

# Dublin Chronicle

September 30<sup>th</sup> 1939 - Issue 2

## Declaration of war!

The German government launched a devastating assault upon the Polish Regime in early September, this was initiated by the following declaration by the Reich:

1. A state of war will exist between the Nation of Germany and Poland from the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 1939.
2. The reason for this is the fact that the Polish government has authorised the killing of people of German origin as a mean to steal their money and other valuable things.
3. We wished to solve this problem peacefully. But, we got no reply at all from the Polish government. So, we have no choice but to protect our brothers and sisters in Poland with force.
4. This state of war will exist until the following conditions have been meet. One, we have installed a new peaceful and sane government. Two, the old government and its thugs have been put on trial for their crimes. Three, reparations have been paid to the people still alive and to the relatives of those who have been killed.
5. What this declaration is not! This is not an declaration on any other country! Especially France and Great Britain should hear this. We have no quarrel with them.
6. It's only with the greatest hesitation and sorrow in our hearts that we have decided to take military action.

**This prelude of words then followed a great assault on Poland – see page 2.**

## North Sea Battle

Reports from the British Royal Navy indicate that a major naval battle has taken place in the North Sea.

The Admiralty has reported that squadrons of the Home Fleet engaged a large surface group of the German Navy. In an action lasting over 2 hours British cruisers ensnared the German fighting ships, believed to be the Scharnhorst and Gneisenau, before the big guns of the Royal Navy were brought to bear.

The German fleet is believed to have inflicted losses on the British, with the Germans claiming to have sunk 6 cruisers and a number of destroyers, whilst the British claim to have sunk both of the German Capital Ships.

The Royal Navy then went on to provide an air strike against the Port of Kiel, supported by the Royal Airforce. Local reports indicated limited, superficial damage to the port facilities. They were then involved in the sinking of a number of German merchants off Norway.



HMS Hood in Action, from HMS Danae

Reports of naval actions in the Atlantic are also coming to the for now, the Royal Navy has indicated that a German Surface raider may be operating in the North Atlantic

# Poles fight hard

The Polish Army has taken heavy losses to the German Reich as elite German forces advanced deep into western Poland.

The city of Posen fell within the first few days of the war, with the local defenders offering little resistance. German forces then swept deep towards Lodz, using a combination of armour and air strikes to push aside limited Polish resistance.

The same situation cannot be said in northern Poland where two divisions of Polish infantry have performed an orderly withdrawal towards and then into the city of Danzig, German 21<sup>st</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> infantry divisions performed concentrated attacks upon the city gaining limited ground, an assault by the Poles then forces the Germans into retreat. A final assault was launched on the 23<sup>rd</sup> when the Germans called support from the Luftwaffe and 19<sup>th</sup> Panzer, this assault combined with the infantry made good headway with street to street fighting pushing the Poles back building by building.



German bombers prepare to strike.

The situation changed on when the Poles committed to another counter attack, during which elements of the German Panzer group here isolated from the main force. The current situation in the city remains fluid, but it would appear that the Poles have once again gained the upper hand.

# Germans Retreat

To the south the German Army received a severe shock when Polish forces launched a counter invasion of their own, advancing three army corps across the border into Slovakia. The German 18<sup>th</sup> Corps was forced into retreat by the initial assault but soon stabilised its lines, as things stand if the Poles can bolster this force they may well be able to push deep into German territory.

German air-command is reporting that they have engaged and sunk the Polish destroyer force in the Baltic, although this has not been confirmed.



German Troops east of Posen

# Europe in Flames

The German invasion has lead to a host of nations moving to back the Polish Regime, Great Britain was the first, using her navy to strike hard at the German fleet. Later on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September Canada announced her intent to support the Empire. Early on the 2<sup>nd</sup> France joined the nations arrayed against Germany.

Australia and New Zealand gave a joint declaration of war on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and South Africa vowed to support the Empire Forces on the 6<sup>th</sup>. This leaves the Germans at war with the two largest Colonial powers on the planet, both of whom have extensive military forces, that can far outmatch the Reich.



German Fighters in Northern Germany

# Italian Rage

Reports from Rome state that Benito Mussolini had what could only be described as a storming rage, when opening his diplomatic mail. Uncharacteristically he was heard to bellow at his servants, advisors and anyone who came close. The cause? Well, it seemed some nation had dared to instruct Italy on how to conduct its foreign affairs...or so the rumour goes....

# Chinese Push East

Forces of the Nationalist Chinese Army have seized control of the Portuguese Port of Macao, it is unclear whether they will return the port to its colonial power or establish their own administration within the port.

This attack seems to have been one half of a general assault on the Japanese Centre and South, with Japanese troops retreating in all actions. The actions in the centre of the line, north of Wuhan appear to have cost the Chinese dearly, with estimates of over 100,000 killed in action, whilst the Japanese claim to have lost less than 2,000 troops in response to the assault. It must however be noted that the Chinese secured the ground and the Japanese were forced into Retreat.

# Peking Held

Japanese garrison forces appear to have secured the city of Peking, additional troop formation have been moving into the city all month, with the city now estimated to have in the region of 50,000 Japanese troops in occupation.

Although the Japanese have quelled uprisings in the north, unrest persists in numerous other cities.

# Turks Pull Back

Turkish forces appear to have withdrawn from the brink of a war with Greece, as units were pulled from Europe back to locations in Asia.

# Sofia Falls

Romanian  
armour  
advancing  
on Varna



In a lightning assault Romanian troops crossed the Danube in force, moving on Sofia. A predawn strike by aircraft of the Romanian Airforce caught numerous Bulgarian aircraft on the Ground.

The Bulgarian Government eager to save the city, ordered the defending garrison to withdraw to the south, giving the Romanians an unopposed advance in Sofia.

In the east an armoured column moved across country in support of an infantry corps that advanced down the coast. The Varna garrison was not given the order to withdraw and placed heavy resistance in the way of Romania's 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps. An advance by Bulgarian 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Corps to relieve Varna was blocked by the Armour of the 1<sup>st</sup> Guards Group but looks likely to push the Romanians from the city unless the Romanians can muster more troops to its defence.

# Russian Capitalists

State sponsored stores selling Russian goods appear to be sprouting all over the place.

The newest store of this type was opened in New York this week, following on from stores opened in Europe over the past month. It would appear that the Russians have realised that they want to join the capitalist world after all!