

REMARKS OF HONORABLE BOB DOLE

OPPORTUNITIES UNLIMITED PROGRAM
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
SATURDAY, MAY 3, 1969

I VERY MUCH APPRECIATE THE INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS CONFERENCE ON "OPPORTUNITIES, UNLIMITED" SPONSORED BY THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THERE EXISTS A CONTINUING DIALOGUE BETWEEN THOSE OF US PRESENTLY IN GOVERNMENT AND YOU WHO ARE INTERESTED IN OR ARE ACTUALLY PREPARING YOURSELVES FOR A CAREER IN PUBLIC SERVICE. THE PRIMARY MISSION OF GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE TO MAINTAIN AND TRY TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT AND QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL OUR PEOPLE. TO YOU, INDIVIDUALLY, THIS MAY INVOLVE YOUR EDUCATION AND THE CONTRIBUTION YOU CAN MAKE FOLLOWING YOUR GRADUATION.

AS A SOCIETY, IT REQUIRES EACH (ONE) OF US TO BECOME INCREASINGLY INVOLVED IN THE COMPLEX ARRAY OF SEEMINGLY INSOLUBLE PROBLEMS OF OUR TIME -- PROBLEMS WHICH MUST BE SOLVED IF WE ARE TO CONTINUE TO ENJOY LIFE AS WE RECOGNIZE IT.

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FOR THE PAST ONE THIRD OF THIS CENTURY, WE HAVE WORRIED ABOUT THE ECONOMIC IMPERATIVE -- WHO RECEIVED WHAT SHARE OF THE ECONOMIC PIE. FOR THE LAST ONE THIRD OF THIS CENTURY, WE MUST ALSO BE CONCERNED WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPERATIVE -- POLLUTION, LAND USE, TRANSPORTATION, AND OUR GREATEST PROBLEM, THE DISADVANTAGED, WHETHER THEY BE IN AN URBAN GHETTO OR THE RURAL AREAS OF OUR NATION. IN THE YEARS AHEAD, THE SOLUTIONS TO THESE MATTERS WILL REQUIRE THE THOUGHT AND THE ENERGIES OF ALL OF US, BOTH IN AND OUT OF GOVERNMENT. AS MARK TWAIN ONCE OBSERVED, "LIFE IS JUST ONE DAMNED THING AFTER ANOTHER."

A SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE

I HAVE OFTEN HEARD IT SAID THAT A SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN AT WHATEVER LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT IS COMPOSED OF FOUR FACTORS: EACH OF WHICH IS IMPORTANT AND CANNOT BE IGNORED. THEY ARE: (1) A SOUND AND BROADLY BASED ORGANIZATION, (2) ADEQUATE FINANCES, (3) AN ATTRACTIVE CANDIDATE AND (4) AN ABILITY TO IDENTIFY AND RELATE TO THE ISSUES THAT ARE MOST IMPORTANT TO THE ELECTORATE AT THE TIME OF THE CAMPAIGN.

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OF COURSE, IT IS AXIOMATIC THAT AS EVENTS TAKE PLACE, THE ELECTORATE'S INTEREST IN AN ISSUE MAY CHANGE AND AT TIMES VERY RAPIDLY. IT IS ALSO OBVIOUS THAT AN ISSUE THAT IS IMPORTANT IN ONE AREA, IS OFTEN OF NO CONSEQUENCE TO THE VOTERS OF ANOTHER AREA. AT THE SAME TIME, THE RELEVANCE OF AN ISSUE VARIES FROM ONE LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT TO ANOTHER. MANY MEN HOLDING NATIONAL OFFICE FIND IT DIFFICULT TO DISCUSS STATE AND LOCAL ISSUES AND CONVERSELY LOCAL OFFICE HOLDERS OFTEN CANNOT TREAT NATIONAL ISSUES WITH SOPHISTICATION.

