

"With German armies nearing Paris thirteen Americas to Americans, Europe to Europeans". If this reciprocal basic Monroe Doctrine were mutually observed, declared Adolf Hitler to me today, not only would it ensure peace for all time between the old and new worlds but would be the most ideal foundation for peace throughout the whole world.

In caustic language with scorn and indignation he denounced "lies" that he has or ever had "dream or thought" or played with the faintest idea of interfering in the Western Hemisphere by any manner or means.

He characterized America's fears of him or Germany as most flattering but "childish and grotesque" and the whole idea of the possibility of an invasion of the United States from Europe by sea, air or "mythical fifth column" as "stupid and fantastic".

The German war machine whose amazing perfection, organization, strength, strategical and tactical leadership has startled world is now just outside Paris. Hitler told me he'd no intention of attacking the beautiful French Capital if it "remains an open city like Brussels". The Fuehrer denied vehemently that he ever had, or even now has, as his war aim the "smashing of the British Empire"; but with bitter anger he declared "I'll destroy those men who are destroying that Empire". He spoke most warmly of Premier Mussolini and welcomed Italy's entrance into the war and "comradeship of arms".

An aeroplane picked me up at the airport of a city where sirens deep baying anti-aircraft guns dull explosions which sounded like bombs had awakened me after midnight. I so tired I did not care what happened to me and I went to sleep again in the plane.

We landed in field; then there were hours of motoring in open car under blazing sun. German Foreign Minister received me large Chateau Headquarters of a Division General with a peppery name just behind left wing German front.

I'd interesting talk Foreign Minister. After talking with him, German General, and another member General Staff, I was driven by car many miles rendezvous Fuehrer.

Hitler dashed up in six-wheeled open car sitting beside chauffeur with second car following; there was clicking of heels and outstretching arms in salute.

Von Ribbentrop greeting him at entrance.

It is two years since my last talk Hitler.

With portraits of Belgian and French beauties recalling days that will never return looking down at us, we sat in drawing-room.

Minister Von Ribbentrop, Doctor Dietrich, Minister Schmidt, Counsellor of the Legation Howell and others were present.

The Fuehrer had insisted on formulating replies to my questions in writing. With these in hand he discussed them nearly hour.

He began America's attitude toward Germany his attitude toward Germany.

"Germany is one of the few countries which hitherto has refrained interfering any way in America. He wanted remind me "at no time has Germany had any territorial or political interest in American continent". Then with rising voice declared "Nor has Germany any such interest now; whoever states anything contrary is lying deliberately for some purpose; how American Continent shapes or leads its life is no concern of mine and of no interest to Germany; and that let me say holds good not only for North America but equally so for South America; but let me observe this: I do not believe doctrine such as proclaimed by your president Monroe can be interpreted to have been or to be unilateral claim to no intervention.

"Actual purpose of Monroe doctrine, I believe, wasnt only conceived and proclaimed to prevent European countries from interfering in America - which England with her great territorial and political interest in America continually does - but likewise to restrain America from interfering or mixing in European affairs.

"George Washington's own warning to American people confirms the logical reasonableness of such an interpretation. I therefore say America for Americans, Europe for Europeans" Asked how he viewed America's rearmament programme as announced and advocated by President Roosevelt, Hitler said "In answering that question I shall once more apply Monroe Doctrine and therefore refrain from expressing my opinion or views on United States armament programme. America's arming is none of my business; I am in no way interested in it. I myself have been compelled to carry out the greatest armament programme the world ever seen, so that I for one am in position to distinguish very well indeed between colourful fabrications and real possibilities or practicabilities. There seem to be some fanciful views on that subject".

I tried to draw out Fuehrer on America's sales of war material to allies. "America's intervention in Europe in the shape of mass deliveries of aircraft and other war materials cannot affect outcome of this conflict" declared Fuehrer with emphatic finality. "Its not necessary for me to give my reasons for this in detail. In the end reality will decide".

I touched upon Fifth Column which seems have fired the imagination of many countries. With touch of sarcasm Hitler said "So called fifth column conveys nothing to me because it doesnt exist except in the imagination of fantastic minds or as phantom created by unscrupulous propaganda for obvious purposes by incompetent governments who drive their peoples into war and then experience pitiable collapse".

Its understandable they prefer shift responsibility elsewhere.

