In the 22nd month of the war against Nazism we meet here in this old palace of St. James's. itself not unscarred by the fire of the enemy, to proclaim the high purposes and resolves of the grand alliance of the lawful constitutional Covernments of Europe whose countries have been overrun, and 15 chock the hopes of free men and free peoples throughout Here before us on the table lie the title-deeds of eight nations whose soil has been invaded and polluted and whose men, women and children lie prostrate or writhing under the Hitler yoke. But here also, duly authorized by the Parliament and democracy of Britain, are gathered the servants of the ancient British Monarchy and the accredited representatives of the British Dominions beyond the seas. of Canada. Australia. New Zealand and

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South Africa, of the Empire of India and of our colonies in every quarter of the globe. They have drawn their swords in this cause. They will never let them fall till life is gone or victory is won. Here we meet, while from across the Atlantic Ocean the hammers and lathes of the United States signal in a rising hum their message of encouragement and their promise of swift and ever growing aid. 7.7.0

What tragedies, what horrors and crimes has
Hitler and all that Hitler stands for brought upon
Europe and the world. The ruins of Warsaw, of
Rotterdam, of Belgrade, are monuments which will long
recall to the future generations the outrage of
unopposed air-bombing applied with calculated scientific
cruelty to helpless populations. Here in London and
throughout the cities of our island, and in Ireland,
there may also be seen the marks of devastation. They
are being repaid and presently they will be more than
repaid.

the misery of the conquered peoples. We see them hounded, terrorized, exploited. Their manhood by the million is forced to work under conditions indistinguishable from slavery. Their goods and chattels are pillaged or filched for worthless money. Their homes, their daily life is pried into and spied upon by the wast system of secret political police which having

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reduced the Germans themselves to abject docility no stalks the streets and byways of the a dozen lands. Their religious faiths are affronted persecuted or oppressed in the interests of a fantastic paganism devised to perpetuate the worship and sustain the tyranny of one abominable creature. Their traditions. their culture, their laws, their institutions, social and political alike, are suppressed by force or of the continent prisons of no longer suffice. The concentration camps are crowded. Every dawn the German firing-parties are at their work. A vile race of Quislings - to use the new word which will carry the scorn of mankind down the centuries - are hired to fawn upon the conqueror, to 'collaborate' in his designs and to enforce his rule upon while grovelling low themsolves Such is the plight of once their fellow-countrymen/ glorious Europe and such are the exils against which we . Y. Geeks, Dotel, Dutchmen, Norwegians, Serbe & Greeks, Trendmen, Rolgians, yngorland, make Ragheat sacrifice for fourth and country.

by appetite and racial assertion, that Hitler. with his tattered lackey Mussolini at his tail and Admiral Darlan frisking by his side, pretends out of lated appetite and racial assertion to build a New Order for Europe. Never did so mocking a fantasy obsess the mind of mortal man. We cannot tell what the course of this fell war will be as it spreads remorseless through ever wider regions. We know it will be hard, we expect it will be long: we cannot predict or measure its episodes or its tribulations. one thing is certain, one thing is sure, one thing stands out stark and undeniable. massive and unassailable, for all the world to see. It

will not be by German hands that the structure

of Europe will be rebuilt or the union of the

European family achieved. In every country into

It is upon this foundation, impelled only

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which the German armies and the Nazi police have broken there has sprung up from the soil a hatred of the German name and a contempt for the Nazi creed which the passage of hundreds of years will not efface from human memory. We cannot yet see how deliverance will come or when it will come, but nothing is more certain than that every trace of Hitler's footsteps, every stain of his infected and corroding fingers will be sponged and purged and, if need be, blasted from the surface of the earth. *

We are here to affirm and fortify our union in the ceaseless and unwearying effort which must be made if the captive peoples are to be set free. A year ago His Majesty's Government was left alone to face the storm and to many of our friends it may have seemed that our days too were numbered and that Britain and its institutions would mink forever beneath the verge. But I may with some pride remind your Excellencies that even that dark hour when our army was disorganized and almost weaponless, when scarcely a gun or a tank remained in Britain, when almost all our stores and ammunition had been lost in France, never for one moment did the British people dream of making peace with the conqueror and never for a moment did they despair of the common cause.

On the contrary we proclaimed to all men our determination not to make peace until every one of the ravaged and enslaved countries was liberated, and until the Nazi domination was broken and destroyed.

