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# NAZI GERMANY'S FOREIGN POLICY

By

Dr. ANDREW J. KRZESINSKI

BOSTON  
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# NATIONAL CULTURES, NAZISM AND THE CHURCH

BY

ANDREW J. KRZESINSKI

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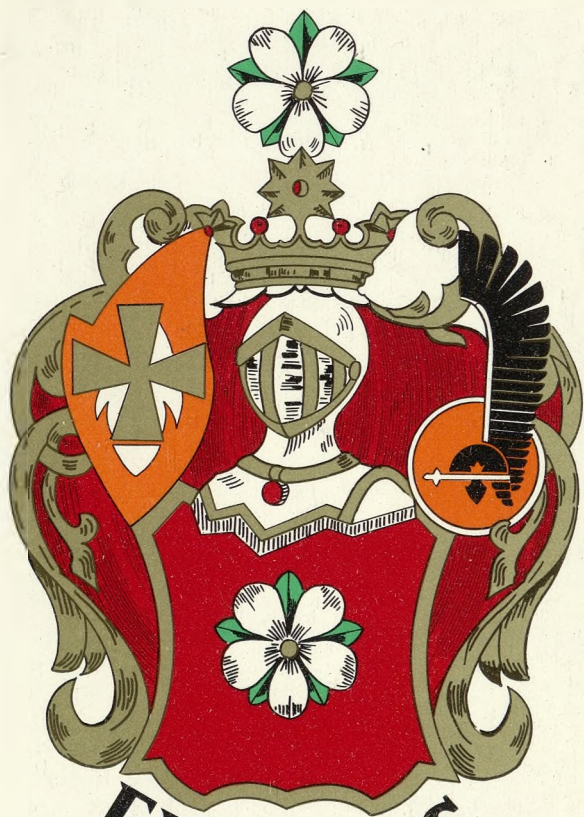
This book, based on German sources and documents, deserves very wide reading and pondering by all who are anxious about the post-war organization of peace and order. It demonstrates, better than any other book, the terrible consequences and dangers of Nazi principles.

The author shows the disastrous effect upon German life of the elimination of religion and ethics from Nazi ideology. Triumphant the law of the jungle marches on, reducing to dust and ashes the priceless acquisitions of culture accumulated through the course of many centuries. Fire-inflamed skies, charred ruins, starvation, disease and pestilence, slavery and millions of graves — these are the fruits of an ideology that has turned its back on ethics, on religion, on God.

Since Nazi Germans selected Poland as the country in which they first brought their principles into play, that country should serve as the model in the establishment of their order in all other invaded countries. The author proves with reliable documents how inhuman, savage and brutal has been their domination for the Polish nation.

“The ideology and the magnificent works of Christianity,” says the author, “are balm to the troubled human heart; they chart the only path on which the millions of souls in flight from brutal forces may find their salvation.”

**NAZI GERMANY'S  
FOREIGN POLICY**

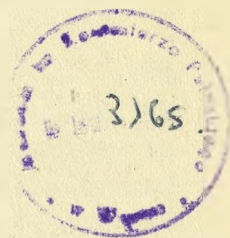


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By

ANDREW J. KRZESINSKI, Ph.D.



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## FOREWORD

Twelve years before the second World War, the foreign policy of Nazi Germany was outlined in detail by Adolf Hitler in his book, *MEIN KAMPF (My Struggle)*. Not only was the ultimate goal, world domination, therein clearly indicated, but the very means and methods for its achievement were set forth. All that the Germans have done during this second World War is simply the development of Hitler's program.

It is hard to understand why European and American statesmen remained so placidly indifferent to his much publicized principles and his oft-repeated threats. Some politicians paid no attention to them, others considered them impossible of realization, while, for opportunistic reasons, many others would not oppose them, trying, by some concession, to appease Nazi Germany. Yet, one fact stood out beyond doubt or discussion, a fact which could not possibly be overlooked by anyone interested in European politics. Germany was mobilizing, with extraordinary speed, all her national, social, industrial and economic assets. Not only did the great powers do absolutely nothing to halt these preparations, but when Hitler was finally ready to launch his vast program, the attitude adopted by certain of them rather favored and encouraged him and his followers. He had feared positive reaction from Great Britain

and France, but when the London Foreign Office informed him that his invasion of Austria would not occasion war between Great Britain and Germany, he realized his power and felt confident of ultimate success. Then, the proffer to Hitler of the Sudeten territory, in flagrant violation of the treaty guaranteeing the integrity of Czechoslovakia, Chamberlain's repeated visits to Germany and various other devices calculated to appease Hitler, served only to flatter his already abnormally inflated ego. Thenceforward he regarded himself as the greatest and most powerful figure in all history. This opinion, as well as his conviction of final victory, was further confirmed when his attack on Poland failed to provoke the least military operation against Germany by either Great Britain or France.

The invasion of Poland carried out with the strict cooperation of Soviet Russia, the many attacks upon and the invasion of other countries, the brutal policy adopted towards subjugated nations, the ruthless savagery and cruelty meted out to innocent people, the slaughter and torture in concentration camps of thousands of both intellectuals and workers is a brief outline of Hitler's fulfillment of the program planned before the outbreak of war.

For a proper understanding of Nazi Germany it is obviously necessary to know its foreign policy, its aims, means and methods, as well as its practices.



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# I

## AIMS OF NAZI GERMAN FOREIGN POLICY

The Nazi foreign policy has been accommodated to the racial principles. The clear exposition of this policy is contained in *Mein Kampf* which since Herr Hitler became Chancellor of the Reich (January 30, 1933), has been assiduously pressed on the German citizens and recommended to them as the only Bible of the German people.<sup>1</sup>

Let Hitler himself speak in this matter.

“The fundamental and guiding principles which we must always bear in mind,” says Hitler, “is that foreign policy is only a means to an end, and that the sole end to be pursued is the welfare of our own people. Every problem in foreign politics must be considered from this point of view, and this point of view alone: Shall such and such a solution prove advantageous to our people now or in the future, or will it injure their interests? That is the question.

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<sup>1</sup> Cf. Andrew J. Krzesinski, *National Cultures, Nazism and the Church*. Boston, 1945, pp. 74-105; also Andrew J. Krzesinski, *Nazi German Culture*. Boston, 1945.

