

GERMAN TROOPS ENTER POLAND

FRONTIER CROSSED AT SEVERAL POINTS TO-DAY

"VICTORY OR DEATH" FOR HITLER

GOERING NAMED AS THE NEXT FUHRER

DANZIG ANNEXED: AIR RAIDS ON WARSAW

BRITISH PARLIAMENT TO MEET TO-NIGHT

GERMAN TROOPS HAVE ENTERED POLAND AND WARPLANES ARE RAIDING MILITARY OBJECTIVES IN POLAND.

THIS ANNOUNCEMENT, SAYS TRANSOCEAN FROM BERLIN, WAS MADE FOLLOWING HERR HITLER'S DECLARATION TO THE REICHSTAG AT 11 A.M. THAT GERMANY WAS REPLYING TO "POLISH AGGRESSION" WITH BOMBS.

HERR HITLER DECLARED THAT HE WAS DETERMINED TO FIGHT UNTIL THE SAME PEACE PREVAILED ON GERMANY'S EASTERN FRONTIERS AS ON HER OTHER BORDERS.

"I HAVE AGAIN PUT ON MY COAT WHICH WAS SACRED TO ME AS A VOLUNTEER IN THE WORLD WAR," HE SAID. "I WILL TAKE OFF THIS COAT ONLY AFTER VICTORY, OR I WILL NOT LIVE TO SEE IT."

"I DO NOT INTEND TO CARRY ON WAR AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND HAVE THEREFORE GIVEN ORDERS TO RESTRICT OPERATIONS TO MILITARY OBJECTIVES."

WARSAW WAS BOMBED AT 9 A.M. TO-DAY, SAYS THE BRITISH UNITED PRESS.

FIGHTING IS REPORTED TO HAVE BROKEN OUT ALL ALONG THE GERMAN-POLISH FRONTIER.

The British Cabinet met at 12.30 to-day. It is announced that Parliament will meet to-night.

Information from an authoritative source in Warsaw says that the first German air raid on Polish territory began at 4.30 a.m., with attacks on five different points not yet specified.

It is announced in Berlin that the German Fleet has taken over the protection of the Baltic Sea.

HITLER'S SUCCESSOR

Herr Hitler also told the Reichstag, says Transocean, that should anything happen to him, Field-Marshal Goering was to be his successor in office, with Herr Rudolf Hess as next in line.

Should anything happen to Herr Hess the Senate, which would be appointed to-day, would decide the question of succession.

The first news to-day that the crisis had come to a head was the broadcast by the official wireless station in Berlin early this morning of a proclamation by Herr Hitler to the Army declaring that, in order to end the "intolerable madness of the Poles," he had no other choice but to answer force with force.

DANZIG PROCLAMATION

Then came the announcement that Herr Foerster, the Danzig Nazi leader, had proclaimed the return of Danzig to the Reich.

This was followed by a message from Berlin that the Reichstag was to meet at 11 a.m.

Shortly after a Paris message said that according to unconfirmed reports the Germans had begun an offensive with extreme violence on the whole Polish front.

A Polish Embassy spokesman then announced that several Polish towns, including Cracow, had been raided.

GERMAN ALLEGATIONS

Early this morning messages from German sources alleged that Polish irregulars had committed a bomb outrage against the German Consulate in Teschen.

Two other bomb incidents were reported in Teschen. German reports also alleged that the German broadcasting station at Olowitz, Upper Silesia, had been attacked and temporarily occupied by Polish irregulars.

Fighting was also reported at points on the Silesian border, German guards opposing Polish irregulars.

GDYNIA CLOSED

The official German wireless station issued a warning early this morning to all ships in the Baltic that entrance to the port of Gdynia had been closed and that every ship entering or leaving risked the danger of being destroyed.

A further announcement stated that all air traffic over the Reich was prohibited except to German war planes and that neutral planes flying over the Polish Corridor exposed themselves to the danger of being shot down.

It was also stated over the wireless that all schools in Germany were closed.

The Star's 'World War II'

Fifty years ago tomorrow, readers of The Star were confronted with news of this fateful event.

The Nazi attack on Poland, reported here, caused World War 2 — a war that laid to waste ancient cities and towns in the world's most civilised areas, and killed more than 50 million people.

On Monday, The Star's book, "World War II" by John Pitts, will be in the bookshops.

The book (R59.95) contains hundreds of dramatic pictures and cuttings from our archives and reveals how the six years of war unfolded in the newspaper. It gives a world perspective and a South African one.

The book contains an additional section which gives South African casualty figures and details of the South African regiments and units.

"World War II" is aimed at the ordinary reader, but is also useful for libraries.

You can order by post (at a 10 percent discount).

See coupon on Page 6 M.

To Succeed Hitler



Field-Marshal Goering, who has been named by Herr Hitler as his successor, should anything happen to him in future.

