

**T**he Führer's conversation with the American correspondent Karl von Wiegand proceeds from the question of Germany's attitude toward America. The Führer declares to this that Germany is one of the few states that has previously refrained from any intervention in American affairs.

“Germany has neither previously had territorial or political interests on the American continent nor does it have such today. Whoever claims the opposite, lies deliberately for whatever reasons. How the American continent hence shapes its life”, so stressed the Führer, “does not interest us. This is true not only for North America, rather likewise for South America.

The Führer noted about the Monroe Doctrine:

“I do not believe that a doctrine such as Monroe proclaimed could or can be viewed as a one-sided claim to nonintervention; for the purpose of the Monroe Doctrine did not consist of preventing European states from intervening into American affairs - which, by the way, England, which itself possess huge territorial and political interests in America, continually does -, rather that, likewise, America does not intervene into European matters. The fact that George Washington himself gave such a warning to the American folk confirms the logic and the rationality of this interpretation. I hence say: America for the Americans, Europe for the Europeans!”

Asked about Germany's stance on America's armament program announced by President Roosevelt, the Führer replied:

“I hold to the Monroe Doctrine in the answering of this question as well. I do not judge the USA's armament program, it also does not interest me. I myself have been forced to work for years on the largest armaments program in the world and can hence distinguish very well between imaginative drivel and the real possibilities of practical life. Very imaginative views seem to prevail on this point.”

To the question of America's intervention through shipments of airplanes and war material, the Führer replied:

“America's intervention with mass shipments of airplanes and war material cannot change the outcome of this war. I do not need to give reason for this. Reality will decide about it.”

The Führer summarized his view about the news and reports widely distributed in America about an alleged German fifth column as follows:

“I cannot imagine anything at all about the so-called fifth column, because this column does not exist at all, except in the brains of lunatics or as a phantom invented by propaganda for obvious purposes. If incompetent governments first incite their folks into the war and then experience a pitiful collapse, it is understandable that they prefer to shift the blame to others. The main purpose of this slogan, however, is to create an overall concept for the domestic

opposition that naturally exists in every land. This opposition has nothing to do with Germany! Quite the opposite! They are either the most radical nationalists or internationalist oriented communists or pacifists and other war opponents. Solely because these politicians do not manage to deal with their own opposition in a decent manner, do they accuse these elements of treason and in this manner try to wrap their illegal methods in a patriotic cloak to morally justify it before the eyes of the world through the invention of the scary concept ‘fifth column’.

“Our opponents will lose this war, not because they have a fifth column, rather because they have unscrupulous or intellectually limited politicians. They will lose it, because their military organization is bad, their military leadership is truly miserable. Germany will win this war, because the German folk knows that its cause is just, because the German military organization and leadership is the better one and because we have the best army and the best equipment.

“It was never my intention or my goal”, so declared the Führer further, “to destroy the British World Empire. Quite the opposite, even before the outbreak of the war, which was incited by England and France, I presented proposals to the English government in which I went so far as to offer Great Britain the Reich’s help for the existence of the Empire. I asked nothing more from England than that Germany should be viewed and treated as having equal rights, that England should protect the German coast in the event Germany would become entangled in a war, and finally, that one should return to me the German colonies. And I will also get them!

“One declared and wrote in London before the whole public that National Socialism must be destroyed, that Germany must be divided up and totally disarmed and made powerless. Never have I expressed similar goals and intentions toward England. But after England lost battle after battle, the rulers in London begged America with tears in their eyes and declared that Germany threatens and seeks to smash the British World Empire.

“In this war, however, something will be smashed, namely a capitalist clique that was and is ready to let millions of people be destroyed for its base personal interests. But - of this I am convinced - this will be done not by us, rather by their own folks.”

**On June 17th, the Reynaud cabinet is decommissioned. It is replaced by a cabinet of generals under the leadership of the ancient Marshal Petain.**

**The French resistance is broken.**

**Marshal Petain speaks on radio to the French folk. He announces that France is compelled to give up the fight. He has turned to the Reich government with the request for the initiation of an armistice.**

**Southeast of Besançon, the Swiss border has been reached by German troops advancing from the north of France. The ring around the French forces still located in Lorraine and Alsace is thereby closed.**

**On June 18th, the Führer and II Duce meet in Munich in order to discuss the position of the allied governments on the French armistice request.**

**Cherbourg in Normandy is quickly taken by fast troops. At Rennes, the Bretagne is reached, between Orleans and Nevers, the Loire is crossed. In Burgundy, fast troops advance in the direction of Lyon. West of Mülhausen, panzer and motorized divisions coming from Belfort unite with troops which, advancing over the Upper Rhine, have broken through the Maginot Line and already penetrated deep into the Vogesen. Luneville, the fortress Toul and Nancy are taken. The number of prisoners brought in on June 19th exceeds 200,000.**

**The flag of the Greater German Reich flies on the Strasbourg cathedral.**

**On June 21st, the Führer chooses as the location of the armistice negotiations with France the forest of Compiègne. In the historical Pullman car in which Marshal Foch in 1918 presented the French armistice conditions, he has the German conditions presented to the French representatives.**

**After the conclusion of the Act of Compiègne, the Führer gives the following orders:**



## The Führer's Order

1.

The historical car, the memorial stone and the monument of the Gaelic triumph are to be brought to Berlin.

2.

The sites and the stones of both trains are to be destroyed.

3.

Marshal Foch's monument is to be preserved unscathed.

Führer headquarters, June 21, 1940

*Adolf Hitler*

**On June 22nd, France signs the armistice treaty of Compiegne.**

**The French armies still surrounded in Alsace-Lorraine have capitulated. Altogether, roughly half a million soldiers have hence surrendered.**

**On June 24h at 19:15, the signing of the Italian-French armistice treaty took place in Rome. On June 25th at 01:35 German summer time, the armistice takes effect on both sides. The war against France is at an end.**

**The Führer issues the following proclamation:**

## To the German Folk

German folk!

**Y**our soldiers have in barely six weeks, after a heroic struggle, ended the war in the west against a valiant opponent.

Their deeds will go down into history as the most glorious victory of all times.

In humility, we thank the Lord for his blessing.

I order the Reich's decking with flags for ten, the ringing of the bells for six, days.

Führer headquarters, June 24, 1940

*Adolf Hitler*

**On June 27th, German troops reach the Spanish border.**

**From the occupied French channel coast, German war-planes now start in uninterrupted action for the attack against England.**

**On July 3rd, the German Foreign Office publishes the political secret files of the French general staff, which our troops captured. They reveal with unexcelled clarity England's and France's plans to broaden the war.**

**On July 4th, English warships bombard French naval forces in the Algerian harbor of Oran. On July 8th, France thereupon breaks off diplomatic relations with England.**

**On July 6th, the Führer enters the Reich capital amidst the jubilation of the populace after the victorious conclusion of the war in the west.**

**On July 19th, he speaks before the German Reichstag:**

## **The Führer's Speech in the Reichstag Berlin, July 19, 1940**

Delegates!

Men of the German Reichstag!

**A**midst the mighty struggle for the freedom and for the future of the German nation, I have had you summoned to this session. The reasons for this lie in the necessity to provide our own German folk with insight into the historical uniqueness of the events that we experienced, but to thank the serving soldiers, as well as the intention to direct still another, this time the last, appeal to common sense.

Whoever brings the triggering moments of this historical conflict into comparison with the magnitude, the size and the breadth of the military events, must gain the realization that the events and sacrifices of this struggle stand in no relation to the claimed causes, unless these causes themselves were mere pretexts for intentions lying hidden.

The program of the National Socialist movement, insofar as it related to the future shaping of the Reich's relationship with the surrounding world, was an attempt to bring about a revision of the Versailles treaty under all circumstances - but, insofar as possible, along a peaceful path.

This revision was a naturally necessary one. The indefensibility of the Versailles decrees laid not only in the humiliating discrimination, the disenfranchisement corresponding to the ensured disarmament of the German folk, rather, above all, in the thereby resulting material destruction of the present and the intended destruction of the future of one of the world's greatest cultured folks, in the totally senseless amassing of huge amounts of lands under the rule of a few states, in the robbing of the vanquished of their irreplaceable life foundations and most essential life goods. The fact that, already during the composition of this treaty, insightful men on the side of our opponents as well warned against the final realization of the decrees of this work of insanity, is evidence for the conviction prevailing even in those ranks of the impossibility of being able to uphold this dictate in the future. Their reservations and their protests, however, were brought to silence with the assurance that the newly formed League of Nations secured in its statutes the possibility of a revision of these decrees. The hope for a revision was accordingly at no time viewed as something unwarranted, rather as something natural. Unfortunately, corresponding to the will of the responsible men of the Versailles treaty, the Geneva institution did not view itself as an institution for the bringing about of reasonable revisions, rather from the beginning on only as the guarantor of the ruthless execution and upholding of the Versailles decrees.

All attempts by democratic Germany to achieve the German folk's equality along the path of revision remained unsuccessful.

It lies now in the interest of a victor to present the decrees useful for him as sacred for all, but in the nature of the self-preservation drive of the defeated to again regain for himself general human rights. For him, the dictate of the arrogant opponent has all the less legal force, since the opponent back then was not an honest victor. A rare misfortune had it that the German Reich was very badly led in the years 1914-1918. Our collapse is to be attributed to this and to the,

not yet otherwise taught, faith and trust of the German folk in the words of democratic statesmen.

Hence the British-French claim to pass off the Versailles dictate as a kind of international or even higher legislation was for any honest German nothing else than an arrogant presumption, the premise, however, that precisely the English or French statesmen were the guardians of right in itself or even of human culture, a stupid insolence. An insolence that is sufficiently illuminated through their own highly inferior accomplishments in these areas. For the world has rarely been governed with a greater minimum in cleverness, morality and culture than in that portion which, in a time of chaos, is surrendered to certain democratic statesmen.

The National Socialist movement has proclaimed in its program, aside from the internal release from the Jewish-capitalist chains of a pluto-democratic, thin exploiter stratum, externally the decision for the Reich's liberation from the chains of the Versailles dictate.

The German demands for this revision were naturally necessary, for the existence and honor of any great folk self-evident ones. They will probably be characterized by posterity one day as infinitely moderate.

But in practice, all these demands had to be put through against the will of the British-French rulers. We all viewed it as a real success of the Third Reich's leadership that the realization of this revision was achieved for years without war. Not because we - as the British and French demagogues claimed - were not in a position for war. But when it finally seemed that, thanks to certain awakening reason, the remaining problems could also be brought to a peaceful solution through an international cooperation, then the agreement reached by the four mainly involved large states on September 29, 1933 in Munich was not only not welcomed in the media in London and Paris, rather damned as contemptible sign of weakness.

The blood-stained Jewish-capitalist war agitators saw in the possibility of the success of such a peaceful revision the disappearance of tangible excuses for the realization of their crazy plans. That manifestation of pitiful corruptible political creatures and money-greedy finance magnets put in an appearance, for whom war is a welcomed means to make their businesses better prosper. The international Jewish poison of folks began to have an ever more decaying effect on any healthy reason, the men of letters managed to portray the decent men who wanted peace as weaklings, yes, as traitors, to denounce the opposition parties as fifth column, in order to eliminate any internal resistance against their criminal war policy. Jews and Freemasons, armament manufacturers and war profiteers, international traders, stock-exchange jobbers found political subjects, desperados and Herostratus natures who presented war as desirable and hence to be wished for.

It is to be ascribed to these criminal elements that the Polish state was encouraged to take a stance that stood in no relation to the German demands and even much less to the thereby produced consequences.

For precisely toward Poland, the German Reich has practiced true self-control since the National Socialist assumption of leadership. One of the vilest and dumbest measures of the Versailles treaty, namely, the separation of an old German province from the Reich, in itself already screamed for a revision! And what did I demand back then?

I may intervene with my person here, because no other statesman would have been able to dare to suggest to the German nation a solution such as I did. It was only Danzig's return - thus of an ancient, purely German city - to the Reich as well as the creation of a link from the Reich to its torn off province, and even that only under the acceptance of a plebiscite, which itself was again supposed to be monitored by an international forum. If Mr. Churchill and the other warmongers had felt within themselves just a fraction of that responsibility that I felt toward Europe, they would not have been able to undertake their vile game.

For it is to be ascribed only to these and all other European and non-European war interested parties that Poland rejected proposals touching somehow neither its honor nor its existence and instead turned to terror and arms. And here it was a truly superhuman restraint probably without example that let us for months still seek the peaceful path of an agreement despite the continuous murders of ethnic Germans, yes, finally, despite the slaughter of tens of thousands of folk comrades.

For what was the situation?

One of the most unrealistic creations of the Versailles dictate, politically and militarily only a blown up scarecrow, insults for months a state and threatens to thrash it, to wage battles in front of Berlin, to chop up the German armies, to move the border to the Oder or the Elbe and so forth. And this state, Germany, patiently watches this activity for months, even though it would have required only a sweep of its arm in order to smash this bubble blown up by stupidity and arrogance.

Still on September 2nd, this fight could have been avoided. Mussolini made a proposal for an immediate cessation of all hostilities and for peaceful negotiations. Although Germany saw its armies victoriously charging forward, I nonetheless accepted it. Solely the English-French war agitators needed war and not peace. And they needed a long war, as Mr. Churchill expressed back then, at least three years long, for they had, after all, meanwhile invested their capital in armament stocks, acquired machinery and now needed the time prerequisite for the blossoming of their businesses and for the amortization of their investments. And furthermore: What value do Poles, Czechs or similar folks have for these cosmopolitans?

A German soldier found a peculiar document at the La Charite train station on June 19, 1940 during the search of the cars there. He immediately delivered this document - since it bore a special notation - to his superiors. From there, this paper passed to more offices, which now became clear that they were on the track of an important enlightenment. The train station was subjected to another thorough search. So came into the hands of the high command of the Wehrmacht a collection of documents of unique historical significance. Found were the secret files of the Allied Supreme War Council, including the protocols of all sessions of this illustrious association. And this time, it will not be possible for Mr. Churchill to simply contest or deny the truth of the documents, like he had tried to do back then with the files from Warsaw.

For the documents all bear the handwritten border notations of the gentlemen Gamelin, Daladier, Weygand etc., so they can be confirmed by them at any time, but not disputed. And these documents now provide information about the activity of the gentlemen war interested parties and war spreaders. They will show, above all, how, for these ice-cold politicians and military men, the small folks are only means to an end, how they tried to utilize Finland for their interests, how they decided to make Norway and Sweden war theaters, how they intended to put the Balkans to the torch in order get to a hundred divisions from there as help, how they

made preparations for the bombardment of Batum and Baku, under an equally cunning and unscrupulous interpretation of Turkish neutrality not averse to them, how they drew the Netherlands and Belgium ever deeper into their trap and finally entangled them in binding general staff agreements and so much more.

But the documents also provide a picture of the whole amateurish method with which these politics practicing war agitators sought to control the fire set by them, of their military democracy, which is coresponsible for the horrible fate that they have inflicted upon hundreds of thousands and millions of soldiers of their own lands, of their barbaric ruthlessness, with which they quite coldly intentionally drove their folks to mass evacuations, whose general human consequences, however, were shockingly horrible.

The same criminals, however, are simultaneously the responsible people for the incitement of the Poles into war.

18 days later, this campaign was practically finished.

On October 6, 1939, I spoke from this spot for the second time in the war to the German folk. I could report to it the militarily radiant subjugation of the Polish state. Back then, I simultaneously directed an appeal to the responsible men in the hostile states and to the folks themselves. I warned against a continuation of the war, whose consequences could only be devastating. I warned especially the French against waging a fight that invariably eats its way from the border and, regardless of how its end would be, would be terrible in its consequences. I also directed this appeal to the rest of the world back then, but - as I expressed it - with the fear of not only not being heard, rather of thereby probably really arousing the rage of the interested war agitators. It then turned out exactly that way. The responsible elements in England and French scented in my appeal a dangerous attack against their war business. They hence immediately went about declaring that any thought of an agreement would be futile, yes, would be judged a crime, that the war had to be continued in the name of culture, of humanity, of happiness, of progress, of civilization and - help what can help - also in the name of sacred religion, and that, for this purpose, Negroes and bushmen had to be mobilized, and that then victory would invariably come all by itself, that one actually just needed to reach for it, and that I knew this exactly, and that, for this reason alone, I would present my appeal for peace to the world. For if I were in the position to believe in victory, then I would not, after all, have proposed to England and France an agreement without any demand! In a few days, these gentlemen managed to portray me to the rest of the world as a downright coward.

Because of my peace proposal, I was cursed, personally insulted, Mr. Chamberlain literally spit at me before the world media and refused, corresponding to the directives of the agitators and instigators standing behind him, Churchill, Duff Cooper, Eden, Hore Belisha etc., to even just talk about a peace, let alone to act for one.

So this big capitalist interest clique screamed for the continuation of the war. This continuation has now taken its start.

I had once already assured, and all of you, my folk comrades, know it, that - if for a prolonged period I do not speak and if nothing else happens - this does not mean that hence I am also not doing anything. Among us, it is not necessary, like in the democracies, to multiply by five or by twelve every airplane that is built and then to shout it out into the world. It is not very clever for hens to announce every egg lain with a loud voice. But it is even dumber, if



statements brag to the contemporary world about projects that they are only planning in order to inform them in advance. We owe to the excited chatter of two of these big democratic directors of the state constant knowledge of our opponents' war expansion plans, and especially of their concentration on Norway and Sweden.

While this British-French war clique hence kept a lookout in order to find new war expansion possibilities and to catch new victims, I have endeavored to complete the organizational structure of the German Wehrmacht, to create new formations, to get the war production of material underway as well as to arrange the final schooling of the whole Wehrmacht for its new tasks. Furthermore, the bad weather of late autumn and winter forced a postponement of military operations. Over the course of the month of March, however, we gained knowledge of British-French intentions to intervene into the Russian-Finnish conflict, probably less in order to help Finland than to harm Russia, in which one saw a power working with Germany. From this intention then developed the decision, if at all possible, to intervene in Finland ourselves in order to thereby receive a basis for the carrying of the war into the Baltic Sea. But simultaneously, proposals by the Allied Supreme War Council popped up ever more strongly either to put the Balkans and Asia Minor to the torch in order to thereby cut off from the Reich Russian and Romanian oil imports or to get Swedish iron ore into their hands. For this purpose, a landing in Norway was undertaken with the goal, above all, to occupy the ore railway from Narvik across Sweden to the harbor of Lulea.

At the last minute, the Russian-Finnish peace accord made the already eyed action in the Nordic states recede again. Only already just a few days later, these intentions congealed anew and now found their expression in a clear decision. England and France had agreed to suddenly undertake the occupation of a number of the most important points in Norway under the pretext of thereby preventing the further war support of Germany through Swedish ore. In order to then totally secure Swedish ore, it was intended to march into Sweden itself and, if possible, on friendly terms, if necessary, by force, push aside the weak forces (which Sweden was in the position to mobilize).

That the threat was imminent, we learned through the untamable talkativeness of the First Lord of the British Admiralty personally. We further received confirmation for it through a reference which French Minister-President Reynaud made to a foreign diplomat. But that this schedule, already before April 8th, had been postponed twice and that the occupation was supposed to take place on April 8th, that hence the 8th was the third and thereby final date, we have known for only a shorter time, yes, finally confirmed only since the discovery of the protocols of the Supreme Allied War Council.

I have now, as soon as the threat of Norway's being drawn into the war became clear, arranged the necessary measures for the German Wehrmacht as well.

The "Altmark" incident already showed that the Norwegian government was not ready to maintain its neutrality. Beyond that, agent reports revealed that, at least between the leading heads of the Norwegian government and the Allies, total agreement already existed. Finally, Norway's reaction to the penetration by British minelayers into Norwegian sovereign territory banished even the last doubt. The German operation prepared down to the smallest detail was hence triggered.

Actually, the situation was now a bit different than it portrayed itself to us on April 9th. While we believed back then that we had anticipated the English occupation by a few hours,

we know today that the landing of the English troops had been planned already for the 8th, that the boarding by British formations had already begun on the 5th and 6th, but that, at the same moment the first news arrived at the British admiralty about the German measures, i.e. the departure of the German fleet, under the impression of this fact, Mr. Churchill decided to again have the already boarded formations disembark in order to first have the German ships sought out and attacked by the British fleet. This attempt failed. Only a single British destroyer came into contact with the German naval forces and was sent to the bottom. This boat no longer managed to pass along any news to the British admiralty or to the English naval forces. So the landing by German advance units took place on the 9th in a region that stretched from Oslo northward to Narvik. When news of this arrived in London, the First Lord of the Admiralty, Mister Churchill, had already been waiting impatiently for many hours for the successes of his fleet.

This blow, my delegates, was the boldest enterprise in German military history. Its successful execution was possible only thanks to the leadership and bearing of all involved German soldiers. What our three arms of service: army, navy and Luftwaffe performed in this fight for Norway, ensures them the rank of highest soldiery.

### **The navy**

executed its operations and later transports against an enemy who overall possesses a nearly tenfold superiority. All units of our young Reich navy covered themselves with immortal glory in the process. Only after the war will it be permitted to talk about the difficulties that occurred precisely in this campaign due to numerous unforeseeable setbacks, losses and accidents.

But to have nonetheless overcome everything in the end is the credit of the bearing of leadership and troop.

### **The Luftwaffe**

in this hugely vast region, often the sole transportation and communication possibility, overdid itself in everything. Daring attacks against the opponents, against ships and landing troops hardly stood above the tenacious heroism of those transport pilots who, despite unimaginably bad weather, again and again flew up into the land of the midnight sun in order to deliver soldiers or cargo often in snow storm.

Norway's fjords have become the cemetery for numerous British warships. The British fleet finally had to retreat from the unbroken wild attack by German bombers and stukas and abandon those regions, of which just a few weeks earlier an English newspaper had tastefully claimed "that it will be a pleasure for England to accept in them the German challenge to combat."

### **The army.**

Already the crossing put the greatest demands on the soldiers of the army. Glider troops had at many places enabled the first foothold. Now division after division flooded in and began the fight in a region, which in its natural state possesses an extraordinary defensive strength and - insofar as it is about Norwegian formations - was also defended very valiantly. But it can only be said of the English landed in Norway that the solely notable thing in their existence was the unscrupulousness with which one put such badly trained, inadequately equipped and miserably led soldiers into the land as expeditionary corps. They were certainly inferior from the beginning on; but, conversely, what the German infantry, the military engineers, what our

artillerists, our communications and construction troops accomplished in Norway, can only be characterized as proud heroism in struggle and work.

The word Narvik will forever be a glorious testament in history to the spirit of the Wehrmacht of the National Socialist Greater German Reich.

The gentlemen Churchill, Chamberlain, Daladier etc. were up until recently very badly informed about the nature of the Greater German unification. I announced back then that the future will probably teach them better. And I may probably presume that precisely the action of the Austrian mountain troops on this northernmost front of our struggle for freedom will have provided them with the necessary enlightenment about the Greater German Reich and its sons.

It is a shame that the grenadiers of Mr. Chamberlain did not devote the sufficient and, above all, lasting attention to this conflict, rather preferred to leave it be after the first tests of the inner stance of our folk's tribes newly coming to the Reich.

General von Falkenhorst directed these operations in Norway.

Lieutenant Dietl was the hero of Narvik.

The operations at sea were conducted under the direction of General-Admiral Saalwächter and the Admiral Carls and Böhm and Vice-Admiral Liitjens.

The operations of the Luftwaffe stood under the direction of Senior General Milch and Lieutenant-General Geissler.

The high command of the Wehrmacht, Senior General Keitel, as chief of the high command, and General Jodi, as chief of the Wehrmacht leadership staff, were responsible for the execution of my instructions for the whole action.

Even before the campaign in Norway had found its end, the news about the west became ever more ominous. While it had been prepared before the beginning of the war, in the event of a necessary conflict with France or England, to break through the Maginot Line, an enterprise for which the German troops were schooled and for which they were equipped with the necessary weapons, the necessity arose already over the course of the first war months to also cast an eye at a possible action against Belgium and Holland. While Germany initially positioned practically no formations facing Holland and Belgium, aside from necessary security troops, but had otherwise begun to expand its fortification systems, a visible massing of French formations took place on the French-Belgian border. Especially the concentration of almost all tank and motorized divisions in this sector revealed that the intention, but in any case the possibility existed, to rapidly hurl themselves through Belgium to the German border. But the following perception was now decisive: While, in the event of a loyal interpretation of Belgian-Dutch neutrality, both lands would have been compelled, precisely in view of the concentration of strongest French-English forces on their border, to themselves likewise direct their gaze toward the west, they began to dismantle there more and more to the same degree in order to occupy the border facing Germany. The news about the ongoing general staff conferences as well produced a unique illumination of Belgian-Dutch neutrality. I do not need to stress that these conferences, if they had really been neutral, would have had to take place with both sides.

Furthermore, an intensification of indications for the advance of French-English troops through Holland and Belgium against the German sphere of interest occurred, so that, on our side as well, this threat had to be eyed as most serious danger. Hence the German Wehrmacht was made familiar with this possibility of development by me and provided with the necessary detailed instructions. In numerous conferences in the high command of the Wehrmacht with the supreme commanders of the three arms of service, the leaders of the army groups and of the armies down to the leaders of individual important enterprises, the tasks were set and talked through, and in the troop naturally made the basis of a special training.

The whole German deployment hence experienced the corresponding necessary changes.

The careful observations that were arranged everywhere gradually produced the compelling realization that an English-French advance could be reckoned with from about the beginning of May on at any moment. In the days from May 6th to 7th, the fears intensified, especially also on the basis of intensified telephone calls, which had taken place between London and Paris, that now, at any moment, the advance of the so-called Allies into Holland and Belgium had to be expected. On the next day - May 8th -, I hence gave the order for the immediate attack on May 10th at 05:35 in the morning.

The basic idea of the operations was, with renunciation of small secondary successes, to so employ the whole Wehrmacht - above all, the army and Luftwaffe - that, given consequent execution of envisioned operations, the total annihilation of the French-English combat force would have to be achieved. In contrast to the Schlieffen Plan of the year 1914, I had the main weight of the operation put on the left wing of the breakthrough front, just with apparent preservation of the reverse version. This deception succeeded. The design of the overall operation, however, was simplified for me through the measure of the opponent himself. For the concentration of the whole English-French motorized combat power across from Belgium make it seem certain that, in the high command of the allied Allies, the decision existed to swiftly enter this region.

In trust in the steadfastness of all employed German infantry divisions, a thrust into the right flank of the French-English motorized army group hence had to lead to total disintegration and dissolution, yes, probably to an encirclement.

As second operation, I had envisioned the winning of the Seine up to Le Havre as well as the securing of a launch point on the Somme and Aisne for the third attack, which was supposed to break forth with the strongest forces across the high plateau of Langres to the Swiss border. The reaching of the coast up to south of Bordeaux was envisioned as conclusion of the operations.

The operations also took place in this framework and in this sequence.

The success of this mightiest series of battles in world history is owed foremost to the German soldier himself. He has proven himself again to the highest degree in all places where we was put. And all German tribes had the same share in this glory.

The soldiers of the new Reich provinces annexed only since 1938 have also fought exemplary and paid through blood tribute. Through this heroic action of all Germans, the National Socialist Greater German Reich emerging from this war will live not only today, rather also for always be sacred and dear to all following generations.

If I begin with the honoring of the forces to whose working this most glorious victory is owed, then the first praise is due to the leadership, which precisely in this campaign did justice to the highest demands.

The army. It has solved in truly glorious manner the tasks assigned to it under the leadership of Senior General von Brauchitsch and his general staff chief Halder.

If already the leadership apparatus of the German army of once was considered the best in the world, then it today de-serves at least the same admiration. Yes, since success is decisive for the final evaluation, the leadership of the new German army must be addressed as even better.

The western army was divided into three army groups under

Senior Generals Ritter von Leeb, von Rundstedt and von Bock.

The army group of General Ritter von Leeb initially had the task, beginning at the Swiss border up to the Mosel, to defensively hold the left flank of the German western front in highest defensive force. Only for the later course of operations was it envisioned to have this front as well' with 2 armies under the leadership of Senior General Witzleben and General Dollmann' to actively intervene into the battle of annihilation.

On May 10th, 05:35 in the morning, both army groups of Senior General von Rundstedt and von Bock had assembled for the attack. Their task was to thrust through the enemy border positions on the whole front from the Mosel to the North Sea, to occupy Holland, advance toward Antwerpen and at the Dyle Position, to take Lüttich, above all, however, to reach the Maas with the massed attack forces of the left flank, to force the crossing between Namur and Carignan with the main weight of the panzer and motorized divisions at Sedan, and in the further course of the operations, with concentration of all available panzer and motorized divisions, leaning against the canal and river system of the Aisne and Somme, to advance to the sea. To the southern army group Rundstedt fell furthermore the important task to systematically secure the envisioned defense of the left flank over the course of the breakthrough in order to prevent in advance a repetition of the Marne Miracle of 1914.

This mighty operation, already deciding the further course of the war, which, as planned, led to the annihilation of the main mass of the French army as well as of the whole British expeditionary corps, already makes German leadership shine in bright radiance.

Aside from both army group commanders and their general staff chiefs

Lieutenant-General von Sodenstern and Lieutenant-General von Salmuth,

the following army commanders earned the highest merit:

Senior General von Kluge as commander of the 4th army, Senior General List as commander of the 12th army, Senior General von Reichenau as commander of the 6th army, General von Kuehler as commander of the 18th army, General Busch as commander of the 16th army, and the generals von Kleist, Guderian, Hoth and Hoepfner as commanders of panzer and motorized troops.

The large number of additional generals and officers who distinguished themselves in these operations are known to you, my delegates, through the bestowing of the highest decorations.

The continuation of the operation in the general direction to Aisne and Seine did not have the purpose to, above all, conquer Paris, rather to create or secure the launch point for the breakthrough to the Swiss border. This mighty attack action as well went according to plan thanks to the towering leadership of all grades.

The change in the high command of the French army that had meanwhile taken place was supposed to enliven anew its resistance and give the turn desired by the Allied to the struggle begun unluckily.

Actually, only after overcoming the strongest resistance was it possible to get the German armies' new attack actions into motion. Not only the courage, rather also the training of the German soldier had an opportunity here to prove itself to the highest degree. Enthused by the example of countless officers and non-commissioned officers as well as valiant individual men, the infantry again and again pulled forward even in the most difficult situations. Paris fell! The breaking of the enemy resistance on the Aisne opened the way for the breakthrough to the Swiss border. In a mighty encirclement, the armies charged behind the back of the Maginot Line, which, for its part, was itself attacked by the army group Leeb stepping out from the reserve at two points west of Saarbrücken and Neubreisach and broken through under the command of the generals von Witzleben and Dollmann.

So it was possible to not only totally encircle the mighty front of the French resistance as a whole, rather also to fracture it into individual components and force it to the known surrenders.

These operations were crowned by the now generally setting in advance of all German armies, at the point again the army's incomparable panzer and motorized divisions, with the goal, with the advance thrust of a left flank down the Rhone in the direction of Marseille and of a right flank across the Loire in the direction of Bordeaux and the Spanish border, to destroy the disintegrated remnants of the French army and to occupy French territory.

I want to report elsewhere in particular about our ally's entry into the war, which had meanwhile taken place.

When Marshal Petain offered France's laying down of arms, he did not put down a weapon still remaining to him, rather ended a situation completely untenable for the eye of any soldier. Only the bloody amateurism of a Mr. Churchill was able to either not grasp this or to deny it contrary to better knowledge.

In this second, third and final phase of this war, in union with the already mentioned generals, these generals likewise distinguished themselves as army commanders

Senior General von Witzleben and the generals von Weichs, Dollmann, Strauss.

In the framework of these armies also fought the valiant divisions and regiments of the Waffen-SS.

If I express to these named generals as army group and army generals my and the German folk's gratitude, then this goes simultaneously for all the other officers whom it is impossible to name individually, and especially for the nameless workers of the general staff.

In this struggle, my delegates, the German foot soldier has again proven himself as what he always was: as the best infantry in the world. All other weapons of the army competed with him: artillery and military engineers, and, above all, the young formations of our panzer and motorized troops. The panzer arm has introduced itself into world history with this war. The men of the Waffen-SS share in this glory.

Just the communication formations, the construction troops of the military engineers, rail troops etc. are also due the highest praise for their merits.

Behind the armies followed the commandos of the Organization Todt, of the Reich Work Service and of the NSKK, and likewise helped to again put roads, bridges as well as traffic in order.

In the framework of the army, elements of the Luftwaffe's anti-aircraft artillery also fought. At the foremost front, they helped to break enemy resistance and attack strength. Only later can their working be reported in detail.

The Luftwaffe itself. When the morning of the 10th dawned, thousands of warplanes and stukas, covered by fighters and destroyers, descended upon enemy airports. In a few days, total air domination was won. It was no longer relinquished for one moment. Only where temporarily no German airplanes showed themselves could enemy fighters or bombers put in an appearance for short moments. Otherwise, their working was banished to night.

The action of the Luftwaffe in this fight took place under the command of the General Field Marshal. Its task was:

- first, to destroy the enemy airforce and to remove it from the heavens,
- second, to support the fighting troop directly and indirectly through uninterrupted attacks,
- third, to destroy the enemy's elements of leadership and movement,
- fourth, to wear down and break enemy moral and resistance strength, and
- fifth, to land paratroopers as advance detachments.

The manner of its operative action overall as well as its adaptation to the tactical requirements of the moment were excellent. If the successes won could have never been achieved without the army's valor, then all the army's valor would have nonetheless been futile without the Luftwaffe's heroic action.

Army and Luftwaffe are both worth of the highest glory!

The organization of the Luftwaffe's action:

The Luftwaffe's action in the west took place under the personal command of General Field Marshal Göring.

His general staff chief: Major-General Jeschonnek.

Both air fleets were commanded by

Air General Sperrle and

Air General Kesselring.

The air corps standing under them stood under the command of the Air Generals Grauert, Keller, Lieutenant-General Loerzer and Lieutenant-General Ritter von Greim as well as Major-General Freiherr von Richthofen.

Both anti-aircraft artillery corps stood under the command of General of the Anti-Aircraft Artillery Weiss and of Major-General Dessloch.

The 9th air division under its Major-General Coeler deserves special distinction.

The commander of the paratroopers, Air General Student, was himself badly wounded.

The further conduct of the air war in Norway takes place under Air General Stumpff.

While then millions of soldiers of the army, the Luftwaffe and the Waffen-SS participated in this fighting, others could not be removed from the formation of the replacement formations located in the homeland. Many of the most capable officers - as bitter as it was for them - had to direct and watch over the training of those soldiers who, be it as replacement, be it as new formations, could only later come to the front. Here, too, the higher interests were decisive despite all understanding for the inner feelings of those feeling disadvantaged. Party and state, army, navy, Luftwaffe and SS have given any man who was at all dispensable to the front. Just that without the security of the replacement army, of the replacement air fleet, of the replacement SS formations as well of the party and of the state, the fight at the front as well could not have been waged. As organizers of the replacement army of the homeland and of equipment and supply of the Luftwaffe, highest merit has been earned by:

Air General Fromm and

Air General Udet.

I cannot end the listing of all these deserved generals and admirals without now especially also remembering all those who are my closest co-workers in the staff of the High Command of the Wehrmacht:

Senior General Keitel as chief of the High Command of the Wehrmacht and

Major-General Jodl as chief of his staff.

They, along with their offices, have in care-ridden and work rich months the greatest share in the realization of my plans and thoughts.

The appreciation of the accomplishments of our navy and its leaders will be possible in full only at the end of this war.



If I now conclude the purely military observation of the war, then truth compels me to the statement of the historical fact that all this would not have been possible without the behavior of the home front, and here at the top, without the founding, the working and the activity of the National Socialist party!

In the period of greatest decline, already in the year 1919, it proclaimed in its program the resurrection of a German folk army and represented it for decades with fanatical determination. Without its working, all the prerequisites would have fallen away for the German Reich's resurrection and hence for the creation of a German Wehrmacht. But it also gave the struggle, above all, a worldview foundation. It thereby confronted the senseless life action of our democratic opponents for the interests of their plutocrats with the defense of a social folk community. From its working hence also results the unity between front and homeland, unfortunately not present in the World War. I hence wish to name from its ranks the following men, to whom, aside from countless others, is owed great merit in the achievement of the possibility to be able to celebrate victories in a new Germany:

Party comrade Reich Minister Hess, himself an old soldier of the World War, was from the first period of the founding of the movement a most loyal comrade for the establishment of this present day state and its Wehrmacht;

Party comrade SA staff chief Lutze has organized the mass of millions of SA men in the sense of highest state preservation and ensured their pre-military and post-military training;

Party comrade Himmler organized the whole security system of our Reich as well as the formations of the Waffen-SS;

Party comrade Hierl is the founder and leader of the Reich Work Service;

Party comrade Ley is the guarantor for the bearing of our German workers;

Party comrade Reich Minister Major-General Todt is the organizer of the weapons and munitions production and has earned immortal merit as the architect of our mighty strategic road network as well as the fortification front in the west;

Party comrade Minister Dr. Goebbels is the head of a propaganda whose height manifests itself most conspicuously in the comparison to that of the World War.

