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#### **Silence is Complicity**

#### By Maitre de Moro-Giafferi

How long will the civilized world simply look on? With this question, the famous French defender, Maitre de Moro-Giafferi, ends his declaration, which he gave to his colleague at Paris Correspondence, "Danube Press Service."

What do I think, as legal defender and attorney at law, about the planned and organized eruption of the most primitive barbarity? When we commit ourselves to justice, we advocates have learned to study the laws relevant to our case and to draw upon precedence in jurisprudence for support.

There are no laws that apply to questions of international justice, but there are treaties that bear legal weight. It is precedential cases that fill in the gaps within written relationships among nations.

Existing laws, jurisprudence, treaties of law, even precedential cases, fail in one single point: to address the barbarity that has broken out in one part of Europe! There are no laws and no precedential cases, since never, at no time in history and in no country were there ever such barbaric means employed as today to establish and sustain a governmental authority. One cannot grasp the fact that such deeds can play out in our century: therefore every principle of justice must fail.

If the countries, in which culture and civilization yet exist, continue to hesitate to protect and to rescue the victims of this barbarity, if silence equates to assent and assent becomes complicity, then our century will fill out just one page of shame in the history of humanity.

Therefore we ask: How long will the civilized world simply look on?

#### **Everyone's Duty!**

Strive always to be whole, and if you Yourself cannot become whole, As a servant member, attach yourself To a whole You. (Sideways)

#### DIARY

## Kept by:

## Norbert Friedman (Hebrew lettering)

## born on 15. IX. 1921 in Cologne on the Rhine

(photo)

Anvers, November 15, 193?

(Lower portion faded, mirror image of the poem on p. 1)

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To think honestly, to live honestly Is your holy duty! Honesty can bring honor, But not riches!

(illegible signature)

As a living memory

Your (unknown) Father

Kapellenbosch Oct. 26, 1038

If you want to know yourself, Then note how others behave. If you want to understand others, Then look into your own heart.

In constant memory,

Your mother

Kapellenbosch, Nov. 22, 1938

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Human presence, both old and young, Lives between hope and memory. Youth sees wishfully all doors open, And age remembers---precisely those hopes.

Grillparzer

In constant memory of your sister Ruth.

Kapellenbosch, Oct. 23, 1938

# **MY RELATIVES**

Salomon Szefler (grandfather)	and Gietel	nee Wiener	
Children, marriage with	Children		
Regine – Chaim Friedmann Salla – Wolf Kuszer	Norbert	Ruth	
Adolf – Merry Singer	<u>Theo Lobbi</u>	Lilli	
Joseph – Fanny Gosbinsley	Ethel	Harriet	
Rosi – Marcel Kober	Harry		
Leni – Izio Gruenbaum	Fredy		
Max – Mary Bibersbein	Teno Silvein		
Marriage with			
Lobbi – Eugene Bleibock Theo – Tamara Duboisky	-		
		Children	
Uncle Jonas Tante Zipouak Aunt Golde	Piroskz, Schn	niel, Sammu(el?)	
Uncle Lowi, Aunt Towi	Otto, Leni (m	arried)	
Uncle Komet, Aunt Komet	Joachim, Sabine		
Uncle Max, Aunt Salla	Ethel, Gerda		

In 1934, our family consisted of the following:

Uncle Joseph with his family lived in Berlin.

Uncle Marcel	u	u	u	in Dortmund
Uncle Max	u	u	" from	1936 in Anvers (??)
Uncle Kornet	u	u	u	in Herne
Uncle Max Fr.		u	u	in Wuppertal-Uberfeld
Uncle Jonas	u	u	u	in Jasina (CSR)
Aunt Golde	u	u	u	in Lanczyn, Poland
Theo	u	u	u	in Berlin
Eugene	with v	vife	u	in Tel Aviv, Palestine
Uncle Löwi	u	u	u	in Herne
All others live in Cologna on the Dhine				

All others live in Cologne on the Rhine

Continued on Memories 1938

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(Landscape)

## IN THE YEAR 1935 DIED...

## GRANDFATHER, following long period of suffering, on March 31 UNCLE Addi, from a heart attack, on May 25 GRANDMOTHER, following a lung infection, on November 16

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#### **MEMORIES**

## From November 15 to the present day

1921:

1922: 1 year

1923: 2 years

1024: 3 years

Good morning, Bad Boy!

11

1925: 4 years

Please look nice!

12

1926: 5 years

(Photo)

First problem: Having my picture taken!

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1927: 6 years

I went to school at Easter time. My teacher is Dr. Braun.

(Photo in landscape)

My first boat ride!

(Under the photo:) Ethel, Aunt Leni, I. My father Uncle Joseph and Wolf

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1928:½ school yearTeacher:Dr. Braun

(Photo in landscape)

(Photo. Page in landscape)

1929:2/3 school yearTeacher: Dr. Braun

I spent summer vacation in Rhondorf on the Rhine.

1930:34 school yearTeacher: Dr. Braun

I spent summer vacation "in a car through the Blackforest."

Mommy, Ruth, I, Aunt Leni (Photo) On an excursion to Hormef 1929

## 16

1931: 4<sup>th</sup> school year Transition to a higher school "Jawue" Sexta Director: Dr. E. Klibansky, teacher: Miss Sorm I spend summer vacation in Rengsdorf in the Westerwald

Carnival (Photo) in Cologne Ethel, Harriet, Harry, Ruth and I

(small photo)

"Big recess" in the "Jawue"

1932: Sexta/Quinta. Teacher: Miss Som... We are moving from the Pantaleon...

Mühlengasse 21 to Mastrichterstr. 40...

I am spending summer vacation in (??)Selters in the Westerwald.

I have had several childhood diseases like bronchitis and diphtheria. (Insert:)

...weak condition. The feelings I've had, I can hardly describe. In spite of everything, however, I am better than I could have hoped to be, and out of an unpleasant occurrence, I will make a pleasant one; just look, I came through it and I passed the exam!

1933: Quinta/Quarta Teacher: (illegible) I am spending summer vacation in Gen?? in the Eifel mountains.

## 1933 !!

Hitler has come to power. Heavy blow for us Jews. Jewish race laws. Boycotts. Monstrous emigrations into all parts of the earth. Exclusion from all governmental offices. Lawyers and professors lose their practice. Many officials, out of despair, commit suicide!!

#### 18

#### 1933

## Hitler, Goebbels, Goering Are creating the THIRD EMPIRE Four year plan

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#### 1934

QuartaTeacher: Director Dr. E. Klibansky

#### MY BAR MITZVAH!

Occurred in summer vacation. My parents organized a wonderful 2-day celebration.

After my bar mitzvah, I will spend a week in Dortmund with the Kober family.

(photo)

Uncle Tzio, Aunt Merry, Aunt Leni, Mommy, Uncle Max, Puppi, and Ruth (Gemünd, 1933)

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Hitler increases anti-Jewish laws. It is getting worse. Huge emigrations, mostly to <u>Palestine</u>.

The Saar region is declared German.

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## 1935

Quarta/Lower-tertia Teacher: Dr. Samuel I will spend summer vacation in Oberdollendorf on the Rhine.

(Photo)

Aunt Rosi, Papa, Harry, Ruth, and I (Oberdollendorf on the Rhine. 1935) Friedman Translation III p. 20ff

1935

Hitler continues to govern. Emigration of Jews continues slowly. War between Italy and (Abessinia?) Germany calls up the military. Military is called to the Rhineland.

\_\_\_\_\_

#### 1936

(illegible-)tertia/Uppertertia Teacher: Dr. Samuel I spent summer vacation in Niederbreisig on the Rhine.