Main object of this propaganda slogan is to find a collective term for internal opposition which of course exists in all countries, composed of extreme nationalists, internationally-minded Communists, pacifists, and others opposed to war.

"Since politicians of those countries are unable to deal with their opposition decently, they proceed to accuse those elements of high treason, cloaking their illegal methods with patriotic arguments and motivate their action morally in the eyes of the world by applying airraising term "Fifth Column".

"Our opponents are going to lose the war because their military organizations are bad, their leadership worse, their conduct of war instances disastrous".

Again Hitler emphasized it was England which declared war against Germany on "ridiculous stupid pretexts", adding "Germany will win war because German people know their cause is just and they know what they

fighting for and because German military organization and leadership is better. We shall win because we have best army, best equipment".

I asked "Was it one of his aims to destroy British Empire". "It never has been my aim or intention to destroy British Empire" Fuehrer vigorously declared. "On the contrary, just before outbreak of this war which I reiterate was launched by Britain and France, I submitted proposal to British Government wherein I went to the length of offering armed assistance of the Reich for safeguarding British Empire. My Offer was scorned. I've asked nothing of England except that Germany should be considered and treated as an equal; that England would protect German coast if Germany became involved in war; and that I be given German Colonies - and I'll get them.

"Openly it was declared and printed in London that National Socialism must be destroyed and that Germany must be broken up, utterly disarmed and made powerless. Never have I voiced any such aims of intentions against Britain. When battle after battle went against England rulers in London appealed to America with tears in their eyes declaring that Germany was threatening and seeking to break up British Empire. One thing its true is going to be destroyed that is capitalistic clique which was and still is prepared to sacrifice millions of human lives for their mean petty personal interests (and that I'm convinced will be done not by me but by their own people). Fuehrer declared this War certainly would scrap British system of self control as now exercised by England and that would be great Blessing world future. Freedom of seas which Germany has in mind absolutely in Trade between themselves unconditionally without being subject to any control by the warring powers". Hitler added laws that would really restrict blockade to Coasts of warring countries wouldnt be affected by such commonsense change. Fuehrer declared Germany has "neither territorial nor political interest in the Mediterranean" continuing "the German nation refuses to accept conceptions whereby everybody is entitled or even bound to interfere everywhere and with everything "if certain nations - Britain and France take lead among those - see fit to declare they and they alone have interests all over the world. This constitutes claim to world domination which "awakening peoples will not tolerate in long run. Germany for one, will not tolerate that other powers concern themselves with her living space. In return she will refrain from intruding in affairs outside her own vital sphere and which mainly concern other Nations. If, as has been the case, British Cabinet Minister declares that Englands' Frontier is Rhine this is really limit both as regards stupidity and unbearable arrogance. It could hardly be more stupid to declare that Germany's frontier is Mississippi, Amazon, or Yangtze. Incidentally we shall now settle this question of Rhine frontier once and for all so that in future its to be hoped British Prime Ministers will not be liable to such geographic delusions. I asked further if he would give me an outline or some idea of his conception of peace to come. I said I had heard so much about "revolutionary concept of peace", which he had in mind and that peace treaty would be very short. Hitler was disinclined to commit himself at this time. He said "Theres only one German Peace Aim and thats establishment of Peace. Let me remind you again it wasnt Germany who declared War on England and France, but England and France who declared War against Germany on most ridiculous pretext. Principle on which Peace is founded will however be realization of fact there can be no real peace unless the vital requirements of great Nations be duly respected and that only fool can believe that super Versailles could be improvement on international. Cliques who live by inciting peoples to

hatred and who seek to conceal or even suppress the consequences of their inborn political inefficiency or their economic failure by resorting to war. I am aware of fact this aim cannot be reached by treaties alone but must come about by the dawning of reason within Nations in spite of all prevailing hysteria and all attempts to lead World astray. I still believe in this regardless of all fairy tales and atrocity propaganda regardless of Fifth Columns Parachute Nuns etc. If Military defeat of Great Britain, France should bring about Victory of reason, even in those countries the sacrifices of this War will perhaps for future of World not have been so in vain as it may now seem. As Hitler arose and shook hands with me I asked him once more to spare Paris if possible. He replied "You have that at heart no more than I have and you will be no more happy than I'll be if French Army Leaders show commonsense and make that possible for me".

THOMPSON +++

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