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LATEST NEWS FROM WARSAW.

FIFTY DAYS.

By Lieutenant A. Pomian of the Home Army.

After fifty days of fighting in Warsaw it may be timely to remind readers of the fundamental goal of the Polish Underground authorities, which was to drive the enemy out of Poland and to restore the legal state authorities. It is obvious that this goal could only be reached in military and political collaboration with the Allied Nations. Unfortunately, the absence of diplomatic relations with Russia made it impossible jointly to establish a single military plan. But as the Russo-German front moved deeper into Poland - units of the Home Army struck at the German rear, establishing operational co-operation with the Red Army in the course of the fighting, and at the latter's request carrying out specified tasks. This brought positive results during the fighting in Volhynia, the Wilno and Lublin areas, and in Lesser Poland /Eastern Galicia/.

It was according to this plan /the "Tempest" plan/ that the Warsaw rising took place on August 1st 1944, at the moment when it was possible to judge that blow struck by the Home Army in Warsaw against the German rear and their main communications would cause the final rupture of the front-line, and provide the Red Army with a bridge head in the very important strategic point on the left bank of the Vistula.

It was impossible to delay the outbreak of the rising, for the evacuation and mobilisation orders put out by the German authorities threatened the city with the loss of the major part of its military effectives, if not with complete desertion. The change in the German military plans, made literally at the last moment, and the bringing up into battle of large armoured forces, changed the military position completely and faced Warsaw with the necessity of fighting a long drawn-out battle against an enemy disposing of overwhelming technical superiority.

The decision to summon the rising in Warsaw had naturally a political ground too. This was a simple consequence of the attitude we adopted on September 1st 1939 when we accepted the unequal challenge thrown down to us by the German Reich. We did not wish to be passive witnesses of events and to wait for others to liberate us. We ourselves wished to be one of the essential elements in this liberation from German tyranny, and by openly fighting for our capital to crown the fight which we had continued to wage for five long years.

But the long duration of the fighting in Warsaw gave it an added political significance. Warsaw became the symbol of our will to fight for freedom. Our right to genuine freedom ceased to be only a question of formal obligations and of our past services. Taken in conjunction with the feats of the Polish forces fighting overseas, Warsaw has proved beyond any doubt that this right is not obsolete. It has become obvious that Poland's fight for freedom is not a plot hatched by a clique, nor the isolated activities of one particular class, but a powerful mass-movement, beyond class and beyond party, imbued with only one desire: a strong and independent and democratic Poland. It has at least become obvious to all that the legal authorities of the Republic in London enjoy the full support of their own people.

Since there have been rumours in some quarters that the Warsaw rising had secondary anti-Russian aims, it should be stressed strongly as possible that it was directed exclusively against the Germans. "We desire that Poland should, on the basis of an understanding, live as an independent state in friendship with the Soviet Union, and that matters of controversy should be settled in this spirit. The great effort of the Polish fighting man, and his sacrifices in the fight against the common enemy, should contribute to this" - these were the words of General Bor, commanding the Home Army, on September 17th 1944, and this is the truth of the matter.

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LATEST NEWS FROM WARSAW.

WYTYCZAJE

By Lieutenant A. Poniak of the Home Army.

After fifty days of fighting in Warsaw it may be timely to remind readers of the fundamental goal of the Polish Underground authorities, which was to drive the enemy out of Poland and to restore the legal state authorities. It is obvious that this goal could only be reached in military and political collaboration with the Allied Nations. Unfortunately, the absence of diplomatic relations with Russia made it impossible for us to receive military aid. But as the Russo-German front moved deeper into the lands of the Home Army, it was the German rear, establishing operations in cooperation with the Red Army in the course of the fighting, and at the same time carrying out specified tasks. This brought positive results during the fighting in Volynia, the Wilno and Lublin areas, and in lesser Poland, Eastern Galicia.