(Photo)

Ruth, Mommy, Papa (Niederbreisig on the Rhine, 1936)

> 1936 (continued)

Hitler rules. Abessinia becomes an Italian colony! WAR in SPAIN! Nationalists under Franco against Republicans. (Military mutiny)

Unrest breaks out in PALESTINE. Emigration to Palestine slows.

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Manni Böhm is my best friend since Quarta (fourth grade?). We are both in "Haschorner Kazair" (sp?) and in Sport Club "Hakoah". However, Manni will leave the club after half a year, since his parents forbid him from going. They are quite pious, but the club is not. I've decided to leave, too.

School is going as usual. We do what we have to do. So we occupy ourselves with what we enjoy, like experimenting. Thus we have set up a really neat laboratory (p. 22). Then we sometimes copy off pictures and make a little bit of money. Apart from that, we loaf and read, go sometimes to a movie or to the opera. So far I have heard these operas:

The Marriage of Figaro	La Traviata
Carmen	Tosca
The Troubadour	Bajazzo
Madame Butterfly	Cavaleria Rusticam
Parcival	Aida
La Boheme	The Magic Flute
Operettas:	-
The Beggar Student	The Flittermouse

As to music, I have recently devoted a lot of time to it. I received an accordion for my birthday, and I can play it quite well already.

Naturally, we have both teased the girls in our class a lot. But it has always been like that in our class. And of course we have our clique in the class, which consists of: Walter Brunner, Rolf Strock, and Walter Schild (and the two of us). We get together nearly every Saturday and Sunday. Later I became friends with Alex Sledzik.

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#### 1937

Uppertertia/Sekunda Teacher: Dr. Samuel I will spend summer vacation in Jasina (CSR) with my father's brother. On the way back, I will stay in Berlin for eight days. Over Easter, we were in Spa (Belyi??).

Spa 1937 (Photo)

Aunt Marry, Arno (Puppi), I

(p. 24)

Jasina 1937

(Photo)

Schmiel, Benno, Papa, Mommy, Uncle Jonas, I Piroshka and Ruth

(Photo)

Entrance to the Olympic Stadium in Berlin

#### (continued)

(Landscape)

Unrest in Palestine increases a bit.

The war in Spain holds on. Half of Spain is Nationalist.

#### WAR between CHINA and JAPAN

Japan overruns the coastal regions of China.

#### 1938

Easter: Having successfully passed, we (our class) have happily reached the secondary school level.

I was the only boy examined (in French). Thank God it's going well, and I will receive my certificate.

Alex Sledzik is going to the technical school in Fulda. Manni remains here in school.

## 1938

#### (continued)

AUSTRIA becomes German! Greater Germany Massive persecution of Jews, mainly in Vienna, later all over Germany.

Italy introduces race laws.

MASSIVE EMIGRATIONS to America and Australia. Emigration to various countries is forbidden or made very difficult.

Unrest in Palestina has not let up. Unrests sharpen. Terror reaches its high point.

Jews emigrate from Palestine to America, etc.

In Spain, the civil war holds on (illegible)

## 1938

#### (continued)

Japan fights successfully against China. War rumblings between Japan and Russia. (illegible)

Germany claims the Sudetenland from Czechoslovakia.

War rumblings and great tensions in the entire WORLD against Germany and in Czechoslovakia!!!

On Oct. 1, following long threats of war in the whole world, and engagement between the four powers of England, France, Italy, and Germany, Sudetenland becomes German!!

(p. 29)

Map of Czechoslovakia on October 1, 1938, showing regions claimed by Germany. Caption below in French:

This German map shows the territories of Sudeten separated into quarter sections now occupied by German troupes: 1<sup>st</sup> section, on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of October; 2<sup>nd</sup> section, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of October; 3<sup>rd</sup> section, on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> of October; 4<sup>th</sup> section, on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of October. The remaining territories of German predominance shall be---until determination of new frontiers by an international commission---occupied by German troupes until October 10.

The situation for Jews in Germany up to the year 1938 becomes increasingly critical. Primarily our branch must suffer. One receives no currency, so one must earn his bread by any means. Many jewelers emigrate. We, too, often consider emigrating. –Theo is the first among us. He is going from Berlin to New York. Now Uncle Joseph is fleeing along with Aunt Fanny and Harriet (Ethel was in London) to Poland and then to London. And Uncle Fritz is going to Belgium, but he will come back a couple weeks later. But, since my father has been kept by the "Gestapo" for 8 days, all our nerves are a wreck, and we have decided to leave. One week after Papa is released, he, Uncle Trio and Uncle Fritz will go to Belgium. \*\*We will stay in Germany yet to take care of matters and then to follow them as soon as possible\*\*. Mommy, Ruth, Aunt Leni, Fredi, and I.

May 26, 1938 Departure from Cologne, as well as from Germany, to (Invers?). Aunt Leni and Fredy are traveling with us. In Brussells we already met Papa and Uncle Trio. In (Invers?) we rented an apartment in the Sanderus (??) Street #47.

Invers, June 29, 1938 Norbert Friedmann

(Photo)

May, 2918

Just before departure from Cologne

(p. 40) Farewell party in Aunt Merry's apartment

May

(photo missing?)

1938

Mommy, Uncle Wolf, Aunt Salla, Ruth, Aunt Merry, Lilly and Aunt Leni

## HAPPILY TOGETHER AGAIN

## (Photo)

### Invers City Park June, 1938

## Mommy, Papa, Aunt Leni, Uncle Tzio, Ruth, and Fredy

And now that we are in Belgium where we have no permission to stay, and we don't want to stay, we face the question whether we want to go to America or to Australia. We agree immediately to go to Australia, since one must only show upon arrival that one has the required funds. I don't know yet when one must put up the money if we go to America, but we prefer to go to America. And since we are here, a lot has happened:

- 1. Uncle Fritz has gone to New York and arrived well.
- 2. Theo got engaged on June 18, 1938, to a girl named Tamara Duboisky.
- And we have decided with Uncle Max and Uncle Tzio and family to move to Knokke-le Zoute. We've rented a villa there starting on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Now I've been in Invers for over a month. I like the town a lot. It has beautiful houses, garden plots, and a large harbor. 25% of the population is Jewish, and therefore in certain wards Yiddish is spoken exclusively. I believe that in the (illegible), they speak virtually no other language. The primary language is Flemish, while the business language is French. ---I keep busy mostly with reading, studying English or French, taking a walk occasionally, going to a movie, or paddling in the city park.

(Photo)

## Ruth, Papa, Mommy Invers, Nightingale Park (June, 1938)

Sometimes I visit Uncle Max. ---But I'm slowly getting bored, and I'm delighted that we're going to go to the sea.

Tomorrow, if God wills, we will go to Knokke-Le Zoute.

Invers, June 30, 1938 Friedmann

The time passes; we've been in Le Zoute five weeks already. For the first while, the weather left something to be desired, but now it has improved. I like it

## Blankenberghe

## La Digue (Photo) August, 1938

## Aunt Merry, Uncle Max, Mommy, Papa, Ruth Mr. Kaiz and Puppi

here a lot. The sea, its ebb and flow, and the environment are very nice. Even in bad weather, it's okay, as there is enough variety in activity, such as bicycling, table tennis, the Luna Park, etc., etc. It would be great if our final emigration destination were determined. Until now we have received no answer from Australia. Papa went to Antwerp yesterday and applied for America. I believe

At Liska, Le Zoute, 1938 August

(Photo missing?)

Ruth, Mommy, and I

that we will go there. Probably not until December or January ('39). Therefore, we will have to return to Invers on September 1.

Le Zoute, August 4, 1938 Friedmann

Theo married Tamara on August 14 and is on a honeymoon here in Europe. At the moment, they are here with us.

