

Collective Security, only Stalin was prepared to implement his promises. The interest of Britain and France in the ideal of peace was obviously governed, not by principles, but by the extent to which the Nazis threatened Anglo-French interests.

It is not suggested that Stalin's interest in peace was any more altruistic than that of the British or the French Governments, but he alone understood the basic aims of German Imperialism and the pent-up forces which were driving the Third Reich along the road of piratical plunder; he alone was prepared to back his judgment by the force necessary to break the potential aggressors before it was too late.

Abyssinia, Spain, Austria, represented the writing on the wall for European peace. How was it that only Stalin seemed anxious to defend it?

Later events show beyond doubt that Messrs. Chamberlain, Daladier and company were no less convinced than Stalin that Germany would eventually be compelled to go to war. Their tragedy was that they were gulled by the anti-Bolshevist ravings of Hitler into believing that the outburst, when it did come, would be directed towards the Ukraine and South-Western Russia. No admirers of the Soviet system, they were not unduly concerned with the necessity of defending Russia against Germany.

History will pass stern judgment on the insane myopia of the democratic statesmen, who saw one bastion of security after another go down before the Nazi aggressor. They were to learn by bitter experience, that to attempt to satisfy an appetite like that of neo-German imperialism merely serves to imbue the aggressor with the idea that he can continue his pillage with