DANZIG PROCLAMATION BY FOERSTER

BERLIN, Friday.—Herr Foerster, in proclaiming the return of Danzig to the Reich, said:

"Until the Fuhrer makes a definite decision about the introduction of the Reich law, all legal provisions of the Constitution remain in force as they are at the moment of the issue of this constitutional law."

Herr Foerster then telegraphed Herr Hitler:—

"I have just signed a constitutional law concerning the reunion of Danzig with the Reich and put it into force. I ask you, Fuhrer, in the name of Danzig and its population to agree to this constitutional law and carry out the reincorporation of Danzig by law into the Reich."

"The eternal gratitude and everlasting faith of Danzig is devotedly pledged to you, my Fuhrer."

Herr Hitler replied thanking Herr Foerster for his loyalty and saying:—

"The Greater Germany welcomes you with joy in her heart. The law of reunion will be enacted forthwith and I appoint you civil chief for the administration of the Danzig territory."—Transocean.

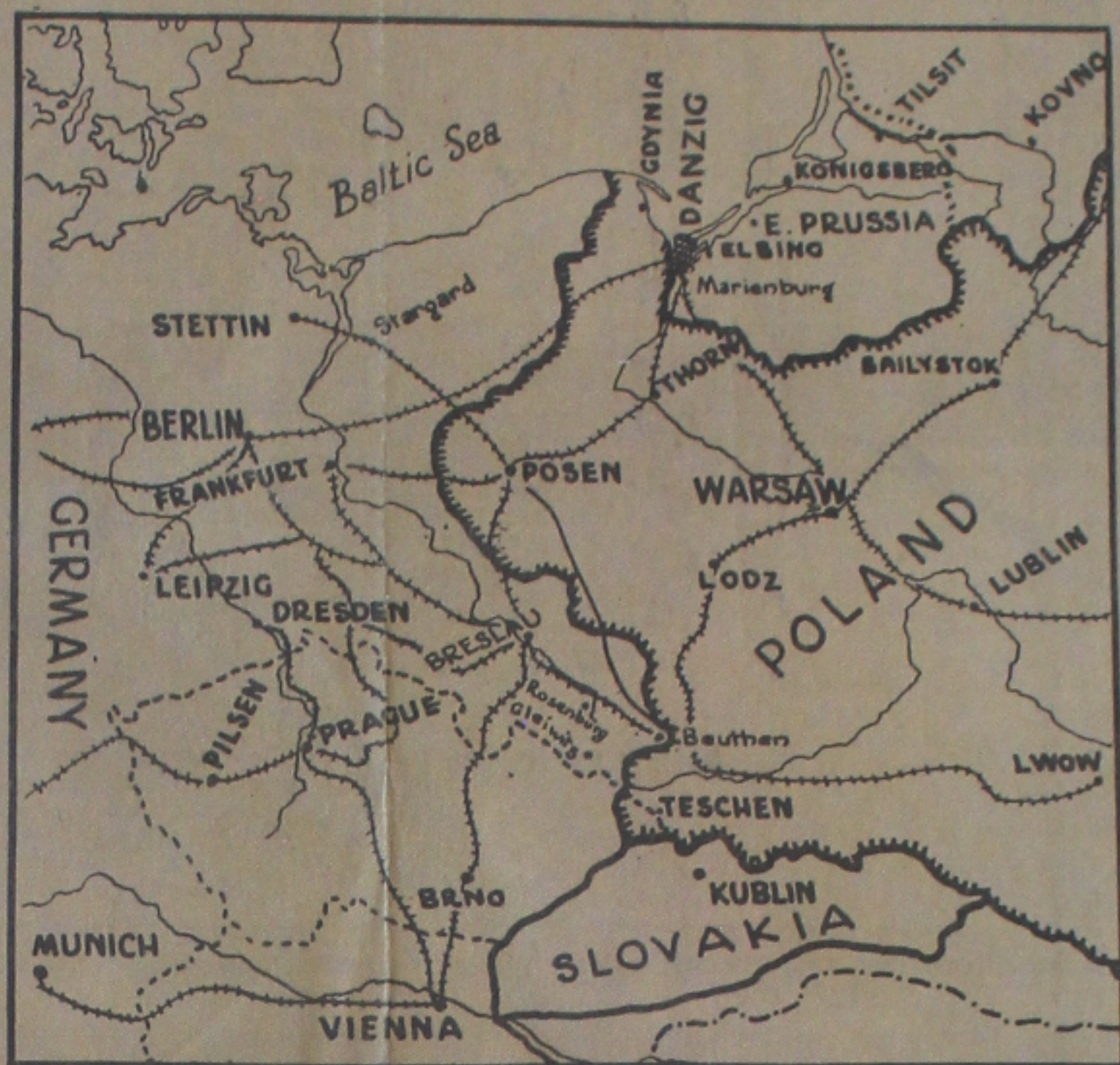
ORDER TO BRITISH SHIPS IN EAST

SINGAPORE, Friday.—All British ships east of Singapore have been ordered to call at Singapore before proceeding onwards. S.A.P.A. Reuter.

