

because you want to get them from your own national territory. This is the surest way to undermine the economy. If the economy is to function to bring a higher level of living to all the people involved, this requires a reduction in the cost of raw materials.

As long as these 18 countries of Western, Northern, and Southern Europe tried to maintain self-sufficiency in an economic sphere, then the result of the industrial revolution in bringing a better level of living to people could not be realized. Europe was poor; people were restless; and the countries of Europe had economies which were anything but sound.

Of course Hitler made this thing worse in the period before the war, because he actually set up national self-sufficiency as a goal and forced many of the other countries to follow suit. It all started with Napoleon. Napoleon subsidized sugar beets and thereby put the cane sugar business in the tropics out of business because of the government-subsidy sugar beets, because he wanted sugar available without having to transport it overseas. He made it available and he made the sugar-beet business into one that was competitive with the sugarcane, but it would not have been without the subsidy which was based on the idea that France should be independent of imports from other countries.

If you went back to the days of Babylon you would say that no country should be strong militarily unless it had command of most of its necessary resources. So that strength and self-sufficiency went together.

You can't talk this way any more. You can't put those words