

DARKEST HOUR

- The LEGEND of WINSTON CHURCHILL

A Time of Defeat and Retreat

Darkest Hour is a British war drama focusing on Winston Churchill's first month in office as Prime Minister of Great Britain, May/June 1940. *Darkest Hour* is a suspense-filled and engrossing historic drama set against the backdrop of the German Blitzkrieg which sent the British and French armies in headlong retreat.

Peace or War - That is the Question

The near consensus of Churchill's cabinet was to begin peace negotiations with Germany. Much of the suspense and drama of this film focuses on Winston Churchill's determination to continue the war at any cost and to appeal directly to the people in the street to support his policy of "No surrender", "No negotiations", "Victory at all costs".

Spate of Churchill Films

It is remarkable that in the last two years there have been another three films on Britain in the 1940s: *Dunkirk*, *Churchill* and *Their Finest* (dealing with the British Ministry of Information assignment to produce a morale boosting film, presenting the debacle of Dunkirk as an inspiring victory).

Government Support

The film makers of *Darkest Hour* evidently received tremendous co-operation from government officials as a number of scenes are filmed in the Palace of Westminster, House of Commons, from within the underground War Room bunkers under Whitehall and even some scenes are shot within the grounds of Buckingham Palace.

Award Winning Box Office Success

Darkest Hour has done well at the box office, has been generally praised by critics and has been nominated for six academy awards in the American Oscars and the British Academy has nominated it for nine categories. Many are hailing Gary Oldman's performance as Winston Churchill as the best of his career.

Mixing Fiction with Facts

Unfortunately, despite being set in authentic venues and at a most dramatic period of history, the film makers have taken some serious liberties and introduced fictional events and fictional conversations, even from the lips of King George VI.

Censoring Out the Spiritual Realities

Even more seriously is what has been left out of the film, such as King George VI's Empire wide call for Repentance and Prayer. On 26 May 1940, with the British Expeditionary Force in defeat and retreat, the king made an international broadcast, instructing all people of the British Empire to return to God in Repentance and humbly seek God for Divine intervention to enable the rescue of their beleaguered army from total destruction. Many millions of people across the British Isles and throughout the world flocked into churches, praying in shifts for deliverance. Churches were so packed that people were lined up for hours, waiting to get in to churches to take part in the organised national repentance. These would have made impressive scenes, but inexplicably are not even referred to in *Darkest Hour*.

Impossible Breach of Protocol

The film also includes a fictional scene of the king coming into Churchill's bedroom and actually sitting on his bed to encourage him to press on with the war. Not only was such a breach of protocol

unthinkable, but unnecessary, the king only needed to summon his prime minister to the palace if he wanted to talk to him. There is no hint in any historic record of such an anachronistic event taking place.

Unbelievable Anachronism

The film also takes a major detour from reality, by introducing a fictionalised event of prime minister Winston Churchill disappearing out of his vehicle in the midst of a crowd downtown in order to ride the underground in the tube and survey passengers as to their opinions regarding peace or continuing the war. Anyone who has read Churchill's biographies would immediately recognise that this is another anachronistic Hollywood type of ploy. Winston Churchill was not a democrat and he never cared for the opinions of the masses, nor even of fellow parliamentarians.

Rewriting History to Reimagine Churchill as the Stereotypical Reluctant Hero

However, *Darkest Hour* seems determined to recast British legend Winston Churchill in a more 21st century mould, the reluctant warrior, filled with self-doubts and fears, determined to do the right thing, going to the common people to hear their concerns, choosing principle over politics and championing the cause of justice. If only all that had been true!

Reality Beats Fiction

The real Winston Churchill is far removed from the myth and legend built up by a never ending stream of hagiographical films. The truth is always stranger than fiction and more interesting!

The Missing Advisors and Bankers

In *Darkest Hour*, Winston Churchill seems to be an eccentric loner. However, the reality was quite different. Nowhere does *Darkest Hour* even hint at the existence of the *Focus* group of about a dozen key politicians and bankers who continuously advised and guided Churchill on every decision. Sir Henry Strakosch, the banker who regularly bailed Churchill out from his incessant and reckless gambling debts, makes no appearance in this film. Without Strakosch and the Rothchilds we would never have even heard of Churchill because they bankrolled his incredible political career.

FDR is Portrayed as Reluctant and Disinterested

It is quite extraordinary that the *Darkest Hour* filmmakers portray Winston Churchill phoning Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR) and pleading with a plainly reluctant American president to provide some military assistance, "*anything*", in their "*darkest hour*". That may have been the impression people had years ago. However, since the publication of President Herbert Hoover's, *Freedom Betrayed* and Sir Max Hastings, *The Secret War*, the unsealing of the GC & CS decrypts and the declassifying of numerous previously sealed war time files, it is now known that far from the American president being an unwilling participant, FDR was a prime mover for the War. FDR had bribed, bullied and persuaded the Polish government to refuse to hand the German port city of Danzig (which was 95% German and had been unjustly seized by the Versailles Treaty) back to Germany. It was FDR who had bribed and persuaded both the French and British governments to give the unprecedented war guarantee to Poland, which made the outbreak of war in September inevitable.

Inconvenient Truths that Ruin a Good Story

As Patrick Buchanan well documented in *Churchill, Hitler and the Unnecessary War*, it was FDR and Churchill, more than any other individuals, who conspired, connived and manoeuvred to bring about the catastrophic Second World War. However, the Churchillian cult obviously prefers myth and propaganda to the hard facts. As Winston Churchill so famously declared: "*The truth is so important that it needs a bodyguard of lies to protect it!*"

A Track Record of Disastrous Decisions

At the start of World War One, it had taken just ten months for Churchill's conduct as First Lord of the Admiralty to plunge him into political disgrace. In the Second World War, eight months sufficed

to make him Prime Minister. It was not that his character had changed. Age had done nothing to temper his irrationalism and lend balance to his judgement. All the accusations of madcap, irresponsible schemes for disastrous action that had been made against him in 1915, could have been even more justifiably repeated in 1940.

Political Opportunism

However, he had been a prophet of doom in the political wilderness for seven years and with doom descending upon the heads of the politicians of Europe, Churchill had positioned himself for leadership, eloquent and pugnacious and as he put it, "*untainted by appeasement*". Whenever the war went badly, the Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain bore the blame and if the war went well, Churchill was likely to steal the credit.

Damage Control

The First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Dudley Pound, fought a brilliant series of delaying actions to block Churchill's highly irresponsible projects, such as sending British warships into the Baltic Sea and invading neutral Iceland to seize control of their strategic sea ports. (Later when Prime Minister Churchill succeeded in invading Iceland.)

British Battleship Sunk at Naval Base by U-Boat

Even with the sinking of the British Battleship, HMS Royal Oak, in Scapa Flow, the chief Naval Base of Britain during the world wars, somehow the blame was attached to the Prime Minister, rather than the First Lord of the Admiralty!

Time Was on His Side

Churchill was not too disturbed at the disastrous defeats suffered by the British Army on land, he was convinced that, as with the First World War, the allies had time on their side and that no matter how many victories Germany might win on land, the Royal Navy would ultimately bring Germany to its knees through economic blockade alone.

Blockade and Bombardment

However, Winston Churchill had even more faith in the Royal Air Force's power to reduce Germany's cities to rubble and to wreck her factories by saturation aerial bombardments from the colossal 4-engine bomber fleets being produced in Britain even at this early stage of the war.

Violating Norwegian Neutrality

On 16 February 1940, Churchill ordered HMS Cossack to violate Norwegian neutrality, to capture the Altmark, a German ship taking refuge in a fjord. He then ordered the Royal Navy to mine Norwegian coastal waters to cut off Germany's iron ore supplies from Sweden shipped via Narvick and planned a bold naval action to invade neutral Norway. In this the French eagerly joined in.

