

REMARKS OF THE HONORABLE BOB DOLE

GIRLS' STATE  
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS  
LAWRENCE, KANSAS  
~~SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 1969~~  
FRIDAY, JUNE 13

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IT IS A PLEASURE TO BE HERE TODAY AND TO  
SPEAK TO THE 1969 SESSION OF GIRLS' STATE. A  
PROGRAM, SUCH AS THIS, MAKES YOUNG WOMEN LIKE YOUR-  
SELVES AWARE OF THE NEED TO BECOME INVOLVED IN YOUR  
COMMUNITY. I AM SURE YOU WILL FIND THESE DAYS HERE  
A VALUABLE EXPERIENCE AND ONE THAT WILL BE OF GREAT  
BENEFIT WHEN YOU ARE CALLED UPON FOR CIVIC  
LEADERSHIP IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

THE REWARDS OF RESPONSIBLE CIVIC LEADERSHIP  
ARE GRATIFYING TO THE INVOLVED INDIVIDUAL, BUT THE  
SCOPE IS MUCH GREATER THAN THE INDIVIDUAL. THE

REWARDS OF RESPONSIBLE LEADERSHIP ARE FELT BY THE ENTIRE SOCIETY. TODAY THERE ARE 23 MILLION YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 18 AND 24, OR ABOUT 1 OUT OF EVERY 9 AMERICANS. YOU HAVE THE POTENTIAL OF BEING THE MOST INFLUENTIAL FORCE IN AMERICA.

IF YOU ARE TO EXERCISE THIS INFLUENCE RESPONSIBLY, IT IS NECESSARY TO INFORM YOURSELVES ON THE ISSUES CONFRONTING YOUR COMMUNITY, YOUR STATE AND YOUR NATION. THREE ISSUES WHICH DIRECTLY AFFECT YOUR AGE GROUP ARE VIETNAM, THE DRAFT AND STUDENT UNREST. THOSE ARE THE ONES I WILL DISCUSS TODAY.

FEW AMERICANS COULD DENY THEMSELVES A FEELING OF GREAT HOPE WHEN THE PRESIDENT MADE HIS HISTORIC ANNOUNCEMENT FROM MIDWAY LAST SUNDAY AFTER HIS MEETING WITH SOUTH VIETNAMESE PRESIDENT THIEU. WITHIN THIRTY DAYS OUR TROOPS WILL BE LEAVING THE BATTLEFIELDS OF VIETNAM FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE WAR BEGAN. THINK OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF SUCH A STEP.

THE PRESIDENT IS CONFIDENT THAT THE TRAINING AND EQUIPPING OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN SO SUCCESSFUL THAT 25,000 AMERICAN SOLDIERS CAN PREPARE TO LEAVE THE FIELDS OF THAT SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRY TO BE REPLACED BY THAT COUNTRY'S OWN FORCES. THIS IS A STEP TOWARD PEACE LONG AWAITED BY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.



I WOULD HOPE THOSE WHO AUTOMATICALLY CRITICISE  
EVERY MOVE TOWARD PEACE MADE BY PRESIDENT NIXON WILL  
WITHHOLD CRITICISM AT THIS CRUCIAL TIME..FOR THIS IS  
A TIME OF NATIONAL UNITY AND COOPERATION; NOT  
DIVISION AND DISHARMONY. WE KNOW THE ROAD TO PEACE  
WILL BE NEITHER EASY NOR SHORT, BUT WE ARE AT A JUNCTION  
IN THAT ROAD WHICH MAY VERY WELL DETERMINE A NEW  
DIRECTION TO EMBARK IN OUR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE WORLD  
PEACE.

STUDENT UNREST

WHEN YOU ADD UP THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS, TEACHERS  
AND ADMINISTRATORS, YOU FIND THAT THIS COUNTRY NOW HAS  
60 MILLION PEOPLE ENGAGED FULL TIME IN EDUCATION...  
ALMOST ONE THIRD OF THE POPULATION. AND THAT NUMBER  
DOES NOT INCLUDE THE MILLIONS OF ADULTS WHO ARE TAKING  
COURSES IN THE EVENING, AT WORK OR BY TELEVISION AT  
HOME.

