France and Canada alike belong to the small group of nations who went to war in 1939 of their own free will in a determination to put an end to Nazi aggression. Since 1940, the resistance of France has been carried on by brave men in exile from their homeland and by resolute men and women within France. The men and women of the resistance, inside and outside France, have risked not only their own lives but their homes and families in carrying on the fight for freedom. Their sacrifice is incomparably greater than any which the peoples who have not been overrun, have been called upon to make.

After the long years of preparation, the forces of freedom from the outside are joining with the forces of resistance on the inside in the struggle to drive the enemy from the soil of France and to destroy forever his capacity for aggression.