

The original documents are located in Box D13, folder “House Speech "Life" Article, August 14, 1950” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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MR. FORD OF MICHIGAN

MR. SPEAKER, under leave to extend my own remarks, I am referring to various editorials from the July 24, 1950 issue of LIFE Magazine.

No one should object to sound criticism or an evaluation of their past actions. Only the weak, when previous mistakes are more obvious than ever, hide under a self-preservation smokescreen and say, "this is no time for bygones".

Ever since the Soviet aggression into South Korea, the Democratic Administration leaders have been wanting the public to forget the terrible diplomatic blunders of the State Department in Asia and the Far East. Fortunately the American people, through editorials such as those in LIFE Magazine are being told the truth. The full and complete truth of our Pacific stupidity may hurt the "let the dust settle" policy-makers of the State Department, but the full and complete truth as to why we have lost China and why we are currently fighting a war in Korea will be helpful in setting a proper course in the months ahead.

The LIFE Magazine editorials of the aforementioned date demand the resignation or dismissal of Acheson. If Secretary Acheson does not publicly disavow his previous China and Pacific policies, I likewise believe he should resign. If Mr. Acheson is now convinced of the fallacies of his underlings, those who assisted in setting the bankrupt Pacific policy, and will renounce straightforwardly their views, then he is qualified to remain in the President's Cabinet in the months ahead. However, if Mr. Acheson still believes in such previously discredited theories for combatting communist influence in Asia, and is only standing by till we win in Korea, then he should leave his present



position of responsibility. This is no time for half-hearted cooperation. Either Mr. Acheson is wholeheartedly opposed to communist and fellow-traveler policies in the Far East, and if so he should publicly renounce all past views, or he should step aside for another who will do more than acquiesce by silence.

In the newspapers for August 8, 1950, that so-called expert for the Far East, Mr. Owen Lattimore, urges that Communist China be seated in the United Nations. This is the same tune played by Joe Stalin and the Russian Delegate to the United Nations, Mr. Malik. Birds of a feather seem to flock together.

In closing let me compliment the Editor of LIFE Magazine for discussing frankly matters which too long have been glossed over and covered up by the Administration leaders.

