

United Kingdom, the United States and Norway. Repeated warnings were in fact given the Finnish government that if it persisted in the invasion of purely Russian territory, a situation would arise in which a declaration of war would become inevitable. It was made equally clear that if Finland should end her war against Russia and withdraw to her 1939 frontiers—not those of 1941—every consideration would be given to proposals for guaranteeing her present and future security, and to measures for economic co-operation.

In spite of these warnings, however, and, indeed, in spite of the repeated protests of large sections of the Finnish people both in their homeland and abroad, the present Finnish regime has persisted in its armed support of the Nazis; has become, indeed, an Axis ally in a general war.

In view of the unmistakable evidence that the actions of the governments of Hungary, Roumania and Finland had become completely subordinated to the policies of Nazi Germany, the United Kingdom Government finally informed these governments that, unless they immediately ceased military operations against Russia, a declaration of war would follow.

The declaration by Canada of the existence of a state of war with Finland, Hungary and Roumania has not been made without the most careful consideration of its effect on the position in Canada of Finnish, Hungarian and Roumanian nationals, or of recently naturalized Canadians formerly of Finnish, Hungarian or Roumanian nationality. The government is fully convinced of the loyalty of the overwhelming majority of these people, a loyalty which extends both to Canada and to the great cause to which the Allied nations are committed. For this reason, measures, such as a state of war ordinarily demands, have not been taken to place such persons automatically in the class of "enemy aliens". All necessary security measures will, of course, continue to be taken by the Canadian authorities against individuals, of any race or nationality, whose activities are prejudicial to the welfare and security of the state.

We are confident that the Finnish, Hungarian and Roumanian residents of Canada will continue to play their full part in the present struggle. Free men everywhere have had to choose between subservience and opposition to the totalitarian challenge. The peoples now living in Finland, Hungary and Roumania are clearly under Nazi control. They can resist only passively at the present time, since their actions are circumscribed by the firing squad and the concentration camp. In Canada, the maintenance of freedom of thought and action represents one of the chief moral issues for which we are fighting. There are the strongest of reasons why, as loyal residents of Canada, citizens of Finnish, Hungarian and Roumanian origin should continue to contribute in fullest measure to the war effort of our country.

Sub-head:

Position of

Finnish,

Hungarian

and Roumanian

residents of

Canada