Among the numerous organizations of the home front, the following organizations are still to be named

The War Aid Work as well as the

NS Welfare under the direction of party comrade Hilgenfeldt

as well as the German Red Cross, furthermore, the Reich Air Defense Federation under the leadership of General of the Anti-Aircraft Artillery v. Schröder.

I cannot conclude this appreciation without in the process finally thanking the man who has for years been realizing my foreign affairs guidelines in loyal, tireless, self-consuming work.

The name of party comrade von Ribbentrop will for all time be linked to the political elevation of the German nation as Reich Foreign Minister.

My delegates!

I have decided, as leader and supreme commander of the German Wehrmacht, to undertake the honoring of the more deserving generals before that forum that is in truth the representation of the whole German folk. I must now place at the top that man, for whom it is difficult for me to find sufficient gratitude for the merits that link his name with the movement, the state and, above all, with the German Luftwaffe.

Since the SA foundation period, party comrade Göring has been tied to the development and the rise of the movement. Since the assumption of power, his work energy and pleasure in responsibility have produced accomplishments in numerous areas for the German folk and the German Reich that cannot be dismissed from the history of our folk and Reich.

Since the reconstruction of the German Wehrmacht, he became the creator of the German Luftwaffe. It is given to few mortals, over the course of a life, to create a military instrument out of nothing and to develop it into the strongest weapon of its kind in the world. He has given it, above all, his spirit.

General Field Marshal Göring has already, as creator of the German Luftwaffe, as a single man made the highest contribution to the new construction of the German Wehrmacht.

He has as leader of the German Luftwaffe over the previous course of the war helped create the prerequisite for victory.

His merits are unique!

I hence name him Reich Marshal of the Greater German Reich and bestow upon him the Great Cross of the Iron Cross.

For contributions to the victory of German arms in the fight for the freedom and future of our Greater German Reich, I now promote:

the supreme commander of the army, Senior General von Brauchitsch, to General Field Marshal;

Senior General von Rundstedt, commander of army group A, to General Field Marshal;

Senior General Ritter von Leeb, commander of army group C, to General Field Marshal;

Senior General von Bock, commander of army group B, to General Field Marshal;

Senior General List, commander of the 12th army, to General Field Marshal;

Senior General Kluge, commander of the 4th army, to General Field Marshal;

Senior General von Witzleben, commander of the 1st army, to General Field Marshal,  
and

Senior General von Reichenau, commander of the 6th army, to General Field Marshal.

I promote:

General Halder, chef of the general staff of the army, to Senior General;

General Dollmann, commander of the 7th army, to Senior General;

General Freiherr von Weichs, commander of the 2nd army, to Senior General;

General von Kuehler, commander of the 18th army, to Senior General;

General Busch, commander of the 16th army, to Senior General;

General Strauss, commander of the 9th army, to Senior General;

General von Falkenhorst, military commander in Norway, to Senior General;

General von Kleist, commanding general of the XII. AK., to Senior General;

General Ritter von Schobert, commanding general of the VII. AK., to Senior General;

General Guderian, commanding general of the XIV. AK., to Senior General;

General Hoth, commanding general of the XV. AK., to Senior General;

General Hoepfner, commanding general of the XVI. AK., to Senior General;

General Haase, commanding general of the III. AK., to Senior General;

General Fromm, chief of army armament and commander of the replacement army, to Senior General.

In consideration of previous services, I promote

Lieutenant-General Dietl, commanding general of the mountain corps in Norway, to General of the Infantry and bestow upon him as first officer of the German Wehrmacht the Oak Leaves to the Knights Cross of the Iron Cross.

With the proviso for a later overall appreciation of the leaders and officers of the Reich navy, I promote:

Admiral Carls, the commanding admiral of the naval station Baltic Sea, simultaneously Naval Troop Commander East, to General Admiral.

In recognition of the unique accomplishments of the German Luftwaffe, I promote

Senior General Milch to General Field Marshal;

Air General Sperrle to General Field Marshal;

Air General Kesselring to General Field Marshal.

I promote:

Air General Stumpff to Senior General;

Air General Grauert to Senior General;

Air General Keller to Senior General;

General of the Anti-Aircraft Artillery Weise to Senior General;

Air General Udet to Senior General.

I further promote to Air Generals:

Lieutenant-General Geissler, Major-General Jeschonnek, Lieutenant-General Loerzer, Lieutenant-General Ritter von Greim and Major-General Freiherr von Richthofen.

In my High Command Wehrmacht, I promote

Senior General Keitel to General Field Marshal;

Major-General Jodl to General of the Artillery.

In that I pronounce these promotion on the occasion of the most successful campaigns in our history before this forum and hence before the whole German nation, I thereby honor the whole Wehrmacht of the National Socialist Greater German Reich.

I cannot end the examination of this struggle without remembering right here our ally.

Since National Socialist regime has existed, two goals stood in its foreign affairs program:

First, the establishment of a genuine agreement and friendship with Italy and second, the establishment of the same relationship with England.

You know, my party comrades, that these views moved me 20 years ago just like they did later. I have treated and defended these thoughts in print and in speeches countless times, as long as I was just an opposition figure in the democratic republic. I have - since the German folk entrusted me with its leadership - immediately tried to practically achieve this oldest goal of National Socialist foreign policy. I am still sad today that, despite all my efforts, with England, I have not managed to come to that friendship, which - as I believe - would have been a blessing for both folks. And indeed, that I have not succeeded in this despite steadfast sincere efforts.

But I am all the happier that at least the first program point of my foreign affairs goal could be achieved. I owe this, above all, to the genius who today stands at the head of the Italian folk. For only thanks to his secular working did it become possible to bring together both regimes, spiritually so closely related, in order to now, at the end, through the jointly shed blood, seal a bond that is determined to cultivate a new life for Europe. That I personally have the honor to be able to be the friend of this man, makes me happy in view of the uniqueness of the life fate that displays just as much in common with mine as both our revolutions, yes, beyond that, even the history of the unification and rise of both our folks.

Since the resurrection of the German folk, we have been able to perceive human voices of understanding solely from Italy. From this answered mutual reciprocal understanding grew a living community of interest. It was finally set down in treaties.

When this war, contrary to my wish and will, was forced upon the German Reich last year, a discussion of the further action by both our states took place between Mussolini and myself. The benefit that arose for us from Italy's bearing was an extraordinary one. Not only economically did Italy's situation and bearing benefit us, rather also militarily. From the start, Italy tied down strong forces of our enemies and, above all, their freedom of strategic disposition. But when II Duce judged the moment had come to take a stand, with weapon in hand, against the ongoing unbearable rapes, which were inflicted upon him, especially by French and British interventions, and the King carried out the declaration of war, it happened in the full freedom of his decision.

All the greater must be the feeling of our gratitude.

Italy's entry into the fight has helped in France to hasten the realization of the total hopelessness of continued resistance.

Since then, our ally fought first on the ridges and peaks of the Alps and now in the broad spaces of his sphere of interest. Precisely his present-day air attacks and the fighting at sea are being carried out in the spirit that is inherent to the Fascist revolution, and pursued by us in the spirit that National Socialism feels for Fascist Italy. Every pain of Italy, such as we experience it today in view of Balboa's death, is also Germany's pain. Every joy ours as well.

Our cooperation in the political and military area is a total one. It will extinguish the injustice that has been inflicted on the German and Italian folk for centuries. For: In the end stands, above, the shared victory!

My delegates, men of the German Reichstag, if I now speak about the future, then it does not happen in order to boast or to swagger. I can comfortably leave that to others, who probably need it more, such as, for example, Mr. Churchill. I hence wish to now present a picture of the situation without any exuberance such as it is and as I see it.

First. The course of the ten months of this war lying behind us has proven my view right and the views of our opponents wrong.

If so-called neutral English statesmen assure that their land emerges stronger from any defeat and any failure, then it is at least not arrogance, if I inform hereby inform you that we have likewise emerged stronger from the successes.

I already declared to you on September 1st of the previous year that, quite regardless of what may come, neither force of arms nor time will bring Germany down. The Reich is today militarily stronger than ever before. You have seen the, individually certainly heavy, but overall nonetheless so light, losses, which the German Wehrmacht has suffered in the combat of the last three months. If you consider that, in this period, we established a front that now stretches from the North Cape to the Spanish border, then these losses, especially measured against the losses of the World War, are extraordinarily small ones. The reason for this - aside from the on average splendid leadership - lies in the excellent tactical training of the individual soldier, of the formations as well as the coordination of arms of service. The further reason lies in the quality and purposefulness of the new weapons and the third in the intentional renunciation of any so-called prestige success. I have myself endeavored to fundamentally avoid any attack and any operation that is not necessary in the sense of a real annihilation of the opponent, rather was supposed to be done solely for a perceived prestige.

Nonetheless, we have naturally made preparations for losses many times greater. The men of our folk thereby spared will benefit the continuation of the struggle for freedom forced upon us. At the moment, many of our divisions are again being withdrawn from France and transferred to their home bases. Many men can go on leave. Weapons and equipment are again being repaired or supplemented with newer, better material. Overall, the Wehrmacht is today stronger than ever before!

Second. The weapons. The loss of weapons in the Norwegian, and especially in the campaign against Holland, Belgium and France, has been a totally insignificant one. It stands in no relationship to production.

Army and Luftwaffe are at this moment - as I speak to you - in their equipment as well more perfect and stronger than they were before the assembly in the west.

Third. Munitions. Munitions were prepared in a magnitude, the established stores are so great, that, in many areas, a limitation of production or a shift of production must now be undertaken, since the existing depots and rooms, even given maximum expansion, would, in part, no longer be in the position to store up increased additions. Munitions consumption, similar as in Poland, was a small one beyond all expectation. It stands in no relationship at all to the inventories. The overall reserve supplies among army and Luftwaffe for all weapons is at the time significantly greater than before the attack in the west.

Fourth. War essential raw materials. Thanks to the Four-Year Plan, Germany was equipped in a magnificent manner for even the most severe burden. In no other armed force in the world has a conversion from war essential materials, which must be imported, to those that are inside the land taken place even approaching the degree as in Germany. Thanks to the working of the Reich Marshal, the conversion of the German economy to an autocratic war economy took place already in peacetime. We possess, above all, both the most important raw materials: coal and iron, to an - I may say today - unlimited extent. The supply with fuel is in the inventories a rich one and the capacity of our production such an increasing one that in a short time - even given the stoppage of any import - our need will be sufficiently covered.

Through our metal collection, the basic inventory of our metal reserves has so increased that we are up to any war duration and are subject to no event. In addition to this come the mighty possibilities that lie in the utilization of an immense booty as well as in the development of the regions occupied by us. Germany and Italy possess in the economic region regulated and

controlled by them around 200 million people, of whom only 130 million provide soldiers, while over 70 million can be active exclusively economically.

I informed you, my delegates, on September 1st, that I initially had a new Five-Year Plan drafted for the conduct of this war. I can assure you today that in this sense all measures have been taken, but that - regardless of what may come - I no longer see in this period any factor somehow threatening us. Nourishment as well, thanks to the measures taken in time this time, is ensured for any duration.

Fifth. The bearing of the German folk. The German folk, thanks to the National Socialist education, has entered this war not with the superficiality of a hurrah-patriotism, rather with the fanatical earnest of a race that knows the fate that faces it in the event it should be defeated. The attempts by our opponents' propaganda to dissolve this solidarity were hence just as stupid as ineffective. Ten months of war have deepened this fanaticism. Indeed, it is a misfortune that the world's opinion is not shaped by people who want to see things as they are, rather only by those you see them like they want. I have in the last days studied through countless documents from the Ark of the Covenant of the Allied headquarters, which, among other things, also contain morale reports from Germany and memorandums about the constitution and inner bearing of the German folk. These are reports, which also stem from diplomats. Their results from the study of these reports really only the question, whether their authors are blind, stupid or base scoundrels. I readily admit that, even in Germany, there have naturally existed, and probably still exist today, individual subjects who experience the Third Reich's triumphant march almost with regret. Incurable reactionaries or blind nihilists may indeed be sad inside that everything turned out differently than they had hoped. Just their number is a ridiculous one and their significance is even smaller.

Unfortunately, however, apparently this scum of the nation was chosen as yardstick for the outward evaluation of the German folk. From this then results in the sick fantasy of failed statesmen the last strongholds for new hope. Accordingly, it is "General Hunger", which the British commanders chose as ally, or the "looming revolution". There is no nonsense so crazy that these people would not present it to their own folks in order to thereby help themselves along again for at least a few weeks. The German folk has proven its inner bearing, above all, through its sons, who fight on the battlefields and who have in a few weeks defeated and annihilated the, after Germany, militarily strongest opponent. Their spirit was and is today also the spirit of the German homeland!

Sixth. The surrounding world. The last hopes in the eyes of the English politicians appear to rest, aside from the allied nations, represented by a series of kept heads of state without throne, statesmen without folks and generals without armies, on new complications, which they believe they can produce thanks to their proven skill in this. A real Ahasuerus among these hopes is the belief in a positive new alienation between Germany and Russia.

The German-Russian relationship is set down definitively. The reason for this establishment lies in that, supported by certain small states, England and France continuously assigned to Germany intentions of conquest in regions which lie outside all German interests. First it went that Germany wanted to occupy the Ukraine, then to march into Finland, another time, one claimed Romania as threatened, yes, finally one even feared for Turkey.

Under these circumstances, I considered it correct to undertake, above all, with Russia, a sober establishment of interests in order to clarify for always what Germany believes it must

view for its future as region of interest, and, conversely, what Russia considers important for its existence. From this clear delineation of reciprocal spheres of interest resulted the new regulation of the German-Russian relationship. Any hope that in the execution of this new German-Russian tension could arise, is childish. Neither did Germany take a step that would have taken it outside its sphere of influence nor did Russia take such a step. England's hope, however, to be able to achieve an easing of its current situation through the creation of some new European crisis, is a fallacy, insofar as Germany's relationship to Russia is concerned. The British statesmen grasp everything somewhat slower, hence they will also still learn to grasp this over the course of time.

My delegates!

In my speech of October 6th, I already correctly predicted the further development of this war. I assured you, my delegates, that I could not for a moment doubt victory. If one does not see precisely in the defeats the traits and guarantees of final victory, then I believe the development - as said - has previously proven me right. Although I was convinced of this development, I offered France and England the hand of reconciliation back then. The reply that I received to this is still in your memory. All my arguments about the senselessness of a continuation of this fight, about the certainty, even in the most favorable case to receive no gain, rather only loss, were either met with mockery and scorn or at least silenced to death.

I immediately assured you back then that I feared, due to this my peace proposal, to even be decried a coward who does not want to fight, because he no longer can fight. It then happened exactly so. But I now believe that already today France - naturally less the guilty statesmen than the folk - will think differently about this October 6th. What nameless misery has come upon this great land and folk since then! I do not even want to talk about what pain this war has inflicted upon the soldiers. For above that almost stands the suffering that arose through the unscrupulousness of those who drove millions of people from their home without any reason, only with the thought to thereby perhaps be able to cause difficulties for the German conducting of war. However, an incomprehensible presumption. This evacuation had the most harmful effect for the Allied conducting of war, but most terribly for the unfortunate victims affected by it. The suffering that Mr. Churchill and Reynaud inflicted upon millions of people through their advice and decrees, they can justify neither on this side nor on that side.

All that, as said - did not have to come. For still in October, I demanded neither from France nor from England anything else than just peace.

But the armaments profiteers wanted the continuation of this war at any price, and they have now gotten this war.

I am myself too much a soldier to not have understanding for the misfortune of such a development. I now hear from London only a shout - it is not the shout of the masses, rather of the politicians -, that precisely now the fight must be continued.

I do not know whether these politicians possess the correct perception of the coming development of this fight. But they declare that they will continue to wage this fight and, if England perishes from it, even from Canada. I hardly believe that this is to be so understood that the English folk goes to Canada, rather probably only the war profiteers will withdraw to Canada. The folk, I believe, will have to stay in England. And it will then certainly see the war in London with different eyes than its so-called leaders in Canada.



Believe me, my delegates, I feel an inner revulsion before this sort of parliamentary destroyer of folk and state. I am almost sorry, if fate has selected me to knock down what has been made ripe for collapse by these people; for it was not my intention to wage war, rather to build a new social state of the highest culture. Each year of this war robs me of this work. And the causes for this robbery are ridiculous zeroes, whom one can at most characterize as political manufactures of nature. insofar as their corruptible wickedness has not stamped them as something special.

Mr. Churchill has recently declared again that he wants war. About six weeks ago, he started with the war in the area where he apparently believed he was especially strong, namely the air war against the civilian population, however, under the feigned motto against so-called war important institutions. These institutions, since Freiburg, are open cities, market spots and peasant villages, residences, field hospitals, schools, kindergartens and what else all is hit. I have previously hardly responded to this. But this should not mean that this is or will remain the sole reply.

It is clear to me that nameless suffering and misfortune will descend upon people from our reply coming one day. Naturally, not upon Mr. Churchill, for he, after all, will safely sit in Canada, where one has, after all, already taken the fortunes and the children of the most prominent war profiteers. But great suffering will arise for millions of other people. And Mr. Churchill should perhaps believe me this time as an exception, if I now pronounce the following as prophet: A great world empire will be destroyed by it. A world empire, which to destroy, or even just to harm, was never my intention. Only it is clear to me that the continuation of the fight will end only with the total smashing of one of both of those fighting. Mr. Churchill may believe that this is Germany. I know it will be England.

At this hour, I feel myself obligated before my conscience to once more direct an appeal to reason in England as well. I believe I may be able to do this, because, after all, I do not ask for something as the vanquished, rather speak as victor for reason. I see no reason that could compel the continuation of this conflict.

I regret the sacrifices, which it will demand. I wish to spare them my own folk as well. I know that millions of German men and youths glow at the idea of finally being able to deal with the enemy, who, without any reason, has declared war against us for the second time.

Only I also know that at home there are many wives and mothers, who despite the greatest willingness to sacrifice even the ultimate thing, nonetheless still cling with their hearts to this ultimate thing.

Mr. Churchill may now dismiss my declaration again with the shout that this is only the product of my fear or of my doubt in final victory. I have then at least lightened my conscience regarding coming things.

Delegates! Men of the German Reichstag!

In review of the ten months lying behind us, we are probably all overcome by the mercy of Providence that let us succeed with the great work. It has blessed our decisions and accompanied us on difficult paths. I myself am moved by the awareness of the mission assigned to me by it to again give my folk freedom and honor. The shame that took its start 22 years ago in the forest of Compiegne has been extinguished forever at this same spot. I have now today

named men before history, who enabled me to complete the great work. They have all performed their utmost, consecrated their abilities and their industriousness to the German folk. I want to close now with the mention of those nameless ones who did their duty no less so, who by the millions risked body and life and were ready at any hour, as fine German officers and soldiers, to make the ultimate sacrifice for their folk, which a man has to make. Many of them now lie bedded at the side of the graves in which their fathers from the great war already rest. They are witnesses of a silent heroism. They are the symbol for those hundreds of thousands of musketeers, tank-hunters and panzer crews, military engineers and artillerists, soldiers of the navy and of the Luftwaffe, men of the Waffen-SS and all the other fighters, who have assembled in the struggle of the Wehrmacht for the freedom and future of our folk and for the eternal greatness of the National

Socialist Greater German Reich.

Germany, Sieg Heil!

**England rejects the Führer's peace proposal.**

**As reply to the appeal to reasons, English fliers attack non-military targets in German cities and villages to a heightened degree.**

**The action by the German Luftwaffe is subsequently intensified.**

**England now tries, for the purpose of the broadening of the war and in order to cut off the Reich from its nourishment, to an increasing degree to gain influence in the Balkans. A struggle' lasting for months' for the politically dominant position in Europe's southeast thereby begins, which ends with Greater Germany's victory.**

**On July 26th, a German-Turkish trade treaty is signed.**

**On the same day, the Führer receives the Romanian Minister-President and Romania's Foreign Minister.**

**On July 27th, the reception of the Bulgarian Minister-President and Bulgaria's Foreign Minister follows.**

**Peoples Commissar Molotov refutes on August 2nd the English hopes for a darkening of the German-Russian relationship: "The friendly and neighborly relations will remain totally intact."**

**The German Wehrmacht report announces on August 5th the destruction of 5 million gross registered tons of English cargo since the beginning of the war.**

**In the pursuit of the struggle, now waged with total disregard against England and in response to the English government's starvation plans, Germany, on August 17th, imposes a total blockade against the British isles.**

**On August 20th, after the arbitration by the Axis powers in Vienna, the new border arrangement between Hungary and Romania is signed. A further injustice of the western powers is thereby corrected and a second stone broken out of England's political constellation.**

**On September 1st, the Wehrmacht report announces 441 enemy aircraft and 80 barrage balloons destroyed in one week.**

**At the end of the first war year, the Führer opens, on September 4th, the second War Winter Aid Work.**

## **Speech on September 4, 1940 in Berlin**

### **Opening of the War Winter Aid Work 1940/41**

**I**n these days ends the first war year. The second began, and with it the new War Winter Aid Work. The successes of this first year, my folk comrades, are unprecedented. They are so unprecedented that not just the opponents could not imagine this course of history, rather even many in the German folk could barely conceive the magnificence of the processes and the speed of the events.

We cannot at all draw upon the first war winter of the World War as comparison; for in this first war year then, despite the greatest valor, despite unheard of great sacrifices, only partial results were achieved, not a definitively carried out solution.

This time, we only need to gaze upon the mighty triangle that is today protected by the German Wehrmacht: In the east the Bug, in the north the North Cape, Kirkenes and Narvik, and in the south Spain's border! A number of opponents has been eliminated. Only to a favorable geographic situation and an extraordinary speed in retreating does England owe that it has not shared the same fate! For it is not so, like some British politicians portray it, that, say, the British army chomps on the bit like a wild horse with burning eagerness to finally be released against the German enemy. They were so close to us, after all, and could have easily satisfied their desire for combat back then. They themselves distanced themselves from us. And it remained up to them to portray this repeated distancing as great victories.

Decisive successes have been achieved in this year. And the large region that is dominated by German troops at this time has expanded through our ally Italy, which, for its part, has likewise gone on the offensive in East Africa and then, too, strengthened its position and beaten back England.

Naturally, this is also confronted by English "victories". They are successes, which human, healthy common sense just does not understand and does not recognize. They also have no special context in themselves. We experience again and again that, since this year, English propaganda falls from the peak into the abyss, in order, however, just a few days later to soar at an even greater altitude. I have read this once; it went, for example, "Now the dice of war fall. If the Germans do not manage to reach Paris - and they will not manage that -, then they have lost the war. But if they should reach Paris, then England will win the war."

Since September 3rd and 4th, England has won numerous "victories" of that sort. The most glorious victory - in our eyes, it would be the most ignominious failure - was the flight from Dunkirk. But what did one not do in an emergency! We merely need to read the English war reportage in order to know what this success is like. It states there, for example: "One tells us that..." or: "One learns from well-informed circles..." or: "One hears from well-informed offices..." or: "One can hear from experts..." or: "One believes one may seriously believe that..." Yes, once it was stated: "One believes to have reason to may able to believe that...etc." And then, as said, naturally any defeat can become a success.

We were just entering Poland and the English propaganda declared that they knew from well-informed circles that the Germans had already suffered a number of most severe defeats and that the Poles were on the triumphant advance against Berlin. A few days later, the well-informed circles still assured that now the fate in the east had definitively shifted. Then equally

well-informed experts came who noted that even if Germany should have won a success - which was not the case at all -, that this success was in reality a failure - seen from a higher strategic standpoint, naturally.

And as we already stood in Warsaw, then one again knew that one had the right to be able to presume that now, in the west, the attack by the allies had won its first great, and indeed penetrating, successes.

And that went on so until there was finally no longer any Po-land. And then one said: "A great nightmare has been taken from us, for this Poland in the east was always our weakest spot. Since Poland is finished, the Allies can finally concentrate on the theater where they are superior to the Germans, and the German will learn that in the shortest time."

Then there was quiet for a long time. This quiet was naturally also a tremendously ongoing success for the British armed forces and an equally constant failure for Germany. How did England work in these months, and what did we sleep through! What did the English politicians see and correctly recognize in this period and what did we in contrast miss! Until Norway came. When the operation began, English war reportage was pleased by the huge "mistake" that we had now made. "Finally, the Germans have made a mistake, and now they will pay for it", so did one write, and one was pleased in England that one had now gotten the opportunity to be able to measure oneself against the Germans. In the west, we had for months been just a new hundred meters apart! They could have measured themselves against us at any hour! They acted as if they could not see us at all in the west, and now, for the first time in Norway, kind fate now gave them, thanks to our, and ^specially my, stupidity, the opportunity to finally be able to deal with us militarily.

The conflict, it came then, too. And it is really an irony of fate that perhaps the, for the English worst, blow back then was owed to their own propaganda. When, namely, we had already long since pushed the Norwegians out of Hamar and Lillehammer, a British brigade marched staunchly, piously and unsuspectingly along the same route toward Hamar. It had no link at all to the rear, for our Stukas and bombers had meanwhile severed all that. And so they only listened to the British radio. And on British radio, the British brigade commander heard that we were still far away, naturally far from Lillehammer, seen from his standpoint, far behind Lillehammer, and that we had suffered a severe defeat. And so the staunch British brigade commander marched at the point of his brigade into Lillehammer, sat down to rest there, at his side the chest with the document upon which stood: "Top secret! Do not allow to fall into enemy hands!", and was round up still that same night together with his precious Ark of the Covenant by our troops. That is what happens, if somebody relies on Mr. Churchill, the war reporter!

That was how it was almost everywhere. They lied. They were thrown into the sea, and then it was "a very great victory". That they managed to still save the last few ruins of Andalsnes or of Namsos, they declared that to the world as the "mightiest success of recent British war history". Naturally, we cannot measure ourselves against them in that. But the reality confronted that, namely: a few weeks later, there was no longer any Norway. The British military forces had to evacuate this land as well.

And then came the hour of the conflict in the west. There, too, we arrived too late. And precisely in this campaign, this allied combination really had to suffer nothing else than just defeats. The facts, the historical facts speak for it and provide testimony. Nonetheless, this, too, ended with a great British "victory", namely with the magnificent, glorious feat of arms of

Dunkirk. I have seen with my own eyes the traces of this feat of arms. It looked rather disorderly!

Now France is likewise broken. And what kind of explanation does one have now? Hardly had Norway been permanently cleansed of the Allies, when one declared: "We wanted that, after all. We wanted to entice the Germans up here, after all. That was a victory, a distinctly clear victory for us, a shortening of our front." And after France was finally crushed, one declared: "Now England can finally, for the first time, concentrate all its strength. Now we no longer have the need to always waste ourselves and expend our troops, to scatter ourselves. Not we have achieved the strategic position that we have continually desired and hoped for. The dead weight of France has finally fallen away from us. It only cost us precious British blood, and now we are in the position to oppose the Germans quite differently."

Right at the start of the war, one concerned oneself with certain prophecies about the duration of this war. One said: "This war will last three years. British prepares itself for three years." One also had to do that, for the people there, who, after all, are all extremely rich holders of stocks, war factory portfolios, these people are smart enough, they naturally know that these new investments cannot become profitable at all in half a year or in one year. That requires some time. But I was also equally careful back then and immediately told the Reich Marshal back then: Göring, let us prepare everything for five years. Not because I believe the war will last five years. But whatever may come, England will break down, one way or another! And I know no other term than this term alone.

I will naturally always prepare everything cleverly and carefully and conscientiously. You will understand that. And if one is very curious in England today and says: "Yes, why doesn't he come?" Be calm, he will come! One does not always have to be so curious. This world will become free. The nonsense must be cleared away forever that it can be possible for one nation to blockade an entire continent whenever it wants. It must be made impossible in the future that a pirate state can from time to time again and again, according to wish and mood, surrender 450 million people here more or less to poverty or to misery. We are fed up, especially as Germans, to let England dictate to us in all future, whether or not we may do this or that, yes, in the end, even whether or not a German may drink coffee. If England does not like it, then coffee import will be blocked. That does not interest me personally at all. I don't drink any. But it angers me that others cannot drink it. And, indeed, I find it unbearable that here a nation of 85 million can be punished at any time on life and limb by another folk, if it does not fit some plutocrat in London.

I have so often offered the English folk the hand of reconciliation. You know it yourselves, after all. It was my foreign policy goal. I have recently done it again for very last time. Now I prefer to fight until a very clear decision has been produced. And the clear decision can only be that this regime of pitiful and vile war agitators is eliminated and that a condition is established in which it is impossible that, in the future, one nation can still tyrannize all of Europe.

Here Germany, and here Italy as well, and here both states will bear the concern that this does not repeat itself in history again a second time. And here England and also all its allies can do nothing, neither Emperor Haile Selassie nor Mr. Benesch nor another, not even King Haakon and also not Queen Wilhelmina and also not the French General De Gaulle. All these allies will not be able to help at all. And whatever else they may still plan, whatever else they may have

also keep in view in the deepest fold of their heart, we are on guard, ready for everything, determined for everything and ready to act at any time.

And above all: One does not terrify us with anything at all. We German National Socialists have passed through the hardest school that is at all humanly conceivable. First, we were soldiers of the great war, and then we were the fighters for the German resurrection. And what we had to endure in these years, that has hardened us. One hence also cannot intimidate us with anything. One cannot surprise us with anything at all. When one entered the war in England a year ago, one said: "We have an ally." One was curious who that probably was. They said: "It is a general, this ally. His name is General Revolution." Aha! They have an idea of the new National Socialist German folk state! And then they waited in London for the activity of this General Revolution. On September 6th, nothing happened, on September 7th, nothing happened. On September 8th: according to their statements, this general was supposed to rise up inside a week, General Revolution. And he has not been found.

Then one said: "But we now have a more effective general. It is General Hunger." We have counted on it from the start that the great humanitarians, like in the World War, would try to starve women and children, and have also prepared ourselves for it. This general as well was only a miscalculation, a ghost, a jack-o'-lantern in the brain of Mr. Churchill.

Now one has come to the third general as ally. It is General Winter. He already existed once. He failed back then, he will or he would fail this time as well exactly so. Indeed, the English should, if they really take such obscure generals, then they should not forget to perhaps promote their most significant general to the British Imperial Field Marshal, namely General Bluff. That is their sole solid ally, who would deserve that they actually let him have the highest promotion. They can no longer defeat us with these generals anymore - you can be convinced of that. Perhaps one can make the dumb British folk dumb with that, but the German folk has actually become acquainted with England. The babbling of Mr. Churchill or of Mr. Eden - to speak of old Chamberlain, piety forbids one that - this babbling leaves the German folk completely cold, moves it at most to laughter. There is no fitting word in our High German language for such a manifestation as Duff Cooper. There one must resort to a dialect, and here, I believe, a word has been coined only in the Bavarian, which characterizes such a man, namely: spasmodic hen [Krampfhenne]! The gentlemen can calm themselves, with these means they will not win the war. And the other means, which, thank God, are in our hands, will remain in our hands! And when the hour has struck, then we will put in the place of General Hunger or Revolution or Winter or Bluff, we will again put the General of the Deed, that means action. And then we will see who proves himself best here.

I have already pronounced the gratitude of the German folk to its soldiers in the Reichstag. These days, we are moved by gratitude to our Luftwaffe, to our valiant heroes who, day after day, fly into England and respond there to what brilliant Mr. Churchill first invented.

But today I wish to direct gratitude, above all, to the homeland for the year lying behind us, gratitude to the whole German folk, and indeed, I want to thank the German folk for its whole bearing, which it showed during this year in often not easy situations. For perhaps it is not at all known to many what it means to evacuate over 700,000 people in a few weeks in the past year. And it all went without a hitch. However, everything was also prepared among us - in contrast to the others. But what people individually took upon themselves here and there was often very difficult, and they bore it admirably. They are happy that they could now return to their homeland again.

But we must also thank all those who, in this homeland itself, carried out the most important protective measures, for which they are responsible: air defense and especially for the mighty operations of the Red Cross, which in the physicians, in the whole medical personnel, but especially in the nurses, performed a huge amount.

But we must now remember, above all, the German woman, that band of millions of women, German mothers and also German girls, who must now replace the man and who work in city and countryside, and who make sure that, on the one hand, our daily breads comes again and, on the other, that the soldier gets the necessary weapons and ammunition. At their side stand all the millions of German workers, who in the munitions factories, often very old or still very young, work so that the fighting front does not lack that from which it, in the final analysis, once collapsed in the year 1918. It is something amazing to see our folk here in the war, in its whole discipline.

We experience this precisely now at a time when Mr. Churchill introduces us to his invention of the night air raid. He does it not because these air raids are particularly effective, rather because his airforce cannot fly over Germany by day. While German pilots and German planes are over English soil day after day, an Englishman does not cross the North Sea in the light of day at all. So they come in the night and now, as you know, drop their bombs indiscriminately and without system on civilian residential districts, on farmsteads and villages. Wherever they see a light, a bomb is dropped on it.

For three months, I have not responded to this, in the view they would cease this nonsense. Mr. Churchill saw in this a sign of our weakness. You will understand that we now, night after night, give a reply, and indeed increasingly so, night after night. And if the British airforce drops 2,000 or 3,000 or 4,000 kilograms of bombs, then we not drop in one night 150,000, 180,000, 230,000, 300,000 and 400,000. And if they declare they will attack our cities to an increased degree - we will eradicate their cities! We will put a stop to these night pirates, so help us God. The hour will come, when one of the two of us breaks, and that will not be National Socialist Germany! For I have already once in my life waged such a fight to the ultimate consequence, and the opponent broke who today still sits in England on a last island in Europe.

Precisely in view of this fight, however, it is now really necessary to comprehend how important the shaping and forming of our German folk community is. We would not have been able to perform all that, if up at the front, lost and all on his own, a German soldier stood without the tie to like-minded souls in the homeland. What makes the German soldier up front strong, is the awareness and the knowledge that behind him, feverish in iron solidarity, but with fanatical will, there stands an entire folk, and indeed a folk filled with a lofty goal. And this goal goes far beyond, say, winning only this war. No, we want to build a new state. That is also why we are so hated by the others today. They have often pronounced it. They said: "Yes, your social experiments are very dangerous. If that now spreads, and if our workers as well see this, that is very worrisome. That costs billions and brings in nothing. It converts neither to a profit of the economy nor in a dividend. What is all that supposed to do? We have no interest in such developments. We welcome everything that serves mankind's material progress, insofar as this material progress again converts economically into profit. But social experiments, what all you do, that, after all, can only lead to awakening the appetite of the masses, and finally lead to us having to descend from our pedestal. You cannot expect that from us." One saw in us the worst example. Every institution that we created, it as not, say, adopted by the others, no, rather it was rejected, because we carried it out. They saw already in that a concession again on the path to a social legislation and this to a social development that is hated in these states. They are simply



plutocracies in which a very small clique of capitalists rule these masses, and naturally in the closest tie with international Jewry, with the Freemasons. We know these friends from here, after all, our old dear coalition, System Germany, which, after all, personnel-wise as well has also in part fled there. They hate us due to our social stance, and everything that we plan or carry out based on it, appears dangerous to them. And they are of the conviction that one must eliminate this development. And I am of the conviction that the war, the future, belongs to this development. I am of the conviction that the states that do not join this development will sooner or later collapse. We see very many states in this world with unsolved social questions. They will, if they find no solution of reason, sooner or later reach a solution of lunacy.

National Socialism has prevented that in the German folk. And they now know our goal, and they know that we will tenaciously and logically champion and also achieve this goal. Hence this hatred by all the international plutocrats, this hatred by all the Jewish newspapers, by the whole world stock market and the sympathizers of all those in other lands, who think likewise or similarly as these plutocrats.

But because we know this, that this struggle, in the final analysis, is a struggle for the whole social foundation of our folk, for the substance of our life, and is directed against this substance, nothing at all remains for us than, precisely in this struggle for this ideal, to ourselves affirm this ideal ever more.

