

APPEASEMENT

DOCUMENT 1

...in accordance with the fundamental right of a nation to secure its frontiers and ensure its possibilities of defence, the German Government has today restored the full and unrestricted sovereignty of Germany in the demilitarized zone of the Rhineland.

Hitler, Speech to the Reichstag (March 7, 1936)

DOCUMENT 2

The peace of Europe must depend on the attitude of the four major powers — Germany, Italy, France and ourselves. We are linked to France by common ideals of democracy. On the other side we see Italy and Germany linked. Are we to allow these two pairs of nations to go on glowering at one another until the conflict begins which many think would mark the end of civilization? Or can we bring them to an understanding of one another's aims and to a final settlement? If we can bring these four nations into friendly discussion, into a settling of their differences, we shall have saved the peace of Europe for a generation.

Chamberlain, Speech to the House of Commons (February 1938)

DOCUMENT 3

Military Strength	January 1938	August 1939
German and Italian Divisions	154	300
French and British Divisions	65	90
German and Italian aircraft	3 120	5 740
French and British aircraft	2 200	2 980

DOCUMENT 4

I am speaking of Czechoslovakia. Among the nationalities being suppressed in this state there are 3 500 000 Germans, [who] were robbed in the name of a certain Mr. Wilson of their right to self-determination. If the democracies...protect the oppressors of the Germans then this will have grave consequences.

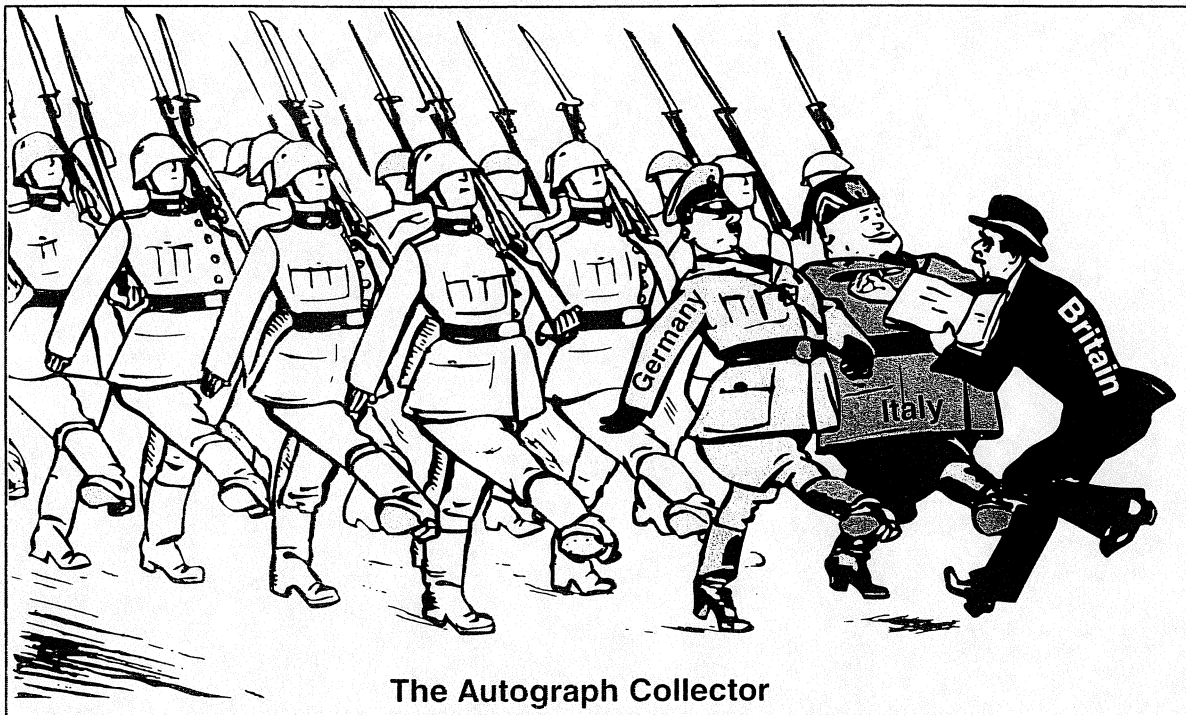
Hitler, Speech at Nuremberg Rally (September 12, 1938)

DOCUMENT 5

How horrible, fantastic, incredible it is that we should be digging trenches and trying on gas masks here because of a quarrel in a faraway country between people of whom we know nothing. Hitler feels that he must champion the other Germans. He told me privately and last night he repeated publicly, that after this Sudeten German question is settled, that is the end of Germany's territorial claims in Europe.

Chamberlain's broadcast on the Czech Crisis (September 27, 1938)

DOCUMENT 6



The Autograph Collector

Low, *Evening Standard* (1938)

DOCUMENT 7

And do not suppose that this is the end. This is only the beginning of the reckoning, this is only the first sip, the first foretaste of a bitter cup which will be offered to us year by year unless by a supreme recovery of moral health and military vigour, we arise again and take our stand for freedom, as in the olden time.

Churchill, Speech on the Munich Agreement (October 1938)