

THE MOMENT OF INVASION

We have come together this morning at a solemn but hopeful moment in history. This is a time for quiet reverent thinking and personal dedication. The fateful invasion of Europe has begun. The full might of the Allied Nations is pressing hard against the enemy's stronghold. Every resource of our civilization is represented in this gigantic thrust - idealism, intelligence, physical power, technology, and human flesh and blood and spirit.

This moment is solemn because the lives of relatives, friends and fellow citizens are at stake. Men fight at their invasion battle stations that we may live - that we may have another chance to build a world for free men.

This moment is hopeful because we confidently believe that free men can fight better than men driven or blindly lead by taskmasters. We believe that idealistic forces are about to destroy this most recent rampage of civilization's ever present enemy - greed entrenched in national government. This enemy is, in essence, the philosophy of materialism. This philosophy cloaked with power has destroyed, dwarfed, and enslaved men in every age. The Axis nations are but its modern manifestation. They demonstrate with horrible accuracy the means which avaricious power - hungry leaders will use to capture governments and bend men to their will. They show how man's intelligence and ingenuity can be perverted and how nations are molded into instruments of destruction.

The Allied Nations symbolize an idea that has developed ever so slowly, but surely, down through the ages. This idea is that all people are tremendously important - not just a few, and their well-being is infinitely more valuable than wealth or power or any thing else in the world. Men, good men, better men, are the true objective of the state. Material possessions, power and might are only means to serve this objective - never ends in themselves.

This moment of invasion represents the most gigantic and dramatic clash of opposing ideologies that has ever occurred in all history. Which will win - idealism, designated as democracy with free men and human well-being as the focal objective,

or materialism, designated as fascism, with men as puppets of a state controlled by a ruling clique?

At this climactic moment we have faith that our ideology will win. We have this faith because we believe that intelligence, technology, ingenuity, and resources in men and material when coordinated and directed to make and keep men free are more powerful than when used to enslave. The spiritual resources and objectives of free man make the difference. This fact is all-important and elemental. It is the one fact that the forces of evil have always overlooked. Man's will to be free is his God-given birth-right. It distinguishes man from every other living thing. For that birth-right we fight and work and pray.

On November 19, 1863, Abraham Lincoln said "Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

"Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure."

How pertinent are these words now! We face the same fundamental issue that confronted Lincoln and his contemporaries in 1863. But today, this issue will be settled in a civil war within the world family rather than within the family of a single nation. The question has become: Can the world continue half free and half slave? And our answer is that the world, like a nation, cannot continue half free and half slave. The promise of freedom is found in the spirit, devotion, courage, and power of our fighting men at this moment of invasion. ^{This} ~~That~~ promise is also imbedded in the thoughts, feelings and actions of free men everywhere. Lincoln today might say: "It is for us the privileged to be dedicated now to the unfinished work which they who fight are so nobly advancing - that governments of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

So, today we pray for our men who fight for us and for all men everywhere. We pray for their safety and for their success. We pray, too, for ourselves that

we may have the intelligence, the courage, the devotion to keep safe that precious heritage for which our men fight and sacrifice. Let us, therefore, strive for this new birth of freedom in the world and for the strength and will to devote our lives to that purpose.

This is a solemn moment for prayer, for thought, and for personal dedication. It is a moment of hope for civilization.

Shall we ~~strive~~ rise together for a period of silence.

Mrs. Dickhaut

State College program for Invasion ("D") Day

(in quad, at 11:40)

Announcement will be made by the ringing of the tower bells.....

1. Group singing, led by Miss Deborah Smith and the Treble Clef

Battle Hymn of the Republic

"The Moment of Invasion"

2. Short address: ~~Invasion Day~~.....President Hepner

3. Moments of Silence.....

4. Prayer.....Rev. Albert Shaw
(a student)

5. Chanting of The Lord's Prayer.....Treble Clef

Malotte,

6. Recessional (Kipling).....Sung by William Barnise

De Koven