March ..., 1952

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Dear ...:

When the Mutual Security Aid program came on for action in the Senate last fall, I was thoroughly persuaded that this program would have to be cut, and accordingly offered an amendment to reduce it by 500 million dollars. Although that amendment failed, the Senate did adopt another amendment which I offered to curtail it by 250 million dollars.

Since that time I have made a diligent endeavor to fortify myself on this subject with whatever authoritative material was available. In addition, I sought information from informed and careful observers who went to Europe in person to explore the program and its effect.

On the basis of such information I am more than ever persuaded that in the interest of solvency at home and the redevelopment of a greater sacrificial spirit abroad, the foreign aid program must be very substantially reduced when it comes before Congress soon. I believe such a step would be in the interest of our people and in the interest of other peoples who will continue reluctant to sacrifice so long as they can depend upon the generosity of America.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen
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