And here, the Winter Aid Work, this most splendid social assistance institution that exists at all on earth, here this Winter Aid World is also a mighty demonstration of this spirit. Everybody will believe me that we would have also been able to solve this differently. We would have been able to easily bring this about along the taxation route. We could have had everything done by public officials. But even if the financial result would have been exactly the same, for all I care, even greater, in terms of ideals, the result would not have been even close to what we have this way. For this way, it is voluntary organization of the German folk community in its practical effect - an education for the one who donates, but also an education for the other, who now himself voluntarily performs this work. For there are two people here who make a sacrifice: the one who makes a donation and the other who now administers this donation, administers it without pay. This little girl who walks down the street here and collects, supported by all the other occupations, which in rotation complete this work, up to the representatives of the state, of the economy, of the arts etc.- it is a practical education toward folk community. And that is the decisive thing, my folk comrades, for we are all somehow burdened with the traditions etc. of the past, of origin, of position, of occupation etc... Either we strike millions dead, who are irreplaceable in their other national activity, in their economic work, because they are not yet ripe for such a community, or we educate them toward this community. Those are two fundamental ideas. National Socialism has from the start represented the view that every stance is just the product of education, of habit, of inheritance, and can hence be relearned again the same way. For the child who grows up today in our folk will not be primarily born with whatever prejudices of class or occupational origin. Basically, this worm screams against this just like every other one, There is no difference at all between them. Only over the course of life are these differences artificially imposed upon them by their environment. And to eliminate this is our task, if we do not want to despair for the creation of a really organic and load-bearing human society. We have taken up this task and now begin to carry out this task in all areas, starting with the small child. As soon as the worm starts to think that one can educate it for the differences of human life, we begin with the education for the shared and then no longer let loose. And even if one or the other declares: "The results?" Yes, my dear friend, we have, after all, started just a few years ago, first in our party as community

and then, soon for eight years, in the German folk. A short period, if you consider what worked in reverse for centuries, but nonetheless, in the result already now tremendous. These mighty demonstrations of our community speak for this, after all. All this would have been totally impossible twenty years ago, after all, and thirty years ago inconceivable, and forty years ago one would not have wanted it at all. Today this is already a reality. And we do this in all our areas. We educate people toward a uniform life view, to a uniform, homogenous view of duty. And we are of the conviction that, after a certain era of this education, people will be the product of this education, this means, they will then represent the new ideas the exact same way as they today in part still embody the old ones.

This is a laborious path of grinding away and of education. But we also see it, after all, in the Winter Aid Work, it makes progress. When the first Winter Aid Work came, many people still ran around in Germany who said: "Who comes there?", such as, well, Ludwig Schmitz, you all know him, after all, "a man with a can, so right or left, or perhaps even with a stupid comment". That this was so and that it this has improved, one sees this, after all, in that the donations got ever bigger. Tenacity has led to success here. Gradually, even the most thickheaded representative of the old order has realized this: First, nothing helps anyway; they come again and again, and when one is gone, the next comes. Hence, second, it is better that I take it and pin it on, and third, well, actually, basically, something is really being done, after all.

What happens thereby! What wounds have we thereby healed in Germany! Where all have we helped! How could we help out people individually! What gigantic social institutions have been created! Believe it, many people are initially against such an innovation simply out of laziness, out of mental laziness. But when they first see what comes out of it, they say: "Well yes, by God, naturally one can also give something. I had not thought about it at all correctly, after all. I did not imagine it so, that such a mighty thing develops and finally that it has consequences. They are naturally, after all, really splendid deeds, works, which are achieved here." And before the person thinks about it, he is already himself, as the most stubborn representative of earlier views, on the path toward the new Germany.

And conversely. If we would have previously told somebody thirty years ago: "Sir, here is a tin can, now stand on a street corner and now ask somebody to give you something for your folk comrades", he would have said: "What? I'll donate something myself, but you cannot ask that from me. I am Mr. So-And-So, or I am this or that, and I cannot do that. What are you thinking at all? And furthermore, how will I be addressed? Do I know whether somebody might say something stupid to me?" - Yes, he is no smarter than the person who says this stupid thing. One must educate people reciprocally. It is very good, if you see how stupid many people often talk. That is a wonderful education. But precisely this work has already now in so few years shown how teachable a folk body is and how much people are gripped, in the final analysis, by a great idea, but also by a great work, by a great achievement. And we grip them on all sides, after all. This education is carried out everywhere.

I know how often even earlier one spoke the words, the Napoleonic words that every soldier carries the marshal's baton in his backpack. But that was really not to be taken literally, for normally it was once not at all conceivable for a soldier to walk this path. All that has changed up to the top. If once the highest decorations could only be given - let us say - to an officer, then today a valiant non-commissioned officer or enlisted man can just as well wear it. A world of prejudices has been torn down, a world of prejudices.

And believe me, over the course of decades, it will become ever nicer to live in this state. The tasks become ever greater, and in them we will educate our folk more and more to itself, transform it into an ever closer and more intimate community. And if then a few still people still do not want to under any circumstances, then we will one day give them an honorary burial. Those are the last representatives of a past age; and, in that regard, perhaps also still interesting. But the world, the future belongs to the young folks who solve these problems. And we have already begun with this solution and also solve it.

And the Winter Aid Work is here a mighty community proclamation of the homeland in view of the mightiest proclamations of the community of the front. For just as there a huge body, well organized, does its duty, so does this homeland stand at home and is ready for the same accomplishments and willing for any sacrifice that this struggle for our future's existence or non-existence may put to us.

If I hence once more thank all those who, in the first Winter Aid Work, have given or were otherwise active as helpers, then I simultaneously ask you all: Fulfill your task anew in the second Winter Aid Work. The one as voluntary helper and the others as voluntary donors. Make sure than this, too, even becomes anew to the world a demonstration of our indissoluble sense of community, and that it may finally realize that the speculation in General Revolution is an idiocy and that another general stands in place of this general: the general of shared fulfillment of duty, who commands us all.

It is the spirit of our folk community that lets us endure everything and that lets our folk be strong for all conflicts and decisions of the future. In this as well, each individual helps to break the will of our enemies, in that he robs them of such illusions, he contributes his share in the spread of the knowledge of and insight into our folk. The more the other world sees that this great folk is a single community, the more it will realize how hopeless its plan is. People who are separated from each other, each walking his own path, they could break them - but 85 million who have one will, one decision and are ready for one deed, a world does not break them!

**On September 19th, the Reich Foreign Minister arrives in Rome for a several day visit.**

**On September 25th, Reich Commissar Terboven proclaims the elimination of the previous system in Norway. "Nasjonal Samling" takes over the state's reconstruction.**

**On September 27th, the Three Powers Pact between Germany, Italy and Japan is signed in Berlin.**

**On September 28th, the Foreign Minister of allied Italy arrives in German Reich territory for discussions with the Reich government and Spain's Minister of the Interior.**

**On October 3rd, the Führer and II Duce meet at the Brenner Pass.**

**On October 6th, the German folk celebrates Harvest Thanks Day. The Führer receives the front peasants in the French chancellery and directs the following address to them:**

## **Speech of October 15, 1940 in Berlin Before the Front Peasants**

**T**he struggle in which the German nation finds itself this time for the first time in its history is a struggle in the deepest sense against the life assertion of our folk in itself. The states, which since September of the previous year had declared war against us, have not had any objective reason that we could have given them. The reason is understandable to all of us: It is supposed to be prevented that the 85 million mass of our folk can achieve the life claim that is due our folk on the basis of its number, its significance, its industriousness, its work strength, but also its genius. The state that is the main driver in this war was the driving force in almost all European wars for almost three centuries. England tries to build its world dominance upon Europe's ruins. It tries to prevent any consolidation of Europe. And this time, it is supported in the process by those forces for whom especially the German Reich in its present constitution is a thorn in the side. They see in the intellectual world that we represent a danger for the rule of their own purely capitalist oriented circles, of their so-called leading strata.

This struggle, it seemed to be possible to this other side and in its outcome certain through the hope in a few allies. The first ally in whom they believed they could trust was, in their eyes, a new German revolution. They were really of the opinion that they only needed to declare war, and then Germany would collapse in a few days as the result of an internal revolution. Whither they believed that and why they believed that, I do not want to examine that here. There are, unfortunately, isolated unscrupulous rascals who, active especially in foreign lands, have helped to spread this idiotic view. We do not need to waste any more words about this.

The next hope was the opinion that they would manage, like in the World War, to force us into the fight with two or three fronts at the same time in order to then gradually let us bleed to death.

After 18 days, their first ally has been defeated. Even though autumn's bad weather did not make it possible to finish France still in autumn, a few months later this settling of accounts nonetheless took place. And even though bad weather again prevented us from dealing with the last opponent, his hour will strike as well. Militarily, this war is already today completely won. Whoever dominates Europe, whoever possesses this European position from the North Cape to the Spanish border and beyond, can no longer be defeated militarily. They also know that.

They then still had a few other hopes. A big hope was the winter in the previous year. We withstood it better than our opponents themselves. And then a really big hope still remained for them, it is hunger. They basically built upon that. They reckoned that what they had not managed by force of arms, what they had not managed with betrayals, what they failed diplomatically, namely Germany's encirclement, that they will, in the end, nonetheless still manage through the thumbscrews of hunger. Here, too, we have taken extensive precautions in many areas. Economically, industrially, the fate of the World War can no longer strike us at all. Perhaps many a person in the years before the outbreak of war cursed or grumbled or carped about the many substitute materials that I had imported already back then. I did that, because I was first of the conviction to most easily be able to eliminate the unemployed along the path of extensive new German raw material acquisition. That also succeeded. But I also did it, because I was of the opinion that it makes no sense to base a folk's economy on raw materials which one does not have in an emergency, after all, rather that it is better, right from the start, to cut

one's coat according to one's cloth and to take what one has, even if, for all I care, at first glance, there are better materials. We simply cannot allow ourselves the luxury that we work in copper at a time when we just must import and can import copper, while we are in the position to produce light metals ourselves.

Furthermore, I was also of the conviction that the sooner we start with substitute materials, the better they get. For one can thoroughly prepare many things in peace. And we have today found so-called substitute materials in so many areas that are better than the earlier original materials. We will never again buy from others the earlier original materials at a high price. They have also noticed this, after all. This has also, in part, greatly angered them, because they felt that their blockage would be pointless in the future.

If we took many precautions in the economic, industrial area here, then we also tried to come to a healthy domestic production again in the area of agriculture. And you know: In all these years, we have known only one law: How do we protect German national labor in every area, in the area of industrial production exactly as in the area of agricultural production?

I have from the first moment represented the principle: If two products face us in competition, a German product and a foreign product, then the German must be taken under all circumstances. The foreign one takes second place. Only where German production does not suffice, there we can also resort to the foreign. The capitalist and liberal principle of earlier, simply for price reasons to take the foreign one, even at the risk of ruining whole businesses at home, we broke with that principle from the start. Quite the opposite, it is self-evident that many things that we manufactured ourselves were initially somewhat more expensive and perhaps must also forever be more expensive, because German labor is somewhat more expensive. But in the final result, as the product of our work, it is nonetheless cheaper; for we can produce it, we have the work force, and the whole German economic policy has been for us nothing else than the mobilization of the German work force, on the one hand, and of our natural resources and of the fertility of our soil, on the other hand. That was the problem that we faced.

The war has proven this preparatory work correct. In no area has it become possible for the opponent to somehow put us in a situation, say, in a similar situation to the year 1915, 1916, 1917 or 1918. That we restrict ourselves in the process, that is not tied to it at all, that we do not have something or have too little, rather that is tied to my caution. I feel myself responsible that the misfortune of the year 1918 does not happen to the German folk a second time. And because I feel myself responsible for it, I prefer to save in time. I would have been able to hand out many things. But I took the standpoint: We will ration for as long as we cannot exactly estimate time and things. It is always better to have the awareness of being equipped for three or four years, if necessary, than have the feeling that in six months things cannot go on. For it I know that, then the enemy also knows it in the end. And then one cannot count on a peace at all. The opponent must know that it is all the same how long it still lasts, in the end, he will succumb. That is the sole possibility to move this stubborn and impertinent enemy to a peace.

I have offered them my hand so often, and it was usually just spat upon as reply. Just a few weeks ago, I again declared to the English, I could imagine that we would immediately come to a peace. There are no problems at all that were not to be solved. I made as good as no demands. You have heard the reply, after all. However, under these circumstances, I am now also determined to vanquish this state. For there must then be a peace not for 5 or 8 or 10 or 20 years, rather a peace must come that enables us for generations to ourselves consume the fruit of our work. We have demanded nothing from the others.

These preparations have succeeded industrially and, thanks to the cooperation, above all, of our rural populace, they have also succeeded in the most important sector of our independence, of our conduct of war and thus of our future and the preservation of our future. This is a real miracle. And I also know quite precisely how difficult that was, when so many men are drafted, serve in the military, if actually only the old people, the youth and the women can be at home; for it is very difficult to manage what a nation needs in foodstuffs alone. I know how difficult the work of especially the German woman was. Nonetheless, this demand had to be made. We had no other choice, after all. And this demand has also been fulfilled, and indeed to a superabundant degree. We can again reckon that we will definitely last this year. And we have meanwhile, through new living space and through the securing of an ever-growing European economic region, created possibilities, after all, which we hope to be able to make full use of already in the next years. This difficult struggle, it finds understanding everywhere. And I can only assure you that as soon as I see the possibility somewhere, leaves will immediately take place. If I see somewhere that it is possible, without endangering the Reich's security, or perhaps give rise for any lurking party to believe that he could now find a weak spot among us, as soon as I see that these dangers do not exist, I immediately grant leaves. I must, on the one hand, ensure the highest striking force of the Wehrmacht, on the other hand, I do not want to make anybody stroll around the barrack-square longer than is definitely necessary. Then I prefer to immediately send him home so that he can be active and can work, can support his family.

These are principles that are often difficult to reconcile with each other. But the realization must remain guiding: In this struggle, the German folk fights for existence or non-existence. They already almost totally ruined us in the year 1918. Back then, the miracle set in that I managed, over the course of fifteen years, to build up a movement that made Germany free again and could hence again win for us the general internal and external life prerequisites. If they would triumph this time - we must be clear about this -, they would tear apart and atomize our folk.

I want to not just thank you for myself and through you thank all the millions of German peasants and agricultural workers and those who possess the responsibility for their leadership, rather I also want to pass along to you my conviction and my fanatical faith, when you leave here, that this struggle will be won one way or another. When, in the autumn of the previous war, the war against Poland began, there were many, especially former soldiers as well, who perhaps faced this conflict with fears, for they knew, after all, how difficult that was, and they looked back at the World War, and they had to tell themselves how slowly we advanced back then. I was a soldier myself in this war. I believe they were all not only surprised, rather they were downright thunderstruck that it became possible to crush the opponent in 18 days. And when they heard for the first time that the attack in the west had begun, when they heard on this May 10th, especially my old comrades from the war, that, in the west, we launched the attack, I know exactly that most of them felt a fearful worry and that they said to themselves: We know what the war in the west means. We have all experienced that. That is a terrible task. We often advanced not even three or four kilometers in months of fighting or tediously defended kilometers.

I was of the conviction that, with our present-day training, with our weapons and with the masses of our munitions, which I had manufactured and stockpiled, we would manage to smash this opponent in a few weeks. And you have seen that my prediction or my prophecy has come true. Yes, in the World War, Germany had the second strongest navy and still did not manage to escape the confines of the North Sea. I was convinced that even with our smaller navy, given

correct leadership and given an absolutely courageous action, we will solve a problem like Norway. We solved it. If in the World War we had gotten the positions for our U-boat war that we possess today, on the one hand, from Norway, on the other, from the French coast, then nobody would have doubted that the war will be won. In barely six weeks, we have achieved this goal in the west. After six weeks, there was no longer any France. For me, that was not, say, a prophecy from insight of a miracle, rather I prepared everything most carefully in advance. Here, too, we saved and saved. Perhaps many people could not understand earlier why we did so much in this area. I have always feared that they would not allow our ascent, even if I declare a thousand times: I want nothing from you. They want something from us! They do not want the big economic competitor. They do not want that. And hence I had preparations made here as well for years, through preparations, in great contrast to the time before the World War. I took the standpoint that one should spare human beings, but must be able to lavish material. One can replace material. Not human beings.

And we have now waged this war, and it has cost us in the west, with France's total annihilation, 50% of the dead that the war of 1870/71 cost. But only because we produced munitions and more munitions, and because we produced the most modern weapons. And in the process, we could then spare human beings and save up human beings.

And if perhaps the one or the other will now present the question: Oh, why didn't he attack, already in autumn grab England by the throat? - Because I want to spare human beings here as well and do not want to take a step, if I am not of the conviction that everything is so thoroughly secured that success must come under all circumstances, and indeed not with huge blood sacrifices. I want to spare human beings, do not want to achieve what I experienced in the World War with my own eyes. Today the whole Wehrmacht has gone over to this: The principle not to make any prestige matters, not to make any prestige attacks, such as was unfortunately all too often the case previously, rather to annihilate the opponent with material. Once he also annihilated us only with material. And I can assure you, there is a saying in the land out there: Where there is much, much comes. - And oddly, whoever has much, does not need much at all. If I today look at our munitions supply, then it is now roughly twice, in part, three to five times as full as it was in the autumn of the previous year. There will perhaps be many who say: Yes, why are you still manufacturing? - I do not know, but carefulness is the mother of wisdom. If somebody should come up with the idea to tangle with us, then he will be knocked hard on the head before he can wipe his eyes.

And I am responsible for it. I prefer to be excessively careful and produce too much. If I will have won the war and the nation then wants to indict me and says: There is too much ammunition lying around - then I will say: Fine, lock me up. Better that the ammunition is there and we have won, than one would say: It has all been cleared away very nicely, but unfortunately, at the last moment, it no longer sufficed.

And I can now assure you: With us, it will more than suffice! I was so careful, I have had so many weapons and I have had so much ammunition in all areas produced that every German can rest assured. When it comes to the final decision, then we will hit them over the head with so much that they will lose desire.

And tonight you experienced a little air raid alarm here in Berlin. In one regard, it is perhaps very good that you see how difficult it is for our workers here as well, or especially in the west, where they must stand at the machine by day and cannot sleep at night and, to make



things worse, must also make sacrifices, even if they are moderate. But it is still not even 3%, not 2% of what I throw on the heads on the English gentlemen.

I did not want that, here as well, I warned them. I looked on for three months, did nothing at all. Then I warned them, they should stop with this war, this idiotic war of destruction. They did not want to. Now I will teach them, who destroys. We will not win this struggle, we have won it, under one condition, that the German folk, united in full insight, grasps the hour of its historical test and challenge, and that each, on the spot he stands, performs the maximum, the peasant on his field, the worker in his factory and the soldier at the front.

And if I further reinforce this hoping with the conviction that, furthermore, this time Germany is somewhat better led, politically and otherwise, than in the year 1914, then I see no possibility at all that we can lose the war. In addition to this comes my deep faith, which tells me that the Lord always helps the one who helps himself, who is industrious and brave, who himself takes up the struggle with fate, he then also receives the blessing of Providence. The Lord never lets the one fall, who also does not let himself fall. Only if one believes than he can count on Providence, that he himself can be lazy, then he achieves nothing, or if he believes that he can count on Providence and may himself be cowardly, then nobody will also still be able to save him. That is my conviction.

And so, from this conviction, I wish to thank especially you, as representatives - who today stand before me - of the German rural populace for all the work and for the great industriousness and for the devotion. I just want to assure you than from all this will one day emerge a German Reich - this is a our sacred decision - a German Reich in which precisely the peasant should form the corner-stone. What we now, for example, do on the largest scale, a settlement policy such as, after all, has never yet in German history been the case, happens, after all, from this realization of the strengthening of the ultimate and securest foundation of our whole nationality, of the German peasantry. In that the German peasant today works under perhaps the most difficult conditions, he also eases his lot for the future, and indeed, as we believe, then definitively for centuries. For from this war another one will not come again in ten years, rather the war will decide whether the German nation lives or whether it simply does not live. And it will live!

Heil!

**As response to the nocturnal raid by the Royal Air Force, the retaliatory attacks by the German Luftwaffe are escalated further.**

**On October 16th, London experiences the 220th air raid alarm.**

**On October 19th, German U-boats sink in one night 26 steamers with 150,000 gross registered tons in a British convoy, on the following day 110,000 gross registered tons.**

**On October 23rd, the Führer and Spain's generalissimo meet at the French-Spanish border.**

**On October 28th, the Führer and II Duce meet in Florence.**

**On October 29th, Italian troops cross the Albanian border to Greece.**

**On November 6th, the Wehrmacht report announces 7 million tons of sunk enemy shipping since the start of the war.**

**The Führer speaks on the evening of November 8th, on the occasion of the traditional ceremony for the memory of the first National Socialist uprising of November 9, 1923, to the old guard in Munich:**

## **Speech on November 8, 1940 in Munich Before the Old Guard**

Party comrades!

My comrades!

**W**e now celebrate November 9th again just like back then on the eve of the rally. For us, the year 1923 was a highpoint in the struggle for power in Germany. This struggle, and hence the significance of the day that we celebrate, is understood only by the one who remembers back to the time in which we were placed back then, and, above all, the one who again visualizes the prehistory of this whole mighty struggle.

When we entered into the nation's political life, our names were unknown. The largest portion of us - I at the top - did not even belong to a party. Most had been soldiers, returned from the great war with rage or desperation in the heart. The folk's, the German Reich's situation seemed to many to be a desperate, a hopeless one. The Germany of the time before the year 1914 is no longer our Germany. Nonetheless, we feel bound to this Germany as well, for it already embodied the union of a large portion of German human beings. It was a land of work and also a land of prosperity. In this Germany of back then, after all, despite everything that may otherwise be said against it, the beginnings of a social legislation are to be seen. In this Germany, one took a position, for the first time at all, on problems, which still today, soon 30 years later, the so-called democracies blindly and deafly ignore. Certainly, these problems, as it was not conceivable otherwise, were solved from the perspective of back then, this means: the, in the deepest sense still capitalist, state could naturally approach the solution of social questions only hesitantly and only half-way, which, if they were really supposed to succeed, would have had as prerequisite that the state as well, the folk community, would have already gotten a different face. That was not the case. But all the more noteworthy, if one nonetheless concerned oneself with such problems at all and tried to solve them according to the possibilities back then.

Furthermore, Germany back then was still a land of democrats. Democracy celebrated precisely in this land greater orgies than anywhere else. It was the land of freedom. Everybody could do and leave what and how he wanted. This freedom went so far that one also kept the borders of the Reich back then open for anybody; not, so, like in America, the so-called land of infinite possibilities, for there every immigrant must pass an extraordinarily difficult exam before he is finally granted permission to step upon this sacred soil of democracy, although hardly ten people lived on a square kilometer. Among us, where, even back then, there were already 130 people per square kilometer, one did not take this measure. We were so free that any Jew, any Pollack could come to us without further ado and immediately acquire full equal rights. Germany later had to pay dearly for that. Back then, that mass of international stamp and international origin gathered, which in the year 1918 waved the flag of revolution.

Above all, however, Germany back then was without doubt a land of peace. One lived, one wanted to live. One earned, one wanted to earn. One knew that war is generally poorly suited for profit. So one hoped for peace so much that, in a period when, without a doubt, the other world already armed against Germany, one let pass that favorable moment for conflict.

When the war finally came, it struck Germany in the most unarmed condition thinkable. I am not a critic of the period back then, although I could be one, for I have, like perhaps hardly another in history, drawn my conclusions from the past and have taken them to heart. And I have endeavored to no longer allow the German folk to approach a danger in a similar condition as back then.

And back then, England was already our enemy. If I say England, then I know quite precisely that here as well, folk and leadership are not one and the same. A small clique of international democrats, Jews and plutocrats dominates this land. And this clique, back then as well, already engaged in agitation for war. They are even the same persons as today. Mr. Churchill of now was already back then one of the biggest warmongers. Many who are today old did it back then in their youth. The British agitators managed back then as well to mobilize a world against Germany.

So the war came that Germany did not want. For it would have had better opportunities to wage this war, had it wanted. And although the armament of Germany back then was poor - today we can comfortably state this the Germany of back then nonetheless held out for four years. And as former soldier of the World War and present-day supreme commander of the German Wehrmacht, I can comfortably say: back then as well, they would not have defeated Germany, if its ally in the interior had not broken us. They endeavored for four years, and it was first necessary to let an American magician priest arise who now found the formula for which the German folk, in trust in the word of honor of a foreign president, fell. If one later acted as if one would have defeated us even without it anyway, then one can only raise the question: Then why did one call the spirit through which we were supposed to be fooled, if it would work without it?

Germany was knocked to the ground back then by a band of conspirators, which could practice their evil work in our own folk and land. And then we received the bill for our naivete.

November 8th and 9th 1918 and the following days are for all time a warning for our German folk. Not a single promise was kept by the victors of the time back then. The greatest breach of word of all times set in. The period of suffering and misery began and hence also of desperation in our folk. Back then, there were probably many people who had no desire at all to still live. The suicide rates, they rose, after all, to over 20,000 per year. To most of them, life no longer seemed recommendable to them, which offered no prospect to ever again be able to achieve the equal rights and hence the freedom of the German folk.

Our struggle began back then. It was a beautiful struggle, for it was a struggle that was waged against all probability. When I appeared for the first time in this city and many of you then began to follow me, you who are here today, I was given up even by best friends. One could not grasp at all how an otherwise so reasonable person could suddenly get it into his head to fight alone against a whole world of realities. One said: What does this wretched creature want? He has neither money nor name; he does not even have a newspaper of his own behind him, he has no party. He has against him everything that exists. He wants to find against everything. He wants to fight against the entrepreneur and he wants to fight exactly so against the proletarian. He wants to fight against the present democratic Reich, but exactly so against the provinces. He wants to fight against all the denominations. He wants to fight against the organized business, such as we possess today, of capital, but exactly the same against the organizations of the unions. There is nothing at all against which this man does not want to fight. He wants to build a new state, a new society, and has nobody at all behind him. A crazy

man, who undertakes to go out alone and now declare war against a whole compact majority in all areas!

It was not so easy, this struggle, and nonetheless, successes began to show themselves. Against the silent treatment as well as against the method of mockery, of scorn, later against the flood of lies and defamation, and finally against terror, the young movement began to succeed.

You all experienced this. You came to me individually back then. Some in the year 1919, others in the year 1920 and 1921. And you all nonetheless had the feeling inside back then: we will nonetheless win this struggle for power. It may be difficult. What speaks for us, that is reason, that is the correctness of our principles, that is the realization that the present state can no longer be preserved, that it is only a question of time until it breaks one way or another. But it is furthermore also the sense of the necessity of a reevaluation of many concepts. But it was finally also - I almost want to say - mystical faith in the immortality of our nationality, a nationality, however, which, given the continuation of the given conditions, would have nonetheless been destroyed.

So we slower grew. By some, viewed with indifference, by others, followed with rage, hated by many, simply out of comfort. Many of the burghers who looked from their windows at us on the street had a silent rage within themselves, because they said: "Always this noise! If they would just finally be quiet. Again and again, it comes to brawls, only because they are not quiet. They should fit in, we fit in as well, after all. One can think on the inside, after all, like one wants, but not constantly announce it outside, rather keep it to oneself. One can still be a worthy citizen then. We also protest, but we protest within ourselves, in silence and at most otherwise with the mind; but then always with violence right off They know that the others also come with violence, so the smarter person should give in."

And we were not the smarter ones back then. Already as a child, I was not that. I have always rejected this principle, to be the smarter one and hence to give in, rather I have always preferred not to give in, even at the risk that the others then say: "He was not smart."

So back then as well, we did not give in, and disturbed the peace of these burghers again and again, never bowed, rather again and again rebelled, and slowly managed to conquer the street, to conquer places for ourselves, to bring location after location into our possession.

Then the expansion beyond our narrower homeland here began. But that was also a struggle against the folk that already seemed almost all-powerful in our land, the struggle against Jewry. And what that means, the person who is born today, in the future, no longer knows at all. A satanic power, which had taken possession of our whole folk, which had brought into its hands all key positions of spiritual and intellectual life, but also of political and economic life, and which, from these key positions, watched over the whole nation, a power, which, however, also simultaneously possessed the influence, if necessary, to persecute with the law the one who undertook joining the struggle against this power and who was ready to offer resistance against the advance of this power. Almighty Jewry declared war against us back then. And you also know I have always represented the view that there is no dumber folk than the Jewish one, however, also no more unprincipled and unscrupulous one. But I also always represented the view that the hour will come when we will remove this folk from our ranks. This is the view that also dominates me even today, since we have triumphed in Germany.

We declared war against everything that carried this state back then, that led this state, and were loyal to only one single thing, namely the German folk. We knew only one goal, to benefit the German folk and to serve it, and were also ready to take everything upon ourselves for it.

And then the year 1923 came, and we undertook the first attempt to get the power in the state into our hands. The attempt failed and the first blood martyrs fell back then. I viewed precisely this apparent collapse of the year 1923 as just the beginning of the triumphant march. I was of the conviction that after it had not managed to totally exterminate the movement, it would rise again, and that the blood martyrs of this November 8th and 9th would help to really lead the movement forward and finally ensure it victory. The opponents, however, believed that this was the end. A few months later, a new founding the movement had already come about, and a year later, there roughly followed again the upswing of the movement. In 1925, I was released, and a few months already sufficed in order to form the party anew.

And then began this amazing war and struggle and unique triumphant march in Germany. All the years 1925 and 26 and 27 and 28 and 29 and 30, they may have been unimportant for many others, many a burgher lived his petty life and did not know at all what happened around him, that one of the greatest revolutions of all time prepared itself. These burghers did not see this. But also many proletarian leaders of social democracy or the K.P.D did not grasp it, that a revolution spread, strode forward, of a unique magnitude.

We fought back then year after year, month after month, and we could only see to our proud joy that the movement grew more and spread ever more, until finally, after the years 1931-32, the year 1933 came, which brought us victory.

Perhaps there were many people back then - and we know this, after all, my dear party comrades - who just said: "Thank God, now they have power, now there will be quiet!" There were many, after all, who told me back then: "Now you have power, now you will stop, after all, party-political fighting." For these people, National Socialism was still just a party manifestation. They did not comprehend that the struggle of the party ceased, because the party had meanwhile become worldview and state, German Reich, but that the struggle for the German folk would now really be continued, for so long until the last German was forced into the orbit of this idea.

And even with that, there could be no standstill, rather this struggle will set in anew each year. And it must set it. The German youth was now won, class after class schooled, and this whole mighty structure of the National Socialist state erected. At the same time, the great inner resurrection also took place. And I can assure you all of this here again. You know it, after all: I have never sought quarrel and deal. It has always been my goal in the interior to convince the communist folk comrade or the social democratic folk comrade and to win him. Mr. Eden and then naturally the Jews, at their top Hore Belisha and what all their names are, they now began their agitation year after year. But one said: "Yes, he arms." Yes, I have always done that. One also told me earlier: "Why do you have your SA then, if you want peace? Why do you make an SS then, if you only want brotherhood anyway?" - Because there are people who do not want that, and I want to show them that I am also armed for the other case.

When I came to power, I relieved a Reich that had been a democracy. Today it is namely often so portrayed to the world as if one would have been ready anyway, after all, to give the German folk everything, if it were only a democracy. Yes, the German folk was a democracy

back then, after all, before us, and it was plundered and extorted. No, what does democracy or authoritarian state mean for these international hyenas! That does not interest them at all. Only one thing interests them: Is somebody ready to let himself be plundered? Yes or no? Is somebody dumb enough to stand still in the process? Yes or no? And if a democracy is dumb enough to stand still in the process, then it is good. And if an authoritarian state declares: "You will no longer plunder our folk, neither internally nor externally", then that is bad. If we, as so-called authoritarian state, which distinguished itself from the democracies in that it has the masses of the folk behind it, if we hence, as authoritarian state, had fulfilled all the sacrifices that the plutocrats had burdened upon us, if I had declared in the year 1933: "High sirs in Geneva" or "High sires, for all I care, somewhere else, what do you demand? - Aha, we will immediately write down: 6 billion for the year 1933, 1934, 1935, good, we will deliver that. Do you still have other wishes? Yes, we will deliver that as well" - then they would have said: "Finally, a reasonable regime in Germany". I represented a different view back then. When I came to power, a credit had been prepared just before us. That was the last one with roughly 5 billion, which we were still supposed to pay. And I made the firm decision to no longer pay anything at all. But I told myself, the people who had signed before that we pay 5 billion to foreign countries, they had all been good arithmeticians, for one had said of me, after all, that I am not an arithmetician, that I understood nothing about economics, but those people must have understood something, after all. So if these people considered it possible that we would still again pay 5 billion to foreign countries, then I told myself, we can, after all, in any case initially give the 5 billion in the interior for German armament. That is only a transfer of the sums. And so did I start. And afterward, you know this, after all, my old party comrades, I fundamentally do not do things halfway, rather, if I start something, it is complete. I was ready to act in peace. I proposed to the others: Disarmament, for all I care, down to the fingernails. If they had gone along with that, then fine. They did not go along with that, hence armament then. But then everything thoroughly, just no half-measures! I hence made the total decision, namely: Either we are no soldiers at all, or we are the first in the world - one of the two!

And I thereupon made the preparations, and indeed thoroughly made them. The German folk has, in the process, nonetheless not gone without anything domestically, quite the opposite. We have integrated over 7 million people into the production process again, have brought half of the previously employed - also around 7 million - from short-term work into a normal work week, and we have paid to all these people wages, and we have kept the price of currency stable, and everybody could buy something with his money. We have increased production most tremendously, always proceeding from our National Socialist principles that the decisive thing in the economy is the existing work force, is the ability to organize and employ this work force, that the foundation of our currency simply cannot be gold, rather that the foundation of our currency is production, this hence means that it lies completely in our estimation to create through industriousness and through work products, to create consumer goods and to let them benefit the folk again, just as one can also prevent this through laziness. We would then experience that the so-called gold states broke down with their currencies, while we, the non-gold state, alone kept the currency. Certainly, this was naturally a very dangerous affair, for a few other lands, they have now hoarded and amassed gold. And now a realization threatens to penetrate into the world, and indeed a practically hardened realization, namely that gold in itself is totally unimportant, that one can live just as well without gold as with gold, yes, even better under conditions. This realization can become dangerous for those who saw in gold an element of their struggle for power, and also always valued and exploited it as such an element.

So our industriousness in the interior has not, say, calmed the other world, rather, quite the opposite, the other world has really become right embittered over this struggle in the

interior. First they hoped that we would perish. I know, when I came to power, one said: "Six weeks, eight weeks, we can wait that long." After three months, one said: "Something must happen, he is not going away." And then one wanted to do something. I then defended myself against that, and you know, after all, the measures that we had to take right away in the first year, 1933. When I noticed that one wanted to put a noose around my neck, I left the League of Nations and the disarmament conference. One could initially no longer fault me for anything. Furthermore, I naturally drove armament forward even more strongly. The year 1934 came, and in March 1934, I gave the order, after all, to triple our army.

Now the international war against us began with all means, internally and externally. Attempted instigation of revolutions internally, attempts of a general encirclement externally, in the process, again and again the predictions: If they do not collapse politically, they will collapse economically. I do not know how many people prayed back then, insofar as they believe in the dear Lord, that he sends us a bad harvest or that our measures for the elimination of unemployment should not succeed. They were also so hypnotized by their own wish that they suggested to themselves the fulfillment of this wish. They said: "It cannot be different at all, after all, he must collapse economically, after all." And they said that to themselves so long until they finally even believed it themselves. And they wrote incessantly that we are collapsing. The individual phases of the collapse were always portrayed. Furthermore, it was then proven precisely that the German folk turned away from us and especially from me, that I gradually became a lonely man. And suddenly an election came again, and then it turned out that, instead of 94%, 98% stood behind me. They were naturally embittered and outraged by such a development and then finally began to try to corner us through international plots.

This, my party comrades, has led to the same result as the similar attempt in the interior. You know it, after all: Like, say, from the year 1925, 26, 27, there also began among us the plot of a general party conspiracy against National Socialism. Back then, they walked arm in arm, from the left to the right, the greatest extremes came together. Capitalism with the so-called socialism of international stamp, they walked together. Stock market brokers on the one hand and Marxists on the other, arm in arm against hated National Socialism. And I knew only one recipe back then: Just get hard, clench the teeth and take up the fight. And I took the same position externally. Every such new plot, every such attempt, through treaties, through agreements, to again mobilize states against us, led to me again intensifying armament a bit. I was determined to let everything come down to it.

So this struggle continued, for me, naturally, with the goal to eliminate the Versailles Treaty. And, my party comrades, I had to do that, if I did not want to be a liar. For what did I finally fight for then? When we assembled here in the year 1920 and 1921 and 1922, our program, after all, was: elimination of Versailles. I could not suddenly, in possession of power, say: "We accept that." I was determined to make Germany free again. And I have now carried out this struggle step by step. In the process, I really had the goal to remain in peace. And you know, after all, from all the rallies, from numerous assemblies and my publications, my foreign policy vision, which I had back then: I wanted to establish the closest friendship relationship with England. I figured both Germanic races actually had to walk together. I then wanted to establish the same relationship with Italy. And already back then, I thought of Japan as an additional power, with which we, because totally without conflicting interests, would be able to walk together.

