

This broadcast has been termed a "call to arms." So it is, a call to all who believe that the rights of an individual are sacred, to rally in defense of that Democracy that has given us all that we prize in life.

Now is the time to prove that Democracy can wage war as successfully as it can survive peace. The severest charge which dictatorship brings against Democracy is that of weakness. It has been represented that a free Government is a loose Government, which will fall to pieces when shaken by attack.

Our belief is exactly the opposite. We know that our form of liberty is the most unifying force known to human society. We know that to be true because liberty is not a mere figure of speech, not a mere convention of national society. Liberty is—an emotion. It is a quick and sensitive nerve-center, which radiates its message throughout the entire body of the American people.

Touch this chord and you touched a people's heartstring. Say this word, and you have found the watchword by which all Americans pledge eternal unity. Dictatorships are only as strong as the one man who rules. Democracies like ours are as strong as the united strength of all the people, bound to one another not by force, not by fear, but by the burning passion for freedom, by the emotion which we call the love of liberty.

That is why, in spite of setbacks that have occurred, in spite of disasters that may lie ahead, we know that America will live, that it will carry this fight for Democracy's survival to a final successful conclusion. The American people, responding unitedly to the call for concerted action, will find new values to re-awaken and crystalize their appreciation of America's free institutions, to point that nothing—no power on earth—will wrest it from us.

It must be borne in mind, in this connection, that you are the American people—you are the ones to whom America must look for the complete civilian effort so urgently needed at this moment. Whether your efforts can be utilized best as a member of the Air Raid Precaution Service, in First Aid or Rescue work, as a Fire Watcher or in the Driver Corps, as a member of the Nurses Unit, or for Emergency Food and Housing—whatever your capabilities may be the important thing is that you must give first call upon your services to this important duty.

In a moment, you will hear from a war correspondent who lived through the Blitz period in London, a vivid word picture of the tragedy and of the spiritual uplift of a great people under terrible strain. His story is intensely valuable to us in Maryland because it brings to us for our guidance and protection, the benefits of the experiences won by the heroic English people in their hour of travail.