

Harry Truman Recommends Economic Policy In Speech

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J. (AP) — Former President Truman accused the Eisenhower administration today of following an economic policy of "creeping McKinleyism." He suggested six steps he said would "carry us far toward full employment within a year."

Truman did not explain the phrase "creeping McKinleyism" — an obvious parallel to the words "creeping socialism" which President Eisenhower has applied to some "Fair Deal" measures. President McKinley was notably

conservative on economic issues, and his name is often used by Democratic orators as a symbol for reaction.

In an address prepared for the CIO Annual Meeting of the Clothing Workers annual convention, he said the administration seems to be "merely hoping and praying that things will not get still worse," and recommended:

1. Increasing federal spending by about three billion dollars a year to strengthen defenses against aggression and to meet needs for power and resource development, public works and roads, education, health and housing.

2. Raising personal income tax exemptions from the present \$600 to \$800, which would cut taxes about 4 1/2 billions yearly, or combining some such increase with "equitable readjustments" in tax rates.

3. Tossing "out of the nearest window" Secretary of Agriculture Benson's plan for flexible farm price supports and substituting a program to "support true parity" of income for the farmer.

4. A "clear-cut policy" favoring a rising level of wages, including an increase in the federally required minimum wage to bring the standard "into line with present-day conditions." He said also the government should not try to "weaken collective bargaining by repressive labor legislation."

5. Expansion of unemployment insurance to provide broader coverage, payments for a longer period, and larger benefits. He said the administration program consists merely of exhorting the states to do what everybody knows they will not do without federal action.

6. A large expanded housing program, including federal leadership to double the annual rate of home building as rapidly as possible. He said the administration goal of a million houses a year is about equal to the number of houses built in 1925.

"The Republican orators told us in 1952," the former President said, "that they were going to cure the world situation, to achieve peace, and slash defense. They said they were going to give us real peacetime prosperity. 'Well, they haven't been very successful at it."

"The world situation is just as critical and dangerous as it ever was, if not more so. Obviously, a change of administration here does not change the problems of Asia and Europe or the minds of men in the Kremlin."

"And instead of having peacetime prosperity, the Republicans have given us a recession."

Truman said this "economic recession" is still here, has already been too big and lasted too long, and that it is time to do something about it. Just this country runs into a "real depression."

"Between now and the end of 1954," he said, "we can elect a new kind of Congress. Between now and the end of 1956 the President can get some new advisers. And toward the end of 1956 — well, I won't talk about that just yet."

"In the meantime, and immediately, we should have a program to stop creeping McKinleyism, which is the cause of our troubles."

French Launch Aerial Strike

HANOI, Indochina (AP) — The French sent their newly supplied American Navy Corsair fighter-bombers Thursday into the widening aerial assault upon the 70,000 Communist-led Vietnamese troops inside the key defense bastion of the Red River Delta.

B26 bombers, aided by Privateers and Corsairs, hammered regular Vietnamese troop concentrations and occupied villages and their hideouts in limestone hills around Phuly, 20 miles south of Hanoi.

The warplanes flew more than 40 missions, hitting hard at Vietnamese regulars who are spearheading attempts inside the delta to smash vital lines of French communications, key defense posts and possibly pave the way for an eventual major attack from the outside by Vietnamese troops moving from the fallen fortress at Dien Bien Phu.

Services Held For U. S. Pilots

HONG KONG (AP) — Memorial services were held in the British Royal Air Force chapel here yesterday for two American civilian pilots killed May 6 in Vietnam territory in Indochina.

The fliers, Wallace A. Buford, 28, of Kansas City, Kan., and James B. McGovern, 32, of Elizabeth, N. J., lost their lives when the flying boxcar they were piloting for the French was hit by Vietnamese anti-aircraft and exploded in a crash-landing.

The chapel was packed by friends of the airmen, including officials of the Civil Air Transport Airline (CAT), U. S. Consulate personnel and French air and Army attaches.

Van Fleet Visits Taipei, Formosa

TAIPEI, Formosa (AP) — Gen. James A. Van Fleet arrived from Korea today on a Far East fact-finding mission and told reporters he would look into the needs of all branches of Nationalist China's armed forces.

Van Fleet, retired former U. S. 8th Army commander, is studying U. S. military aid programs in Japan, South Korea and Formosa for President Eisenhower. He will confer with Chiang Kai-shek tomorrow.

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