LOOKS LIKE THE "MIRACLE" HAS TAKEN PLACE

Were you one of the fortunate to have heard General MacArthur when he talked to the State legislators in Boston, Wednesday, July 25? If you didn't hear him, you missed something of supreme importance to you personally, to your family and to your country, for this may mark the turning point in America from Socialism and Communism back to Constitutional Government and Free Enterprise. And here is why.

We print General MacArthur's Boston talk in full in the Supplement to this Letter.

If you will turn to the Supplement to the Clover Business Letter for June, the caption will read, "MacArthur—Possibly a Miracle Has Taken Place."

Well, it now seems that a "miracle" has indeed taken place, which may have arrived in time to save our country from complete destruction at the hands of as ruthless a gang of political thugs as ever infested a nation—the Pendergast machine of Missouri—which is running the affairs of the nation through its stooges in the Government.

There are just three people in the United States who obtain national radio hookups every time they talk publicly—the President, of course, must have this privilege, though he rarely has anything of value to say and usually talks Socialism or ward politics—Herbert Hoover, who is recognized by the entire nation as America's greatest elder statesman—and, now, General MacArthur, recognized by everyone as an outstanding American, a great leader and statesman; our greatest field marshal.

Now, here is why I feel General MacArthur will likely become the savior of Constitutional America and our system of free American enterprise.

There are more than 150 million people in America, of whom there are about 100 million who depend upon the judgment of others to guide them. They read little, but most of them do listen to the radio.

These 100 million people hold the power of life or death over free America.

The vast majority of them want to lead honest, useful lives. They are anxious to work for what they get. They want to save their money, then spend it to meet their needs. People...for whatever purpose they please; but they are dumb-founded when they find the buying power of their earnings and savings melting away like a snowball in summer.

It is this group of 100 million people of whom Harry Hopkins, the Communist adviser of President Roosevelt, said, "People are too damn dumb to understand." It is this group which has been pounded by government propaganda for 20 years, injecting the opiate of "an easy life", "social security", "old age pensions", "the Great White Father knows how to spend your money better than you do", "bankrupt the wealthy and give the stolen money to the have-nots", etc.

It is this group which has been constantly exploited by the crooked politician, the crooked labor boss and other confidence men, who promise an easy life, something-for-nothing, in return for votes.

As stated, the vast bulk of these 100 million people are honest, thrifty, hard-working people; but it takes enormous strength of character to withstand 20 years of crooked propaganda over the radio; in the movies and delivered over the air by a score of so-called "commentators", many of whom have been and are now supported by the Government with your tax money.

Goebels, Hitler's propaganda chief, called it the "big lie"—said if the lie were big enough, people would believe it. Unfortunately, many of our people have believed it, especially the younger generation who have never had the privilege of living in a free economy.

As called to your attention in a great many of my Letters, our problem today is not one of reaching those who read and think things through for themselves—these people already realize the danger the country is in.

Our problem is to reach the 100 million people who depend upon the radio for their information, guidance and for much of their education. The Communists and Socialists know all about this approach and are working it 24 hours a day, every day in the year.

The President, over the years, enjoying national radio hookups, has done a fine job poisoning the minds of people and selling them Socialism, while no one else, except Mr. Hoover, could answer him on a national basis.

The Clover Business Letter and similar publications have been read for many years by millions of people, but their influence is extremely small when compared with talks made over national radio hookups.

General MacArthur said in Boston: (1) That he had no personal political ambitions, (2) That he had served his country all his life as a soldier and now proposed to devote the rest of his life in the service of the American people. (3) He stated that we had little to fear from outside attack, but we had a great deal to fear at home from our present socialistic Government, which has very nearly wrecked Constitutional Government and almost eliminated our American system of free incentive enterprise. (4) He stated that he proposed to make a series of speeches all over the country to warn people of the great danger to their freedom now existing due to the socialization of our Government.

In Boston, 600,000 people lined the streets to greet the General and Mrs. MacArthur, and 60,000 heard his masterly talk.

His audience, including those of all political faiths, interrupted his talk a dozen times, rising to their feet in wild applause—because they were, first and foremost, AMERICANS, who were willing to forget their politics and save the nation from ruin.