Disastrous Debacle

Unwise bragging by Churchill of this upcoming seaborne operation tipped off the German Abwehr and as the Anglo French Naval invasion force approached Norway, they found themselves out-maneuvred and pre-empted by Operation *Weserübung* with seaborne landings and *Fallschirmjäger* (Para troop) assaults. Churchill had disastrously underestimated his enemy and the Royal Navy lost an aircraft carrier, 2 battle cruisers, 7 destroyers, a submarine and 112 aircraft with over 6,000 casualties. The French also lost 2 destroyers and 2 submarines in this failed Allied invasion of Norway. This was the immediate context behind the opening scene of the *Darkest Hour* film.

Bringing Down Chamberlain's Government

As Churchill himself admitted, his optimism had led him to ignore the difficulties and drawbacks and he had fatally underestimated his enemy. He wrote: "*Considering the prominent part I played in*

these events... it is a marvel that I survived and maintained my position in public esteem and parliamentary confidence." Ironically, it was Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain who paid the price of Churchill's failure. The Norwegian debacle forced Neville Chamberlain to resign.

The Crisis that Brought Churchill to Power

To restore confidence and unify the nation for war there would need to be a coalition government, but the Labour party refused to serve under Chamberlain. Lord Halifax, the Foreign Secretary, was the first choice of the king and was acceptable to all parties. However, Halifax declined the premiership on the grounds that the war should not be run from the House of Lords. The only other candidate willing to undertake the Prime Ministership in this time of defeat and retreat, was the very man, Winston Churchill, who had been most responsible for the debacle that was bringing down the government!

Irony

At 6pm on 10 May 1940, Winston Churchill was summoned to Buckingham Palace and instructed by the King to form a government. Virtually everyone in government distrusted or disliked Winston Churchill and there was general shock and depression at the news. However, his reputation as a prophet of doom had made him the natural choice when doom descended. Even though he was the primary architect of the disasters besetting the country at that time.

Sense of Destiny

Although many people in the country had great doubts about Churchill's ability, he apparently had none. Churchill's memoirs record: *"As I went to bed at around 3am, I was conscious of a profound sense of relief. At last I had the authority to give directions over the whole scene. I felt as if I were walking with destiny and all my past life had been but a preparation for this hour."*

Military Realities

On the very day that Chamberlain resigned and Winston Churchill was appointed Prime Minister, the German army launched its *Blitzkrieg* on the allied armies on the Western Front. The impression given in the *Darkest Hour* film is that the German army was the largest army in the world and greatly outnumbered all others. That is not actually true. The largest army in the world was most certainly the Red Army of the Soviet Union, but the French Army was also much larger than the German Army. Together the British Expedition Force and French Army greatly outnumbered the German forces with twice as much artillery and almost twice as much tanks and armoured cars.

Blitzkrieg

However, clearly the Germans made better tactical use of their limited resources. German casualties in the six-week Blitzkrieg that defeated France were 27,074 dead, 111,034 wounded, total German casualties were under 160,000. Allied casualties were 2,260,000. The Germans destroyed twice as many Allied aircraft as they lost and more than five times as many Allied tanks as they lost. Plainly the German army proved itself superior in quality, even though the Allies had the advantage in terms of quantity. Before the Battle of France in 1940, France would have been considered the military superpower of Europe, so the swift and decisive defeat of France stunned the world.

The Shocking Facts

Sir Max Hastings, Author of *The Secret War: Spies, Codes and Guerrillas 1939-45*, states in his conclusion that Allied commanders routinely complained that British Intelligence greatly underestimated the numbers of German soldiers and their resources, but time proved that in fact the intelligence departments were infallibly accurate due to the Government Code and Cypher School (GC&CS) cracking the German Enigma codes early in the war. They provided a complete intelligence picture of all German dispositions and war plans throughout the war. The decrypts and analysis of enemy strength were accurate. However, as Hastings observed, the incredible tenacity and fighting spirit of the German forces made them worth many times their number of Allied forces.

Blood, Toil, Tears and Sweat

Darkest Hour highlights Winston Churchill's extraordinary eloquence and showcases some of his most famous war time speeches. In his first address to the House of Commons as Prime Minister on 13 May, "*I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat... you ask, what is our policy? I will say, it is to wage war! By sea, land and air! With all our might and with all the strength that God can give us; to wage war against the monstrous tyranny, never surpassed in the dark, lamentable catalogue of human crime... you ask, what is our aim? I can answer in one word: Victory, victory at all costs, victory in spite of all terror; victory however long and hard the road may be!*"

Marshalling the English Language for War

As an observer noted, Winston Churchill marshalled the English language and sent it into war. Certainly his policy of war **at all costs**, meant an extremely long and hard ruinous road for the people of England, Europe and indeed the whole British Commonwealth.

Was it Really Necessary?

But the film *Darkest Hour* does raise the question: Was it necessary? Could Britain have chosen the road of peace and negotiation? That indeed is the whole premise of Patrick Buchanan's book, [*Churchill, Hitler and the Unnecessary War – How Britain Lost its Empire and the West Lost the World.*](#)

The Peace Option

As *Darkest Hour* depicts, most of the Cabinet, including Neville Chamberlain and Lord Halifax, favoured a negotiated settlement and indeed Germany repeatedly offered most generous terms. That is certainly what President Herbert Hoover in his *Freedom Betrayed* book documents. These authorities are convinced that Britain could have continued to be the greatest political, economic and military superpower in the world through to the end of the 20th century and beyond, had Churchill not been hell-bent on a policy of war "*at any price, in spite of all terror, however long and hard the road may be.*"

Peace Initiatives which were Spurned

Peter Padfield makes the same point in his *Hess, Hitler and Churchill: The Real Turning Point of the Second World War – A Secret History* book. When Deputy Fuhrer Rudolph Hess set off for Britain on his peace mission in May 1941, it was the most dramatic of 16 major peace initiatives launched by Germany to end the war in the West. As made clear in multiple other offers through 1940-41, through neutral countries, such as Sweden and Switzerland, the German leadership was committed to evacuating all occupied European countries in the West in exchange for an ending of the British naval blockade and aerial bombardment of Germany.

What Could One Lose by Accepting Those Peace Offers?

What would Britain have to lose from accepting such an offer? Absolutely nothing. There was so much to gain and without any need for further loss of life.

Crushing All Who Proposed Peace

However, Winston Churchill had everyone connected with the peace initiatives in Great Britain, including generals, admirals, members of parliament and Lords, arrested and incarcerated, without charge and without trial, under emergency security legislation. Over 6,000 people were detained without trial under the Emergency Powers Act of 22 May 1940.

Crushing Dissent and Imprisoning Dissenters

Under Winston Churchill, literally thousands of advocates for peace in Britain were imprisoned. All conscientious objectors on staff at the BBC were dismissed. Even members of parliament were detained for years, without charge or trial, under Churchill's Emergency powers.

Rudolf Hess

Hess, who, as an unarmed peace emissary, should have been treated like an ambassador, was however, the last prisoner incarcerated in the Tower of London. Hess was completely muzzled, never allowed to speak to anyone concerning the war, or his peace initiative, for the rest of his life. Considering that he was the last surviving senior leader of the Third Reich, it is extraordinary that neither historians, nor journalists, were allowed any access to interview Hess, for decades, right up to his death under suspicious circumstances in 1987.

Who Gains from This War?

Peter Padfield makes clear in his book, *Hess, Hitler and Churchill*, the British people had everything to gain and nothing to lose from entering into such an agreement. Indeed many millions of lives would have been spared and much of the architectural and art treasures of Europe could have escaped arial destruction by bomber command. In fact, no soldiers needed to have died on the beaches of Normandy, or in the Battle for Arnhem, or indeed any of the battles from the Dieppe raid, onwards to the terror bombing campaigns that incinerated over 60 cities including Hamburg, Cologne, Dresden and Berlin. One person would have lost and that is Winston Churchill. He saw the war as his path to power and greatness. Ending the war early was against his personal ambitions. The only other “winner” or beneficiary of the disastrous World War was international communism, particularly Stalin’s Soviet Union.