BUT WHEN DISCUSSING ISSUES, ONE MUST ALWAYS REMEMBER, THAT ALTHOUGH AS A SOCIETY WE ARE GENERALLY BETTER EDUCATED AND MORE WELL INFORMED, MANY OF THE ELECTORATE ARE NOT FULLY AWARE OF THE SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS FACING OUR COUNTRY.

OPINION MAKERS

HOWEVER, A CANDIDATE MUST PLAN HIS CAMPAIGN WITH A VIEW TOWARD INFLUENCING THE OPINION MAKERS IN THE COMMUNITY. THESE ARE THE PEOPLE WHO ARE THE BACKBONE OF A CAMPAIGN, BOTH FINANCIALLY AND IN THE CREATION AND OPERATION OF AN ORGANIZATION.

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AS OPINION MAKERS, IN THE COMMUNITY, YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO INFLUENCE YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS. AS CANDIDATES YOU WILL HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ARTICULATING THE ISSUES. IT IS TO SEVERAL OF THESE ISSUES WHICH I ADDRESS MYSELF TODAY:

VIETNAM WAR

A REALISTIC ASSESSMENT OF WHAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE CONCERNED WITH TODAY, MUST INCLUDE AS THE NUMBER ONE ISSUE, THE VIETNAM WAR. WE HAVE ALL HEARD THE GRIM STATISTICS AS THEY ARE PORTRAYED BY THE NEWS MEDIA. OVER ^{34,000}~~31,000~~ AMERICAN LIVES HAVE BEEN LOST FOR THE CAUSE OF PEACE AND THERE IS NO PEACE. WHEN VICE PRESIDENT NIXON LEFT OFFICE IN 1961, THERE WERE 113 AMERICAN ADVISORS IN VIETNAM. THERE ARE NOW OVER 500,000 TROOPS AT A COST OF MORE THAN 30 BILLION DOLLARS A YEAR.

ALTHOUGH IT IS A SIMPLE MATTER TO ADVOCATE THAT PRESIDENT NIXON TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO EXTRICATE THE UNITED STATES FROM THE WAR, A MORE REALISTIC APPRAISAL INDICATES THAT WE CANNOT EXPECT TO ABANDON OVERNIGHT A COMMITMENT THAT HAS BEEN THE BASIS OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA FOR THE PAST 15 YEARS.

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THE PATH TO PEACE IN VIETNAM IS NEITHER EASY NOR SHORT. AT THIS TIME, WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT FORM AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PROTAGONISTS WILL TAKE. IT MAY BE WE SHALL FIND OURSELVES IN THE POSITION OF ASSISTING IN THE CREATION OF A NEUTRAL GOVERNMENT. BUT WHATEVER THE PARTICULARS OF THE AGREEMENT, IT APPEARS THAT SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS ARE GOING TO BE SUCCESSFUL ONLY IF CONDUCTED IN PRIVATE AND OUT OF THE GLARE OF WORLDWIDE PUBLICITY.

PRESIDENT NIXON HAS PLACED TOP PRIORITY ON THE ENDING OF THIS TRAGIC WAR. IT IS NOW NECESSARY, NO MATTER HOW DIFFICULT IT MAY BE, THAT WE BE PATIENT WHILE THE DIPLOMATS TRY TO DO WHAT OUR MILITARY FORCE ~~can~~^{has} NOT. AT THE VERY LEAST WE CAN EXPECT THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE TO ASSUME A GREATER RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE WAR EFFORT DURING THIS NEXT YEAR.

MORE IMPORTANT TO OUR FOREIGN POLICY THAN THE ACTUAL VIETNAM PEACE SETTLEMENT, IS THE RECOGNITION BY OUR GOVERNMENT THAT THE UNITED STATES MUST REASSESS ITS ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE WORLD. SO TOO MUST WE ASSESS THE RESOURCES WHICH WE AND OTHER NATIONS CAN BRING TO BEAR IN THE CAUSE OF MAINTAINING WORLD PEACE.