General MacArthur, single handed, is in the unique position of being able to reach our 150 million people—tell them the truth about what has taken place and win them over to a sound, moral approach to our problems at home; then tell them how
they can save themselves and their country from ruin—AND THE PEOPLE WILL BELIEVE HIM, BECAUSE THEY KNOW HE IS HONEST AND HAS NO AXE TO GRIND.

Our thanks should go to the little fellow who fired him, brought him home, and who has, unknowingly, made this miracle possible. He has brought us, at the time of our greatest need, a real leader of men, whom we can all follow with complete confidence.

YOU CAN'T MAKE ANYTHING WITHOUT TOOLS

CONGRESS SHOULD WATCH ITS STEP

The "planners" in Washington are just waking up from their cocktails and pipe-dreams and finally, at long last, seem to realize that you can't fight wars with bare hands—you must have guns, ammunition, tanks, ships, trucks, airplanes and many other mechanical devices.

A few far-sighted men saw this several years ago, but every time they made a public announcement of that fact, they were blackjacked by the President and his pal, Acheson, who wanted to appease, not fight, Russia. Note what happened to that loyal American, Secretary Forrestal. See what happened to Secretary Johnson and again Admiral Denfeld, then our Chief of Staff—they all got fired; one lost his life.

Several years ago, during this same period, a number of farsighted industrialists called attention to the fact that the country was short of electric power; short of tools, especially machine tools; was short of abrasives and the electric power to make them, without which practically nothing can be made; short of aluminum; short of plants large enough to build airplanes.

Written reports were made at the time to the proper authorities—the reports were pigeonholed; nothing was done about them.

Manufacturers of these critical products finally decided to expand their plants themselves, when possible, without government help. Then, a year ago, Mr. Truman decided to start a little private "police action" in Korea to provide an "emergency", as he needed more spending money for the 1952 elections.

Almost immediately our entire economy was thrown into extreme confusion—prices skyrocketed, controls were clamped down on all industry—everything was slowed up to a walk by the silly DO priority rulings.

The manufacturers of tools and critical supplies pleaded for priorities to get steel for new, critically important buildings, and steel, iron, bronze, etc., with which to build machine tools—nothing doing.

But, the smart boys in the Pentagon did place large orders for airplanes, tanks, guns, tractors, etc., without giving a thought as to how they could be produced. The cart before the horse, as usual, where inexperienced bureaucrats are concerned.

Well, though quite some orders have already been given out, we are getting the finished products only in driblets—why? Because there are not enough machine tools, aluminum, power and other critical products available to make them; and you will note that, in order to fool the public, the Government always gives the rate of increased production—never gives figures. Thus, if you make one of a thing this month and next month you make two, the rate of increase is 100 percent, but you still only get two.

Now the Administration is asking Congress for more billions of new money for armament, when it has not been able to spend the money already in hand. It would be stupid to vote them any more until the items on order and still to be ordered under the previous money allotment are well along towards delivery.

For instance, the goldplated-brass have finally become aware of the importance of an all-powerful air force—the President established a 48-group ceiling when the air force Chiefs asked for a 70-group a year ago—now they want a 95-group force—and they talk as if we would get it in about a year. Of course, this is bunk, but it is good propaganda to get more billions out of a mushy Congress.

The fact is that in one year from now the entire machine-tool industry, working at top speed, will not even then have provided enough tools to build these planes, even with all the help a scared Government can give, and with all restrictions removed.

Now the National Production Authority has finally announced, two years late, that top priority is to be given for machine tools. It has not taken any action as yet regarding the expansion of the abrasive industry, which finds it difficult to supply even current needs, though machine tools and all other war materials cannot be made without abrasives. All these facts were forcibly brought to the attention of the authorities more than two years ago. They did nothing.

Well, as a result of this stupidity, confusion, lack of interest and just plain incompetence, we will just be COMMENCING the construction of our enlarged air force one year from now, and it will take another two or more years before we have a real stock of planes—that will be the last part of 1953 or 1954—then will be the time when the present money now on hand will be used up, at which time Congress could provide more. It is not money we need, it is production, and the bottleneck will be found in Washington, and this goes for everything else that is needed.

All we can hope to do in the meantime is to produce replacements for the "police action" in Korea, plus a few token planes and other items to be located elsewhere.

This is just one example of the alleged "leadership" we are again asked to follow—a leadership which has brought nothing but grief to the nation during the past 20 years.