War Lord

Even admirers and biographers of Winston Churchill acknowledge that he was more of a War Dictator than a Prime Minister. Never has any British prime minister consolidated more power and exercised it with greater influence than Winston Churchill did from 1940 to 1945. He even made himself Minister of Defence. As Minister of Defence he often bypassed the Chiefs of Staff and the War Cabinet secretariat by issuing personal instructions directly to squadron leaders and commanders in the field. Including ordering a series of “*savage attacks*” on the German capital, Berlin, in September 1941. When warned that such attacks would inevitably lead to counter bombing of London in reprisal, Churchill insisted the bombing go ahead.

War State

Churchill was in some ways, something of a Revolutionary. Formal hierarchies and normal procedures were no longer sacred in his administration. Anything that advanced the war effort was “good”. Anything that stood in its way was steamrolled or swept aside. Financial orthodoxy was thrown out the window. Britain went for broke. Limits on working hours in factories were ignored in the race for arms production.

Total War

While Germany never allowed mothers to be mobilised into the factories in the Second World War, Winston Churchill had no such compunctions and moved the country into a Total War-footing immediately, with 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, factory production and absolutely nothing was held back. However, Germany, by way of comparison, only moved on to such a Total War-footing as late as 1943, when it was actually too late. As Air Marshall Arthur Tedder of the Royal Air Force observed, Germany lost the war because she failed to wage Total War.

Women at War

Mothers in Germany were excluded from factory work. Albert Speer, Reich Minister of Armaments and War Production, complained about the exclusion of millions of mothers from his work force, but was overruled by Adolf Hitler, who insisted that the primary duty of mothers was to be raising the children in the home. Churchill had no problem drafting women into war work by the Ministry of Labour and even using women in combat in anti-aircraft units and in the Special Operations

Executive (SOE), which used many women in highly dangerous roles as secret agents, as Churchill put it, to “*set Europe ablaze.*”

Dictatorial National Socialism in Britain

After passage of the *Emergency Powers Act of 22 May*, Churchill had the legal power to do almost anything he liked with the citizens of Britain, or their property. As has been observed, Winston Churchill practised a national socialism in Great Britain in many cases more severe than that practised in war-time Germany.

Total Control of the Media

In those desperate days, Churchill dominated the radio and newspapers of Great Britain with calculated political acts and carefully prepared and rehearsed speeches designed to boost morale, denigrate defeatism and secure maximum work effort from farm labourers, factory workers and soldiers alike.

History in the Making

His speeches were also intended to resound through the ages as Churchill noted that he never forgot that he was an actor on the great stage of history. He commented that history would be kind to him because he intended to write it!

Surprising Success of Churchill's Oratory

Professional broadcasters expressed their surprise at the success of Churchill's speeches. Churchill's style of oratory was at least 20 years out of date and considered most unsuitable for the intimacy of radio. They noted that he addressed not the real British people with their skepticism and materialism, but he addressed a heroic people of his own imagination, the living embodiment of great historic tradition. Churchill drew on the broad sweep of English history, recalling the Battles of Agincourt and Trafalgar, which actually meant little or nothing to most of his listeners. Yet he succeeded in evoking a pride in imperial glory and national destiny that for most British people had died long before, if it had even existed at all! Yet, Churchill's speeches worked, despite their archaic language, the occasional colloquialism amidst high flowing phrases and flashes of cheeky humour delivered with a strangely compelling voice. Churchill's speeches were resonant with high emotion, quite unusual for the British people at that time.

Effective Dramatic Simplicity

Churchill demonstrated an effective dramatic simplicity in his brilliant speeches, such as after the desperate evacuation of the British Expedition Force from the beaches of Dunkirk: “*We shall fight in France, we shall fight on the seas and oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and strength in the air, we shall defend our island, whatever the cost may be, we shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender!*”

Was it Even Necessary to Wage War at All?

Churchill's impressive speech making abilities may have clouded a more pertinent question: Was it even necessary to fight this war at all?

Facts that Undermine the Fiction

Germany had never declared war on Britain. Germany never wanted to fight Britain. Germany was offering the most generous peace terms imaginable for a victorious army. Why could Britain not just go her way and end the naval blockade and arial bombardment of Germany? What was to be gained? Indeed what was gained?

Their Finest Hour

After the dramatic and complete military defeat of France within a mere six weeks, Churchill demonstrated again his inspired journalist knack of coining an unforgettable phrase: *“The battle of France is over. I expect that the battle of Britain is about to begin... let us therefore brace ourselves to our duty and so bear ourselves that, if the British Empire and its Commonwealth last for a thousand years, men will still say, **this was their finest hour!**”*

Was WW2 Really Britain’s Finest Hour?

Great words, inspiring. However, was it even true? In what way can one claim that one’s own times are the finest hour for an empire over many centuries? Many historians may say that Britain’s 19th century naval campaign against the slave trade, clearing the oceans of slave ships and setting countless captives free, was their finest hour. Indeed there are many more worthy contenders for the title: *“Their finest hour”*.

Memorable Exaggeration and Presumption

After the Battle of Britain there was the famous tribute to the gallant pilots of Fighter Command: *“Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many, to so few.”* Memorable, inspiring and unforgettable. However, again, surely gross presumption and exaggeration.

Thermopylae and the 300 Spartans

Would not those words have been more appropriately attributed to King Leonidas and his 300 Spartans? The Battle of Thermopylae 480BC, where an initial Greek force of 7,000 blocked the path of the Persian Army claimed to number over a million for 7 days. When their position was outflanked, King Leonidas dismissed the bulk of the Greek Army and remained to safeguard their retreat with 300 Spartans, 700 Thespians and 400 Thebans, who all fought to the last man. This bold and sacrificial delaying action enabled the Greek Navy to withdraw to Salamis, where they later won a great victory against the Persian Navy and effectively saved Europe from Asiatic control.

Malta, Lepanto and Vienna

Similarly one could recount the courageous siege of Malta where a few hundred knights of St. John held out against a vast Turkish Army in a siege of almost 4 months, helping to save Western Europe from invasion. The decisive naval battle of Lepanto in 1571 and the successful raising of the siege of Vienna of 1683, are surely far more worthy recipients of such an accolade: *“Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many, to so few.”*

War Propaganda

However, Churchill’s speeches were backed up by impressive press photos, rousing news reels and strategic personal appearances - all designed to promote war-propaganda and further mobilise the nation and the empire in a war *at all costs, to the very end.*

Self-Indulgent Decadence

It was extraordinary that Winston Churchill came to be so popular with the common people as he was probably the most ostentatiously self-indulgent leader who has ever been appointed to 10 Downing Street. He woke at around 8am to be served a copious breakfast with despatch boxes of telegrams and memorandums. He stayed in bed for most of the morning, dictating to his secretaries. His first bath of the day followed (he generally had two baths each day and changed his shirt three times a day). Each of the three meals a day were by all estimations, massive and included brandy and cigars. Churchill frequently embarrassed officials by appearing like a Roman Emperor in his bath towel, dripping from the bathroom, at all hours of the day. Daily, his secretaries had to take dictation from him while he luxuriated in the bath.