Insofar as Italy is concerned, this attempt, after all, as you know, has succeeded. It succeeded thanks to the brilliant working of the one man there who founded Fascism and since



then has led his folk upward and who had to endure exactly the same fighting with his environment as we National Socialists. This finally succeeded with Japan as well. It has unfortunately failed with England, quite against our own wish. This was not our fault. Quite the opposite, even right down to the last moment, until a few days before the outbreak of the year, I still tried to achieve my foreign policy goal. Back then, I made the greatest offer to the British ambassador. I was ready to walk with England. But it was futile. I already saw back then how certain war agitators agitated constantly for years without having been stopped. And there could no longer be any doubt, after all, that this happened in order to one day put the British folk into a rage against Germany, while, conversely, given my stance, the German folk naturally felt no hatred at all toward England, so that Germany would have one day stumble into war emotionally totally unprepared. I warned against that already in 1938 and 1939, stressed in a speech in Saarbrücken that this could not go on, that, if England continued to tolerate these agitators, I would then be compelled to finally let German propaganda respond.

So the moment came when the question was no longer whether war will be avoided, rather whether it could perhaps still be avoided one, two, three years, and indeed through very deep German humiliations. And here you must understand one thing, my old party comrades: At the moment I became aware that England only wanted to win time, but one was determined there to wage war under any circumstances - something which is now quite openly admitted by the statements of British statesmen, after all - at that same moment, I had only one single wish, that, if they would declare war against us, that they would hopefully still do it while I was alive. For I know that this is the most difficult conflict that was ever imposed upon the German folk. And I imagine that I am the hardest man that the German folk has had for many decades, perhaps for centuries. Furthermore, I possess the greatest authority, and, above all, I believe in my success, and indeed, I believe in it unconditionally! I am convinced that this struggle will end no differently at all than the struggle I have fought in the interior. I am also of the conviction that Providence has therefore previously only led me this far at all and kept all dangers away from me in order to let me wage this fight, and indeed to let me wage it to victory! And, finally, I also went through the great war, and I belong to those who back then were also swindled out of success. It is hence my unshakeable decision that this fight does not end so.

When I spoke to you the previous year, the first phase of this struggle laid behind us. In 18 days, our Wehrmacht knocked down Poland. One had imagined that quite differently. One was of the conviction back then that this war would last, well, six, eight, ten months. One told oneself: "Today there are no wars of swift and penetrating decisions. In the most favorable case, a kind of trench warfare will come here, a front will establish itself in the east, this will lead to bleeding dry, then the west will meanwhile gradually arm, and then the summer of 1940 will come, and then one will advance against Belgium and Holland toward the border of the Ruhr region, well, and then one will simply slowly become Germany's master." That is how one imagined it. Furthermore, one believed that a few weeks later - one heard this from all sides - the revolution will break out in Germany, and, furthermore, distress would then come.

Furthermore, they had no idea of the magnitude of our armament and believed that I would bluff exactly like they themselves constantly bluff. They have swindled for so long that they do not understand at all that there is somebody who simply does not swindle in such things, rather actually does what he says. So they were of the conviction that this war would become a relatively easy war.

A year ago, as stated, Poland was eliminated, the first frustration of their plan. I could refer to this great success back then on November 8th. Today, a year later, I can refer to further

successes. These successes can only be appreciated, above all, by the person who was himself a soldier of the great war; he knows what it means, in a few weeks, to beat down not only the entire west, rather also to take possession of Norway up to the North Cape, so that a front exists today starting from Kirkenes to the Spanish border.

All the hopes of the British war agitators have thereby been smashed. They had imagined that so beautifully: war on the periphery, throttling our German lifelines, constriction of the Reich, and then gradual strangulation of this Reich. And now it has actually turned out the opposite. This continent slowly mobilizes itself, in that it remembers itself, against the enemy of this continent.

Germany has in a few weeks actually given this continent freedom. The British attempt to balkanize Europe - the British statesmen can note this - has been concluded and ended. England wanted to disorganize Europe, Germany and Italy will organize Europe!

If one now declares in England that the fight goes on, then this is totally indifferent for me. It continues for so long until we will end it, and we will end it, the gentlemen can be convinced of this! And it will be ended with our victory! You can also believe me about that.

I am clear about one thing here: If I had wanted to be a prophet and had declared to the English on January 1st of this war: "in the summer of this year, we will have spoiled your Norway plan, not you will then sit in Norway, rather Germans will sit there; still in the summer of this year, you will not be able to be in Holland or come to Holland, rather we will have occupied it; still in the summer of this year, you will not have passed through Belgium to the German border, rather we will have preempted you." And if I had told them, "still in the summer of this year, there will no longer be a France", then they all would have said -: "a madman!" I hence refrain from predicting today. I give just want to give the German folk a few clarifications:

First: The previous struggle has led to rests of unique nature. In terms of personnel, as bitter as it is for the individual family, which has had to make a sacrifice, demanded as good as no sacrifice from German folk property. Overall, the casualties that we have had in this war are not as great as in the 1870/71 war. Yes, they are hardly more than the half of it.

In terms of personnel, all our calculations were untenable insofar as we did not need to bring in all the envisioned huge replacements, which we had figured in for losses, and could hence release many long-serving men, and in the process were and are nonetheless in the position to strengthen the Wehrmacht, and indeed essentially with younger men.

In terms of personnel, the German army looks different than it looked in the World War. Just a few days ago, I traveled through Belgium and through France, and I must say, as old World War soldier, it is wonderful how our Wehrmacht looks today. All formations, regardless of whether army or Luftwaffe or Waffen-SS, they all look equally wonderful. It is not to be compared to what our burned-out cadres presented in the year 1914 or 1915 to 1918.

In terms of material: I have prepared in advance in this war such as has been previously prepared in advance in no other war. And this has richly rewarded itself. The material losses of this war have been totally insignificant. The munitions that we have expended in the previous fighting, this is in part only a portion of a month's production. The reserves are so huge that, in many areas, I now had production halted, because there is no longer any possibility to somehow

anyway rationally pile up these quantities. I have in turn redirected production to those areas where I believe to have to be especially strong. You hear the threats of the other world constantly, after all, what they will produce. Australia has six or seven million inhabitants, of whom, I know not how many, some live in the bush, but, nonetheless, they will produce eight times as many airplanes as Germany. Canada has only nine million inhabitants, but it will produce twelve times as many airplanes as Germany. What the American Union first produces, one can express that only in astronomical figures. I do not want to be a competitor in that area. But I may assure you of one thing: Now as before, our German production capacity is by far the greatest in the world. And we will not step down from that, for we are in the position today to mobilize about half of Europe. And that I can do that industrially, one will already believe. The material armament is hence a huge one, and it is just now growing, for even though we had already prepared mobilization for years, industrial mobilization, as you know, output nonetheless happens, after all, in large quantities only after a year to a year and a half. But that is the case at this time.

I may hence say the following in summary: We are prepared for the future like never before. We are prepared materially, and we are prepared in terms of personnel. And that the Wehrmacht uses every day, anybody who was a soldier himself knows that anyway. No day is lost. This first military instrument of the world is constantly groomed and improved. And when the hour comes for the big action, then I hope exactly the same to achieve similar results such we have behind us. I have a motto: Prepare everything most thoroughly, and then act swift and daring. The moment will come when the gentlemen who now already conquer the world again with their mouth must now stand still, after all, and then we will see who used the months better, we or the others.

At any rate, Germany, with its allies, is today strong enough to oppose any conceivable combination in this world. There is no power coalition at all that could match us militarily. Economically, the long preparations now reward themselves, which we made already in peace. The Four Year Plan, which we now extended another four years, it has given us numerous bases. And the English also knew that quite precisely. They have not cursed so in vain against this Four Year Plan, which makes us independent from the threats of a so-called constriction or of a blockade. Furthermore, we want to see for once who is blockaded in a few months, we or the others. I believe, after all, that already now they have lost the desire for lying in many areas. Mr. Churchill, who about a year ago, eight months ago and six months ago still declared: "The U-boats, we destroyed 50% of them in one month." The next month, he could no longer say 50%, because otherwise none would have existed, hence the next month it was still just 30%. A month later, he also could no longer say 20%, then he had to say 10%. Now this General Liar of world history must admit that the U-boats appear to be more numerous than they were previously. And he can believe me: boy, do they become more numerous! He has no idea how they become more numerous! We will still challenge these international capital liars. We will see: There will certainly one day no longer be a Mr. Churchill, but German U-boats will exist, and in masses!

And so then, since he can no longer contest this, this most brilliant strategist who has been previously born, pounced on the air war. It was a brilliant idea of Mr. Churchill to start the air war with precisely the weapon in which England is weakest compared to us. You know, I have for years made proposals to the world, one should cease the bombing war, especially against the civilian population. England rejected this back then, probably in premonition of the coming development - democrats are always clairvoyant. Fine. But I have nonetheless never carried out war against the civilian population in this war. In the Polish War, I did not have night attacks

against Polish cities carried out. One cannot hit the individual object so precisely at night. Hence I generally attacked only by day and always only military targets. I did the same thing in Norway. I also did that in Holland, in Belgium and in France. Then it suddenly occurred to Mr. Churchill, since the British airforce cannot fly over German soil by day at all, to punish the German civilian population with night attacks.

You know my patience, after all, my party comrades. I hence looked on for eight days. One dropped bombs on the population on the Rhine. One dropped bombs on the population in Westphalia. And I then looked on for 14 days. I thought to myself, the man is crazy, he introduces a fight in which only England can be destroyed.

When the war in the west was at an end, I extended my hand to England one more time. I was again scolded and spat upon most crudely. Mr. Halifax behaved like a lunatic. Also fine. One intensified the bombing attacks. I again waited. I must say that it became hard for me. For many people came to me and said: "Yes, how long, Mr. Führer, will you still wait? They do not stop." I waited for over three months, and then one day, however, I gave the order: So, now I take up this fight to the end! They want it, now they should get it. They want to destroy Germany through the air war, I will now show them who will be destroyed. England, the English folk, which I only regret, can thank this war general criminal Churchill. It owes it to him. Mr. Churchill has made the greatest military nonsense with this war that a statesman or a field commander could ever make. He fights with the weapons with which he is weakest. And he fights from a position that is also geographically bad for England, since the moment when we sit from Drontheim to Brest. It is the worst position that England possesses here at all. I will hold out in this fight. I regret that it naturally demands victims on our side as well. Only I know National Socialist Germany, only Mr. Churchill does not know it. That is the big difference. He believed he could perhaps exhaust the German folk through it. He has just totally forgotten that now a different Germany has come. This Germany becomes more fanatical, its determination just gets stronger, with each bomb. This nonsense must be cleared away forever. And we are determined about that.

When Mr. Chamberlain was here in Munich in 1938 and hypocritically made his friendship offer to me, this man had made the decision inside to immediately after his return declare: "I have now gotten a certain period, and now we want to arm so that we can then attack Germany." It is clear to us that any armistice today would only be an armistice. They would hope that then a few years pass, perhaps that I no longer stand at the top of the Reich, and that the struggle could then begin anew. It is hence my inalterable decision to continue to wage the conflict to a clear decision: exactly as I as National Socialist in the struggle for Germany rejected any compromise, so do I reject here as well any compromise. I have offered my hand so many times. It was in vain. They wanted this fight, now they should have it. And the German folk will continue to wage this fight to a quite clear decision. A threat must be eliminated, namely: that in one, two, three years, after highest tension, the thing again goes off anew. The German folk finally wants to have peace, and indeed a peace, which lets it work, which does not make it possible for any international rascal to agitate other folks against us. And these people naturally, for them, war, after all, is the greatest profit. I have no reason to wage war for whatever material interests. For us, it can only be sad. It takes from us time, from the German folk and the whole community infinitely much work and work energy. I have no armaments stocks in my possession. I earn nothing from this fight. I would be happy, if I could work again, like I previously worked for my folk. But these international criminals, they are simultaneously the biggest armaments profiteers that exist. All the factories belong to them, they do business.

They are the same people whom we previously had in Germany as well. There is only a conflict with these people. One must break here, and under no circumstances will that be Germany.

But if this Germany today possesses a different form, then because National Socialism has pulled up the German folk again. It has created the spiritual, emotional, moral and also material prerequisites for the tremendous victories of the Wehrmacht of our young Reich. Every soldier knows it and must know it, that the armies, which today march under our banner, are the revolutionary armies of the Third Reich. They carry in their heart not only the faith in a Germany such as in the past, rather they carry in their heart the faith in the Germany that hovers before us all in the future, for which we have fought so long, in a better Reich, in which the greatest goals of our national and social movement will be achieved.

And that we today possess this Germany, we owe that to those who marched in the year 1923, and, above all, to those who back then fell for the movement as the first blood martyrs. These 16 dead are simply more than just 16 dead. They have become the crown witnesses of our folk's resurrection. And their sacrifice was all the greater, since back then they could recognize what has since come only as a pale imagination. They really acted back then in boundless love for Germany. For whoever came to the movement back then, of him one could only say: "You can now give up everything else, now you are ridiculed and scorned and persecuted, who must be aware that you become hungry and that they will throw you out everywhere, you have nothing at all that is secure for you, other than perhaps your own death, you see before you only something for which we all fight; it is a new Germany, a Germany of honor, which pulls itself up again, which secures its sons daily bread again, and again assumes the rank in the world that is owed it on the basis of our folk's number, of the historical past and our early, present and future value."

All these men came for this. Many of them, they only felt it unconsciously. There were so many little people in this movement. We were so avoided by what calls itself intelligentsia, what calls itself upper bourgeoisie. We were so avoided by them that the great majority of those joining our movement were mostly just very little people. Perhaps they had no clear concept at all of what would one day develop. They only knew it will be different one day, one day a new Reich will be built, and in this Reich much of that will then be achieved, which even our opponents yearn for deep inside, without them knowing that it was never to be reached along their path.

These people joined for this, and these sixteen also sacrificed their lives back then for this. There were sixteen, it could just as well have been five-hundred or a thousand. Nobody complained: all the wounded, they did not become untrue to the cause, quite the opposite: as wounded, they were really party comrades again, more fanatical than before. And many hundreds followed these sixteen, here and outside the Reich's borders. It was for years, almost a decade and a half, a single path of martyrs, perhaps most strongly in Austria and in the Sudetenland. Strongest there, because the struggle almost seemed most hopeless. How could these little people surmise the course of history as it really took place! How could they foresee the miracle that a year and a half or two years later they would be gloriously brought home into a great Reich! They nonetheless fought with devote heart, without knowing exactly in detail that it will come so in their lifetime.

But all that took its start from this November 8th and 9th, 1923. And hence we celebrate the memory of these men, especially moved today more than ever before. For they all simultaneously carried in their hearts also the humiliation of the collapse of the year 1918/19.

It ate in them as well, and it always raged in them as well. How often did we sit together, always burning with the one thought: that must be repaired again in our history, that cannot last and cannot remain so. That would burden the German folk with a shame for all time. We will eliminate that from our history. We will wash it away again. We will erect again a Germany of honor and of power and of energy and of splendor. We will not let that rest upon us. Germany must arise again, one way or another. And in this spirit, we fought back then, in this spirit, they fell, in this spirit, the struggle was then really continued, and in this spirit, we stand today before the other world and will achieve that for which they have fallen now as well. They believe they will destroy Germany. They will err! Germany will first arise from the struggle!

**On November 10, the President of the Council of Peoples Commissars of the Soviet Union and Foreign Minister Molotov arrives in the Reich capital for a state visit.**

**On the same day, Irish Minister-President de Valera declares to England's continued attempts to draw the Irish Free State into the war against Germany that Ireland's neutrality will be defended to the extreme.**

**On November 14th, the Führer speaks to armaments and front workers who were decorated with the War Service Cross:**

## **Speech on November 14, 1940 in Berlin to the Front Workers**

My German workers!

**T**he struggle in which Germany stands today will be decided not only by the valor of the soldier, rather also, above all, by the performance of the German economy. The World War in 1914 did not send the German soldier to the front with the equipment he may have expected. I have endeavored since 1933 to bring German armament to the optimum in the conviction that every additional weapon may secure or save the life of the man who must fight out there; that it is cheaper to shoot up ammunition than to sacrifice blood. The fact is that this struggle as well could previously be fought through with minor blood sacrifice. Naturally, for the individual family, the respective loss is also equally severe, but figured for the whole nation, the losses are unprecedented minor. Precisely the old World War soldier, he knows what it has meant to solve in the short period of a new weeks and months military problems on which we had to fail and did fail in the World War, but he also knows what it means to solve these problems with such minor blood sacrifices. That was only thinkable thanks to the extraordinary armament, the most modern armament that we could give our Wehrmacht.

If I had not had the German folk for this work, then even the greatest performances of the soldier on the front would have been in vain, such as was the case in the World War, after all. For the soldier of the World War was just as courageous as the present one is. He only, unfortunately, in part, perhaps did not have the corresponding training at the beginning of the war, but certainly did not possess the necessary weaponry.

That this war now came, was clear to all us at the moment in which every attempt to come to an agreement with England failed. I endeavored for years to bring about this agreement. On our side, no demand at all was made, neither to England nor to France. But the reasons that finally led to the war were the same ones that already gave birth to the World War. It is the old attempt to prevent that these 85 million Germans build their life according to their number and their worth.

We did not intervene in England and we also did not intervene in France. But the mere fact of the existence of these 85 million already seems to these British statesmen as something unbearable for them, as something that, in their eyes, could perhaps sooner or later threaten their absolute world domination.

Well, the consolidation of these 85 million people is not a matter of luxury for us, rather it is about a problem that decides existence or non-existence. For in the final analysis, people do not live from theories, rather they live from what their soil gives them. And whoever has too little soil in this world, will get too little. Whatever theories he has, makes no difference, whether he orients himself toward one side or the other. If ten people live on a square kilometer, like in the other great empires of the world, then these ten people can simply live better, than if 140 live on a square kilometer. What we extract from our soil is the most tremendous, whereby, however, we do not know how long the soil would yield that. We stimulate it with all conceivable artificial materials. But we do not even know whether that is healthy for our own life, but we stimulate it with artificial fertilizer etc. and try to extract what is possible.



But in the long-term, the same relationship cannot be established between the life possibilities of folks who live 10 to 12 per square kilometer and the life possibilities of folks who must live 140 per square kilometer. Sooner or later, the danger also exists that German soil begins to strike, that it simply does not want to go on, that the whole stimulus with artificial fertilizer leads to the opposite result. And if our harvest would decrease by merely 15% or 20%, then this would represent a catastrophe.

Nonetheless, all these problems could have been solved, without the other side having thereby lost something. For you must keep before your eyes, my folk comrades, that about 85 million Germans sit on 600,000 square kilometers and roughly 45 million Englishmen 40 million square kilometers in this world. The dear Lord or Providence did not allot that to them, rather in the three hundred years, during which the German nation devoured itself internally, dissolved and splintered internally, waged religious wars and God knows what else, in that period, the others divided up the world.

They are hence relieved of distresses and cares that we constantly possess as accompaniment. In the long run, naturally, the condition is unbearable. Nonetheless, as said, all that could have been solved reasonably, for we raised no claim to something that previously belonged to the English or the French, we did not raise any claim at all.

If nonetheless this brash agitation against Germany went on for years, then the reason lies in that one viewed in the German folk not just an eminent political factor, rather that one naturally feared this folk would one day raise its life claim, and finally, in the final analysis, it was the Germany that already before the World War was unsympathetic for them in its somewhat social direction.

That was the case already before the World War. The Germany of back then, after all, was perhaps not satisfactory in all areas; we know that all too well, after all. But the idea was nonetheless alive already back then that one would not be able to survive in the long run without a solution of the social questions. One now sought with the inadequate means of the time back then to solve these problems. Inadequate also because the state social order was at the bottom a capitalist one, this means, economy and capital - along the detour of the press and the parties back then financed by capital - had tremendous influence over public life, so that social legislation had to somehow again and again get stuck. Just the attempt was made. The other world did not concern itself with these problems at all.

Since the year 1933 took place, we have now systematically tried step by step to build the new social state. It is clear to us that these are works that will not be completed in two or five or ten years, for we cannot make experiments; experiments that would start that we smash what exists in order to then build something else. For this smashing would mean that, given our dense settlement, perhaps 50 million people would practically have to starve.

But we have now taken hold of these problems and have begun to solve problem after problem. And we could ascertain the one thing, that to the degree that we attack these social problems, the other world, and especially the Anglo-Saxon world, began to persecute us with hatred. For this Anglo-Saxon world, all social questions are totally superfluous. It rejects dealing with them, in part, because they are really in an extraordinarily favorable situation, in part, because they possess an unprecedented ruthlessness toward their own folk comrades. And the men among us who were in London for an extended period report universally always just one thing: It is unbelievable how, in a land with such vast riches, the differences between rich

and poor can be so pronounced, how, on the one hand, a downright inconceivable luxury exists in this London and, on the other, a misery and a depravity, a poverty such we cannot even imagine in Germany, although overall we are so much poorer than England.

These strata saw in the national Germany of social mark a dangerous impulse. We experienced that, after all. One forbade Strength Through Joy ships from landing at all. One also told me personally a few times: "You know, we do not want to let our people get spoiled." - "Yes, why?" - "Well, we do not want to let our people get spoiled with your institutions, which you have there." They prevented our social institutions from being viewed by British delegations with the exact same motive, they said: "We don't want that." Our whole huge organizations, Strength Through Joy, etc., they reject that, totally reject it. The theaters do not exist so that the broad masses enter, rather theaters exist, in the final analysis, for the people who are simply in the position to afford it. Bathing resorts and trips, they reject that. That is not for the broad masses. Furthermore, the social level of the resort is disturbed and ruined by that. This extends to all public life. Also our view of education.

We have, you know this, in Germany broken with prejudices of the most monstrous kind, and indeed everywhere. That has not been so easy. But we have broken with these prejudices. What we today accept in our Adolf Hitler Schools, in the National Political Education Institutes, those are children without regard for origin. Whoever is talented, should be educated in this state and should be enabled to come to a leading role.

But we have eliminated all boundaries in the rest of life as well. What one was previously, plays no role. If he can perform a work, then it may be of whatever kind, then he is called for it. We have torn away these barriers in our state administration as well. Today, former agricultural workers are Reich regents, former workers are today provincial leaders and are Reich regents or state secretaries in the highest circles. We have ripped down the barriers in the Wehrmacht as well. Thousands of officers have been promoted, who come from the non-commissioned officer ranks, from the enlisted ranks, without regard for their origin. Exclusively ability alone should decide.

These are all ideas that have gradually become self-evident for us. In these other states, they are not self-evident, rather, in these states, they still simply live in their old world, and they hate us, because they see in us a bad example, which, in the end, could infect their own folk masses as well.

But there are also still purely economic interests. We have in Germany, without me having somehow infringed on, say, property, nonetheless put limits on property, this means the limit that consists of no property being allowed to work to the disadvantage of another. We have not allowed, for example, that one accumulates capital from armaments profits, rather we have set limits here: 6%, and of this 6%, initially 50% is taxed off again, and the remainder of 3% must also be somehow invested, otherwise it is also taxed away from him. Whatever exceeds that, must be put from the start into a capital stock and stands at the disposal of the Reich, the state.

In other states, this is not the case, quite the opposite, such an armaments enterprise, let us say, like Schneider-Creuzot, has paid out a 76% dividend. Aside from that, then still at least the same amount in the form of so-called board of director fees. Things that have been abolished among us. In these lands, almost every member of the parliament, of the British parliament, is a member of a board of directors and receives for this his shares. I have banned it in the German

Reich that anybody at all, even during our opposition period, may be a member of a board of directors. Today that is banned by law.

These are all things that are viewed as destructive. In these other lands, one says, if these ideas spread, then these ideas will gradually grip our folk as well, and that will be harmful.

In addition, there is our anti-Semitic legislation. I have taken care that, in Germany, the German can become everything, but foreigners have no business in Germany or must fit in unconditionally. The German who goes to a foreign land must fit in unconditionally. The Jew, above all, who only pounces upon occupying the so-called leadership positions of the nations, must evacuate this land. Here, too, one sees a bad example, for, in reality, all folks would be happy, if they got rid of him, and in Europe, this movement now begins to take hold in state after state.

There are a whole large number of individual reasons that helped to awaken the hatred against us and to fan especially the dislike against the new social state. From this, the fight has now come. Now you must understand one thing, my party comrades: I did not want the fight. I have done everything in order to avoid it. I have extended my hand so often to the French. I have dispatched my ministers. I have extended my hand to London. I believed that, in the previous year, the people would have perhaps come to reason after the Polish campaign. I again offered them my hand. It was futile. Immediately after France's defeat, I again declared I wanted to conclude peace. I have no demands on England, we can immediately conclude peace. I was formally spat upon and attacked by these people. I looked on for months, while our cities in the west were bombed, because I thought, if the possibility of agreement should still remain open at all, then it is perhaps good, if one does not immediately begin with this final weapon. That was also in vain. Basically, however, I am grateful to fate, and you must understand this, that this fight, which, after all, would not be spared our German folk, broke out during my lifetime and that I can wage it, first, because I possess the greatest authority in the German folk itself, and, second, because I believe that I am suited to wage it the best. And the previous development has probably proven this.

It is clear to me that this fight will not be waged by just the German soldier, who has outdone himself, I have never doubted, after all, that the German is the best soldier in the world. I have myself been a soldier, only soldier, and have in this long time become acquainted with my comrades. If the German soldier is equipped and well led, he is the best soldier that exists on earth.

That was self-evident. But just as decisive is the huge front of the homeland. It is the gigantic 5 million worker army, which works on German armament. Every shell, which we put at the disposal of the German soldier, spares under circumstances a risk of blood. And if I can today point out that a war, in which, in barely 18 days, we defeated Poland, in which we swept the English out of Norway, in which we prevented them from coming through Belgium and Holland, a war in which we beat France, if we today reflect that this war was fought through without even 35,000 dead - that is barely more than half of the dead of the campaign of 1870/71 -, then, my folk comrades, you have the biggest share in this. All the workers who here at home have been active have the biggest share, who have given our soldiers the best weapons in the world, the unlimited masses of ammunition, the workers who constructed the wall in the west, so that one could fight in the east without having fear that in the west one could perhaps be stabbed in the back. All the workers in our factories, who made it possible that, for every machine-gun that was destroyed, ten more were there, who made it possible that, for every shell

that was fired, ten others lie there, who made it possible that we today protect Germany with an anti-aircraft defense such as no other state in the world possesses, they have all helped that only these few and minor blood sacrifices have resulted. And the German soldier knows this as well, that he owes it, above all, to his comrade who stands at home, stands in the factory or performs work on the job, that he owes it to him that it is made possible for him to perform the most tremendous thing with relatively minor blood sacrifice.

And for this, I want to thank you not only in the name of the German folk, rather especially in the name of the German soldier, for whom I can speak, whom I know well, whose fate I also once experienced. I once experienced that for four years and know what it means to be bombarded by the opponent and not be able to shoot back oneself or only always be able to shoot back insufficiently. And I once decided, from this knowledge of the former World War soldier, that this must be different among us, that the man out there must not be left hanging in the terrible realization, I cannot defend myself at all, after all, because I have no weapon, rather that, quite the opposite, the German soldier must have the best weapon and the most plentiful ammunition in the world. And that is the case. Whatever may happen, the one thing is quite sure, my comrades, there in no combination in the world, may it be as it may, that could oppose us. The masses of ammunition are gigantic. Perhaps one day somebody will come and will say: "Well, now the war is over, now we have ammunition there." Well fine, for all I care, one will not rip off my head afterward for that reason. I tell myself, due to too many weapons and too much ammunition, a war has never yet been lost due to that, but many because too little.

And I especially think in the process again and again about the blood sacrifices. We have here as well introduced a method, namely, to do nothing for the sake of prestige, to launch no attack so that one says "here we stand, we have occupied this" or some such thing, rather to spare blood, because I know that each who falls or is wounded out there also inflicts pain on somebody at home, because I know that these are our folk comrades, and ammunition is easier to replace. 10,000 shells are easier to replace a single family father or a single son or a single groom, a single man. We always want to keep this before our eyes: What you produce at home, that unburdens the front. And we are clear about one thing: In the fight is decided the existence or the non-existence of the German nation for the next perhaps 500 years. Nothing is given to one for free in this world. This fight is the hardest one that exists. Each must fight for existence here. Whoever is too weak, falls, and fate passes over him; he cannot appeal to a solidarity, to an aid, to an insight or whatever, the world takes no notice of him, it goes its path. Each should look just here on this earth at himself. We can be happy, if we get so far in our folk community that each shows regard for the other. In the rest of the world, nobody thinks of it.

We experienced that in the long period in which I myself fought for power. How did they kick us! Back then, there was a democracy in Germany, so that is the condition of which one claimed that it would bring us equal rights in the world. How did they squeeze us! How did they mistreat Germany! How low did we fall! And nobody lifted a finger, quite the opposite, they all only made themselves healthy from our misfortune.

And in this long period, I made the relentless decision to remove these dreams from my folk and in their place introduce ice-cold reason, namely the realization that the dear Lord helps the one who helps himself, and that one also has nothing to expect from the other world, other than one helps oneself. I am also ready to do everything that one can do. I know very well what one counts on in London. One counts, on the one hand, on America and, on the other, on Russia. One tells oneself, perhaps we will manage to pull away Russia.

Believe me, my party folk comrades, I have thought everything through and as a precaution erected a global building, a global defense force, so great that any combination, may it be as ever, will fail against it.

They are naturally poor folks, who have joined together here. But I have from the start had the conviction we cannot join together with the so-called rich, they reject us, they see in us the have-nots. I hence went forth and consciously grabbed the have-nots in the world and joined the have-nots. And now we want to make sure that a great social global compensation takes place. And it will also take place!

As long as this fight lasts, it will last all the less time, the more determined we are, the more the opponent sees that every thought of a tear in Germany, such as existed in the year 1915 and 1916, that it is pointless. And we can endure the kind of fight. We have weeks now when the losses are not greater than they are counted, say, in peace with about 20% of our traffic accidents. Not much is up. It is more a waiting and a fight against means of transportation, a fight against harbor facilities, a fight against refrigeration plants, it is a fight against factories, a fight against wharves etc., a fight against ships. And this fight, we will continue to wage it. And from the sum of these combat actions will gradually result the weakness and impotence of the one who is our strongest and most fanatical opponent.

I personally see in one thing almost a decree of fate. About a year ago, I offered my hand to a man and said: "What do you actually want from Germany? I see no reason at all, we demand nothing from you, after all." The man said he hoped to experience that we are all overthrown. He knows that he will experience that this new Germany is eliminated. He has now died, and the new Germany stands! And this will happen so to all of them. This Germany will outlive them all, for it is built upon the firmest foundation that exists, namely upon the German folk, and indeed upon the broad mass.

You can believe me, my folk comrades, I would not have this confidence, if I perhaps only possessed knowledge of the upper ten thousand. I did not enter political life with this knowledge. My knowledge rests, above all, on the German folk, on the German worker, on the German peasant, on this mass of millions of upright, little, loyal people, who are not as fickle and so calculating as so many of our so-called upper ten thousand. With them, one cannot tempt a dog from the oven. I entered political life with my knowledge of the broad masses. Upon this broad mass, I have always built, with it, I have established my party, and with this broad mass, I am of the conviction, we will also endure this fight. And when we have this fight behind us, then we will indeed look forward, you can believe me on this, to the work, and indeed to the wonderful work that we then want to perform. For we want to build a state that should be the most exemplary social state in the world. Exemplary, because I am of the conviction that, in this social community, the greatest hardness then lies at the end and the greatest strength of resistance for the whole future.

And that you now help in your work to win the war is simultaneously also a preparatory work for this great ideal state, to work for which is for us all the greatest joy, for I cannot imagine anything more wonderful than to be able to work for a very great ideal and to be able to work for it and to be able to produce for it. Just as, in the final analysis, in the individual family generally husband and wife work for their children so that things go better for them and they go or went for themselves, so is it exactly the same on the large scale. There is no more beautiful work than to work for a folk community with the idea to make it better, to make it more beautiful, and with one's whole pride to present something that one can really believe in.

For I see the future, the proud future of a nation not in that one points to a few tens of thousands of so-called intellectuals or higher people, rather I believe the reason for the highest vision of a folk lies in that one can say: "This is our folk overall, and now look at the other folks, whether they can be compared." There I am of the conviction that we Germans will one day fare best and present the best example that exists on the whole earth.

And in that we gaze into this future work, we first recognize the necessity to endure this struggle, one way or another, to the final success. And then, however, to also finally and definitively ensure for our folk what we need to live. We know then that nothing will be given to us, but we have a right to demand, if we want to be industrious, that a place on this earth stands at our disposal, upon which we can be industrious. We have a right to that. We do not want the others to do something for us, but we have to have a place where we can do something. And it is unacceptable that one folk says: "I claim 40 million square kilometers and you have nothing." We will smash that. Here, too, we replace this capitalist robber state, which today exploits nations, folks and living space or, in part, simply lets them become desolate, lets them fall into ruin, with the greater social idea of a world order.

These are great goals. And if it ever even had a meaning at all for a nation to work for something or to fight for something, then today for our German folk.

And that you have proven yourselves so wonderfully in this struggle, all you who stand decorated before me, for that I now want to thank you. And in that I thank you, simultaneously thank all the millions of workers who stand behind you.

Heil!

**On November 15, the English armaments center Coventry is destroyed by the German Luftwaffe.**

**On November 20th, Hungary joins the Axis as the first land.**

**On November 23rd, Romania, and on November 24th, Slovakia, join the Axis.**

**On November 22, the 360th air raid alarm takes place in London.**

**On November 24th, the English ambassador Lord Lothian asks the United States of North America for support and help.**

**Over the course of November, 6.75 million kilograms of high-explosive bombs were dropped on England, according to the Wehrmacht report. In contrast, the English airforce was able to drop only 0.45 million kilograms on Reich territory.**

**On December 20th, the Japanese foreign minister informs that in the event of America's entry into the war, Japan, for its part, will declare war against America in the sense of the Axis Pact.**

**On the same day, the Führer speaks at a large rally in a Berlin armaments plant.**

## **Speech on December 10, 1940 in Berlin Before Armaments Workers**

My German folk comrades!

My German workers!

I speak only very rarely now: first, because I have little time to talk, and second, because I also believe at the moment that it is more correct to act than to speak. We find ourselves in the middle of a conflict, where it revolves around more than about the victory of one or the other land. I want to try, quite briefly, insofar as time allows, to give you an insight into the deeper reasons for this conflict:

In the process, I want to draw only western Europe into the circle of observation. The folks that are, above all, involved here: Germans 85 million, English 46 million, Italians 45 million and French about 37 million. Those are the cores of the states that stand against each other in war.

If I now draw the life foundations of these folks for comparison, then the following fact results:

46 million English rule and govern an overall complex of around 40 million square kilometers of this world. 37 million Frenchmen rule and govern a complex of around 10 million square kilometers.

45 million Italians have, if it is about somehow useful regions, a surface area of hardly ½ million square kilometers.

85 million Germans have as life foundation hardly 600,000 square kilometers, and this only through our intervention. This means, 85 million Germans have at their disposal 600,000 square kilometers, from which they must shape their life, and 46 million Englishmen 40 million square kilometers.

Well, my folk comrades, this earth has not been divided up so by, say, Providence or the dear Lord. People have taken care of the distribution themselves. And this acquisition took place mostly in the last 300 years, hence in a period, in which, unfortunately, our German folk was internally impotent and fragmented. After the end of the Thirty Years War, definitively divided up by the Treaty of Münster into hundreds of small states, our folk consumed all its energy in the fight against each other. Rulers and petty rulers, kings and clerical dignitaries, they kept our folk in its fragmentation. And when it then finally seemed as if this purely dynastic decomposition of our folk body could find its end, then the parties came, then the worldviews came and for their part continued what had just begun.

And in this period, Western Europe's most capable folk expended its energy exclusively in the interior. And in this period, the rest of the world was divided up; not, say, through treaties or through amicable agreements, rather exclusively through violence did England put together for itself this huge empire.



The second folk that came short in this world division, the Italian, experienced and endured the same fate as we. Internally torn and dissolved, split up into countless little states, its whole energy also consumed in the struggle against each other, the Italian folk likewise not only did not receive its natural position in the Mediterranean, rather it was not even able to maintain it.

