

PRESS CLIPPINGS

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I thank you, Mr. Prime Minister (Churchill) for honoring this occasion with your presence. To me it is indeed a source of pride that behind our relationship in affairs of state at this time of war there lies an unbroken friendship extending over more than one-third of a century, a friendship kept warm by personal visits of one or the other to Britain or Canada. We have not at all times seen eye to eye. But in viewing the course which it has seemed wisest to take, we have seldom had difficulty in reconciling our views and never a reason to question their sincerity.

Today I stand at your side, one with you in thought, purpose and determination, never more honored than that long years in public service should have afforded me an opportunity so to

represent before the world the proud position of Canada at the side of Britain.

Perhaps you will permit me to express in the presence of your fellow countrymen something of the feeling Canadians one and all cherish towards yourself.

In the hour of Britain's greatest need we have seen you personify the unbending determination, dogged courage and unyielding perseverance of the British people. We have seen you do more than this. By the power of your eloquence, the energy of your conduct, the genius of your leadership, you have galvanized a great people into heroic action rarely equalled, never excelled, in the history of warfare.

You have consistently upheld the right of men and nations freely to order their own affairs, their own way, within the framework of international friendship and good will.

Today, Nazi Germany led by one man possessed by the power of evil and corrupted by the evil of power seeks to crush all free peoples. Mankind will be grateful that in Britain a free man who believes in the ultimate power of free men has become the champion of the hosts of freedom.

It is high destiny which in the realms of either civil or international strife links the name of any public man with the saving of his country.

Of you, Mr. Churchill, history will record that by the example of your leadership you helped save the freedom of the world.

Canada is proud of her position in the sisterhood of the British Commonwealth. But that position and association, had other resources been lacking, would not have sufficed to bring Canada into an European war. Ours was not an automatic response to some mechanical organization of Empire. Canada's entry into the war was a deliberate decision of free people by their own representatives in a free Parliament.

Fight For Freedom

Canada is a nation of the new world. As a nation of the new world we placed ourselves freely at Britain's side because Britain's cause was the cause of freedom not in this island alone, not in the British Empire alone, not in the old world alone, but everywhere in the world. Lincoln in his day saw that the United States could not survive half-slave, half-free. Likewise the Canadian people clearly have seen that the world today cannot long continue half-slave, half-free.

Ere Poland was invaded we had come to see as you had come to see that Nazi Germany had been maddened by the poison of the evil doctrine of race and force, that the lust and passion of her rulers could be satisfied only by blood and soil and the treasure of her neighbors.

We were well aware that ambition, feeding on itself, would steadily grow. We saw that if Hitler were successful in his immediate aims, the whole world would soon be threatened by the unlimited ambition of evil men and by the might of the greatest military machine the world has ever known.

When you in Britain were determined to oppose this growing danger, we in Canada were with you from the start. Like you, we saw the folly of waiting passively for our turn to come. We will be with you to the end.

We are fighting to defend

democratic and Christian ideals. We believe that everything which free men value and cherish on this side of the grave is in peril in this war. The right of men, rich and poor to be treated as men, the right of men to make laws by which they will be governed, the right of men to work where they will, at what they will, the right of womankind to the serenity and sanctity of the home, the right of children to play in safety under the peaceful heavens, the right of old men and women to tranquillity in their sunset, the right to speak the truth in our hearts, the right to worship in our own way the God in whom we believe.