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THE ABM SYSTEM

THE MOST CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE FACING THE CONGRESS AT THIS POINT IS THE MODIFIED ABM SYSTEM PROPOSED BY PRESIDENT NIXON.

IT IS EVIDENT THERE IS A WIDE DIFFERENCE OF OPINION IN THE CONGRESS ON THE ADVISABILITY OF PROCEEDING WITH THE "SAFEGUARD" ANTI-BALLISTIC MISSILE SYSTEM. IT NOT ONLY INVOLVES A LOT OF MONEY, BUT ALSO INVOLVES INFINITELY MORE. PRESIDENT NIXON'S DECISION DIRECTLY AFFECTS THE SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES. AS THE PRESIDENT STATED IN THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF HIS DECISION, "THE GRAVEST RESPONSIBILITY WHICH I BEAR AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS FOR THE SECURITY OF THE NATION. OUR NUCLEAR FORCES DEFEND NOT ONLY OURSELVES, BUT OUR ALLIES AS WELL."

IT WAS THE PRESIDENT WHO HAD TO TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO DEPLOY A SYSTEM THAT WOULD BE MERELY DEFENSIVE IN NATURE. THE SENATE IS NOW DEBATING THAT DECISION. KNOWLEDGEABLE AND RESPONSIBLE MEN HAVE TESTIFIED BEFORE THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE ON THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION. ONE ADVOCATE OF THE PLAN SAID IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS TO TRUST THE SOVIET UNION NOT TO SEEK A POSITION TO DESTROY THE UNITED STATES IN A SURPRISE ATTACK. AN

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OPPONENT TO THE SAFEGUARD SYSTEM ARGUED IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE SOVIET UNION TO ACHIEVE A NUCLEAR FIRST STRIKE CAPABILITY BY THE MID 1970'S.

WE ARE PRESENTED WITH TWO CONFLICTING POINTS OF JUDGEMENT FROM WELL INFORMED MEN. SPEAKER McCORMACK ONCE ADVISED THAT WHENEVER THE SECURITY OF THE SURVIVAL OF THE UNITED STATES IS AT STAKE, IF THERE IS DOUBT, RESOLVE IT ON THE SIDE OF OUR NATION'S SECURITY.

PRESIDENT NIXON MADE THE DECISION BASED ON THE BEST EVIDENCE AVAILABLE TO HIM. BECAUSE HE HAS RETAINED THE OPTION TO REVIEW THE PROGRAM, SUFFICIENT FLEXIBILITY IS RETAINED TO ALTER OR TERMINATE THE SYSTEM IF IT IS PROVEN INEFFECTIVE OR DISARMAMENT TALKS ARE SUCCESSFUL.

STUDENT UNREST

OF COURSE, ANYONE SPEAKING TO A COLLEGE GROUP CANNOT HELP BUT BE CONFRONTED WITH THE ISSUE OF STUDENT UNREST. IN MY OPINION, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE AS A SOCIETY EXAMINE THE REASONS FOR THE

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STUDENT'S ACTIONS AND TRY TO LEARN WHAT IF ANYTHING CAN BE DONE ABOUT THEM. FOR, IN THE WORDS OF JOHN GARDNER, FORMER SECRETARY OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE, "WE WANT A SOCIETY THAT IS SUFFICIENTLY HONEST AND OPEN MINDED TO RECOGNIZE ITS PROBLEMS, SUFFICIENTLY CREATIVE TO CONCEIVE NEW SOLUTIONS AND SUFFICIENTLY PURPOSEFUL TO PUT THOSE SOLUTIONS INTO EFFECT."

