

WSM
April 1, 1950

Good morning, friends:

Senator McCarthy continues on his reckless and irresponsible way but ~~it~~
the going is getting tough
~~seen~~ he has had to shift into low gear. The time for proving his ^{many} charges is overdue.
~~and~~ He hasn't proved ^{one} yet and he seems to be laboring. *I think he has succeeded in, however,*
~~in~~ 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 and ² second, the lack of effective and
inspired leadership by the Truman Administration. As a result of this
unfortunate state of affairs, we are drifting, ^{by} dangerous. 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
^{both} over 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 totalitarism. The program has not only been successful in

snatching Western Europe from the precipice of the yawning abyss of communism

but it has played a vital part in reviving ^{Within} 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 ~~flow~~ ^{value} of their currencies.

Though much

remains to be desired, ~~on the facts do not bear out the~~ ^{the} ~~actual~~ ^{physical} ~~change by some that no progress has been made toward integration.~~ ^{desire of} 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 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 *as we had hoped + promised* to the nations ravaged by war peace and freedom, but instead she 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.