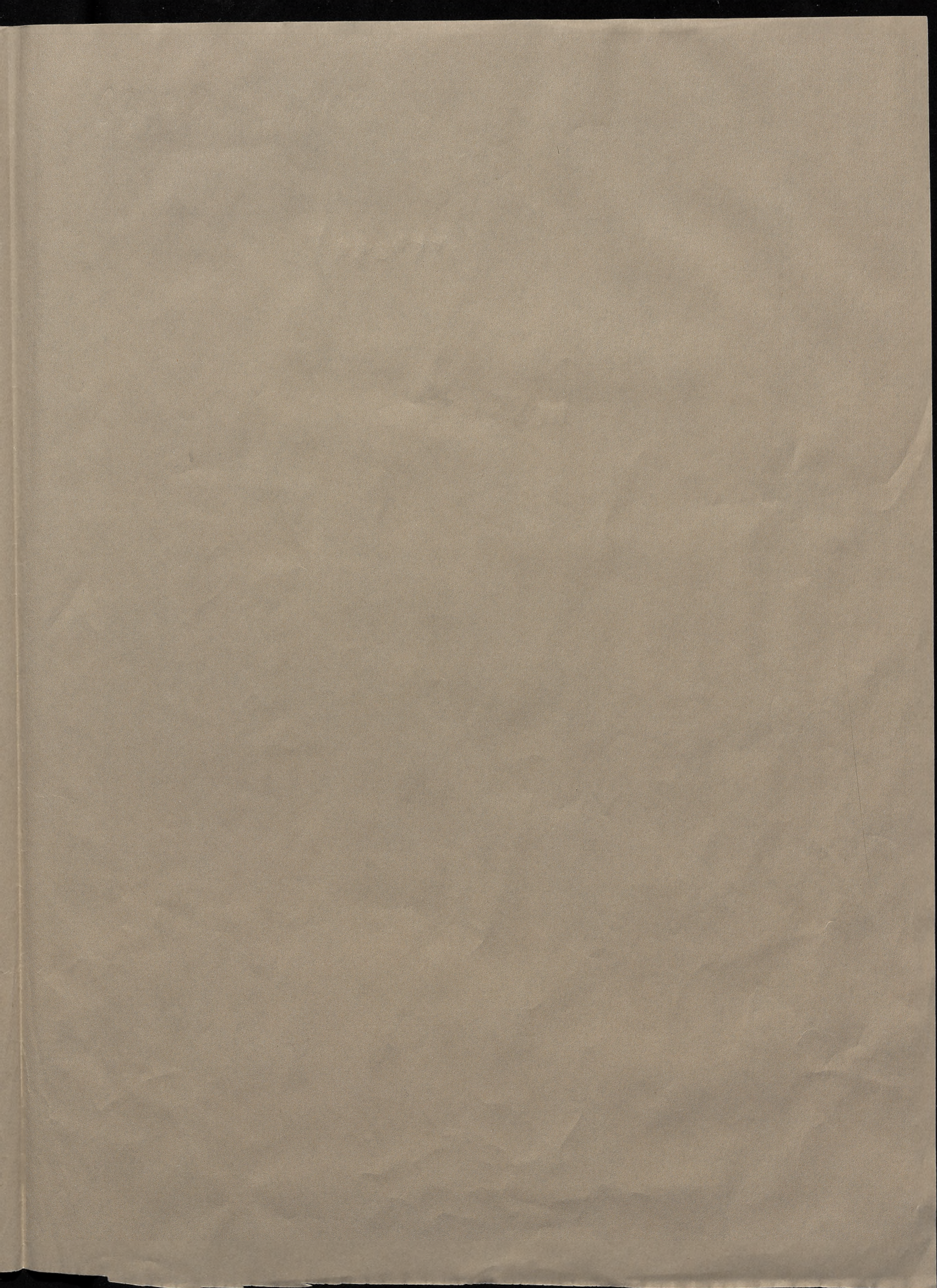


It was considered to be the plan and "secret" plan, that the Warsaw rising took place on August 1st 1944, at the moment when it was possible to judge that blow struck by the Home Army in Warsaw against the German rear and their main communications would cause the final rupture of the front-line, and provide the Red Army with a bridge head in the very important strategic point on the left bank of the Vistula.

It was impossible to delay the outbreak of the rising, for the evacuation and mobilization orders put out by the German authorities threatened the city with the loss of the major part of its military effectiveness. It not with complete discretion. The change in the German military plans, made literally at the last moment, and the bringing up into battle of large armored forces, changed the military position completely and forced Warsaw with the necessity of fighting a long drawn-out battle against an enemy disposing of overwhelming technical superiority.

The decision to launch the rising in Warsaw had naturally a political aspect too. This was a strategic consequence of the attitude we adopted on September 1st 1939 when we accepted the unyielding challenge thrown down to us by the German Reich. We did not wish to be passive witnesses of events and to wait for others to liberate us. We ourselves wished to be one of the essential elements in the liberation from German tyranny, and by openly fighting for our capital to prove the right which we had continued to wage for five long years.

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