Obnoxious Rudeness and Bullying

He was described by those who worked for him as “*rude, overbearing, loquacious, moody, insulting and arbitrary.*” His long-suffering wife, Clementine, warned him: “*There is a danger of you being generally disliked by your colleagues and subordinates because of your rough, sarcastic and overbearing manner.*”

Explosive Temper

Desmond Morton, his long-trusted advisor, expressed horror at the “*depth of selfish brutality*” revealed in Churchill’s sudden rages against those who crossed him. His egotism and irascible temper were legendary and was mentioned in the diaries of many generals, including George Patton. Churchill’s intake of alcohol was continuous throughout the day. His comment: “*I have taken more out of alcohol, than alcohol has taken out of me!*”

Harassment and Intimidation

Churchill harried his subordinates with a never ending stream of queries and instructions which could seriously disrupt the vital work of whole ministries by his sudden importunate demands for information and action. Some officials later recorded that they felt they were fighting a war more against Churchill than Hitler! The Navy in particular was continuously trying to prevent Churchill’s dream of a successful re-run of the disastrous Gallipoli Campaign of 1915. As Minister of Defence, Churchill summed up his method in one witty phrase: “*All I want is compliance with my wishes.*”

Micro-Management

Churchill could simultaneously direct grand international political and military strategy and intervene to determine the size of jam rations, or demand an increase in the output of playing cards for gambling!

Ultra Secret Decrypts

Churchill insisted on being given a selection of ultra-secret decrypts every day. These were often delivered by the Head of Mi6, Sir Stewart Menzies, in person. Menzies tried to make sure that there was at least one juicy scandalous item a day to suit the prime minister’s palate. Churchill loved to spring secret information on the uninitiated to clinch an argument, thus triumphing in debate from an unassailable position of strength – as it was a breach of national security to query the source of his intelligence!

Blockade, Bomb and Sabotage

Churchill’s military strategy was summed up in two words: Blockade and Bombing, to which he later added Sabotage. This was then rearranged into a three S’s: Strategic Bombing, Sabotage and Subversion. Within just five days of becoming Prime Minister, he had already ordered Bomber Command to raid the industrial areas of the Ruhr in Germany. He diverted a high proportion of Britain’s limited resources to the strategic bombing of Germany. He was not at all put off by the fact that the bombing offensives of 1940 to 1941 were a series of fiascos. The night attacks were costly and inaccurate, had no effect on German war production and killed more British flyers than even German civilians! When the French government surrendered Churchill showed his ruthlessness by ordering the sinking of the French fleet at Oran and seizing of all French ships in British waters.

Believing His Own Propaganda

Churchill continually sought to convince himself and those around him of the success of his strategies and of the truth of his own speeches. However, the generals and admirals around him were well aware that, contrary to his broadcasts and speeches, Britain was not winning, the German people were not demoralised, nor was the German economy anywhere near a breaking point, it was not even on a full war footing yet!

No Survival without Victory?

Darkest Hour showcases some of the great speeches of Winston Churchill, including: “**Without victory there can be no survival!**” which makes rousing patriotic speech, but is it true? There are many countries that have experienced defeat in war that have survived, even thrived. As Rev. Bill Bathman pointed out in his book, [Going Through](#), when he first arrived as a missionary in Europe in 1951, Britain was economically depressed and looked like they had lost the war, whereas Germany, despite having been savagely bombed by almost non-stop thousand bomber raids, which turned their cities into rubble, Germany in the 1950s looked like they had been the victors of the Second World War. The phenomenal work ethic of the Germans rebuilt their country faster and better than Britain. France was defeated by Germany in 1871 and 1940 and survived much better than they did with their apparent victory in the First World War. French deaths from the First World War exceeded 1.3 million. French deaths in the Second World War were under 100,000, at least from the German Army. More than that were killed by Allied bombardments in the Liberation. Even Poland which suffered more than most countries in the Second World War and was decisively defeated both by the Germans and the Russians, survives and in fact thrives as one of the freest nations in Europe today. As my own father, who fought all six years of the Second World War in the Royal Artillery declared: “*if we could have seen what would happen to Britain after the war, we would not have fought against one another, but together against the real enemy!*”

Was it Worth the Cost?

As *Darkest Hour* so dramatically demonstrates, Winston Churchill used rhetoric to harden public opinion against a peaceful resolution. He really did marshal the English language and send it off to war! But was it worth it?

Why Was Negotiation so Unthinkable?

One of the most intense scenes in *Darkest Hour* is where Winston Churchill bellows at his War Cabinet: “**You cannot reason with a tiger when your head is in its mouth!**” Again, a great turn of phrase, but in what sense was it true? The vast British Empire was by no means in a tiger’s mouth. As the English Channel had stopped Napoleon’s forces 150 years before, so it would prove an insurmountable obstacle to Hitler’s panzers. As Patrick Buchanan points out in his *Churchill, Hitler and the Unnecessary War* book, Germany never had an aircraft carrier, nor produced landing craft or four-engine bombers. It was evident by the very weapons of the Wehrmacht, Kriegsmarine and Luftwaffe that world domination was never their aim, only domination on the European continent.

World Domination

World domination is what Britain, France, the United States and Japan had with their massive empires, predominance of aircraft carriers and huge naval fleets. If Germany wanted world domination, then it would have helped them to demand the surrender of France’s Naval Fleet. France’s Navy was more than 4-times the size of Germany’s Kriegsmarine. However, despite the Allies having demanded the German High Seas Fleet and Merchant Marine at the end of the First World War, Germany never demanded France’s Fleet, even after their decisive six-week *Blitzkrieg* victory over France.

We Cannot Compromise with Dictators

Winston Churchill famously declared time and again that it was impossible to compromise with dictators! A fine sentiment, except that he has once been a great admirer of Il Duce, Mussolini, the dictator of Italy. Churchill praised Mussolini on 20 January 1927: “*I could not help being charmed by Senior Mussolini’s gentle and simple bearing and by his calm, detached poise, in spite of so many burdens and dangers.*”

Supporting Mussolini's Fascism in Italy

On Mussolini, Churchill extolled *"If I were Italian, I am sure I would have been with you entirely from the beginning!" "What a man! I have lost my heart! Fascism has rendered a service to the entire world!"*

Praise for Hitler

As late as 7 November 1938, Winston Churchill was quoted in the London Times stating: *"I have always said that if Great Britain were defeated in war, I hope we should find a Hitler to lead us back to our rightful position among the nations... those who have met Herr Hitler have found a highly competent, cool, well-informed functionary, with an agreeable manner, a disarming smile and few have been unaffected by a subtle personal magnetism."*

Steadfast Support for Stalin

Interesting as those quotes may be, the massive fact of history is that Winston Churchill compromised with the most bloodthirsty dictator in the history of mankind, Joseph Stalin of the Soviet Union. As Pat Buchanan observed: *"Churchill knew of the mass-murders on Lenin's orders, the massacre of the Czars' family, Stalin's slave labour camps, the forced starvation in Ukraine, the Great Purge of the old comrades and Russian officer corp, the Show Trials, the rape of Finland and the Baltic Republics and Katyn."* As historian John Lewis Gaddis writes, *"The number of deaths resulting from Stalin's policies before World War Two was between 17 and 22 million. A thousand times the number of deaths attributed to Hitler as of 1939, the year Churchill was clamouring for war on Hitler and an Alliance with Stalin!"*

Double Standards

In 1919 Churchill had no doubt that *"of all the tyrannies in history, the Bolshevik tyranny is the worst, the most destructive, the most degrading. The atrocities committed under Lenin and Trotsky were incomparably more hideous, on a larger scale and more numerous than any for which the Kaiser is responsible."* Yet, Churchill could condemn Chamberlain for being naïve about Hitler and yet 25 years after Lenin's Revolution and the Red Terror, he declared that the more he met Stalin, the more he grew *"to like that man."* *"This truly great man, the father of his nation!"*

The Assassination of General Sikorski

Far from refusing to compromise with dictators, in order to placate Stalin, Churchill ordered the assassination of General Wladyslaw Sikorski, Polish Commander-in-Chief and prime minister of the Polish government-in-exile, 4 July 1943, in a highly suspicious aircraft accident off Gibraltar. General Sikorski was demanding an International Red Cross investigation of the [Katyn Forest Massacre](#). Churchill privately admitted that he realised it was the Soviet Union who had massacred the entire Polish Officer Corp at Katyn, but Sikorski's demand was placing a strain on the alliance between the United States, the United Kingdom and the Soviet Union. Sikorski had to go. The fact that Stalin ordered a breaking off of diplomatic relations with the Polish government in exile over this request, was as good as an admission of Soviet guilt. The official version states that General Sikorski and his entire leadership staff, including his daughter, Zofia, perished when their RAF Liberator crashed into the sea, only sixteen seconds after take-off from Gibraltar airport, 23:07 on 4 July 1943. The only survivor of the crash was the pilot. Many of the bodies were never recovered. The notorious British agent Kim Philby, head of Counter Intelligence for Mi6 in Gibraltar at the time, was later found to also be a Soviet KGB Colonel. The Polish government refused to endorse the official report of the British court of enquiry.

