

# Truman Firm on Retaining Pacific Bases for Defense

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INDEPENDENCE, Mo., Nov. 3—President Truman reaffirmed today, through Charles G. Ross, his press secretary, his policy over the holding by the United States of Pacific bases regarded as needed for security. Mr. Ross said the President stood by the policy he gave at a press conference last January.

In the press conference in question the President stated as a general proposition that the United States intended to have sole trusteeship in the Pacific islands deemed necessary to our security. At the same time the President made it clear that he intended to present this policy to the United Nations for its approval.

The President did not name today the islands he regarded as essential, but the Navy has recommended that Tinian, Saipan, Iwo Jima and Okinawa be retained.

## A 'Political' Statement

Meanwhile, President Truman made today the first political statement of his trip to his home State.

Returning about noon to Independence from a visit to his aged mother in near-by Grandview, Mr. Truman told reporters on the sidewalk in front of his home:

"My mother is going to vote the straight Democratic ticket next Tuesday."

The President said this with a smile, and to inquiries as to what he would do this afternoon he said with a broad grin that he proposed to read Cicero's Orations in the original.

The President omitted his usual morning walk and remained abed rather late for him.

The President's associates all thought that this trip had been good for him, and he appeared much more relaxed than anyone around him.

For the first time on this jour-

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ney Mr. Truman got in some routine paperwork with one of his secretaries. In the afternoon he went motoring with members of his family.

For tomorrow, the eve of the elections, the President had a simple program. He planned to go into Kansas City for a haircut from his old barber, Frank Pina, who is a repository of Democratic political gossip. He planned also to have luncheon in Kansas City with a few of his friends.

Some Democratic candidates had hoped the President would issue a "get-out-the-vote" statement but there was no indication that he would do so.

In this connection, however, Mr. Truman's marked emphasis on the fact that his mother was going to the polls was in itself interpreted as an appeal, however indirect, for a heavy ballot everywhere.

Mrs. Truman will be 94 years old this month, and will walk, despite her great age, three blocks to the polling booth.