CLOSING OF STOCK EXCHANGES

The London Stock Exchange has been closed because of the London evacuation arrangements. It was expected that when evacuation was complete business would be resumed in the City; if not, that the Exchange would operate outside London.

In view of this development, the Johannesburg Stock Exchange has also been closed until further notice.



THE POLISH-GERMAN FRONTIER

HITLER'S SPEECH IN THE REICHSTAG

DETERMINATION TO SATISFY GERMANY'S CLAIMS

BERLIN, Friday.

Herr Hitler announced in the Reichstag this morning that he would continue "this struggle" against Poland until the security and rights of the Reich had been secured.

The word "capitulation" had never been included in his vocabulary.

"If statesmen in the West think that German-Polish relations enroach on their interests, the German attitude, but will not hesitate."

In a reference to Italy, he said assistance in carrying out the...

In his introductory speech in Reichstag, Marshal Goering, in capacity as president, said that members were absent because I were at posts where "the German today is best able to demonstrate attitude—namely, as a soldier in defence force."

Herr Hitler began his speech in a silent house, in which the diplomats were crowded.

There was a moment of deep silence as he began to speak.

He began with a reference to Versailles Treaty which, he declared was responsible for an untenable situation.

"FORTY FRONTIER INCIDENTS

After calling attention to 40 frontier incidents which he alleged occurred since Thursday night, he declared: "I have now decided, Poland is conducting herself as has done for months past."

He thanked Signor Mussolini for the support which Italy had accorded Germany during the past weeks and said: "You members of Reichstag will understand that I do not appeal to Czechs for assistance carrying out our controversy Poland."

"Between 1919 and 1920 more than 1,000,000 Germans were compelled to leave their homes in former German territory and all attempts to come to the intolerable position and it was impossible to accept peaceful revision."

He recalled his former proposal for armament limitation in the 1920s and for a peaceful settlement of Austrian and Czech problems.

"It was impossible, however, peaceful revision could be achieved. Germany had also attempted to secure a peaceful settlement of Danzig and Corridor problems had discussed the problem with responsible statesmen without any sure being resorted to by Germany."

PROPOSALS TO POLAND

Finally, he was in a position to propose to Poland. These proposals, drawn up, but they were rejected by the Poles as absurd, and answer mobilisation measures, in the name of Poland, added pressure on German territory and a gradual process of throttling Danzig.

"It is no longer possible to continue German-Polish relations in a manner on a basis of negotiation. Poland did not think of fulfilling her obligations towards minor while Germany on the other hand regarded fulfilment as a matter of course."

With raised voice he declared while watching critical developments in Poland for months past he addressed warnings to Poland had increased them during the weeks.

Three weeks ago he informed the Polish Ambassador in Berlin that Germany could not be held responsible if Polish misadventure in political issues continued. He declared that the Germany of 1933 was not the Germany of 1939.

RECENT EVENTS

He then reviewed the situation of the last few days and the British-German negotiations, which he had undertaken despite the fact that nothing could be expected from the Polish military group.

For two days he had waited for Polish delegates to arrive in Berlin on Thursday evening when the Government was conferring with them. He said that if such treatment was not given to the Polish military group, it would be a matter of course.

POPE'S PEACE PLAN

AIMED AT WIDE SETTLEMENT — LAST-MINUTE EFFORTS

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

LONDON, Friday.—Before the latest developments in the European situation became known, the following message was received from the Rome corre-

GERMAN STATEMENT ON DANZIG ISSUE

FACTS CHALLENGED IN LONDON

GUARANTEES TO POLAND REITERATED

BERLIN WARNED OF WAR ON TWO FRONTS

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.

LONDON, Friday.

The German Government yesterday published a statement on proposals which Herr Hitler had made to Poland for a settlement of the Danzig and Corridor disputes (see page 23).

Herr Hitler made 16 points, including the return of Danzig to the Reich and a plebiscite for the northern part of the Corridor.

According to the German statement the proposals awaited the arrival of the Polish Plenipotentiary in Berlin and that two days having elapsed, they must now be regarded as having been rejected.

It was officially stated in London last night that the German version of the circumstances in which the proposals were made is not in accordance with the facts as they are known to the British Government.

The Times, commenting on the German statement, says that naturally it is for Poland first and foremost to decide whether she can negotiate on any such basis as suggested in the German broadcast.

"It is Germany which has raised this quarrel with her in acute and sudden form, and Britain and France will not and cannot abandon Poland, to which they are pledged, if Poland still feels her independence threatened and that she must fight for it."

"Let there be no mistake about that. War, if it comes, will for Germany be a war on two fronts—in the west as well as in the East."

A S.A.P.A. Reuter message says that the consensus of opinion in the British Press is that the German proposals are a matter for Poland.

Mr. Vernon Bartlett, writing in the News Chronicle, says it is difficult to conclude that the publication of the German proposals was not designed, above all, to convince the German people that they are to fight a war of self-defence in which reasonable pro-

HITLER READY FOR REVOLT

FORCE OF 400,000

