

NORTH CENTRAL



REMARKS OF CONGRESSMAN BOB DOLE
~~MORROWVILLE~~ HIGH SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT
MORROWVILLE, KANSAS
8:00 P.M., MONDAY, MAY 20, 1968

MEMBERS OF THE 1968 GRADUATING CLASS OF ^{North Central} ~~MORROWVILLE~~ HIGH

SCHOOL, PARENTS, FACULTY AND FRIENDS:

IT IS A REAL PLEASURE TO BE HERE ON THIS SIGNIFICANT OCCASION TO
HONOR YOU, ~~GRADUATES~~.

IN MY ⁸ YEARS AS A REPRESENTATIVE IN ~~THE~~ CONGRESS, I HAVE HAD
THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK AT MANY COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES. ~~AND LET ME~~
~~SAY THAT~~, IN THIS TIME OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CRISES, WHEN MANY
OF OUR MOST CHERISHED VALUES AND IDEALS ARE BEING CALLED INTO QUESTION,
IT IS ALWAYS HEARTENING TO ADDRESS A PROMISING GROUP OF YOUNG AMERICANS,
FOR YOUR ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS NOW AND ~~IN THE YEARS TO COME~~ WILL
DISPROVE THE DARK PREDICTIONS OF THE PESSIMISTS. YOUR UNBOUNDED HOPES
AND IDEALISM CAN PROVE THAT AMERICA IS STILL ON THE MOVE, STRIVING
TO CORRECT OLD INJUSTICES AND WORKING FOR A BETTER TOMORROW.

Roughly same speech given at Elho, ks
5-16-68

AND SO THIS EVENT IS AN INSPIRING ONE. IN IT WE RECOGNIZE THE
ATTAINMENT OF THE FIRST MILEPOST IN THE LIVES OF THIS COUNTRY'S MOST
PRECIOUS COMMODITY, OUR YOUNG PEOPLE. YOU HAVE PASSED, WITH FLYING
COLORS, THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF HURDLES, AND ONE OF THE MOST
IMPORTANT ONES.

~~I CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR ACHIEVEMENT.~~ I KNOW THAT FEELING OF
PRIDE YOU ARE EXPERIENCING AT THIS MOMENT, A PRIDE IN WHICH YOU ARE
JOINED BY YOUR PARENTS, FACULTY AND COMMUNITY.

AND ALONG WITH THAT PRIDE MUST GO A LONG SIGH OF RELIEF, ESPECIALLY
FROM YOUR PARENTS AND TEACHERS. YOU KNOW, THEY SAY WRINKLES ARE
HEREDITARY; PARENTS GET THEM FROM THEIR CHILDREN. ~~AND IN A WORLD THAT~~
~~IS MORE AND MORE PERPLEXING, IT IS GRATIFYING TO KNOW THAT THERE IS~~
~~STILL SOME JUSTICE.~~ NOT TOO MANY YEARS FROM NOW, THE WRINKLES WILL BE
PASSED ON TO YOU BY ANOTHER GENERATION OF AMERICANS.

AND IN A FEW MORE YEARS, ON A DAY LIKE TODAY, ONE OF YOU MAY
STAND BEFORE THIS PODIUM ADDRESSING ANOTHER GRADUATING CLASS.
WHICHEVER ONE OF YOU THAT SPEAKER IS WILL HAVE GAINED, HOPEFULLY,
SOMETHING MORE THAN WRINKLES AND A FEW GRAY HAIRS OVER THE YEARS,
AND WILL HAVE SOMETHING MORE TO PASS ALONG TO THE GRADUATING CLASS.
I WOULDN'T WORRY TOO MUCH -- EVERY GENERATION OF AMERICANS HAS ADDED
SOMETHING OF VALUE TO OUR WAY OF LIFE, AND YOU ARE, IN MANY WAYS,
THE MOST PROMISING GENERATION EVER TO COME ALONG.

