

That will never happen. But we must all bestir ourselves to take every precaution that it doesn't happen. For, while America stands, a figure of glorious Democracy before all the World, the free spirit of conquered peoples will never die. While the statue of liberty still sheds afar its glow of freedom for all the World to see, oppressors can never feel secure in their oppression.

We have been fortunate indeed to have had time to steel ourselves against any possible onslaughts by aggressor nations. Subversive groups, self-seeking groups among us, have sought their own selfish ends, rather than the general good of our people. Even today, such groups are threatening to halt or hamper the production of war materials now needed so terribly to supply our own forces as well as to assist those other nations fighting so desperately to crush Hitler's might.

Subversive groups can be dealt with, and will be dealt with, through the proper agencies. Where selfish Americans, however allow themselves to be blinded to our Country's necessities by reason of their own personal ambitions, they too will be dealt with, and dealt with most severely, by an aroused public opinion.

This is no time, and no place, for selfish refusal to cooperate in the cause of defense. There are agencies set up to insure that the rights of every American working man are protected to the utmost. These agencies must be given an opportunity to adjust industrial differences before recourse is had to strikes or other drastic measures. Groups that disregard this fact and that place their own interests above the interests of our Country, will feel the heavy hand of righteous public rebuke.

No more timely message can I bring to you today therefore, in this commemoration of a celebrated Bohemian American patriot, than this: No matter what the land of our origin, no matter what pressure may be brought to bear upon us from one source or another, our duty today is to further the cause of America in every way possible. All too clearly have you had the picture of what it means to be weak and unprepared today. With this example in mind, our patriotic duty is to dedicate our every energy to the safeguarding and strengthening of the institutions of Democracy in this land that is the champion of Democracy.