

The German Government will be aware that His Majesty's Government have obligations to Poland by which they are bound and which they intend to honour. They could not for any advantage offered to Great Britain acquiesce in a settlement which put in jeopardy the independence of a state to whom they have given their guarantee.

In the opinion of His Majesty's Government, a reasonable solution of the differences between Germany and Poland could and should be effected by agreement between the two countries on lines which would include safeguarding Poland's essential interests, and they recall that in his speech of the 28th of April last the German Chancellor recognized the importance of these interests to Poland.

But, as was stated by the Prime Minister in his letter to the German Chancellor of the 22nd of August, His Majesty's Government consider it essential for the success of discussions which would precede an agreement that it should be understood beforehand that any settlement arrived at would be guaranteed by other powers. His Majesty's Government would be ready, if desired, to make their contribution to the effective operation of such a guarantee.

In the view of His Majesty's Government it follows that the next step should be initiation of direct discussions between the German and Polish Governments on a basis which would include the principles stated above, namely the safeguarding of Poland's essential interests and the securing of the settlement by an international guarantee.

They have already received a definite assurance from the Polish Government that they are prepared to enter into discussions on this basis and His Majesty's Government hope the German Government would, for their part, also be willing to agree to this course.

If, as His Majesty's Government hope, such a discussion led to an agreement, the way would be open to the negotiation of that wider and more complete understanding between Great Britain and Germany which both countries desire.

His Majesty's Government agree with the German Chancellor that one of the principal dangers in the German-Polish situation arises from the reports concerning the treatment of minorities. The present state of tension with its concomitant frontier incidents, reports of maltreatment and inflammatory propaganda, is a constant danger to peace.

It is manifestly a matter of utmost urgency that all incidents of this kind should be promptly and rigidly suppressed and that unverified reports should not be allowed to circulate in order that time may be afforded, without provocation on either side, for a full examination of the possibilities of settlement.

His Majesty's Government are confident that both Governments concerned are fully alive to these considerations.