Le Zoute, August 29, 1938

Unfortunately, we cannot return to Invers, as they are giving refugees a lot of trouble there. So we have rented a villa here in Kapellenbosch. Kapb. is a spa ?!, and it is really beautiful, at least for me. Up to the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month, there were a lot of other boys my age, and we passed the time with table tennis and playing cards and dancing. I actually learned to dance here! That's how I learned to know Mimi B., Dody Br., and Charlotte Inger. Charlotte is probably the nicest one, with whom I have become a close friend. Unfortunately, she had to move back to Invers on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month; I hope I can see her again there. Otherwise everything is the same again, except that there are no electric lights here, therefore gas lighting and no hot water at the tap. But we are refugees. My father bought an old bicycle, with which I ride to Invers every week. So I can go to movies. Now something else: 1. Hannah-Ruth (a girl from my class) was in Invers, where I saw her, and she has gone to America. 2. Lilli has come to

Invers from Cologne for four weeks, and she visited us here. 3. Alex is back in Cologne from the tech school in Fulda.

Kapellenbosch, Sept. 19, 1938 Friedmann

(p. 45)

On October 29 Germany expelled nearly all Jews from POLAND, shipping them on special trains over the border. According to several sources, they exported some 6,000, while another 6,000 are still at the border. Poland implemented these measures and processes with Germany immediately.

(see the *Paris Daily News*, October 30, November 9)

According to an eviction declaration by Germany and Italy on November 5, Hungary took a region away from Czechoslovakia (see reports in the *Paris Daily* about Czech refugees). (See also *Paris Daily* of November 3, etc.)

The Third Secretary of the German embassy VON RATH in Paris was shot with two revolver shots and severely wounded on November 7 by a 17 year old Jewish boy. He died on November 9.

Result:

Massive Jewish Pogroms

In Germany

(More about the assassination and further results see *Paris Daily* of Nov. 9.) The President of Turkey, KEMAL ATTATURK suffered a heart attack on October 8 and died on Nov. 10. (See *Paris Daily*, Nov. 10, Nov. 11.)

#### ONE SHOCK AFTER ANOTHER!!

In connection with the eviction of Polish Jews from Germany, they want to deport Aunt Merry and Uncle Wolf from Cologne. They were already on one of the special trains, but the Polish consulate managed to release them from the train before arriving at the border.

According to letters from Aunt Rosi and Lilly, Uncle Marcel was unfortunately arrested during a pogrom in Germany.

Papa was at the American consulate in mid November, where he was informed that, due to the massive rush of refugees who want to go to America, he could not expect to receive a decision before January, 1939. So I am guessing that our departure will be delayed until March.

Kapellenbosch, November 23, 1938

On top of all of that, Aunt Rosi writes that, after much mistreatment, they took Uncle Marcel to the concentration camp at Oranienburg. Uncle Max and Uncle Fritz attempted immediately to gain his release.

Uncle Löwi, his wife and the Kornet family from Herne have been forcibly returned to Poland.

Uncle Frogel and Ethel from Elberfeld were also sent to Poland, whereas Aunt Salla and Gerda are still in Cologne.

Papa was in Antwerp again. There he appointed Mr. Schulsinger (Ezra) as his representative to get information on his behalf from the American consulate. Unfortunately, the information is not good (to our great disappointment), for we cannot go before April or May. Therefore we have decided to move back to Antwerp in January.

Otherwise, everything here remains the same. Each day gets more boring, especially when the weather is bad. We are all glad to be back in a city soon.

Kapellenbosch, December 2, 1938 Friedmann

1939 A HAPPY NEW YEAR

--And now we hope to enter a happy and better new year--.

It begins directly with several new developments:

1. We have moved, but not to a city, but to Heide (one station beyond Kapellenbosch). We had hoped to move to Antwerp, but were unable to find an apartment.

Reason: (a) There are so many refugees here, that there are not enough furnished apartments. (b) We have no residence permit.

2. Our application to emigrate to Australia was recently denied as expected.

3. Uncle Max received approval to emigrate to America.

While we were moving, I was staying in Antwerp with Uncle Max (from Christmas to New Years) to recover a bit from boredom. There I heard that, in spite of every effort, Uncle Marcel is still in the concentration camp. Uncle Max decided to take in Harry. He will come to Antwerp this week. I have no complaints about our new apartment. First of all, it is warm here, (in the old one it was very cold whenever the temperature was around 15-20 degrees C. Secondly, it is clean, and thirdly, the main thing, it is not so boring; for our neighbors are good people and they have a radio, so we can be entertained.

Heide, Kalmthout, January 3, 1939 Friedmann

On January 13, Uncle Marcel was released after suffering for two months in the concentration camp.

On January 18, we learned that all ship passage tickets purchased in Germany will become invalid on March 31. Perhaps they can be rescued if one transfers them to a German company.

Harry was supposed to come today, but due to a new law, the officials would not let him through (unaccompanied children may not cross the border).

January 22 Uncle Max was here today and brought Harry along against hope. After numerous difficulties, he was allowed through. Harry will come on Tuesday to visit us for a few days.

January 24 Uncle Max left today via London (to talk with Uncle Joseph about Uncle Marcel and Aunt Rosi) for America (New York) to Uncle Fritz.

February 21 Today we were in Antwerp. (Papa, Uncle Tzio and I by bicycle). At the American consulate, we could learn nothing new, which was true also at the shipping company.

I have written to Manni on January 31 and on January 28, and since then I have been in regular correspondence.

Summary Heide – Kalmthout, March 26, 1939 Friedmann

(Landscape)

(Photo on left half about Pope Pius XII receiving 5,000 seminarians)

(p. 53)

March 3, 1939 Following a celebratory funeral for Pope Pius XI, a new pope was elected today. The new pope, Pope Pius XII, they say, was Cardinal Pacelli.

In Spain peace reigns following the fall of Barcelona and Catalonia. Franco is recognized by nearly all countries. Negrin was deposed by a military putsch, and General Miagor is named his successor. If the republicans cannot agree to a favorable and honest peace, they will fight on.

The war between CHINA and JAPAN goes on. The Japanese are making small advances.

On October 1, 1938, the word "Peace" rang out through the whole world, after Hitler, Mussolini, Daladier, and Chamberlain signed the Treaty of Munich, and thus one believed a severe crisis had been averted. But it did not last long until the Treaty had its critics and its opponents. ---Czechoslovakia elected its new Ministerpresident, EMIL HAGHA. The new government was then formed out of the three Czech provinces, the Czechei, Slovakia, and Karpatho-Ukraine. One could see in their positioning that they drew closer to Germany. Days of unrest followed: political opponents in the interior, as well as unrest caused by Hungary against Karp.-Ukraine. Result: the deposition of the Slowakian Minister Tisso by

Prague. Tisso's travel to Berlin and his demands. Hacha's travel and Hitler's edict. Invasion of the Czechei by Germany. Slovakia becomes independent. Hungary occupies Karpatho-Ukraine. Final Result:

March 15, 1939

(p. 55 Landscape. Left side Map of Czechoslovakia carved up by Germany)

The CZECHEI is swallowed up by Germany

S L O V A K I A, they say, is independent with Tisso at the head; yet Germany keeps permission to set up military bases there, so that one may regard it, too, as a German PROTECTORATE. KARPATHO-UKRAINE is swallowed up by Hungary. Rumania is allowed to take several villages.

This irregular procedure of Hitler's to forcibly cause a small country to disappear causes deep consternation among all democratic countries. Furthermore, he is able to oversee the Treaty of Munich and then to break the contract. One wants never again to experience such a surprise, which leads to the call of the future in these lands:

#### **ARM YOURSELVES!**

(Left side top photo) Minister-President Daladier speaks before a crowd in Ajaccio.

