

What I want particularly to emphasize at this point is that we should build up our strength not for the purpose of waging war, but for the purpose of preventing war. We want to avoid a repetition of the tragedy of a totalitarian power conquering the nations of Europe one by one. It must not become necessary to liberate the nations of Europe a second time. The sufferings of the occupied countries, and the losses of the armies of liberation might well, the next time, be much greater than they were in the last war. The liberation itself would be much more difficult, would take much longer, and would be very much more costly in every way.

Like many of you, I have paid for fire insurance since I first began to own a home. Happily, there has never been a fire in my house, but I feel no regret for having paid the premiums and I shall continue to pay them as long as I own any property. When I ask you to support a North Atlantic Treaty, I am simply asking you to pay an insurance premium which will be far, far less costly than the losses we would face if a new conflagration devastated the world.

On this Remembrance Day, as we pay tribute to the heroes of two world wars, let us resolve to do everything in our power to prevent such a calamity. We all want peace, We all want security. We want to be able to employ our resources and our energies in promoting the well-being and prosperity of our own country. That is the reason we signed the San Francisco Charter; and that is the reason we are now seeking to conclude the North Atlantic Pact. Like the aim of the Charter, the aim of such a pact is peace.

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