The Betrayal of Eastern Europe

Christians in Eastern Europe have pointed out to me the hypocrisy of the allied position and the duplicity of Churchill in particular. *"What freedom? We never received any freedom? You (the allies) betrayed us into the hands of Stalin's Soviet Union."* 15 nations, 100 million Christians, betrayed behind the Iron Curtain by the Yalta Agreement.

Saving the Soviet Union

Churchill's unwavering support for Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin was also seen in the extraordinary sacrifices made through the so-called Lend-Lease. Over \$11 Billion (equivalent to over \$160 Billion today) of weapons and strategic equipment was shipped to the Soviet Union during the Second World War. Of this \$6.8 Billion came from the British and Commonwealth countries. Great Britain alone, between June 1941 and May 1945, delivered to the USSR over 3,000 Hurricanes (fighter planes), 4,000 other aircraft, including 1,000 Spitfires, 27 naval vessels, over 5,218 tanks, over 5,000 anti-tank guns, 4,000 trucks and ambulances, 323 machinery trucks, 1,212 universal carriers, 1,721 motorcycles, £1.15 Billion of aircraft engines, 1,474 radar sets, 4,338 radio sets, 600 naval radar and sonar sets, hundreds of naval artillery pieces, 15 million pairs of boots, over 4 million tonnes of raw material, with ammunitions totalling over £308 Million, £120 million of food materials. All military aid sent from Britain to the Soviet Union during the war was entirely free of charge! Well, not free from our perspective. The Soviet Union never paid a Ruble for any of this generosity from Britain, which was greatly exceeded by the United States' generosity.

Gold from South Africa Funded Lend-Lease

However, Churchill instructed his friend, General Jan Smuts of South Africa, who had managed to consolidate the offices of prime minister, minister of defence and minister of foreign affairs in himself. Smuts had replaced the popularly elected Prime Minister General James Barry Hertzog when he refused to declare war on Germany. By Churchill's request, Smuts arranged for all South African gold available above ground to be shipped, in great secrecy, via Simonstown, loaded at night onto the USS Quincy, an American battlecruiser, sent by FDR for the express purpose of transporting South African gold to New York, to pay for America's extravagant generous Lend-Lease to the Soviet Union. No wonder Winston Churchill said: *"the truth needs a bodyguard of lies to protect it!"*

Unprincipled

Winston Churchill was the source of great speeches, but not good policies. Nor were his speeches true to reality. They did not even express his own personal principles. As many members of parliament around him declared: *"Winston is entirely devoid of any principles at all. The only thing he cares about is himself!"*

Slave of Rhetoric

Robert Menzies, the prime minister of Australia, said of Winston Churchill, *"His real tyrant is the glittering phrase so attractive to his mind that awkward facts have to give way!"* Another observed: *"He is the slave of the words which his mind forms about ideas... and he can convince himself of almost every truth, if it is once allowed thus to start on its wild career through his rhetorical machinery!"*

The Real Enemy was Communism

Rhodesian Prime Minister, Ian Smith, who served all 6 years of the Second World War as a fighter pilot in the Royal Rhodesian Air Force and who was shot down behind enemy lines, declared that upon reflection, we would have been better off losing World War Two or even better, not getting involved in it at all. *"We lost more by winning than we would have lost by losing!"* *"With hindsight, we fought on the wrong side. The real enemy was communism. We did not realise it at the time, of course, but we were not really fighting for Christian civilisation and freedom, because we were allied to Stalin's Russia. Instead of freeing Europe, we helped Stalin enslave half of it under communism."* Ian Smith told me: *"It would have been better if Britain had stayed out of the war and let Germany smash communism in Russia once and for all. Or better still, we should have actually helped free Russia from the communists. That would have spared a lot of people much grief."*

Supporting Tito's Communists in Yugoslavia

Joseph Stalin was not the only dictator supported by Winston Churchill. Through his SOE he channelled vast amounts of military support to Josip Broz Tito, the communist revolutionary, enabling him to seize control of Yugoslavia and turn it into a brutal communist state. This is incredible because the British deliberately betrayed the Royalist forces of Draža Mihailović in favour of Tito's communists.

Non Principled

Darkest Hour suggests that Winston Churchill was a principled person, concerned with doing the right thing. However, his track record would suggest otherwise. His political record is of an opportunist who crossed the floor and leapfrogged to other parties, an incredible four times. Depending on how the political winds were blowing, he moved from conservative to liberal, to constitutionalist and then back to conservative, changing party loyalty in order to gain high political office. As John Marley declared in 1908: "*Winston has no principles.*" in 1913, A.G. Gardiner declared: "*Winston will write his name in history... in blood.*"

"The Greatest Briton of All Time!"

A BBC poll in 2002 declared that people in Britain consider Winston Churchill the "*greatest Briton of all time!*" He is certainly one of the most extraordinary people of the 20th century, having come under fire as a correspondent attached to the Spanish Army in Cuba during the war there, fought with the Malakand Field Force in India and Afghanistan, rode in the last cavalry charge of the empire at Omdurman, was taken prisoner in the Anglo Boer War, escaped to write best-selling books about his war experiences, became an international celebrity and entered parliament at 26-years old. At 36 he was the First Lord of the Admiralty, where he was the most powerful voice in the British Cabinet for war. Cashiered after the Dardanelles/Gallipoli disaster, Churchill spent some time at the Yper Front and then became Minister for War and Air in Lloyd George's cabinet. He was at the centre of power for most of the first half of the 20th century and participated in all of the great decisions of Britain which affected its decline in the 20th century. Possibly the most famous of all British prime ministers, his speeches and quotes have been some of the most admired and repeated in history. However, not since fictional personages, like Zeus and Hercules, have so many myths been attached to one man. Most people today know more about the myth of Churchill than the facts behind the fantasy.

Scorched Earth in Afghanistan

Churchill's report on his participation on the punitive expedition into Afghanistan reads like the records of a war criminal: "*We proceeded systematically, village by village and we destroyed the houses, filled up the wells, blew up the towers, cut down the great shady trees, burned the crops and broke the reservoirs in punitive devastation.*" He wrote "*All who resist will be killed without quarter.*" *Because the Pashtuns need to "recognise the superiority of our race."* He also wrote that "*Every tribesman caught was speared, or cut down at once.*"

The Bengal Famine in India

The people of India are not particularly fond of Winston Churchill either. He wrote: "*I hate Indians. They are a beastly people with a beastly religion.*" Bengal had a better than normal harvest in 1943 and fearful that the Japanese may invade and benefit, Churchill ordered the British Army to ship tonnes of rice away from the starving people to the Middle East where it was not even needed. When the starving people of Bengal asked for food, Churchill declared that the famine was their fault for "*breeding like rabbits!*" The Viceroy of India reported "*Churchill's attitude towards India is negligent, hostile and contemptuous.*"

A Policy of Starvation

British Secretary of State in India, Leo Emery, declared that he did not see "*much difference between Churchill's outlook and Hitler's!*" When Canada offered 10,000 tonnes of rice and the United States

100,000 tonnes, Churchill point blank refused to allow it. When he heard that Mahatma Gandhi was fasting in protest against British rule, he declared that he would “*rather see Gandhi trampled to death by an elephant with the viceroy riding on its back!*” Later he questioned the Viceroy: “*Why isn’t Gandhi dead yet?*” Over 4 million Indians are estimated to have died in the Bengal famine of 1943.