(Bottom photo)

(General?) Neumann, leader of the Memel Germans, salutes the Führer upon his arrival in the Memel region now claimed by Germany.

One can expect now a treaty between Russia, Poland, France, and England, which should protect other small countries from such action by Germany; however, nothing of the kind yet exists. Moreover, these protective measures should apply as well to Italy's behavior toward France. Mussolini, Hitler's comrade at arms, who is demanding colonies from France, must naturally also be forewarned, although the military agreement between France and England may well give him pause.

In the elections last year, the Memel Germans called for re-annexation into the Reich, and now their wish was granted on March 22: *Memel is annexed to* Germany. The Lithuanian government had little choice in resisting Hitler's advances but to simply cede the region to him.

(Photo left)

A Long Procession German Jewish Refugees Arrive in England More than 200 German Jewish refugees, coming from Antwerp, formed a long procession on board the "Rhakotis" arriving in Southampton. Later these refugees will make their way to the United States.

(Photos left side top) An internment camp for (??) Arabs The Zeebrugge is Stranded

(Photo lower) The Adventure of the "Spinnekop"

As one can well imagine, these recent developments create <u>severe tensions</u> throughout the world, and one cannot predict exactly the outcomes of these actions. The future will show them to be....

The *refugee problem* is increasingly desperate. Now it is not only Jews who flee, but people of other faiths as well. People are fleeing from <u>Germany, Spain,</u> <u>Italy and Czechoslovakia. The stream of refugees grows stronger, and the borders of the countries close tighter and tighter.</u> One can hardly imagine it! If there is a country that accepts them, the immigration fees are made so high that entry becomes impossible. This applies, naturally, primarily to us Jews. "There remains for us yet one goal," it is said: *Palestine!* But who wants to go there? Very few. For the negative outcomes of the Palestine Conference reduce the chances of a national homeland. Long and short, it's a huge problem that must absolutely be addressed, in order to bring peace again around the world and to many peoples. Many statesmen are tackling the problem, and I hope that they succeed in finding and implementing a permanent resolution of promise.

#### Norbert Friedmann

Uncle Joseph and his family are still in London. They went there, naturally, as emigrants seeking authorization to travel on to America. Uncle Max and his family have decided, because of the political and economic situation in Belgium, that they, too, will go to America. Uncle Max is already over there, in order to assess circumstances. Aunt Mary and Lily want to leave Germany as soon as possible for France or England. Uncle Marcel and Aunt Rosi have meanwhile requested to leave England. Uncle Tzio and his family are here for the time being; they don't know yet, because of immigration difficulties in the different countries, where they can or will go.

Today we received a letter from Komets in Poland. As I mentioned before, they were hauled off together with the Löwi family to Zbaszyn on October 29, 1938. One can imagine how it is going for them in this village so long as they are assigned to the local support group. Uncle Löwi and Chaim were allowed to return to Germany to disperse of their things. I don't know any more than that. One day flows into the next, and one doesn't know whether the goal is any

nearer. I know, that it isn't this way for us, but most refugees experience it this way.

Here in our village there is very little change. I read, play accordion, table tennis or cards, listen to the radio or entertain myself; but all of that is nothing without friends one's own age or otherwise is on the same niveau, with whom one can beat the boredom. And there is no work for those our age. I'm sick and tired of just being lazy, and I would be so happy if our travel to America were to happen. But in all likelihood, that will not happen before June or July. The matter of the ship tickets is still unresolved. We hope to hear something definitive soon. ---It is clear that one can predict nothing more than that.

> Heide, Kalmthout, March 26, 1939 Friedmann

(Photo left)

In (Illegible town name) 60,000 troops of the Nationalist army pass by. Great was the jubilation of the population at the parade.

SPAIN: On March 26, 1939, after the fall of Catalonia and a brief cease fire, Madrid surrendered. Franco's troops marched in. On March 29, 1939, the remaining Republican cities followed Madrid's example. This means, naturally, the end of the Spanish Civil War and <u>the final victory for Franco</u>.

Map left showing the expanding regions of Germany, including Slovakia.

April 5, 1939 England gives Poland the following guarantee: If Poland's vital interests are attacked by any country, and Poland thereby should choose to go to war, England will provide every means of help considered important. <u>This guarantee</u> is apparently also extended <u>by France</u>. (see *Paris Daily*, April 7)

April 7, 1939 <u>Mussolini commands his troops to march into Albania.</u> Apparent reason: Disregard for Italian interests and mishandling of Italians. The Albanians resisted for two days, but then were defeated. (see PD, April 7 and *Luxemb. Word*, April 8, 9)

April 13, 1939 England and France extend their guarantees to Rumania and Greece.

(Photo left)

Italian General Pariani demonstrates to a unit of Albanian soldiers their incorporation into Italian forces.

April 15, 1939 <u>Roosevelt's declaration of peace</u> to Hitler and Mussolini. Proposal: <u>Economic assistance in exchange for guarantee of peace</u>. (For more see PD, April 16, 17) April 27, 1939Declaration of a universal draft in England. (see PD, April27, 28)April 28, 1939Hitler's speech and answer to Roosevelt's message: FleetContract and Polish Treaty annulled. (see PD, April 29)

April 30, 1939 Opening of the World Exposition in New York.

May 3, 1939 Litwinow, the Russian People's Commissar, removed from office.

# (Two photos left)

Top: Having learned that Albanian forces had been taken over by Italy, the royal couple of Albania, traveling in Greece, decided to remain for a time. King Zogou and Queen Geraldine (??) near Turkey. Here one sees the king and queen arriving in Istanbul.

Bottom: A governess carries the child of the Albanian royal couple upon their arrival at the airport in Istanbul. It is the first public photo taken of the little prince.

Again six weeks of dramatic happenings and excitement have passed. One can compare the world with an epidemic disease, where first a high fever strikes, then no fever at all. When fever is high, there is constant fear of war; when it is normal again, the medicine which can bring calm is "PEACE".

This constant unrest naturally wears on the people, especially on us as emigrants. One notices for the first time what nerves mean, and what one must endure.

## (Photo left)

The German legion "Condor" prepares to leave Spain definitively. The legion will take leave for the last time, according to Leon, the military head. Here one sees from left to right Commandant von Richthofen, General Franco, and General Kindelan.

<u>The extreme tension</u> during these weeks <u>followed the occupation of Albania by</u> <u>the Italians.</u> Once again, an action of force has been committed against a small country, where hardly two days might have been allowed to prepare a defense. <u>Italy's occupation of Albania brings not only economic advantages for Italy, but</u> <u>also military advantages, whereas England and France are disadvantaged.</u> Albania's neighbors, too, are deeply influenced, if not openly threatened. The founding of Albania as an Italian <u>protectorate</u> is for the <u>Arabic world an outrage.</u>

England, France, and the entire free nations now see that it is high time to bring an end to this forward march. For in the end, it might occur to Misters Hitler and Mussolini that their interests, too, may be targets of attack. I have already mentioned the guarantees to Poland, Rumania, and Greece, and the general call to arms in England. All of these are measures to <u>protect against</u> <u>unwanted aggression</u>. The guarantee to Poland followed Germany's claim <u>eventually to annex Danzig as well as the Polish Corridor</u>. The guarantee to Rumania and Greece followed the occupation of Albania by Italy.

(p. 74 left map)

...Germany's central project...

<u>Russia</u>, whom one would hope would not exclude itself from among the grantors of guarantees, has not yet given an answer. Litwinow, the People's Commissar, <u>was removed from office</u>. It is said that he has gone to England as a political friend!? <u>Does Russia want to remain neutral?</u> That is the big question??? on which much will depend in the future!

