

REMARKS OF HONORABLE BOB DOLE

GRANDVIEW REPUBLICAN CLUB BARBEQUE
RED BRIDGE SHOPPING CENTER
GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI
SUNDAY, MAY 17, 1970

IT IS A PLEASURE TO BE HERE IN GRANDVIEW TODAY -- IN THE NEW REPUBLICAN MISSOURI. I SAY THIS BECAUSE MISSOURI IS EMERGING FROM THE ERA OF STATE-WIDE ONE PARTY DOMINATION. YOU MISSOURIANS SHOWED YOURSELVES THAT YOU COULD DO THIS IN 1968 WHEN YOU ELECTED A REPUBLICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE BEFORE HARRY TRUMAN WENT INTO THE HAT BUSINESS. YOU ARE GOING TO PROVE IT THIS YEAR BY ELECTING JOHN DANFORTH TO THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

HE WILL HELP MAKE THE NEW REPUBLICAN MAJORITY IN THAT BODY, AND THEN THE REPUBLICAN PARTY CAN MOVE AHEAD WITH PRESIDENT NIXON TO GIVE THIS COUNTRY THE LEADERSHIP THE DEMOCRATS HAVE BEEN PROMISING OR OBSTRUCTING SINCE HARRY TRUMAN LEFT THE WHITE HOUSE.

I HAD THE PLEASURE AND PRIVILEGE OF ATTENDING THE KICK-OFF FOR JOHN DANFORTH'S CAMPAIGN. YOU KNOW THAT JOHN IS A GREAT CANDIDATE. HE IS DYNAMIC, INTELLIGENT AND MOST OF ALL HE IS A REPUBLICAN WHO SENSES

THAT THE PEOPLE OF MISSOURI ARE TIRED OF THE OLD YEAR-AFTER-YEAR
DEMOCRAT SLOGANS, PROMISES AND SHORTCOMINGS.

THE ONLY THING HE NEEDS, AND HE NEEDS IT VERY MUCH, IS YOUR
SUPPORT AND WORK AND DEDICATION TO HIM AND THE REPUBLICAN PARTY. I
AM SURE YOU WILL GIVE IT TO HIM. THE HOURS WILL BE LONG AND AT TIMES
DIFFICULT. BUT THE REWARD WILL BE GREAT: U. S. SENATOR JOHN DANFORTH,
REPUBLICAN OF MISSOURI.

TRYING TIMES

THIS IS A COMPLEX AND SOMETIMES TRYING ERA IN AMERICA. OCCA-
SIONALLY THE RUSH OF EVENTS AND CRISES SEEM TO OUTSTRIP OUR CAPACITY TO
UNDERSTAND THEM OR TO PLACE THEM IN PERSPECTIVE. IN THE CONFUSION, SOME-
TIMES ONE SEGMENT OF SOCIETY OR ANOTHER MAY BE BLAMED FOR WHAT WE OFTEN
MISUNDERSTAND OR INCOMPLETELY APPRECIATE.

RECENT EVENTS HAVE ILLUSTRATED THIS TENDANCY AS GROUPS, INDIVID-
UALS AND ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BEEN SINGLED OUT AS SOURCES OF THE UNREST AND
UPHEAVAL WHICH HAVE SWEEPED OUR COUNTRY.

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PARITES, BECAUSE HE, BETTER THAN ANY OF US, REALIZES THE DIMENSIONS OF THE CONFLICT AND THE DECISIONS HE MUST MAKE. HE KNOWS, HOWEVER, THAT HE WILL ALSO BE JUDGED BY SOME WHO HAVE LITTLE, IF ANY, KNOWLEDGE OF THE FACTS, AND BY RADICALS AND POLITICAL OPPORTUNISTS. AS A PUBLIC FIGURE HE RECOGNIZES THAT SOME PUT HIS POLITICAL DESTRUCTION AHEAD OF THE BEST INTERESTS OF OUR COUNTRY AND OUR MEN IN UNIFORM.

CAMPUS UNREST

LATELY THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF OUR COUNTRY HAVE OCCUPIED A PROMINENT PLACE IN THE NEWS -- FROM THE TRAGIC DEATHS AT KENT STATE, TO OCCURRENCES AT NUMEROUS OTHER COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, TO THE DEMONSTRATIONS IN WASHINGTON LAST WEEKEND. THEREFORE, LET ME TURN BRIEFLY TO THE SUBJECT OF YOUNG AMERICANS, THEIR ATTITUDES AND ROLE IN PRESENT AND FUTURE DEBATES OF NATIONAL ISSUES.

IN RECENT DAYS WE HAVE WITNESSED STUDENT AGITATION ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY. A LARGE MEASURE OF THE CAMPUS UNREST UNDOUBTEDLY STEMS FROM THE WAR IN VIETNAM, AND MORE SPECIFICALLY, FROM THE CAMBODIAN OPERATION.

