

Finally, our ability to stand fast against the attacks of international communism will depend on our success in strengthening the economic and social fabric of the free world. I hope that the North Atlantic Treaty will become a powerful instrument for this purpose. I am glad that its members will have the opportunity to consider the growing responsibilities and commitments of the alliance when the North Atlantic Council meets in London during May.

Finally, we in the West must be confident in the strength and validity of our system of government, in the value of our own society and in our ability so to develop and adjust our way of life that we can meet the challenge of our times. We must be confident also in the long-term strength of our position, firmer now than it was in 1945 and growing firmer year by year as the dividends begin to come to hand from such great constructive policies as the Marshall Plan and the North Atlantic Treaty.

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