



History Not Forgotten

By Cyril - Grade 7



WWII HAS BEGUN!

September 1st, 1939. We all know the date as the German invasion of Poland, the start of the Second World War. Why was this important? Why did Hitler make this crucial decision in world history? What was the lead up to the invasion? What were the battles fought in Poland? If you are looking at these questions and wondering the same thing, this article is for you!





Why Did It Happen?!

The lead up to the invasion of Poland was full of hate and diplomacy. The First World War sent Germany into ruin. The Treaty of Versailles demanded that Germany pay 33 Billion Deutschmarks, although many factors including the Great Depression let hyperinflation soar with the sum becoming 132 Billion Deutschmarks very quickly. This left the country in shambles, allowing the Nazi party to take over in the state of unrest. The treaty also laid out the reformed country of Poland's new borders. This became a problem because of the Polish Corridor, separating the country in two. This sparked hate for the allies among the German people. Hitler used the hate building up as well as in an effort to unify the German people took Austria and the Sudetenland of Czechoslovakia with no resistance from the Allied powers. Then in August Germany sent an ultimatum to Poland while testing the waters for what the allies will accept and not. They were to give Germany the free city of Danzig and allow access to east Prussia. Poland declined with the backing with their allied nations of the UK and France. Before this the Molotov Ribbentrop pact had been signed with the USSR to which outlined their non aggression pact and the invasion of Poland. When Poland did not answer the German ultimatum from before, Germany invaded from the west and the Soviets invaded from the east.

On September 1st, the Germans launched their offensive along with the Soviets on an attack on Poland starting the 2nd World War. The Polish fought valiantly at many battles, such as the Battle of Węgierska, Górka Mountain pass, the Battle of Westerplatte, and the Siege of Warsaw. The invasion even included the Battle of Władypol between Polish and Soviet forces, which was the last total cavalry engagement in the modern world. Even in their triumphs, the Polish were being invaded on two fronts. The government fell on September 29th, 1939, although the last of the military caved on October 6th.



What Happened Next?!

When Poland fell a reign of oppression was instated. The Poles were forced into labor camps and their Jewish population were forced into ghettos where disease ran rampant. The Polish resisted and there was success but they were ultimately in vain for their oppressors held the country until the war ended. Many concentration camps were set up in Poland, such as Auschwitz and Treblinka which were two of the most deadly camps in all of Europe in the Second World War. By the late war Germany's power was waning. The Poles fought hard to free their capital of Warsaw as the Soviets camped outside of it and waited. In true Soviet fashion they invaded the city of Warsaw after the Poles expelled the Germans. They were freed from one oppressor and oppressed by another. They were only truly freed in 1989 after the Soviets agreed to free them from their Bloc with the Round Table agreement.



ALL THE NEWS ALL THE TIME

LARGEST HOME-DELIVERED CIRCULATION
LARGEST ADVERTISING VOLUME

MADISON 2345

The Times Telephone Number

Los Angeles Times

LIBERTY UNDER THE LAW

TRUTH INDUSTRIAL FREEDOM

IN THREE PARTS — 44 PAGES

Part 1 — GENERAL NEWS — 30 Pages

TIMES OFFICE

300 West First Street

VOL. LVIII

CCC

FRIDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 1, 1939.

DAILY, FIVE CENTS

GERMAN ARMY INVADES POLAND

British Mobilize Army and Fleet

London, Standing Firm Behind Poland, Speeds to Full War Footing as She Hears With Gravity Latest Hitler Moves

LONDON, Sept. 1 (Friday). (P)—(6:46 a.m.)—(Passed Through British Censorship)—Great Britain, standing pat on her pledge to fight for Poland's independence, received the news of Germany's latest moves in the European crisis with the deepest gravity today as the nation moved swiftly toward a full war footing.

An immediate Cabinet meeting was expected to survey the implications both of Germany's eleventh-hour 16-point proposal to Poland and Hitler's early morning order to the German army on the Polish border to meet force with force.

Government offices, after a night marked by intense activity, were empty of officials authorized to speak when news of Hitler's instructions to the army were received. But this, together with the rapid announcement of the German aerial attack on Polish cities and the German navy's blockade of the Polish port of Gdynia, created a stir among those on duty.

SEVERE ACTION

Attention was attracted particularly by the speed with which the army order and harbor blockade followed the German broadcast which said Hitler had proposed to Poland last Sunday. "It returned to the Reich and that a plebiscite be held to decide whether Pomerania (the Polish Corridor) should be Polish or German territory.

Meanwhile, with the British fleet mobilizing swiftly under the order issued yesterday and the entire army reserve called up, Britain began the evacuation of 1,000,000 women, children and infants from the danger areas.

TRAINS REMOVE MANY

Pact Ratified by Germany and Russia

Approval by Supreme Soviet Unanimous as Treaty Reasons Told

MOSCOW, Aug. 31. (U.P.)—Russia and Germany tonight ratified their momentous non-aggression treaty which creates a new alignment in world power politics.

Reports from Berlin, meanwhile, indicated that a Russian mission was on the way to Berlin possibly to reach a military alliance with the Reich.

Ratification of the nonaggression pact was effected here by the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. and was given in Berlin at the same time by the German government.