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FOR THE MOST PART, STUDENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE OPPOSED
CURRENT U.S. POLICY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.

I RESPECT RESPONSIBLE DIFFERENCE AND MEASURED CRITICISM
FROM WHATEVER SOURCE, AND BELIEVE THOSE WHO FEEL THEY MUST SPEAK
OUT SHOULD DO SO WITHOUT REGARD TO AGE, OR OTHER STATUS.

I WAS IMPRESSED BY MOST OF THE EVENTS IN WASHINGTON LAST
WEEKEND. CONCERNED YOUNG PEOPLE AND OTHERS WHO HOLD STRONG AND SINCERE
BELIEFS IN THE UNWISDOM OF CURRENT U.S. POLICY MADE A DISCIPLINED,
IF SOMEWHAT DISORGANIZED, PRESENTATION OF THEIR VIEWS TO THEIR NATIONAL
LEADERS.

FOR THREE DAYS BEFORE THE SATURDAY DEMONSTRATION AND THROUGH-
OUT THIS PAST WEEK, SCORES OF STUDENTS FROM KANSAS AND ELSEWHERE CAME
TO MY OFFICE AND STATED THEIR BELIEFS. WE OFTEN DISAGREED. SOMETIMES
WE DEFINED COMMON GROUNDS AND GOALS. BUT THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT
WE MET AND EXCHANGED IDEAS AND GAINED UNDERSTANDING.

A TRIBUTE TO THEM WAS THE DEDICATION AND RESOLVE OF MOST TO AVOID VIOLENCE AND DISTURBANCE WHETHER IN WASHINGTON OR ON THEIR OWN CAMPUSES. THEY MADE THEIR POINT AND HAVE LEFT WASHINGTON FOR THEIR HOMES AND CAMPUSES.

BUT NOW THAT THE STUDENTS HAVE LEARNED TO MOBILIZE THEIR NUMBERS FOR DEMONSTRATIONS, AND TO GAIN THE EARS OF THEIR PRESIDENT AND LEGISLATORS, THEY MUST DEMONSTRATE RESPONSIBILITY.

THE BALL IS IN THEIR COURT NOW, AND THEY MUST TAKE IT AND PROVE TO THEMSELVES AND THEIR ELDERS THAT THEY CAN CARRY IT WISELY AND WELL.

THEY MUST USE THEIR POWER TO OPEN AND BROADEN EDUCATION, NOT CLOSE AND NARROW IT; TO STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND THE SOCIETY NOT TO UNDERMINE AND CONSTRICT IT.

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LET THEM GO BACK TO THEIR CAMPUSES IN THE FALL DETERMINED THAT THEIR INSTITUTIONS WILL STAY OPEN AND THAT THEIR PARTICIPATION IN ACADEMIC LIFE AND IN THEIR COMMUNITIES WILL CONTRIBUTE TO IT RATHER THAN DETRACT FROM IT.

LET THEIR GOALS BE PARTICIPATION AND CONTRIBUTION RATHER THAN TURMOIL AND DISRUPTION.

WE MUST REMEMBER THAT NOT ALL STUDENTS SHARE THE BELIEFS OF THOSE WHO RALLIED IN WASHINGTON, AND THEY MUST HAVE THEIR VIEWS HEARD TOO. THEY MUST HAVE THE SAME OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPRESS THEIR POSITIONS AND TO PURSUE THEIR GOALS IN EDUCATION, POLITICS AND LIFE AS THOSE WHO DISSENT.

TO FULFULL THEIR MISSIONS, THESE INSTITUTIONS MUST BE OPEN AND ALLOW CONTENTION BETWEEN OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS IN THE GREAT AMERICAN TRADITION OF DEBATE, DISCUSSION AND INTERACTION.

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TODAY'S YOUTH HAS GREAT POTENTIAL. LET US HOPE THAT THEY WILL LIVE UP TO THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES. I BELIEVE THEY CAN.

BUT AGAIN, LET ME ADD A WORD OF CAUTION -- IF THOSE WHO SEEK THE DESTRUCTION OF THIS SOCIETY RATHER THAN ITS REFORM SEIZE THE YOUTH MOVEMENT OR ANY OTHER FOR THEIR OWN NARROW-DESTRUCTIVE ENDS, THE RESULTS WILL ONLY FURTHER DIVIDE THIS NATION AND POSTPONE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE FUNDAMENTAL GOALS THAT ALL AMERICANS OF EVERY AGE ARE SEEKING: INDIVIDUAL FULFILLMENT, PERSONAL PRIDE AND A MEANINGFUL EXISTENCE.