

## ONE YEAR OF WAR

### Dates To Remember

ON September 3, Britain will have been at war with Germany for a year. Here are some dates to remember:

- 1935  
October 3: Italy invaded Abyssinia.  
1936  
March 7: Hitler marched into the Rhineland without opposition.  
July 18: Spanish Civil War began.  
December 10: Edward VIII abdicated.  
1937  
May 28: Neville Chamberlain became British Prime Minister.  
1938  
March 11: Hitler's forces occupied Austria.  
April 24: Henlein made eight demands for Sudeten Germans.  
September 29: Chamberlain flew to Munich.  
October 1: Hitler occupied the Sudetenland.  
November 23: French-German non-aggression pact signed by Ribbentrop and Bonnet.  
November 30: Count Ciano made Italian demands for Corsica, Nice, Tunis, Suez Canal, and Djibouti.  
1939  
February 27: Britain recognised General Franco's régime in Spain. Five weeks later Spain joined the anti-Comintern powers.  
March 15: Hitler took the rest of Czechoslovakia.  
March 22: Hitler took Memel and signed non-aggression pact with Lithuania.  
March 23: Britain and France pledged armed assistance to Poland.  
March 24: Robert Hudson, Secretary for Overseas Trade, left for Moscow for Anglo-Soviet trade talks.  
April 1: Spanish war ended.  
April 7: Italy occupied Albania.  
April 13: Britain and France guaranteed the integrity of Greece and Rumania.  
April 26: Conscription began in Britain. Hitler denounced the Anglo-German Naval Treaty and the Polish Ten-Year Treaty.  
April 28: Hitler accused Britain of encircling Germany with alliances.  
May 3: Molotov replaced Litvinoff as Russian Commissar for Foreign Affairs.  
May 18: Norway, Sweden, and Finland rejected Germany's offer of non-aggression treaties. Denmark accepted.  
June 7: Estonia and Latvia signed non-aggression pacts with Germany.  
June 10: William Strang, British Foreign Office, left for Moscow.  
August 5: British and French mission, headed by British Admiral and French General, left for Moscow.  
August 23: Germany and Russia signed Non-Aggression Pact.  
September 1: Hitler invaded Poland.  
September 3: Britain and France declared war on Germany.  
September 21: German campaign in Poland ended, with Russia in occupation of Eastern half of Poland.

- October 6: Hitler made a "peace offer."  
October 19: Britain, France and Turkey signed a 15-years mutual assistance pact. Turkey excepted from war with Russia.  
November 7: Belgian and Dutch Sovereigns offered to mediate for peace.  
November 8: Munich Beer Hall explosion.  
November 30: Russia invaded Finland.  
December 13: Battle of the Plate. H.M.S. Achilles in action against Graf Spee.  
1940  
January 5: Hore-Belisha, British War Secretary, resigned.  
March 13: Finland surrendered to Russia.

- March 18: Hitler and Mussolini conferred at Brenner Pass.  
March 21: Reynaud succeeded Daladier as Prime Minister of France.  
April 9: Germany invaded Denmark and Norway.  
May 10: Germany invaded the Netherlands and Belgium. Chamberlain resigned. Churchill made Prime Minister.  
May 24: The Netherlands capitulated.  
May 27: King Leopold surrendered to the Germans over the heads of his generals and Cabinet.  
June 10: Norway capitulated and King Haakon fled to England. Italy entered the war.  
June 14: Paris fell.  
June 15: Russia occupied Lithuania. Spanish troops took over international zone of Tangier.  
June 16: Reynaud resigned. Pétain became French Prime Minister. Russia occupied Latvia and Estonia.  
June 17: France surrendered.