Invading Iran

Iranians remember that Churchill supported the joint invasion of neutral Persia by Soviet, British and American forces during 1941 to provide a supply line for Western weapons and strategic supplies to be shipped to Stalin’s Soviet Union. Later, in 1953, when Winston Churchill was prime minister, he again supported the CIA operation (*Operation Ajax*) that organised a coup against the elected government of Mohammad Mosaddegh to ensure British control of the oil fields there.

Poison Gas Bombing in Iraq

People in Iraq will remind you that when Winston Churchill was Secretary of State for the Colonies in 1921, he re-drew the map to create the present state of oil-rich Kuwait, separate from Iraq and ensured that the Kurds not rule themselves, but be divided up under Turkey, Iraq and Iran. When some Iraq tribes and Kurds objected to the signing away of their rights to rule themselves, Winston Churchill advocated the use of mustard and poison gases. As Secretary for War and Air, he advised “*the provision of some kind of asphyxiating bombs for use in preliminary operations against turbulent tribes*” in Mesopotamia (Kurdistan and Iraq).

Bomber Harris’ Praise for Churchill’s Bombing in Iraq

As Bomber Harris observed of Churchill’s bombings of civilians in Mesopotamia: “*The Arab and Kurd now know what real bombing means – within 15 minutes a full sized village can be practically wiped out and a third of its inhabitants killed or injured, by four or five machines which offer them no real target, no opportunity for glorious warriors, no effective means of escape!*”

Reprisals in Ireland

The people of Ireland remind one that when Churchill was Minister of Home Affairs, he sent the Black and Tans to rampage across the country to carry out reprisals. He advocated the use of fighter aircraft to disperse Irish mobs with machine gun fire and bombs “*to scatter and stampede them.*”

Detention without Trial and Forced Labour in Kenya

In Kenya, people will remind you that when Winston Churchill was prime minister of Britain, he declared a state of emergency in Kenya 1952 and ordered 150,000 men, woman and children, forced into concentration camps. When at a cabinet meeting in 1954, members reminded the prime minister that this course (detention without trial and forced labour) is a technical breach of the Forced Labour Convention of 1930 and the Convention on Human Rights adopted by the Council of Europe, he dismissed their objections. When Lord Mountbatten objected to the “*terrible savagery*” of his policies in Kenya, Churchill retaliated by refusing to allow Lord Mountbatten to take his wife with him on an official state visit to Turkey.

Supporting the Saudi Despot

Also, as far as Churchill’s claim that there can be no compromise with dictators, he raised the British payment to Bedouin bandit Ibn Saud, who turned Saudi Arabia into a Wahhabians dictatorship, to receive a personal pay out of £100,000 a year. A stupendous sum in 1922. “*My admiration for him (Ibn Saud) was deep, because of his unflinching loyalty to us.*” Evidently being a dictator is not so bad when you are loyal to British political aims. Churchill himself described Ibn Saud, as “*intolerant, well-armed and blood-thirsty!*” But as long as we are on the British side, that was good enough for Winston. In the 1940s, Churchill gifted Ibn Saud a special Rolls-Royce.

Concentration Camps and Scorched Earth in South Africa

As far as concern for human rights goes, Churchill wrote approvingly of the British concentration camp and scorched earth policy during the Second Anglo Boer War (1899-1902). *"It was great fun galloping about"* in South Africa, he wrote. Winston Churchill said of the British Concentration camps, which killed six times more Boer woman and children, than Boers who died in action, that they produced *"the minimum of suffering."*

Eugenics in England

Far from being pro-life, as Home Secretary Churchill enthusiastically supported forcibly sterilising the feeble minded and putting in labour camps, 100,000 *"degenerate"* Britons to *"halt the decline of the British race"*. He also suggested that *"tramps, beggars and wastrels"* ought to be sent to labour colonies.

Plagiarism

Some have pointed out that Winston Churchill was not quite as original as sometimes thought with his famous speeches. His famous *"We shall fight on the beaches..."* speech borrows liberally from Irish Republican leader Robert Emmet. His Finest Hour speech borrowed heavily from the French premiere Clemenceau.

Churchill's National Socialism

Although Winston Churchill made a name for himself as an opponent of socialism, both before and after the First World War with such brilliant comments as *"Socialism can only work in Heaven where they do not need it, or in hell where they already have it!"* He did put into place a severe national socialism in war-time Britain while he was prime minister (1940-1945). As the Mises Institute observed in 1950, *"It is noteworthy to remember that British socialism was not an achievement of Mr Attlee's labour government, but of the War Cabinet of Winston Churchill."* Churchill boasted that his New Liberalism offered *"a wide, comprehensive, interdependent scheme of social organisation incorporating a national series of legislative proposals and administrative acts"*. Personal freedom seems to have been the furthest thing from Churchill's mind and actual policies. It is ironic that the immense power of the British labour unions that made Britain the *"sick man of Europe"* for two generations and became the target of Margaret Thatcher, originated with the enthusiastic help of her hero, Winston Churchill.

Redrawing the Map of the Middle East

Churchill as Colonial Secretary invented two client kingdoms, Transjordan and Iraq, both artificial and unstable states. He denied the Kurds their own homeland and carved most of Iraq's oil fields into a new state called Kuwait.

Drunkard

Franklin Delano Roosevelt called Churchill *"that drunk."* As did Canadian prime minister, McKenzie. General Patton expressed shock at Churchill's intemperate indulgence during the Casablanca Conference in Morocco.

Darwinian Pagan

In a letter to his mother, Winston Churchill stated: *"I do not accept the Christian or any other form of religious belief."* Churchill was clear that he believed in the Darwinian doctrine of survival of the fittest. He quoted positively from William Ernest Henley's viciously anti-God poem *Invictus*: *"I am the master of my fate; I am the captain of my soul!"*

Most Terrifying

In his writings, Winston Churchill describes the *"most terrifying sound"* he ever heard in his life. The night after he had been captured by the Boers in the Anglo Boer War, he heard the sound of the Boers singing, Psalms! *"Worse, even than the sound of shells, the sound of Boers singing Psalms!"*

It struck the fear of God into me. What sort of men are we fighting? They have the better cause and the cause is everything." (*The Boer War*, by Thomas Pakenham).

Fictional Stereotypes

A lot of war time lies and victors propaganda have now been scripted into official history. In *Darkest Hour*, a fictionalised consultation with commoners on an underground train in the tube and a stereotyped cultured black Briton quoting classic poetry is injected to give the impression that Winston Churchill actually cared about what common people thought. Not only did such an episode not happen, but Winston Churchill would not have cared what they said anyway.

Arrogant and Selfish

As many observed, Winston Churchill only came to parliament to make speeches, never to listen to what anyone else had to say. Prime Minister Baldwin declared of Winston Churchill, "*We delight to listen to him in the house, but we do not take his advice.*" Baldwin observed that Winston had imagination, eloquence, industry and ability, but no judgment.

Unfailing Bad Judgement

Winston Churchill's public track record is one long litany of catastrophe. Amongst others, he supported King Edward VIII in his determination to marry the twice divorced Mrs Simpson and his public speech urging Edward to hold onto the throne, despite the constitutional crisis on 7 December 1936 while "*filled with emotion and brandy*" was shouted down by the rest of the House.