To my mind, Congress would be very foolish to allow itself to be buncoed into voting additional funds until they are actually necessary and can be utilized for the purpose intended: FOR THE ADMINISTRATION HAS ALREADY PROVED ITS GREAT ABILITY IN DIVERTING FUNDS VOTED FOR ONE PURPOSE AND USING THEM FOR ANOTHER PURPOSE, then coming back to Congress with a new "emergency" to get more.

The Government has now demanded a fantastic sum from Congress for carrying on war preparations for next year, and the big boys who want to spend this money are shedding tears, telling Congress that the people are "letting down their guard"—"are becoming cold to the idea of rearming" since the truce talks in Korea have taken place. That's right, people are stunned; they have no confidence in the ability nor the honesty of the Government. They do not believe World War III is imminent, as Truman states.

You may be certain that these tears are "crocodile tears". The fact is that the Korean private war was started as an "emergency" to be employed to scare people into voting countless unneeded billions to an untrustworthy government, but when Joe Stalin and Acheson cooked up this fake peace drive in Korea, it knocked the props out of the money grab, because it was badly timed.

So, as usual, the enormous government propaganda machine, paid for by our tax money, has been turned loose to sell the idea that, regardless of what happens in Korea, the spenders still want the money. Naturally!
I am still just as keen as always for building up the defensive strength of this country to its maximum—then, but not until then, should we help other nations to build up their strength. Marshall’s announced policy, given recently to a Congressional committee, is first to give Europe everything these governments ask for; then, and only then, to protect our own nation—that is, if we have anything left to do it with. I disagree.

SPAIN

Our belated reapproach to Spain has been explained to the nation in several ways; all of them incorrect, and loaded with propaganda.

Spain should have been taken in as a partner to fight Communism long, long ago, and would have been, except for the rottenest kind of international politics, in which, incidentally, our State Department has been a party.

Without, for the moment, considering what Spain could offer us in the way of trained manpower, the thing which has motivated the opposition to taking in Spain has been the thought that the United States would have to rearm her and provide substantial financial help to rebuild her railroads and her essential industry.

The English Socialists and Communists, who have already received some seven billions from us, which will never be repaid, want us to give her more billions to help bolster up her dying Socialist government. The French Socialists and Communists, who have also received handouts of many billions, also want us to give her more billions—want us to supply troops, guns, tanks, airplanes and ships to defend her—a job she should be doing herself.

So, it does not take much brains to see that any money or arms diverted by us to Spain, would likely come out of our allotment to England and France. This is the real reason for their opposition.

Now, Acheson and Truman have, in the past, been taking much of their orders from the Socialist-Labor government in England; so we have been subjected to heavy propaganda the past few years, telling the public what an awful monster Franco is; how worthless Spain would be to the English, French and American Socialists in their plan for “resisting” the Russians in Europe, etc. But now something new has happened.

I have been and am against sending our troops to Europe to defend these good-for-nothing, foreign Socialists, at least until they show positive signs of being willing to defend themselves. I agree with Mr. Hoover that we should first make our own defense secure, THEN help those willing to help themselves—but not otherwise.

However, the bull-headed Administration has seen fit to send our boys abroad, and proposes to keep on sending more of them until we have a large army in Europe. Eisenhower has put the figure at slightly over 100,000; now Marshall tells a Committee it is to be 400,000 now, and more later.

Eisenhower, the great appeaser, was sent to Europe, with a tremendous fanfare of propaganda, to “organize” these Socialist and Communist forces abroad to form an international army, and we were told there would be several million men under arms in a few months under his command. But it hasn’t worked out that way.

In these Letters I have repeatedly called attention to a probability which has now taken place—Eisenhower has been unable to interest the English and the European countries in giving him proper support—all they seem to want is more handouts to use as they please, but are uninterested in building and equipping armies FOR THEIR OWN DEFENSE. This, therefore, has posed a new problem—a military problem this time.

The English Socialists and the European Socialists have now demonstrated their complete unreliability, as I have repeatedly forecast they would do, so this leaves our military men with a new problem.

If the Russians decided to overrun Europe, which at the moment they could easily do, what would become of our troops and our equipment in Europe?

If France and the other continental countries refused to fight and decided to negotiate with the Russians, would this result not in another “Dunkirk”, this time for our armies?

