

6. His Majesty's Government have said enough to make their own attitude clear in the particular matters at issue between Germany and Poland. They trust that the German Chancellor will not think that, because His Majesty's Government are scrupulous concerning their obligations to Poland, they are not anxious to use all their influence to assist in achievement of a solution which may commend itself both to Germany and to Poland. That such a settlement should be achieved seems to His Majesty's Government essential not only for reasons directly arising in regard to the settlement itself, but also because of wider considerations of which the German Chancellor has spoken with such conviction.

7. It is justified in the present reply to stress the advantage of a peaceful settlement over a decision to settle the questions at issue by force of arms. The results of a decision to use force have been clearly set out in the Prime Minister's letter to the Chancellor of the 22nd of August and His Majesty's Government do not doubt that they are as fully recognized by the Chancellor as by themselves.

On the other hand, His Majesty's Government, noting with interest the German Chancellor's reference in a message now under consideration to the limitation of armaments, believe that if a peaceful settlement can be obtained, the assistance of the world could confidently be anticipated for practical measures to enable a transition from preparation for war to the normal activities of peaceful trade to be safely and smoothly effected.

8. A just settlement of these questions between Germany and Poland may open the way to world peace. Failure to reach it would ruin the hopes of a better understanding between Germany and Great Britain, would bring the two countries into conflict and might well plunge the whole world into war. Such an outcome would be a calamity without parallel in history.

---

V

*The reply of the German Chancellor, handed to His Majesty's Ambassador during the evening of the 29th of August, 1939, to the communication of the 28th of August, 1939, from His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom.*

The British Ambassador in Berlin has submitted to the British Government suggestions which I felt bound to make in order:

1. To give expression once more to the will of the Reich Government for sincere Anglo-German understanding, co-operation and friendship.

2. To leave no room for doubt as to the fact that such an understanding could not be bought at the price of a renunciation of vital