Whether Roosevelt's message following Hitler's speech will hold sway or not among the populace remains to be seen. At the moment, however, we watch with keen interest Germany's central project between Poland and Germany. Danzig and the Corridor

How will it end? Will it be resolved peacefully, or will Hitler use force? In the second scenario, the matter of England's guarantee arises, which could lead to world war or something similar, which in this civilized world is naturally considered impossible. However, we have already experienced much in this

(Photos left)

Top: Polish anti-aircraft guns in place. Bottom: Polish air force planes on maneuver.

century that is incongruous with our notion of civilization, so one must not be surprised if the situation leads in fact to an outbreak of war.

That war is possible is evident in the European example of "Spain". In addition, one needs only to look at the Far East, where war between the Chinese and Japanese is in full swing. Is that civilization? Will mankind actually once more become enslaved to its weapons?

Will there be war or peace??

May 5, 1939 Norbert Friedmann

\_\_\_\_\_

While these important political developments played out, several things have happened in our private lives. I spent from April 6 to the end of the month in Antwerp with our relatives (Tzefler) in order to recover from the monotony of the village.

## (Photo left)

President Roosevelt, who sent a message to Hitler, to which the Führer responded in a speech.

On April 14, Papa came to us with the following news: He had been at the American consulate and learned there, to our great shock, that we will likely <u>not</u> <u>be able to travel to America for a year.</u> When I say here, that we had hoped to get away at least by July, 1939, one might well imagine how this news affected us. The reasons for this delay are likely that many emigrants are coming from all countries, and who bring along their immigration papers for America, (they registered for the most part already before April 3) and our quota number gets pushed back!? So I was right, when I said, one cannot predict anything these days. It means: Wait, wait, wait... How long? --No one knows! --I applied in Antwerp for a job, but no one will take me, as I do not have a work permit, nor a residence permit. I have to return to Heide and more loafing around. It wouldn't be so bad, if one didn't constantly fear an outbreak of war. If Belgium doesn't remain neutral, perhaps Papa and maybe I, too, could be called to the Front, and that would be a huge blow to Mommy and Ruth.

Our ship tickets will likely expire in June. Uncle Max returned from America on April 30. He related to us the impressions he received there, which I hope we, too, can one day experience and receive.

Heide, Kalenthout, May 8, 1939 Friedmann

May 3, 1939 Litwinow's successor: Molotov

May 17, 1939 England publishes the Whitebook: constant 2/3 majority of the Arabic population. Every year 10,000 Jewish immigrants granted permission to enter! Great indignation and revolt against Jews in Palestine and the whole world.

May 8, 1939 German – Italian military pact signed by von Ribbentrop and Graf Ciauv.

June 6, 1939 Non-aggression pact between Germany and Denmark, Estonia, and Finnland.

June 6, 1939 Japanese blockade in the Far East (mainly against England)

June 30, 1939 Trade agreement broken between America and Japan.

August 12, 1939 Slovakia militarily occupied by Germany.

August 24, 1939 The unexpected signing of the non-aggression treaty between RUSSIA and GERMANY.

Unrest in the world: Mobilization!

August 27, 1939 Peace OR war negotiations between England, France, Italy and Germany!!!

August 29, 1939 Mobilization in Belgium!

August 31, 1939 MOBILIZATION!! in Holland, Switzerland, Germany, Poland, England, France

(Photo left; Norbert on left?)

September 1, 1939 Military conflicts break out between Germany and Poland. German armies cross the Polish border!! HITLER declares <u>Danzig</u> and <u>the Corridor</u> to be German land.

WAR against POLAND

September 3, 1939 After expiration of an ultimatum, DECLARATION OF WAR England and France against Germany

(p. 80, Photo left)

Top: A French battery is set up on the West front, prepared to take action. Botton: The Brittish freighter "Athenia" was torpedoed.

September 10, 1939 CANADA declares war on Germany All COLONIES AND DOMINIONS of England and France follow her Example!!!

France occupies region in front of the Siegfried (Maginot?) Line!! The Germans have occupied half of Poland vertically. Air and sea battles.

September 17, 1939 RUSSIA	invades UKRAINE from Poland.
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September 19, 1939 Unrest in Slovakia and Bohemia-Moravia

September 25, 1939 Germany has conquered Poland as far as Warsaw.

Following an unexpected agreement with Russia, Germany must cede more than half of its Polish region to Russia!!! (The region up to the Russian border)

(Photos left)

Top: RUSSIA INVADES STRATEGIC POINTS IN ESTONIA Russian torpedo boat "Minsk" launches a salvo on the inner harbor of Tallin. Bottom: Lithuanian troops in the streets of Vilnius. September 28, 1939 Moscow attacks Estonian harbor!! Mutual assistance treaty Russia – Estonia Estonia offers Russia Tuselen, Saareamaa, Hiigmajaa and the city of Paldishi as <u>military fortresses.</u>
October 2, 1939 Occupation of Warsaw by Germany
New political government established in Paris.
Polish and Czech legions in France!!

October 6, 1939 Mutual assistance pact signed between Russia and Latvia. Russia receives Libau and Wenden as fleet bases and air bases.

October 11, 1939 Hitler calls back German forces from Baltic states! Break with Rumania, Hungary, and Yugoslavia.

Mutual assistance pact between Russia and Lithuania. Vilnius and surrounding region isolated. Russia gains military bases in Lithuania.

(Photo left)

THE FRUITLESS (REIS VAN GEZANT) VON PAPEN NEAR ANKARA Approximate translation: Mr. von Papen was sent by the government in (Reich ??). He traveled near Ankara to submit his travel documents. He was absolutely unable to alter the British-Turkisch accord, and he returned immediately to Berlin. He was photographed in Belgrade where he related to journalists his impressions.

October 19, 1939 Signing of a MUTUAL ASSISTANCE PACT between TURKEY – ENGLAND – FRANCE

October 25, 1939 Lithuania occupies Vilnius

November 4, 1939 Following a vote in the American senate and house of representatives, lifting of the WEAPONS EMBARGO!!!

November 8, 1939 Following a speech by Hitler in the Bürgerbräu cellar in Munich, a bomb exploded!! which was meant for Hitler.

November 27, 1939 Conflict on the Russia – Finnland border. Russia demands troop withdrawal up to 25 kms from its border.

November 28, 1939 LOSS at SEA by all countries since the beginning of approx. 150 SHIPS (i.e. that have been sunk)

(Photo left) Roosevelt and Hull take charge (?) The declaration of neutrality by the United States Shown is a page from the Neutrality Declaration presented by President Roosevelt to Secretary of State Hull, wherein the neutrality of the United States is asserted, and wherein is noted, that an understanding exists between Germany on one hand and Great Britain, France, and Poland on the other.

November 28, 1939As a repressive measure against Germany, becauseof conducting an illegal war of mines:Implementation of an embargo against allGermanEXPORTSby England and Franceas of December 4, 1939.by England and France

November 29, 1939 Diplomatic relations broken between RUSSIA – FINNLAND (following breach of the Non-aggression Pact by Russia)

November 30, 1939 Crossing of the Finnish border by Russian troops! WAR! between Russia and Finnland!

(Photo left) BRITISH FLAGSHIP TORPEDOED (side headings unknown)

December 15, 1939 Exclusion of Soviet Russia from the League of Nations

Reason: Unjustified attack on Finnland!

December 27, 1939 Loss to date of lives on land, sea, and in air: France: 1434 England: 2511 Germany: ????

Severe EARTHQUAKE in Turkey over a territory of 150,000 kms. 12 cities and 80 villages destroyed.