If we were pushed to the English Channel, would the English Socialists be as anxious to save our men as they were to save their own during the last Dunkirk? Would all our equipment be captured and used by Russia against us? I guess we all know what the answer would be.

Well, our military men evidently have decided that this is not the time to bow to the opposition of English and French Socialists and Communists—they want a safe place where our troops can retreat if they have to, and that place is Spain.

Spain, with its mountainous country, offers perfect protection for our armies. And, if it were equipped with modern airbases, it would become a fortress, impregnable to anything Russia could do. Thus, we could save our boys from annihilation and save our equipment if we were forced to retreat. Seems like good sense.

The military argument is, in fact, so strong, that the little fellow in the White House and his pal, Dean Acheson, now find it impossible to keep on playing the game of their English-Socialist comrades, so they have announced a “change of policy regarding Spain.” Something which should have been done years ago, and would have been done except for rotten international politics in which we have participated.

If the Korean war has done nothing else for us, it has shown that a gang of Socialists and Communists in the U.N. are positively not going to allow us to protect ourselves if war breaks out anywhere in the world.

We could have won and would have won a military victory in Korea except for the objections of the U.N. Socialists and Communists who are directing our campaign—including our own State Department.

Eighty thousand American casualties; over ten billions in equipment—all gone for nothing!

WE SHOULD KNOW BY NOW THAT COMMUNISTS AND SOCIALISTS ARE NOT THE PEOPLE TO DIRECT OUR ARMIES AND OUR EQUIPMENT FOR WAR AGAINST OTHER COMMUNISTS. That is why it is so important to get rid of Socialist and Communist sympathizers in our own Government—especially in our State Department.

We should have true American leadership and cast off all associations with Communists, both at home and abroad. Will we ever learn?

TOP BRASS VIOLATION OF THEIR OATH

I was glad to see in General MacArthur’s Boston talk that he severely criticized our top brass for violating their oath of loyalty to the nation and its Constitution. You will find my article on the same subject in the Clover Letter of July 1951.

As pointed out, Generals Marshall and Eisenhower were both guilty of just such violation, by failing to inform the American people, whom they had sworn to protect, of the fact that the mentally incompetent President Roosevelt at Yalta was about to sell America down the river to the Communists; was turning a number of countries over to slavery under Russia, which we had fought a war to liberate.

Had these two generals lived up to their oath,
TO THE CONGRESS—INFLATION

We are undoubtedly in a mild recession which stems from two causes: (1) pre-Korean inventories were built up to unprecedented levels because of high consumer demand caused by easy credit and (2) consumers rushed in at the start of the Korean war to stock up on materials they were told would become hard to get.

At the start of the Korean war, many of the bureaucrats took to the public platforms, wrote articles and delivered their advice over the radio networks—they told us that there would be controls clamped down on almost everything; that materials would be hard to get; that we would have to tighten our belts, and so on ad infinitum.

These phony “experts” never mentioned the top-heavy stocks on hand of practically everything, nor did they mention our enormous capacity to produce. All they were thinking about was throwing a scare into the people so that they could later bleed them of more of their savings and obtain additional controls.

As often happens, the plan of the “experts” backfired—people rushed in to buy anything and everything; they stocked up for months ahead on all necessities; they doubled up on their instalment commitments; they couldn’t get goods fast enough, so they bid up prices, and it was only a matter of weeks before a real boom developed; prices skyrocketed and the value of our money began to shrink still further. Then labor, seeing the cost developed; prices skyrocketed and the value of our money and it was only a matter of weeks before a real boom couldn’t get goods fast enough, so they bid up prices, people rushed in to buy anything and everything; they stocked up for months ahead on all necessities; they were thinking about was throwing a scare into the people savings and obtain additional controls.

The country does not want Socialists, Communist sympathizers or people who condone these ungodly doctrines in any public positions—especially in top positions where they can work ruin of our national philosophy.

The mere fact that Socialists of both parties or Communists are out rooting for someone is proof positive that they believe their hero will do their bidding if elected—it should be a warning to watch our step! We still have some uncompromising Americans left! Why not employ them?

COMMUNISTS WITHIN YOUR ORGANIZATION

Something very shocking to me recently came over the radio and in the press—I wonder if it registered with those of my readers who employ a personnel department?

