

C215666

Dictated by Prime Minister  
8. I. 43

Draft paragraphs re SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

1. War situation when Parliament met,  
and war developments during session:

The present session opened under the shadows of the rapid and far-flung successes of Japanese aggression in the Far East and with Germany holding her gains of previous years in Europe and in Africa. On every continent and ocean, the forces of ruthless tyrannies were combined in one mighty effort to effect world domination. The circle of world-wide conflict had been completed by the action of Japan and Germany in making war upon the United States.

By the entry of the United States into the war, the forces of freedom had been mightily strengthened. They had been further consolidated by the signature of the pact which bound together the United Nations.

With German advances in North Africa and Russia and Japanese advances toward India, Australia and China, the shadows seemed to lengthen for many months. As impatient demands for a second front in Europe threatened to strain relations between the allied powers themselves, the shadows deepened as well. In mid-summer, the midnight hour seemed to have arrived.

Then came two events which it now appears may have changed the whole course of the war: combined with