The number of victims estimated at 6,000. As a result of avalanches, snow storms, and floods, the number has risen to 45,000! (According to the last reports)

December 29, 1939	Losses at SEA (sunk) by all countries since the	
beginning of the war:	239 ships	with a tonnage of 929,268 tons.

WITCHES' KETTLE EUROPE

Since May 5 to the present day!

Mankind needed only four months to consider making itself "Lord of Technology" or "Victim of Technology". Four whole months in which the world, in one breath, is gripped in a violent crisis. Everyone worked with extreme intensity and the highest level of performance: diplomacy, armament, and the worst: the nerves. No one could escape the WAR OF NERVES. Even when one refused to read any newspapers or to listen to a radio. One got the news anyway, in the streetcar, in the train, and on the street, in shops, etc., etc. Everyone spoke and discussed the probable predictable future. WAR and PEACE were the themes.

There was much disagreement about the dealings between Russia and England and France, which it appears never came to anything at all. In Litwinow's place, Commissar Molotov carried on the same dealings, among them the <u>war of</u> <u>diplomacy between Poland and Germany.</u> There were internal <u>demonstrations</u> in both countries. –On the <u>fascist</u> side: <u>Germany dealt with Italy over a military</u> <u>alliance</u>; while on the <u>democratic</u> side, <u>England</u>, <u>France</u>, and <u>Turkey worked</u> <u>together on a mutual assistance pact</u>. All of it meant more war and not PEACE.

For one does not arm oneself without certain intentions! We do not strive during normal times with such haste and hurry, stumbling over each other to reach an agreement. We saw that it was certainly not purely a matter of friendly relations. The alliances were to make one stronger and to protect oneself on all possible sides.

To me it seems that almost everyone in this world is concerned only about ones own well-being, although one outwardly shows that one has something left for the other. "We will make an alliance with anyone who can give us the best advantage," that is today's mantra for the world.

(p. 87 left side The British-French-Russian Alliance Put in Force. Entire page taken from Flemish/Dutch newspaper. Not translated.)

Today's symbols of friendship are not the gem studded ring or a feeling of camaraderie. No, today's symbols are Weapons and Munitions! The first example: a military pact between Germany and Italy, called the Peace –or Friendship—Axis Berlin – Rome.

It is the best proof of the previous statement!! The world will not have rest before it reaches the goal (for example): "Spain". (One could cite many such examples as "Spain", but I am satisfied with this one, for I believe that this example lies in nearly every person's consciousness, in all his crassness and misery, sharp and fresh.)

We see in this example: Once a person has released his destructive rage, he will return to his senses, shake his head and say, "Oh, how senseless was this deed!" He regrets it, and then comes the familiar prologue: "The next generation

will learn from it, they will have more experience, they will never again grasp at such deeds!!"

Of course, that is self-deception. For today, just 21 years after the great world conflagration, now a new witches' kettle explodes, and the celebrated prologue is buried. Still we have learned something in 21 years, but exactly the opposite thing than what one should have learned: <u>The technique of war in the motto:</u> <u>"How can I best commit murder?"</u> And this matter appears to exist best and to be most successful in the reality that better instruments of murder are invented every day. I believe that, if one looks at the statistics for "inventions and patents", and if one wants to know in what area the most inventions are made, it will most certainly lie in the area of the military and thereby also in the area of murder.

<u>That is what mankind has learned and with unbelievable speed.</u> A large portion of us is at least as evil and dangerous as beasts of prey, if not more beastly. An animal kills mostly for its own sustenance, but people just say, "We fight for our sustenance, because we are threatened," although that is not true. No, that is not true. There is enough room on this earth and for much more than one needs. Here it is AVARICE of the individual which turns one into an animal.

There are people today who intentionally forget the word AVARICE (greed) in order to simply adopt a new, better sounding word, namely "PRESERVATION". When a certain German Reichs-Chancellor Adolph Hitler says, "I fight for the "preservation" of my people, we then know what he means by that. The Saar region, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Memel, Poland, all these are products for German PRESERVATION, and if it were further permitted, then soon the whole world would fall under Hitler's so called "preservation drive". But, (fortunately, we still have that little word "but".) circumstances have not permitted our "beast of prey" to deal as quickly as he wanted. I believe Hitler had to let all of his sumptuous captures digest well first, because they lay too heavily in his stomach. Complaints came likely too strongly from opponents and riot-rousers in Austria and Czechoslovakia. After the retreat of German troops from Spain, dissatisfaction grew among the German population. Also Russia's behavior caused a sharp reduction in aggression, and so he had to wait until the Goebbel "PROPAGANDANATRON" could do its healing swindle. -Now, however, Hitler had a very good (for his politics) political body-physician by the name of "Ribbentrop", who directly noticed that the previous "preservation drive" no longer had traction in the world, and who then prescribed a new recipe and a new operation:

Non-Aggression Pact to be sealed with DENMARK, ESTONIA, AND FINNLAND Drawn up by von Ribbentrop Doctor and restorer of German foreign relations. Ribbentrop figured, "In the eyes of humanity, I will be a physician who operates well. Competitive clients and enemies will come to me, and then---.... Then I will have time to inject the poison that makes them all slaves of mine!!

(Photos left)

Top: (Emigrants?) from the Baltic countries board a ship at Danzig (Gdansk). Bottom: (Something about securing Switzerland)

Dr. Ribbentrop has misfortunes. The operation went through well, <u>but the crisis</u> that he anticipated <u>did not happen</u>. On the contrary, <u>the world awakened sober</u> from its anaesthetization and saw through his schemes. (And I believe Ribbentrop fell into disgrace at this time with his boss, if only for a short while.!??)

While Hitler has now become dissatisfied with the outcomes, and the German people resist somewhat the pressures of the National Socialists to do what it doesn't want (for the most part), there is also on the <u>democratic side a great</u> <u>dissatisfaction</u>. The negotiations between Russia and the Allies (England and France) extend more and more, and it seems that the <u>Soviet nation</u> is too clever for capitalistic England. England needs Russia at present to present itself as communist enemy nation no. 1 against Germany.

# (Photos left)

Announcing that Belgium changed the name of its ships to clearly indicate that they are from a neutral country, painting "Belgie" and "Belgique" on both sides to reduce the danger of being torpedoed at sea.

The Russians, now engaged in reconstruction and having no interest in English commerce, know very well that England could be an even more savage enemy of Bolshevism than Germany, since she is known as the "Metropole of Capitalism". They set a high price, which leads to fear that nothing will come of a pact.

England is trying other means to warn the German people. The Englishman, <u>Stephan-King-Hall</u>, is trying to clarify issues for them via letters and to call for revolution. But the dear man apparently doesn't know how the "Gestapo" and the German propaganda machine work and that the Germans are absolutely not revolutionary.

All is in vain, unsuccessful, for nothing, for the world arms itself, it takes up arms, so that what has been achieved may be destroyed!!

People now realize:

# TRVIA TRIVIA IS EVERYTHING CREATED

# BY LEARNED MEN

(Photos left)

Top: Posters of (unknown) decorate the monument to Louis XIV in Paris. Official placards of propaganda for weaponry are also posted. Bottom: Recruits from Eton College wear classic uniforms of the school (in preparation for joining?) the English legions.

On August 18, <u>Hitler appears to be normal again, for Slovakia is receiving</u> <u>German military personnel.</u> In the meantime, to the general jubilation of the populace, the ministers of various countries promote their usual radio discussions replete with threats, proposals for peace, and promises. With that, Hitler has now launched <u>an inflammatory campaign against Poland</u> with the help of his comrades and new recruits. "Danzig and the Corridor must be put fresh on the table, so that they can be consumed as quickly as possible." That was the wish of the customers! But Hitler had sought out the worst waiters of "<u>HOTEL</u> <u>EUROPE</u>", and thus it came that his <u>"Diner"</u> was served practically <u>ice cold</u>, and for this meal, he had to <u>pass on the "Entrée"</u>, but still he had time for <u>"Dessert"</u>, which had led to the---

NON-AGGRESSION PACT WITH RUSSIA

(Photo left)

Top: After his speech, Minister Beck is heartily greeted by the crowd upon his return to his ministry from Buitenland.