- YOU'RE ON THE 20-YARD LINE -

^{you will}
~~BUT~~, BETWEEN NOW AND THEN, MANY CHALLENGES WILL FACE YOU. I KNOW
THAT SOME OF YOU MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF '68 ARE PROBABLY THINKING THAT
ONCE THIS SPEECH IS OVER, AND THE DIPLOMAS HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED, THE
LECTURES, SERMONS AND ADVICE WILL BE OVER FOREVER. I HATE TO DISILLUSION
YOU, BUT THIS ISN'T EVEN THE BEGINNING OF THE END! YOU ARE ON THE
20-YARD LINE AND FROM HERE ON ~~OUT~~ THE UNSOLICITED ADVICE AND ADMONITIONS
WILL FLY THICKER AND FASTER.

^{oh}
OF COURSE, IF IT'S ANY CONSOLATION, FROM NOW ON YOU'LL BE ABLE TO
GIVE AS MUCH AS YOU GET, AND IN THE PROCESS WE ALL MAY LEARN A LITTLE.

- ALIENATION, BEATNIKS AND BURNERS -

HOWEVER, I DON'T WANT TO IMPLY THAT THINGS ARE PERFECT, OR THAT EVERYONE SHARES OUR CONFIDENCE. FOR DESPITE THE CREATIVE SURGE OF YOUR GENERATION, OUR NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES AND TELEVISION ARE FILLED WITH FOREBODINGS OF A "GENERATION GAP", OF "~~ALIENATION~~". THEY CLAIM THAT AN INSEPARABLE BARRIER EXISTS BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR PARENTS. THE PUBLIC MEDIA ARE FILLED WITH LURID STORIES AND PICTURES OF BEATNIKS, PEACENIKS, HIPPIES, ADDICTS, BURNERS AND LOOTERS. THEY WOULD HAVE US BELIEVE THAT SUCH PRACTICES AND CONDUCT ARE THE RULE AMONG AMERICAN YOUTH RATHER THAN THE EXCEPTION.

~~THEY COULDN'T BE MORE WRONG!~~ I DENY THESE ALL-INCLUSIVE ACCUSATIONS. THEY ARE NOT THE RULE. THE FACTS PROVE THAT THEY ARE THE EXCEPTION. UNFORTUNATELY, ^{too often} ~~IT'S ALWAYS~~ THE EXCEPTIONS ~~THAT~~ MAKE THE BIGGEST, BOLDEST HEADLINES.

- THE SILENT AMERICANS -

THE MAJORITY OF OUR YOUTH^s IN HIGH SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY ARE PURSUING THEIR EDUCATIONS AT A HIGHER LEVEL THAN EVER BEFORE. IN THE ARTS AND SCIENCES THEY ARE ACHIEVING NEW HEIGHTS. ~~AND~~, IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY, MANY OF THEM ARE, AT THIS VERY MOMENT, PROVING THAT, AS IN THE DAYS OF LINCOLN, THEY WILL GIVE THEIR "LAST FULL MEASURE OF DEVOTION" *if necessary* WHEN ~~THE CALL IS SOUNDED~~.

BUT THESE ARE THE SILENT AMERICANS. THEY ARE THE DOERS, NOT THE NOISE-MAKERS. LIKE YOU, THEY MAKE PROGRESS, NOT HEADLINES. LIKE YOU, THEY ARE TOO BUSY LEADING PRODUCTIVE LIVES AND BUILDING A MEANINGFUL SOCIETY TO MAKE SENSATIONAL NEWS.

AND SO THE FRINGE GROUPS AND SMALL MINORITIES HOG THE LIMELIGHT, THREATENING OUR COMMON WELFARE WHETHER BY BURNING THE FLAG OR PUTTING WHOLE CITIES TO THE TORCH, AND CRIME RATES RISE AND VIOLENCE AND DISORDER SPREAD, TAKING ON THE DIMENSIONS OF A NATIONAL CRISIS.

~~BUT THIS SITUATION CANNOT BE ATTRIBUTED TO AMERICAN YOUTH, AS SUCH.~~
~~THE FAULT BELONGS TO EVERY GENERATION AND EVERY LEVEL OF SOCIETY, AND~~
~~IT WILL TAKE CONCERTED EFFORT TO CURE IT. PUBLIC APATHY, INDIFFERENCE,~~
PERMISSIVENESS AND A LACK OF LEADERSHIP HAVE ALLOWED THESE EVILS TO
FLOURISH. IT WILL TAKE THE ALL-OUT ENDEAVOR OF ALL CITIZENS TO
ELIMINATE THEM AND THEIR ROOT CAUSES.

