

Then would have been the best opportunity to convert theoretical doctrines into an actual "deed". And this all the more so because: —

2. From the political point of view also the necessary conditions had been fulfilled. For Germany was then a democracy such as has never before existed. Everything had been exactly copied and dutifully imitated from the existing great models. It was not National Socialism which ruled in Germany. Even bourgeois nationalism had almost completely disappeared. The world of party politics stretched from Social Democracy by way of the Centre Party to the Democratic Party, and not only resembled outwardly in its "*Weltanschauung*" the world around it, but felt itself programmatically bound up with it. What then were they waiting for?

Could there have been a better opportunity to set up a collective system of cooperation than at the time when in Germany that spirit ruled exclusively which also inspired the world around her? No! The time was ripe, it was there, only the will was not.

In demonstrating the breaches of the Treaty of Versailles by the other side I will not refer at all to the fact that they had not disarmed. Even if one believes that at that time there may have been valid objections to excuse the breach of the obligation to disarm, it will be hard to give the reasons which led to an ever increasing rearmament.

That is the decisive point.

The other states have not only failed to disarm, but they have on the contrary supplemented their armaments, improved them and increased them.

The reply has been made that there have been to some extent limitations of personnel—but this reply is no valid excuse. These limitations of personnel were more than made up for by the technical and planned improvement of the most modern weapons of warfare. Incidentally they could easily be made good.

And one must pay especial attention to the following: —

During the course of the disarmament negotiations the attempt was made to divide armament into weapons which were more suitable for defence and those which were more suitable for attack.

I must here point out that Germany did not possess any of the weapons at all which were designated as suitable for attack. They were all destroyed without exception. And it must further be pointed out that it was these very weapons which were suitable and designed for attack that the partners of the Peace Treaty developed, improved and increased to the very utmost extent.

Germany had destroyed all her aircraft. She not only had no active aerial weapons but she did not even have any weapons for warding off attack from the air.

At the same time, however, the other partners to the Treaty not only failed to destroy their existing aircraft, but on the contrary they developed it to a vast extent.

The speed of the interceptor fighters, for instance, increased from some 220 km at the end of the War to nearly 400 km, thanks to improvements of the most modern type. The armament of these planes increased from 2 machine-guns to 3, 4, and 5, and finally to small automatic guns. The maximum altitude at the end of the War was 6,000 m, it has now been extended to 9,000, 10,000 and 11,000 m.

Aeroplane armament increased from 2, 3 and 4 machine guns to 4, 5 and even 8 machine-guns and finally to automatic guns. The sights were improved in such an ingenious way that it was openly admitted that the object aimed at could be destroyed with deadly certainty. The nose-dive bomber was developed in a completely new way. The explosive power of the bombs has been increased continually since the War. The desire for a better system of gassing has been satisfied by new inventions; and residential quarters are now to be destroyed with inflammatory bombs which, as the technical periodicals of the various

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