"This is the sole preoccupation that must occupy our minds in dealing with a question. Party politics, religious considerations, humanitarian ideals — all such and all other preoccupations must absolutely give way to this."<sup>1</sup>

Before the first World War German foreign policy should have been devoted to the maintenance of the people and their children. To-day's task is not only to care for the maintenance of the German people, but also to re-establish a strong, independent German State, and to make the German nation once again powerful.<sup>2</sup>

The restoration of lost territories which formerly constituted parts of Germany, and the liberation of the detached fragments of the German nation cannot be achieved through yearnings and protests, but only by the use of force. Therefore, it is necessary to work energetically for the increased welfare and reinforcement of the strength of that portion of the State which has remained over after the partition. "The unquenchable yearning which slumbers in the hearts of the people must be awakened and restrengthened by bringing new forces to its aid; so that, when the hour comes, all will be devoted to the one purpose of liberating and uniting the whole people."

The interests of the separated territories must be subordinated to the one purpose. "That one purpose must aim at obtaining for the central remaining portion such a measure of power and might that will enable it to enforce its will on the hostile will of the victor and thus redress the wrong. *For flaming protests will*

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<sup>1</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, London, 1939, p. 497.

<sup>2</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, London, 1939, p. 497.

*not restore the oppressed territories to the bosom of a common Reich. That can be done only through the might of the sword.*

*The forging of this sword is a work that has to be done through the domestic policy which must be adopted by a national government. To see that the work of forging these arms is assured, and to recruit the men who will bear them, that is the task of the foreign policy.”<sup>1</sup>*

The German government concentrated its attention on a colonial and trade policy instead of a practical European land policy. It would, in this way, avoid a decision by arms. The attempt was to sit on all chairs at the same time; and the result was to fall between them. The World War was only the last of the bills presented to the German state in testimony of its bad foreign policy.

The right way should have been a strengthening of the power on the continent and the winning of new territories in Europe, thus facilitating a later solution of the colonial problem.

This policy, however, could only have been carried out by an alliance with Great Britain or through a special strengthening of military power. For forty to fifty years cultural needs would have had to be completely ignored. And it would have been possible to act in this way; for the cultural importance of a nation almost always derives from its freedom and independence. “No sacrifice is too great if it is made for the sake of safeguarding political freedom. Whatever is taken away from cultural aspirations by an exceedingly strong development of the military powers of state will later be restored fully. It is,

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<sup>1</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, London, 1939, p. 498.

in fact, safe to say that after such a concentrated effort along the lines of preserving the national independence, usually a counterbalancing relaxation sets in, in the form of an astonishing flourishing of the previously neglected cultural energies of the nation.”<sup>1</sup> The miseries of the Persian Wars led to the bloom of the Periclean age; and, even amid the worries of the Punic Wars the Roman Republic devoted its energies to the cultivation of a higher culture.

Of course, it could not be expected that a parliamentary majority of “backless and stupid people would be capable of deciding on such a resolute policy for the absolute subordination of all other national interests to the one task of preparing for a future conflict of arms which would result in establishing the security of the State.”<sup>2</sup> The father of Frederick the Great was able to prepare for that conflict only by sacrificing everything; but the fathers of absurd German parliamentary democracy, with “the Jewish hall-mark,” could not do it.

But, it is not sufficient for Germany to recover all territories lost in the first World War. The frontiers of 1914 did not assure strength to the German nation. Germany needs soil. First of all, Austria—which is so closely bound up with the life of the German nation—should belong to the common Fatherland, the German State. “German-Austria must return again to the great German Motherland, and this not for any economic calculation. No, no. Even if this union were a matter of economic indifference, and even if it were to be disadvantageous

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<sup>1</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, New York, 1939, p. 594.

<sup>2</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, London, 1939, p. 499.

from the economic point of view, yet it must take place. The same blood belongs to the same common State.”<sup>1</sup>

Then, after union with Austria, the boundaries of Germany should be extended also to all those territories where Germans are to be found.

“The German people has no moral right to colonial activity so long as it is not able to bring all its sons together in a common State. Only when the boundaries of the State include even the last German and when this State is unable to assure them a livelihood, then does arise the moral right, from the need of the people, to acquire foreign soil. The plough, then, is the sword; and out of the tears of war is produced the daily bread for posterity.”<sup>2</sup>

At present, immense spaces still lie uncultivated all over the surface of our earth. Those spaces are only waiting for the cultivator. Nature did not set this land aside for a certain nation or race. It is for that people who have the strength to seize it and the diligence to cultivate it.

*“Nature knows no political boundaries. She establishes life on this globe, and then watches the free play of forces. Then*

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<sup>1</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, München, 1939, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> “Das deutsche Volk besitzt solange kein moralisches Recht zu kolonialpolitischer Tätigkeit solange es nicht einmal seine eigenen Söhne in einen gemeinsamen Staat zu fassen vermag. Erst wenn des Reiches Grenze auch den letzten Deutschen umschliesst, ohne mehr die Sicherheit seiner Ernährung bieten zu können, ersteht aus der Not des eigenen Volkes das moralische Recht zur Erwerbung fremden Grund und Boden. Der Pflug ist dann das Schwert, und aus den Tränen des Krieges erwächst für die Nachwelt das tägliche Brot.” (Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, München, 1930, p. 1.)

*the strongest in courage and industry, as her most beloved child, is granted the sovereign right of existence."*<sup>1</sup>

Germany should use her power and seize all those areas which she needs. First, the new areas must be won in Russia and her border States.

"When we speak of new soil and new areas in Europe to-day," says Hitler, "we can first think only of Russia and her subject border States."<sup>2</sup>

Destiny itself seems to point out the way for Germany. In delivering Russia over to Bolshevism this Destiny robbed the Russian people of those intellectuals who had once created and established the Russian State. This gigantic eastern Empire is ripe for a collapse. The end of Jewish domination in Russia will also be the end of the Russian State. "*Germany is chosen by Destiny to be witness of a catastrophe which will be the strongest confirmation of the rightness of the national theory of race.*"<sup>3</sup>

After the conquest of Russia and all other countries in Europe where even only one German is living, Germany would be strong enough to recover colonies. But even the recovered colonies and new areas in Europe would not be sufficient.