STUDENTS CHALLENGE OUR INSTITUTIONS BECAUSE THEY ARE A PRODUCT OF OUR SOCIETY. THE YOUTH OF AMERICA ARE THE BEST EDUCATED, MOST SUCCESS ORIENTED GENERATION IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD. RECEIVING AN EDUCATION HAS NOT BEEN MERELY THE ACCUMULATION OF FACTS AND FIGURES. YOU HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED TO EXERCISE FREEDOM OF THOUGHT AND IN THE PROCESS HAVE FOUND A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WHAT WE AS ADULTS PREACH AND WHAT WE DO. WHAT THE YOUTH FIND IS A GULF BETWEEN THE IDEAL AND THE REAL, BETWEEN AN AGENDA OF UNSOLVED PROBLEMS AND THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF PAST GENERATIONS.

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IN PART, YOUR CONCEPTIONS MAY BE THE RESULT OF YOUTHFUL IDEALISM. IN PART, THEY ARE A CONSEQUENCE OF THE GULF BETWEEN THE REALITY YOU SENSE AND YOUR YOUTHFUL CAPABILITIES FOR COMING TO GRIPS WITH THEM. THUS THE ACTIVIST MAY BECOME DISCOURAGED WHEN HIS EFFORTS ARE NOT IMMEDIATELY SUCCESSFUL AND "DROPS OUT" OF SOCIETY. BUT, IN PART ALSO, THE DISILLUSIONMENT EXPERIENCED BY MANY OF THE YOUTH IS LEGITIMATE. MANY OF OUR INSTITUTIONS HAVE NOT RESPONDED TO THE DEMANDS FOR CHANGE. THESE INSTITUTIONS HAVE FAILED TO RECOGNIZE THAT THE NATURE OF OUR SOCIETY IN THE LATE 60'S HAS CHANGED DRASTICALLY FROM THAT OF THE 40'S, 50'S, AND EVEN EARLY 60'S. YET, OUR INSTITUTIONS HAVE NOT ALWAYS RESPONDED TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF A COMPLEX, TECHNOLOGICALLY-ORIENTED SOCIETY. AS SECRETARY OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE, ROBERT FINCH, STATED IN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE EDUCATION AND LABOR COMMITTEE: "IN ALL TRUTH, MANY ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS HAVE BROUGHT MUCH ON THEMSELVES. THEY HAVE NOT ALWAYS RESPONDED

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TO THE CLEAR NEED OF ANY VIABLE INSTITUTION FOR CONSTANT SELF-EXAMINATION AND SELF-RENEWAL. IN THE QUEST FOR MORE AND BETTER RESEARCH GRANTS, THEY HAVE NOT ALWAYS ATTENDED TO THEIR PRIMARY OBJECTIVES AS TEACHING INSTITUTIONS. IN ATTEMPTING TO SERVE MANY MASTERS -- GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY AMONG THEM -- THEY HAVE TENDED TO SERVE NONE OF THEM WELL."

THE CRITICISM OF OUR INSTITUTIONS MAY THEREFORE, IN MANY RESPECTS, BE HEALTHY BUT WE CANNOT CONDONE THE VIOLENT METHODS USED BY THE STUDENTS TO ACHIEVE THEIR ENDS. LAWFUL DISSENT IS A TOUCHSTONE OF AMERICAN FREEDOM. BUT AS THE SOCIETY CANNOT PERMIT EVERY CITIZEN TO JUDGE THAT LAW WHICH HE WILL OBEY, SO TOO THE SOCIETY CANNOT EMBRACE THE LANGUAGE AND TACTICS OF VIOLENCE. THE KEEPERS OF OUR INSTITUTIONS SHOULD NOT RESORT TO REPRESSION RATHER, IT SHOULD BE OUR OBJECTIVE TO PROMOTE A MORE RATIONAL, MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE GENERATIONS.

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MEMBERS OF THE INTELLECTUAL COMMUNITY MUST ASSUME A GREATER SHARE OF THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ESTABLISHING THE CONTEXT OF LAWFUL DISSENT.

