FRONT PAGES FROM HISTORY

BY JOSEP BOSCH. www.josepbosch.net

Daily Herald, London - Monday 4 September, 1939

onsolidated in power by threats, fear and an iron fist against any opposition, Adolf Hitler began his rampage through Europe, showing his lust for power and territory. First, he declared Austria a province of Germany, and then swallowed a German-speaking part of Czechoslovakia, the Sudetenland, with the shameful acquiescence of other European governments which aimed to avoid war through appeasement. The whole of Czechoslovakia came next, and finally, what proved to be too much, he threatened Poland, claiming the city of Danzig and the corridor that separated East Prussia from the rest of Germany.

France and Britain saw, too late, that Hitler had to be stopped. And when the German dictator ignored an ultimatum after attacking Poland, the British and

French parliaments declared war. Britain did so at 11:15 on the morning on Sunday September3, France, six hours later.

As King George the VI said in his address to the nation "it is unthinkable that we should refuse to meet the challenge".

This is how the Daily Herald reported the words of the British Monarch:

"We have been forced into a conflict. For we are called with our Allies to meet the challenge of a principle which, if it were to prevail, would be fatal to any civilised order in the world. It is the principle which permits a State, in the selfish pursuit of power, to disregard its treaties and its solemn pledges; which sanctions the use of force or threat of force against the sovereignty and independence of other states".

Europe, for the second time that century, was again at war.



BETTER WITH H-P SAUCE

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BRITAIN AND FRANCE

The Fleet Moves Into Position

GERMANY AT 11 O'CLOCK YESTERDAY MORNING

Six hours later, at 5 p.m., France declared war

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