

and face the Western Powers with an accomplished fact. It is a plan which the German military authorities do not consider free from danger; on the other hand it may be assumed that they do not consider its execution impossible, provided that Russian neutrality is assured. The risk of seeing Germany rally to the support of such a solution cannot be entirely excluded, so long as the Russian riddle remains unanswered."

And the final plea - and it is put forward as a plea from the French Ambassador in Berlin to the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Paris, dated the 15th August, 1939, being document 194 in this book found on page 268:-

"To guard as far as possible against this danger which appears to me formidable and imminent I consider it essential:" --

Then there are set out (1) and (2) which I need not read --

"(3) To expedite to the very utmost the conclusion of the agreement with the Soviets. I can never repeat too often how important a psychological factor this is for the Reich."

Then on page 277 - and this is the last extract from this volume - again on the 18th August, 1939, document 190, the French Ambassador in Berlin writing to the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Paris states:-

"It is imperative to bring the Russian negotiations to a satisfactory conclusion as soon as possible. I learn from various sources that it is now the military authorities who are most active in pressing the Chancellor to go to war with Poland. The most powerful deterrent would be a pact with the Russians."