

Could Nazi Germany have defeated the USSR if they attacked them first?

MOST LIKELY

And that was Hitler's original plan.

Hitler wanted to fulfill this plan but...



Poland was in the way.

Hitler went to Poland's Foreign Minister, Józef Beck, in 1938 and said:



"Wow! Beck, you look great today! Can you please do me a favor?"



"Why thank you! What can I do for you?"



"I want to establish an alliance with you. I will also protect you from the Soviet Union. All I ask in return is I get to build a freeway to East Prussia, get Danzig, and move my troops through you to get to the Soviet Uni-"



"No."



"But you didn't let me finish."



"No. No, it's ok."



"But I said you look great today..."

Hitler saw Poland as the perfect *Road to the USSR*.

But if Poland is not on board, he'll need to take Poland. So in August of 1939, Hitler went to Stalin and said:



"Hey Stalin. Wow! I love your mustache! Can you please do me a favor?"



"Thanks much. What's up?"



"Want to take Poland together? We'll split it amongst each other."

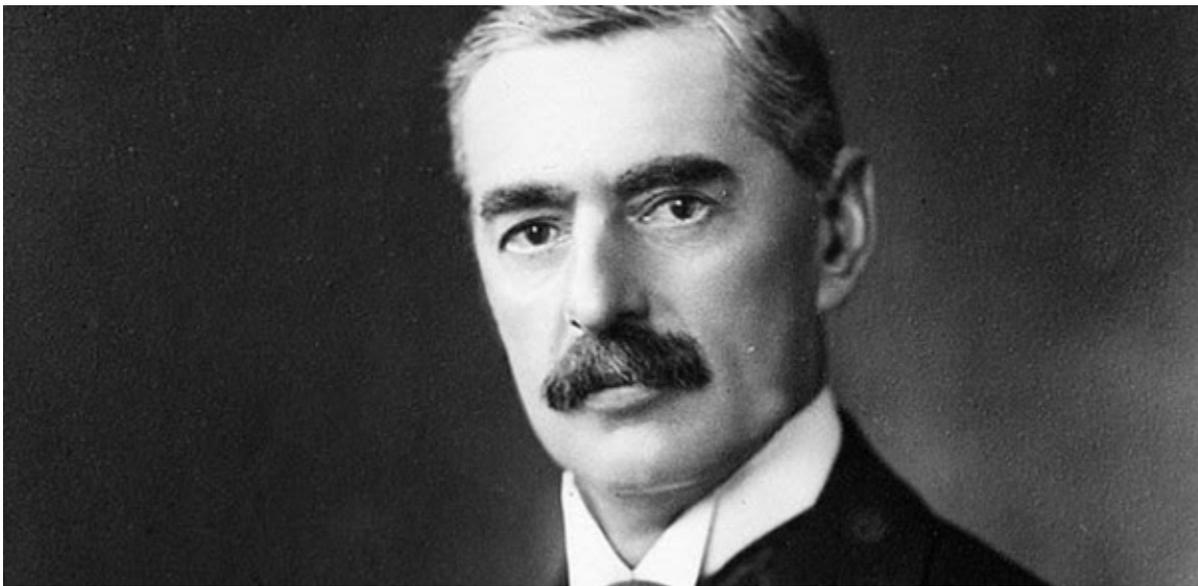


"But... But I read *Mein Kampf*. Ah, oh well. Everyone deserves to share. :)"

So on September 1st, 1939, Nazi Germany entered Poland. On the third, Britain and France said:



"France is not going to war!"



"We now declare war on Germany!"



"... Yes. Yes! We also declare war on Germany."

Since the Soviet Union was not really a threat to Hitler at the time, he had to worry about the west. Britain and France declared war on Germany. Things weren't going the way Hitler expected.

If Hitler successfully established an alliance with Poland, then attacked the Soviet Union, there are a few things to remember... Winters in the USSR are cold. Even if Hitler attacked them in spring, the Soviets could've held out until winter. If Hitler was ready with winter equipment for all his troops, and entered the Soviet Union with all his might, he could've won.

Keep in mind that by 1939, most of Stalin's best generals were all executed. Soviet Russia was NOT ready for the German attack in 1941. But imagine this in 1939...