The F. B. I. agent, who posed as a Red and later helped convict the eleven Communists in New York who are now serving time, has named a professor of mathematics at M.I.T. as being a card-carrying Communist. This in itself was not startling, as there are many such traitors in the faculties of various colleges.

But another man was named at the same time as a dangerous, card-carrying Communist, and what do you suppose his job is? This man is personnel director in a large industrial plant. Think of it!

You can well imagine how much damage this one man could do to an essential industry by planting Reds in key positions.

I feel that where there is one traitor who has worked into such a vital job, there must be others. I would, therefore, suggest that all those who have a personnel department should have the background and the associations of each individual carefully checked. Maybe the F.B.I. could advise how this could be effectively done.

Most of these high-class crooks are fine fellows to meet—they must be the type who would never be suspected. You owe it to the honest Americans in your employ to weed out these traitors pronto.

E. B. Gallaher
GENERAL MacARTHUR'S BOSTON TALK

July 25, 1951, ON

COMMUNISM, LACK OF FOREIGN POLICY, CORRUPTION.
BUREAUCRATIC GOVERNMENT AND EXCESSIVE TAXATION

I deem General MacArthur's Boston talk of such outstanding importance to the American people that I am publishing it in full, with the thought that my readers, even though they may have heard the talk, might like to have it for future reference. This is a talk which should be pondered. It comes from a true American who has only the best interests of our nation at heart and who wants to set our thinking straight.

This speech may mark the turning point in America from Socialism and Communism back to Constitutional Government.

E. B. Gallagher

In this historic forum I recall vividly and reverently the memory of those great architects and defenders of liberty who immortalized the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. To this section of the country men point as the cradle of our freedom.

For here was established more than three centuries ago a declaration of rights from which ultimately came the constitutional mandate guaranteeing our civil liberties. Here men arose militantly in protest against the tyranny of oppressive rule of burdensome taxation. Here men engaged in formal combat to sever the distasteful bonds of colonial rule.

Here men etched the patriot's pattern which all races who harbored in their hearts a love for freedom have since sought to emulate. Here men, by their courage, vision and faith, forged a new concept of modern civilization.

Before the descendants of these early American patriots I am honored, indeed, to address this legislative assembly in response to its thoughtful and kind invitation. I do so with neither partisan affiliation nor political purpose.

But 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 the integrity of 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 bitter consequences.

I had thought Abraham Lincoln had pinned down for all time this ugly code when he declared: “To sin by silence when they should protest makes cowards of men.”

I shall raise my voice as loud and as often as I believe it to be in the interest of the American people. I shall dedicate all of my energies to restoring to American life those immutable principles and ideals which your forebears and mine handed down to us in sacred trust. I shall assist in the regaining of that moral base for both public and private life which will restore the people's faith in the integrity of public institutions and the private faith of every man in the integrity of his neighbor.

I shall set my course to the end that no man need fear to speak the truth. I could not do less, for the opportunities for service my country has given me and the honors it has conferred upon me have imposed an obligation which is not discharged by the termination of public service.

Much that I have seen since my return to my native land after an absence of many years has filled me with immeasurable satisfaction and pride. Our material progress has been little short of phenomenal.

It has established an eminence in material strength so far in advance of any other nation or combination of nations that talk of imminent threat to our national security through the application of external force is pure nonsense.
It is not of any external threat that I concern myself but rather of insidious forces working from within which have already so drastically altered the character of our free institutions—those institutions which formerly we hailed as something beyond question or challenge—those institutions we proudly called the American way of life.

Foremost of these forces is that directly, or even more frequently indirectly, allied with the scourge of imperialistic Communism. It has infiltrated into positions of public trust and responsibility—into journalism, the press, the radio and the schools.

It seeks through covert manipulation of the civil power and the media of public information and education to pervert the truth, impair respect for moral values, suppress human freedom and representative government and, in the end, destroy our faith in our religious teachings.

This evil force, with neither spiritual base nor moral standard, rallies the abnormal and subnormal elements among our citizenry and applies internal pressure against all things we hold decent and all things that we hold right—the type of pressure which has caused many Christian nations abroad to fall and their own cherished freedoms to languish in the shackles of complete suppression.

As it has happened there it can happen here. Our need for patriotic fervor and religious devotion was never more impelling. There can be no compromise with atheistic Communism—no half way in the preservation of freedom and religion. It must be all or nothing.

