

Def. Doc. No. 560

Excerpts from book entitled "EVENTS LEADING UP TO WORLD WAR II",
published by United States Government Printing Office,
Washington: 1945

Relating to Poland

From pp. 216-17

September 17, 1939. Russia invaded Poland from the East... "Event arising out of the Polish-German War has revealed the internal insolvency and obvious impotence of the Polish State. Polish ruling circles have suffered bankruptcy.... Warsaw as the Polish state no longer exists. No one knows the whereabouts of the Polish Government. The population of Poland have been abandoned by their ill-starred leaders to their fate. The Polish State and its government have virtually ceased to exist. In view of this state of affairs, treaties concluded between the Soviet Union and Poland have ceased to operate. A situation has arisen in Poland which demands of the Soviet Government especial concern for the security of its state. Poland has become a fertile field for any accidental and unexpected contingency that may create a menace to the Soviet Union.... Nor can it be demanded of the Soviet Government that it remain indifferent to the fate of its blood brothers, the Ukrainians and Byelo-Russians (White Russians) inhabiting Poland, who even formerly were without rights and who now have been abandoned entirely to their fate. The Soviet Government deems it its sacred duty to extend the hand of assistance to its brother Ukrainians and brother Byelo-Russians inhabiting Poland". (Molotov, quoted in Times Sept. 18, 1939, p. 5.)

September 18, 1939. German and Polish troops agreed provisional on partition of Poland at Brest-Litovsk. (Two armies met as campaign approached end. Times, Sept. 19, 1939, p. 1.)

From p. 218

September 28, 1939. Germany and Russia partitioned Poland in border and friendship treaty. ("The German Reich Government and the Government of Soviet Russia, after the disintegration of the former Polish state, consider it their task to restore in this region law and order and to insure nationals living there an existence corresponding to their national character." Times, Sept. 29, 1939, p. 1.)

From p. 223

November 3, 1939. Russia incorporated Polish Western Ukraine and Western White Russia. ("...owing to collapse of the Polish State and the successful operations of our Red Army..." Times, Nov. 7, 1939, p. 5.)