- YOUTH IN THE VANGUARD -

IN THE VANGUARD OF THIS FIGHT FOR DECENCY AND SAFETY, IN MY OPINION,
WILL BE YOUNG AMERICA, UNWILLING TO SEE THEIR OWN LIVES AND FUTURE
BETRAYED BY SMALL, OFTEN SENSELESS MINORITIES WHOSE OUTRAGES CAN ONLY
TEAR DOWN, NEVER BUILD. IT IS TIME FOR YOU, THIS CLASS OF '68, TO JOIN
WITH ALL CITIZENS OF GOOD WILL, OF ALL AGES, RACE OR CREED, PICK UP
THE TORCH -- NOT TO BURN OR DESTROY -- BUT TO LIGHT THE WAY TOWARD A
UNIFIED NATION DEDICATED TO INSURE EQUALITY AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL.

SO, WE SEE THE EXCESSES AND LICENSE OF THE VIOLENT FEW FRUSTRATING AND ENDANGERING THE LIVES AND RIGHTS OF ALL THE REST OF US. THE VIOLATORS HIDE BEHIND THE VERY RIGHTS THEY CIRCUMVENT. FREE SPEECH, FREE ASSEMBLY, ACADEMIC FREEDOM, INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY, ALL THESE WE TAKE FOR GRANTED. THEY WERE EARNED FOR US AT GREAT COST AND EFFORT BY OUR FOREFATHERS AND YET THEY CAN BE LOST SWIFTLY UNLESS WE ARE ETERNALLY VIGILANT,

- COMPARE YOUR LOT -

YOU MAY NOT REALIZE IT, BUT AS AMERICAN STUDENTS, GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL, YOU ENJOY A MOST UNIQUE AND FORTUNATE ROLE WHEN COMPARED TO YOUR CONTEMPORARIES AROUND THE WORLD. COMPARE YOUR LOT:

- WITH A STUDENT GOOSE-STEPPING UNDER HITLER'S YOUTH IN THE DAYS OF NAZI GERMANY;
- WITH A RUSSIAN STUDENT WHO MUST STUDY UNDER THE COMMUNIST TYRANNY -- WRITE THE WRONG PAPER OR EXPRESS DISSENT, AND HE WILL END UP IN SIBERIA;
- WITH THE CHINESE RED GUARD STUDENT WHO CANNOT WASH HIS FACE WITHOUT CONSULTING THE THOUGHTS OF CHAIRMAN MAO -- OTHERWISE HE FACES THE "PEOPLE'S COURT";
- WITH THE CUBAN STUDENT WHO WALKS THE CASTRO CHALKLINE, WITH NEW GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS ON DRESS AND APPEARANCE, NO SHORT SKIRTS, NO LONG HAIR, NO BEARDS -- EXCEPT FOR FIDEL, OF COURSE -- OR GO TO JAIL;
- WITH THE NORTH VIETNAM STUDENT WHO, IF HE BURNS HIS DRAFT CARD, FACES THE QUICK "JUSTICE" OF A FIRING SQUAD.

- DEMOCRACY AND THE INDIVIDUAL -

IN A DEMOCRACY WE BELIEVE IN DISCUSSION. WE BELIEVE IN DEBATE. WE BELIEVE IN THE RIGHT OF DISSENT AND THE RIGHT OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO EXPRESS HIMSELF FULLY. WE DO NOT BELIEVE IN ANYONE'S RIGHT TO COERCE ANOTHER HUMAN BEING INTO A BELIEF WHICH HE OR SHE DOES NOT CONSCIENTIOUSLY ACCEPT. WE HAVE BUILT A DEMOCRACY DESIGNED TO GIVE INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM OF THOUGHT AND FREEDOM OF BELIEF, FREEDOM FROM COMPULSION OR POLICE STATE CONFORMITY. WE MUST NOT LET THE VIOLENT FEW TEAR DOWN THE STRUCTURE OF DEMOCRACY WHICH SO MANY HAVE BUILT.

- DIFFERENT NAMES; BUT SAME GOALS -

AND IF THERE ARE SOME DIFFERENCES WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO A "GENERATION GAP", SURELY THERE ARE MORE COMMON GOALS AND IDEALS WHICH ALL GENERATIONS SHARE.

