

"EISENHOWER"

by MARTIN LITTLETON
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As Americans we are an indulgent People and allow the most liberal latitudes for individual expression and conduct, . . . but we will not tolerate the destruction of our national dignity; the deliberate debasing of our highest standards, nor the malicious attempts to tear to shreds the character and repute of an American citizen, who, despite all political considerations, has by his achievements reflected more glory and esteem to this Nation than any other personality in our contemporary history, . . . and whose only offense has been to offer himself for further service to our Nation in these troublesome times. For too long, now, have we, the American People, been humiliated and insulted by the degrading and vulgar technique of cheap politicians who are much more concerned with their own perpetuation than they are with the decencies and dignity to which we, as a Nation, are entitled.

It is time that we, the American People spoke out!

The recorded facts show that ever since 1945 and right up to his final refusal in 1952 to accept the Fair Deal offer of the nomination for the Presidency of the United States, Harry Truman and his followers used all their persuasion to induce Dwight Eisenhower to become their personal standard bearer. They knew better than anyone else and fully recognized the true worth of this great citizen, and tried their best to enlist him in their cause.

In July, 1945, when Dwight Eisenhower met with Harry Truman in Germany, Truman said to him: "General, there is nothing that you may want that I won't try to help you get. That definitely and specifically includes the Presidency in 1948." The general declined.

In April of 1948, Senator John J. Sparkman, the Fair Deal Candidate for the Vice-Presidency, had an exclusive interview with the St. Louis Post Dispatch, in which he said: "It is wholly conceivable that if international relations grow worse by the time nominating conventions are held this summer, popular sentiment for the wartime leader of the Allied Forces might be so overwhelming that a bipartisan nomination would be inevitable."

Two months later in a radio address on July 4th, Senator Sparkman proposed that Dwight Eisenhower should be drafted as President of the United States, and gave ten good reasons to support his proposal.

There is not a doubt but that had he accepted the offers, Dwight Eisenhower would have been the President of the United States

and December of 1948, when Harry Truman and his

followers were looking for a shield of untarnished reputation and proven ability behind which to hide the corruption and incompetence of their administration, high officials of the Fair Deal once again besought Dwight Eisenhower to become their standard bearer, . . . and once again he declined.

Thus it was that up until only ten months ago Dwight Eisenhower was the object of their esteem and admiration. They found in him more than all of the qualities and virtues necessary for the highest office in our land. They would have been honored to have had him as their leader.

Now what has Dwight Eisenhower done during those few short months to earn the epithets, the insults and the humiliation to which he is being subjected?

He has done nothing more than offer himself for further honorable service to his country as the Republican Candidate for the Presidency of the United States, . . . and that is treason of the worst sort in the Fair Deal—Pendergast Code which puts party above country; above decency; above respect and above ethics.

They now seek to crucify him upon the cross of invective and false accusations. They say he is a puppet; that he is cruel and deceitful; that he is mentally unfit for the office; that he is a "front man" for some undefined, sinister group which is bent on the destruction of our great traditions; they scream at you that if he is elected "Look out Neighbor"; and . . . they say he is a liar!

The vile, personal attack upon the character and integrity of Dwight Eisenhower is in the form of a pincers movement, starting at the low level of the gutter and circling into the upper atmosphere of a refined Harvard voice, which, in pretty, mincing phrases, sneeringly seeks to achieve the same objective by sarcasm and innuendo.

Governor Stevenson ignores the practiced vulgarities of Harry Truman in the hope that the more decent thinking Americans will not charge them up to him, yet at the same time happily believing that those same vulgarities, which he pretends to despise, will rebound to his favor on election day. Either Governor Stevenson approves of the Truman technique or he lacks the power to stop him, which, in either case, makes him a party to the act. In the one event he is the willing accessory; in the other he is the satellite of his master.