Bankrupting Britain and Betraying Eastern Europe

Yet, Churchill is acclaimed as the man of destiny who inspired Britain to keep fighting until the United States came to the rescue. The pertinent question was: Was that a wise and necessary move? In what way did Britain, or Europe, benefit from bankrupting Britain, devastating Europe, saving the Soviet Union from certain collapse during *Operation Barbarossa* with the Herculean Lend-Lease programme and betraying Eastern Europe behind the Iron Curtain in 1945? Or, betraying 3 million Russians, Ukrainians and other Eastern Europeans in *Operation Keelhaul* – forcing them across the border into hands of Stalin's waiting murderous NKVD.

Choosing an Ally Determined to Dismantle the British Empire

As Patrick Buchanan points out, Churchill chose as his enemy Hitler, who wanted the British Empire to survive and endure and chose as his ally, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who was determined to dismantle the British Empire! As Captain Grenfell observed "*What an extraordinary paradox that Britain's principle enemy was anxious for the British Empire to remain in being while the principle ally, the United States, was determined to destroy it!*" Few today could say that Britain and the world is a better place now than it was in 1939.

Hell Bent

Asked how he could ally with Stalin, whose crimes he knew so well, Churchill answered that he had only one single purpose – "*the destruction of Hitler and my life is much simplified thereby. If Hitler invaded hell, I would at least made a favourable reference to the devil!*" At Tehran, 1943, Churchill presented Soviet dictator, Joseph Stalin with a crusader sword! As though this communist persecutor of the Church was a defender of Christian civilisation!

Counting the Cost

When Churchill made his speech of victory at all costs, did he seriously consider that the cost could be the death of the empire and indeed of Christian Europe itself? For the war to continue for five more years after Dunkirk, the financial, strategic and moral costs mounted astronomically.

Treacherous Turn About

In January 1940, Churchill had hailed the heroism of Finland in resisting the Soviet onslaught in the Winter War, declaring: *“Everyone can see how communism rots the soul of a nation, how it makes it abject and hungry in peace and proves it base and abominable in war.”* A great speech. Very true observations. Yet, 18 months later, Churchill declared war on Finland for continuing to resist Stalin’s aggression! Vast numbers of British seamen perished and massive tonnage of British ships were sunk transporting weapons of war through the Arctic convoys to Murmansk, to bolster the Red Army in its war, amongst others, against Finland!

Public Relations Agent for Stalin

During his September 1942 trip to Moscow, where Churchill enjoyed a 19-course meal with Stalin that saw gallons of alcohol consumed, Churchill asked Stalin *“Have you forgiven me?”* Stalin smiled *“All that is in the past. It is not for me to forgive, it is for God to forgive!”* On his return Churchill rose in parliament to tell his countrymen that they were fortunate to be allied to so great a man as Joseph Stalin: *“This great rugged war chief is a man of massive outstanding personality... a man of inexhaustible courage and will power... a great man. Stalin has left me with the impression of a deep, cool wisdom and a complete absence of allusions of any kind.”* Here Churchill had plainly sold his soul to the devil.

Blatant Sickening Hypocrisy

Churchill’s concessions at Yalta were worse by far than Chamberlain’s at Munich. While the Sudeten Germans clamoured to join Germany, the Poles were terrified and horrified of Stalin’s Soviet Union. At Yalta in Feb 1945, Churchill gave moral legitimacy to Stalin’s brutal dictatorship seizing half of Europe. 100 million Christians East of the Oder River had to watch what democracy and freedom they had known before the war, disappear. They also suffered the added humiliation of seeing such words as *“free elections”, “sovereignty”, “democracy”, “independence”, “liberation. Deliberately corrupted, debased, made duplicitous, in a Declaration of Liberated Europe, the very title of which, given the ugly reality underneath, is a piece of calculated Soviet Effrontery – one, however, that both Churchill and FDR acquiesced in.”* (Roosevelt and Stalin by Robert Nisbet)

The Betrayal of Eastern Europe

To Churchill, the independence and freedom of 100 million Christian peoples of Eastern Europe was not worth a war with Russia in 1945. Why then had Poland been worth a war with Germany in 1939? Did Churchill ever care about Poland? His ambivalence towards it and often expressed contempt for Polish leaders and Polish people with whom Britain was allied was on public display in his History of the Second World War, where he described them as the *“vilest of the vile.”*

The Catastrophic Cost of War at All Costs

Was it worth bankrupting and bleeding his country and bringing down the empire for the betrayal of Eastern Europe and the bankrupting of the British Empire? Was it worth declaring war to keep 350,000 Danzigers separate from the Germany they wished to re-join?

Operation Keelhaul

Churchill had earlier described the Soviet regime as *“a vile combination of criminality and animalism.”* Yet Churchill colluded with Stalin in such monstrous crimes as the forcible return of millions of Russians, Ukrainians and other East Europeans from allied occupied territory into the hands of Stalin’s NKVD. Although the Cossacks had never been Soviet citizens and had fled the country during the Civil War of 1919-1920, even they and their children were forcibly handed over to Stalin’s bloodthirsty NKVD.

Ethnic Cleansing

Churchill also agreed to the ethnic cleansing of 15 million Germans from their ancestral homes, more than 2 million of whom would die in the brutal exodus. He agreed to hand over millions of

German Prisoners of War to become slave labourers for the Soviets. Most died in Stalin's concentration camps. He also bullied the Poles into handing more than 40% of their country over to be annexed by the Soviet Union. More Germans would die in the forced transfer of their territory to the Soviet Union at the end of the Second World War, than Armenians perished in the Turkish massacres of the First World War. The territories of East Prussia, Pomerania, East Brandenburg, Silesia, Danzig, Memel and the Sudetenland were relentlessly and ruthlessly cleansed of Germans, whose families had inhabited those provinces for centuries. While these crimes against humanity were being perpetrated the allies at Nuremberg were self-righteously and hypocritically prosecuting German officers for so-called "*crimes against humanity*" during the war.

Violation of Solemn Promises and Principles

After Churchill returned from Yalta, Member of Parliament, John Rhys Davies, rose in the House of Commons, 1 March 1945, to declare: "*We started this war with great motives and high ideas. We published the Atlantic charter and then spat on it, stomped on it and burned it, as it were, at the stake and now nothing is left of it.*"

History's Most Terrifying Peace

As Time Magazine observed at the time: "*Europe has emerged from history's most terrible war into history's most terrifying peace!*"

New Lies for Old

Churchill's speeches praising Stalin, so please the Soviet leader that Molotov ordered Churchill's speech published in *Pravda*! Persecuted Christian in Eastern Europe told us that *Pravda*, which means truth and *Izvestia*, which means news, were described by them as "*there is nothing true in Pravda and nothing new in Izvestia!*"

Treacherous Collaborator

Christian friends in Eastern Europe have observed to me that in their estimation Winston Churchill was a collaborator with the communists in the betrayal of their people for whom Britain claimed they had gone into war!

Using Canadians as Cannon Fodder at Dieppe

Canadians have observed that Winston Churchill was primarily responsible for the disastrous cross channel raid on the French Port of Dieppe. 6,000 Commandos, mostly Canadians, were thrown away on what was effectively a suicide mission to test German defences and to assure Stalin that Britain was doing its part to keep German divisions tied down in France to relieve the pressure on Stalin's Red Army on the Eastern Front. Two thirds of the Canadian force were killed, wounded or captured and the RAF lost 3 aircraft to every one against the Luftwaffe. Canadians have never forgotten what one officer described "*as the bloodiest nine hours in Canadian military history*".

