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The British press discussing Churchill's speech says:

SUNDAY OBSERVER:

"The Government has withdrawn from the Atlantic Charter. The retreat is masked by stressing the obvious fact that Germany - who as we know is no signatory of the Atlantic Charter, (never was a concession to Germany, it was our own deliberately announced frame work programme for the pacification of the world). When we took our stand against the territorial changes without a freely declared will of populations concerned we did not do so out of tenderness to Germany, Italy or Japan. We did it because we knew and know that a lasting peace cannot be attained on a basis of forced territorial changes. When we now desert this principle we do not do so because we have become convinced of the contrary. We do it out of deference to the Russian territorial demands on Poland and to consequent Polish demands for compensation in the West without any reference to a plebiscite or the discovery of popular opinion in either case. The extent to which these points may be justified is uncertain - the point is that this method is that of power politics not of the democratic principle. We went to war as several speakers pointed out in last week's debate not for certain boundaries but for a settlement of boundaries by reason and negotiation. The Atlantic Charter was only an official embodiment of principles for which we are at war. By whittling it down we are separating the policy from the principle. In a game of power politics Britain is bound to be in danger. We cannot compete in sheer physical numerical power with the USSR or the USA. A part of our power has always been the moral power - adherence to the principles which made the others, especially the smaller nations of Europe our natural allies. Churchill's Government has travelled far since the days when it was ready to fight "if necessary for years, if necessary alone", against Germany in full flush of her conquering power and unbeaten Italy with America resolved to keep out of the war and Russia still neutral. "Not one iota, not one title do we renounce of our just demands" was Churchill's message that time and speaking so, he spoke for the nation. Churchill still speaks for the nation when he put its much maligned effort and its much belittled sacrifice on record. He ceases to do so when he begins to limit the principles for which these sacrifices are made. For the citizens and the citizen soldiers of this country have not travelled with their Government from idealism to cynicism. They are still people of 1918. For them the authentic war aim is still to end war and make the world safe for democracy and secure freedom from want and fear for all. That is the puritan spirit which never has put the calculation of power before the establishment of the principle and never, we hope, will".

SUNDAY TIMES:

"We are a great European power. Our action in 1939 expressed in the clearest and most dramatic terms the recognition that, whether we like it or not, our vital interests are inseparably bound up with the European mainland, that political independence and economic wellbeing of European peoples are most closely linked with our own. Eden last week reaffirmed our acceptance of the full European role but we cannot play a lone hand and it is our essential interest to