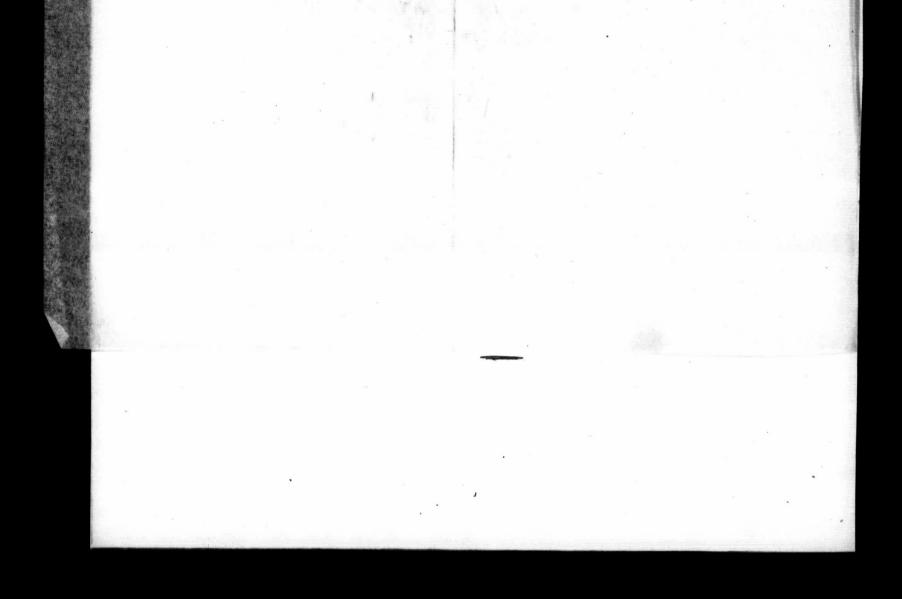


C221240

State &

was with a shock therefore that we learned that Churchill agreed to treat the Polish frontier question in isolation irrespective of the general settlement and had agreed to do a sweeping remedy. And the remedy anyway seems to have been rejected by the Polish Government. We are in full sympathy with Churchill's statement that the Russians demand for a reassurance about their western frontiers is reasonable and just, in full sympathy too with Poland's claim to a future of strength and independence which Stalin endorses. But we do not think that either of these aims can be served at the present time by tamely abandoning the British Government's conviction that "all questions of territorial settlement re-adjustment should stand over until the war's end". We should prefer to see the British Government's influence thrown far more strongly than hitherto on the side of putting the first things at first. That is upon the need for planning without delay a post-war system of collective security which will reassure all nations against the fear of attack and a post-war system of economic collaboration which will eliminate jealousies that breed war".



W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1940-1950, MG 26 J 4, Volume 321, pages C221059-C221644

