

emergency, for have we not seen what happened to countries that were not alert, that had failed to be prepared, that sought to avoid the honorable defense of their possessions?

Almost alone of all the peoples of the world, America and the other English-speaking nations retain the rights and privileges that true Democracy insures. This Democracy finds its truest expression here in the United States, where more than a century and a half of the enjoyment of individual liberties has developed a Nation so grounded in the traditions of freedom that it never will permit itself to be beaten into submission by any foreign power.

Herr Hitler may rant as he will, but, as President Roosevelt has so well declared, "the important question in this conflict will be, who fired the last shot?" And America for all its love of peace, for all the differences of opinion that now becloud the important issues of the moment, will not, and cannot afford to, permit that final shot to be fired from a German gun.

Every fibre of our national being rebels at the thought of an American dominated by the Nazi ideology. The free, courageous stride of the pioneers who dared, and toiled, and fought to build the America we now call home, will never degenerate into the goose-step of Nazi domination. Patrick Henry's historic plea, "Give me liberty, or give me death," rings with even truer force today than it did in Colonial times, because the subjugation threatened by the Nazi militarists is so infinitely more loathsome to people who have known freedom than any tyranny ever practiced on our Colonial ancestors by their rulers across the sea.

No! Those who would gloss over the tragic record of Hitler's broken promises to Belgium, to Greece and to all the hapless countries his legions later overran, and who would have us bargain with him in an effort to secure German assurance that we will not be attacked, might just as well try to bargain with the mad dog that runs amuck down the street. For Hitler's way of life is so completely opposed to the free American way of life that we know, the two could never exist side by side in the world. And Hitler knows it!

Ours is a national creed of hope and of opportunity! Hitler can survive only as long as he retains full control over the minds and the actions of his subjects! And he can never be sure of this while the torch of American liberty gleams in the sky, for all the world to see.

Our course, therefore, is plain for all to see, we must plan, and work, in unity of national spirit, to give every possible aid to those who are bearing the brunt of saving the world from Hitlerism today. And we must be ready, prepared to the hilt to resist any aggressive assaults, steady and courageous of soul to withstand anything, everything, rather than to lose our priceless liberty.