The high dignity and respect in which the office of the President of the United States is held the world over has never been more important than in these days of serious international tension, with the eyes of millions of people of the free world hopefully turned upon us for leadership and wisdom. That dignity and respect

has been foully besmirched by the misconduct of the sworn trustee of our principles and security, who is more concerned with a political victory, . . . no matter what the price, . . . than he is with the honor and welfare of our Nation.

To us, the People of America, it is more than humiliating to be so degraded in our own homes and before the world, . . . it is a shame, . . . an unspeakable shame!

We may take some measure of comfort that, as a man, Dwight Eisenhower is beyond their power to harm. His place, in the appreciation and esteem of the world, is so far above their mediocrity and so firmly established, that it lies beyond their reach to destroy.

No consideration can be made of the vicious attack upon the character and honor of our most illustrious living American without measuring it against the background of some other dangerously significant facts.

Not once have we ever heard a single whisper of indignation against the many communist spies and traitors who were in high places of our government, by those same detractors of an honorable American Citizen, who has devoted a lifetime to loyal and distinguished service to his country. Not once did these slanderers of Dwight Eisenhower ever visit their invective or sense of outrage upon the communist spies who were dedicated to the destruction of our Nation by any possible means. Not once did we hear them condemn the traitors against their country.

On the contrary, they protected and defended them, even after the enormity of their offenses had been openly and fully established.

These are the men who seek to be the custodians of our liberty, our honor and our security; these are the men who ignore the existence of traitors in our government; these are the men who wanted our good, southern Citizens to swear to a loyalty oath which they refuse to require from suspected communists; these are the men who now, according to their standards, find it necessary to blackguard and vilify America's most notable citizen. Contrast this, if you please, with the soft and silent treatment they accord the traitors in our government, and the conclusion to which we inevitably drawn is more than disturbing.

There is another great American whose usefulness to the People of this Nation was destroyed because he had the courage to speak out on behalf of the thousands of our youth under his command, whose lives he believed were being needlessly thrown away in a war they would not let him win. As the greatest military expert of our times, General Douglas MacArthur's counsel was ignored, and for having the courage to give it

he was summarily dismissed from his command in the middle of the night without notice or immediate reason, . . . and the Korean War continues on with no solution or end in sight, and at the rate of 600 American casualties a week, . . . while the Fair Deal Politicians tell us that "we never had it so good" and that "Happy Days are here again."

General MacArthur, himself the victim of the conspiracy to destroy better men, made a statement on July 25, 1951, which applies with even greater force today. He said: "I have been warned by many that an outspoken course, even if it be solely of truth, will bring down upon my head ruthless retaliation—that efforts will be made to destroy public faith in my views—not by force of just argument but by the application of the false methods of propaganda. I am told, in effect, I must follow blindly the leader—keep silent—or take the consequences."

In the critical times of our years we, the American People, have been blessed with the leadership and loyalty of these two great Americans, one of whom has already fallen before the attack of these little men, and we are now being asked to help them with the destruction of the other. We are expected to administer the final thrust on November the Fourth.

Shall we, then, repudiate the most human and decent American of them all?

In the army and upon the field of battle in two World Wars, Dwight Eisenhower has had under his command every human element from every walk and segment of America. They were of every race, creed and color. They came from every walk and segment of our American life. They all had their problems, their worries and their folks at home. They had been uprooted from peaceful, civilian life and thrown into the cruel and harsh demands of war. "Ike" knew them, and understood them, and respected them.

If you ever need to be humbled, or to get a decent respect for your fellow man, you ought to be with him sometime, under heavy fire upon the field of battle, and see his stark, naked soul being bared under the awful strain of not knowing at just what moment it might be torn from him.

No man can go through the ordeal of combat without having seared into the very marrow of his being an abiding respect for his fellow man.

"Ike" has no hatreds. He is not against anyone or any class. He has learned to respect the dignity and equality of man long ago in the fierce crucible of war. He knows that regardless of race, creed or color their blood is all red, their spirit is unquenchable and their souls have a common rendezvous.