The vote of the Supreme Soviet was unanimous.

The vote was taken at 8:45 p.m. after Premier and Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov, who summoned the high parliamentary body in special session to approve the agreement, had explained the reasons which caused Josef Stalin to reverse the whole trend of his foreign policy.

SPEAKS FOR HOUR

Molotov spoke for nearly an hour.

"In the present world situation it is hard to overestimate the significance of the Soviet-German treaty," Molotov said.

"This treaty is a turning point in the relation between Germany and the Soviet Union. Only yesterday we were enemies in the field of foreign policy. Today, however, we no longer are enemies. The political art in diplomacy is not to increase the number of enemies but to decrease them and make yesterday's enemies today's friends and maintain relations

LATE BULLETINS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1 (Friday). (U.P.)—President Roosevelt announced early today that he had received official word that Germany had invaded Poland. He was advised officially by the American Ambassador at Warsaw and William C. Bullitt at Paris. The President immediately directed that all navy ships and all American army commands be notified at once by radio of the developments.

GLEIWITZ (Germany) Sept. 1 (Friday). (A.P.)—An army ambulance carrying wounded soldiers arrived at the emergency hospital here today at 9:10 a.m. (12:10 a.m., P.S.T.). The men, carried in a wagon, were on stretchers. It could not be ascertained where the ambulance came from. Early today Gleiwitz residents reported artillery fire was heard "in the distance" a few miles from the Polish-Silesian border.

BERNE (Switzerland) Sept. 1 (Friday). (A.P.)—The Neue Zurcher, Zeitung's correspondent in Berlin, wrote today: "It is declared here categorically that the Fuehrer's proclamation amounts to opening a state of war. Military operations were begun at 6 a.m. along the entire German-Polish frontier."

BRUSSELS, Sept. 1 (Friday). (AP) (Passed by British Censor)—The Belgian Cabinet early today ordered the third stage of mobilization effective immediately as a precautionary move.

LONDON, Sept. 1 (Friday). (A.P.)—A Reuters dispatch from Paris said: "The following is given with all reserve: According to unconfirmed reports received here the Germans have begun an offensive with extreme violence on the whole Polish front."

LONDON, Sept. 1 (Friday). (A.P.)—Reuters (British news agency) said today in a Warsaw dispatch that the local Warsaw radio announced German troops had launched a full scale attack against towns in the Polish Corridor.

LONDON, Sept. 1 (Friday). (U.P.)—Evacuation of the "first hundred" of London's school children began at 5:30 a.m.

LONDON, Sept. 1 (Friday). (A.P.)—The British Parliament was summoned to meet today at 5 p.m. (8 a.m., P.S.T.).

PARIS, Sept. 1 (Friday). (A.P.)—Edouard Daladier, Premier and War Minister of France,

Poles Spurn Berlin Terms; Troops Move

Warsaw Determined to Hold Corridor and Retain Danzig Rights

WARSAW, Aug. 31. (P)—The conditions of Fuehrer Hitler's proposals for settlement of the Polish-German dispute, such as immediate return of Danzig to Germany, are unacceptable to Poland, a government spokesman said tonight.

The spokesman emphasized that Poland is determined to keep Pomerania (the Polish Corridor) and her rights in the Free City of Danzig.

"WILL NOT YIELD"

Of Hitler's proposal for a plebiscite in Pomerania, one reaction here was: "Germany can begin with Czechoslovakia if she is interested in a plebiscite."

In reply to Hitler's "terms" announced by the German radio tonight, it was stated Poland will insist upon full restoration of her rights in Danzig.

Danzig is under Polish customs administration, and certain Polish customs and railway functions have been reported taken over by Nazis in the past few days.

HOPE PADDED

"Hitler insists on Poland yielding Danzig and Pomerania as a preliminary to negotiations," the spokesman said. "Poland has not given up Danzig and Pomerania and will not."

"Britain, in a second reply to Hitler, has maintained her unyielding position without change."

He emphasized that Poland al

Battles Rage Along Border

Cities Bombed as Fuehrer Orders Troops to "Meet Force With Force" on Frontier; Harbor Blockaded and Neutral Ships Warned

WARSAW, Sept. 1. (U.P.)—Germans bombed Warsaw at 9 a.m. today (11 p.m. Thursday) (P.S.T.). Simultaneously the Polish government announced today that Germans had bombed five other places, including the railroad station at Czew and the town of Rypnie, as well as the town of Putsk near Czew.

The Warsaw Foreign Office immediately charged Germany with aggression against Poland.

Military circles said that "apparently general fighting has begun at most parts of the frontier."

BERLIN, Sept. 1. (Friday) (AP)—The German army was ordered to "meet force with force," and Poland was declared dangerous territory for foreigners by Adolf Hitler at 5:30 a.m. today (8:30 p.m. Thursday, P.S.T.).

At the same time a naval blockade of the Polish port of Gdynia was announced.

The Fuehrer proclaimed his action was because of alleged Polish violations of the German frontier.

Shortly after this, Nazi Leader Albert Forster of Danzig announced the Anschluss of Danzig and Germany, and Hitler made formal acceptance of

