

NATIONAL DEFENSE EXERCISES
RADIO STATION WTBO

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Cumberland

I WELCOME the opportunity to discuss with the people of Cumberland and vicinity several matters of immediate and pressing importance.

We face today a rapidly changing world. How vastly these changing conditions will affect our own great Nation, no one would be rash enough to predict. Certainly, however, we would be blind to realities to fail to recognize the potential and actual threat today's world turmoil offers to our institutions and our individual heritage of liberty.

Within the past relatively few months the map of the world has changed until it is now almost beyond recognition when compared with the map of a few years ago. The greed of the dictators has brought about this deplorable state of affairs.

Facing facts realistically, we cannot be content to rest quietly in the hope that America will be safe from the aggressive acts of these war lords. The experience of the other democracies and other nations should teach us that the dictators are determined to overthrow any government that stands in their way. In fact, Hitler has proclaimed the fact that his program is one of world domination.

Under such circumstances the only sensible thing for us to do is to concentrate our every effort for preparedness for the worst. No half-way measures should be adopted in a period when civilization itself hangs in the balance. We must realize that the surest way to preserve our free institutions is to be prepared to the limit to defend them.

Only the strong are safe. Nations which relied upon the fairness and humanity of the aggressor nations learned, to their everlasting regret, that such trust was misplaced. It must, therefore, be our aim to let nothing be undone to guarantee the fullest protection to our Country in this time of world peril.

As far as the State Governments are concerned, extra efforts must be exerted to maintain their efficient and smooth operation during the present emergency. With forty-eight sovereign States, each with a separate and independent government in satisfactory operation, we can gain assurance that legal safeguards and protective measures will be guaranteed. No Blitzkrieg can wipe out forty-eight governmental machines at once.

This imposes a grave obligation on all those who are charged with the responsibility of administering the State Governments. The watchword of the day should be economy. We owe to the taxpayer the duty of administering the affairs of government at the lowest possible cost. At a time when huge expenditures are necessary for National Defense, we must conserve all funds so