So both these strong lands landed up out of any proportion. One could object: Is that decisive at all? - My folk comrades, man does not live from theories and not from slogans, not from declarations, also not even from worldviews. He lives from the food and also the raw materials that he can win from his earth through his work. He can process that, he can eat that. If his own living foundation offers him too little, then his life will be a wretched one. We see that within the folks as well: rich areas, this means, fertile regions, provide greater life foundations than poor areas, infertile landscapes. In one case, there are blossoming villages, in the other case, there are impoverished steppes. Whether one lives on stony desert or in fertile cropland, that cannot be balanced out through theories, also not through the will to work.

So we see that the first prerequisite for the given tensions lies in that the world is unjustly divided. And it is then natural that things develop exactly the same way in the greater life of folks as within the folks. Just as, within the folks, the all too great tensions between rich and poor must be balanced out either through reason or, if reason fails, then also often by force, so in the life of folks as well, one cannot claim everything and leave nothing for the others. Providence did not put people on the earth so that the one claims forty times or even eighty times as much as the other is allotted. Either he has reason and agrees to a regulation that is negotiated according to fair principles, or the suppressed party and the party kicked by good fortune and persecuted by misfortune, he will one day simply take what is owed him. This is so inside the interior of folks and it is also so outside.

And in the interior, it was the great task that I put to myself to solve this problem through an appeal to reason, the appeal to the insight of all to bridge over the chasm between too great wealth, on the one side, and too great poverty, on the other, in the realization, however, that such processes cannot be carried out overnight, but that it is always better through reason to gradually bring the classes excessively separated from the each other closer together than to bring about such a necessary solution through force.

The right for life is a universal and uniform one. It also cannot be so presented that one folk now says: "We very gladly want to let you live so as well, after all." You know, my folk comrades, that it is the nature of any really socialist work to take care that alms are not given, rather that rights are established. Hence it is also not about the folks that were shorted in this world division receiving alms along the path of charity, rather it is about, just like in normal social life, people receiving their rights. The right for life is not a wish for alms, rather it is a claim of right that is basic nature.

The right of life is hence simultaneously a claim of right to the soil that alone gives life. And this claim of right has been the oldest and holiest in all ages. For this claim of right, folks have, if irrationality threatened to paralyze their relations, then simply fought. There was nothing else left for them, in the realization that even the bloodiest sacrifices are then better than a gradually dying out of a folk.

So we made two demands at the beginning of our National Socialist revolution in the year 1933: The first demand, it was the demand for the national unification of our folk, and indeed

in the realization that, without this comprehensive decision, the energy would not be able to be mobilized for the making, and especially the achievement, of the necessary German life claims. For you know, after all, the situations that existed eight years ago: Our folk stood before the collapse, 7 million unemployed, and 6 ½ short-term laborers, our economy faced total dissolution, agriculture facing ruin, trade and commerce ruined, our shipping stood still. One could calculate when the 7 million unemployed would have to become 8 and 9 and 10 million.

And then the condition set in, in which the number of productive people became ever smaller, but, conversely, the number of non-productive people had to be supported, after all. This hence means, for the productive people as well, the result of the fruits of their labor became ever smaller, for, after all, gradually a productive person had to help feed and support a non-productive person, for he had to live, too. And whether I distribute through social legislation or along the path of alms, is all the same. One works and simply must support and feed one who does not work. And then, in the end, it then naturally suffices for nobody. It is too little to live and perhaps for a certain period still too much to die.

National unification was hence for us one of the prerequisites in order to first organize the whole of German energy again, to show the German folk as well how great its strength is indeed, that it again becomes aware of its strength and that it is ready, from this strength, to first itself ponder its life claims, then to present them and then also to achieve them.

I believed I could bring about this national unification through an appeal to reason. I know it did not succeed everywhere. I was back then in a certain period bombarded for almost fifteen years from both sides. The one, it reproached me: You, you want to drag us, we who belong to the intelligentsia, who belong to the upper strata, down to the level of the others, that is impossible. We have education, we furthermore still have wealth, and we have culture. We cannot walk that path.” Many could not be converted, and even today, many people certainly walk around who cannot be converted. But overall, the number of those becomes ever greater who realized that, with this fragmentation of our folk body, one day all strata would have to perish, after all.

From the other side as well, I was naturally combated. One said to me: “We have our class consciousness, we do not go together with such people at all.” I just had to take the position that, in our land, we cannot use experiments. For it is naturally the easiest thing to simply summarily cut off the other’s head. This means: if I say, I behead the intelligentsia, then this is a process that can easily be carried out. Just that one then waits perhaps 100 years until it grows back again. And this period means the destruction of our folk body. For how should 140 people per square kilometer exist at all, if they do not employ the last energy of mind and also of hand in order to wrestle from their soil what they necessarily need to live? This distinguishes us from the others, after all. In other folks, in Canada: one person per square kilometer. In other lands, in part six, seven, eight, ten people. Yes, my folk comrades, one cannot administer so stupidly, if one cannot live in the process. But among us 140 people! The others, they do not manage their problems with ten people per square kilometer. But we, we must manage with 140 per square kilometer.

The tasks have been put to us, and in the year 1933, I took the standpoint: We must solve them, and hence we will solve them as well!

Naturally, it was not easy, and naturally everything cannot be fulfilled immediately. People, my folk comrades, are the product of their education. And that begins, unfortunately,

already almost with birth. The little worm is in the one case already diapered differently than the little worm in the other case. And that continues so. And when the century happens, the one suddenly comes and says: I now want to unwrap you from your various coverings so that the core comes out again, for at the core, after you, you are one and the same, anyway. You have, after all, as something separating, only what you have built up around yourselves externally, inside, there you are all the same, after all.

That cannot be done so easily, for one resists being torn from one's diapers. Each wants to remain in what he is. And this requires a long education. But I will come to this later. I have huge patience here. I know from the start: What was done in three or four centuries or five centuries, one cannot eliminate that in two, three, five years. The decisive thing, however, is that one takes the path to eliminate it.

At any rate, I recognized back then one thing as the decisive thing: We must produce this German folk community, if we still want to expect anything from our folk in the future. That it was correct, is proven in that all our enemies immediately resisted it. They fought against it, against the idea of building such a thing.

This national unification was the first demand. It has been achieved piece by piece, move by move. You know yourselves what all I have eliminated. It is very much, my dear folk comrades, in barely six or seven years. What did Germany look like back then! Totally divided and impotent, in parties and professions and in classes and in worldviews, and the denominations stirred etc.. And in addition to that came our dear friends, no, who actually do not come from here, rather immigrated from the orient. And finally, finally then the economic separations. And then our governmental legacies. Here Prussian and there Bavarian and there Württemberger, whom one first had to take his pennant from his hand and tell him: Put that away and now finally take a common flag into your hand. The others already long have it, already for 300 years. Only among us does one still run around with a special rosette in his button-hole and imagine that it contributes to the reinforcement of his ego, and totally forgets that his ego is only a part of a totality and that, if this totality dissolves and splinters, nothing else can come but collapse.

I have endeavored to achieve this national demand. And much has been achieved in so few years. We have, I can already say, swept Germany clean of all this old stuff.

And then, this crossed over to other areas, where we had to endeavor everywhere to break with old traditions, which are naturally dear to many people. I understand this, too. They cling to their old badges, to their old flags, to their old movements etc., to their old class prejudices, to their class consciousness, to their class arrogance etc., I understand this completely, but it had to be gradually eliminated, and it also will be eliminated. Until one put them all into one uniform, until one put this youth education in the same boat, those have been gigantic works.

But that is the first party program of the year 1933, the achievement of the goal, to produce a German community. And the second program point, it now goes: Elimination of foreign political oppressions, which found their expression in recent times in Versailles, but which also simultaneously prevent the national cohesion of our folk body, which forbid that large portions of our folk join together, and which have especially also taken from us our world property, our German colonies. That hence means, this second program point went: Fight against Versailles. Nobody can say that I first pronounce this today, rather, my folk comrades, when I stepped forward for the first time, back then myself still as soldier, after the great war, my first lecture

was already a lecture against the collapse, then in 1919 against the Treaty of Versailles and for the resurrection of a strong German Reich. I started with that. What I have achieved since then is hence not a new goal, rather the oldest one that exists.

My folk comrades, therein lies then the first reason for this conflict, in which we live today. For the other world did not want our unification, because it knew that then the life claim of these folk masses would not only come, rather than it can also be achieved. And secondly: It wanted to maintain this law of Versailles, in which it envisioned a second Peace of Westphalia.

But there is still another reason. I have already said that the world is diversely divided. And American observers and Englishmen, they have also found a wonderful expression for it; they said: "There are two types of folks, namely haves and have-nots. We, we English, are the haves. We now have 40 million square kilometers. And we Americans are also haves, and we French are likewise haves - and they are simply the have-nots. Whoever has nothing, he also gets nothing, he should stay with what he does not have. And whoever has, he has and never surrenders any of it."

Well, for my whole life I have always been the representative of the have-nots. At home, I was the representative of the have-nots. I have fought for them, for the broad mass of my folk. I come from it, and I also count myself among it. I have stood up for them, and again stand up before the world as the representative of the have-nots; and stand up as that.

And I can never acknowledge a claim of right from the others to what they have robbed through force. In no case, however, can I acknowledge this claim of right to what belonged to us anyway, which one has taken away from us.

But now it is interesting to observe the life of these rich. In the English-French world, there exists a so-called democracy. You know, after all, this democracy distinguishes by the following: It means that it is supposedly the rule of the folk. Well, the folk, after all, must possess some kind of possibility to give expression to its thoughts or its wishes. If one looks at this problem more closely, then one can ascertain that the folk in itself primarily has no conviction at all there, rather naturally has the conviction presented to it, like everywhere, by the way. And the decision is now: Who determines this conviction of a folk? Who enlightens a folk? Who forms a folk? In these lands, capital actually rules, this means, it is a band of a few hundred people, in the final analysis, who are in possession of vast fortunes and as a result of the unique construction of state life there are more or less totally independent and free. For it is said, "we have freedom here", and they mean by that, above all, "free economy". And by free economy, they again mean the freedom to not just acquire capital, to be free in the acquisition of capital from any governmental, this means folkish, supervision, but also to be free in the use of capital from any governmental or folkish supervision. That is, in reality, the concept of their freedom.

And this capital then, it initially creates for itself a press. They talk about the freedom of the press. In reality, each of these newspapers has a master. And this master is in each case the money-giver, thus the owner. And this master now directs the inner picture of this newspaper, not the editor. If he wants today to write something different than fits the master, then he is kicked out the next day. This press then, which is the absolutely servile, unscrupulous lackey of its owner, this press then models public opinion. And the public opinion mobilized by the press is again divided into parties. These parties differentiate themselves from each other as they previously differentiated themselves from each other among us. You know them, after all,

the old parties. It was always one and the same thing. Usually, even in these lands, it is so that the families are divided up; one is conservative, the other is liberal, and a third, in England, he is with the Labor Party. In reality, all three family members get together annually and direct very precisely their further bearing, set it down. Additionally, the chosen folk, after all, is a community everywhere and now actually moves and directs all these organizations. Hence nothing comes out of it, even given an opposition. The opposition is actually always the same, and in all basic things, where an opposition would have to make itself noticeable, they are always one and the same, there they have a conviction. These parties with this press, they form public opinion.

Now one would have to think that, above all, in these lands of freedom and wealth, an unprecedented prosperity for the folk would have to exist. But it is the opposite. In these lands, the distress of the broad masses is greater than anywhere else. There is this wealthy England, 40 million square kilometers are controlled by it, hundreds of millions of colonial workers with a pitiful living standard, in India, for example, must be active for it. One would have to think then, in this England itself, there actually everyone would have to be a shareholder in this wealth. Quite the opposite, in these lands, the class difference is the greatest that one can imagine. Poverty, inconceivable poverty, on the one hand, and, on the other, just as inconceivable wealth. They have not solved one problem. These are lands that possess the treasures of the earth, and their workers, they house in pitiful holes; lands that possess the natural resources of the world, and the mass broad is miserably clothed; lands that could have more than enough bread and all other fruits, and millions in their lower strata do not have enough to fill their stomachs, run around starved. People who, on the one hand, could manage to provide with world with work must experience that they cannot eliminate unemployment even in their own land. This rich England has for decades now had 2 ½ million unemployed. This rich America 10 to 13 million year after year. This France 6, 7, 800,000. Yes, my folk comrades, what then do we first want to say about ourselves? But it is also understandable. In these lands of so-called democracy, the folk is not put at the center point of observation at all. What is decisive, is exclusively the existence of these few makers of democracy, this hence means the existence of these few hundred gigantic capitalists, who are in possession of their assets, all their stocks, and who, in the final analysis, exclusively direct these folks. The broad mass does not interest them in the least. It interests them, just like previously our bourgeois parties, only at election time, then they need its votes. Otherwise they are totally indifferent to the life of the broad mass.

Additionally, there is the difference of education. Is it not downright funny, if we now hear that an English Labor Party, which, furthermore, as opposition, is officially paid by the government, if an English Labor Party man says: "When the war comes to an end, then we also want to do a few things in social regard. Above all, then the English worker as well should be able to travel." - This is splendid, that they now come up with the idea that travelling should exist not only for millionaires, rather also for the folk.

But we already solved that among us some time ago, these problems.

No, you believe it, in these states, this is shown by their whole economic structure, in the final analysis, the egoism of a relatively very small stratum rules there under the clock of democracy. And this stratum is corrected and controlled by nobody. And it is understandable, if an Englishman hence says: "We do not want our world to somehow perish." They are right. They know quite well: Their empire is not threatened by us at all. But they rightly say: "If these ideas, which are becoming popular in Germany, are not eliminated and exterminated, then they

will also come over our folk. And that is the dangerous thing, we do not wish that.” It would harm them, if it were to come. But they are so narrow-minded, just like so many were also narrow-minded among us. They simply live in the area of their conservative former practice. They do not want to distance themselves from it. They do not hide it. They say: “All these methods do not suit us.”

And what kind of methods are they then? Yes, you know, my comrades, I have smashed nothing in Germany, after all. I have always proceeded very carefully, because, as said, I believe that we cannot allow ourselves at all to lay something in ruins. It was my pride that the revolution of 1933 went off without a broken windowpane. But, nonetheless, we have brought about huge changes.

I want to state just a few basic views: Initially, there is the first view: In this world of capitalist democracies, the most important economic principle goes: The folk exists for the economy, and the economy exists for capital. - And we have reserved this principle, namely: Capital exists for the economy, and the economy exists for the folk. This means in other words: The primary thing is the folk, everything else is only means to an end. That is the purpose. If an economy does not manage to nourish a folk, to clothe it etc., then it is bad, quite regardless of whether a few hundred people say: “but for me, it is good, splendid, my dividends are great.” I admit that. Dividends do not interest me in the least. I do not doubt that this is impossible in our state. Yes, it must not be. We have drawn boundaries here. One says immediately: “Yes, you see, that is simply it.

You terrorize freedom.” Yes, we terrorize it, if freedom comes at the expense of the community. Then we eliminate it.

These people have the possibility - I wish to give you just one example - to draw from their armaments industry 76%, 80%, 95%, 140%, 160% dividends. Yes, naturally, they say, if these methods spread, this will cease. They are completely right there, I will not tolerate that. I believe that 6% are sufficient. And of this 6%, we again take away half. And of the rest, we must know the proof that it is again invested in the interest of the folk community. This hence means that the individual does not have the right to administer totally free what must be invested in the interest of the folk community. If he personally controls it reasonably, it is fine. If he does not administer it reasonably, then the National Socialist state intervenes.

Or another example: Aside from these dividends, there are then the so-called board of director fees. Perhaps you do not know at all how fertile the activity of a board of directors is. One must take a trip once a year and go to the train station. One must sit in the first-class section and travel to somewhere. And then one must go into a restaurant, around 10:00 or 11:00, accordingly, and then a report is read aloud there. And one must then listen. And when the report has been read aloud, then one must listen, while a few people say something about it, and this can naturally even last over the mealtime, it can become 1:00 or 2:00, and after 2:00, one must stand up again, and one must then make one's return trip again. One must travel back, travel back first class! And probably everybody has the right to demand as compensation each year so 60,000 or 80,000 or 100,000 Marks - that is also how it was among us previously. For he apparently misses a lot, after all, and besides, the effort must also be paid for.

This nonsense, we have simply eliminated among us, however. And it had only been a concealment of profits, nothing more at all. And, above all, it was a means of bribery. For the delegates are board of directors' members.

That also existed among us. We have eliminated that. No delegate may be a board of directors' member, unless totally uncompensated. Any kind of payment is excluded, excluded in any form. In these lands, it simply is not. They now say: "yes, for us, that is a sacred state." I admit it, it also gets itself paid for it. But whether this state is also sacred for the folks, that is something else. I believe, it is harmful to the folks. I believe one cannot maintain that, that a person toils and works for a whole year and then receives a downright ridiculous wage in comparison, and another person, he sits himself down in a meeting and cashes in a huge salary for it. Those are impossible conditions.

We National Socialists also oppose any leveling on the other hand. If today somebody through his genius invents something momentous, produces through his mental work a huge benefit, then we are generous. That is work then. The man then benefits our folk community. But to live as drone in this folk community, we must gradually make that impossible.

And see, I can expand this to infinity. But those are two worlds, which confront each other, and they are completely right in England, if they say: "we can never reconcile with the world". How can such a capitalist reconcile himself with my principles! Sooner can the devil enter the church and receive consecrated water, than they can deal with ideas that are self-evident for us today.

But in exchange, we have also solved our problems, after all. My folk comrades, one will also, for example, reproach us. One says: "We fight for the preservation of the gold standard of currency." I understand that. They have the gold. We also had gold once. Once then stole it from us and extorted it from us. When I came to power, I had no maliciousness, when I abolished the gold standard. There was namely no gold there. It was also not difficult for me to carry out this abolition. If one has nothing, then one can easily part from what one does not have. We had no gold. We had no money. One had extorted everything from us over the course of fifteen years.

But now, my folk comrades, I was also not unhappy about it. We have a totally different economic view. According to our view, gold is no asset at all, rather only a factor for suppression, this means, more accurately, for the domination of the folks. When I came to power, I possessed only one hope upon which I built, that was the proficiency, the ability of the German folk, of the German worker and the intelligence of our inventors, of our engineers, of our technicians, of our chemists etc., also the skill of countless organizers of our economy. I counted on that. I stood before a simple problem: Should we collapse then, perish, because we have no gold? Should I cling to an insanity that destroys us?

I represented the other view: If we have no gold, then we have a work force. And the German work force, that is our gold, and that is our capital. And with that gold, I defeat any other power in the world. For what do people live from then? Do they live, say, from ducats, which one gives them? They live from foodstuffs, which the peasant must create. Hence work must create that. They clothe themselves in fabrics, which must be fabricated. Hence the worker must fabricate them. They want to live in residences, which must be built. Hence the worker must build them. And the material for that and the raw materials must be created through work. I have built my whole economy only on the concept of work. And we have solved our problems. And the miraculous thing, my folk comrades, is that the capitalist lands have been wrecked in their currencies. One cannot sell the pound in the world today. If one throws it at somebody, then he steps aside so that he is not hit by it. And our mark, behind which no gold stands, it has remained stabile. You helped me to keep the mark stabile. The currency without gold is today

more valuable than gold, for it is fluid production. This is owed to the German peasant, who has worked from early to late. And this is to be ascribed to the German worker, who put his whole energy into it.

And now the whole problem has been solved as if by magic.

If, my dear friends, I had publicly declared eight or nine years ago: In six, seven years the problem will no longer be: how do we reduce unemployment, rather the problem will then be: where do we get the work force?, if I had said that, it would have hurt me very much back then. For one would have declared: "He is crazy, one cannot go along with him at all, one cannot vote for him, he is a dreamer." But this has today become reality. Today there is only one question among us: Where is the work force?

That, my folk comrades, is the blessing of work. Only work creates new work. Money does not create work, only work creates new work. Work creates assets, which reward people, who themselves want to work again. What the one creates, gives the other the prerequisite for his life and thus to his productivity. And if we organize our folk's work force to the maximum, then more and more life goods will come to the individual. For the fact is that we integrated these seven millions unemployed into the economic process, that we turned another six million from part-time to full-time workers, and we have even come to overtime and that all that is paid with a Reichsmark, which, as long as peace lasted, retained its value and which we only now in war ration, not because it loses value, rather because we now had to convert a portion of production to war production, in order to thereby be able to successfully survive the struggle for the German future.

That, my folk comrades, is also a world, which we have built here; a world of shared work, a work of shared exertions, but also a world of shared cares, shared duties.

I was not surprised that, in these other lands, one began with rationing only after two, after three, after five, after seven months, in part, after a year. Believe it, that is no coincidence. In all these lands, that is calculation. Perhaps many a German wondered that the ration stamps came already on the first day of the struggle in the morning. Yes, my folk comrades, this whole ration stamp system naturally has two sides. One will say: "Would it not be smarter, one would do without it in one or the other area? My God, you allot - what does this mean anyway - you allot only so many grams coffee. Nobody gets much. Otherwise at least some would get something." - I admit that. That is precisely what we want to avoid. We simply want to avoid that, in the most important thing that belongs to life, the one has more than the other. There are other things: A valuable painting. Not everybody can buy himself a Tizian, even if he had the money, because Tizian did not paint so many paintings. Hence one can give that to one or the other, he should pay for it. He then gives out his money again in this manner and it then circulates again in a short time among mankind. But what is necessary to eat, there each has the same life claim. In the other states, one waited there. One first wrote: "Should meat be rationed?" That is the first warning shot. This hence means, if you have capital, stock up, buy yourself a refrigerator and store up some cracklings of ham. "Or should one ration coffee?" Two different views exist here, whether or not one should ration. But it would not be precluded that, in the end, the view triumphs that one should also ration coffee. This is written so for four weeks. Anybody who has some brains in his head - and this is naturally the case among the democrats - he says: "Hello, what, so coffee will soon be affected; hence buy coffee." And then one rations. That means, when there is no longer anything there.



We want to avoid that. Hence we have now in this war right from the start undertaken these restrictions uniformly for all. And we do not take it lightly, if somebody transgresses against it.

But the one thing is sure, my folk comrades: If we take everything together, then we have here today a state that, economically and politically, is oriented differently than the western democracies. In this state, the folk determines existence without doubt. The folk determines in this state the guidelines of its leadership. For it has actually become possible in this state to first integrate the broad mass to the broadest extent into the party, this gigantic organization, which begins from below and encompasses millions of people, which has millions of functionaries. Those are all people from the folk. And it builds upward. There exists for the first time in our own German history a state, which has basically eliminated all social prejudices in filling positions. Not, say, now in civil life. I am myself, after all, the final document of this. I am not even a jurist - think what this means! -, nonetheless, I am your leader. Not only in life in general have we managed this, that people now come into all positions who come from the folk - Reich Regents, who were previously agricultural workers, who were who previously machinists - no, we have even made this breakthrough in the state, where the breakthrough seemed the most difficult, in the Wehrmacht as well. Thousands of officers are being promoted and have emerged from the enlisted ranks. Here, too, we have eliminated all inhibitions. Today we have generals who, 22, 23 years ago, were common soldiers, non-commissioned officers. We have overcome all inhibitions of social nature here.

And we build now, after all, above all, for the future. For you know, we have countless schools, National Political Education Institutes and Adolf Hitler Schools. To these schools, we bring the talented children, the children of our broad mass, worker sons, peasant sons, where the parents could never pay for their children participating in higher study, they gradually enter here and are further educated here, and they will later be led into the state, they later enter the party, they enter the Ordensburgen, they will one day hold the highest posts.

We have created great possibilities here to so totally build up this state from the bottom. This is simply our goal, and this is also - I can tell you, my folk comrades - our whole life joy. It is something so glorious to be able to fight for an idea. It is so wonderful that we may tell ourselves: we have a seemingly almost impossible goal. We envision a state in the future in which every post should be held by our folk's most capable son, quite regardless, where he comes from. A state in which birth is nothing and performance and ability everything. This is our ideal, for which we now work and for which we work with full fanaticism and for which we work - I may say - with our bliss - our greatest joy on this earth, which could be given us.

And this is now confronted by another structure, another world. And there, the ultimate ideal is again and again the struggle for wealth, for capital, the struggle for the family, the struggle for the egoism of the individual. And everything else is only means to an end there.

Those are both the worlds, and they stand today in combat with each other. And we know quite precisely, if we fail in this struggle, then that is the end, not, say, of our social construction work, rather it is the end of the German folk. For without the concentration of this energy, these people simply cannot be nourished at all. This is a mass of today far more than 120, 130 million, which is dependent upon it, among them just 85 million of our own folk. We know that.

And the other world says: "If we lose, then our world capitalist building collapses, then...we have hoarded gold, it now lies in our cellars. That suddenly has no value, if the idea

spreads among the folks that work is the decisive thing. What then? Then we have bought gold in vain. Our whole world domination claim can no longer be maintained. The folks will eliminate these few family dynasties, they will then come with social demands. A collapse will result.” And I hence understand, if they declare: “We want to prevent that under all circumstances, we want to avoid that.” They see quite precisely how the construction of our folk takes place. It is very clear to them. Only one example: There a state that is governed by a very thin upper stratum. This upper stratum again and again sends its sons to their own educational institutions. There Eton College and on our side the Adolf-Hitler school or the National Socialist Educational Institute, the national political school. Two worlds: In one case, the children of the folk, in the other case, only the sons of this money aristocracy, of these finance magnets. There only people who play a role in the state from this school, and here people who play a role in the state from the folk. Those are two worlds.

I admit, one of both worlds must collapse, either the one or the other. In the one case, if we collapse, the German folk would collapse with us. If the other world collapses, I am of the conviction, the folks will first become free at all. For our struggle is not aimed at all against the Englishman as man or against the Frenchman. We have nothing against them. For years, I have clearly laid out my foreign policy goal. I have not demanded too much from them, nothing at all! When they entered the war, they could not say: “We go to war, because the Germans have demanded this”, rather, quite the opposite, they said quite openly back then: “We go to war, because we do not like the German system, because we fear that this system could grip our folks as well.” That is why they wage this war. They want to thereby throw our folk back into the time of Versailles, into this whole nameless misfortune. And they deceive themselves in the process! If, in this war, the signals are already so set that here gold is against work, capital against the folks and reaction against mankind’s progress, then work and then the folks and then progress will triumph! And all the Jewish support will not help them at all in the process.

I have foreseen this, for years. For what have I demanded from the other world? Nothing at all than just the right for Germans to come together, and, second, that one gives back to them what one has taken from them, otherwise nothing at all. Something that has no value at all for the other folks. And how often have I extended my hand to them.

Right after the assumption of power. I said: I have no desire at all to arm, for what does arming mean? It devours so much of my work force. Precisely I, who view the work force as the decisive thing, I wanted to employ the German work force for my other plans, and this, my folk comrades, I believe, would have already gotten around, that I still possess rather significant plans, beautiful and great plans for my folk. I have the ambition, I say this, to make my German folk rich, the German land beautiful. I want the individual’s living standard to be elevated. I want to get the best and most beautiful culture. But I do not want that we, like in England, reserve the theater for only a few of the upper ten thousand. I want the whole folk to have a share in it. I want to see the broad mass so organized that the whole of glorious German culture benefits it. These are huge plans, which we possessed. And for that, I need the work force. Armament just takes my workers away from me. I made them proposals to limit armament, for all I care, to totally abolish it. One only ridiculed me, after all. I heard only no. I made proposals to limit specific armaments. One rejected that. I made proposals to then at least restrict combat. One rejected that. I made proposals to remove the airforce from war overall. One rejected that. I then made proposals that, leastwise with bombing, one... One also rejected that. One said: “Bombs, you would like that. We need them. We have them, you do not have them. That is exactly how, if necessary, we will force our regime on you, after all.”

Now I am a man who does not do things halfway. If it is necessary to defend oneself, then I defend myself with boundless fanaticism. When I saw that the mere German resurrection again immediately mobilized the same people in England who, already before the World War, agitated for war, then I became aware that this struggle will simply have to be carried out one day, that the other simply did not want peace. For it was quite clear, after all. What was I before the World War? An unknown, nameless person. What was I in the war? A very little, common soldier. I was not responsible for the World War. Who are the people who today lead in England? Those are the same people who, already before the World War, engaged in agitation. The same Mr. Churchill, who already in the World War was the vilest war agitator. That is the now deceased Mr. Chamberlain, who already back then agitated exactly the same, and the whole audience that goes with it, and naturally that folk, which always believes it can crush the folks with the trumpets of Jericho. They are the old spirits, who again became alive there.

And I have now armed the German folk against that, also out of conviction: I participated in the World War as soldier myself and have often experienced what it means to be fired upon by the other without being able to shoot back, what it means to possess no ammunition or too little, always just being struck by the other. Back then, I gained my whole faith in the German folk and in the future of the German folk from my knowledge of the German soldier, of the little musketeer. In my eyes, he was the great hero. The other folk strata naturally did everything as well, certainly. But there was nonetheless a difference. The one, who at home lived with fortune and riches, for him, after all, Germany looked quite pretty back then, he could share in everything, in culture, in the beautiful life etc., he could enjoy German artists, German art, everything, he could travel through the German lands, could view German cities etc., everything was beautiful for him. That he then stood up for the Germany of back then, was self-evident. But, on the other hand, there was this quite little musketeer, this little proletarian, who previously often hardly had enough to eat, who always had to slave for his existence and who nonetheless fought out there for four years like a hero. I put my trust in him, and I took courage from him again. Hence when the others doubted in Germany, I again gained my faith in Germany at the sight of this man. I told myself, Germany will not perish at all, if it has such people. But I also experienced how these fighters were always at the disadvantage as soldiers, because the other side could finish them simply materially. Back then, I was perhaps not of the conviction that the Englishman was even once personally superior to us. Such a lunatic, who claims I had an inferiority complex toward the Englishman! I have never had a feeling of inferiority. The problem, a German against an Englishman, was never put to a discussion back then, after all. That was no problem at all. Back then, they already whined around the whole world so that they received support.

And I was determined this time, for my part, to prepare in the world, in order to broaden our position, and, second, to arm so in the interior that the German soldier would no longer have to stand alone, or, surrendered to a superior force, stand alone at the front.

And now the fight has come. Here, too, I have done everything that a human being could do at all, almost to self-degradation, in order to avoid it. I have made offer after offer to the English. I have spoken with the diplomats here and entreated them to accept reason. But there was nothing to want. They wanted war, and they also made no bones about it at all. For seven years, Mr. Churchill has been declaring: "I want war." Now he has it! I have regretted this, that the folks must fight against each other, whom I so gladly wanted to lead together, who, in my eyes, with each other would have created only good. But if these gentlemen have the goal to eliminate the National Socialist state, to dissolve the German folk and again divide it into its

components etc., as their war goals go, after all, and in the interior still go today, then they will experience a surprise this time. And I believe this surprise has already begun.

There are among you many old World War soldiers, and they know quite well what space and time mean. Many of them were also in the east back then. And all the names that you could read in the year 1939 are very familiar to you. Perhaps many of you marched up back then in bad weather or under the burning sun. And there were endless paths. And how difficult was that won back then. What did it cost in blood back then, just to advance here kilometer by kilometer. And, my folk comrades, at what an assault pace did we this time, a year ago, put these distances behind us! Eighteen days, and the state, which wanted to chop us up before Berlin, was eliminated.

And then, then came the British attack plan against Norway. But I heard from those Englishmen who know everything that we had sleep through the winter. And a great statesman even assured me that I had missed the bus. But we still arrived at just the right time in order to get in before the English!

Indeed, I suddenly became awake again through this. And we then, in a few days, ensured this Norwegian position for ourselves up to Kirkenes. And I do not need to explain to you: Where the German soldier stands, no other enters!

And then they wanted to do it more cleverly and even faster in the west: Holland and Belgium. And that led to the unleashing of that offensive, which many of precisely our older men again viewed with fearful concern. I know very well what many thought back then. They had experienced the World War. Back then, they all experienced the fighting for Flanders, the fighting for Artois, they experienced the fighting in Verdun. And they all lived under the image: Here is the Maginot Line; how should that be overcome, what will that cost, above all, in blood, what sacrifices will that cost, and how slowly will that perhaps go! And in six weeks, this campaign was likewise ended; Belgium, Holland and France knocked down and the channel coast occupied and our batteries then built there and our strongholds established. And here, too, I can say: No power in the world will be able to remove us from this region against our will.

And now, my party comrades, the sacrifices. They are very difficult for the individual. The wife, who has lost her husband, she has lost the highest thing that she possesses. And the child, who has lost its father, likewise, and the mother, who sacrificed her child, or also the bride or the loved one, who let her loved one depart and never again sees him; they have all made a great sacrifice. But if we add all that together, measured against the sacrifices of the World War, as difficult as it is for the individual, overall, they are incomparably small. Consider, we have had no way near as many dead as Germany, this means, essentially, after all, Prussia, had in the 1870/71 war against France. And the number of wounded is likewise a very modest one; only a fraction of what we ourselves had envisioned.

And now, my German armaments workers, we naturally owe this to our splendid Wehrmacht, which is filled with a new spirit, in which the spirit of our folk community is also included, which now knows why it actually fights. We owe this to our soldiers, who have accomplished the tremendous. But the German soldier also owes it to you armaments workers that you have given him the weapons. For this time, for the first time, he has assembled not, say, with a feeling of smaller number or of inferiority of the weapon, rather our weapon was the better one in every area. That is your credit, the result of your workmanship, your industriousness, your ability and your devotion! And if today millions of German families still

possess their provider, will again have for the future, if countless families have their fathers, if countless mothers have their sons, then they owe this to you, my armaments workers. You have given them the weapons through which they could triumph, weapons that make them so confident today that each soldier knows: We are not only the best soldiers in the world, rather we also have the best weapons in the world, especially in the future.

That is the difference from the World war. But not only that, above all, as well, the German soldier has ammunition this time. I do not know, my folk comrades, if one may perhaps after this war calculate precisely, one will perhaps even say: "Sir" - they mean me - "You were wasteful. You had ammunition made that was not used at all, it all lies there, after all!" - Yes, my folk comrades, I had ammunition made, because I experienced the World War and because I wanted to avoid that, and because I told myself: Shells, I can replace, bombs, I can replace, not people! And so, in this war, the ammunition problem has not been a problem at all, only perhaps a supply problem. And when the war was at an end, we had consumed in all areas hardly one monthly rate of our production. We stand there armed for any event. England may do what it wants to do. It will receive harder blows with each weapon. And if it wants to establish a foothold somewhere on the continent again, then we will introduce ourselves again. And I hope for only one thing: We have forgotten nothing, hopefully, the English have forgotten nothing.

The war in the air, I did not want it. We take it up, we wage it to the end. I did not want it. I have always resisted it. In the whole Polish campaign, we did not wage this war. I had no night attacks made. One said: "Ha, because they cannot fly at night." Yes, whether we can fly at night, they will have meanwhile now already noticed that. But one cannot aim so well at night. I wanted to attack only war important objects, wanted to attack only at the front, only against soldiers, not against women and against children. That is why we did not do it. We also did not do it in France. We flew no night attacks for the very same reason. When we made the attack against Paris, only a few armaments objects were picked out. Our pilots aimed wonderfully. Everybody who saw that could convince himself. Then it occurs to this great strategist Churchill to begin unrestricted air warfare at night. He started with Freiburg in Breisgau and has now continued it. Not a single armaments plant has been smashed. For according to English news, this here is still just a lunar landscape anyway. But they have not put a single armaments plant out of action. But they have hit many unfortunate families, women and children. A favorite target of theirs was always hospitals. Why? One cannot explain it. You know yourselves, in Berlin, how often they have bombed our hospitals here.

Fine, I have waited a month, in the view that, after the ending of the French campaign, the English would give up this kind of warfare. It was in vain. A second, a third month. Yes then, if then bombs will be dropped anyway, then I also cannot take responsibility before the German folk for letting my own folk comrades perish and to spare foreign ones, rather then this war as well must simply be waged. And it is now being waged! It is being waged with the determination, with the means and with the valor that stand at our disposal. And when the hour of the final conflict is at hand, then this conflict will come as well. But I want to say one thing to the gentlemen right off: The time for it, we decide that. And I am careful there. We could have perhaps been able to attack in the west already in the autumn of the previous year. But I wanted to wait for good weather. And I believe this also paid for itself. We are ourselves so convinced of the success of our weapons that we can allow ourselves this. The German folk will certainly endure the time. I believe, the German folk will be thankful to me, if I often prefer to wait with time and in the process spare it much sacrifice. This, too, belongs to the nature of the National Socialist folk state, that even in war, when it is not absolutely necessary, it spares

human beings. They are always our folk comrades. So already in the Polish campaign, in many cases we refrained from attacks, from daring advance, because we were of the conviction that, eight or ten or fourteen days later, the problem would become ripe on its own. And we have won great successes here, often without then sacrificing even a single man. And this was so in the west as well, and should also remain so in the future. We want to gain no prestige successes, make no prestige attacks, rather we always want to let ourselves be guided exclusively by sober military viewpoints. What must happen, will happen.

