

WSM
April 1, 1950

Good morning, friends:

Senator McCarthy continues on his reckless and irresponsible way, but ~~it~~ ^{the game is getting tough} seems he has had to shift into low gear. ^{many} The time for proving his charges is overdue. ^{one} and He hasn't proved ~~any~~ yet and he seems to be laboring. ^{I think} He ~~succeeded~~ ^{has} in, however, lodging, however, in the minds of many of our own people unfortunate doubts and suspicions regarding the State Department. What is even more unfortunate and important, he has weakened the stature and influence of our State Department and this country's representatives in foreign lands.

The bi-partisan foreign policy which served America so well during and immediately after World War II is now all but destroyed by two unfortunate circumstances: One, the partisanship of certain Republican Senators like Senators McCarthy, Bridges and Wheary, ^{2.} and second, the lack of effective and inspired leadership by the Truman Administration. As a result of this unfortunate state of affairs, we are drifting, dangerous. ^{by} This situation makes all the more hopeful the action of the House of Representatives last Friday in passing a bill to extend the ECA, the Marshall Plan, for another year.

Our foreign policy has been more successful in Western Europe than anywhere else. There the spread of communism has been checked. Perhaps you will recall that back in 1947 and early in 1948 Communist parties were on the verge of taking over ^{both} Italy and France. They were threatening in Belgium, in Greece, in Turkey. Had France and Italy fallen into the grasp of the men in the Kremlin our position in occupied Germany would have become untenable. Indeed, we would have been without a friend in Western Europe and the forces of Joe Stalin would have been at the English Channel. Is there anyone who will say that our time and effort and

money have not been well spent to save the cradle of western civilization from the grasp of communist totalitarianism. The program has not only been successful in snatching Western Europe from the precipice of the yawning abyss of ~~communism~~ ^{is} but it has played a vital part in reviving ^{within} in the peoples of Western Europe ~~new~~ confidence in themselves and appreciation for their freedom and a reason and incentive for defending themselves against the threat of enslavement. Moreover, it has given a great impetus toward integration of Western Europe. Many people, including me, have been disappointed that this integration has not proceeded faster and further. However, much has been done. The Western European nations have pooled their economic knowledge in the organization of European economic cooperation. They have lifted quantitative restrictions on fifty percent of their imports in private trade, taken far reaching measures to establish mutual transferability of their currencies, and ~~have~~ vigorously tried, and with considerable success, to stabilize the ^{value} ~~flow~~ of their currencies. ^{Though much} ~~the~~ remains to be desired, ^{the facts do not bear out the} charge by some that no progress has been made toward integration. ^{actual physical} ~~the physical~~ recovery of Western Europe has been phenomenal. Their industrial production has not only been lifted back to pre-war levels but now stands twenty percent above it. Agriculture production has also recovered. These feats of physical recovery are impressive but the biggest single achievement of the Marshall Plan has been that it has put force and vigor and confidence behind the ^{drive of} Western European ^{themselves} ~~desire~~ to reconstruct, rebuild and revitalize their nations and society on the basis of their historic and traditional ways of freedom.

Some members vigorously fought extension of this program. I favored some reduction of the amount of expenditures authorized but I felt and felt strongly that the program should be continued. *Just take a look at our position.* We have suffered a tragic

diplomatic defeat in Asia with the communist acquisition of China. Our leadership *though* *well meaning + basically sound* is timorous and as I said earlier, uninspired and not too effective. *Bi-partisanship on foreign policy is all but destroyed.* Why, then,

should we withdraw from the one area and the one policy that seems to be bearing good fruit? The threat of Godlessness and man's inhumanity to man requires

that we fight against communism with every weapon we have short of war. If

the ECA has done nothing more it has saved Western Europe from communism and

at least bought us Time. In the interest of democracy and humanity we can

hardly afford to stand by and argue at this late date whether we should have

embarked upon this program or, indeed, whether we should have waged World

War II. World War II did occur. In that war we were victorious along with

powerful allies. We hoped fervently that out of this victory would come

permanent peace and friendship. Most of us, ~~at least I~~, suffered painful

disillusionment that our most powerful ally in that war desired not to restore

to the nations ravaged by war peace and freedom, *as we had hoped + presumed* but instead she ~~was using~~ *began to use*

threats, pressure and all sorts of intrigue and machinations, including Fifth

columns within those countries, to bring them within her despotic grasp.

No, there is no need for us to argue that this should not have been, nor is there need

now to question the wisdom of our decision to embark upon a program to check

the spread of communism. That decision has been made. I personally think it was

a wise one. In Western Europe at least, as I have said, it has been successful.

Despite this, some people want to stop short of our commitments, ^{but it seems to me that} ~~I think~~ we have

no intelligent and patriotic choice but to continue this program to which

we are committed and which is bearing good fruits. The basis of this program

is the realization that we cannot alone have peace and prosperity, that to be

prosperous we must help others out of the mire of poverty and destitution. To be

safe ourselves, we must see that the threat of enslavement is minimized to others

who desire to be free. I believe that it is an enlightened policy. I

believe it is in our own self interest. We must not be left standing alone,

without friends, when we ^{know} ~~no~~ beyond doubt that we have a foe who would like

to destroy all the things that make us great and free.