The Churchill Catastrophe

The true legacy of Winston Churchill is the collapse of the British Empire and the betrayal of Eastern Europe into the hands of the Soviet Union. From his entry into the inner cabinet as First Lord of the Admiralty in 1911, to his final departure from 10 Downing Street in 1955, that half century encompasses the collapse of British power worldwide. The title of Churchill's last book of his six volume history of World War 2, *Triumph and Tragedy*, was appropriate. His deeds brought triumph to himself, but produced tragedy for his nation and the world. He had inherited a great empire but left an island nation off the coast of Europe with three centuries of its wealth, power, possessions and prestige, sunk, or sent to America.

Fleeced and Looted for the Cause

Churchill was a great man – at the cost of his own country's greatness. Before Lend-Lease Aid would begin Britain was forced to sell all her commercial assets in the United States and turn all her

gold over to the Americans. “*We are not only to be skinned but flayed to the bone*”, Churchill complained to his colleagues. Roosevelt was determined to milk Britain of all she was worth, to separate her from her empire and to seize the British raw materials and markets and flood them with American goods, all while being financed by British and South African gold.

Factual Errors

At the end of *Darkest Hour*, the End Credits falsely claim that the 300,000 British soldiers evacuated from Dunkirk were transported by “*Churchill’s civilian ships*”. Actually 95% of the soldiers were evacuated by the Royal Navy and only 5% by civilian ships.

Barking up the Wrong Tree

The posters advertising *Darkest Hour* has the theme: “**Never Give Up! Never Give In!**” That is all very well, but what if you are wrong? Persisting down the wrong path is not wise but foolish. Who declared war on whom? Who started the war? Who started arial bombardments of cities?

FDR Was Not an Unwilling Participant in the War

There is another fictional scene in *Darkest Hour*, where Winston Churchill is on the phone pleading for Franklin Delano Roosevelt to lend Britain some military aid, “*50 destroyers*”, “*anything!*” However as President Herbert Hoover documents in his *Freedom Betrayed – Herbert Hoover’s Secret History of the Second World War and its Aftermath*, FDR was not an unwilling participant, but a prime mover and supporter of the war. It was Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s administration who had illegally, against American law, put the Poles up to resist Germany’s demands of returning Danzig to Germany and bribed and bullied the British and French to provide the unprecedented war guarantee to Poland, which guaranteed the war. Now the files have been unsealed and the facts are out. America was providing military aid to the Soviet Union long before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour, 7 December 1941.

Paid Agent of a Foreign Power

Winston Churchill also received millions of dollars from the Czech government to be an agent of influence in the British parliament and to bring down the Chamberlain government in the United Kingdom.

Not That Far Sighted

Ironically Winston Churchill opposed Chamberlain’s re-armourment of Britain programme and mocked his deployment of radar, voting against the very weapons and technology which would later become so invaluable in his war.

Great Depression

As Chancellor of the Exchequer 1924 to 1929, Churchill helped to bring about the economic collapse by colluding with the US Federal Reserve and Bank of England to prop up the British pound by inflating the US Dollar, which fuelled the speculative run of the 1920s, which ended in the Wall Street Crash and Great Depression of 1929.

The Sinking of the Lusitania

There had always been suspicions that when Winston Churchill was First Lord of the Admiralty he engineered the sinking of the Lusitania to bring America into the war on Britain’s side. With the Lusitania files being sealed for 60 years, it was evident that the government was hiding something colossal. As the Lusitania papers proved the ship was indeed being used to transport vast quantities of weapons and ammunition, illegally and the British and American governments both knew and conspired together to ensure that this information was known by the Germans and that the Lusitania was directed towards known positions of U-boats. Rescue efforts were also delayed to ensure that a large number of passengers perished in this incident.

Secret and Seditious Communications

As First Lord of the Admiralty in 1939-1940, Winston Churchill engaged in unprecedented bypassing of Diplomatic channels. The direct communications between President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and First Lord Churchill under frantic secrecy led to the imprisonment of Tyler Kent – America's cypher clerk at the US embassy in London, who stumbled upon this suspicious breach of protocol.

On the War Path

Contrary to FDR's public statements and American Law, three months prior to the war, FDR was assuring King George VI that the US Navy would sink German U-boats on sight. Churchill worked day and night to collude with FDR to bring their countries into the war.

No Peace Talks Allowed

As Prime Minister Churchill refused to allow any negotiations for peace and rejected any out of hand any and all overtures for peace, forbidding his Embassy personnel to even receive any communications from German Embassies or their representatives. It was this dogged refusal to consider any peace negotiations that doomed Europe and the British Empire to devastation and ruin and paved the way for the rise of the Soviet Union and Red China, the debacle of decolonisation and a rise of the European Union, the United Nations and the New World Order. Just because things happen the way they did, does not mean it was inevitable or unavoidable. Other choices would have produced different results.

Unprecedented Unconditional Surrender

Churchill's demand for unconditional surrender was an unprecedented demand that greatly prolonged the war and immeasurably increased the death toll of World War Two.

Saturation Bombing of Cities

The saturation bombings campaigns which rained unprecedented death and destruction on the cities in Germany destroyed more than the rampaging hordes of Genghis Khan and Attila the Hun. His deportations of Russians and Ukrainians under *Operation Keelhaul* were amongst the greatest crimes committed in the 20th century.

Defending Britain from Imminent Invasion

Darkest Hour several times refers to the "*imminent invasion*" of the British Isles. This turns out to have been a Churchillian myth and propaganda statement, designed to keep the British in the fight. The war had been started ostensibly to defend Poland. However, while Poland had been invaded by both Germany from the West and the Soviet Union from the East, Britain only declared war on Germany. When the Soviet Union attacked Finland, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, Churchill still sought an alliance with Stalin. With the British Army defeated in Norway, Belgium and France, there was no real reason for the country to remain at war. Generous peace terms were being offered. So Churchill invented the myth of *Operation Sealion* that Germany was planning to invade Great Britain. In fact this was never seriously considered and as many historians, including Patrick Buchanan, have pointed out, Germany never even produced landing craft suitable for such an operation.

Misled by Disinformation

Most British soldiers, including my own father, who fought all 6 years of WW2 in the Royal Artillery in the 8th Army, assumed they were defending Britain. They did not know that Germany never wanted war with Britain and never even developed the weapons necessary for such an invasion. As Ian Smith declared, if they had known what the war was being fought for, they would not have fought against one another, but together against the real enemy – the communist Soviet Union.

Shocking Track Record

When one considers Churchill's personal conduct in the Afghan Campaign, the Anglo Boer War, the Disaster of the Gallipoli campaign, how Churchill orchestrated the sinking of the Lusitania, the

hunger blockade of Germany, the Bengal famine in India, the saturation bombing of Germany, the assassination of General Sikorski, the betrayal of all of Eastern Europe to the hands of the Soviet NKVD, the colossal aid channelled to Stalin's Soviet Union and the ethnic cleansing of over 15 million Germans at the end of the Second World War, it appears that rather than a war hero, Winston Churchill should rather be considered a war criminal.

Disastrous Consequences are with Us to this Day

The Churchill cult and mythology has been used to justify many unjust wars, such as the war against Iraq and the present one against Syria. The deifying of Winston Churchill and his indefensible hell-bent determination to save the Soviet Union and ally with Stalin, in order to bring down Germany, precipitated the downfall of Western civilisation. Today we live with the catastrophic consequences of Churchill and FDR's disastrous policies. ***"While they promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of corruption..."*** 2 Peter 2:19

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See also:

[Dunkirk – Separating Fact from Fiction](#)

[How Capitalists Saved Communism from Collapse](#)

[The Bombing of Cities in WWII](#)

[The Katyn Forest Massacre](#)

[Freedom Betrayed](#)

[How Propaganda Changes Perceptions and People](#)

[How the New World Order is Hijacking Civilisation](#)