We must unite in the high purpose that the liberties etched upon the design of our life by our forefathers be unimpaired and that we maintain the moral courage and spiritual leadership to preserve inviolate that mighty bulwark of all freedom, our Christian faith.

It was the adventurous spirit of Americans which despite risks and hazards carved a great nation from an almost impenetrable wilderness; which established the pattern for modern industrialization and scientific development: which built our own almost unbelievable material progress and favorably influenced that of all others; which through the scientific advance of means of communication closed the international geographic gap to permit rapid and effective trade and commerce among the peoples of the world; which raised the living standard of the American people beyond that ever before known; and which elevated the laborer, the farmer and the tradesman to their rightful station of dignity and relative prosperity.

This adventurous spirit is now threatened as it was in the days of the Boston Tea Party by an unconscionable burden of taxation. This is sapping the initiative and energies of the people and leaves little incentive for the assumption of those risks which are inherent and unescapable in the forging of progress under the system of free enterprise.

Worst of all, it is throwing its tentacles around the low-income-bracket sector of our society, from whom is now exacted the major share of the cost of government. This renders its paper income largely illusory.

The so-called “forgotten man” of the early ’30s now is indeed no longer forgotten as the Government levies upon his income as the main remaining source to defray reckless spendthrift policies.

More and more we work not for ourselves but for the state. In time, if permitted to continue, this trend cannot fail to be destructive. For no nation may survive in freedom once its people become the servants of the state, a condition to which we are now pointed with dreadful certainty. Labor, as always, will be the first to feel its frightful consequences.

It is quite true that some levy upon the people’s earnings to pay the cost of government is unavoidable. But the costs of government, even discounting extraordinary military requirements, have risen at an accelerated, alarming and reckless rate.

Nothing is heard from those in supreme executive authority concerning the possibility of a reduction or even limitation upon these mounting costs. No suggestion deals with the restoration of some semblance of a healthy balance. No plan is advanced for easing the crushing burden already resting upon the people.

To the contrary, all that we hear are the plans by which such costs progressively may be increased. New means are constantly being devised for greater call upon the taxable potential as though the resources available were inexhaustible. We compound irresponsibility by seeking to share what liquid wealth we have with others.

In so doing we recklessly speak of the billions we would set aside for the purpose, as though they were inconsequential. There can be no quarrel with altruism. Such has ever been a predominant quality making up the nobility of the American character. We should do all in our power to alleviate the suffering and hardship of other peoples, and to support their own maximum effort to preserve their freedom from the assaults of Communist imperialism.

But when this effort is carried beyond the ability to pay, or to the point that the attendant burden upon our own people becomes insufferable, or places our own way of life and freedom in jeopardy, then it ceases to be altruism and becomes reckless imprudence. I have yet to see evidence that such vast outlays were preceded by the slightest concern for the ultimate effect it will have upon our own liberties and standards of life.

This nation’s material wealth is built upon the vision and courage, the sweat and toil, hope and faith of our people. There has been no magic involved upon which we might again call to replenish our denuded coffers.

We can either advance upon the security of sound principles or we can plunge on to the precipice of disaster toward which we are now headed in the dangerous illusion that our wealth is inexhaustible—and can therefore be limitlessly shared with others.

It is argued that we must give boundlessly if we are to be insured allies in an emergency.

I reject this reasoning as an unwarranted calumny against well-tested friends of long standing. The survival of the free world is infinitely more dependent upon the maintenance of a strong, vigorous, healthy and independent America as a leavening influence than upon any financial aid which we might provide under our own existing stringencies.

The free world’s one great hope for survival now rests upon the maintaining and preserving of our own strength. Continue to dissipate it and that one hope is dead. If the American people would pass on the standard of life and the heritage of opportunity they themselves have enjoyed to their children and their children’s children they should ask their representatives in government:

“What is the plan for the easing of the tax burden upon us? What is the plan for bringing to a halt this inflationary movement which is progressively and inexorably decreasing the purchasing power of our currency, nullifying the protection of our insurance provisions, and reducing those of fixed income to hardship and even despair?”
I fear these questions, if asked, would be met by stony silence. For just as in Korea there has been no plan. We have long drifted aimlessly with the sole safeguard against the ineptitude of our leaders resting upon American enterprise, American skill and American courage. But once the incentive for the maximizing of these great attributes is lost the bulwark to support our failures is gone and the American way of life as we have known it will be gravely threatened.

