

Verbundkatalog Kalliope

Declaration

Mann, Klaus

New York, 1941-12-11

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Declaration,

The formal declaration of war is only the legalization of a status that has long existed in reality. Yet it means a great, decisive event. The German exiles - Hitler's first victims and his most implacable enemies - have experienced, in the most direct and most painful way, the truly diabolic character of the Nazi challenge. As we could not stand life in a country controlled and degraded by Hitler, the people of the United States could not live in a world subjugated by the same hideous power. But we were only a helpless minority of liberal intellectuals: the usurper did not find it difficult to silence our grivious, indignant voices. To conquer the world is much less convenient a task. ^{Hitler} ~~The monster~~ will not succeed. The United States is not in the habit of losing wars; Germany is.

I am proud to be in the country which will give the finishing stroke to the apoc-lyptic monster. My humble powers are at the disposal of the American Government. I wholeheartedly join in the prayers of the American people that the inevitable victory may be with the righteous cause - soon and at not too dreadful a price.

Klaus Mann,

New York, December 11

1941

The Office of the Coordinator
cc. Mr. ...