- June 18: Hitler and Mussolini met at Munich to discuss French Armistice.  
June 21: French signed Armistice with Germany in the Forest of Compeigne.  
June 23: France signed an Armistice with Italy.  
June 25: Fighting ceased in France. All British units withdrawn.  
June 30: Russia completed occupation of Rumanian Provinces of Bessarabia and Northern Bukovina.  
July 4: British Navy put ships of French Fleet out of action.  
July 9: Pétain Government changed constitution of French Republic to a Dictatorship.  
July 19: Roosevelt agreed to stand for President of U.S.A. for a third term.  
July 22: Lord Halifax rejected Hitler's "peace" offer.  
July 29: First big German air raid on Dover.  
August 9: Large scale German air raids over England began.

## MEN ON THE MARCH AGAIN

(By "23/762")

THREE-MILE-LONG ranks of khaki-clad figures, swinging in step with that precision which only a combination of military training and military bands is able to produce, moved through Wellington on August 17 between living lanes of those who came to cheer.

For the first time the units, totalling well over 3,000 officers and men of the 3rd Echelon, marched in battle-dress. Only a few of the officers of the home staff wore the traditional tunic uniform. The contrast was striking and proof of the change in military styles; the field soldier of this war looks more suitably clad for the strenuous demands of military life than his brothers of the past. From the tip of his tiny cap, so unlike the more distinctive peaked felt, to his strapped ankles, he looks more compact, more closely knit.

It was a stirring sight. Each of these parades becomes more impressive than the last, perhaps because it brings to mind the thinning ranks of those who

are left behind. Not even the icy tendrils of rain from the south which swept over the city could restrain the enthusiasm of the crowd, though it damped to sad rags the thousands of tiny flags so energetically waved by children along the whole route.

### Another Memorable Scene

Looking from the Railway Station towards Post Office Square and beyond, the parade was at its best because, from there, the "long view" was possible and the sun had burst the leaden clouds asunder to light a scene which the city has reason to remember. These parades are too personal, too much a part of our national being to be dimmed by repetition.

Falling streamers and showers of cut paper in Lambton Quay and Lower Willis Street fluttered down in the rain like violent and fantastic snow; cheers echoed far beyond the streets of the route; the rousing rhythm of military music drew everyone to door and window

who was not already swelling the ranks of the onlookers. The scene was as rich in incident and sentiment as though it were being enacted for the first time in our history.

Once more motionless ranks of bronzed men lined the grounds of Parliament buildings while our national leaders paid tribute to courage, hinting at trials to come, expressing the gratitude of a young nation whose men are the answer to a Motherland's call for aid. For the third time loud speakers carried the speeches far and wide to those huddling under umbrellas and verandahs, poised on window sills or, grimly contemptuous of the rain, waited for their men to go by. And if many of those modern confessions which pass for women's hats were spoiled, those mothers and sisters, wives and sweethearts who wore them made no sign. One group opposite the Government Buildings sang as the raindrops caught like gems in their hair—sang as their boy went swinging past and turned a dripping face to show that he heard, smiling his acknowledgment.

### "The Second Round"

"Now the seconds are out of the ring; the second round is about to begin," said His Excellency, the Governor-General.

"Upon us now must rest the burden of protecting the democratic way of life; all that is worthy; all that is good," said the Prime Minister, the Hon. P. Fraser. The Leader of the Opposition, the Hon. A. Hamilton, quoted Mr. Churchill, "Our aim is victory." Messages of thanks and good luck came from the Mayor, Mr. Hislop, and Mr. B. Jacobs, on behalf of the returned soldiers.

As in Wellington, so in Christchurch and Auckland. Units of the 3rd Echelon marched with smiles to the cheers which greeted them. In Auckland, Colonel N. W. McD. Weir, the Hon. W. Nash, the Right Hon. J. G. Coates, and Sir Ernest Davis, paid official tribute to youth and courage. The speakers in Christchurch were the Mayor, Mr. Macfarlane, and the Hon. H. T. Armstrong.

And when the marching was done people remembered, perhaps, that the 2nd New Zealand Division was complete.

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