Indivisible from this trend and probably contributory to it is a growing tendency to overlook certain forms of laxity in high quarters. Petty corruption in the public administration is a disease unfortunately common to all nations but I refer to an even more alarming situation.

Men of significant stature in national affairs appear to cower before the threat of reprisal if the truth be expressed in criticism of those in higher public authority.

For example, I find in existence a new and heretofore unknown and dangerous concept that the members of our armed forces owe primary allegiance and loyalty to those who temporarily exercise the authority of the executive branch of Government, rather than to the country and its Constitution which they are sworn to defend.

No proposition could be more dangerous. None could cast greater doubt upon the integrity of the armed services. For its application would at once convert them from their traditional and constitutional role as the instrument for the defense of the Republic into something partaking of the nature of a Praetorian Guard, owing sole allegiance to the political master of the hour.

While for the purpose of administration and command the armed services are within the executive branch of the Government, they are accountable as well to the Congress, charged with the policy-making responsibility, and to the people, ultimate repository of all national power.

Yet so inordinate has been the application of the executive power that members of the armed services have been subjected to the most arbitrary and ruthless treatment for daring to speak the truth in accordance with conviction and conscience.

I hesitate to refer to my own relief from the Far Eastern commands as I have never questioned the legal authority underlying such action. But the three sole reasons publicly stated by the highest authority clearly demonstrate the arbitrary nature of the decision.

The first reason given was that, contrary to existing policy, I warned of the strategic relationship of Formosa to American security and the dangers inherent in this area’s falling under Communist control. Yet this viewpoint has since been declared by the Secretary of State, under oath before congressional committees, to have been and to be the invincible and long-standing policy of the United States.

The second reason given was that I communicated my readiness to meet the enemy commander at any time to discuss acceptable terms of a cease-fire arrangement. Yet, for this proposal, I was relieved of my command by the same authorities who since have received so enthusiastically the indential proposal when made by the Soviet Government.

The third and final reason advanced was my replying to a Congressman’s request for information on a public subject then under open consideration by the Congress. Yet both Houses of Congress promptly passed a law confirming my action, which indeed had been entirely in accordance with a long-existing and well-recognized though unwritten policy.

This law states that no member of the armed forces shall be restricted or prevented from communicating directly or indirectly with any member or members of Congress concerning any subject unless such communication is in violation of law or the security and safety of the United States. And this formal enactment of basic public policy was approved without the slightest dissent by the President.

Is there wonder that men who seek an objective understanding of American policy thinking become completely frustrated and bewildered? Is there wonder that Soviet propaganda so completely dominates American foreign policy? And, indeed, what is our foreign policy?

We hear impassioned appeals that it be bipartisan—violent charges that sinister efforts are being made to obstruct and defeat it—but I defy you or any other man to tell me what it is. It has become a mass of confused misunderstandings and vacillations. It has meant one thing today—another tomorrow. It has almost blown with every wind, changed with every tide.

The sorry truth is we have no policy. Expediences as variable and shifting as the exigencies of the moment seem to be the only guide. Yesterday, we disarmed; today we arm, and what of tomorrow? We have been told of the war in Korea that it is the wrong war, with the wrong enemy, at the wrong time and in the wrong place. Does this mean that they intend and indeed plan what they would call a right war, with a right enemy, at a right time and in a right place?

If successful in mounting the North Atlantic Pact in 1953 or 1954 or at one of the ever-changing dates fixed for its consummation, what comes then? Do we mean to throw down a gage of battle? Do we mean to continue the fantastic fiscal burden indefinitely to our inevitable exhaustion?

Is our only plan to spend and spend and spend? Do we intend to resist by force Red aggression in Southeast Asia if it develops? Do we intend to take over commitments in the explosive Middle East? Do we intend to enter into a series of military alliances abroad? Do we intend to actually implement by force of arms the so-called Truman Plan? These are questions that disturb us. There is no answer forthcoming. We do want and need unity and bipartisanship in our foreign policy—but when there is no policy we can but dangerously drift.

In Korea, despite the magnificent performance of our fighting forces, the result has been indecisive. The high moral purpose which so animated and inspired the world a year ago yielded to the timidity and fear of our leaders as after defeating our original enemy a new one entered the field which they dared not fight to a decision. Appeasement thereafter became the policy of war on the battlefield.