I DO NOT ADVOCATE DIRECT GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION AS A REAL OR EFFECTIVE SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM. MORE EFFECTIVE THAN WITHDRAWING FEDERAL ASSISTANCE, WHICH WOULD ONLY HINDER THE POOR OFFENDER, WOULD BE EXPULSION FROM THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY. FOR THOSE WHO VIOLATE THE LAW WE MUST INSIST THAT THE POLICE, AND THE COLLEGE ADMINISTRATORS DEAL WITH THEM AS THEY WOULD ANY OTHER LAW BREAKER. AS PRESIDENT NIXON SAID THIS WEEK THERE MUST BE "NO COMPROMISE WITH LAWLESSNESS AND NO SURRENDER TO FORCE IF FREE EDUCATION IS TO SURVIVE."

IT IS AN OFT QUOTED FACT THAT THE MAJORITY OF STUDENTS SPEND THEIR TIME IN ACADEMIC PURSUITS WITH LITTLE INTEREST IN THE RADICAL PROGRAMS ADVOCATED BY THE STUDENT DISSENTERS. MANY OF THESE STUDENTS ARE WORKING WITHIN THE POLITICAL PROCESS OR THEIR COMMUNITY TO AFFECT CHANGE. IT CAME TO MY ATTENTION THAT SEVERAL WEEKS AGO, A "WALK FOR DEVELOPMENT" WAS HELD IN THE SAN DIEGO AREA TO FOCUS ATTENTION

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ON THE PROBLEM OF HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION, CONDITIONS THE SENATE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION AND HUMAN NEEDS HAS FOUND IS WIDESPREAD
THROUGHOUT OUR COUNTRY. JERRY SCHMEITS, THE ORGANIZER IS TO BE
COMMENDED AS ARE ALL THE OTHER PARTICIPANTS AS WE IN GOVERNMENT
CANNOT SOLVE ALL THIS NATION'S PROBLEMS. IT OFTTIMES TAKES LOCAL
EFFORT IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO IDENTIFY THE EXTENT OF A PROBLEM
AND TO FIND A TRULY APPROPRIATE SOLUTION.

TO YOU WHO ANTICIPATE A CAREER IN PUBLIC SERVICE, WE NEED YOU
AT EVERY LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT. WE NEED YOU TO BE ACTIVE IN OUR
POLITICAL PARTIES. THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN HAVE A LASTING INFLUENCE
IS TO GET INTO THE MIDDLE OF THINGS AND BECOME A PARTICIPANT, NOT
MERELY AN OBSERVER OR ONE SEEKING TO DESTROY ~~THE~~^{OUR} INSTITUTIONS.

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San Diego County Walk For Development (affiliate of AFFHF)

Led by Jerry Schmeits: strong Nixon supporter
Father is a banker
Made co-ordinator of 200th Celebration of
the founding of S.D.

Police estimate: more than 15, 000

Between 15,00 and 22,000

The Kids are not protesting....they're not against the establishment

The "Walk" is a positive movement

Walks supported by police....receive good will of communities

Walk: around San Diegoorganized route

Walked 30 miles around city.....4,000 students completed the Walk

14th Walk of this organization was in S.D.

There was no ~~violence~~ violence, confrontation or injuries

Majority of youth are concerned, well-mannered kids....only a small
minority are causing ~~trouble~~ unrest

Basis of a congratulations to this group: positive movement
no confrontation with generation gap...police are for Walks..parents, citizens are

Jerry Schmeits: one of the co-ordinators of the Walk

Purpose: Make the people aware of the hunger problems in the San Diego area as well as the hunger problem all over the world.

To raise funds to meet expenses in fighting hunger (no projects mentioned)

Organized the whole San Diego School District...high schools, junior highs
NO Colleges participated because it was too big a project at the time.

Presented Ideas to Board of Education

Board agreed to include studies of hunger and nutrition problems within the curriculum.

In S.D. they received bigger headlines than DeGaulle...../?????