The ultimate goal of Germany is World domination. This world domination is its destiny. "*Germany will become a World Power, or it will not be at all.*"<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "Die Natur kennt keine politischen Grenzen. Sie setzt die Lebewesen zunächst auf diesem Erdball und sieht dem freien Spiel der Kräfte zu. Der Stärkste an Mut und Fleiß erhält dann als ihr liebstes Kind das Herrenrecht des Daseins zugesprochen." (Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, München, 1930, p. 147.)

<sup>2</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, München, 1930, p. 742.

<sup>3</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, München, 1930, pp. 742-743.

<sup>4</sup> "*Deutschland wird entweder Weltmacht oder überhaupt nicht sein.*" (Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, München, 1930, p. 742.)



After the conquest of the world, Germany might be ready to offer peace to the conquered nations. This peace, however, would not be established by "the waving of olive branches of lacrimose, pacifist female mourners"; but it would be based on the "victorious sword of a master-nation leading the world in the service of a higher culture."<sup>1</sup>

All nations should willingly accept this German domination; otherwise, they would be treated as animals.

"Anyone who really and sincerely wishes the victory of the pacifist idea, should help by every means the conquest of the world by Germans."<sup>2</sup>

"The man who ignores and despises the laws of race really deprives himself of the happiness which he should enjoy. He places an obstacle in the victorious advance of the superior race; and thus, he interferes with a prerequisite condition of all human progress. Burdened with human sentiment, he is entering the ranks of the helpless beasts."<sup>3</sup>

Now arises a question: How can Germany get the power necessary for world domination?

Hitler answers this question as follows:

"The question of how to regain German power is not: How do we manufacture arms, but rather: How can we create the spirit which enables a people to bear arms? Once this spirit

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<sup>1</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, München, 1930, p. 438.

<sup>2</sup> "Wer den des pacifistischen Gedankens in dieser Welt wirklich von Herzen wünschen wollte, müsste sich mit allen Mitteln für die Eroberung der Welt durch die Deutschen einsetzen." (Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, München, 1930, p. 315.)

<sup>3</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, München, 1930, p. 317.

dominates a people, the will can find a thousand ways, each of which leads to a weapon.”<sup>1</sup>

This means a return to the traditions of Prussia, especially those of the times of Frederick the Great and Bismarck.

“After all, Germany herself was a magnificent example of an empire that had been built up purely by a policy of power. Prussia, which was the generative cell of the German Empire, had been created by brilliant heroic deeds and not by a financial or commercial compact. And the Empire itself was but the magnificent recompense for a leadership that had been conducted on a policy of power and military valour.”<sup>2</sup>

The whole educational system should be inspired by the military spirit and adapted to the ultimate goal of Germany.

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<sup>1</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, München, 1930, pp. 365-366.

<sup>2</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, London, 1939, p. 139.

## II

### NAZI MEANS AND METHODS

There is only one point of view from which the question of foreign policy should be considered: Will a means or a method be profitable to Germany, or will it be harmful? The most cruel weapons should be applied if they produce a speedy victory and help to secure the dignity of freedom.<sup>1</sup>

Every means which leads to this end is justifiable and good. The refusal of such means should be regarded as a criminal neglect of duty.<sup>2</sup>

A very important means is the lie which always produces good results. And the bigger the lie, the more promptly and readily will it be believed.

"In the big lie," says Hitler, "there is always a certain force of credibility; because the broad masses of a nation are always more easily corrupted in the deeper strata of their emotional nature than consciously or voluntarily; and thus, in the primitive simplicity of their minds, they more readily fall victims to the big lie than the small lie; since they themselves often tell small

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<sup>1</sup> "Die grausamsten Waffen waren dann human, wenn sie den schnelleren Sieg bedingten, und schön waren nur die Methoden allein, die der Nation die Würde der Freiheit sichern halfen." (Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, München, 1930, p. 196.)

<sup>2</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, München, 1930, pp. 252-253.

lies in little matters, but would be ashamed to resort to large-scale falsehood. It would never come into their heads to fabricate colossal untruths, and they would not believe that others could have the impudence to distort the truth so infamously. . . . For the grossly impudent lie always leaves traces behind it, even after it has been nailed down, a fact which is known to all expert liars in this world and to all who conspire together in the art of lying.”<sup>1</sup>

Germany would more easily and quickly realize her program, if she could find allies.

“For such a policy, however, there was only one possible ally in Europe. That was England.

“Only by alliance with England was it possible to safeguard the rear of the new German crusade. . . .

“No sacrifice should have been considered too great if it was a necessary means of gaining England’s friendship. Colonial and naval ambitions should have been abandoned and attempts should not have been made to compete against British industry.”<sup>2</sup>

Very advantageous also for Germany, would be an alliance with Italy. These two alliances would give Germany the chance to strengthen her military power and to make preparations for the great day of victory over France and the expansion of her military power in Europe and in the whole world.<sup>3</sup>

France as a military power must at any price be destroyed.

“Finally, we must be quite clear on the following point:

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<sup>1</sup> “Daher denn auch von der frechsten Lüge immer noch etwas übrig und hängen bleiben wird.” (Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, München, 1930, p. 252.)

<sup>2</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, London, 1930, p. 128.

<sup>3</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, München, 1930, p. 755.

France is and will remain the implacable enemy of Germany. It does not matter what Governments have ruled or will rule in France, whether Bourbon or Jacobin, Napoleonic or Bourgeois — Democratic, Clerical, Republican or Red Bolshevic — their foreign policy will always be directed towards acquiring possession of the Rhine frontier and consolidating France's position on this river by disuniting and dismembering Germany.”<sup>1</sup>

“Therefore we must stop at no sacrifice in our effort to destroy the French striving towards hegemony over Europe. As our natural ally to-day we have every Power on the Continent that feels France's lust for hegemony in Europe unbearable. No attempt to approach those Powers ought to appear too difficult for us and no sacrifice should be considered too heavy, if the final outcome would be to make it possible for us to overthrow our bitterest enemy.”<sup>2</sup>

Hitler takes a similar attitude also towards Russia.

“Today,” he says, “we must take up the same attitude also towards Russia. The Russia of today, deprived of its Germanic ruling class, is not a possible ally in the struggle for German liberty, setting aside entirely the inner designs of its new rulers. From the purely military point of view, in the event of a war waged by Germany and Russia against the Western Powers, even, perhaps, against the whole world—such a pact would prove catastrophic. The war would be fought on German, not Russian territory. The very fact of the conclusion of such a

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<sup>1</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, London, 1939, p. 505.