NEW TERMS, NEW LABELS AND NEW METHODS OF SOLUTION HAVE COME ALONG, BUT THE BASIC AIM REMAINS THE SAME -- BUILDING A BETTER AMERICA AND LEADING A LIFE OF DIGNITY AND PURPOSE.

THE SAME OLD FORCES OF GOOD AND EVIL ARE AT WORK, EVEN IF THEY HAVE CHANGED THEIR NAMES. COMMUNISM HAS REPLACED FASCISM AS THE TOTALITARIAN MENACE TO FREE MEN; MORAL TURMOIL HAS REPLACED THE FINANCIAL INSECURITY OF EARLIER GENERATIONS OF AMERICANS -- BUT OUR GOALS REMAIN THE SAME. NOR HAS THE BEST MEANS OF IMPLEMENTING THEM CHANGED.

- HONESTY, COOPERATION, HARD WORK -

HONESTY, COOPERATION AND HARD WORK MAY SOUND OLD-FASHIONED, BUT THEY GET RESULTS. WHETHER WE CONSIDER THE TREMENDOUS RACIAL PROBLEM FACING OUR NATION, THE DIVISIONS WHICH SEPARATE LABOR AND CAPITAL OR THE PROBLEMS FACING THE POOR, THE ONLY REAL PROVEN REMEDY INVOLVES THESE THREE SIMPLE BUT IRREPLACABLE REMEDIES: HONESTY, COOPERATION AND HARD WORK.

THINK ABOUT IT FOR A MOMENT. THESE THREE ESSENTIALS ARE WHAT BUILT AMERICA. THEY ARE WHAT GAVE FORCE AND DIRECTION TO THE GREAT AND THE HUMBLE WOMEN AND MEN WHO CONTRIBUTED, IN A THOUSAND DIFFERENT WAYS, TO OUR COMMON INHERITANCE. AND FOR THAT MATTER, THEY ARE WHAT GOT THE CLASS OF '68 WHERE THEY ARE TODAY, AND WILL KEEP ON PROPELLING YOU FORWARD IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

TAKE AWAY THESE THREE ESSENTIALS AND THE LIFE OF A NATION OR AN INDIVIDUAL WILL COLLAPSE LIKE DOMINOES.

KEEP THEM ALWAYS BEFORE YOU, AND NOTHING WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE.

- LIVING UP TO STANDARDS -

AHEAD OF YOU ~~GRADUATES~~ LIE CHALLENGES NOT ONLY IN THE WORLD OF MATERIAL SUCCESS, BUT ALSO IN YOUR SPIRITUAL, MORAL AND ETHICAL LIVES. RECOGNIZING WHAT WE SHOULD DO IS NOT THE DIFFICULT PART; IT IS LIVING UP TO THE PRECEPTS OF GOOD CONDUCT WHERE WE TOO OFTEN FALTER.

SCOFFERS AND SKEPTICS TO THE CONTRARY, THE TEN COMMANDMENTS REMAIN AS VALID TODAY AS THEY WERE THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO. THE TEACHINGS OF CHRISTIANITY ARE UNPARALLELED AS PRINCIPLES FOR MAN TO FOLLOW, AND, INDEED THE TENETS OF BUDDHA, MOHAMMED, CONFUCIOUS AND OTHER GREAT RELIGIOUS LEADERS SHOW ALMOST IDENTICAL CONCEPTS.

- IT'S UP TO THE INDIVIDUAL -

THE REVEREND BILLY GRAHAM SAID NOT LONG AGO "INSTEAD OF TRYING TO MAKE SOCIETY OVER, OUR CONCERN IS WITH THE INDIVIDUALS WHO MAKE UP SOCIETY". THE RIGHT WAY AND THE WRONG WAY ARE CLEARLY MARKED. IT IS UP TO US AS INDIVIDUAL CITIZENS, DESPITE OUR SHORTCOMINGS, TO FOLLOW THE PRINCIPLES OF TRUTH, HONESTY, JUSTICE AND FAIR DEALING. THEN THE DEFECTS OF SOCIETY AS A WHOLE WOULD DISAPPEAR.

