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Aid to Western Europe

Mike Mansfield 1903-2001

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Remarks of Senator Mike Mansfield:

*Aid to
Western
Europe*

Mr. President: I realize full well that this country has spent billions of dollars in aid during the post-war period. I realize also that this money has brought about the economic survival of the West; that it has given us and our friends time to fight back aggressive communism in ~~all~~ Western Europe and also in Greece and Turkey. I am aware too that in these seven years, through our aid programs, that we have in effect contributed mightly to the ^{security} ~~salvation~~ of the free world. ~~This aid program has not given us the privilege of deciding the policies of the nations on our side, nor has it brought friendship or understanding of us or of our way of life.~~ *The aid programs have* It certainly ~~has~~ not given us a solution to the all absorbing question of peace but it has kept our friends from sinking into utter economic distress and in so doing, it has kept them from moving by default into the orbit of the Soviet Empire. The salvation of the West, as expressed in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, is worth fighting for and on that basis we can safely assume then that the money we have spent in bring about the economic rehabilitation and the military strength^{ening} of Western Europe has been worth the cost. With our aid we and our friends have bought time; we have helped to save Western Europe and we have prevented the ^{eclipse} ~~crumbling~~ of Western civilization. I think the programs have been worthwhile. I ^{believe aid} ~~think~~ should be continued but ~~that~~ I think that continuation should be on a modified scale and should be incorporated entirely with ^{the} ~~the~~ Department of State which should be ^{the} ~~our~~ chief foreign policy making and foreign policy operating branch of the Government of the United States.