

Editorial

'Peace in our time,' Chamberlain said

When, during 1938 in Munich, British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain reached an agreement with German Chancellor Adolf Hitler, to surrender Czechoslovakia and other portions of Europe to "Herr Hitler's" sphere of influence, he went down in history as the archetypal fool who, in pursuit of an illusory peace, plunged the world into the Armageddon of World War II.

Britain's capitulation in Munich in 1938 was followed by the Hitler-Stalin Pact of 1939, and, in 1940, Britain was fighting "Herr Hitler," over London itself.

President Ronald Reagan has plunged headlong into the same folly. On Sept. 18, and again on Sept. 19, he proclaimed to the world that he fully intends to hold a summit meeting with General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachov, some time during November of this year, in Washington, during which he will sign an agreement to "eliminate intermediate range and shorter range nuclear missiles" from Europe. It is wrong to view this INF agreement, as merely an "arms control" agreement between the two nuclear superpowers. It is not an arms control agreement. It is a "spheres-of-influence" agreement, in which the Reagan administration agrees to assign Western Europe to the sphere of influence of the great Russian Empire of Mikhail Gorbachov.

If this agreement is signed in November, the populations of Germany, Italy, France, Spain, Great Britain, and the other nations of Western European civilization, will be gripped by the same hopelessness as the population of betrayed Czechoslovakia felt on the day the news of the 1938 Munich Pact was announced. This is bottom line military reality of the nuclear age: Without American nuclear weapons, Western Europe is defenseless against the overwhelming, combined might of Soviet nuclear and conventional forces.

If this agreement is signed by President Reagan, only one thing will prevent the Russian armies from marching into all the beautiful capitals of Europe: a voluntary surrender of these nations, and an internal takeover of Quisling regimes. This will happen during 1988, the year of the next American presidential elec-

tion. The industrial, technological, scientific, and economic potential of all of the European Community, greater, in aggregate, than that of the United States, will be placed in the service of the Russian imperial drive—during 1988.

Once this occurs, once the Russian imperialist strategists have succeeded in harnessing an abandoned and occupied Western Europe's productive potentials under the war mobilization, then, finally, the nation of the United States of America, for the first time since her founding, and for the first time since the Congress of Vienna of 1815, at which America's enemies pledged to destroy her, will be confronted with the concrete, practical, and sensuous choice of either capitulating, bending her knee to the Imperial Russian master, surrendering her sovereignty, or going to general war.

There are those who smugly and piously argue that surrender of sovereignty is preferable to war. They are the self-designated "men of peace." These peculiar men of peace are not preaching the virtues of their ideas to the heavily armed Russians, but only to the vulnerable and disarmed United States. These self-designated "men of peace," are counting Mikhail Gorbachov as one of their own. But, these very same "men of peace," Neville Chamberlain and the editors of the *New York Times*, during Munich in 1938 hailed Chancellor Hitler himself as a "man of peace," one of their own.

Nobody, no nation, during the Second World War, willingly preferred to give up its sovereignty in order to "live in peace." It will not happen now either. "But," these so-called men of peace tell us, "now, in the nuclear age, it is different, because war would mean total annihilation." They are wrong: Sovereignty to nations is what the soul is to human individuals. Without a soul, you are not alive as a person, and without sovereignty, you are not alive as a nation. Whoever heard of a person that would give up his or her soul in order to live?

Peace without sovereignty is an oxymoron. How much more blood must be shed for our Neville Chamberlains to learn this lesson?