YOU SAY WE HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO? YES. BUT WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY -- LET'S KEEP ON TRYING.

- THE BIG CRISES -

I WOULD BE DERELICT AND UNREALISTIC IF I DID NOT POINT OUT THE
HARD, GRIM FACT OF ACUTE DIFFICULTIES FACING OUR NATION AND THE PROBLEMS
YOU WILL SOON ENCOUNTER, AND NECESSARILY SHARE IN OUR CONCERTED EFFORT
TO SOLVE THEM.

NOT LONG AGO I LISTED FOUR MAJOR CRISES THAT, I THINK, TAKE
PRECEDENCE OVER THE MANY PROBLEMS AND PITFALLS THAT CONFRONT THIS COUNTRY.

WE MUST ACHIEVE A JUST AND HONORABLE PEACE IN VIETNAM.

WE MUST ELIMINATE RACIAL STRIFE, RIOTS AND VIOLENCE AND THEIR
CAUSES IN OUR CITIES.

WE MUST STRENGTHEN THE SOUNDNESS OF THE DOLLAR, STOP RECKLESS
SPENDING AND INFLATION, PUT OUR ECONOMIC HOUSE IN ORDER.

WE MUST RESTORE THE CONFIDENCE OF THE PEOPLE IN THEIR GOVERNMENT
AND ITS LEADERS BY SIMPLY TELLING THE TRUTH.

THEY ARE ALL INTERRELATED, AND THEY ALL STEM FROM ONE LARGER
PROBLEM -- THE CRISIS OF LEADERSHIP IN AMERICA TODAY, LEADERSHIP ON
ALL FRONTS, GOVERNMENT, PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, PRIVATE CITIZENS.

I NEED NOT RECOUNT OUR MANY OTHER PROBLEMS. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO
IS READ THE NEWSPAPERS, LISTEN TO THE RADIO, OR WATCH TELEVISION.

- WE CAN SOLVE THE PROBLEMS -

can be solved.
~~WE CAN SOLVE~~ THESE CRISES AND PROBLEMS. WE HAVE THE RESOURCES,
THE MEANS AND THE INTELLIGENCE. WE MUST APPLY THE WILL, ^{and} EFFECT A
~~RE-BIRTH~~ OF AMERICAN PURPOSE AND DIRECTION ^{we must} AND ESTABLISH LEADERSHIP
THAT EMBODIES TRUST AND CONFIDENCE, THAT INSPIRES COOPERATION AND UNITY.
IT CAN BE DONE. AND YOUR HELP ^{will be} IS NEEDED.

WHEN YOU LEAVE HERE TODAY YOU WILL BE GOING IN MANY DIFFERENT
DIRECTIONS -- SOME TO JOBS, SOME TO HIGHER EDUCATION. WHATEVER YOUR
PLAN -- KEEP LEARNING, KEEP STUDYING, KEEP GROWING.

In closing let me mention briefly your projects
- PROSPECTS FOR '68 GRADS -

THE PROSPECT AHEAD FOR THE TRAINED AND EDUCATED IS UNBELIEVABLE.

IT IS LINED WITH GOOD JOBS, HIGH PAY AND A FANTASTICALLY EXPANDING ECONOMY. TEN YEARS FROM NOW, IN THE LATE '70'S, OUR POPULATION WILL HAVE GROWN TO 235 MILLION. YOUR OWN AGE GROUP WILL BE A PART OF THE SEGMENT FROM 20 TO 35 WHICH WILL HAVE ABOUT 40 PER CENT MORE PEOPLE. SO YOU AND YOUR CONTEMPORARIES WILL HAVE A COLLECTIVE LOUD VOICE IN RUNNING THIS NATION. TODAY NEARLY 75 MILLION AMERICANS ARE AT WORK. BY 1980 THERE WILL BE 90 MILLION DRAWING PAY CHECKS.

