THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN, GERMANY AND ITALY

Statement issued to the press by - & w

Right Honourable W. L. Mackenzie King, M.P.

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It will be clear to those who have listened to recent addresses by President Roosevelt that the declaration this morning of war against the United States by Germany and Italy will have been less of a surprise to the President, the Secretary of State Mr. Hull, and other members of the Administration, than to the people of the United States generally.

The President and Mr. Hull have striven with increasing emphasis to make it clear that Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy were not less the enemies of American democracy than of British freedom; that the cause was one; and that an isolationist attitude was wholly untenable.

Mr. Stimson, Secretary of War, and Mr. Knox, Secretary of the Navy, have, for some time past, in like manner, striven to impress the people of the United States