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The events of March and succeeding months have made it increasingly clear that the German government alone had both the will and the power to make an attempt to dominate throughout the world. The government have never concealed their abhorrence of such an ambition. In referring in this House on March the 20th (Unrevised Hansard, 1939, p.2211), to the seizure of Czecho-Slovakia I remarked on the regret which was felt at the fate of that gallant and vigorous small nation. I added that "the evidence a great country had given that it does not consider itself bound by pledges freely exchanged a few short months before, and that it looks to force as the sole basis of relations with its neighbours, and apparently with the world" was still more regrettable.

The government have repeatedly stated that the cause of freedom everywhere in the world is bound up with the freedom and security of the free nations of Western Europe, and, particularly, of Great Britain. I have been concerned above all in recent months with the position of our own country if Great Britain became involved again in war.

Honourable Members will recall my statement in Parliament last March (Unrevised Hansard, 1939, p.2212) that if there were a prospect of an aggressor launching