

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

First -- Let's take the latest item: - (the Senate has just approved a constitutional amendment limiting future presidents to no more than ten -- including two full four year terms.) Vote on the measure was fifty-nine to twenty-three, the Republican majority pushing it through over vociferous protests from the Democrats.

Now for the big news of the day:--

TRUMAN

(President Truman has placed the United States squarely in the path of spreading Russian Totalitarianism and let the chips fall where they may. That was the essence of the Presidents' address to both houses of Congress today) -- an address which may some day be rated as the most important declaration of Foreign Policy by any American President since the Monroe Doctrine.

(Actually, the president wasn't asking so much -- only approval of his plan to send four hundred million dollars' in American money and arms to Greece and Turkey.)

But the implications were staggering; so reversing American's one time isolationism that (we are now standing out as the bulwark against the communist advance in Southeastern Europe,) historic breeding ground of wars, the frontier where eastern and western ideologies collide.

"Should we fail to aid Greece and Turkey in this fateful hour, "The president warned, "the effect will be

as far reaching to the west as to the east. We must take immediate and resolute action."

Although he was speaking to a joint session of Congress his challenging words were intended for all the world to hear -- Moscow and London, Athens and Ankara, and on to Far Cathay.

Even as the president spoke, the Russian ambassadors in Washington and London were hurriedly packing their bags in response to a rush order from the Kremlin to come home (Moscow says only for a visit -- or is it just coincidence.) At any rate tension rises and relations between Russia and the United States are strained as they never were before or during the war.

From the first seconds of the President's speech, it was obvious that here was America's long expected notice to Russia. That we have thrown down the Gauntlet that we will no longer stand idly by and watch the weaker nations swallowed up in the great maw of totalitarianism.

The president's speech falls easily into categories. First the issue. (In Mr. Tru Truman's own

words: "It must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures. And then the proposal, aid! Now overwhelming aid; but aid nevertheless to Greece and Turkey, those countries must likely at this time to fall within the Soviet sphere by pressure from within or from without. The proposal has the two fold purpose of enabling Greece to establish itself once more as a self-supporting and a self-respecting democracy, and of enabling Turkey to maintain its own national integrity.

Mr. Truman therefore seeks to create a new foreign policy, a policy pledging the United States from now on to use our resources to create conditions in which we and other nations will be able to work out a way of life free from coercion. That we must assist free peoples to work out their own destinies in their own way.

President Truman began speaking today at 1:02 p.m. gone from his voice was that Staccato sharpness which has marked so many of his other public utterances. His

words were as measured and as weighty as their meaning. He began: "The gravity of the situation which confronts the world today necessitates my appearance before a joint session of the Congress. The Foreign Policy and the national security of this country was involved."

Then, in rapid fire detail, but sparing no punches, the chief executive outlined the train of events touched off by Britain's unexpected weakening in the eastern Mediterranean, a weakening that brought Greece to the verge of collapse, and threatened, in Mr. Truman's words, to turn both that country and Turkey into other members of Russia's growing list of satellites.

Without mentioning Russia by name, Mr. Truman accused the communists of exploiting post-war chaos and misery in Greece, with the purpose of unseating the duly elected Greek Government, and preventing that country's recovery. "Turkey also," said the President, "is in a critical position. The Turks are struggling to maintain their national integrity in the face of

of threats from their colossal communist neighbor, and Turkey's one ally, Great Britain, is far away and no longer able to send help."

But why should this concern us, a free and prosperous people, far away from little Greece and unknown Turkey? That was the main theme of the president's address - the broad conflict between totalitarianism and democracy.

When Mr. Truman reached this point, his audience of cabinet officers, Senators and Representatives shifted expectantly, only the whir of movie cameras breaking the tense silence. "I am fully aware," said the president slowly, "of the implications involved if the United States extends assistance to Greece and Turkey. But one of the primary objectives of the Foreign Policy of the United States should be the creation of conditions in which we and other nations will be able to work out a way of life free from coercion. This was the fundamental issue in the war with Germany and Japan. Our victory was won over countries that sought to impose their will

and way of life upon other nations."

The president went on in the same low, measured tones: "At the present moment in world history, nearly every nation must choose between alternative ways of life. Unfortunately, the choice is not always a free one. One way is based upon the will of the majority. It is distinguished by free institutions representative - government, free elections, the guarantees of individual liberty, freedom of speech and religion, and freedom of Political expression." This part of his address was almost a paraphrase of the Bill of Rights. "The second way of life" he went on, "is based upon the will of minority, ruling by terror and oppression, a controlled press and radio, and the suppression of personal freedoms."

And this was a paraphrase of the teaching of Hitler and Stalin.

The president declared that a glance at the map is sufficient to make clear the importance of saving Greece

and Turkey now. for if Greece should fall under the control of an armed minority," said he, "the effect upon its neighbor, Turkey, would be immediate and serious. Confusion and disorder might well spread through-out the entire middle east."

Still more serious, the disappearance of Greece as an independent state would have a profound effect upon those other countries in Europe whose peoples are struggling, despite the damages of war, to maintain their freedom and their independence."

This of course was a plain reference to Italy and France, both of which now face an internal battle between communism and democracy. Mr. Truman's close advisors and observers, Secretary of State Marshall among them, have warned that if communism should engulf Greece then France and Italy may be swept along in the wave.