<sup>2</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, London, 1939, p. 542.

pact with Russia would point to an early war, whose consequence would be the end of Germany."

Hitler gives reasons why he is opposed to any alliance with Russia, and, at the same time, he explains his hostile attitude towards the Jews.

"Those," he says, "who are in power in Russia today have no idea of forming an honorable alliance or of remaining true to it, if they did.

"It must never be forgotten that the present rulers of Russia are blood-stained criminals, that here we have the dregs of humanity which, favoured by the circumstances of a tragic moment, overran a great State, degraded and extirpated millions of educated people out of sheer blood-lust and that now for nearly ten years they have ruled with such a savage tyranny as was never known before. It must not be forgotten that these rulers belong to a people in whom the most bestial cruelty is allied with a capacity for artful mendacity and believes itself, today more than ever, called to impose its sanguinary despotism on the rest of the world. It must not be forgotten that the international Jew, who is today the absolute master of Russia, does not look upon Germany as an ally but as a State condemned to the same doom as Russia. One does not form an alliance with a partner whose only aim is the destruction of his fellow-partner. Above all, one does not enter into alliances with people for whom no treaty is sacred; because they do not move about this earth as men of honour and sincerity but as the representatives of lies and deception, thievery and plunder and robbery. The man who thinks that he can bind himself by

treaty with parasites is like the tree that believes it can form a profitable bargain with the ivy that surrounds it.

“The menace to which Russia once succumbed is hanging steadily over Germany. Only a bourgeois simpleton could imagine that Bolshevism can be tamed. In this superficial way of thinking he does not suspect that here we are dealing with a phenomenon that is due to an urge of the blood: namely, the aspiration of the Jewish people to become the despots of the world. . . . The Jew wriggles his way in among the body of the nations and bores them hollow from inside. The weapons with which he works are lies and calumny, poisonous infection and disintegration, until he has ruined his hated adversary. In Russian Bolshevism we ought to recognize the kind of attempt which is being made by the Jew in the twentieth century to secure dominion over the world. A people does not of itself renounce the impulse to increase its stock and power. . . . In the same way the Jew will never spontaneously give up his march towards the goal of world dictatorship or repress his external urge. He can be thrown back on his road only by forces that are exterior to him, for his instinct towards world domination will die out only with himself. Therefore the Jew follows his destined road until he is opposed by a force superior to him. And then a desperate struggle takes place to send back to Lucifer him who would assault the heavens.”<sup>1</sup>

Such an attitude towards both France and Russia is necessary if Germany has to rule the entire world.<sup>2</sup> It strictly corre-

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<sup>1</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, London, 1944, p. 538-541.

<sup>2</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, München, 1930, pp. 748-749.

sponds to the fundamental principle of her foreign policy which Hitler expresses in the following way:

“Never permit two continental Powers to arise in Europe. Should any attempt be made to organize a second military Power on the German frontier by the creation of a State which may become a military Power, with the prospect of an aggression against Germany in view, such an event confers on Germany not only the right but the duty to prevent by every means, including military means, the creation of such a State and to crush it if created. See to it that the strength of our nation does not rest on colonial foundations but on those of our own native territory in Europe. Never consider the Reich secure unless, for centuries to come, it is in a position to give every descendant of our race a piece of ground and soil that he can call his own. Never forget that the most sacred of all rights in this world is man's right to the earth which he wishes to cultivate for himself and that the holiest of all sacrifices is that of the blood poured out for it.”<sup>1</sup>

If Germany follows this fundamental principle and applies necessary means and methods to her foreign policy, she will one day dominate the whole world.

“A State which, in an age of radical poisoning, devotes itself to the care of preserving its best racial elements, must one day become ruler of the earth.”<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, London, 1939, p. 541.

<sup>2</sup> “Ein Staat, der in Zeitalter der Rassenvergiftung sich der Pflege seiner besten Elemente widmet, muss eines Tages zum Herrn der Erde werden.” (Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*, München, 1930, p. 782.)



### III

## NAZI PRACTICES

After vanquishing the German nation and usurping power in every sphere of that country's national life, the Nazis made ready to carry out their plans regarding other nations. The goal was well defined: To conquer them and to subject them to their will; to subjugate them in Europe and in the entire world, if possible.

Since no nation would submit to the dictates of Nazi Germany voluntarily, the use of force was indicated.

Before taking the final step, they proceeded to gather, secretly — and with the connivance of international munition and oil mongers — huge stores of armament, ammunition, oil products, planes, tanks, the most modern guns and vast amounts of raw materials. After they felt sure that they were strong enough to meet any foe, they began to provoke their immediate neighbors. Under their brutally wanton attacks fell first, Austria, then Czechoslovakia, Poland, Norway, Holland, Belgium, France, Yugoslavia, Greece, and later Italy, Rumania, Hungary and Bulgaria.

Every treaty, every moral obligation was violated — thrown to the four winds. The law of nations and all considerations of humanity were ruthlessly cast aside.

Against all precedent in the previous history of the world,

the methods used in waging total war became so cruel as to shock the conscience of the whole civilized world. No one had ever dreamt that any nation could fall to so low a moral level — could stoop to such fiendish cruelty. The best sample of Nazi savagery is Poland. Attacked unexpectedly by Germany, Poland soon learned that Germany made war not only on its army but also upon the populace. The burning of cities and towns was accomplished by means of incendiary bombs. The civilian population was practically buried under an avalanche of bombs and bullets. Hundreds of thousands of men, women and children were murdered, shot on least provocation, or sent to concentration camps. In order easier to subject the Polish nation, its territory was divided with Soviet Russia.

The conquest of the country completed, the systematic murdering of the Polish nation followed.

