

Frankly, I have no more patience with such agitation than I had with the spirit of pre-war pacifism to which such appeals are closely akin. And it was this spirit that was largely responsible for bringing about the deplorable state of utter unpreparedness in which our Country found itself on December 7th, when Japan let loose its treacherous, murderous attack.

Is it un-Christian to hate a mad dog, to hate him so vehemently that nothing but complete destruction can satisfy us? I say no! And I further say now that the Nazi hordes who pillaged and ravished and murdered without restraint in Poland and throughout Europe, and who are even today intensifying such inhuman tactics, deserve exactly the same treatment from the decent people of the world that a mad dog would receive if turned loose in our midst.

The Chinese millions, who have endured every form of bestiality at the hands of the Japanese, could tell what we can expect from these yellow savages if they make good their boast of Peace dictated by their Admiral from the White House in Washington.

In the last week or two right off the sea-coast of Maryland, a good indication was given of the kind of tactics which we can expect at every turn in this war. There, unarmed seamen attempting to save their lives from a torpedoed vessel, were machine-gunned by an Axis submarine and murdered shamefully.

A responsible Army official who is fully informed of the tactics of our foes said this to me the other day. "As much as I love my wife and children, I would rather see them dead and in their graves than to have them fall into the clutches of our German and Japanese foes." Every adult in America should ponder well the implication behind such a statement.

This war is no longer a world spectacle at which we Americans are merely detached spectators. It is *our* war, as no other war has ever been, for it menaces not only our lives, our National honor and material possessions, but it strikes at the very foundation of that Democracy that has made America what it is today. If it destroys Democracy here, the whole world will go down into the dark abyss of National and individual slavery. Truly may America be described today as the last outpost of Decency in the world.

Could the unbelievable happen? Could this great Nation of ours go down to bitter defeat, to our everlasting defeat, to our everlasting shame? It could. Further, it will, unless you, and I, and all the millions banded with us under the banner of American Democracy make it our business to forestall such a world tragedy.

According to our abilities, our age, our position in life, we must join in this war effort with every last ounce of our energies. Our people must fight with the fighting forces, or take places in the defense forces at home. We must work to supply our fighting men with everything they need, in superabundance, and we must finance such war production to the limit of our financial ability.

Today, by a formal military order, I authorized the complete formation of a Reserve Military Organization, already referred to as the Maryland Minute