

Excerpt from-
**Communication from the German Government to the British
Government - September 3, 1939**

The German Government's reply to British Government's ultimatum of the 3rd September, 1939.

1. The German Government and the German people refuse to accept the demands made by the British Government.

2. The [Versailles Treaty](#) first tore Germany to pieces; all and every peaceful settlement was refused to all German Governments. The National Socialist Government also has since the year 1933 tried again and again to remove by peaceful negotiations the worst breaches of justice of this treaty. For Germany did not have the intention nor had she raised the demands of annihilating Poland. The Reich (Nazi party) demanded only the revision of those articles of the [Versailles Treaty](#) the blame for having prevented this peaceful revision lies with the British.

3. The British Government have - an occurrence unique in history - given the Polish State full powers for all actions against Germany. The German Government, though moved by the sufferings of the German population which was being tortured and treated in an inhuman manner, nevertheless remained a patient onlooker for five months, without undertaking even on one single occasion any similar aggressive action against Poland. The British Government emphasised their obligation to assist Poland under all circumstances, they actually encouraged the Polish Government to continue in their criminal attitude which was threatening the peace of Europe. The British Government, therefore, bear the responsibility for all the unhappiness and misery which have now overtaken and are about to overtake many peoples.

5. The German Government, therefore, reject the attempts to force Germany, by means of a demand having the character of an ultimatum, to recall its forces which are lined up for the defence of the Reich, and thereby to accept the old unrest and the old injustice. If the British Government hitherto always refused these offers and now answer with an open threat of war, it is not the fault of the German people and their Government, but exclusively the fault of the British and of those men who for years have been preaching the destruction and extermination of the German people. The German people and their Government do not, like Great Britain, intend to dominate the world, but they are determined to defend their own liberty, their independence and above all their life. The intention of carrying the destruction of the German people even further than was done through the [Versailles Treaty](#) is taken note of by us, and we shall

therefore answer any aggressive action on the part of England with the same weapons and in the same form.