~~AT LEAST THIS IS WHAT THE PROJECTIONISTS TELL US TO PREPARE FOR.~~
~~THEY SAY THE TECHNOLOGICAL REVOLUTION WILL CREATE MILLIONS OF NEW JOBS~~
~~IN THE NEXT DECADE. THE USE OF COMPUTERS, CYBERNETICS, ELECTRONICS,~~
~~CHEMISTRY, PHYSICS AND BIO-PHYSICS WILL GENERATE FAR-REACHING CHANGES~~
~~IN MANUFACTURING PROCESSES. EXOTIC NEW FIELDS IN EXPLORATION OF SPACE~~
~~AND UNDER THE SEA ARE WITHIN REACH.~~

HOWEVER, JUST SO WE DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY INTO THE WORLD OF
SPECIALIZATION AND FUTURE EINSTEINS, ONE CRYSTAL BALL GAZER GIVES US
SOME REASSURANCE BY LISTING OCCUPATIONS WHICH HE SAYS WILL BE IN
GREAT DEMAND AND WITHIN OUR CAPACITY.

HERE ARE SOME EXPECTED TO BE MOST IN DEMAND: GOVERNMENT WORKERS,
PARTICULARLY STATE AND LOCAL; EDUCATORS AND TEACHERS; SPECIALISTS IN
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE; SPECIALISTS IN ACCOUNTING,
ADVERTISING AND DATA PROCESSING; CONSTRUCTION WORKERS; MEDICAL AND
HEALTH SPECIALISTS; CLERKS, SALESPEOPLE, WATERS, REPAIRMEN AND
OTHER SERVICE PEOPLE.

- CHOOSE YOUR VOCATION CAREFULLY -

THE SCOPE OF OUR GROWTH AND PROGRESS IS VAST, THE OPPORTUNITIES
WILL BE LEGION.

CHOOSE YOUR VOCATION CAREFULLY, NOT CASUALLY LIKE BILL MAULDIN,
THE NOTED CARTOONIST OF G.I. WILLIE AND JOE FAME. BILL CLAIMS HE
DECIDED TO BE A CARTOONIST WHILE HE WAS MILKING A COW. HE EXPLAINED
HE LIKED THE SITTING DOWN, BUT HE NEEDED SOMETHING MORE CONSTRUCTIVE
IN HIS HANDS.

THEN THERE IS THE CASE OF ERROL GARNER, WORLD FAMOUS JAZZ PIANIST,
WHO CANNOT READ OR WRITE MUSIC, BUT WHO COMMANDS THE RESPECT OF
MILLIONS OF MUSIC LOVERS. HE WAS ASKED HOW HE COULD MAKE SUCH WONDERFUL
MUSIC WHEN HE COULD NOT READ A NOTE. GARNER JUST SHRUGGED AND SAID,
"A BEAVER DON'T HAVE TO GO TO ENGINEERING SCHOOL TO BUILD A DAM".

WELL, THERE IS ONLY ONE ERROL GARNER, AND I WOULD RECOMMEND ANY LISTENER WHO PROPOSES TO BUILD DAMS TO TRY THE ENGINEERING SCHOOL AND LEAVE THE BEAVER TO HIS OWN DEVICES.

- THE THREE R'S -

AS YOU GO FORTH AS GRADUATES YOU HAVE BEEN WELL GROUNDED IN THE TRADITIONAL THREE R'S OF EDUCATION. TO THE BASIC EDUCATIONAL TRINITY OF READING, 'RITING AND 'RITHMETIC, LET ME SUGGEST THREE ADDITIONAL R'S FOR YOU TO USE CONSTANTLY TO REACH YOUR GOAL TO BECOME A GOOD AND USEFUL CITIZEN. THEY ARE: RESPECT, RESTRAINT AND RESPONSIBILITY.

IN A FEW MINUTES YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR DIPLOMAS, CLOSING THESE WONDERFUL YEARS OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL LIFE. IN THE YEARS TO COME, LOOKING BACK ON THIS PERIOD OF YOUR LIVES, YOU WILL MORE AND MORE APPRECIATE HOW PRECIOUS YOUR HIGH SCHOOL DAYS HAVE BEEN.

I SALUTE YOU IN YOUR GRADUATION AND JOIN WITH YOU IN FAITH AND HOPE AS YOU STRIVE FOR NEW ACHIEVEMENTS. I PREDICT THAT YOU WILL MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE, REACH YOUR GOALS, ENJOY PROSPEROUS AND FRUITFUL LIVES AND HELP MAKE OUR WORLD A BETTER PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE.