

REMARKS OF CONGRESSMAN BOB DOLE

ANNUAL C.A.P. DINNER DANCE
WICHITA, KANSAS
SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1968

YOUTH -- TODAY AND TOMORROW

THE BLANK PAGES OF THE FUTURE HAVE ALWAYS HELD TREMENDOUS
FASCINATION FOR THE HUMAN RACE.

WHAT WILL BE AS THE EARTH GOES ROUND AND ROUND IN THE EMPTINESS
OF SPACE, EACH DAY ONE REVOLUTION ON ITS AXIS . . . EACH YEAR, ONE
COMPLETE CIRCLE AROUND THE SUN?

EVERY MOMENT AND EVERY HOUR, THE WORLD CHANGES -- FOR BETTER OR
FOR WORSE. MORE AND MORE PEOPLE ARE BORN TO POPULATE IT. MORE OF ITS
SECRETS ARE PROBED AND EXPOSED. LEADERS DIE AND NEW ONES APPEAR. MAN
REEXAMINES HIS WAY OF LIFE, REJECTING SOME OF THE OLDER VALUES,
STRENGTHENING SOME . . . BUT ALWAYS SEEKING OUT THE NEW.

IN THE 50'S -- WHEN MOST OF YOU WERE BORN -- AND THE 60'S, THE
PACE AND VOLUME OF THESE CHANGES HAVE BEEN SO SWIFT AS TO DAZZLE EVEN
THE MOST SOPHISTICATED WRITERS OF SCIENCE FICTION. IN AMERICA
PARTICULARLY, THERE HAS OCCURRED A PHENOMENAL GROWTH -- IN LIVING
STANDARDS . . . PRODUCTION . . . EDUCATION . . . COMMUNICATIONS . . . MEDICINE . . .
URBAN DEVELOPMENT. HISTORY RECORDS NO OTHER ERA WHEN THE TEMPO OF
CHANGE HAS BEEN SO RAPID.

-DEVELOPMENTS IN 33 YEARS-

THE PACE WILL CONTINUE AND INTENSIFY. YOU AS TEENS TODAY,
THE EXPERTS TELL US, WILL SEE IN THE NEXT 33 YEARS OF YOUR LIFE:

- * THREE-DIMENSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY, ILLUSTRATIONS, MOVIES AND TELEVISION;
- * SYNTHETIC OR SIMULATED FOODS AND BEVERAGES;
- * PERMANENT MANNED SATELLITE AND LUNAR INSTALLATIONS;
INTERPLANETARY TRAVEL;
- * GREATER USE OF UNDERGROUND BUILDINGS;
- * HOME COMPUTERS TO "RUN" THE HOUSEHOLD;
- * THE ELECTRIC CAR EVERYWHERE;
- * EXTINCTION OR CONTROL OF DISEASES WHICH TODAY CRIPPLE OR KILL;
- * AUTOMATED GROCERY AND DEPARTMENT STORES AND BANKS;
- * HOME EDUCATION VIA VIDEO;
- * SUPER-PERFORMANCE PAPERS, FIBERS, PLASTICS;
- * BATHROOMS REGULARLY FEATURING SAUNAS, STEAM BATHS, SUN-BATHING FACILITIES, EXERCISE SPACE.

WE'VE COME A LONG WAY SINCE THE HORSE AND BUGGY DAYS OF YOUR GRANDPARENTS.

JUST ONE CENTURY AGO, AMERICA HAD ONLY 30 MILLION PEOPLE.

TODAY WE ARE 200 MILLION STRONG.

BY THE YEAR 2000 -- WHEN YOU ARE IN YOUR MID 40'S -- SOME PREDICTIONS SHOW OUR POPULATION IN THIS COUNTRY WILL ESCALATE THREE TIMES -- TO 300 MILLION PEOPLE.

-LOOK AT YOU-

FOR A MOMENT, LET'S RETURN TO 1968 AND TAKE A LOOK AT YOU -- AND OTHERS LIKE YOU, ALL UNDER THE AGE OF 25 AND COMPRISING ONE-HALF OUR ENTIRE CURRENT POPULATION.

TODAY YOU ARE BETTER EDUCATED AND ENJOYING MORE FREEDOM.

YOU ARE KNOWN FOR YOUR YOUTHFUL BOUNCE AND AUDACITY. YOU HAVEN'T BEEN HARDENED BY DEFEAT. YES, YOU GET YOUR KNOCKS, BUT YOU DON'T FEEL DEFEATED THE WAY OLDER PEOPLE ARE APT TO BE.

YOU ARE SPENDING MONEY AT UNPRECEDENTED LEVELS -- IN 1963, YOU WERE SPENDING MONEY AT A NATIONAL LEVEL OF \$11 BILLION. YOU ARE DRIVING MORE CARS THAN EVER BEFORE.

THIS DECADE OF THE 60'S MAY YET BE REMEMBERED AS THE GOLDEN AGE OF POLITICALLY-MINDED YOUTH. ON NEARLY EVERY CONTINENT, YOU AND YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS ARE PLAYING A CRITICAL ROLE IN SHAPING EVENTS. IN THIS RESPECT, YOU HAVE AN EDGE OVER OLDER CITIZENS -- FREQUENTLY, YOU SWING INTO ACTION ON ISSUES WE OLDER FOLKS HAVE BEEN BLIND TO FOR DECADES.

-THE YOUTH REBELLION-

JOHN COLBURN, PUBLISHER OF THE EAGLE-BEACON, DEFINES YOUR GENERATION AS "THE YOUTH REBELLION".

"THE REBELLION", MR. COLBURN WROTE RECENTLY, FOR THOSE STUDENTS WHO DON'T SUBSCRIBE TO VIOLENT TACTICS, INCLUDES THOSE OF YOU "WHO ARE PROMOTING NEW IDEAS AND ARE TRYING TO ADAPT TO CHANGE ... SMARTER THAN MOST OF YOUR ELDERS AND SEEKING WISDOM TO IMPLEMENT YOUR SUPERIOR BRAINPOWER".

UNFORTUNATELY, THERE ARE THOSE OF THE YOUTH REBELLION, MR. COLBURN WRITES, WHO "ARE IGNORANT OF WHAT CHANGES HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THE 'ESTABLISHMENT' AND HOW THEY WERE EFFECTED". THERE ARE THOSE OF YOU, HE ADDS, "WHO TALK ABOUT ARMED REVOLT, SABOTAGE OF UTILITY AND OTHER KEY FUNCTIONS AND DISRUPTION OF EVERYTHING FROM COMPUTER CLASS SCHEDULES TO R.O.T.C. TRAINING PROGRAMS".

YOU KNOW OF WHOM HE SPEAKS.

SOME ARE THE BEATNIKS, BELIEVING THEY CAN MAKE THE WORLD BEAUTIFUL BY SMOKING MARIHUANA, ENGAGING IN FREE LOVE AND DREAMING DREAMY THOUGHTS.

SOME ARE PEACENIKS WHO MARCH ON THE PENTAGON AND SEND SUPPLIES TO THE ENEMY.

SOME ARE THE BLACK POWER ADVOCATES WHO SEEK TO DESTROY THROUGH RIOTS, BURNINGS AND OTHER VIOLENCE.

-INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM, NOT LICENSE-

AS MEMBERS OF THE C.A.P., YOU ARE WELL AWARE THE INDIVIDUAL IS ENTITLED TO FREEDOM, BUT NOT LICENSE.

AS I SEE IT, ONE OF YOUR MOST IMMEDIATE RESPONSIBILITIES TO YOUR PEERS AND ONE OF YOUR OBLIGATIONS TO SOCIETY IS NOT ONLY TO CONTINUE TO DEMONSTRATE THIS BELIEF, BUT ALSO TO TAKE THE LEAD IN CONVINCING OTHERS.

IT IS TIME TO SHOW THAT WHILE AMONG OURSELVES WE SPEAK WITH MANY VOICES, WE SPEAK, IN THE END, AS ONE; THAT EVEN THOUGH WE MAY DISAGREE WITH OUR GOVERNMENT, WE STILL DO NOT SUPPORT THE ENEMY ... THAT WE WILL NOT DESTROY OUR NATIONAL SYMBOL -- THE FLAG ... THAT WE WILL INSTEAD CONFINE OUR OPPOSITION TO THOSE AVENUES PROVIDED BY OUR SYSTEM ITSELF -- CRITICISM, NON-VIOLENT DEMONSTRATIONS AND FREE ELECTIONS.

IN A DEMOCRACY WE BELIEVE IN DISCUSSION. WE BELIEVE IN DEBATE. WE BELIEVE IN THE RIGHT OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO EXPRESS HIMSELF FULLY. WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT IS ANYBODY'S RIGHT TO COERCE ANOTHER HUMAN BEING INTO A BELIEF WHICH HE OR SHE DOES NOT CONSCIENTIOUSLY ACCEPT. WE HAVE BUILT A DEMOCRACY THAT IS DESIGNED TO GIVE THE INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM OF THOUGHT AND FREEDOM OF BELIEF.

-OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE-

YOU ARE A KEY PART OF THE CITIZENRY OF THIS COUNTRY. YOU HAVE, AT YOUR FINGERTIPS, UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE YOUR COUNTRY. IN A CONSTRUCTIVE, RESPONSIBLE MANNER.

THERE ARE COUNTLESS IMPORTANT DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES THAT CRY OUT FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION, YOUR UNDERSTANDING, YOUR ENTHUSIASM AND FRESH IDEAS.

THE CHALLENGES TO YOU RIGHT NOW ARE BOUNDLESS, AND THEY HAVE ALWAYS BEEN. THE REINS OF THE FUTURE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN CAUGHT AND HELD BY YOUNG HANDS.

- * AT 15, VICTOR HUGO PRESENTED A POEM TO THE ACADEMY.
- * AT 16, BOUSSUET DAZZLED AUDIENCES WITH HIS ELOQUENCE.
- * AT 17, MOZART HAD ENTRANCED THE COURTS OF GERMANY AND, IN THIS COUNTRY, ALEXANDER HAMILTON HAD COMMANDED THE ATTENTION OF HIS COUNTRY.
- * AT 19, BACH WAS A RENOWNED ORGANIST; GEOERGE WASHINGTON WAS A MAJOR.

THE FUTURE WHICH STRETCHES OUT BEFORE YOU CONTAINS PROSPERITY AND UNHEARD OF ADVANCES AND CONVENIENCES TO MAKE YOUR LIFE RICHER AND MORE MEANINGFUL.

THE PROBLEMS THAT AMERICA AND YOU WILL FACE IN THE COMING DECADES WILL BE COMPLEX.

THIS IS NOT A TIME FOR PESSIMISM OR FOR OPTIMISM, BUT FOR REALISM. WE NEED, AS ALWAYS, WORDS OF CAUTION AND CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM. FACTS MUST BE FACED AND DECISIONS COURAGEOUSLY MADE.

-I DARE YOU-

ONE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS' ALL-TIME TRACK STARS, AIR FORCE CAPTAIN CLIFF CUSHMAN, HAS BEEN MISSING IN ACTION IN VIETNAM SINCE THE FALL OF 1966. IN 1960, CUSHMAN PLACED SECOND IN INTERMEDIATE HURDLES IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES AT ROME. FOUR YEARS LATER, WHILE ATTEMPTING TO QUALIFY FOR THE U.S. OLYMPIC TEAM AGAIN, HE HIT A HURDLE AND MISSED HIS GOAL.

CUSHMAN DEFINED THE CHALLENGE TO YOUTH WELL WHEN HE WROTE:

" I DARE YOU TO HAVE YOUR HAIR CUT AND NOT WILT UNDER THE COMMENTS OF YOUR SO-CALLED FRIENDS.

I DARE YOU TO CLEAN UP YOUR LANGUAGE.

I DARE YOU TO HONOR YOUR MOTHER AND FATHER.

I DARE YOU TO GO TO CHURCH WITHOUT HAVING TO BE COMPELLED TO GO BY YOUR PARENTS.

I DARE YOU TO UNSELFISHLY HELP SOMEONE LESS FORTUNATE THAN YOURSELF AND ENJOY THE WONDERFUL FEELING THAT GOES WITH IT.

I DARE YOU TO BECOME PHYSICALLY FIT.

I DARE YOU TO READ A BOOK THAT IS NOT REQUIRED IN SCHOOL.

I DARE YOU TO LOOK UP AT THE STARS, NOT DOWN AT THE MUD, AND SET YOUR SIGHTS ON ONE OF THEM THAT, UP TO NOW, YOU THOUGHT WAS UNATTAINABLE.

THERE IS PLENTY OF ROOM AT THE TOP, BUT NO ROOM FOR ANYONE TO SIT DOWN."

I SALUTE YOU FOR YOUR PAST EFFORTS AND LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING OF YOUR NEW ACHIEVEMENTS. YOU ARE TRUMPETS OF NEW HOPE FOR AMERICA.