

and the Corridor to Germany and the safeguarding of the existence of the German national groups in the territories remaining to Poland.

The Government note with satisfaction that the British Government under the circumstances, are in principle convinced that some solution must be found for the new situation which has arisen. They further feel justified in assuming that the British Government too can have no doubt that it is a question now of conditions for the elimination of which there no longer remain days, still less weeks, but perhaps only hours. For in the disorganized state of affairs obtaining in Poland the possibility of incidents intervening which it might be impossible for Germany to tolerate must at any moment be reckoned with.

While the British Government may still believe that these grave differences can be resolved by way of direct negotiations, the German Government unfortunately can no longer share this view as a matter of speculation. For they have made attempts to embark on such peaceful negotiations but instead of receiving support from the Polish Government they were rebuffed by the sudden introduction of measures of a military character into the developments alluded to above.

The British Government attach importance to two considerations, (1) that the existing danger of an imminent explosion should be eliminated as quickly as possible by direct negotiation and that (2) the existence of a Polish state in the form in which it would then continue to exist should be adequately safeguarded in the economic and political spheres by means of international guarantees.

On this subject the German Government make the following declaration:

Though sceptical as to the prospects of a successful outcome, they nevertheless are prepared to accept the English proposal and enter into direct discussions. They do so, as has already been emphasized, solely as the result of the impression made upon them by the written statements received from the British Government that they too desire a pact of friendship in accordance with the general lines indicated to the British Ambassador.

The German Government desire in this way to give the British Government and the British nation proof of the sincerity of Germany's intentions to enter into a lasting friendship with Great Britain.

The Government of the Reich feel bound, however, to point out to the British Government that in the event of a territorial rearrangement in Poland, they would no longer be able to bind themselves to give guarantees or participate in guarantees without the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics being associated therewith.

In making these proposals the German Government have never had any intention of touching Poland's vital interests or of questioning the existence of an independent Polish state. The German Government accordingly, in these circumstances, agrees to accept the British