Everything else, we want to avoid. And, furthermore, we all have just the hope that one day the hour will come in which reason triumphs again and peace arrives. But the world must take note of one thing: Germany's defeat will exist neither militarily nor time-wise nor economically! I am not the man who, once he has taken up a fight, breaks it off to his own disadvantage. I have proven this in my whole previous life. I will prove, externally as well, to the gentlemen who became acquainted with my previous life, after all, only from their emigrant press, that I have remained exactly the same here.

At the time when I entered political life, I explained to my followers - back then, it was a very small band of soldiers and workers: In our dictionary and in mine, one word does not exist at all: the word "capitulation", I did not wish for war. But if it is ever forced upon me, then I wage it for as long as just a single breath is alive in me. And I can wage it today, because I know that behind me stands the whole German folk. I am today the protector of its coming life, and I act accordingly. I could have shaped my own life more comfortably. I would have had the ability for that. I have taken all these infinite cares and all this never ending work upon myself in the awareness that this must be performed for our German folk. And even my life and my health play no role at all in the process. I know that, in this spirit, there stands behind me today, above all, the German Wehrmacht, man for man, officer for officer. All these fools who imagine that a tear could ever exist here, they have totally forgotten that the Third Reich is no longer the Second. But just as united stands today the German folk. And here, I thank, above all, the German worker and the German peasant. The two have made it possible for me to prepare this war, to create in terms of armament the prerequisites for resistance, and the two also create for me the possibility to wage this war, quite regardless of how long it should last.

And in the process, I thank, however, especially the German woman, those countless women who now, in part, must perform the heavy work of men, and who have, with love and with fanaticism, become familiar with their new occupation, and who have in many positions as good as replaced the men. I thank you all, who make this sacrifice of personal kind, the many limitations that are necessary, I thank you in the name of all those who today represent the German folk and who will become the German folk in the future. For this struggle is not just a struggle for the present, rather it is, above all, a struggle for the future.

I stated on September 3, 1939 that neither will time defeat us nor will any economic difficulties ever pull us down nor, much less, will weapons be able to defeat us. This is possible and the achievement of this is guaranteed by the bearing of the German folk. For, my folk comrades - you must view me as your guarantor there -, once we have won this war, then not just a few industrialists or a few millionaires or a few capitalists or a few noblemen or, as far as I know, a few burghers or anybody else will have won it. You must see your guarantor in me there. I have come from you, for this broad German folk, I have fought my whole life, and when this most difficult struggle of my life will be over, then it can only find its conclusion for a new work for the German folk. We have all set great plans for ourselves, now already, great plans that all aim at one goal: to really build the German folk state and to shape it ever more, to lead

the German folk ever more into the great history of our existence, but also to simultaneously open up for it everything that makes existence worth living, to eliminate inhibitions ever more. We have decided to tear down the barriers ever more that can be set to the individual against striving upward in his ability, from taking the place owed him. We are of the firm will that we build a social state that must and will be exemplary in all areas of life. We see only in this the final victory.

For we have seen it among the others, after all. They have apparently triumphed for 20 years, after all. What has become of their victory? Nothing at all has come of it. Misery and wretchedness, unemployment have come of it. They have fought their fight only for their accursed plutocracy, for these few dynasties, which administer their capital power, the few hundred who, in the final analysis, direct these folks.

This should be an instruction for all of us. When this war will have been concluded, then a great productivity should begin in Germany. Then a great "Wake up!" will resound through our German lands, then the German folk will cease the fabrication of cannons and will begin with the works of peace, our new construction work for the masses of millions. Then we will first show the world what the master is in reality and who the master is: capital or work. And then, from this work, that great German Reich will arise of which a great poet once dreamt. It will be the Gemny to which every son will cling with fanatical love, because it will be the homeland even for the poorest. It will be active for him, too, and will open up life for him as well.

But if one tells me, this is a future fantasy, a hope - my folk comrades, when I started my path in the year 1919 as unknown, nameless soldier, I had to erect for myself the greatest future hope with the greatest imagination. It is achieved. What I today make my plan and set as goal, is nothing in comparison to the achievement and success that already lies behind us. It will be achieved sooner and more surely than what previously had to be achieved. For the path of the nameless, unknown to the leader of the German nation was more difficult than the path from leader of the German nation to shaper of peace. Once, I had to fight and wrestle for a decade and a half for your trust. Thanks to your trust, today I can fight and wrestle for Germany. And one day, the time will come again, in which we will again struggle, equally confident, for this great Reich of peace, of work, of prosperity, of culture, which we want to erect and which we will erect!

I thank you!

**England now tries to advance against the Axis from the south. Australian and New Zealand regiments fight in North and East Africa with crushing superior force against the Italian troops.**

**On December 16th, the Führer turns over the mortal re-mains of the Duke of Reichstadt, Napoleon I.'s son, to the French folk in a solemn act.**

**On December 22nd, the High Command of the Wehrmacht reports: Since the beginning of the war, England has lost 169 warships, among them 33 destroyers.**

**The Führer celebrates Christmas amidst the old guard in Munich. He spends the Christmas holidays with his soldiers in the west.**

**At the end of the year, Adolf Hitler issues the following proclamation:**



## Order of the Day for the Wehrmacht

Soldiers!

**I**n the war year 1940, the National Socialist Wehrmacht of the Greater German Reich has won glorious victories of unique greatness. With unequalled daring, it has beaten the enemy on the land, at sea and in the air. All the tasks I put to you were solved through your heroism and your soldierly ability. You have eliminated our opponents' fighting forces through the might of the weapons, but morally conquered the regions taken into possession by you through your proud bearing and exemplary discipline.

So thanks to your high soldiery, it has been possible, in a few months of world historical struggle, to bestow belated success upon the futile heroic struggle of the German Wehrmacht in the World War, but to finally eliminate the shame of the surrender back then in the Forest of Compiègne.

I thank you, my soldiers of the army, of the navy and of the Luftwaffe, as your supreme commander, for your incomparable accomplishments.

But I also thank you in the name of the whole German folk.

We remember the comrades who had to give their lives in this struggle for the future of our folk. We likewise remember the brave soldiers of Fascist Italy allied with us.

According to the will of the democratic war agitators and their Jewish-capitalist backers, the war must be continued. The representatives of a collapsing world believe in the year 1941 to still nonetheless be able to achieve what they failed in the past.

We are ready.

Armed like never before, we stand at the threshold of the new year.

I know: Each of you will do his duty.

The Lord, however, will not abandon those who, threatened by a world, are determined to help themselves with a brave heart. Soldiers of the National Socialist Wehrmacht, of the Greater German Reich!

The year 1941 will bring the completion of the greatest victory of our history!

January 1, 1941

*Adolf Hitler*

## To Party and Folk!

National Socialists!

**A** weighty year of German history is at an end. The mighty uniqueness of the events, its revolutionary significance for the future development of mankind, will in its full magnitude first be known to later generations. But we who experience this era cannot resist the impression that the governing of Providence is stronger than the intent and will of individual human beings. The gods do not only strike blind those destined to perish, rather also force those called upon by Providence to strive for goals that initially lie far outside their original own wish.

When the German folk, after years of collapse, morally most deeply humiliated, economically impoverished and decayed, united by National Socialism, found the path of its rejuvenation, leadership and folk were determined to shape the nation's future through the means of peaceful work and through the appeal to the others' sense of justice.

But already before the assumption of power took place in the year 1933, the Reich's enemies proclaimed in numerous written and oral proclamations their decision to want to prevent any resurrection of the German folk by all means. After January 30, 1933, they immediately put this warning into action. Without any reason, only out of their infernal hatred against the German folk, they began with their new, wild agitation and called for a boycott of not only German wares, but, above all, also of German man. The democratic newspapers of even the smallest lands viewed it as their privilege to cover the leading men of this folk with insulting expressions, to either mock or slander the regime and to incite to military acts of violence against the Reich.

Every attempt for an agreement, or even an armaments limitation, was rejected with rage and scorn by the criminal elements of the capitalist democracies. Every demand for the German folk's equal rights was refused with unconcealed cynicism. For fifteen years, they had previously undertook to hold down democratic Germany, which only whined for mercy anyway - instead of demanding its right - and plundered and extorted it with the whole ruthlessness of plutocratic, political and economic swindlers. The new Germany, which was determined not to tolerate any longer this blackmail leading folk and land to total ruin, hence awakened special rage and hatred. Unprincipled emigrants joined with Jewish parasites leaving the Reich, accused the German folk and its leadership, and thereby helped to produce that psychosis, which sooner or later had to lead to war.

For centuries, a few folks - at their top the English - have ravaged the world with their wars and robbed by force whatever they could get their hands on, subjugated and impoverished folks of millions and in this manner built their so-called world empires out of blood and tears. So they established that world order, which, according to their own equally ice-cold as well as scornful description, consists of haves and have-nots. Although they themselves are actually in possession of the great natural resources of the world, they do not even manage, in the process, to become master over the distress in their own folks. In states which have to feed hardly ten people per square kilometer, which call all the world's raw materials their own, there are ten and twelve million unemployed, this means, people excluded from human happiness, and this that only because greed, corruption, lethargy, but also the stupidity of the rulers in these plutocratic democracies reject all methods and measures that could impose inhibitions upon the boundless egoism of the individual in favor of the life of the totality.

These elements, who as leading political personalities in the democratic lands are simultaneously also owners and shareholders of the armaments industries, further believed - and still believe it today - that war brings with it the greatest business opportunities. Above all, a long war. For it lies in their capitalist interest to amortize the investments of their monies over the longest time possible. So it is understandable, if, for example, one of the chief armaments industrialists in England, the now deceased Mr. Chamberlain, from the first day on immediately declared that this war for England must last at least three years. So it is understandable, if other democratic rulers likewise see in the economic side of participation in the war the greatest chance for their lands and make no bones about it that they hate any peace through agreement, this means, a reasonable balance of the interests of the folks, because this would remove from the dividend hungry armaments interested parties the substantial prerequisites. These democratic hypocrites are totally indifferent toward the folks themselves, however, today just like previously. So it is also understandable that my attempt in the year 1939 to prevent the outbreak of war with France and England received in the whole democratic world not only icy rejection, rather triggered a downright furious storm of indignation.

For them, the capital meanwhile invested in armaments factories was at risk as well as the concern to see profits melt away again due to the absence of additional orders. In order to mask their intentions in the process, they had to organize with the help of their press an incomparable campaign of lies and of making stupid. For if the folks would comprehend that this war was not necessary at all, that neither England nor France had received the slightest demand, then the danger could raise that the folks, having regained their sight, would hold their democratic spoilers themselves accountable. So one had to, and still must, approach the folks with the equally stupid as infamous lie that the German Reich or Italy wanted to conquer the world, while, in reality, the actually already existing world conquerors needed wars in order for their capital to bear even more interest than previously.

These world conquerors, however, are precisely those states that declared war against Germany. Germany itself has not made the slightest demand to either France or to England. Still on October 6, 1939, I invited France and England, together with Germany, to lay down the weapons, and instead of destroying and making bleed dry the Europe continent in the interest of extra-European factors, to strive for a reasonable reconstruction in shared work. This remained futile.

We thereby entered the now ended year. It hence also belonged to the practices of the democratic war criminals to portray any German step for peace to their folks as weakness from the start. When we for years left the constant democratic agitation attacks unanswered, one declared Germany did not dare to enter into even a controversy with the powerful states of the west. When the constant war threats found no reply from Germany, one said this is a sign and that Germany is unable, as a result of its internal weakness, to wage a war at all. When we left the boycott agitation, the continued attacks against German consulates, the tearing down of German flags etc. unanswered, one tried to explain this as a sign of the rejection of the present regime by the German folk.

When finally the war was supposed to begin, my final efforts to preserve peace were dismissed with the triumphant cry that it had now been proven that Germany was unarmed and that one could hence now or never destroy it with ease. Yes, when finally the first of the states sent ahead by the democratic arsonists, Poland, was beaten and destroyed in eighteen days and Germany again expressed its wish for peace, then precisely proof was seen precisely in this peace yearning that Germany itself was in doubt and looked ahead with trembling fear to the

British-French attacks in the west. That was how it was, and so it is still today. Whether we undertook our peace steps in 1939 and 1940 out of fear or out of a sense of responsibility, has meanwhile been sufficiently clarified world historically. The year 1940 has brought decisions such as had never before taken place in the history of folks in the similar magnitude and tempo.

Mr. Churchill's attempt through surprise to firmly establish himself in Norway, which, thanks, above all, to his talkativeness, came to our knowledge at precisely the right hour, led to the collision in this land.

In a few weeks, the German Wehrmacht, our soldiers, solved this problem. Although the French and English invasion troops - under the most unfavorable conditions for Germany - where utterly defeated there, too, and driven out of Norway, British propaganda, above all, managed to portray the fight for Norway as a German failure, yes, to see in it downright proof for the inadequate equipment of the German soldier, for the lack of striking force of German formations, for the poor leadership of the German Wehrmacht and for the declining morale of the German folk.

So deceived and swindled, the Allies, in the beginning of May, went about occupying initially Belgium and Holland in order to carry the war to the German border. On May 10th, the German Wehrmacht opposed these tricks, filled with the decision to now force the final decision in the west. Already five days brought Holland to capitulation, after another ten days, the Belgian army laid down its arms. Six weeks after the beginning of the western offensive, however, there was no longer a French army that would have been in the position to still offer some kind of resistance. If the British propagandists try to present the situation as if France had broken off the war totally unnecessarily, then only the following is to be said to this:

The first formations that broke off the fighting were the English divisions. From the moment of our attack in the west, this British army had only one thought, to evacuate the continent as quickly as possible and, for this purpose, to secure the necessary cover by Dutchmen, Belgians and Frenchmen. Just as a few weeks earlier it had viewed the Norwegian army in Norway only as the guard troop for its own retreat, so now its allies in France and Belgium. When the French government requested peace, there was no longer any French troop, but, above all: there had long already been no English one. Precisely it had, while France still fought, as the first quickly tried to flee via Dunkirk. Otherwise as well, the propaganda house of lies of the democratic war agitators collapsed over the course of this historical conflict. While a few weeks earlier they still assured that there were over a million Englishmen on the continent, it then turned out that instead of a million it was 12 ½ divisions. So did they deceive their own people and the folks of their allies.

The campaign in the west proved not only for another seeing world, rather also for the German leadership and the German folk, the quality of the new German Wehrmacht. The German soldier is today, to a heightened degree, what he always had been. Army, navy, Luftwaffe and SS-formations competed with each other in action and in accomplishments. Leadership was up to the highest demands. The valor of the German man was, as in all times, sublime above all praise. Just the homeland as well has a large share in this mighty success. All organizations of party and state proved themselves to the maximum.

Numerous helpers stood in the service of our war conduct. In addition to the huge organizations of the Reich Work Service, of the Organization Todt, of the SA, of the Reich Air Defense Federation etc., there were the no less large ones of the Red Cross as well as of the

National Socialist welfare formations. The War Winter Aid Work 1939/40 is a document of a social folk community such as nothing similar exists on earth. The War Winter Aid Work 1940/41 will - this can be stated already today - only reinforce this impression. Just the Work Front in the homeland as well has carried out huge achievements. At the top stands here the army of millions of our armaments workers and of our rural populace, and, above all, the army of millions of women active in the war.

Immediately after the end of the campaign in the west, I again directed - this time to England - the wish to end the senseless war and spare Europe and its inhabitants the further suffering of such a conflict. The reply corresponded to the interests of those who gave it. A wave of rage and indignation gripped the capitalist war profiteers of all democracies, the idea of an agreement of folks, which would have ended their war and armaments business with a single blow, agitated them so much that the British main speakers dismissed the idea of a war end with that hatred and rage with which the finance giants fight in every era, when their most sacred good that they possess in this world is touched, namely the interests of their capital.

And if they now promise their folks, gradually becoming restless, that, after the war, they will also not be disinclined to stand up for something like folk community, or to concern themselves with the interests of their own impoverished masses, then this only proves the unscrupulousness of these democratic war criminals, with which they promise, at least for the future, something that they have never known in the past, and do not know in the present, rather so hate that they have for this reason declared war against Germany.

Hence the war now finds its continuation to the destruction of these responsible elements. That the German Wehrmacht is good, it has proven, but that it will be even better in the coming months, is our decision. It will be achieved with fanatical conscientiousness and with tireless industriousness.

The year 1941 will see the German army, the German navy and Luftwaffe assemble with mighty reinforcement and improved equipment. Under its blows, the last slogans of the war criminals will collapse and hence the prerequisites finally set in for a real agreement of folks.

National Socialists!

Your know the history of our struggle. Here as well, certain strata first had to be eliminated before a real cooperation of people in our land could take place. Externally, it is no different, unfortunately. The democratic war interested parties, who for many decades put the world in turmoil and plunged the folks into ever new crises, must be destroyed!

It is our unshakeable decision to let this trial take place so that Europe again finds its internal peace. Whatever may set in, Germany will take with cool determination all steps that are necessary for the achievement of this goal. Any power that feeds from these democracies will die from it. If Mr. Churchill and his international democratic comrades declare today that they defend their world and that their world cannot exist next to ours, then this is only their own misfortune. The German world, just like the Italian one, has overcome the era of the privileges of a few plutocratic capitalists and replaced it with the era of the folk. If Mr. Churchill and his capitalist entourage now declare they are not able to live in such a world, then they will thereby destroy not the German world, rather their own will sooner or later collapse in order to give freedom to their own folks there as well.

In the struggle of plutocratic privileges against National Socialist folk rights, the latter will be successful! In this faith, we enter into the year 1941.

On our side stands, since the beginning of June of this year, Fascist Italy. It is just as determined as we are to take up and carry out the war declared by a stubborn democratic upper stratum against the Italian folk. Its struggle is also our struggle, its hopes are ours.

The belief of the war makers to be able to somewhat change the outcome of the conflict through individual actions is childish. Mr. Churchill has already won a large number of so-called "victories", which later always revealed themselves as his failures. Mr. Churchill, after all, was also the man who suddenly invented unrestricted air warfare as the great secret of British victory. For three and a half months, this criminal had German cities hit with bombs in night attacks, dropped firebombs on peasant villages and - as the inhabitants of the Reich capital know, designated especially hospitals as targets. That the German Luftwaffe did not respond for three and a half months, confirmed in the brain of this man the opinion that he now finally had the method in which he was superior to Germany and with which the German Wehrmacht could not reply to him. For three and a half months, I looked on at this human cruelty, which militarily was just nonsense.

However, again and again with the warning that one day retaliation would come. The democratic arsonists only had their old, well-known laughter for this warning. They spoke of the "charming war" that "made happy" and "on which one could only congratulate everyone". They brought detailed English portrayals of the effect of their bombs on the German economy etc.. The sole effect of these attacks was just the gradually escalating bitterness in the German folk, which hoped that one day retaliation would come, and, in the leadership, the decision to finally put an end to this one-sided war conduct. In the month of May, England began with its attacks against the city of Freiburg. For months since then, one mocked in the circles of the British war agitators about Germany's inability to do something similar. Since the middle of September, it has probably become clear to them that it was only humanitarianism, which held us back for so long from responding to Churchill's crimes.

But now this war, too, will be waged to the final consequence, this means: for so long until the criminals responsible for it as well are eliminated.

And it is not a slogan, rather bloody earnest, if we assure that for each bomb ten or, if necessary, a hundred will be dropped in return. So even today, they may again temporarily, already for propaganda reasons, like already so often, speak of a "turn in the fortunes of war".

But they may note one thing: In this war, not luck, rather right will finally triumph for once. And right is on the side of the folks that fight for their threatened existence. And the struggle for this existence will inspire these folks to the most tremendous accomplishments in world history. If in the democracies, the driving force for production is the profit that the individual industrialist, the bank people and bribed politicians rake in, then in National Socialist Germany and in Fascist Italy, it is the realization of the millions of productive people that in this war they are being fought against, that the democracies, if they were ever victors, would rage with the whole capitalist cruelty of which those people are capable, whose sole god is money, who know no other human rule than the passion for profit, and who are ready to surrender to this passion any other nobler idea without hesitation. National Socialist Germany, Fascist Italy and Japan allied with us know that in this war, the fighting is not about a form of

government, not about whatever international constructions of the future, rather exclusively about whether this earth is supposed to exist only for the one and not for the others.

An American politician has coined the clever concepts that, basically, it is simply the attempt by the have-nots to get something. This can only be fine with us. While the other world goes about stealing away from the have-nots the little that they still possess, like before the assumption to power, we oppose the possessing world with the decision to win for the have-nots the common human rights and to secure for them that share in life that they can claim on the basis of this right.

The struggle is not an attack against the rights of other folks, rather only against the arrogance and greed of a thin capitalist upper stratum, which does not want to see that the time is past in which gold governed the world, that, quite the opposite, a future dawns in which the folks, this means, human beings, are the determining force in the life of nations. This realization is what gave wings to the National Socialist army in the past year. It will prepare victory for them in the coming year as well. But in that we fight for this happiness of the folks, we also believe most readily to earn for ourselves the blessing of Providence. The Lord has previously given our struggle his agreement. He will - if we fulfill our duty loyally and bravely - also not abandon us in the future.

January 1, 1941

*Adolf Hitler*

**In the second half of the war year 1940, according to the report of the Supreme Command of the Wehrmacht, 190,000 tons of warships and 3.9 million gross registered tons of shipping were sunk. Over 43 million kilograms of high-explosive bombs were dropped in more than 2,000 combat missions.**

**On January 3rd, detachments of the German Luftwaffe go to Italy in order to participate in the fighting on the Mediterranean Sea.**

**On January 20th, the Führer meets with Il Duce.**

**On the eight anniversary of the rise to power of National Socialism in the Reich, the Führer speaks on January 30, 1941 in the Berlin Sportpalast:**



## Speech on January 30, 1941 in Berlin

My German folk comrades!

Change of government has already often occurred in history, also in the history of our own folk. But no change of government has ever been accompanied by such far-reaching consequences as the one eight years ago. The Reich's situation back then was a desperate one. One did not call us to take over the nation's leadership at the moment when it seemed in the process of great rise, rather one gave us power under the most severe compulsion that could exist, namely under the weight of the realization that, in itself, everything was lost, and that, in the eyes of the best-intending, this could perhaps still be a last attempt, but, in the eyes of the ill-meaning, so that the National Socialist movement as well would finally be damned to fail.

As a result, the situation back then, if it was not possible to save the German folk as if by a miracle, had to have a catastrophic end. For already fifteen years earlier, the path downward was an unbroken one. However, this situation itself, after all, was only the result of the World War and of the outcome of the World War, of our own inner political, moral and hence also military collapse.

It is hence important precisely on such a day to remember the cause for this whole national misfortune.

What was the reason for the World War? I do not wish to push this into the personal area. Too many dissertations have already been written about that. American doctors, on assignment from the current President Roosevelt, have examined the cause of the World War and, in the process, determined it could not be Germany's fault. Personalities play a role in such great contemporary moments only if they enter the orbit of the surrounding world as really towering manifestations. That was not the case back then. Neither on the German nor on the other side were there personalities of towering format. Hence the reason could not lie at all in the failure, or even just the desire, of individuals, rather the causes were deeper ones.

The German form of government could not initially be the cause for the war back then. For Germany was already a democracy, and indeed what kind of one! Strictly copied according to the examples of foreign countries, of the west, a compromise solution between monarchy and parliamentary democracy, hence so-called constitutional monarchy, practically with parliamentary leadership. Hence this state in its form of government could really not be the cause for the war back then by the democracies against the Reich of back then.

Germany, seen as political factor, facing the world, could already provide more reason, for after centuries of fragmentation and hence equal impotence, the German tribes and states, even if viewed more externally, united into a new state, into a Reich, and hence thereby naturally added a new element of force to the so-called balance of power, which was understandably felt to be a foreign body.

More compelling was perhaps the disdain against the Reich of back then as economic factor. While Germany sought to alleviate its economic distress for centuries in that it either let people starve or forced them to emigrate, the Germany of back then now began increasingly, with the consolidation of its political power, to also develop itself economically, this means, instead of exporting people, to export wares and to thereby secure for itself the necessary

markets in the world. A process that, seen from our standpoint, was natural and just, but from the standpoint of others, was felt to be an encroachment into their most sacred domains. And we then come right to the state that felt this encroachment as unbearable: England!

For three hundred years, England had previously gradually built its so-called world empire. Not through free will or through the consenting declarations of the intentions or views of the affected, rather, for three hundred years, this empire was forged together only through force. War after war was waged, folk after folk was robbed of its freedom, state after state was smashed, in order to finally create this structure, which calls itself British Empire.

In the process, democracy was everywhere just a pure mask.

Behind the democracy stands, in reality, the domination of folks on the large scale and human suppression and enslavement on the small scale. This state cannot dare today to really let its parts vote, whether they now, after centuries of processing, would, say, be ready to voluntarily be parts of this world community. Quite the opposite! Egyptian nationalists, Indian nationalists, they wind up by the thousands in dungeons and prisons. Concentration camps were not invented in Germany, rather Englishmen are the brilliant inventors of this idea. They helped, through such institutions, to gradually break the back of other folks, to dissolve the national resistance, to exhaust it, and to finally make the folks inclined to adopt this British yoke of democracy. In the process, however, there was an even mightier means, the means of the lie, of the slogan and hence of propaganda. There is a saying which goes that, when the Englishman speaks of God, he means cotton. And it is so even today. When one reflects how pious and devote people act outwardly, who ice-cold drive folk after folk into a war that serves only their material interests, then one can only say: Seldom has human hypocrisy prospered to such a maximum performance as this is the case with the present-day Englishman. At any rate, however, the result of a three hundred year long, blood-covered path, which British history put behind itself, is the fact that 46 million Englishmen in the motherland today rule around a quarter of the world's surface, in terms of space and also in terms of people, this means that for 46 million people there are around 40 million square kilometers of space.

It is important, my folk comrades, that we again and again shout this out into the world, because shameless democratic liars step up and claim the so-called authoritarian states want to conquer the world, while, in reality, the world conquerors are our old enemies. This British world empire has left behind, along the path of its emergence, only a single river of blood and tears. Today it rules without doubt a mighty portion of the earth. Only, even now, this world domination is not carried out, say, only through the power of an idea, rather basically through the power of force and, insofar as this force does not suffice, through the power of capitalist or economic interests.

If we hold this odd emergence of the British world empire before our eyes, then the process itself becomes self-evident only through the fact of the total elimination of the European continent as a factor opposing this development. And this absence was documented, above all, through the elimination of the German Reich. For three hundred years, a Germany practically did not exist. While the England indeed talked about God, but had an eye on their economic interests, the German folk, out of over-tension, elevated controversial religious questions to such a significance that it waged bloody wars over them for centuries, something that was one of the prerequisites for the possibility for the emergence of the British world empire. For to precisely the degree to which the German nation began to consume its energy internally and thereby gradually practically as well was eliminated as an outward power factor, to precisely

that degree could England naturally, basing itself upon this newly forming Europe re-organization, rob up its world empire in all leisure.

But not only Germany was in these three centuries practically eliminated from the competition on this earth. The same was also true of Italy. Similar manifestations as in Germany, there less of a religious nature, rather of governmental nature, of dynastic nature. And again, for other reasons, the elimination of another great nation in East Asia, which likewise, for almost four hundred years, gradually began to set itself off from the rest of world and no longer viewed its own living space as important and which submerged itself into a voluntary isolation.

So there arose, especially in Europe, an arrangement of powers, which England designated as so-called balance of power, this means, in reality, a disorganization of the European continent in favor of the British island empire. Hence it was also the goal of British politics for centuries to preserve this disorganization; naturally, not under the term disorganization, rather again under a prettier word. One speaks, as is said, not of cotton, rather one says God. One does not speak of Europe's disorganization, rather one speaks of "balance of power".

And this so-called balance of power, this means, Europe's real inner impotence, has enabled England to again and again, from case to case, and according to need, to play state against state, and thereby to constantly consume the European forces in internal fighting, in order, for its part, to now at all leisure advance into the relatively resistance weak areas of the rest of the world.

And yet, if one today still speaks of a world power England or of England as master of the world, then this is still just a delusion. England is first, already in its interior, despite its world conquest, the socially most backward state that probably exists in Europe; socially backward, this means, a state whose whole alignment runs toward the interests of a relatively small and thin upper stratum and of the Jewish society allied with this upper stratum. The interests of the broad masses play no role at all in the alignment of this state. Here as well, one makes use of slogans, one speaks of freedom, one speaks of democracy, one speaks of the accomplishments of the liberal system, and yet means by that nothing else than the stabilization of the regime of a social stratum that makes it possible, thanks to its capital, to get its hands on the press and to organize and direct it and to thereby shape public opinion. So it is possible that, in a state that possesses the greatest riches on earth, that has at its disposal gigantic living spaces, that, viewed overall, has hardly one human being per square kilometer, so is it possible that, in such a structure blessed by nature, millions of people have no share at all in these blessings, rather live more wretchedly than the people in any other of our overpopulated central European states. The land that is a paradise for a few, is for many, this means, for the mass, in reality, only an ongoing misery. Misery in nourishment, misery in clothing, misery, above all, in housing, misery in the security of earnings, misery in the whole social legislation.

And if today a British labor secretary, who, by the way, as "opposition" figure, is paid by the state, if he now suddenly steps up and says: "After this war, after its victory, will have to begin to attack the social question and to solve social problems", - then I can only say to this secretary: That happened among us already long ago!

It is only interesting to us, because it is a confirmation of our claim that England is, in reality, the socially most backward land in the world. So seen initially toward the inside, this

gigantic wealth outwardly is actually an unfruitful one, if one disregards a few people and looks at the broad mass in comparison.

But outwardly as well, this world domination is still only an appearance. The world has received new centers. Huge states have emerged that can never be attacked by England, nor even threatened, after all. The whole of British world domination is still based on again and again on being able to get strangers in order to proceed against the continent. Just that, outside of this European continent, or far beyond this continent, great state structures have emerged. And these state structures are unassailable for England. British diplomacy can, at most, through skillful wangling, through the attempt of playing other forces there, to try to hold its position. This hence means, it must try already now to elevate the so-called balance of power in Europe to a balance of power in the world, in other words, to play world states against each other in order to preserve at least the appearance of a world power.

In Europe itself, however, the awakening of the folks has already eliminated the so-called balance theory, this means the disorganization of the continent. The folk development and hence the formation of the new Reich, of the German nation, has pushed into this disorganized European continent. And to our south, Italy's. New elements have hence come that make this balance of powers look like an illusion. It no longer exists. And indeed, we see in this really the deepest reason for the World War.

Since 1871, since the German tribes began to organize and, under the leadership of a brilliant great statesman, again formed a Reich, hence since the already slowly proclaiming itself national rebirth of the German folk found governmental unity, since then, England began to persecute this new structure with its hatred. Already in 1871, yes, already in 1870, immediately after the Battle of Sedan, British newspapers began to point out that this new structure was more harmful for England than, say, the old France. Yes, one had hoped - already back then - that Prussia could manage, perhaps in a long war, to repulse France again. But one did not want that, say, the Prussian rebellion turned into a German national rebirth or even a new German Reich would emerge. So that time came, from 1871 to 1914, in which England constantly agitated for war against Germany, showed enmity toward and feuded with Germany at every opportunity, until finally the World War broke out, the work of a very small group of international, unprincipled scoundrels.

And England received foreign help for this World War, which it could also wage again only with foreign help. And it is now interesting to present the whole development of this British world power policy for about four hundred years. First the war against Spain with the help of the Dutch, then war against the Dutch with the help of other European states, among them France as well, then the war finally against France with Europe's help, then finally war against Germany with the help of Europe and of the other world standing at its disposal. The World War, which convulsed Europe from 1914 to 1918, was exclusively the desired product of British statecraft. Although the whole world was now mobilized against Germany, Germany was actually not defeated. We can comfortably say that today. I do not want to be a critic of the past, if I have not done a thing better. But today, as one of the historical men who has done a thing better, I can also view the past critically and judge. And I can only say: the success of the year 1918 is exclusively the result of a combination of personal inability in our folk's leadership, of a unique combination, which existed neither previously in history nor will reoccur in the future, the gentlemen can believe that.

And nonetheless, this land and the German soldier withstood for over four years the assault by a hostile world. And it would have withstood it even longer, if the further factor had not come of the back then still existing faith of the German folk in the honorableness of the rest of the democratic world and its statesmen. This trust of the German folk, which was regretted by many back then, received a terrible historical reward.

And if today Englishmen come and believe that it suffices to again put the old propaganda waltzes of the year 1917/18 onto the gramophone in order to achieve a new effect, then I can only say: they have forgotten nothing, but also, unfortunately or to their own detriment, learned nothing! And in this they distinguish themselves from the German folk. The German folk has learned since then, but it has also forgotten nothing. We do not want to be petty in the process. In history, individual breaches of word have already often happened in the past. But what took place in the year 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921 etc., was not a breach of faith, rather those were breaches of faith on an assembly line! Not a breach of faith, rather one did not keep one promise! Never has a great nation been deceived like the German folk back then. What did one assure us, what did one promise this credulous folk - and what did they then do with our folk! Looted and extorted it! In the process, one made use of a foreign statesman, of an American, in order to gain greater trust in the German folk. And perhaps that was also the reason, after all, why the German folk fell for this whole maneuver. Just that it has now, in this regard as well, become immune against all similar attempts in the future. The German folk had the opportunity back then, year after year, to reflect on the honorableness of democratic assurances, promises, democratic words and democratic statesmen, and to make comparisons, and to practically test that on its own body. And from this time, after all, the National Socialist movement finally emerged!

If one now says: "Why have you pounced upon a whole new ideology?" Because the old one failed miserably. Not only in the interior. God, democracy was a miserable structure among us. If so forty, fifty parties compete with their mighty worldview interests, which proceed from property, from the level of bicyclist associations to home-owners etc., then this, in itself, is already a very bad picture. But totally aside from that - if we had at least been rewarded from the outside for this pitiful inner-democratic deformation of our life, then one could still say, certainly, in the interior, the stuff has failed, after all, but externally, you at least got a decent treatment in exchange. In the interior, the whole thing was naturally a joke, but at least one took you seriously externally, one at least acted as if one wanted to take you seriously. One at least fulfilled part of what one promised you, if you want to be well-behaved democrats following the example of the others. - If at least that had been the case. But whom did they plunder for fifteen years, whom did they deceive, whom did they extort, whom did they fleece? Say the National Socialist state? German democracy!

When I came home in 1918 and lived through the winter of 1918/1919, it naturally become clear to me, like many others, that the existing political world in Germany could no longer expect a rejuvenation. And I hence began, like so many others, to seek. And there emerged the conception that later, as National Socialism, conquered the German folk, proceeding from one realization: the German nation fell, because it allowed itself the luxury of consuming its energy in the interior. According to an eternally valid law, this energy consumption in the interior eliminated its outward energy. It hoped to gain the friendly sympathy of the others and it became acquainted with nothing else than the naked egoism of the crudest, vilest finance interests, which now began to plunder where there was something to plunder. One could not expect anything else.

But then, the dice had fallen. One thing seemed to be clear: Any resurrection could not at all take its start from the outside, rather only from the inside. First, the German nation had to learn a new conception of its internal political struggle, which enabled it to again concentrate all of Germany's energy, and indeed, above all, the idealistic energy. And this idealistic energy, it was located, as things laid back then, after all, in only two camps, in the socialist and in the nationalist. Precisely both the camps that feuded with each other most lethally and fought each other most sharply, both these camps had to be joined together into a new union.

Today, my folk comrades, when millions and millions march under the sign of this union, this seems to be so self-evident. In the year 1918 and 1919, it looked like the product of a sick imagination. One pitied me at best. But perhaps, my folk comrades, this was a good fortune! If one had taken me seriously back then, then one would have probably destroyed me. For the movement, after all, was much too small in order to be able to offer resistance to such a destruction. So it was perhaps wanted by nature or God desired fate, that back then one ridiculed us, mocked us and already back then a certain propaganda just made fun of us and viewed us only as a joke. So we gradually managed to form in our movement the first cell and hence core of a new folk community - an almost unbelievable historical manifestation -, introduced by nothing but unknown people, to win supporters, above all, from the broad mass, from the folk itself.

Only in a second state, in Italy, can this process be viewed as having succeeded, but otherwise still nowhere else in Europe. In a few democracies, one indeed recognizes the significance of such a process, and one now believes to be able to achieve something similar through swindles. But one always forgets one thing, above all; Such a rebirth of a folk is really a wonderful process, a process that preconditions more faith than, say, so-called abstract, witty knowledge. And that in the years 1918 and 1919 and 1920 and 1921 this primitive faith of the broad mass gradually flowed to us, this formed the first core of our movement, this made these little people back then, who came from the plants, from the factories, from the farmsteads, from the offices etc., this made these little people believe in their future, in the future of this idea, of this movement and in the later victory.