See how far we have travelled since those breathless days of June a year ago. Our solid stubborn strength has stood the awful test. We are masters of our own Air, and now reach out in ever growing retribution upon the enemy. The Royal Navy holds the seas. The Italian fleet cowers in harbour, the German navy is largely crippled or sunk. murderous raids upon our ports, cities and factories have been powerless to quench the spirit of the British nation, to stop our national life or to check the immense expansion of our war industry. The food and arms from across the oceans are coming safely in. Full provision to replace all sunken tonnage is being made here and still more by our friends in the United States. We are becoming an armed community. Our land forces are being perfected in equipment and training.

er may turn and trample this way and that through tortured Europe. He may spread his curse far and wide, he may break into Africa or into Asia. But it is with us in this island fortress that he will have to reckon in the end. We shall strive to resist by land and sea. We shall be on his track wherever he goes. Our Air Power will continue to teach the German homeland that war is not all loot and triumph. We shall aid and stir the people of every conquered country to resistance and to revolt. We shall break up and derange every effort which he makes to systematize and consolidate his subjugations. He will find no peace, no rest, no halting place, no parley. And if driven to desperate hazards he attempts the invasion of the British Isles as well he may we shall not flinch from the supreme trial. With the help of God, of which we must feel daily conscious, we shall continue steadfast in faith and duty till our task is done.

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This then is the message which we send forth today to all the states and nations bond or free. to all the men in all the lands who care for freedom's cause, to our allies and well wishers in Europe, to our American friends and helpers drawing ever closer in their might across the ocean - Lift up your hearts. All will come right. Out of the depths of sorrow and of sacrifice will be born again the glory of mankind. Sound Effects - Good Jens. This is do message . Grany to Every down - country. 3) Every country into which the

Home Guard Reforms

T is a maxim as old as the Latin language that if you want peace you must prepare for war. To-day it might accurately be altered to apply to Britain's specific military position: if we want to prevent or defeat invasion, we must leave undone no preparation against

If invasion ever comes, the hour will find the Army, Navy and Air Force fighting fit at their action stations. But about the Home Guard, one cannot be anything like



THE strength of the Home Guard is usually given at 0.000 men—a formidable 1,500,000 men—a formidable force on paper. The trouble is that, to a considerable extent, it is only on paper that it exists.

There are in the Home Guard, of course, hundreds of thousands men who are intensely patriotic, very keen and ex-Of those, efficient. tremely most saw service in the last war. invasionary the German troops ever set foot in the United Kingdom, the Home Guards who take their duties seriously will give an excellent account of themselves.



BUT—as the Sunday Graphic has emphasised recently in a series of articles which culminated yesterday in the most powerful article of all—some of the personnel do not take their duties seriously. They turn up at parades when they feel like it, or not at all, and no disciplinary measures can be exercised to



Boys of the A.T.C. get an air trip to stimulate their interest inspired by ground lectures. Home Guards might profit by similar instruction.

This state of things is plainly

intolerable for many reasons.

In the first place, the slackers irritate those of their comrades who have sacrificed their time and energy in order to become well-trained.



THEN, again, a chain is only as a Home Guard unit should ever have to go into action with, say,

be reduced to the common denominator of the slackers.

It may even be reduced below it, because, as the Sunday Graphic pointed out, the half-trained will constitute a menace to their comrades. From a military point of view it would be infinitely preferable to have 300 infinitely preferable to have 300 fully-trained Home Guards in a unit than 600 composed of fully-trained and partially-trained. There is, however, nothing to stop the Home Guard having

every member of it properly trained. This can be achieved by the introduction of compulsory service. It is the keen Home Guards who are most insistent that this is absolutely

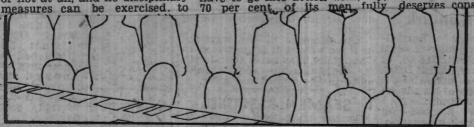


OMPULSORY service would not and could not mean whole-time conscription, because the majority of the Home Guard personnel are engaged in civilian occupations. What it would and should mean is that four or five parades a week would be obli-gatory, that men would have to undertake to serve for the duration-at present a Home Guard can resign by giving 14 days' notice—and that defaulters notice—and that defaulters would be liable to disciplinary penalties.

I can see no objection to any of those reforms.

IT might be argued that they would destroy the character of the Home Guard as a voluntary force. Well, what of it? This is a totalitarian war, and, as a matter of life and death, we can not afford to stand pedanti-cally by our peace time principles.

That, at any rate, is the atti-tude of virtually all the men in the Home Guard, whose opinion deserves consideration and who



Key to the picture. Lord Moyne, Secretary for the Colonies, was at the meeting, though he is not seen in the photograph.