

"Mein Kampf"
by
Adolf Hitler

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(Page 152 lines 10-33)

Moreover, such a territorial policy can not be accomplished in, let us say, Cameroon, but today almost exclusively in Europe. One must take the point of view, coolly and soberly, that it certainly can not be the intention of Heaven to give one people fifty times as much space (Grund und Boden) on this earth as to another. One should not permit himself to be diverted in this case by political boundaries from the boundaries of eternal justice. If this earth really has space (Raum) for all to live, then we should be given the territory necessary for us to live.

Of course, one will not do that gladly. Then, however, the right of self-preservation comes into force; that which is denied to kindness, the fist will have to take. If our forefathers had made their decisions dependent on the same pacifistic nonsense as the present then we would possess only a third of our present territory; a German people would then, however, scarcely have any more worries to bear in Europe. No--we owe the two Eastern districts (Ostmark) of the Reich to the natural determination to fight for the self-existence and therewith that inner strength of the greatness of national and racial territory (Staats- und Volksgebiet), which alone have sustained us until today.

(page 153 line 13--page 154 line 6)

Accordingly, the sole possibility for Germany to carry out a healthy territorial policy consisted of acquiring new territory in Europe itself. For this purpose colonies cannot serve as long as they do not appear to be suitable to the greatest extent to be settled by Europeans. But there was no longer any possibility in the 19th Century to acquire such colonies in a peaceful way. Also such a colonial policy could have been carried out with severe struggles only, which then could have been fought more appropriately in order to gain

territory on the home continent itself and not for territories outside Europe.

Of course, such a decision then requires undivided devotion. It is not possible to undertake a task half-heartedly or hesitatingly if its execution seems to be feasible only by expending the very last ounce of energy. But then, the entire political leadership of the Reich had to be devoted to this purpose exclusively; never was any step to be taken which was guided by other considerations than the recognition of this task and its prerequisites. One had to become clear in one's mind that this goal could be achieved by fight alone and then had to face this armed conflict with calmness and composure.

Thus all the pacts were to be examined solely from this viewpoint and evaluated according to their usefulness. If one wanted territory in Europe, this could be done on the whole at the expense of Russia, and the new Reich had to set out to march over the road of the former Knights, in order to give soil to the German plow by means of the German sword, and to give daily bread to the nation.

(page 365 line 34- page 366 line 5)

Thus the question of how to regain German power is not: How shall we manufacture arms?, but: How do we create the spirit which enables a nation to bear arms? If this spirit governs a people, the will finds thousands of ways, each of which ends with a weapon! Let one give ten pistols to a coward and he still will not be able to fire a shot in case of attack. Therefore they are of less value to him than a knotted-stick would be to a courageous man.

(page 596 line 35 - page 597 line 9)

But there is of course again a natural explanation for this. The lack of a great creative idea means at all times an impairment of the fighting spirit. The conviction that it is right to use even the most brutal weapons is always connected with the existence of a fanatical belief that it is necessary that a revolutionary new order of this earth should become victorious. A movement which does not fight for these highest aims and ideals will therefore never

resort to the ultimate weapon.

(page 688 line 37 - page 689 line 18)

The prerequisite for regaining lost territories is the intensive furthering and strengthening of the remainder of the state, as well as the unshakeable conviction which slumbers in the heart, to devote at a given time the new strength which has been acquired in this way, to the service of liberating and uniting the entire nation; in other words, to place the interests of the detached territories into the background as compared to the sole interest to win for the remainder the amount of political might and power which is the prerequisite to counteract the will of the victorious enemy. Because oppressed countries are led back into the lap of a common Reich by a mighty sword and not by flaming protests.

It is the task of the inner political leaders of a people to forge this sword; to safeguard the work of the smith and to seek comrades in arms is the task of the foreign policy.

(page 738 line 33 - page 739 line 8)

The boundaries of 1914 do not mean anything for the future of the German nation. They did not represent either a defense of the past nor would they represent a power in the future. The German people will not obtain either its inner compactness by them, nor will its nutrition be secured by them, nor do these boundaries appear from a military standpoint as appropriate or even satisfactory, nor can they, in the last place, improve the relation which at present exists between us and the world-powers, or, in more accurate terms, with the real world powers. The distance from England will not become shorter, the size of the union will not be reached; not even France would suffer an essential reduction of its global importance.

(page 738 line 20 - page 740 line 2)

In contrast, we, National Socialists, have to hold on steadily to our

foreign political goals, namely, to secure on this earth the territory due to the German people. And this action is the only one which will make bloody sacrifice before God and our German posterity appear justified: Before God, in so far as we are placed upon this earth with the destiny to fight for our daily bread, as creatures to whom nothing is given free and who owe their position as rulers of the earth, solely to the geniality and courage with which they can achieve and keep it; but before our German posterity in so far as we have not shed a single citizen's blood which would not have given thousands of others, to posterity. The soil on which in the future the generations of German peasants can beget strong sons will sanction the utilization of the sons of today and will acquit the responsible statesmen, even if persecuted at present, of blood-guilt and of the sacrifice of the people.

(page 754 line 13 - page 755 line 3)

The political testament of the German People for its foreign policy should and must always follow this line of thought:

Never tolerate the rise of two continental powers in Europe. See in every attempt to organize a second military power, even in the form of a state which has military potentialities, an attack against Germany and take therefrom not only the right but the duty to prevent by all means, including the use of arms, the rise of such a state, respectively to destroy such a state if it has already arisen. Take care that the strength of our people should have its foundation not in colonies but in the soil of the home Country in Europe. Never consider the Reich as secured as long as it cannot give to every descendant of our people his own bit of soil for centuries to come, never forget that the most sacred right on this earth is the right to own the soil which one wants to cultivate and the most sacred sacrifice, the blood which is shed for this soil.

17 November 1945

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OF DOCUMENT NO. 2760-A-PS

I, Willard E. Skidmore, Lt. (jg), USNR, 391590, Hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of the indicated excerpt from Document No. 2760-A-PS.

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