The Polish population of the Western provinces, as Poznań, Pomerania and Silesia, were robbed of their money and clothes, and their land was confiscated. Evictions were made throughout the winter in freezing temperatures, and the people given but a few minutes' time to prepare. They were permitted to carry away only what clothing they wore, and a very small package of personal items. Thousands of persons were thus herded together in barracks where each of them was subjected to strict inspection. The personnel of the German Red Cross aided in these inspections and forced persons to disrobe completely, whereupon rubber gloves were used for special secret examinations.<sup>1</sup>

The inspection completed, the victims were directed into un-

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<sup>1</sup> Based on numerous, authenticated reports.

heated trains and shipped to unknown places. The trains dragged for weeks in the direction of Warsaw or Lublin, it being calculated to let as many of the uprooted population as possible die by freezing, starvation and exhaustion. After three, four, or ten days, the sealed doors were opened, the corpses carried out and thrown alongside the railway tracks. At the stations where the trains stopped, nobody was allowed to give the victims food, coffee or even a glass of water. All who tried to do it were shot down. Under such conditions, only a small part of those transported ever survived the journey.

Frequently, thousands of the Polish children were transported in the same fashion. Only organisms of exceptional physical resistance were able to survive the cold and sicknesses contracted during the enforced migration.

"The barbarism," we read in *The Black Book of Poland*, "reached its height with the concentration of the largest number of deportations in the winter of 1939-40, which—as is well known—was one of the severest which Europe had experienced for many years, sometimes reaching a temperature of thirty degrees below freezing point (C).

"Those who were thus torn from their homes were as a rule first taken to a concentration point, where little or no preparation had been made for their reception. It might be a wooden shed, or a room with broken windows, or sometimes simply an open field. People were frozen even during this first stage of their journey, and suffered from lack of warm food and clothing. Finally, a word of command roused the miserable crowd from the stupor in which they had been waiting for hours in conditions which violated the most primitive conceptions of

hygiene. At the command they rose sick and exhausted, frequently weak with hunger, and were packed like cattle in the trucks which were to take them to the 'Government General.'

"Despite the severe winter, the journey into the unknown was as a rule made in unheated goods-trucks, and sometimes open trucks. The trucks were padlocked and the train closely guarded by German officials, for whom the former German Minister of Justice, Governor-General Dr. Frank, invented the term *Polendiensttauglich* (fit for civil service in Poland). The truck doors, as we have just said, were padlocked. No one was allowed to leave them even to satisfy their physical needs. When the trains halted at stations and local Polish people tried to give the prisoners pieces of bread or cups of tea, the gendarmes and members of the S. S. drove them off brutally with the butts of their rifles. In many cases (as e.g. at Sosnowiec), people who tried to give food to the deportees were shot.

"The results of these journeys, which lasted several days, and sometimes a fortnight, were tragic; when the trucks were opened at their destination, it was frequently necessary to remove a number of corpses, especially those of children, who had died of cold.

"On January 7, 1940, twenty-eight bodies were found in one truck of a train which arrived at the Plaszów station, in Cracow, with Poles, principally women and children, exiled from the Province of Poznan. At the station of Dębica thirty children were found frozen to death in one truck. In a number of cases the bodies of the victims were frozen to the walls of the trucks and had to be removed with picks. Those who survived this

nightmare journey staggered with fatigue and exhaustion, and looked like shadows."<sup>1</sup>

The Polish educated classes were subjected to unheard of brutality. Thousands of them were shot without trial or sent to concentration camps, where they were starved, kicked and tortured to death.

In November, 1939, 167 professors of the Cracow University, one of the oldest universities in Europe, were arrested and transported to a concentration camp in Oranienburg, near Berlin. They were kept there in thin cotton clothes under terrible sanitary conditions. Beaten, starved and exhausted, every morning they were forced to wait some hours for inspection in the open air during the cold winter. After a few months, most of them were released; but 17 of them died during this short time. Almost all who left the concentration camp had their health ruined. Some of those professors were detained.

Very often, Polish youth, upon being transported into Germany were sterilized. Girls were sent to houses for sexual abuses.

In elementary schools and trade schools all teaching is in German. In the Western provinces of Poland, which have been incorporated to the Reich, the Polish language has been prohibited under penalty of death. The same prohibition has been extended to religious services. Polish priests who "commit the crime of hearing confessions" in Polish are executed immediately or sent to concentration camps for special torturing.

All universities, colleges and secondary schools have been closed. Museums, art galleries, scientific laboratories and li-

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<sup>1</sup> *The Black Book of Poland*. New York, 1942, pp. 164-165.

braries have been looted. Polish books, manuscripts and documents have been burnt. All over Poland, many churches of all denominations have been closed and used for meetings, theatres, garages or stables. In the Church of St. Alexander, for instance, one of the most beautiful churches of Warsaw, immediately after the Germans entered, some 100 horses were lodged there. In the Western provinces of Poland almost all churches have been closed.

Throughout Poland, the clergy have been exposed to savage persecution.

Under such conditions, religious life has become very difficult. The people have been deprived of the Sacraments, the Mass and other spiritual services. As a rule, these religious services have always been denied to those who were sentenced to death. Never have the priests been permitted to see prisoners before their execution. In every case when, in spite of the prohibition, they tried to do it, they have been shot down. The people have been forbidden even to seek some consolation from religious books. In Western Poland, under the penalty of death, they have been forced to turn over all Polish books to the German officials for burning. No Polish book should be found in Polish homes. Throughout Poland, the printing and selling of Polish books have been severely prohibited. The Polish people are not allowed to buy even serious German books.

All that pertains to culture and civilization has been prohibited. For this reason also attendance at musical concerts and serious performances in the theatres has been forbidden. Private teaching has been considered as a great crime. Professors

and students who have committed this "crime" have been punished by death.

But, at the same time, obscene books and pamphlets which offend the Christian religion, the moral sense and ethical rules have been spread all over the country. Religious truths have been ridiculed and people have been encouraged to the abuses of alcohol. The Polish youth has been exposed to this great danger, and Germans are using all possible means to corrupt the newer Polish generation. Their aim is to abase the national consciousness of the Polish people and to degrade them to the role of slaves. At every opportunity, they have been instructed in the new order in which the Germans as the *Herrenvolk*, or master-nation, have to rule the entire world. The Polish people, as all other subjugated nations, should obey them, should serve them and work for them because this is the will of God who manifests himself in the life of the German nation. As slaves, the Poles have not been permitted to use the same conveyances, to travel in the same cars, or to take meals in the same restaurants with Germans. In some districts of Western provinces, they have been forbidden to use pavements of the streets, and they have been ordered to doff their hats to German officials.

In the Western provinces of Poland, all Polish industrial property has been confiscated. In many places of every province larger estates have been entrusted to Germans. In some of these estates Polish owners have been permitted to stay as workers.

