Committee: Britain World War II

Character: Herbert Morrison

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The entire international community has been shaken by the events that have occurred since September of 1939 between the two sides of the Second World War. Our Kingdom has been fighting to defend our allies in Poland, Norway, and others that face the threat of the Third Reich of Germany and the Empire of Japan, with Italy most likely to join the alliance.

Germany’s National Socialist Party has used their anger from the punitive Treaty of Versailles to make impressive advancements, from remilitarizing the Rhineland, leaving the Disarmament Conference, annexing Sudetenland from Czechoslovakia to rebuilding their military and finalizing the Anschluss with Austria. The confluence of these events have demonstrated to His Majesty George VI and his subjects that we cannot think in the mindset of our former PM Neville Chamberlain’s attitude of “Peace for our time.”

It is our belief that the war will quickly expand to more active participants. Germany’s remilitarization of Rhineland has compelled us to take on the assumption that France may be susceptible to an invasion. It will be our priority as allies of France to encapsulate the Third Reich and prevent a potential war on the “Western Front.” Not helping the situation is the Soviet Union’s inaction to officially side with our allies against the fascist and Nazi powers. Their role in the war will remain crucial, as Stalin’s drive to keep his government centralized and secure will most certainly benefit whichever side Stalin and his people choose to join; nevertheless, the Soviet Union is a force to be reckoned with carefully. The USSR’s constituents will also remain a large influencer in the war, as Soviet Republics such as the Kazakh SSR have many natural resources, including iron, coal, copper, lead, cotton, wool and staple crops.

With this all in mind, our role as defenders of freedom across the world will become ever more vital in the upcoming weeks, months, and potentially years. We are most thankful to the dominions for beginning to express support in joining our efforts against the Third Reich, namely, Australia, South Africa and Rhodesia, along with India and Persia, among others. Despite all of these international developments that are soon to be solidified, we must not forget the affairs inside the United Kingdom.

Namely, we must not allow communist forces within our Commonwealth to expand in any role. Should the British Communist Party make any more vocal support to a “revolutionary defeatist” policy, then the government must consider a decree banning the Party. We must maintain a centralized and highly structured, well-ordered and regulated state capitalist society so that our various industries may continue to produce the goodstuffs necessary to help our troops and citizens during this time of crisis. I’m delighted to continue helping the Ministry of Supply while also working with our internal state of affairs, as I’m most likely to be appointed to the Home Secretaryship and the Home Security Ministry in October. My first priority is to expand on deep air-raid shelters. While we have begun to use the Underground for shelters, this will not be enough to support all of His Majesty’s subjects; thus, I encourage nationwide training programs on building shelters and establishing better drill practices. One apparatus of my making that I find noteworthy and vital to our safety is a boxed shelter called the Table Indoor Shelter that can be built in all homes.

But we must not forget that though the common people may not be fighting with our comrades in foreign lands, gathering and strengthening a spirit *civil defence* here in London and the areas surrounding us is perhaps an equally important part of our path to victory. We must realize that having a *citizen army* with “rank-and-file warriors” of men and women can do nothing but weaken our enemies. With this in mind, the Home Guard or Local Defence Volunteers, Women’s Auxiliary Air Force, Princess Mary’s Nursing Service, Women’s Voluntary Service, Women’s Land Army, and other groups will be of great asset to our people by educating the public about proper home preparation techniques in times of local battle, usage of different apparatuses, including gas masks, and preparing materials for our Armed Forces. (Richard Overy; 2015)

At the same time, we cannot let ourselves become excessively paranoid with hoax information regarding German plans. This is where MI5 will be useful in ensuring that our forces and intelligence agencies use accurate information to best tailor their plans. As overseer of the work of MI5, it is my hope that codebreakers will work in close conjunction with one another—regardless of if they may be in North Africa, India, Malaya, or at Bletchley Park—so that we may not unjustly target people (cough Japanese cough). Should we find pertinent information regarding spies or traitors, I will most certainly contact pertinent bodies, including the Immigration Authorities. As I will soon announce publicly, this is our motto and our code: “We are quite impartial; we keep an eye on all people.” (Walton; 2012)

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