The president, in closing his address, made it clear that intervention in Greece and Turkey might well be only the first step in a series of moves to block

the march of communism. Said he: "if further funds or further authority should be needed for the purposes indicated by me today, I shall not hesitate to ask for them. "And with those words there came a final drawing of the lines: Democracy and its thousand years of tradition in the Western world, on guard once more against the menace of totalitarianism which is as old as ~~it~~ is the east itself.

The president concluded: The free peoples of the world look to us for support. If we falter in our leadership, we may endanger the peace of the world. We shall surely endanger the welfare of our own nation."

There had been complete silence in the house chambers as the president spoke. None of the hand clapping that punctuates the ordinary presidential message. But ~~it~~ when he finished, a great burst of applause swept down from the galleries, and across the house floor. The President, his speech over, returned quickly to the White House then to the airport to board a plane for Key West.

Now it's up to Congress to translate the President's request into policy.

How members of a Republican majority will react to such an appeal from a Democratic president is for anyone to say. But one thing was apparent in the house today. Mr. Truman spoke not as a democrat; nor as a party leader, and he is convinced: The hour is later than many think.

TRUMAN REACTION

Mr. Truman had hardly finished speaking before reactions began flowing in. From the isolationists in Congress came the cry: "War mongerer!" And even the most loyal administration supporter is ready to admit that President Truman's message does involve the calculated risk of a clash with Russia.

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From the Russians themselves -- no comment tonight, but other diplomats at the Russian capital ran the entire gamut of opinion from the belief on the one hand that the President's speech had torpedoed the Big Four Conference, to the hope that it had cleared the air of doubt and would make the work of the Big Four Foreign Ministers much easier.

Another clash between Bevin, and Molotov, at the Big Four session in Moscow. The Briton accusing Russia of recruiting German war prisoners for the Red Army, of failing to destroy captured German war ships, and of stripping the Soviet occupation^{zone}/of industrial plants.

And what was Molotov's reply? Just one word: "Nonsense".

There were two immediate reactions to Bevin's forty-five minute address: Secretary of State George Marshall asserted blandly: "I am in general agreement with everything Bevin has said."

CHURCHILL

Winston Churchill had his say today in the Commons. He arose, as he had done many times since his defeat in Nineteen-Forty-Five, he arose to move a vote of "no confidence" in the present Labor Government -- accusing the Attlee Government, with all the skill at his command, of perpetrating crimes against the British State and people.

Churchill was at his best today, which means his fellow members and the galleryites enjoyed an oratorical treat. "The Laborites having polled only thirty-seven per cent of the total electorate," said he, "Deem it their mission to impose their peculiar ideological formula and theories upon the rest of their fellow countrymen regardless of the peril in which we stand. The consequences of this black act," he went on, have already darkened our future, and now endanger our very lives."

Churchill, who during the war himself headed a coalition cabinet of conservatives, laborites and liberals, made it plain that ~~ix~~ to his way of thinking,

not even another coalition cabinet would be the solution now.

First of all he said, he wants to Labor Government entirely out; and, speaking for the opposition conservative party which he leads, he asserted: "We do not aspire to a coalition."

Churchill's castigation was as bitter as only he could make it. "With slogans of envy, hatred and malice, the laborites have spread class warfare throughout the land and all sections of society" said he. "They have divided this nation in its hour of serious need as it has never been divided. In less than two years, our country has fallen from its proud and glorious position in the world to the plight in which it now lies; and he added, "the future is even more alarming."

In a final scathing denouncement, Churchill went on to say: "Before the Government nationalized our industries, they should have nationalized themselves!"

A great speech from England's elder statesman, a

speech reminding observers of the time, not many years ago when Churchill sat alone in Parliament and vainly warned members of a too complacent government of impending war and disaster in Europe. It was a speech from a master orator whose opponents have no champion to equal him. And, alas a speech that will gain almost nothing, because the overwhelming labor majority in the commons will override any motion of no confidence.

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A Bulletin from London: As expected, The house of Commons has overwhelmingly rejected Winston Churchill's motion of no confidence in the Labor Government. The vote was Three-Hundred-and-Seventy-Four to a Hundred-and-Ninety-eight.

SUN VALLEY

The greatest ski race of its kind ever held in North America took place on the steep slopes of Ruud Mountain here in Idaho today. It was a Sun Valley invitation race, over a long slalom course set up by the former champion of the world, Friedl Pfeifer who himself took part, and lost to much younger men, with those younger legs.

The thing that made the race so great was that it was the first all-out international competition in which our top skiers were pitted against the best in Europe. It was an open race, open to both amateurs and pros. The fastest time of the day was made by *Karl Molitor, from Switzerland, an* ~~the eastern skier from New~~ *N. H.,* ~~Harpster~~ Toni Matt from North Conway, and Paula Kann, also from North Conway, mother of a four months old baby.

The fastest time for a single run among the women was made by the sensational French speedster, Georgette Thiolliere.

The real winners for the day, since it was a team race, were those flying Swiss. But this time they made it only by an eye-lash, with an American team of amateurs made up of Bobby Blatt, Gordon Wren and Barney McLean nosing them out in the first run, and then losing by a hair in the second. The team scores, ~~unofficial~~ unofficial, were Swiss men's team first, the American A team second, and the American B team third. While the American girls won out decisively over the Swiss girls.

Oh yes, there was a reporter for one of the press associations ~~that~~ ^{who} sent out a story a week or so ago saying that we had no skiers ~~who~~ could compete with the foreign invaders. His face ought to be ^{a little} ~~plenty~~ red tonight, redder than mine which ~~looks~~ like a rare steak.

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