We represented a realization back then: if the German nation does not repair its position toward the world, this means again becomes a power factor, then Germany will actually, in a short time, have twenty million people fewer. For one could calculate that, after all: unemployment spread year after year. There came with it really the aimlessness and desultoriness of national conceptions, of economic planning. The eternal change of government prevented any advance thought for long periods. Projects beyond two, three months duration no longer made any sense., because the affected party could know from the start that, in three months, it would no longer govern. The one said: "Why should I clear away, what others have done badly?" - and the other said: "Why should I do something better, so that another can then take a seat here." - No reason was still found to pursue thorough, real solutions at all. But national impotence thereby invariably had to increase, economic decline spread, the number of unemployed increase, the number of those still employed decrease, the burden on these shoulders increase ever more, thereby reducing their support ability, and, finally, a collapse had to come, whose end could not be seen. But it was already to be presumed that the kindly and human prophecy of the great French democrat Clemenceau that we had twenty people million too many, that this prophecy would be realized. So there hence emerged opposing that the program of a concentration of German energy with the goal of protecting our life right toward all sides.

We thereby chose a path that laid between two extremes. First, we fell for the one extreme, the liberal, individualistic one, which put the individual at the center point of not just observation, rather also of all action. On the other side stood tempting before our folk the theory of mankind as universal concept, which obligated solely the individual. And between both these extremes now stood our ideal: the folk, in which we see a psychological and physical community, which Providence has formed and thus wanted, into which we are placed and in which alone we can master our existence. And we have now consciously subordinated all of our thoughts to this goal, adapted interests to this goal, brought all measures into agreement with this goal. So emerged the National Socialist world of ideas, which represents an overcoming of individualism, not, say, in the sense that it curtails individual freedom or paralyzes the individual's initiative, rather only in the sense that the common interest stands above individual freedom and above any initiative of the individual, that this common interest is the regulating, the deciding thing, if necessary, the inhibiting thing, but also, if necessary, the commanding thing.

We thereby began a struggle back then against all, against the followers of the individualist principle as well as against the followers of the idea of mankind. And in this struggle, we have over the course of fifteen years gradually conquered the German nation. I have always taken the view of winning my fellow citizens. And if this movement, after the first year, numbered the first ten thousand followers, and then later always grew, then these followers, after all, were always folk comrades who previously had believed somewhat differently. In our party's ranks, after all, march only Germans who were previously in other movements. Hundreds of thousands of my SA, of my SS, were previously fighters in other organizations. This means, we have persuaded and conquered all of them, in that we won them inwardly. It was the greatest soul struggle that was perhaps ever fought out in our history. For I could force nobody, after all, to go with me, to join my organizations: they all had to be inwardly convinced, and only from their inner conviction did they then take upon themselves the great sacrifices.

The struggle was really supposed to be waged with the intellect, this means, with the power of speech, of the word, of writing, and hence of persuasion. And only where a malicious opponent said: "In intellect, I cannot resist you, but I am stronger than you. And because I cannot resist you with intellect, I will offer resistance to you with violence", - only there did I, as former front soldier, also choose the answer that is alone fitting against violence: violence against violence!

So emerged the fighting movement, which fought with the intellect as long as the other was ready to likewise assemble with intellectual weapons, but which also did not shun immediately appealing to force as well, if the other believed, for his part, that he could kill intellect with violence.

In the process, we had opponents who always opposed us outwardly a well: A blend of all international feeling, thinking and acting persons from all camps. We know the coalitions of back then that assembled against us, and I may see today already: in this battle of intellect, we mastered them everywhere, for when I was finally called to power, I came to power along the legal path, under the presidency of General Field Marshall von Hindenburg, as Reich President as the result of the strongest movement that stood behind me!

That hence means: The so-called National Socialist revolution in the democracy defeated democracy with democracy!

It secured for itself along the strictly legal path all means of power. Today as well, I stand before you on the basis of the mandate of the German nation, and indeed of a mandate that is more comprehensive than any so-called democratic statesman possesses today.

When I came to power in 1933, our path was clearly marked. I was precisely determined in the interior through a fifteen year long struggle that in a thousand proclamations obligated us to the German folk. And it would have been dishonorable and would have deserved that one stone me, if I had retreated or would retreat even just one step from this program.

This program said, seen socially: Establishment of the German folk community, overcoming all prejudices of class and rank, education of German man for community, if necessary, breaking the resistance of those who do not want to fit into this community.

Economically: building a German national economy, which, under acknowledgement of the importance of private initiative, nonetheless subordinates all of economic life to the common interest.

And, believe me, here as well, a different goal is no longer thinkable. In times in which folks are compelled to represent their interests on the battlefields and hence cannot make a distinction between those who have much and those who have little to represent, in such periods, economic advantages or hegemonies unfavorable to the interest of commonality are no longer to be preserved.

Like everywhere, here as well, I took the path of instruction, of education, of slow adaptation. For it was my pride to carry out this revolution without a single window-pane being destroyed in Germany, a revolution that leads to the greatest transformations that have ever happened on earth, and which destroy not the slightest thing, rather only gradually reorient everything, which shift anew point after point, until finally this whole great community has found its new path. That was our goal.

And it was exactly the same in terms of foreign policy. And here, I set up a program: elimination of Versailles. One should not act stupid in the other world, as if that were, say, a program that I discovered in the year 1933 or 1935 or 1937. Instead of listening to their stupid emigrant blabber, the gentlemen should have just read about me, what I had written and indeed written a thousand times. No human being declared and wrote down more often what he wants than I did, and I wrote again and again: elimination of Versailles. And indeed not because we got that into our head, rather because Versailles was the greatest injustice and the vilest mistreatment of a great folk that ever happened in world history, and because, without the elimination of this instrument of compulsion of German annihilation, any life preservation of our folk would have been impossible.

With this program, I stood up in the year 1919 still as soldier and talked about it for the first time, and I have carried this program before me as solemn, obligating commandment all the years of the struggle for power. And when I came to power, I did not tell myself like the democratic politicians: Now the Moor has done his duty, now he can go, rather at the moment I told myself: I thank you, Lord, that you have now put me where I can finally achieve my program.

But here, too, I did not want to achieve this program by force, rather I said what a human being can say. My Reichstag speeches, which no democratic statesman can swindle away before



history, they are witness for it. What offers did I make them! How did I entreat them to accept reason and not to curtail the life and existence possibilities for a great folk. How did I prove to them that it serves no purpose for them, carries within itself no benefit for them and is senseless, yes, only harms them, too! What all did I do in these long years in order to ease for them the path to an agreement! It would have never been possible to enter this competitive armament, if the others had not wanted it. I presented proposals to them. But it was nonetheless so that each proposal, merely because it came from me, immediately sufficed in order to immediately bring a certain Jewish-internationalist clique into agitation, exactly, my folk comrades, like previously among us ourselves in Germany, where every reasonable proposal from us National Socialists was also already primarily rejected, because it came from us. So it was here as well. My Reichstag speech of May 17, 1933 and my later speeches, my countless proclamations in public assemblies, all my memorandums, which I prepared back then, they are dominated by the one thought: under all circumstances to find a path to carry out the revisions of this treaty peacefully.

And that this treaty was a vile document, even its authors admitted themselves in the end, yes, they even admitted that the possibility of a revision should remain open. They designated the League of Nations for that, which hence means, they set the fox to keep the geese. This League of Nations, which, on the one hand, was there to prevent that this treaty was revised, was, on the other hand, supposed to be competent for its revision. Initially, we were not in the League of Nations, and later, German participation was basically nothing else than a delivery of the annual payments. That was the only positive thing that made itself noticeable for Germany. But otherwise, Germany, after all, was still a democracy. And this democracy of Berlin begged, it literally fell to its knees in Geneva before this international forum and entreated: "Give us the revision, and the revision!" It was all in vain.

I saw as National Socialist after a few months that nothing more was to be gained before this forum. But I then drew the consequences. For I must say already, our opponents, they apparently also always confused us with the people with whom they had dealt since November 1918. Neither the German folk nor we have anything in common with these people. That was not Germany! They were a few miserable subjects kept by Englishmen and Frenchmen and others, whom they paid. But that was not the German folk! The German folk had nothing to do with them. And to bring us into a connection with them, is for us an insult!

If one hence believed to be able to apply the same methods against us as against the November men, then, however, they erred. Then they naturally talked past things. They could not expect that from us, that we, say, go to Geneva and here constantly beg and receive kicks and beg again. There they confuse the former German front soldiers with the traitors of the year 1918. These November men, they could not act differently than to subjugate themselves. For they were caught in chains, after all, in the financial chains of this other world. But we, we have no reason before this other world, after all, to perhaps subjugate ourselves to it; or did the English really imagine that we had an inferiority complex toward the English, who found it necessary to mobilize a world against us? They knocked us down back then through a swindle and through a lie. But the British soldiers did not knock us down! And in the campaign, it also did not have the appearance as if something has changed.

For us it was hence clear and for me, that if nothing was and is to be achieved in Geneva along the path of voluntary negotiation, then we distance ourselves from Geneva. I have never yet in my life pushed myself on anybody. Whoever does not want to speak with me, does not need to. It is even much less necessary for me.

And here are eighty-five million Germans, and these Germans also do not need it, for they have a mighty historical past. They were already a world power when England was still a very small island. And for somewhat longer than three hundred years.

One thereby forced us upon the path, after all, which we then took. The League of Nations, it had only scorn and mockery left over for us. We then distanced ourselves from it. The disarmament conference: the same thing. We then left it. And now we have taken the path that we invariably had to take, in the process always concerned, if somehow possible, to nonetheless come to an agreement. And I may just point out that, in one case, it almost seemed to succeed, namely with France. When the Saar plebiscite took place and the Saar region returned, we also drew the consequences, very difficult consequences. Back then, I renounced any further revision in the west for the German folk. The French took that as so self-evident. I once stated to the French ambassador back then: "That is not as self-evident as you imagine. We make a sacrifice here for the sake of peace. We make it, but then we at least want for it that we then also get peace." But the ruthlessness of these capitalist plutocrats in these lands again and again made a breakthrough in a short time, promoted by emigrants, who present a picture of the German situation that was naturally just crazy, but was believed, because it seemed pleasant, and then naturally fertilized by Jewish hatred. This coalition of capitalist interests, on the one hand, Jewish hate instincts and the emigrants' lust for revenge, had managed to cloud the world ever more, to garnish with slogans and to incite it against the present German Reich again just like against the Reich before us. Back then, they said: against Imperial Germany. Now they said: against National Socialist Germany. In reality, therefore, against the respective Germany!

But now my decision was also firm: under no circumstances to surrender something from the rights, for one surrenders here not theories, rather one surrenders the life of millions of people in the future. I do not sacrifice whatever program point of a party program, rather one sacrifices in such a case the future of a race. And nobody is justified for that, unless he steps before a folk and says: I can no longer represent your interests. Then somebody else must simply come.

But we did not come to power with the program point: We are ready to surrender the interests of the German nation, rather I came with the oath: I surrender no interests! It is not so, after all, my folk comrades, as if, say, the surrender of interests in one year would then bring peace for all time. We have seen that in the old German Reich. That started with the surrender of the western Reich provinces and went on and on. And each decade demanded new surrenders, until Germany was finally crushed, and then these centuries of impotence came over our folk. I am determined, in contrast, from the start not to retreat one step!

When I hence saw that in England the old war agitators of the World War took up their criminal activity again, when the gentlemen Churchill and Eden and Duff Cooper and Hore Belisha etc. and Vansittard, our great old friend, and then Chamberlain and Halifax, when these old men began with their agitation again just like back then, then it was clear to me that these people were not about finding a just agreement with Germany, rather that they again believed they could break Germany in a petty manner, and indeed the faster the easier. What then happened, you know that, my folk comrades.

In these years, starting with 1934, I then armed. When I announced the magnitude of German armament in the Reichstag in September 1939, this other world did not believe it. Understandably -, for whoever himself lives only through bluff, also believes only in bluff among the others! But we already experienced that in the interior as well. If one says that the

prophet counts for nothing in his own land, then I want to expand that his prophecies also count for nothing. That was always the case with me. And now it extends beyond our own land. We experience exactly the same thing, my National Socialist fellow fighters, as we experienced in the interior. Every prophecy by us, it was ridiculed, every statement was portrayed as ridiculous, every future picture designated and branded as a fantastic illusion. One judged us only with scorn and laughter. I can now only say to this world: I have nonetheless armed, and indeed armed a lot. The German folk knows it today, after all. But it does not know everything by a long shot. It is also not necessary. But it is also not necessary at all that everything is said among us. Decisive it that everything has happened!

We have demanded nothing from the others. When France entered this war, it had no reason at all. It was simply the desire to fight against Germany again. However, they said: "We want the Rhineland! We naturally want to splinter Germany now. We want to rip away Austria again, we want to dissolve Germany!" One gradually became accustomed to literal fantasies about the annihilation of our Reich, which are totally unreal in the 20th century, in the century of the nation idea. Simply childish, all that!

And England? I offered my hand to England, again and again. It was downright my program point to come to an agreement with the English folk. We also have no point of contention at all, none at all. There was a single point: Return of the German colonies, and I said in the process: We want to negotiate that sometime, I did not fix the time at all. For England, they are pointless, the colonies. They have 40 million square kilometers, what do they do with it? Nothing at all. It is only the greed of old usurers, who possess something and do not want to give it up, sick beings, who see that their neighbor has nothing to eat, cannot use what they possess, pour it into the sea, if necessary, but become ill at the thought that they could give him some of it. Furthermore, I demanded nothing that belongs to the English, rather only what they robbed and stole from us in the year 1918 and 1919, and indeed robbed and stole against the solemn assurance of the American President Wilson! We demanded nothing from them, we asked for nothing from them. Again and again, I gave them my hand and, nonetheless, everything was in vain. The reasons are clear to us: it is simply the German unification in itself. They hate this state here, quite regardless what it looks like, whether it is imperial or National Socialist, democratic or authoritarian. That is all the same. And second: they hate, above all, however, the social rise of this Reich.

And here, lust for power, on the one hand, really combines with the basest egoism inwardly as well. If they said today: "We can never come to an agreement with this world", - this is the world of awakening social conscience, with which they cannot come to an agreement. There I can say only one thing to the gentlemen on both sides of the ocean: this world will be the successful one in the end! In all folks, the social conscience begins to beat. They can wage wars for their capitalist interests, but the wars themselves will, in the final analysis, be the forerunners for the social rebellions inside their folks.

It is impossible that, in the long run, hundreds of millions of human beings are aligned by the interests of a few individuals. In the long run, the greater interest of mankind will triumph over the interests of these little plutocratic businessmen. We have proof that in these lands as well, in the social area, already today things are beginning to approach a crisis; if English labor leaders now suddenly come with the "new" social idea so worn out and so ancient, then I can only say: Put it back in the trunk, that is already discarded material of ours, already long outdated, gentlemen. If you want to know how one does such a thing, then you must not take

programs, which were modern among us in, say, the 80s or 90s, rather you must come and now study by us, then you can learn, gentlemen, how one does that.

But still, already the fact that one now suddenly presents such a thing as goal! Yes, why then do the gentlemen actually wage war? First they said: In order to combat National Socialism, the folks of the world must bleed dry - and now suddenly they fetch from the very bottom drawer of the chest program points of our quite distant predecessors. Why that at all? They could have gotten that cheaper. But it is only the proof that the folks begin to stir there. Or if, for example, a storm breaks out in England, because a colonel, I believe, or a general declares: "In this land - this hence means socially progressive England - in this land, one cannot use officers from the lower strata, rather officers will be fetched only from the upper strata, the lower ones are not suitable for it", then I can only say: You get excited? Because he said that? You should get excited, because that is not so, but not only because somebody finally says it aloud. It is interesting that nobody gets excited that it is so in reality. This hence means that actually there only people from the upper strata can become something. That is what they should get excited about, but not because somebody stupidly says it now in war. But among us, if they want to learn something, that has already long been abolished. They have, however, recently still proven to us that our officers and generals are not worth anything, because they are all too young and are somewhat peeved by National Socialist ideas, thus also have something to do with, say, the broad mass. Meanwhile, the development, after all, has already shown where the better generals sit, over there or among us. If the war still lasts longer, this will be a great misfortune for England. For then one will still experience all kinds of things. Suddenly, the English will send a commission in order to adopt our program. That will be the end of their whole struggle. This social Germany is what this clique, mixed with Jews and their finance people over there and their businessmen, hate the most.

Conversely, our foreign policy and our domestic and economic policy stands strong and clear. There is only one goal of alignment, this is: the folk. All the paths we walk must end there. It is clear to us that, if one wants to destroy everything, one can enter, walk and keep this path only with many, many compromises, with many indulgences. But the movement, after all, is also not just a temporarily manifestation of one man. Already earlier, many years ago in the struggle, I said: National Socialism will determine the coming thousand years of German history. It can no longer be thought away. It will only pass away, when its program points have become self-evident, not sooner.

But even in the war, the possibility of an agreement was still present. Immediately after the Polish War, I again offered my hand. I demanded nothing at all, neither of France nor of England. It was in vain. Then immediately after the collapse in the west, I again extended my hand to England. I was greeted with venom and outcry. They literally spat at me. They were outraged. Also fine. It was all in vain. The finance interests of these democracies triumph over their genuine folk interests! So the blood of the folks must again be put into the service of the money of this very small interest group.

So it came to the first fight, and this fight will simply continue. But looking back, I may already say one thing: already the year that lies behind us, and the last part of the year before that, have practically decided this war. The opponent whom they initially mobilized against us in the east was eliminated in a few weeks. The attempt to cut us off from Norway, from our ore bases, and to gain an attack base against northeastern Germany, was likewise eliminated in a few weeks. The attempt to reach the Ruhr zone through Holland and Belgium collapsed after a few days. France went the same path. England was chased off the continent. I now read a few

times that the English have the intention to now start somewhere with a big offensive. I would only have the one wish that they inform me of this in advance. I would then evacuate in advance the area in Europe so that they would come. I would very gladly spare them the difficulties of a landing, and then we would again introduce ourselves and once more converse, and indeed, in the language that they probably alone understand!

They now have hopes, for they must possess hopes. What do they expect then? We stand here on this continent, and where we stand, nobody removes us! And we have created certain bases, and we will, when the hour comes, swing for the decisive blows. And that we have used the time for this, the gentlemen will in this year take note of this historically.

For what do they hope? For other help? For America? I can say only one thing: We have figured in every possibility in advance. That the German folk has nothing against the American folk, this is clear to everybody who does not want to intentionally twist the truth and claim the opposite. Germany has never yet represented interests on the American continent, other than that it has helped fight for this continent's freedom! If states of this continent now attempt to perhaps intervene into the European conflict, then the goal will change only faster. Europe will simply defend itself.

And one should not surrender oneself to any deception about one thing: Whoever believes he can help England, must know one thing in any case: every ship, whether with or without escort, that comes in front of our torpedo tubes, will be torpedoed!

We are in a war that we did not want. Quite the opposite! One cannot offer the hand to the other more often. But if these finance hyenas want the fight and have, say, the goal to exterminate the German nation, then they are in for the shock of their lives. This time, one does not encounter an exhausted Germany like in the World War, rather this time one encounters a. to the highest degree mobilized and combatable and combat-determined Germany.

But if one has other hopes, then I can only say, I do not understand them. They say: "Italy will fall away." The gentlemen should not invent revolutions in Milan, after all, rather they should watch out that disturbances do not break out among themselves! Germany's and Italy's relationship is seen by these states only like they themselves usually tend to practice. Hence if among the democracies one helps the other, then it demands something for it, strong points or something else - which it then occupies. When the Italians hence moved airplane squadrons to the Atlantic coast, the English newspapers wrote that the Italians now interfered in our war conduct and that they would demand in exchange a strong point on the Atlantic in the future. And now, since German squadrons are in Sicily, they say that Germany will now probably confiscate Sicily. The gentlemen can be convinced: with this nonsense, one can stir a person neither in Germany nor in Italy. It only shows the sick lack of intellect of the people who talk such a thing in England. And, above all, it only shows that they do not grasp the meaning of this war, which we, however, do grasp: Wherever we can strike England, we will strike it! But if they see in our partner's few setbacks now already the proof of their victory, then I do not understand precisely the English. They have previously always seen in their own setbacks only the proof for their great victory. The gentlemen can be of the conviction: This bill is an overall bill, and it will be settled at the end of this war, point for point, square kilometer by square kilometer. They can be convinced of that!

And they must be of the conviction of still something else: Il Duce and I, we two are neither Jews nor are we businessmen. If the two of us shake hands, then this is the handshake

of men who possess honor. This, I hope, will, over the course of this, year also dawn upon these gentlemen and become clear.

Perhaps they still hope in the Balkans. I would also not give much for it, for the one thing is sure: Wherever England puts in an appearance, we will attack it, and we are strong enough for it.

Perhaps they have hope in other states, which they will still bring in. I do not know, I can only give you, my party comrades, who have known me for so many years, as a worried man who always looks ahead, only the one assurance: Any possibility that is at all thinkable, we have soberly weighed and included in our calculation. At the end stands our victory!

Perhaps they hope then for still something else - no longer as strong - for hunger. We have organized our life. We knew from the start that there can naturally be no surplus in war. But the German folk will never starve - never! Sooner the English one! The gentlemen can be convinced of that.

Raw material shortage? There, too, we have foreseen everything. Hence the Four-Year Plan! Perhaps some Englishmen as well have become aware of this.

There could still be only one thing: namely, that they really believe, through their lies and propaganda, through their slogans, to once more be able to fog the German folk. And there I can say only one thing: they should not have slept so long! They should have really concerned themselves a little with the inner development of the German folk. The way they now undertook this idiocy, to want to alienate the Italian folk from Il Duce - a British Lord stands up and appeals to the Italian folk that it should no longer follow Il Duce, rather His Lordship! It is idiotic, if one should believe such a thing at all from such a blockhead.

Then another Lord stands up and admonishes the German folk to follow His Lordship and turn away from me. I can only say to these men: totally different people have already tried that in Germany. They have an idea of the German folk, of the National Socialist state, of our community, of the army of our marching masses in our folk! They have an idea of our propaganda!

They have, because they themselves were apparently not quite so convinced of the soundness of their ideas, borrowed a few forces from Germany. But those are precisely the forces that failed miserably here, namely the emigrants who drew the short straw here. Those are their advisors! We see that immediately from the pamphlets. We know precisely: he did that, he did that - just as stupid as here back then. Only that back then the stamp "Vossische Zeitung" stood on it, and now "Times" or something like that stands on it. And the people imagine that such an old, old matter, which among us already before the "Vossische Zeitung" no longer drew, will now draw again, if suddenly such a thing now comes from the "Times" or the "Daily Telegraph". A real softening of the brain has broken out in these democracies! They can rest assured: The German folk will do everything that is in its interest. It will follow its leadership. It knows that its leadership has no other goal. It knows that today a man does not stand at the top of the Reich who also has a stock portfolio in his pocket, who pursues other interests. This German folk - I know it, and I am so proud of it - is bound to me and goes through thick and thin.

In this folk, an old spirit has now become alive again, which already once accompanied us for a long time: this fanaticism in the readiness to take everything upon ourselves! Every blow that we receive, we will pay back with interest and interest upon interest! It will only make us harder! And whatever they mobilize against us. And if the world were full of devils, then we will nonetheless succeed.

And when they then say as the final thing: "Yes, but the mistakes that they make!" - God, who makes no mistakes? Early this morning I read that an English minister - I do not know from what - calculated through some process that in the past year, hence in the year 1940, I had made seven mistakes, seven mistakes! The man is mistaken, I have added them up: I have not made seven mistakes, rather 724. But I have further calculated: and my opponents have made 4,385,000 mistakes! He can believe me! I have calculated it precisely.

We will get along with our mistakes. If we make as many mistakes this year as in the past, and if I make as many mistakes as in the past one, then at the end of this year, I will thank the Lord on my knees that he let me make only seven mistakes. And if my opponents do so many clever things as in this past year, I will also be satisfied.

So we now enter the new year with an equipped Wehrmacht like never before in our history.

On land, the number of divisions has increased mightily. Their combat value was improved, the tremendous war experience among officers and enlisted men utilized and evaluated. Then there was working and there is constant working. The equipment has been improved, our opponents will see how it was improved.

At sea, the U-boat war will begin in the spring, and it will then also be noticed there that we have not slept in these sixteen months!

And the Luftwaffe will likewise supply its introduction. And the whole Wehrmacht will force the decision one way or another!

Our production is a tremendously escalated one in all areas.

What others plan, is reality among us. The German folk, however, stands composed behind its leadership, in confidence in its Wehrmacht and ready to endure what fate will one day demand from it.

The year 1941, of this I am convinced, will be the historical year of Europe's great new order! The program can be no other than: Opening the world for all, breaking the privileges of individuals, breaking of the tyranny of certain folks and, better yet, of their financial rulers.

And, finally, this year will help to then really secure the foundations for an agreement of folks and thus a new reconciliation of folks.

And I also do not want to avoid the reference that I once already made, namely on September 1, 1939, in the German Reichstag, that, namely, if the other world would really be plunged by Jewry into a general war, Jewry will have thereby played out its role in Europe! They may still laugh about it today, just like they previously laughed at my prophecies. The coming months and years will prove that I have prophesized correctly here as well. Already

now, however, we see how our race knowledge grips folk after folk, and I hope that also the folks which today still stand in hostility toward us will one day recognize their greatest internal enemy, and that they will then enter into a great common front with us: the front of Aryan mankind against international Jewish exploitation and ruination of folks!

This year, which since January 30th now lies behind us, was the year of greatest successes, but also many sacrifices. Even though overall the number of dead and of wounded is small compared to all earlier wars, the sacrifices are nonetheless difficult for each individual family that was affected by them. All our affection, our love, but also our care belongs to those who had to make these sacrifices. They have suffered the sacrifice that generations before us always also had to make. But every single German has also otherwise made sacrifices. The nation has worked in all areas, above all, the woman has worked in the replacement of the man. It is a wonderful community idea, which dominates our folk.

That this idea in its whole force may be preserved for us in the coming year, let that be the wish of the present day. That we all want to work for this community, let that be our oath! That we win victory in the service of this community, that is our faith and our confidence! And that the Lord will not abandon us in this struggle of the coming year, that should be our prayer!

Germany Sieg Heil!



**On February 14th, the Führer receives Yugoslavian Minister-President  
Zwetkowitzsch and Foreign Minister Cincar-Markowitsch.**

**On February 17th, Bulgaria and Turkey issues reciprocal peace declarations.  
England's hope for a spread of the war into this part of Europe as well is thereby  
thwarted.**

**On February 24th, the Führer speaks on the 21st anniversary of the proclamation  
of the party program in Munich.**

## Speech on February 24, 1941 in Munich

Party comrades!

National Socialists!

**F**or us, February 24th is always a day of moved memory. And rightly so! For on this day, the movement began from this hall the amazing triumphant march that led it to the top of the Reich and hence made it the shaper of German fate.

For me as well, this day means very much. It is, I believe, very rare that a politician, 21 years after his first big public appearance, can step before the same following in order to repeat the same program as on the first day, that a man may preach the same thing for 21 years and also achieve it, without even just once having to distance himself from his earlier program.

When we assembled in the year 1920 in this hall, the question arose among many: "Oh, already another new party again. Why? Don't we have enough parties?" - If the new movement had really not wanted to be anything else than a continuation and multiplication of the old parties, then this objection would have been rightly raised, for there were more than enough parties back then, after all. But it was indeed something else than all party foundations back then. There arose a movement that for the first time declared from the start that it did not intend to represent the interests of specific individual folk strata. Not a representation of bourgeois or proletarian interests, not a representation of countryside or city, not a representative of Catholic, but also not of Protestant concerns, not a representation of individual provinces, rather a movement that, for the first time, put at the center point of all its thoughts the term "German folk". It was also not a class party insofar as it supported neither the right nor the left side, into which one tried to divide the nation back then, rather the start had an eye on only one goal: the German folk in its totality.

Thus began a heroic struggle, which from the start had to bring almost everything else against the movement and also did bring it against it. But in this goal laid the decisive thing, and that I can stand before you again today after 21 years, is owed only to this goal.

To this clear, distinct goal, which made the movement not the servant of individual, clearly delineated interests, rather elevated it beyond that to a single task, to serve the German folk as a whole and to protect its interests over all momentary divisions.

We stood back then in the middle of a great collapse. Versailles burdened all of us, and it was obvious that everywhere people set out with a heavy heart to seek a path that could lead out of this nameless misfortune.

The causes for this collapse were viewed differently. Without a doubt, the gravest political mistakes had been made - not, say, only in the years of the war, rather already many years earlier. One saw the storm coming. One saw certain agitators in the world - and they are the same ones who today again take care of the business of mobilizing all of Europe against Germany. Although favorable opportunities had already offered themselves to confront these agitators, and indeed confront them in time, the Reich leaderships back then failed here politically. Since the beginning of the war a well, the political leadership, internally and externally, was as clumsy as imaginable, psychologically thoroughly deficient. Only in one area may one not reproach it: it did not want the war!

Quite the opposite - for if it had wanted a war, then it would have certainly prepared itself for it differently and chosen a more favorable point in time. No, its greatest crime, if one may designate a mistake so, was that it did not itself find the decisive hour and hence act at a more favorable time, even though it knew that the war was unavoidable.

Military mistakes were also made, many military mistakes, but nonetheless, the fact remains: For over four years, the German soldier as such defied the enemy undefeated! A heroic epic of unique nature played out in these four years.

Quite regardless how great our victories may be today and how great the victories will be in the future - the German folk will always look back with reverent emotion and deep feeling at this great time of the World War, when it, isolated and abandoned by the whole world, fought a heroic battle against a tremendously superior force in number, against a mighty superiority of material, and nonetheless held firm - until a collapse set in that was caused not by the front, rather came from the decay of the homeland.

We thereby come to the actual and most decisive reason, to the real cause of the collapse back then. The German folk lived for decades already in an inner decaying that was taking place. There were two worlds, into which the nation fell apart back then. We old National Socialists are only all too aware of them even today, for we struggled and fought with these worlds. We stood between them, and our movement gradually formed itself out of them.

You still remember, my old party comrades, the picture of political life back then, still remember all the posters of two great concepts that fought with each other: bourgeoisie on the one side, proletariat on the other, nationalism here, socialism there - between both a chasm, of which one claimed that it could never be bridged over. The bourgeois nationalist concept was simply just bourgeois, the socialist one was only Marxist. The bourgeois ideal was socially limited, the Marxist one internationally unlimited. Basically, however, both movements had already become sterile.

At the time when I appeared here for the first time, no reasonable person at all could reckon that a clear victory would come here. And that, after all, was the decisive thing. If the nation was not supposed to definitively collapse, then one side had to emerge as 100% victor from this struggle, if it was indeed unavoidable. But that was impossible already back then, for the movements themselves already began to dissolve and splinter. Their elan had long since been lost. The bourgeois splint into countless parties, clubs, small groups, small associations, behind them the representations of city and countryside, of homeowners and property etc. - and on the other side, the Marxist orientations likewise splintering ever more, majority socialists, independent socialists, communists, radical communists, communist workers party, trade-union movement etc.. Who still remembers all these groups, which back then fought with each other? Every poster was a declaration of war, not only against the opposing world, rather often also against the own.

Both these camps, which confronted each other back then, in the long-run had to lead to the total dissolution of our folk body in the interior and thereby naturally to the consumption of all German folk energy.

Quite regardless whether domestic policy or foreign policy, whether economic or power political questions were to be decided: None of the great tasks of the time could be solved without the whole and concentrated employment of the nation's energy.

Before our eyes stood Versailles back then. When I appeared here in this hall for the first time, my whole political thinking was filled with the obligation to protest against this most shameful subjugation of all times and to summon the nation for the fight against it. In terms of foreign policy, this dictate meant the total defenseless and disenfranchisement of the German nation.

Precisely this foreign policy situation compelled a clear decision. The shame dictate was intended to enslave the German nation for time eternal. One had set no time limit to this slave work, rather one said from the start: "We do not want to fix what you must pay, because we ourselves do not yet know at all what you can pay. We hence want to set that anew from time to time again and again; you just obligate yourselves from the start that you will pay everything that we demand." - The German governments back then also did that, too! The fulfillment of this obligation had to make Germany perish for time eternal. And when a Frenchman states that this actually had to be the goal, to eliminate 20 million Germans - then that was in no way fantasy! The time was actually calculated at which the German nation would number twenty or thirty million fewer.

This disastrous enslavement, even seen purely economically, confronted the German nation, now divided into two great army camps. Both had totally different views, but both hoped in internationalism. Some more of intellectual manner, as it corresponded to them, they said: "We believe in the world conscience, in world justice: we believe in the League of Nations in Geneva." The others were somewhat more proletarian and said: "We believe in international solidarity:" - and similar such things. But all believed in something that laid outside the own folk. A very comfortable method to save oneself, in that one hopes that others come in order to help one!

Conversely, the movement represented the realization that, basically, can be summarized in one single sentence: "God helps those who help themselves!" That is not only a very pious, rather also a very just statement, because, after all, one cannot presume that the dear Lord exists to help human beings who are too cowardly or too lazy to help themselves, that hence the dear Lord is a kind of weakness substitute for mankind. He does not exist for that. He has in all ages only blessed the one who was ready to defend himself.

But what is to be expected from the others, we have experienced that, after all. An American president stands up and gives us a solemn oath that we should get this and this and this, if we would lay down our arms. The weapons were laid down and the oath was broken and forgotten. The gentlemen became very surly, if one reminded them of it. And as often as democratic Germany back then asked and whined - it did not get its relief - no talk at all of equal rights!

I began my fight with the political fight against Versailles precisely in this city. You all know, my party comrades, how often I spoke against this treaty. I studied this treaty like hardly a second person. I also did not forget this treaty, have not forgotten it to this day! The treaty could not be eliminated through an act of humility or subjugation, rather through self-reflection, through the strength of the German nation.

The period of the difficult fighting back then invariably brought along with it a selection of the leadership. If I today step before the nation and see the guard of those men who stand around me, then this is indeed a collection of real men - in Bavaria, one would say, manly

images -, who represent something. If, on the other hand, I look at the cabinets of my opponents, then I can only say: not capable of properly leading a block with me.

This difficult time has created a selection of first-class men, with whom one naturally also often had one's worries - that is quite clear. Men who are worth something are knotty and often also thorny, and in normal times, one must often take care that these thorns stand next to each other - and not against each other. But at the moment at which dangers come, this is a guard of determined human beings. This selection, which the war brings with it for the soldier, which lets the real leaders put in an appearance, only the struggle lets this selection emerge in political life as well. That was the result of this slow development, of this eternal struggle against obstacles, that we have gradually obtained a leadership with which one can today dare anything. If, conversely, I look at the other world, then I must say: it has simply slept through this miracle. Even today, it does not want to see it. They do not want to see what we are, and do not want to see what they have remained, they run around like many jurists with blindfolded eyes. They reject, above all, what they do not like.

They do not comprehend that in Europe two revolutions have created something mighty and new. For we know that, parallel to our revolution, still a second one had passed, in which the assumption of power came much sooner than among us, the Fascist one, that this revolution as well led to the same results, and that there exists between both our revolutions an absolute identity not only in goal, rather also in path and, beyond that, a friendship that is more than a merely practical alliance. This, too, our opponents still do not grasp, that if I once view a man as my friend, I then stand by this man and do not conduct business with this stance.

For I am not a democrat, and I am hence also not a swindler. I am also not a war profiteer, rather I am a man who wishes that, after my death, one will at least do me the justice that my whole life struggle served only one single great ideal. I hence wish to show no weakness in this area as well. Hence there is no doubt at all that the bond that ties together both revolutions, and especially the bond, which ties both men, is an indissoluble one, and that, if things go better for the one and worse for the other or conversely, then the other will always stand by him. Furthermore, however, it is the common enemy, whom we will beat!

There was a time, when this Fascist Italy, which wages the same struggle as we, which was jailed just like us and which lives in the same overcrowding as we and was previously allowed life claim just as little as we, when this Fascist Italy tied up for us strong enemy forces. Numerous British ships are in the Mediterranean, numerous British planes have been held down in the African colonies, and numerous ground forces are tied up there. This was very good for us. For I have already recently said: our tight at sea can begin only now, after all. The reason lies therein that we initially wanted to school new crews with our U-boats, which are now coming. That they now start to come, one should not doubt that. I received just two hours ago the news from the Supreme Commander of the Navy that the reports have just come in from the naval forces and U-boats, that they have again sank 215,000 tons. Of this, the U-boats alone 190,000, and among that a single convoy, which was destroyed yesterday, with 125,000 tons. But from March and April onward, the gentlemen will have to get ready for totally different things. And then they will see already whether we have slept through the winter again or have made use of the time. In these long months previously, where we had to fight with so few boats, Italy tied up large enemy forces. Now it can all be the same to us, whether our Stukas get hold of English ships in the North Sea or in the Mediterranean. In each case, it is the same thing. The one thing is certain: Wherever Britain touches the continent, we will immediately confront it,

and wherever British ships cruise, our U-boats and airplanes will be employed against them until the hour of decision comes.

