

ADDRESS DELIVERED BY CONGRESSMAN JOHN E. FOGARTY, SECOND RHODE ISLAND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, OVER RADIO STATION WPRO, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND, ON OCTOBER 30, 1950 - 6:15 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

In his inaugural address, on January 20, 1949, President Truman pleaded for the establishment of a new program which would make our technical skill and industrial know-how available to underprivileged areas of the world, to the end that these peoples, less fortunate than ourselves, could raise their standards of living and thus eliminate that type of fertile soil in which the seeds of Communism flourish.

After lengthy Congressional hearings and prolonged debate that program which a far-sighted President proposed, has become a reality and our Department of State is in possession of funds which the Congress appropriated. The first small beginnings have been made and there is about to get under way an "integrated health, agriculture and educational project" in the rural areas of Iran.

Iran was not selected as the ideal spot to make a beginning of this Point Four program which offers so much in the hope of building a world devoted to peaceful aims. Iran was the first nation to apply for such a program and the first nation to guarantee its cooperation in providing funds and personnel and material which will be needed to make the program a success.

Sad though it is to admit such a fact, all of us have become familiar with military activity as the potent arm of the United States which is protecting our homeland and guaranteeing to our neighbors the benefits of peace and freedom.

We lived and worked and fought through a mighty world war which saw the greatest scientific developments in the design and manufacture of implements of warfare. Death-dealing weapons which our Fathers would have considered ideas

of an insane mind came into being and the aim of all men seemed to be the development of bigger and more destructive bombs and guns and missiles whose sole purpose was to deal out death and destruction.

It is a truism that the national leaders who infest the Kremlin know and respect the power of a well armed nation. But it is also a truism that the lesser peoples of the world, while respecting military might - respect even more genuine guarantees that they can live and raise their families in an air of peace and liberty.

This nation of ours, blessed beyond measurement with the good things of life, is now taking positive measures to bring the peoples of other lands into the sunshine of God's green earth - and out of the shadow of fear which aggressive world-wide Communism is constantly attempting to spread.

This great Point Four program which has won unstinting praise from all thinking Americans is not a mere handout to foreign countries who might beat a path to the door of the Federal Treasury looking for dollars as an easy cure to their manifold problems. The Nation which receives assistance under the program will have to demonstrate that it can make its own contribution to the success of whatever project is undertaken. The program does not contemplate that it can cure all the world's ailments - but it is a positive demonstration undertaken in a true Christian Spirit, that there are other ways to work out a peoples problems than in espousing the cause of Communism which promises land reform, equality of effort and sacrifice, classless society - but which in fact, after gaining the domination of these peoples, will provide only misery, slavery and suffering.

This undertaking, which is perhaps the greatest single peace-time program ever undertaken by any nation, will call for sacrifices on our part. The bill for our contribution to the program will have to be paid through taxes on you and me. But, how much better to pay with dollars, though admittedly hard-earned, for such a program of peace and progress, than to risk the slaughter of more human lives in resisting with force of arms the onward march of aggressive Communism.

The industrial know-how and the technical skill of Americans in industry has brought to our own people a standard of living higher than that known by any other Nation in the world. Our school system which seeks to guarantee to all children at least the necessary minimum of an adequate education is looked upon with wonder by many nations which consider themselves advanced in this area. This industrial skill - and the stimulation of an interest in better educational standards - can go far toward helping the people in backward nations to provide for themselves a decent standard of living. They can be encouraged to learn that self-reliance doesn't necessarily mean the use of medieval agricultural or industrial implements. They can be taught to use their natural resources in such a manner as to promote the betterment of their society. And, what is of the greatest importance, they can be educated through the operation of this program to take a more prominent part in the society of nations, and through learning to create by their own efforts a better nation, with healthier, happier, more enlightened people, resist the efforts of Communism from within their boundaries, or the attacks of Communist armies from without. It is that goal that the Point Four program seeks.

In many parts of the world the child death rate is such as would strike us as nothing short of horrible. Those children who do reach maturity are prey to many forms of disease. I am constantly accompanied by thoughts of the great good we could do in the world if we could do no more than raise the physical standards of many of these peoples who have little or no knowledge of the advances which medical science has made in the last ten or twenty years.