Bottom: Officer Forster, who played a significant role in the quest for Danzig, (unknown).

This seemed to him to taste great, since he had been sobered severely in recent weeks. This "Dessert", which Hitler took, was the biggest bomb to explode yet in the war of nerves:

National Enemy No. 1 becomes National Friend No. 1

We are speechless!

The different reactions in the world to this development are so numerous that it is impossible to reiterate them here, suffice it to say: <u>"Is this a conspiracy between Germany and Russia to conquer the world?"</u> The capitalistic world press can report nothing other than 1. Is this <u>a severe defeat for the politics of England and France?</u> And 2. Does this mean an increasing danger of the expansion of Bolshevism? <u>So we now understand the (views?) of the world press!</u> And so <u>one believes the biggest and worst nonsense, how most people believe what is easiest to understand and grasp, and seek what will best fit into their business and will take precautions in the various countries through military regulation.</u>

Hitler, who now feels revived from his "Dessert," now can see Russia as a partner, and supported by this blending, <u>he moves ahead with threatening the Polish nation with the same justifications, which he most likely pulled out of thin air, and which he used just before marching into Czechoslovakia a short while ago. Now the world recognizes that Hitler aims to invade Poland. Everything points to that!!</u>

(Photos left)

Top: Scene of a defense in the Netherlands. The area, stretching in a line, is overgrown.

Bottom: A Swiss soldier, assigned to patrol the border, has made a sentinel post in the snow modeled after the Eskimos.

While diplomatic negotiations between Germany, Italy, England, and France try to work for the rescue of peace, and while the prime ministers grapple, <u>nearly</u> every country of Europe calls up their troops, and "FINALLY", (I say finally here, because I have observed it for so long), after which Chamberlain and Daladier had brought Hitler's attention to the probable results of Germany's assault on Poland.

<u>On September 1: GERMANS INVADE POLAND!</u> And on September 3, (as a result of the given guarantee) after lapse of two failed ultimatums, Hitler was supposed to withdraw his troops, <u>England and France DECLARE WAR!</u> <u>The "DRIVE TO PRESERVE" turns mankind into beasts of prey, allows it to destroy what had been achieved. 21 years of useless building up vanish.</u>

All humanity of a nation of highest culture and civilization is actually become a SLAVE to its creations, its technology, and its WEAPONS!

End of Part I up to the beginning of the War on December 24, 1939.

## Heide, Kalmthout Friedmann

(Photo left)

The French and English invaders march; from left to right General Gamelin and General Burggraf Gort, photographed in the village of Le Bourget in the middle of the month of July of this year.

(p. 97)

# PART II

"SINCE 5 O'CLOCK WE TOO ARE SHOOTING"

These are the words of war spoken by Hitler on September 1 before the "greater German parliament."

Transport vehicles roll Tanks roll Cannons and machine guns thunder Fighter planes fly

Telegrams and messages fly

In and at all countries of Europe and the rest of the world, and...

Flying, rolling with thundering racket and dance is the WORLD PRESS! September 1: "Hitler declares DANZIG and the CORRIDOR as German territory!" "Germany bombs WARSAW, KRAKAU, LODZ and other cities" September 2:

"Hitler attacks!" Military Operations on the Polish Border!! General mobilization in FRANCE and ENGLAND!! FRENCH-ENGLISH ULTIMATUM ON BERLIN!!! SLAUGHTER on the ENTIRE GERMAN-POLISH FRONT

(Left side: clippings of newspaper headlines)

(p. 98 left side)
On land in the air at sea
The world learns of need
Many ships in the harbor of New York
In the harbor of New York lie at the moment (from top to bottom) the large seagoing vessels, the "Roma", the "Queen Mary, the "Normandie", the "Ile de France", and the "Champlain", having returned (to port to await orders?).

September 3: ONE FINAL JOINT STEP BY ENGLAND AND FRANCE AGAINST THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT!!

September 4: THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD WAR The British ship "ATHENIA" with 1400 PERSONS ON BOARD TORPEDOED. THE WARMONSTER RULES OVER EUROPE

September 5: OPERATIONS SET UPON LAND AND SEA AND IN THE AIR. ENGLISH AIRPLANES BOMB CUXHAFEN, WILHELMSHAFEN, BRUNSBUETTEL.

September 6: HEAVY FIGHTING IN POLAND

September 7: THE FRENCH ARMY CROSSES THE GERMAN BORDER The economic WAR sets in.

September 8: GERMAN MARCH ON WARSAW, LODZ, POSNAN BRITISH AND FRENCH SHIPS ATTACKED

September 9, 10, 11 etc., etc. THE FALL OF WARSAW lies punished!! GERMANY conducts a U-BOAT WAR like in 1917!!

NEW GERMAN ATTACKS ON WARSAW, etc., etc., etc. THE WORLD PRESS

You have just read the voice of the world press regarding the outbreak of war; and now we sit up to the radio in order to let a bit of world opinion to seep in: "Here is the Greater-German Radio!":

The official army report from the top commander of the military rings as follows: "Our troops arrived in Warsaw accompanied by great jubilation of the rescued folk. On another front, our air force succeeded in shooting down 15 Polish warplanes, in spite of powerful resistance from the enemy. We suffered no losses whatsoever!!

The "*People*'s *Observer*" reported today an indisputable proof that England alone is to blame for the war....

He writes, among other things, "A clear proof of England's fault for this war was offered by our correspondent for international relations:...When we consider the Jewish war agitators and businessmen of England, and especially at London 10 Downing Street, then we know one thing, and the whole world knows it: England and the Jews have caused the war!

---So much for the news from the wireless service!

So we turn now to London:

London speaking:

The Polish news agency reports:

The report distributed by D.N.B., that Germany has overtaken Warsaw is the most monstrous, shameless lie that D.N.B. has ever told. Our anti-aircraft forces alone shot down 18 enemy warplanes. Minister of War Churchill made a speech today, saying, "We know that England and France have carried out their responsibilities and peace efforts to the fullest. Von Ribbentrop and Hitler, as well as the National Socialists alone are at fault....etc., etc., etc.

And this is my opinion! ---I have listened to all voices, DEMOCRATS, FASCISTS, COMMUNISTS, AND NEUTRALISTS, all confirm together the great ACCUSATION

The whole world is at fault for the War!

Naturally, some are more or less guilty, but one thing is clear, no one is guiltless! Most people (who even think), when all the comings and goings settle, if it does, believe themselves to be the most peaceful, most peace-loving creatures on earth. But, NO, THAT IS NOT TRUE! A corrective word is:

# SILENCE IS COMPLICITY

And this means that all are guilty!

So now, how has mankind become guilty? This is a question which, if each of us would try to answer, would expose most quickly who the primary guilty parties are. Therefore, I want to try to do that myself and prove at the same time who is the greatest criminal in 21 years.

(p. 100, Left side)

Newspaper heading: FRENCH AND GERMAN TROOPS IN (BATTLE) Toward December 12, 1939

Germany has occupied nearly half of Poland vertically.

France has taken "No man's land" between the Maginot- and Siegfriedslines.

How much has this cost?? How many bombs? How many INNOCENT lives?