So a revolution similar as in Germany has taken place only in Italy, which, in the final analysis, leads, must lead and has led, to the new construction of a folk community. Even back then, we had to be patient for long years, and if my opponents now believe they can frighten me with time, then I can only say: I have learned to wait, but during the time of waiting I have never been lazy. We had to wait from 1923 for ten years, after all, until we finally came to power. But in these ten years - you know this, my party comrades - we did a lot of work. What did we create, what did we set up! The movement that assembled in the year 1933 was a different one than that of the year 1923. We used the time. Hence I am not frightened by such threats. Before us never stood, say, before the goal: "By March 1st or June 15th or September 7th, this and that must be done." Only the journalists of our opponents know that. They previously already knew this as well.

They said: "If the National Socialists do not come to power by October 1929, they are lost." We were not lost! - They said: "If the National Socialists do not come to power now after the September 1930 election, National Socialism is finished." It was not finished, even though we had not come to power! - And they said then in 1932: "Now National Socialism is dead. The Führer has rejected joining the government. He does not want responsibility. He is too cowardly for it. We have always that it, we knew it, the man shirks responsibility." This then is what these clever geniuses, who now sit in England - they are no longer among us, after all - knew quite well back then. - Then they said: "August 13th is the turning point. National Socialism is finished." August 14th came, and National Socialism was not finished. - A few months later they had to set a new date. And then January 30, 1933 finally came. And then they immediately said: "Now they have made a mistake. Now they have taken power. In six weeks, now they are finished, three months, at most three months. Then they are finished." The six weeks and the three months have passed, and we were not finished!

And so they have set ever new dates, and in the war they now do the exact same thing! And why not? They are the same people, after all. They are the same prophets, the same political diving-rod carriers, who already among us predicted the future so wonderfully and who are now as auxiliary forces employed in the English propaganda ministry and in the English Foreign Office. They always know quite precisely on what date the Germans are finished!

We have already experienced this a couple times. You all remember, what one said. I only have to refer to the famous statement of a great British statesman, whom you have seen face to face in Munich, Mr. Chamberlain, who a few days before April 9th of the previous year still declared: "Thank God, he has missed the bus." And I remind you of another man - it was the English Supreme Commander-, who said: "Yes, a few months ago, I was afraid, now I am no longer afraid. They have missed the time, and furthermore: they have nothing but young generals. That is their mistake and that is their misfortune. Indeed, their whole leadership...But, above all, they have missed the time, now it is past." A few weeks later, this general took his leave. Probably he himself was also still too young.

And today they do the exact same thing. They always set dates. In autumn, they declared: "If no landing comes now, then everything is in order. In spring 1941, England will carry the offensive to the continent. I continually wait for the British offensive. They have moved their offensive elsewhere, and we must now, unfortunately, chase after them to where we find them.

But we will find them, wherever they may go. But we will also strike them where the blow will be the most devastating for them!

21 years of the movement's constant struggle have now passed. After 13 long years, we came to power. Since then, we experience these years of preparation toward the outside and a huge work in the interior. You know, in the process, it is exactly the same as it was with the party. We demanded nothing from the world other than it give us the same rights, just like we demanded the same rights in the interior. We once demanded free right of assembly, such as the others also possessed, we demanded freedom of speech, we demanded the same rights as parliamentary party as the others as well. One denied it to us, one persecuted us with terror. Nonetheless, we built up our organization and we finally succeeded!

I stepped before the world exactly so. I said: I want nothing than what the others also have. I am ready to disarm to the last. I made ever new proposals, one ridiculed and rejected us, just like in the interior! I wanted to achieve everything along the path of negotiation, for there can be nothing better, after all, then to achieve along the path of negotiation the goals for a folk; for it costs less and spares, above all, blood. Who will be so insane to want to take by force something that he gets with reason? But there are things that must remain for Germany, because we want to live and because the others do not possess the right to curtail this life, because it is impossible that a nation, which in itself already possesses 38 million square kilometers, takes away from another 2 ½ million square kilometers more, and because it is also unbearable for us to be constantly domineered over by these folks and, for example, let ourselves be told what economic policy we should practice.

We practice an economic policy that benefits the German folk. I also do not tell the others what to do. If others want to sit on sacks of gold, they should do it. But if one says: "You do it, too" - I take care not to sell German work energy for dead gold. I buy products of life for German work energy. And the result of our economics policy speaks for us and not for the gold standard people! For we, the poor, have gotten rid of the unemployed, because we no longer pay homage to this insanity, because we view our whole economic life only as a production problem and no longer as a capitalist one. However, we have also put the nation's organized strength behind our economy, the discipline of the whole folk. We have made it clear to the nation that it is an insanity to fight economic wars between individual strata in the interior and in the process to perish together. Certainly, a common social basic orientation was again necessary for it. Today, one can no longer build states on a capitalist foundation. In the long run, the folks become alive, and if people believe that they can prevent the awakening of the folks through wars - quite the opposite -, they will hasten it! These states will sink into economic catastrophes, which will destroy the foundations of their own former finance policy. From this war, not the gold standard will emerge as victor, rather the national economies will triumph! These national economics will among themselves engage in the trade necessary for them. Whether that suits a few gold standard bankers in the world or not, is all the same.

And if a few of these gold standard bankers now declare: "We will not tolerate it that you engage in trade with this or that land", that is none of their business, and the folks will in the future as well not permit themselves to accept from a few bankers the rules for their trade policy! They will engage in the trade policy that is right for them.

We can look into the future with confidence in this area. Germany is a tremendous economic factor, not only as manufacturer, rather also as consumer. We have a large market; but we do not only seek markets, rather we are also the biggest buyer there, while the western

world, on the hand, wants to live from its empires and, on the other hand, still wants to export from its empires. But that is impossible, for the folks cannot engage in one-sided businesses in the long-run.

They want to not only buy, rather they must also sell. But they cannot do that to the empires. The folks will hence trade with us, regardless whether or not some bankers like that. We hence do not make our economic policies according to the views or wishes of the bankers in New York or London, rather Germany's economic policy is made exclusively according to the interests of the German folk! I am a fanatical socialist here, who always sees only the overall interests of his folk before his eyes. I am not the servant of some international banking consortiums, I am not obligated to some capitalist group. I come from the German folk; my movement, our movement is a German folk movement, and we are hence obligated solely to this German folk. Only its interests are decisive for our economic policy! We will never deviate from that.

If now the other world says: "Hence war then!" - then I can only say: "Fine! I do not want it, but even the most pious man cannot live in peace, if the evil neighbor does not like it." But I also do not belong to those who then see such a war coming and then begin to whine. I have said and done what I could, made proposals and ever new proposals; to England as well as to France. One always just rejected them with mockery and scorn and laughed at them. But when I saw that the other side wants the conflict, I did what I as National Socialist and old fighter did earlier in the party as well: I immediately built myself a defense instrument. As just as I earlier represented the view in the party: it is not about us always being just strong enough in order to withstand the blows of the other, rather it is necessary that we are strong enough to immediately retaliate the blows. So I likewise so built up the military instrument of state policy, the German Wehrmacht, that, if it is not otherwise possible, it is able to strike blows!

An American general stated a few days ago before the investigation committee of the American House of Representatives that Churchill had already in 1936 assured him: "Germany is getting too strong for us, it must be destroyed, and I will do everything in order to bring about this annihilation."

A little later, I warned publicly for the first time against this man and his activity. I did not want to prematurely upset the nation and bury a perhaps still possible agreement. But then, at the same moment at which I noticed that in England a certain clique - further incited by Jewry, which naturally stands behind it everywhere as a pair of bellows - agitated and drove for war firmly determined, I made all the preparations in order to arm the nation. And you, my old party comrades, also know that is not just talk, if I once say such a thing, rather that I also act accordingly. We have worked gigantically! The armament that has been created among us in these years, is really the proudest thing that the world has ever seen!

If now another world says: "We are doing that now as well!", then I can only say: "Do it, I have already done it!" Above all, however: "Don't tell my any fairy-tales. I am an expert, specialist in armament matters." I know quite well what one can make out of steel and what out of aluminum. I know what performance one can extract from a man and what not. Your fairytales do not impress me at all! I have employed the energy of the German nation for our armament in time, and I am determined, if necessary, to still employ half of Europe for it, and I also do this. I am prepared for any coming conflict and I hence look forward to it with calm. May the others hence look forward to it with the same calm. In the process, I build upon the best Wehrmacht in the world, upon the best Wehrmacht, above all, which the German nation



has also ever possessed. It is numerically strong, in terms of weapons armed to the maximum, in terms of leadership in a better condition than ever before. We have a young officer corps, which for the greatest part is not only war-tested, rather, I may probably say, covered in glory. Wherever we look, we see today a guard of select men into whose hands German soldiers are given. And these men again lead soldiers who are the best trained in the world, with the best weapons that exist on earth at this time. And behind these soldiers and their leadership stands the German nation, the whole German folk. And in the middle of this folk and as its core this National Socialist movement, which 21 years ago took its start from this hall here, this movement, which is itself again one of the best organizations, such as the other democratic lands do not possess, and which finds its counterpart only in Fascism.

Folk and Wehrmacht, party and state - they are today an indissoluble union. No power in the world can still loosen this structure. And only fools can imagine that, say, the year 1918 could repeat itself. We once became acquainted with that among our democrats in the interior. They, too, always had their hopes, hopes in inner fracture, dissolution and civil war. Today it is again exactly the same. They say: "In six weeks, there will be revolution in Germany!" They do not know who actually wants to make the revolution. The revolutionaries, namely, are not among us, the "revolutionaries" - Thomas Mann and similar such people - are in England. Many have already again departed England for America, for England as well is for them too close to the coming operation area of their "revolution". So they move their headquarters far away from their future battlefield. But they still claim that the revolution will come. Whoever makes it - I do not know how it is made - I also do not know; I know only one thing: that in Germany there can be at most a few fools who think about revolution, but they all sit behind lock and key.

Then they say: "Winter, 'General Winter' comes and will beat down Germany!" Oh, the German folk is pretty secure for the winter. We have withstood in German history, I do not know how many thousands, tens of thousands, of winters. We will withstand this winter as well! Then they declare: "Hunger will come." We have prepared there. We know the humanitarian inventions of our American opponents. We have prepared ourselves. I believe that hunger will arrive there sooner than to us. Then they say again: "Time it itself is in effect." But time only helps the one who works. And nobody works more diligently than we, I can assure these people of this.

All these vague hopes, which they build up for themselves, are ridiculous and downright childish. Basically, I want to say one more thing to it: The German folk has a development of many thousands of years behind it. We know our history through two thousand years. A German Reich existed for a thousand years, and indeed a Reich that really encompassed only Germans. In these periods, our folk has withstood the most unprecedented blows of fate. It will also withstand everything that the present or the future brings it. Yes, even much better, because, namely, I think that a German folk has probably always existed and for over a thousand years a German Reich, but German unity never existed, that the thing never existed that we possess today, a closed organization of our folk, and that the leadership also did not always exist that the German folk possesses today.

And there, I can say with all modesty one more thing: I have already engaged many democratic opponents. Previously, I have always emerged from this struggle as victor. I believe that this struggle as well does not take place under different conditions, this means, the relationship - the order of magnitude is the same as before. At any rate, I am grateful to Providence that, since this struggle was unavoidable, it had it break out still in my lifetime and at a time at which I am still fresh and feel robust. And precisely now, I feel so fresh again!

Spring comes, the spring that we all welcome. The time comes again in which one can measure the forces; and I know that, despite all insight into the terrible severity of the struggle, at this moment, millions of German soldiers think exactly the same.

We now have a year of inconceivable successes behind us, also great sacrifices, even if not when seen overall, but nonetheless individually. But we know that these successes have not been given to us as a gift, rather that countless German men first risked their lives at the front in highest valor and now as well constantly risk them. What so many men in our regiments perform, in our panzers, in our airplanes, on our U-boats, on our ships and everywhere else in our formations, is something unique. Never before did better and never before did braver soldiers exist! We National Socialists are especially proud of them, for we ourselves, after all, are nothing else than former old front party, the front party of the World War. From there, we once returned home, wrath in heart, filled with rage and at the same time burdened with sorrow, feeling the shame that one had inflicted upon our brave folk back then. We who had participated in this whole struggle of the World War, after all, know best what our soldiers perform today; I can say to all of you from this place only the one thing: Our hearts, the hearts of all old National Socialists are with you; they are the hearts of nothing but fighters. How many are there among us who themselves returned shot up from the great war. How many who were wounded, how many who otherwise participated in it. They have all pursued with burning heart the stages that our armies went through in this year. Every single town - it said so much to them. It was for them a tremendous satisfaction to now see realized that for which they back then, at terrible disadvantage, sacrificed blood and more blood, and which they unfortunately could not achieve. They are so proud of their sons today, of the young soldiers of the Third Reich. Nobody can tell them this better than the party of these old fighters, who themselves once returned home from the great war, did not want to endure the shame of the homeland and immediately began a new war in the interior - the war against the destroyers of our fatherland and of our homeland.

So we National Socialists now stand before a new year of struggle. We all know that it will bring great decisions. We look into the future with unshakeable confidence. We have gone through the hardest school that human beings can be allotted. We know that this immense sacrifice cannot have been in vain, for we believe here, too, in justice. What all we have done in this year, we have endeavored, we have wracked ourselves, always only one goal in sight: our folk!

How have the millions given themselves for it. How have the hundreds and the thousands fallen for it. Providence did not have us walk this wonderful path in vain. On the day of the founding of this movement, I pronounced a realization: Our folk once won tremendous victories, and it then became unthankful and disunited, it sinned against itself, and the punishment of Providence struck it for it. We were rightly struck. If a folk forgets itself so much as the German one did back then, if it suddenly believes itself rid of all honor and all loyalty, then Providence can inflict nothing else on it than such a hard, bitter lesson.

But back then as well, we were already convinced that our folk, if it found its way back to itself, will again become industrious and honorable, if the individual German again stands up, above all, for his folk and not for himself, puts common interests above his personal interests, if this whole folk again strives for a great ideal and is ready to employ itself for it, then the hour will one day come, when the Lord declares this test over.

If then fate once again summons us to the battlefield, then its blessing will only be with those who have earned the blessing in decades of hard work. And I can say this: If I view myself

and my opponents before history, then I am not fearful of the weighing of our orientations. Who are they then, these egoists! Each of them stands up only for the interests of his stratum, behind them all stands either the Jew or his own moneybag. They are nothing but profiteers, they live from the profit of this war. There can be no blessing there! I confront these people as nothing else than as a simple fighter for my German folk.

I am of the conviction that just as this struggle has previously been blessed by Providence, it will be blessed in the future as well. For when I entered this hall 21 years ago for the first time, I was a nameless and unknown person. I had nothing behind me other than my own faith. In these 21 years, a new world has been created! The path from now into the future will be easier than the path from February 24, 1920 to today here to this place has been. I now look into this future with fanatical confidence. The whole nation has now assembled. And I know: At the moment when the command resounds: "Keep step!", Germany will march!

**In February, according to the Wehrmacht report, 740,000 gross registered tons of shipping were sunk by the German navy and the German Luftwaffe.**

**On March 1st, Bulgaria joins the Axis.**

**On March 2nd, after the consent of the Royal Bulgarian government, German troops enter Bulgaria in defense against British measures in southeastern Europe.**

**On March 7th, a Hungarian periodical reveals the attempt of the President of the United States of North America to pull Yugoslavia to England's side through a promise of help.**

**On March 9th, the Senate of the USA adopts the England Aid Law. (According to which the President of the United State is empowered to promote unrestricted the military strength of any government pleasing to America.)**

**On March 10th, the German Reich government proclaims that the future of war orphans as well as the children of those severely wounded in war will be secured by the Reich.**

**On March 15th, the United States of America decree the transfer of 99 warships to England.**

**On March 16th, Heroes Remembrance Day, the Führer speaks:**

## **Speech on March 16, 1941 in Berlin - Heroes Remembrance Day**

**F**or the second time, we celebrate in this room our folk's Heroes Remembrance Day. Even more than a year ago, we have become aware how little words are able to express the worthy gratitude of a nation to its heroes. In long, peaceful periods, the impressions of the terrible experiences of war gradually fade from memory, from which heroism and life-sacrifice elevate themselves. It then often goes so far that a generation no longer knows war at all and honors heroes without itself still being even the least worthy of them. Then the most difficult action of the man is celebrated with shallow slogans, yes, the danger exists that, from the memory of the heroic deeds of past times, the present believes it can draw freedom from the obligation for a similar bearing. But when the German folk honors its heroes in the year 1941, then this happens in a present and under circumstances which give us the right to remember with pride all had those who, in the battles of the more distant and most recent past, sacrificed their life for the nation.

When we remembered our heroes twelve months ago in this consecrated hall, there laid behind us the completely successful beginning of a war that Germany had not wanted, rather had been forced upon us by the same forces, which before history already bear the responsibility for the great war of folks 1914-1918. They were the elements who back then set themselves the goal to rob the German nation of the most primitive life right, who in the years of the Versailles dictate elevated the enslavement and economic impoverishment of Germany to the dogma of their new world order, and who then met our folk's resurrection with the same hatred with which they once followed the Second Reich.

In a total misunderstanding of the facts, in a thereby conditioned miscalculation of their own and of German strength, but also in total ignorance of the new German leadership's strength of will and decisiveness, they believed to have an easier game in the second subjugation of our folk than in the attempted first. When the American General Wood assures before the investigation committee of the American Senate that, already in the year 1936, Mr. Churchill declared to him Germany had already again become too powerful and therefore had to be destroyed in a new war, then this now historically verified fact shines light on the real responsibility for the present development. England and France wanted war, only it was less the folks, rather the thin political and financial leadership strata, behind them, as final driving force, standing international Jewry with its world conspiracies, democracy and Freemasonry.

The hope of these responsible war makers, however, was to not only find the outward reason for war through pushing forward Poland, rather to secure from the start the fragmentation of German forces that still seemed so useful to them from the World War. The eighteen-day campaign in Poland put these hopes to an abrupt end. With proud confidence, the German nation, under these circumstances, could enter the year 1941. Nonetheless, our folk did not live in self-deception about the difficulty of the coming year. The fight in the west, still alive today in the memory of every old German front soldier as path of suffering without end, had to be decided. In precise realization of our preparations and plans, in boundless confidence in the German soldier, in his equipment, his leadership, his ability and, above all, however, his bearing, I dared to announce on Heroes Remembrance Day 1940 the imminent fight as the most glorious victory in our history.

Eight weeks later, this fight began. Only, even before the Wehrmacht assembled in the west, the perhaps most important decision in this war had already fallen. On April 9th, with a few hours head start, England's most dangerous attempt to strike German defensive strength from the north in the heart, was thwarted. When the morning of May 10th dawned, this, in the consequent effect perhaps worst threat against our military and economic position, as already successful repelled. The fight for the decision in the west could hence begin. It took the previously set course. What had not succeeded in four years of unspeakable sacrifice in the World War, was completed in a few weeks: The collapse of the British-French front. Without regard for the dull opinions of the present, guilt-ridden British Prime Minister, this year 1940 will go down into world history as one of the most decisive and in effect most significant. For in it, a shift of forces of genuinely historical significance set in. If Germany, even in 1918, had gained even a portion of these successes, the World War would have been won. Today the German Wehrmacht stands ready in a broad area, in terms of personnel and material most tremendously reinforced, determined and confident to complete what was begun in the historically epoch-making year of 1940.

But we now step, with an even stronger right than in the year 1940, before the German heroes of the past. We still all know what they had to endure and perform, especially in the World War. But we bow before their sacrifice no longer as unworthy ourselves. When the German divisions assembled for their advance in the west, the present-day Heroes Memory celebration had taken its venerable start; for at countless military cemeteries, the victorious sons stood at the graves of their heroic fathers with thankful emotion.

The German folk has paid back everything that it once, in insane blindness, surrendered and lost. So precisely today, we can again remember the life-sacrifice of the World War with elevated heart. Amidst all the glorious events of the present, we do not want in the process to overlook the immeasurable spiritual strength, which the German folk and its soldiers owe to the heroism of their ancestors. The soldiers of the World War as well did not fall in vain. Even if, back then, momentary success remained denied to the sacrifices, their heroic action, their fighting courage sublime beyond everything human, nonetheless left behind for the German folk a legacy, which not only every decent German generation will remember with reverence and deep emotion, rather has also remained for our opponents in paralyzing memory. Perhaps from this energetic awareness as well, the German folk now manages to do such infinitely great things. It feels itself as the executor of the will of its brave ancestors.

Next to the dead of the World War, the victims of the continuation of this struggle now form a row. And again, like back then, our folk's sons lie in the expanse of space and of the seas, everywhere, as brave warriors of their Greater German homeland. It is the same German human being, who - be it in the World War or in the movement, at work at in the war today forced upon us - risks and gives up his life in order to finally secure peace for his folk overall and to force a peace, which leads to a better organization of human society than the one that the dictators of Versailles have broken.

But we also remember the Italian soldiers, who have today likewise had to sacrifice their life as allies in large parts of the world. Their ideals and war goals are the same as ours: The world does not exist for just a few folks, and an order that wants to base itself forever on only haves and have-nots, no longer exists, when the have-nots are determined to claim and represent their rightful share of God's earth. The homeland as well must make heavier sacrifices in this war than previously. Its heroism as well contributes to shape the most decisive struggle in German history into a successful one. And here it is not only the man who proves himself in is

strength of resistance, rather, above all, also the woman. The nation has today become a fighting unit. Not because it sought this fight, rather because it was forced upon it. Just as England and France declared war, so did England also begin the war against civilian life. To the blockade of the World War, to the war of hunger against women and children, it has this time added the air and arson war against peaceful villages and cities. Only England will fail in both. Churchill will not destroy Germany in the air war he started, rather Britain itself. And likewise, the blockade will not strike Germany, rather its initiators.

If now the onset of winter limits the combat actions on land, then the fighting in the air and at sea have continued. The heroism of our fliers adds itself to the heroism of our U-boat and ship crews.

We cannot conclude the Heroes Remembrance Day more worthily than through the renewal of our oath to transform the struggle for our annihilation incited by our international opponents into the final German victory. Behind us lies a winter rich in work. What was still to be improved in our training, was done. The German Wehrmacht has now risen to the militarily strongest instrument in our history. If in the months of the winter, above all, our ally had to endure the whole force of British attacks, then from now on the German Wehrmacht will assume its share of these burdens.

No power and no support in the world will change something in the outcome of this fight. England will fall! Eternal Providence does not let those triumph, who for the rule of their money are willing to forget the blood of human beings. Germany has demanded nothing from England and France. All its renunciations, its disarmament and peace proposals were in vain. The international finance plutocracy wants to wage this war to the end. The end of this war must and will hence be their destruction. May Providence then let us find the right path in order to lead the folks rid of its chains to a better order.

Cold and determined, we will hence assemble in the year 1941 in order to complete what was begun in the previous one. Quite regardless upon which earth or on which sea or in which air space German soldiers fight, they will know that this fight decides for always the fate, the freedom and the future of our folk!

But in that we victoriously end this fight, we thank most worthily all heroes of the past: for we save that for which they once also fell:

*Germany!  
Our folk  
and its  
Greater German Reich!*

## *Chronology*

### **March 18, 1940 - March 10, 1941**

#### **March 18, 1940**

The Führer meets with Il Duce at the Brenner Pass.

#### **March 20, 1940**

The Daladier government in France resigns. Paul Reynaud takes over formation of the government.

#### **March 29, 1940**

New German White book on the hand of official Polish original documents: Evidence of the war guilt of the western powers.

#### **April 3, 1940**

English Prime Minister announces the sharpening of the economic war, in which the Nordic states as well are supposed to be subjugated to English measures of compulsion.

#### **April 8, 1940**

The western powers inform Norway that they contaminate Norwegian territorial waters with mines for the prevention of ore shipments to Germany.

#### **April 9, 1940**

German protective measures or Denmark and Norway.

Memorandum from the Reich government to Denmark aid Norway. Systemic execution of the occupation of Denmark and the Norwegian coast.

#### **April 10, 1940**

English attempts to penetrate via Narvik into Norway repelled.

#### **April 13, 1940**

German naval forces repel a large-scale attack by an English squadron in front of Narvik.

#### **April 17, 1940**

The Führer's proclamation for the War Aid Work for the German Red Cross.

#### **April 20, 1940**

The German folk celebrates the Führer's 51st birthday.

#### **April 21, 1940**

Land connection from Oslo via Krisitiansand to Stavanger established, Gjoevik and Lillehammer taken.

#### **April 21, 1940**

England opens the air war against undefended towns with the bombing of non-military targets on the island of Sylt.

#### **April 27, 1940**



Ribbentrop's declaration on the political situation. White Book No. 4.

**April 30, 1940**

German troops in daring advance establish the land connection Oslo-Drontheim.  
The Führer's order of the day to the soldiers of the Norwegian theater.

**May 2, 1940**

After a panicked retreat, the English give up Andalsnes, board ships and leave the Norwegians in the lurch.

**May 3, 1940**

Destruction of a British battleship by aerial bombs.

**May 6, 1940**

The High Command of the Wehrmacht declares the pacification action in central and southern Norway ended.

**May 9, 1940**

Release of the Norwegian prisoners by the Führer's decree.  
Memorandum to Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg.

**May 10, 1940**

The German Wehrmacht crosses the Dutch, Belgian and Luxembourg borders along the broadest front.

The Führer's Order of the Day to the soldiers of the western front.

British Prime Minister Chamberlain resigns. Churchill takes his place.

**May 11, 1940**

In Holland, the province Groningen occupied, the Jissel position and the Grebbe Line broken through.

In Belgium, the crossing over the Albert Canal forced. Luxembourg in German hands. The strongest fort of Fortress Lüttich, Eben Emael, taken.

**May 13, 1940**

The war flag on the citadel of Lüttich.

**May 14, 1940**

Capitulation of the Dutch troops after the fall of Rotterdam.

**May 14, 1940**

The Führer's gratitude to the soldiers employed in Holland.

**May 15, 1940**

Northeast of Namur, a French tank attack is successfully repelled.

**May 16, 1940**

The Maginot Line south of Maubeuge broken through on a breadth of over **100 kilometers**.  
French tank forces beaten west of Dinant.

**May 17, 1940**

Mecheln and Löwen taken after heavy fighting. Brussels surrenders without a fight.

**May 18, 1940**

Capture of Antwerpen.

Reich Minister Dr. Seyss-Inquart made Reich Commissar for the occupied Dutch regions.

**May 20, 1940**

The supreme commander of the French army, General Gamelin, relieved. Weyand takes his place.

**May 25, 1940**

Calais taken.

**May 27, 1940**

Capitulation of the Belgian army.

**May 29, 1940**

German troops assault Ypern and Kemmel.

**May 30, 1940**

The remnants of the English expeditionary force flee on ships abandoning all war material.

**June 1, 1940**

Destruction of the expeditionary force boarding in Dunkirk.

The Dutch prisoners freed by the Führer's decree.

**April 4, 1940**

Fortress Dunkirk taken after heavy fighting.

**June 5, 1940**

The Führer's proclamation to the German folk. The Führer's order of the day to the soldiers of the western front.

**June 6, 1940**

French Foreign Minister Daladier resigns.

**June 7, 1940**

The Weyand Line broken through along the whole front.

**June 9, 1940**

The enemy's attempt to stop the German attack at any price thwarted after four-day long battle in the Somme-Oise region.

**June 10, 1940**

Withdrawal of the English troops from Narvik. - Narvik permanently in German hands. - Cessation of hostilities in Norway.

King Haakon of Norway flees to England.

**June 11, 1940**

The French government flees from Paris.

**June 13, 1940**

Final report about the actions in the Norway.

**June 13, 1940**

The Führer's order of the day to the Norway fighters.

**June 14, 1940**

German troops

**March** into Paris.

Resistance of the French northern front broken.

**June 15, 1940**

Verdun taken. - The Reich war flag flies over the castle of Versailles.

**June 17, 1940**

The Reynaud cabinet resigns. Marshal Petain takes over the government.

**June 18, 1940**

The Führer and Il Duce meet in Munich for a consultation.

**June 19, 1940**

Greater Germany's flag flies over the Strasbourg cathedral.

**June 20, 1940**

France asks Italy for an armistice.

**June 21, 1940**

Presentation of the German armistice terms to the French authorities in the forest of Compiègne.

The Führer's order about the historical site of Compiègne.

**June 22, 1940**

France signs the armistice treaty. - Capitulation of the encircled French armies in Alsace-Lorraine.

**June 24, 1940**

The Führer's proclamation on the end of the war in the west.

Churchill does not recognize the Petain government and urges France to continued resistance.

**June 26, 1940**

The USA recognizes the Petain government.

**June 27, 1940**

German troops reach the Spanish border.

The Turkish Minister-President declares: Turkey is not entering the war.

**June 28, 1940**

New German White Book (No. 5): Additional documents about the western powers' war expansion policy.

**July 1, 1940**

The Romanian ministerial board decides the change of its foreign policy and renounces the guarantee given it on April 13, 1939 by England and France.

**July 2, 1940**

Final report by the High Command of the Wehrmacht on the campaign in the west. The British Channel Islands Jersey and Guernsey are taken in a surprise attack.

**July 3, 1940**

White Book No. 6, summarization of the captured Polish secret files of the French general staff.

**July 6, 1940**

The Führer's triumphant return to the Reich capital.

**July 8, 1940**

France breaks diplomatic relations with England after the attack against Oran.

**July 18, 1940**

Germany troops landed on the channel island d'Quessant.

**July 19, 1940**

The Führer speaks to the German folk and to the world.

**July 21, 1940**

Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia declare their states' entry into the USSR.

**July 26, 1940**

German-Turkish trade agreement signed.

**July 29, 1940**

Romania blocks the mouth of the Danube as security measure against English infringements.

**August 2, 1940**

Foreign policy speech by Russian Peoples Commissar Molotow: "The friendly and neighborly relations between the Soviet Union and Germany will remain totally preserved."

**August 7, 1940**

The Führer names as chief of the civilian administration in Lorraine Josef Bürkel, as chief of the civilian administration in Alsace Robert Wagner, as chief of the civilian administration in Luxemburg Gustav Simon, as provincial leader and Reich Regent of Vienna Baldur von Schirach.

**August 15, 1940**

143 English airplanes and 21 blocking balloons destroyed. Auxiliary cruiser sunk.

**August 17, 1940**

Germany hangs total blockade over England.

The General-Government is declared part of the Greater German Reich.

**August 18, 1940**

138 enemy airplanes destroyed.

**August 19, 1940**

147 British airplanes and 33 blocking balloons destroyed.

**August 30, 1940**

New border between Hungary and Romania according to the arbitration of the Axis Powers.

**August 31, 1940**

133 British planes and 44 blocking balloons shot down.

**September 4, 1940**

The Führer opens the 2nd War Aid Work.

**September 6, 1940**

King Carol renounces the Romanian throne. Crown Prince Michael his successor. General Antonescu obtains extraordinary powers.

**September 7, 1940**

Beginning of the retaliatory attacks against London under the leadership of Reich Marshal Goering.

**September 16, 1940**

Abolition of the customs border between protectorate and Reich territory.

**September 19, 1940**

Reich Foreign Minister von Ribbentrop in Rome.

**September 26, 1940**

Reich Commissar Terboven over the new order in Norway.

**September 27, 1940**

Signing of the Axis Pact between Germany, Italy and Japan.

**September 27, 1940**

Attacks against London, Bristol and Liverpool.

101 British airplanes shot down.

**September 28, 1940**

Italy's Foreign Minister, Count Ciano, arrives for conferences with the Reich government.

**September 30, 1940**

Moscow brings to expression its friendly stance toward the Axis Pact. New German-Russian railroad agreement.

**October 5, 1940**

The Führer and Il Duce meet at the Brenner Pass.

**October 15, 1940**

A delegation of front peasants with the Führer on the occasion of the Harvest Gratitude Day. Führer's speech.

**October 19, 1940**

Devastating blow by German U-boats against a British convoy. 26 steamers with 150,000 gross registered tons sunk in one night.

**October 20, 1940**

U-boat arm sinks 110,000 gross registered tons in one night.

**October 23, 1940**

Meeting of the Führer with Generalissimo Franco.

**October 24, 1940**

The Führer receives French Chief of State Petain in occupied French territory. London experiences the 250th air alarm.

**October 26, 1940**

The Reich Marshal proclaims on behalf of the Führer the 2nd Four Year Plan.

**October 28, 1940**

The Führer's meeting with Il Duce in Florence. Note of the Italian government to Greece.

**October 29, 1940**

Italian troops cross the Albanian-Greek border.

**November 4, 1940**

Dr. Ley announces mighty social plans after the war.

**November 6, 1940**

Roosevelt re-elected President of the USA.

Since the beginning of the war, 7 million gross registered tons of enemy shipping sunk.

**November 8, 1940**

The Führer's speech before the Old Guard in Munich

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Total annihilation of a British convoy on the North Atlantic route, in the process 86,000 gross registered tons sunk.

**November 11-14, 1940**

Visit of Soviet-Russian Foreign Minister Molotow in Berlin.

**November 14, 1940**

The Führer's address before armaments and front workers.

**November 15, 1940**

The Führer decrees a generous residence construction program for the time after the war and orders immediate preparations for it.

**November 16, 1940**

Antonescu's declaration: Romania Marches with the Axis to the end.

**November 20, 1940**

Hungary joins the Axis Pact.

**November 23, 1940**

Romania joins the Axis Pact.

**November 24, 1940**

Slovakia joins the Axis Pact.

English Ambassador in the USA, Lord Lothian, asks the USA for extensive support.

**December 3, 1940**

German U-boats sink 15 ships from a convoy with more than 100,000 gross registered tons and an auxiliary cruiser of 17,000 gross registered tons.

**December 4, 1940**

Romanian Ten-Year Plan in cooperation with Germany.

**December 8, 1940**

The Führer orders the re-naming of the province Saarpfalz into Westmark.

**December 10, 1940**

The Führer speaks at a large rally in a Berlin armaments plant.

**December 24, 1940**

Christmas celebration of the old fighters in the presence of the Führer.

**January 1, 1941**

The Führer's New Years proclamation to the NSDAP. New Year's greeting to the three arms of service.

**January 2, 1941**

High Command of the Wehrmacht report on the second half of war year 1940.

**January 3, 1941**

Detachments of the German Luftwaffe travel to Italy in order to participate in the fighting in the Mediterranean.

**January 10, 1941**

German-Russian border treaty; economic exchange broadened; German-Russian resettlement agreement.

Roosevelt brings the England Aid Law before Congress.

**January 18, 1941**

Individual attacks by German warplanes against the Suez Canal.

**January 20, 1941**

The Führer's meeting with II Duce.

**January 27, 1941**

Province of Silesia divided into the provinces Lower Silesia and Upper Silesia.

**January 30, 1941**

The Führer's speech on the anniversary of the rise to power.

**February 3, 1941**

First riots in Johannesburg. Clashes between Boor populace and South African military.

**February 7, 1941**

Province Coblenz-Trier renamed Moselland.

**February 13, 1941**

The German navy sinks in the Atlantic 14 ships from a British convoy (about 90,000 gross registered tons.).

**February 14, 1941**

Reception of Yugoslavian Minister-President Zwetkowitz and Foreign Minister Cincar Markowitsch by the Führer.

**February 17, 1941**

Bulgarian-Turkish friendship and peace declaration.

**February 24, 1941**

A strongly protected convoy wiped out by German U-boats. In two days 217,000 gross registered tons sunk by the navy.

The Führer speaks at the Party Founding Meeting in the Münchener Hofbräuhaus.

**February 26, 1941**

Economic agreement Germany-Italy.

**March 1, 1941**

Bulgaria joins the Axis Pact.

**March 2, 1941**

For the defense against British measures in southeastern Europe, German troops enter Bulgaria.

**March 5, 1941**

Ambassador von Papen hands the President of the Turkish Republic the Führer's personal greeting.

**March 6, 1941**

London experiences the 500th air alarm.

**March 7, 1941**



Revelations by a Hungarian periodical: Roosevelt tried to push an aid promise on Yugoslavia on February 2, 1941.

**March 10, 1941**

Generous securing of the future of war orphans and of the children of the severely war-wounded.