We have some very definite ideas about this democratic society of ours. We believe that every man is endowed with certain inalienable rights - among them - life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We believe that every man has a perfect right to criticize this form of society as he sees fit. We will disagree with many of our critics, but we will fight to the death for the right of any American to have his say. We are now in the midst of a great political campaign. While we may be tired at times from the speeches of candidates for public office, nevertheless, we take great pride in the fact that any American can aspire to high office. We will insist that every candidate for such office be given every opportunity to appeal for the support of the electorate.

It is this kind of thing we would like to see extended over all parts of the globe. We feel certain that the enjoyment of these priceless liberties would make for a better world. We are certain, at the same time, that this heritage of ours cannot be extended to other lands by force of arms. The subjugation of people never wins their respect, but rather inspires their bitterness and hatred. We seek, by peaceful means, the education of less fortunate peoples to an appreciation of the enjoyment which can be theirs by the espousal of principles of true liberty and true freedom.

In those lands where health has been neglected, or where ignorance has permitted disease to run rampant, what greater contribution could we make than to make available to such people the knowledge which we could gain through intensive research into the causes and treatment of diseases of all kinds.

In our own country disease continues to take its dreadful toll. Each year thousands die needlessly. Hundreds of thousands are alive today who will not live to see the next Presidential campaign - because medical research has been retarded to the point where their ailments cannot be detected in time to apply the necessary curative treatments.

We have in the United States today some of the finest research laboratories in the world. They are handicapped in their activities because of a lack of funds. A study of the developments and advances made by private research foundations and institutions is actually staggering.

Penicillin, the sulfa drugs and cortisone were products of private research and their contribution to medical science is enormous. It is within the memory of all of us the tremendous cost of some of these drugs, a cost which denied their use to many whose lives could have been saved by their application. New discoveries such as ACTH are of tremendous importance but they are so costly that many cannot take advantage of their healing qualities.

Here is a field which challenges the best that is in the American capacity. While private foundations and institutions press forward with their research, restricted as many are by limited funds, a duty resolves upon the Government of the United States to provide whatever assistance is necessary. These private organizations cannot shoulder the entire burden alone. All of us are grateful for the great

work they are doing. We are all proud of the great forward steps they have made. But the thousands suffering from such ills as arthritis and heart disease are right in expecting greater activity on the part of their Federal Government, that help can come through the expansion of our own research facilities - and, through assistance by way of grants and subsidies, to private institutions. This work is of tremendous importance, and while the 81st Congress authorized the establishment of new research councils, a plea for economy in Government prevented the appropriation of the necessary funds to make these councils operative.

This to my way of thinking is false economy. The net result of an expanded medical research program would be a more productive economy which would actually contribute more money to the National Treasury. It would, at the same time, if we make the fruits of such effort available to peoples over the seas, bring about a healthier, happier state of affairs in many lands and thus reduce the cost of the Point Four program within the foreseeable future.

I find myself in complete agreement with the plans to make available to these Point Four beneficiaries the technical skill of American industry and the know-how of modern agricultural methods. However, I think it is of transcending importance that we make available to them the knowledge and the wherewithal to build strong bodies and sound minds. Wracked by disease, fatalistic in the knowledge that many of them have but short life spans, it doesn't seem likely that there is any plan of assistance, short of this, which can call forth a maximum effort.

Assured by positive demonstration that they can enjoy good health, that their children need not be victims of malaria and other diseases, it seems likely that these people in the world's neglected areas can be taught self-reliance, can be encouraged to enjoy in full measure the God-given resources of their homelands.

It seems to me that a healthy nation is a happy one. Take away from these people the fear that attends disease, a fear we know when it strikes one close to you and me, and you will substitute for that fear a determination that evil theories of government, war-minded would-be conquerors, or promisers of Utopia, will not usurp the land they love - the land which has given them a confidence in themselves - a will to live - and courage to resist anyone or anything which will destroy their freedom.

*15 minutes*