

V-E DAY BROADCAST May 8, 1945

The laying down of all German arms is a climax to one of the ugliest stories in the history of mankind. It is a story of how a nation of 80 million people yielded up liberties to the dictates of one man and the menials of his gangster Nazi party. It is a story of how this dictator became mad with power, deranged to the point of thinking of himself ~~as~~ a super-human~~being~~, endowed with ~~the~~^a grandiously conceived mission to subordinate the peoples of the world to his will. Under his dictate the German people began to beat their plowshares into swords. While their orchestras played marching music the boys and girls ~~began to march~~^{up} and salute^d and ~~say~~^{shouted}, "Heil, Hitler." Their scientists turned their acknowledged genius from the great contributions which they have over the years made to civilization to the making of diabolic instruments with which to ring death upon the people of other nations of the world.

Hitler's whole life is a lie. In his demands on Poland, he said he only wanted a corridor to the sea, but he took it all. He only wanted the Sudanian land from Czechoslovakia, but he subjugated the whole country. He made no claims against Austria but took it all. He promised that he would never invade the small low countries -- Belgium, Holland, Luxemburg, but once he was ready, they were crushed under his heel. He professed a friendship to France but she, too, was crushed. He claimed to have no antagonistic designs toward the United States, but he entered into a secret pact with Japan in which it was ~~understood~~^{agreed} that Japan would strike the United States suddenly and treacherously and once that was done, Hitler would declare war upon the United States also.

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mighty blow in the Pacific and by relentless submarine warfare in the Atlantic, the United States would be rendered incapable of sending large expeditionary forces across the sea.

Hitler's death, the destruction of Germany and the collapse of all her armed resistance is the answer to this lie, the answer to this treachery, the retribution ^{Justice for} ~~of~~ this evil.

The victory has been costly, costly in material resources, suffering, sacrifice, and life. All Americans are, of course, glad of this victory. They rejoice at our triumph and are overjoyed that the awful bloodletting on one continent has come to an end. But unrestrained rejoicing is prohibited by the realization that another great conflict is yet raging, that another dangerous, mortal enemy is yet to be subdued. The nation has no choice but to redouble its efforts to cast its full weight against Japan to the end that she, too, will be crushed and that her evil leaders, like Mussolini and Hitler, will be consigned to the dust of the earth which they have defiled and their souls to the mercy of the God whom they have mocked.