AS YOU CAN SEE, EDUCATION IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE IN OUR SOCIETY. NEARLY EVERYONE AGREES THAT EDUCATION IS THE SUREST WAY TO BREAK THE CYCLE OF POVERTY WHICH HAS PLAGUED SO MANY GENERATIONS. IN LIGHT OF THIS, WE ARE DISTURBED BY STUDENT VIOLENCE AND UNREST ON OUR CAMPUSES TODAY. THIS IS AN ISSUE YOUR AGE GROUP CAN PARTICULARLY IDENTIFY FOR MOST OF YOU WILL BE ENTERING UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

MANY OF OUR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING HAVE FAILED TO KEEP APACE WITH THE RAPID CHANGES TAKING PLACE. NEW INSIGHTS INTO THE PSYCHOLOGY OF LEARNING ARE MAKING IT ALL TOO APPARENT THAT OUR TRADITIONAL METHODS OF EDUCATION ARE OFTEN INADEQUATE. RESTORING ORDER ON OUR CAMPUSES WILL REQUIRE NOT ONLY FIRM MEASURES AGAINST VIOLENCE, BUT OUR LEARNING INSTITUTIONS MUST ASSUME THEIR RIGHTFUL RESPONSIBILITIES. THOSE RESPONSIBILITIES ARE TO PROVIDE THE QUALITY OF GUIDANCE, LEADERSHIP AND DIRECTION OUR STUDENTS NEED.

THE RIGHT TO RECEIVE QUALITY GUIDANCE, LEADERSHIP AND DIRECTION ARE THE "EXCLUSIVE" RIGHTS OF THE STUDENT. BY VIRTUE OF HIS BIRTH, THE AMERICAN STUDENT IS PRIVILEGED TO FREEDOMS AS PROVIDED IN THE BILL OF RIGHTS OF OUR CONSTITUTION. BUT ALL TOO OFTEN WE ARE CONFRONTED WITH THE STUDENT WHO EXPECTS "SPECIAL RIGHTS"..RIGHTS WHICH INFRINGE UPON THE WELL-BEING OF OTHERS. HE IS THE STUDENT WHO INVADES AN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, REFLES UNIVERSITY PROPERTY AND THEN ISSUES NON-NEGOTIABLE DEMANDS. THIS TYPE OF STUDENT WHO, FORTUNATELY, REPRESENTS ONLY A MINUTE FRACTION OF THE TOTAL STUDENT COMPOSITE, HAS IN EFFECT UNDERMINED THE SECURITY OF HIS OWN RIGHTS..FOR IN A FREE SOCIETY, THE RIGHTS OF NONE ARE SECURE UNEESS THE RIGHTS OF ALL ARE RESPECTED.



PRESIDENT NIXON STATED MY FEELING QUITE WELL IN A RECENT SPEECH. HE SAID, "THE VALUES WE CHERISH ARE SUSTAINED BY A FABRIC OF MUTUAL SELF RESTRAINT, WOVEN OF ORDINARY CIVIL DECENCY, RESPECT FOR THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS, RESPECT FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES OF ORDERLY CHANGE. THE PURPOSE OF THOSE RESTRAINTS IS NOT TO PROTECT AN 'ESTABLISHMENT', BUT TO ESTABLISH THE PROTECTION OF LIBERTY; NOT TO PREVENT CHANGE, BUT TO INSURE THAT CHANGE REFLECTS THE PUBLIC WILL AND RESPECTS THE RIGHTS OF ALL."

IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, THOSE WHO VIOLATE THE LAW, WHETHER ON OR OFF THE CAMPUS, MUST BE TREATED AS SUCH AND THOSE WHO DISRUPT THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF OTHERS ON THE CAMPUS SHOULD BE DEALT WITH BY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS THROUGH PROBATION, SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION.

DRAFT

CLOSELY RELATED TO THE VIETNAM WAR AND A CAUSE OF DISILLUSIONMENT ON THE COLLEGE CAMPUS IS OUR OUTMODED DRAFT SYSTEM. THE YOUNG TODAY THINK OF CONSCRIPTION AS AN INSTITUTION, A WAY OF LIFE, WHICH CANNOT BE JUSTIFIED AND IS UNABLE TO CHANGE. IT SEEMS TO YOUR GENERATION THAT WE HAVE ALWAYS HAD A DRAFT AND A LARGE ARMY, BUT THE FACTS ARE THAT MAINTENANCE OF A LARGE STANDING ARMY IS RELATIVELY NEW.

HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF THE DEMANDS OF THE VIETNAM WAR, IT WOULD BE UNREALISTIC TO INSTITUTE A FULL VOLUNTEER ARMY UNTIL THE FIGHTING ABATES CONSIDERABLY. FOR THIS REASON, I JOINED WITH OTHER SENATORS AND COSPONSORED LEGISLATION REVISING THE PRESENT DRAFT SYSTEM. THE PRESIDENT HAS RECOGNIZED THAT THE SELECTIVE SERVICE ACT REQUIRES IMMEDIATE REFORMS, AND HAS PROPOSED CHANGES THAT WILL PROVIDE INTERIM RELIEF.