The agricultural products and domestic animals have had to be used primarily for Germans. The food ration of a Pole was only half that of a German. Every day the first to appear in the market were the Germans; and when they finished their

shopping, the Poles might come and purchase what has remained. It is not astonishing, therefore, that since the beginning of the war the whole Polish population has been starving. Even if they had more food, as for instance the farmers, they were not allowed, under penalty of death, to use it. Many people have been executed for having used, sold or given meat against the Nazi regulations.

During the military operations, the Germans organized systematic murders of the Polish nation. The German pilots machine-gunned thousands of people fleeing along the roads to the Eastern provinces. All these roads were covered with the bodies of men, women and children. During the siege of Warsaw, they flew low above the fields in the vicinity of the city shooting women and children digging a few potatoes for their starving families. In the suburb of Czerniakow the blackened bodies of these wives and children lay in heaps for several weeks. Even people alone in the fields and meadows, shepherds and children were attacked and killed. Hospitals and Red Cross first aid stations, evacuation trains and private cars carrying refugees were bombed and machine-gunned.<sup>1</sup>

A great number of these crimes committed by the Germans on the Polish population during the invasion as also the crimes which have been committed by them after the invasion are presented in the *Black Book of Poland*, published by the Polish Government.<sup>2</sup> This documentary book should be known to

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<sup>1</sup> *The Black Book of Poland*. New York, 1942, pp. 20-21.

<sup>2</sup> There are 2 volumes of *The Black Book of Poland*: 1. *The German Invasion of Poland — Polish Black Book*. London and Melbourne, Hutchinson Co., 1940; 2. *The Black Book of Poland*. New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1942. Both volumes were published by authority of the Polish Ministry of Information. They contain documents, authenticated reports and photographs.



everybody, especially to the politicians of the entire world. And yet, these numerous, authenticated reports constitute only a part of all Nazi crimes. Many of them will never be brought to the light of day.

To the greatest crimes committed by the Germans after their entry into Poland belong the mass slaughters of the innocent people.

In the village called *Wiśniewo*, a group of German soldiers murdered six Polish farmers, by laying them in the path of tanks which crushed them one after another. In the neighboring wood the inhabitants of this village found twenty crushed and disfigured corpses, mostly women and children. The traces of tanks were visible nearby.<sup>1</sup>

In *Bydgoszcz*, 5,000 men, women and children were shut up in one of the stables. They were so closely crowded that none of the prisoners had room even to sit down on the ground. They were treated inhumanly. Priests and Jews were ordered to use their bare hands to carry out excrement from a corner of the stable which had been set aside as latrines. In general, the worst treated were the clergy.

The Germans at once began to execute the Poles in a wholesale fashion, without trial, without even a shadow of pretext. People were conducted to the center of the town and mowed down with machine-guns, or were shot as they walked along the streets. Cases were known of entire Polish families being murdered in their own homes.

In the barracks of the 15th Light Cavalry Regiment, the Germans machine-gunned nearly a thousand persons, whose bodies

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<sup>1</sup> *The Black Book of Poland*. New York, 1942, p. 23.

were afterwards buried behind the stables. Hundreds of people were shot in the market-place, where their bodies were left for several hours. Later, members of the Bydgoszcz clergy were forced to dig common graves and to bury the victims.

Thousands of Poles, men and women, and even young boys, were murdered in this way. For several days in September, 1939, the squares and the streets of the city flowed with the blood of the murdered. In order to terrorize the population, their bodies were left lying in the streets.

Other mass executions followed in the second half of October and in November, 1939.

It is difficult to fix exactly the total number of Polish people murdered in Bydgoszcz. At any rate down to January 1, 1940, it exceeded 10,000 persons. The majority consisted of representatives of the Polish intellectual and middle classes: priests, officials, judges, professors, merchants, industrialists; but there were also many workmen and craftsmen, women and young boys.

One of the most moving incidents of the Bydgoszcz massacres was the shooting of more than one hundred High School boys and scouts on the steps of the Jesuit Church in the old market-place. Some of them were boys of from twelve to sixteen years of age; they were seized in the streets, and till the last moment they did not know what awaited them. They were mown down with machine-guns. In the face of death, these boys behaved heroically. They died singing the Polish national hymn; *God Who Protects Poland . . .*

At the last moment, a young priest ran up to the boys, making the sign of the Cross, and anxious to administer the last sacra-

ment. He also was seized and shot, receiving five wounds.

A large number of disabled soldiers and veterans of the war of 1914-18 were also murdered.

“Whole Polish families were wiped out. According to one report, the bodies were often laid out in the form of the swastika, the father constituting one arm, the mother a second arm, whilst the others were formed by the bodies of the children and relatives.”<sup>1</sup>

In order to provide some justification for the monstrous slaughter in Bydgoszcz, the official German propaganda put out a calumnious story that many Germans had been murdered by the Polish population in Bydgoszcz on September 3, 1939. In reality, on that day the Germans of Bydgoszcz, belonging to illegal Nazi organizations, brought out their rifles, hand grenades and machine guns, and attacked their Polish fellow citizens and the last retreating Polish detachments. However, the German troops were still too far away, and Polish detachments retiring from the front came to the aid of the unarmed Polish population. A street skirmish ensued, in which the Poles finally got the upper hand. About 150 to 160 Germans were killed on that Sunday. It transpired that the majority of them were not members of the local German population, but were diversionists and saboteurs, who had been sent across the frontier in the days immediately preceding.<sup>2</sup>

One of the most inhuman methods is the collective, mass repression. This is applied in cases where a German, not neces-

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<sup>1</sup> *The Black Book of Poland*. New York, 1942, pp. 24-27.

<sup>2</sup> *The Black Book of Poland*. New York, 1942, pp. 27-28.

sarily a soldier nor even an official, but an ordinary Volksdeutsche, has been wounded or killed, often in a common brawl. Fifty to a hundred times as many entirely innocent residents of those localities who know nothing about the affair are at once shot. Women and children are often among the victims. These mass repressions frequently have the character of punitive expeditions. Cases are known of people being killed with hand grenades, or of buildings being burned with their inhabitants locked inside them.