In the actual fighting with this new enemy we did not lose but neither did we win. Yet it can be accepted as a basic principle proven and reproofed since the beginning of time that a great nation which enters upon war and fails to see it through to victory must accept the full moral consequences of defeat.

Now that the fighting has temporarily abated the outstanding impression which emerges from the scene is the utter uselessness of the enormous sacrifice in life and limb which has resulted. A million soldiers on both sides and unquestionably at least a like number of civilians are maimed or dead. A nation has been gutted and we stand today just where we stood before it all started.
The threat of aggression upon the weak by those callously inclined among the strong has not diminished. Indeed, nothing has been settled. No issue has been decided.

This experience again emphasizes the utter futility of modern war—its complete failure as an arbiter of international dissensions. Its threat must be abolished if the world is to go on—and if it does not go on it will go under.

We must finally come to realize that war is outmoded as an instrument of political policy; that it provides no solution for international problems; that it but threatens the participants with mutual national suicide. We must understand that in final analysis the mounting cost of preparation for war is in many ways as materially destructive as war itself. We must find the means to avoid this great sapping of human energy and resource.

This requires leadership of the highest order—a spiritual and moral leadership—a leadership which our country alone is capable of providing. While we must be prepared to meet the trial of war if war comes, we should gear our foreign and domestic policies toward the ultimate goal—the abolition of war from the face of the earth.

This is what practically all mankind—all the great masses which populate the world—long and pray for. Therein lies the road, the only road, to universal peace and prosperity. We must lead the world down that road however long and tortuous and illusory it may now appear.

Such is the role as I see it for which this great nation of ours is now cast. In this we follow the Cross. If we meet the challenge we cannot fail. But no end may be achieved without first making a start—no success without a trial.

On this problem of greatest universal concern, unless we address ourselves to the fundamentals we shall get no farther than the preceding generations which have tried and failed. Convention after convention has been entered into designed to humanize war and bring it under the control of rules dictated by the highest human ideals. Yet each war becomes increasingly savage as the means for mass killing are further developed.

You cannot control war, you can only abolish it. Those who shrug this off as idealistic are the real enemies of peace—the real warmongers. Those who lack the enterprise, vision and courage to try a new approach when none others have succeeded fail completely the most simple test of leadership.

As I have traveled through the country since my return, I find a great transformation in American thought to be taking place. Our apathy is disappearing. American public opinion is beginning to exert its immense power. The American people are expressing themselves with dynamic force on foreign policy. This is exerting a profound influence upon the Soviet course of action.

Few events in the life of our republic have been of more significant importance nor more heartening than this rallying of the collective will of the American people. They are putting pressure upon their own leaders and upon the leaders of those with whom we are directly or indirectly engaged. And just as it has cast its influence upon policy and events abroad it can be brought to bear with no less telling effect upon policy and events at home.

Therein lies our best hope in the battle to save America—the full weight of an aroused, informed and militant public opinion. I stated in Texas:

"If it be that my relief was the spark which ignited this great power of American public expression; which caused our people to rise above the level of narrow partisanship to unite in a common crusade to effect a spiritual rebirth in American life; which restored to the American people the full glory and dignity of self-rule under those same high principles and ideals which animated our fathers; which restored a lost faith in ourselves and our free institutions; which provided the symbol for rallying the mighty forces for good throughout the land—then I would be thankful, indeed, to a farseeing and merciful Providence and could not ask for more."

We stand today at a critical moment in history—at a vital crossroad. In one direction is the path of courageous patriots seeking in humility but the opportunity to serve their country; the other that of those selfishly seeking to entrench autocratic power.

The one group stands for implacable resistance against Communism; the other for compromising with Communism. The one stands for our traditional system of government and freedom; the other for a socialist state and slavery.

The one boldly speaks the truth; the other spreads propaganda, fear and deception. The one denounces excessive taxation, bureaucratic government and corruption; the other seeks more taxes, more bureaucratic power, and shields corruption.

The people, as the ultimate rulers, must choose the course our nation shall follow. On their decision rests the future of our free civilization and the survival of our Christian faith. Not for a moment do I doubt that decision or that it will guide the nation to a new and fuller greatness. Good night.

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