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## 'We Are the Leaders of the Free World'

Speaker Sam Rayburn, in his commencement address at the University of Texas Saturday night, gave a simple, convincing exposition of American foreign policy which implements our responsibility of leadership of the free world against Communist imperialism! It is vital to realize this new-found role of our nation, maturing to primacy in World War II, in order to recognize the import of our world policy.

By reason of the inscrutable nature of our main adversary, our policy must be aimed at two objectives, ably defined by Mr. Rayburn as, first, the avoidance of war by containment of Russia and, second, if that high mission should fail, the purchase of time to prepare for victory. So precarious is the world crisis that no one can say whether the die will be cast for peace or war. Yet our cardinal mission is to forestall the catastrophe of a world holocaust.

We and our allies are standing against armed aggression in Korea, and Mr. Rayburn properly reminded that strength on another frontier of Western Europe is essential. Our allies in Europe "are indispensable to us as we are indispensable to them." In that exposed, strategic region there is both a large population, many with advanced skills, and an industrial potential that should be conserved for our side in the world struggle. In Soviet hands, Western Europe would balance the scales too heavily in favor of the Russian scheme of world domination, an age-old ambition.

In this contest, Mr. Rayburn pointed out, we face an adversary who is "infinitely patient as he is infinitely crafty."

The Russian, like his near-kin, the Asiatic, counts time in decades and centuries. Our short-range appraisal of time, incident to our rapid progress and speed, must be qualified in this crisis by a recognition of the enemy's idea of time. Therefore, we must muster patience, a willingness to pay the price of freedom and security and to see the ordeal through.

No price is too high for those blessings, won by the struggles, hardships and sacrifices of early-day Americans. More desirable than a high standard of living—and more enduring—is "a high standard of life," exemplified by the great American democracy. Such is our stake in the cold-hot war against Communist aggression.

"Far from bewailing our fate," Mr. Rayburn aptly stated, "I think we should regard it as a high privilege to become the great defender of the faith; the best hope on earth."

The speaker was confident that our allies in Europe would stand by us in this struggle. They recognize that world leadership has shifted across the Atlantic after Britain for centuries maintained law and order in the world. In this leadership, our advantages are apparent on every side. Likewise, it bears the high responsibilities that are implemented in a firm foreign policy. In Mr. Rayburn's own apt words:

"We who have only recently come into the stream of history are now the leaders of the free world. It is primarily our strength, however indispensable our allies may be to us, that prevents Russian communism from enslaving the world."