A particularly shocking event of this kind took place on December 26, 1939 — three months after the occupation of the country — when inhabitants of the town of Wawer, near Warsaw, and of the neighboring summer resort of Anin were massacred.

In the former town, two German soldiers were killed in a small restaurant by two fugitives from justice attempting to evade arrest.

Two hours later, a battalion of Landeschützen arrived at Wawer. At two o'clock in the morning soldiers went from house to house, rousing the innocent inhabitants from sleep and dragging them from their beds, though they knew nothing whatever of the affair. Some of them were given no explanation whatever; others were told that as a punitive measure every tenth inhabitant of Wawer and Anin would be shot. Terrible scenes were witnessed. In some houses, where there were several men in the family, the women were ordered to choose who should go; in one case a mother had to choose between her two sons, another had to choose between husband, brother and father. From other houses, all the men were taken, including

old men over sixty years of age, and boys of twelve. Despite the thirty-six degrees below zero, many of them with nothing but overcoats thrown over their shirts, were dragged out of their homes. In addition to Wawer and Anin, this raid embraced the neighboring villages of Marysinek Wawerski and Zastów.

Furthermore, all the men who arrived by train from the direction of Otwock, to report for work, were held up at the Wawer railway station. These men and those taken from their homes — in all about 170 persons — were assembled in a railway tunnel and were obliged to stand in the frost for several hours, with their hands above their heads. At six o'clock a dozen or more men were detached from the whole group and led out of the tunnel; a few minutes later a fresh group were led out and conducted to a place where there were heaps of bodies, lighted by the lamps of the police cars. The unfortunates were placed with their backs to the machine-guns, and ordered to kneel.

Those of the last group were not shot, but were ordered to dig the graves of the murdered men who numbered 107 in all. Among the victims were two doctors, one of whom was sixty years old. He had been the physician of the Hospital of the Felician Sisters. There was also a boy of fourteen with his father, an engineer. Thirty-four were under eighteen years of age, and twelve were over sixty. There were two American citizens, a man named Szczygiel and his son,—the latter sixteen years old. Mr. Przedlacki, his two sons and a twelve-year old boy named Dankowski were also shot.

Mr. Bartoszek, the proprietor of the restaurant where the original incident had taken place, was hanged and buried. Not

long after, his body was exhumed by the Germans and hanged again.<sup>1</sup>

At Zielonka, on the outskirts of Warsaw, twelve innocent persons paid with their lives for an inscription chalked on a wall, and reading: "Poland existed, exists and will continue for ever to exist."

In the village of Szczuczki near Lublin, where, in the farmers' fields, ammunition was found, two hundred men were driven into a shed, which was raked with fire and then burnt, with the men inside.<sup>2</sup>

The massacre which occurred on February 1, 1940, at the town of Chelm, near Lublin, was especially monstrous. The details, which have been furnished by a number of responsible witnesses, are as follows:

The German occupation authorities decided to requisition the new and spacious hospital for mental diseases in Chelm. First the Gestapo officials ordered all the doctors and nurses to leave the building. Those who resisted were expelled by force at the point of a revolver. The Gestapo police then proceeded to lock the doors and with their revolvers shot all the patients, numbering over 400. The hospital staff, held in the street under a heavy guard, were horrified to hear the despairing cries and groans of the victims as they were hunted down by the murderers.

When the terrible work had been finished, the executioners informed the staff: "The hospital is now empty. You are to re-

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<sup>1</sup> *The Black Book of Poland*. New York, 1942, pp. 47-49.

<sup>2</sup> *The Black Book of Poland*. New York, 1942, p. 50.

move all the bodies at once, as we shall be occupying the building within two hours."

After the Gestapo had left the building, it was ascertained that, in addition to the 400 patients, they had shot forty children, —war orphans who had been given temporary shelter in one of the hospital wards.

At the hospital for mental diseases in the locality of Owinska, near Poznan, the Germans shot fifty-three patients; while at the institution at Tworki, near Warsaw, all the patients were killed.<sup>1</sup>

Such slaughters have taken place very often.

Special mention should be made of the persecution of the Jews. The treatment of the Jewish population in Poland was the most inhuman; it was even worse than that of the Poles. First, many humiliating regulations were introduced. For instance, the Jews were forced to wear special distinguishing badges on their clothes. Then, they were barred from parks and other public places; deprived of their property and means of living; isolated in ghettos and forced to compulsory labor. At the end, after terrible humiliations, they were sent to concentration camps and murdered there with bullets and poisonous gas.<sup>2</sup>

In this way, some two million Jews have already lost their lives.

The Polish Christian population did everything possible to protect them against these inhuman persecutions. Many of them, especially the Polish Catholic priests, were punished with death for their charitable activity.

The Nazi Germans, it is evident, are abusing their military power for political purposes. "For the first time in German his-

<sup>1</sup> *The Black Book of Poland*. New York, 1942, pp. 71-72.

<sup>2</sup> *The Black Book of Polish Jewry*. New York, 1944.

tory," says Mr. Greiser, the Gauleiter of Poznan, "we shall exploit our military victories politically. Never again will even a centimetre of the earth which we have conquered belong to a Pole."<sup>1</sup>

Up to the present time some five million Polish people with Jews have lost their lives through starvation, torture and slaughter. The German oppressors have confiscated and taken possession of Polish land and private property. They have destroyed many monuments of Polish culture, art, literature and science. They intend to exterminate completely the Polish clergy and other intellectual classes. They use all possible means to corrupt and Germanize the Polish youth, to break its spirit, and to transform the great Polish nation, with its beautiful, thousand-years-old culture, into a slave-people.

This is the *New German Order!*

The Nazi Germans are proud of it and consider it the model which they intend to use in all other invaded countries. The slaughtering and exterminating of all nations, the moral corruption of youth, the destruction of all other cultures and the complete elimination of religion from human life would make it possible for them to introduce this new order everywhere. It would give to their master-nation the domination of the world. All other nations, as slave-peoples, would work for the establishment of German rule and for the glory of German rulers.

Thus, the dream of German foreign policy — *Deutschland*

<sup>1</sup> "Zum erstmal in der deutschen Geschichte werden wir unsere militärischen Siege politisch ausnützen. Niemals mehr wird auch nur ein Zentimeter des Bodens, den wir erkämpft haben, einem Polen gehören." (Greiser in his proclamation, *Ost-deutscher Beobachter*, May 7th, 1941).