November 17, 1939:	Russia attacks. Russia occupies Polish Ukraine
November 19, 1939:	The British aircraftcarrier "Courageous" is torpedoed
November 23, 1939:	The British tank ship "Royal Oak" is torpedoed

After the ending of the "Polish field advance," German barbarities against Poland and Jews begin!! Gunfire in Czechoslovakia

Let's first (part of sentence missing)

(p. 101) We can assume the following:

This is the END of our report in German!!

(When I say, "I can't lay out any more accurate details of war-making, since I cannot counter specific communiqués between countries," I mean that I will cite only concrete facts!!)

Considering the news of today, one must naturally form ones own thoughts and considerations about this T O H U W A B O H U, and thus arrive at the question, "WHO IS TO BLAME FOR THE WAR!!??" (We have seen:)

Do we question

England:	Answer	HITLER'S GERMANY
France:		ditto
Russia:		THE CAPITALISTS/IMPERIALISTS
Germany:		ENGLAND and the Jewish agitators
Neutrals		(If we were to get an answer, it would be made
		for fear of some kind of attack, so they may
		say:) Mankind is guilty!

Let's add all of this together in sum, then we get: TOTAL GUILTY = THE ENTIRE WORLD!

(p. 101 left side)Newspaper headings in Flemish:Polish CommuniquesGerman CommuniquesFrench CommuniquesRussian Communiques

Per T.S.F. (Belga) (Tass) (Reuter) (Havas) (United Press) (D.N.E.) And per Norbert Friedmann
...And now we start the BLACKLIST
We look at the guiltless and innocent victims and crimes.
We begin with THEM, and ask ourselves whether and when it will end. Will they at least help to judge the GUILTY? What will it bring us?\*

November 5, 1939: The first (?) atrocity of which we can get details:

The large British passenger ship "Athena" is torpedoed without warning by a German U-boat. 1400 persons on board! Over 100 dead.

(p.102 left side) The First Month of (Oorlog war?) Winston Churchill Oversees the (Ceasefire?) Hitler could well begin the hostilities, but they must be ended, as we find, that he has had enough of war (approximate translation)

November 20, 1939 The Dutch passenger ship "Simon Bolivar" with 8800 tons hit a mine. 400 passengers on board. About 100 dead or missing.

Germany loses about 3 U-boats per week. England loses military cruiser "Gipsy", 10,000 tons Pol. Passgr. Ship "Pilsudsky", 16,000 tons

November 30, 1939 BOMBINGS ON FINNLAND! Strong Finnish resistance.

December 9, 1939 Island of Hoyland taken by Russia

December 18, 1939 German military cruiser "ADMIRAL GRAF V. SPEE tries to engage in battle with the British cruiser which had damaged it earlier.

(from left side p. 103:)

December ??, 1939 The 32,000 ton large German passenger ship COLUMBUS sunk itself! Captain Langsdorf of the Admiral Gr. V. Spee committed suicide!

(p. 102 right side continues from above\*)

Europe:	WHY	?	
Answer from	m England:	Because o	f Nazi greed (lust for profit)
	France:	"	Hitler's greed
	Russia:	"	Capitalist greed
	Germany:	"	England's greed

And the answer from the Neutrals is as a GREAT SILENCE.

When we consider it all together, we conclude that the GREEDY of Europe and the whole world are primary GUILT-BEARERS of the WAR. It is all the same when the one cries, it's the Germans or it's the British. We know one thing, it is the lust for profit and victory that has brought humanity to criminality. We understand it all, when we apply the adage:

# MONEY RULES THE WORLD

So long as such profiteers are allowed to practice their crimes and murders on this earth ball, there will be no peace in the world! Innocent people will be murdered again and again. For whom? For me? For you? Do the people want war? NO! I do not want war, nor do you. He wants war who can profit by it. Therefore I say, "We will fight, but not against the innocent. No, we will fight against the MADNESS OF THE GUILTY. When they have once rotted away, like the fallen innocent in the World War, then only will there be peace. PEACE!

> Heide, Kalmthout, January, 1940 Norbert Friedmann

## Postscript to various political happenings of the year 1939

#### MAY/JUNE:

Spain in reconstruction. Leanings toward the totalitarian states.

Withdrawal of Italian and German troops from Spain. Jewish question in Spain? War in the Far East rages on. Unrest between Japan and Russia. Sinking of the British U-boat "Thetis", 99 dead plus a week earlier "Squalus"? 26 dead. Negotiations between England, France, and Russia regarding an assistance guarantee toward various countries. Unrest in the protectorates Bohemia-Moravia. Prince Paul of Yugoslavia in Germany. The British royal couple in Canada and US. The question of Danzig is again in the foreground. Unrest in Bohemia-Moravia, Poland, and Palestine. Sinking of the French U-boat "Phoenix". Japanese blockade on Tientsin. Huge anti-British rallies. The great refugee problem: Thousands of Jewish refugees press into "No man's Land" and onto ships anywhere.

JULY: Fighting between Russian and Japanese troops on the border to Mongolia. Expulsion of foreigners from South Tyrol (Italy?). Palestinian quota is closed, because of illegal immigration into Palestine. Belgium is closed to refugees! Reconstruction in Spain has encountered huge difficulties. Among other things, General Queixo de Llaams (sp?) is excluded. (But we know no more about the plight of the people.) Negotiations between Japan and England. AUGUST: Unrest between Rumania and Hungary.

The war ---or peace negotiations between England, France, Italy, and Germany. Belgium, Holland, Luxemburg and Switzerland are left out of the conflict, says the German emissary.

SEPTEMBER:

Italy remains neutral (upon Hitler's questioning?) Declaration of neutrality against European countries and over seas.

OCTOBER:

Discussions between Turkey---Russia, England, France. Polish government formed in Paris. Polish and Czech regions on the West front.

Negotiations: Russia---Turkey, Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Finnland.

Negotiations between Russia and Finnland: (Russia demands: the islands of Hogland, Leitskaer, Tijaarskaer. Harbor: Kotka Saalands islands (against assistance guarantee??) Hitler recalls the Germans out of the Baltic states. (Also out of Rumania, Hungary, and Yugoslavia)

## CONTINUATION

The last proposals for peace?? from Queen Wilhelmine of Holland, King Leopold of Belgium, from the four kings of Scandinavian countries, President Roosevelt, the Pope, and from various other neutral countries with Italy at the head! October 13, Finnland evacuates Helsinki and Wiburg. Precautionary measures? NOVEMBER:

The Russian-German relations!? Russian-Finnish negotiations. The great question mark: Italy. Mobilization or precautionary measures in Scandinavian countries. Tension around Holland and Belgium. Will they remain neutral?! November 11: The Russian-Finnish negotiations break down!! Germany closes

the Czech universities for three years. Once again peace proposals from the neutrals: response to England, France, and Germany's war of mines at sea! Hitler's secret weapon: the magnetic mine.

Assassination attempt in Munich and its results.

Protest from Holland and Belgium against British retaliation measures for Germany.

## POSTSCRIPT 1939

Mass arrests, mass executions, mass suffering in Poland.

Border conflicts at the Russian-Finnish border.

DECEMBER:

Russian ultimatum to Finnland! Finnish cabinet resigns. New government: Tannen as Minister of International Relations.

Indignation in the whole world!! Over Russia. Russia's proposal to Finnland: establish a people's government under leadership of communists: Kusinen. Rejection by Finnland.

Implementation of a weapons embargo by America against Russia.

No negotiations with Pyti's government, says Italy.

December 9: Island Hogland occupied by Russia. Ultimatum of the Fatherland to Russia in order to start negotiations? --Negative response from Russia!

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Unimproved postscript! removed from my "Agenda" 1939. Norbert Friedmann

(pp. 106-109 photos and maps)

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