

war threatened to embroil the whole of Europe. On March 15, 1938, the nazis marched into Austria. In September of that year Europe was almost plunged into war by the Sudeten crisis, which ended at Munich. In March, 1939, Germany seized the rest of Czechoslovakia and, a few days later, she took Memel. On Good Friday, 1939, the Italians occupied and annexed Albania. Finally, on September 1, 1939, Germany attacked Poland.

While at first these acts of aggression were unrelated and unconnected, they began gradually to assume a pattern and to be based on a time-table, which point to a conspiracy for world domination. The conspiracy was half avowed by the formation of the so-called anti-comintern pact, ostensibly directed against the menace of communism; but, as we can now see, it was in reality a conspiracy for the destruction of freedom in the world. Individual bandits, acting alone, became gangsters acting in concert.

The formation of the Rome-Berlin axis was an open threat to the peace of the world. But, so long as Hitler had reason to believe that Russia and the western democracies might be combined against him, he was not ready to risk actual war. His great moment came with the conclusion of the nazi-soviet non-aggression pact in August of 1939. The preliminary phase had ended. The unfolding of the nazi world order was about to begin.

The first act in the new development was the conquest of Poland, and the destruction, with unexampled ferocity, of the Polish state. In the conquest of Poland the nazis for the first time used actual force rather than the threat of force to attain their ends. The brutality of their conduct in the subjugation of the Poles was designed not merely to crush that unhappy land but to strike terror into the hearts of all the peoples of Europe, and to paralyze their will to resist nazi domination.

In the destruction of Poland, soviet Russia participated. In the weeks that followed the conquest of Poland, the soviet government successfully extended its domination by threat of force to the smaller Baltic nations: Lithuania, Latvia and Esthonia. With Finland, the same tactics were not successful. It was just a year ago that the Russians invaded Finland and, after a bitter winter campaign, broke the resistance of that heroic people and partitioned their country.

The next blow was struck, suddenly and swiftly, by the nazis on April 9, when they occupied Denmark, almost without firing a shot, and simultaneously attacked and occupied all the principal cities of Norway. Just a month later, on May 10, came the great

onslaught in the west. In a few days Luxemburg, Holland and Belgium had been overrun. Barely five weeks had passed when French resistance collapsed, and the French government was seeking an armistice.

With the collapse of France, practically the whole of Europe, west of Russia, lay prostrate at the feet of Hitler and his Italian ally, who, on the eve of the fall of France, had joined him in the war. The military machine of the nazis seemed, in June, well nigh invincible. Britain stood alone in the path of the onward march of the conquerors. There she stands still; the one obstacle left in the way of the establishment, in the old world, of the new nazi order.

What Hitler has failed to accomplish by fear or force—the destruction of Britain—he has now set about attempting to effect by intrigue and guile. A new world order, based upon spheres of influence to be controlled by nazi Germany and her axis partners, is now the immediate aim. This is the subtle method by which, as the ultimate end of aggression, Germany hopes to attain world domination. Through the alliance between Japan and the axis in Europe the new order in Asia has been linked to the new order in Europe. The pattern is now plain. The world, as I have said, is to be divided into spheres of influence. Germany and her greater vassals are to dominate a world of lesser vassals. The new order in Asia and the islands of the Pacific is domination by Japan. The new order in Europe is domination by Germany. The new order in the Mediterranean and in Africa is joint domination by Germany and Italy. The areas to be dominated by the soviets would appear, at the moment, to be a subject for further negotiation. By promises of collaboration, Hitler and Mussolini are seeking to beguile France and Spain.

The subject peoples will be the menials of the new lords of creation. Their economies will be economies that satisfy the greed of their masters; their farmers will be peasants, and their workers, slaves. The new nazi order is not in fact a new order at all. It is a return to despotism and the age-old tyranny against which mankind has ever struggled in its upward march.

I turn now from the international scene to a review of the salient features in our national war effort in the period since parliament adjourned on August 7 last. The house will not expect me to give the picture in detail. That task will be undertaken, as the debate proceeds, by the ministers in charge of the several departments. The wish of the government is to inform parliament and the country just as completely as military exigencies will permit.

(Mr. Mackenzie King.)