*über alles, Germany above all*, — would be realized. The world would be saved by Nazi principles and methods.

One world, one nation and one ruler — the Führer — what a vision of the future for the nations!

But the nations will not accept this way of salvation. They are fighting heroically against this Nazi German tyranny.

The first to oppose Germany's domination was Poland. She did not hesitate even one moment to make enormous sacrifices in her defense of freedom and Christian ideals and principles of living. By her indomitable spirit and heroism, she has become an inspiration for all freedom loving nations.

Ravaged and outraged, Poland stands as a monument of heroism testifying to the lengths to which Nazi savagery could go.

One thing, however, must be admitted: — the Nazis are capable of acting logically. Having announced their plans in advance and finding the principles of Racism adequate, they carried them out unflinchingly.



## CONCLUSION

Ever since 1933, when the National Socialists rose to political power and Hitler became Prime Minister and then President of Germany, the life of the whole German nation was unified on the basis of Nazi principles, and every means was employed to prepare Germany for war.

Faced with this evidence, nobody should have entertained the least doubt concerning Germany's aims and designs. There was still time to have stopped it in its tracks, thus averting a world war, but the great powers, France, Great Britain, Russia and the United States of America, as well as all other powers with the exception of Poland, exhibited complete indifference, displaying not the least sign of serious concern. The Polish Government alone understood the seriousness of the political situation. When the Polish Prime Minister, Marshal Pilsudski, communicated to the French Minister of Foreign Affairs his opinion on the necessity of taking immediate protective measures against the German aims and probable aggression, it brought no result. Germany, unmolested, rushed with all possible speed, its preparations for hostilities.

In the meantime, Nazi leaders adopted special methods to conceal their nefarious designs, although they were clearly and with great sincerity expressed in Hitler's *MEIN KAMPF*, and

were being expounded by German ministers and writers. All these methods were based on lying, which was highly extolled by Hitler and other National Socialists as a very effective instrument of foreign policy.

According to these special methods, first, they concluded a pact of non-aggression with Poland, which was intended to prove to the world their desire for peaceful collaboration with other nations. At every opportunity, Hitler expressed great satisfaction over this pact, praised Poland as Germany's good neighbor, rejected every suggestion of sinister design against her territory, and manifested his desire to enjoy equally peaceful relations with all other countries.

Next, they laid a "modest" claim to the necessity of uniting all Germans within the boundaries of one Fatherland, pointing out that, having achieved this end, Germany would have no further design on outlying territories.

Finally, when, without any difficulty, they had incorporated Austria and the Sudeten territory, thus realizing their "modest" claim, they set about openly to invade other countries.<sup>1</sup>

The invasion of Czechoslovakia was accomplished without any military opposition. President Benes in obedience to German demands, resigned and was succeeded by President Hacha, who capitulated, accepting a German protectorate.

The first country to oppose German aggression was Poland, which offered heroic resistance and, in spite of ruthless persecution and mass slaughter, never once entertained thought of surrender.

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<sup>1</sup> More information on Nazism may be found in our books: *National Cultures, Nazism, and the Church* (Boston, 1945) and *Nazi German Culture* (Boston, 1945).

After the invasion of Poland and the ceding of half of her territory to Soviet Russia, with which a special treaty of collaboration had been concluded, other invasions were quickly undertaken by Germany. The great majority of European countries and immense territories of Soviet Russia, with which Hitler had broken, were conquered, and the German hordes had almost achieved complete victory. Only by the heroic struggle of Allied Nations, after enormous sacrifices of men and material, the destruction of many cities and of innumerable monuments of art, were the Germans first halted and then forced to retreat. Now, in the sixth year of this incessant fighting, the Allied armies find themselves on German soil, in the confidence of final victory at hand.

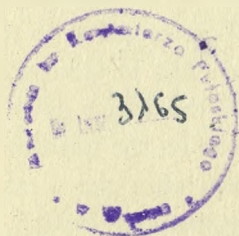
The outbreak and development of this war were due, in part, to division and isolation among the Allies, after the first World War; in part, to the improper methods of appeasement employed by them towards Germany. The complete self-imposed exclusion of the United States of America from all European political affairs, on the one hand, and the rivalry between Great Britain and France, on the other, had enabled Germany to free itself from the obligation of paying its war debts and the fulfillment of other penalties imposed by the Versailles Treaty, and had encouraged it to re-arm systematically for a global war. The visits to Germany of the British Prime Minister Chamberlain, the advice given Czechoslovakia to submit to German demands on the question of the Sudeten territory, the lack of reaction after the German invasion of Czechoslovakia, the abandonment of Poland, when attacked by Germany and by Russia, in spite of all the guarantees given

her in the treaty of 1939 — all these means of appeasement had created, in German souls, a conviction of their invincible strength which greatly spurred them on, in their fight for the realization of their dream of world domination.

These methods of appeasement which served Germany as an effective instrument in attaining its goal concerning its foreign policy, must never again be employed, in any form, if we desire an enduring peace. All political relations with it must be based on justice.

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Professor Andrew J. Krzesinski, Doctor of Philosophy and Doctor of Theology, eminent philosopher and author of many valuable books in various languages on subjects concerning philosophy and culture, was educated in the University of Cracow and in other famous universities of Europe. From 1925 to 1928, he was a member of the Faculty of the University of Warsaw, where he lectured on philosophy. From 1928 until the outbreak of the second World War, he was Professor agrégé of philosophy in the University of Cracow.

In 1936 and 1937, he undertook a philosopher's journey to the Far East, visiting Japan, China, the Malay States, Thailand (Siam), Indo-China, Burma, India, Ceylon and Tibet, where he studied Asiatic cultures and met the leaders of thought. In India, he lectured at the Universities of Calcutta, Allahabad, Shantiniketan, Agra, Waltair, Bombay, Mysore, Madras and others, and held lengthy conferences and discussions with Mohandas Gandhi, Rabindranath Tagore and Pandit Nehru.

He has been Visiting Professor of philosophy in Laval University, Quebec, and in the University of Montreal.

Dr. Krzesinski is thoroughly acquainted with Nazism, Communism, and other movements hostile to the ideals of Western culture. He is well fitted to throw light upon the cataclysmic events afflicting the world today since he is a recognized authority on the subject of culture and civilization.

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