



whatever political tendency or religion you may belong to, join with every friend of peace and freedom known to you in a common fraternal struggle!

Just as the French Popular Front is fighting to maintain peace, so you should unite to form a German popular front to bring down the fascist fire-raisers of war, to reconcile the nations, for a free, strong, and happy Germany!

**The joint appeal**  
is as follows:

"On February 2, 1936, 118 members of all German workers' parties and representatives of the liberal bourgeoisie issued an announcement to the German people, urgently warning that the war of extermination and conquest being prepared by Hitler is approaching by the day.

On March 7, 1936, Hitler violated the Locarno Treaty. This agreement had been signed voluntarily by Germany and acknowledged by Hitler on several occasions. Hitler talks of equal rights for Germany, but in reality he is organizing war for the oppression of other nations. The warmongers of 1914, the same Krupps, Thyssens, Vöglers to whom Germany owes its defeat of 1918, are once again behind the events. Domestic difficulties are inseparable from Hitler's dictatorship of the major capitalists; Hitler's war policy will lead the German people to catastrophe. Only the German people themselves can halt these criminals, but the determined friends of peace from all nations can help the German people to prevent disaster.

The fortification of the Rhineland is not taking place for the protection of the German people—no nation is considering attacking Germany—but is intended to make it easier for Hitler's dictatorship to assault France, Belgium, Austria, Czechoslovakia, and the Soviet Union. Mussolini's unpunished attack on Abyssinia and Japan's invasion of Chinese territories have encouraged Hitler to carry out his provocations of war. The concessions granted to Hitler have only fostered his war policy.

Hitler organized the dishonest pretence of his so-called referendum to conceal the true purpose of his war provocations.

We counter this with the plain truth. A German government that has *Mein Kampf* as its unalterable textbook and that book's postwar policy as its creed, a German government that is not willing to take part in a security pact in the East, that is opposed to collective security and only in favor of individual agreements, providing they enable it the isolation of the attacked party, this government has proved that it wears peace only as a mask.

Year 1936 – No. 4

Slogan of the Day:  
Peace is Hitler's greatest enemy!

The Red Flag

Central Newspaper of the Communist Party of Germany (Section of the Third International)

Price 15 pfennigs

Comrade! Reader! Recruit regular readers for the *Rote Fahne* among your friends and acquaintances! Give no information about whom you received this newspaper from.

Comrade! You should not only read this newspaper with your workmates, you should write for it as well. Pass your reports on to your party functionary!

**Be united, united against Hitler!**  
**For a popular front to save Germany from the disaster of war**

The threat to world peace posed by Hitler's imperialist war policy has brought together leading forces from the Communist Party, the Social Democratic Party, the SAP, former Reichsbanner functionaries, free trade unionists, and men of the liberal intelligentsia and the liberal bourgeoisie to discuss the joint struggle for peace and freedom, for the liberation of Germany from Hitler's slavery.

This joint appeal reflects the will of all illegal activists, of the Communists and the Social Democrats and the Catholics, of the gagged intelligentsia, of the oppressed middle classes and farmers. This call to unity against the fascist destroyers of peace concerns each and every one of us: you, Hitler opponent,

The undersigned, members of all the German workers' parties and organizations leading a heroic struggle against the Hitler regime in Germany, declare jointly with representatives of the liberal German bourgeoisie:

The mass of the German people do not want war, but peace. Hitler's war policy contradicts the will of the overwhelming majority of the German people. It is untrue that 99 percent of the German people are behind Hitler. The election figures are partly extorted by a regime of unprecedented terror and partly achieved by means of proven, unparalleled fraud.

The great mass of the German people, particularly the workers of Germany, have only one goal in coexistence with other nations: to live in a free Germany liberated from Nazi terror, at peace with all peoples, and to solve all contentious issues through peaceful communication.

The announcement of February 2, 1936, declared that "the outbreak or non-outbreak of disaster may depend on whether and to what degree the resistance fighters spread across the German people and join forces."

In view of the increased danger of war and threat of catastrophe, this joining of forces is more necessary than ever, to unmask Hitler's machinations and to put an end to the chauvinist demagoguery, the ideological preparation for war.

Our appeal goes out to all German workers, to all women and men who want to protect Germany and the world from a new war. Unite! Fight together to bring down Hitler's dictatorship! It is our people's misfortune and will become a misfortune for the whole world if we do not prevent it.

Our appeal goes out at the same time to the workers and their organizations across the world, to the men and women in all countries, to support the liberal and peaceable forces of the German people in their heroic struggle through united action, through prevention of all financial support for Hitler's Germany, through the fight for amnesty for the imprisoned opponents of the Nazi regime.

It is not too late to prevent the looming calamity of a new, horrific war, if all forces for peace unite to achieve this goal."

### **Signatures:**

#### **Social Democrats:**

Rudolf Breitscheid, former M.R. and delegate to the League of Nations  
Max Braun, former member of the Saar state parliament  
Prof. Georg Decker  
Emil Kirschmann, former M.R.  
Max Hofmann, former national deputy leader of the Reichsbanner  
Siegfried Aufhäuser, former M.R.  
Ernst Roth, former M.R.  
Wagner, former M.R.  
Heinrich Becker, former M.R.  
Karl Böchel, former member of the state parliament  
Hermann Petri, former member of the state parliament  
Dr. Hans Hirschfeld, ministerial advisor  
Alexander Schiffrin

#### **Communists:**

Walter Ulbricht, former M.R.  
Franz Dahlem, former M.R.  
Willi Münzenberg, former M.R.  
Philipp Dengel, former M.R.  
Wilhelm Koenen, former M.R.  
Hans Beimler, former M.R.  
A. André, former M.R.  
Erich Belfort, editor

#### **SAP functionaries:**

Jacob Walcher  
Dr. Walter Fabian  
W. Brandt

#### **Representatives of the liberal intelligentsia and the liberal bourgeoisie:**

Heinrich Mann  
Georg Bernhard  
Leopold Schwarzschild  
Lion Feuchtwanger  
Ernst Toller  
Otto Lehmann-Rußbüldt  
Prof. E. J. Gumbel  
Prof. Fritz Lieb  
Prof. S. Marck  
Walter Schönstedt  
Alfred Kantorowicz  
Protection Association of German Writers (Executive Committee: Rudolf Leonhard and E. E. Kisch)  
German League for Human Rights, Association of Socialist Doctors, Free German Adult Education College, Collective of German Artists in Paris, Free German Youth Paris