UNDER THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL ALL MALES WOULD HAVE AN EQUAL CHANCE OF BEING DRAFTED. ALTHOUGH IT IS CONTENDED BY SOME THAT STUDENT DEFERMENTS ADD AN ELEMENT OF UNFAIRNESS TO THE RANDOM SELECTION PROCEDURE, THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL DOES NOT ALLOW THE STUDENT TO ESCAPE THE POOL OF POTENTIAL DRAFTEES. UPON REACHING THE AGE OF 19 OR 20, THE STUDENT WOULD BE GIVEN HIS SEQUENCE NUMBER, DEFERRED UNTIL HE COMPLETES HIS UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION OR A YEAR OF GRADUATE WORK, AND THEN HIS NAME IS RETURNED TO THE POOL.

MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE AMENDED LAW WOULD REMOVE MUCH OF THE UNCERTAINTY CREATED BY THE PRESENT SYSTEM. DURING THOSE CRUCIAL YEARS WHEN DECISIONS ABOUT EDUCATION, CAREERS, MARRIAGE AND RAISING A FAMILY MUST BE MADE, THOSE ELIGIBLE FOR THE DRAFT WILL NOT HAVE TO LIVE IN FEAR OF LOCAL DRAFT BOARDS MONTHLY QUOTA. PRESIDENT NIXON PROPOSES THAT THE DRAFT BOARD MUST FIRST SELECT THE 19 YEAR OLDS AND WORK ITS WAY UP RATHER THAN STARTING WITH THE OLDEST ELIGIBLE MEN.

THE DRAFTEES WOULD THUS BE ON THE AVERAGE MUCH YOUNGER WITH FEWER RESPONSIBILITIES AND PROBABLY IN BETTER PHYSICAL CONDITION. SECOND, EVERYONE WOULD HAVE ONLY ONE YEAR OF "MAXIMUM VULNERABILITY" TO THE DRAFT WHETHER AT AGE 19 OR AFTER COLLEGE.

ALTHOUGH THE PROPOSED REFORMS REPRESENT A FAIR AND ORDERLY APPROACH, WE MUST NOT BE DETERRED FROM FURTHER STUDY OF THE METHOD BY WHICH WE CAN INSTITUTE A VOLUNTARY ARMED FORCE. THE SUPPORT GENERATED BY THE DISCONTENT WITH THE VIETNAM WAR MUST BE USED TO DEVISE A SYSTEM WHICH WILL PROVIDE OUR COUNTRY WITH "SUFFICIENT" MILITARY FORCE, BUT NOT AT THE EXPENSE OF INFRINGEMENT ON OUR INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY AND DESIRE FOR FREEDOM FROM UNJUSTIFIED GOVERNMENT INTRUSION.

AS A POST SCRIPT, PRESIDENT NIXON RECENTLY ANNOUNCED THE WHITE HOUSE IS FORMING A NATIONWIDE NETWORK OF YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO HELP DEVELOP A BETTER INFORMED AND MORE RESPONSIVE SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM. THIS WILL BE A CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION BY WHICH WE WILL ALL BENEFIT.

### CONCLUSION

AS YOUNG CITIZENS WITH YOUR ADULT LIFE YET TO BE LIVED, YOU HAVE THE GOOD FORTUNE OF BEGINNING YOUR ADULT LIFE IN AN AGE WHEN INFORMATION CAN BE EXCHANGED WORLDWIDE ON AN ALMOST INSTANTANEOUS BASIS. SPACE AND TIME HAVE BEEN OVERCOME BY MODERN COMMUNICATIONS AND JET TRAVEL. OUR THOUGHTS AND ATTITUDES CANNOT HELP BUT BE AFFECTED AS WE VIEW THE ACTUAL INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN OUR LIVING ROOMS.

BECAUSE OF THE INCREDIBLE ACCELERATION OF THE WHOLE HUMAN PROCESS OF CHANGE AND EXCHANGE, WE ARE OFTEN UNABLE TO AVOID CONFLICT WITH TRADITION THROUGH THE AGES, EXPERIENCE THROUGH THE YEARS AND THE RAPID TRANSITION OF THE PRESENT. HOPEFULLY, WITH YOUR GENERATION AND MINE WORKING TOGETHER AS AMERICANS, WE WILL MEET THE CHALLENGE OF TOMORROW CONFIDENTLY AND COMPETENTLY.

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