KILMER JOB CORPS CENTER OPENING
March 13, 1965

We meet today at a center that has seen hundreds of thousands of young Americans march off to fight their country's wars. Its name comes from one of those young men who gave his life for all of us. Today this center is again filled with young men. And again we have a war to win.

This time you have not come here to fight against an enemy across the sea -- but against the faceless enemy of poverty at home, in America.

The United States Congress has expressed the will of the people of America in these words: "It is... the policy of the United States to eliminate the paradox of poverty in the midst of plenty in this nation by opening to everyone the opportunity for education and training, the opportunity to work, and the opportunity to live in decency and dignity."

This is a goal that is truly worthy of the young Americans who have marched from this camp in the past --
some never to return home.

Here, in the Kilmer Job Corps Center, you will start your march to opportunity. Beside you will march the best this country has to offer. All that we know about education, about science, about industry, and about business will participate in this program. A large corporation and a famous university are working together as partners to make this Center successful for you. You will have tools to work with -- and to learn with -- that many of you have never seen before.

Each of you made a decision to participate in this exciting job opportunity program. Your teachers will expect you to do your best so that you and your fellow Corpsmen will learn as much as you can while you are here.

You will experience new and exciting ways of learning, sometimes you will be using special
kinds of machines that let you teach yourself. Other times you will be using new kinds of books which also let you learn by yourself -- and even tell you when you have the right answer to a question. And, of course, you will always have good teachers to help you.

No matter what kind of training you decide to take, you will have the chance to get on-the-job training using the same tools and actually doing the same kinds of things that you will be doing later on, after you leave the Center.

You will also participate in many special activities which will make life more enjoyable than you ever thought possible at school.

Together with other Corpsmen you will be able to enact rules and regulations you think necessary for the orderly operation of this Center. Your teachers believe that to become good citizens you must learn why rules or laws are necessary at the Center and everywhere else in our country—and you will gain experience in self-govern.
You will be able to engage many of your favorite sports and perhaps even learn some new ones.

There will also be many opportunities for you to travel to many places around the Center. You will see and do many new and exciting things.

Yet, anyone who thinks that his job at the Center will always be easy is only fooling himself. If this Center is going to be successful, teachers and Corpsmen will have to work hard. It is always hard to learn new skills.

It is just as hard to teach these skills. It is as you know better than I, to get a Center like this ready.

All sorts of problems, large and small, will have to be met, and everyone in this Center will have to help to solve them.

But, although you face many problems, and although the work before you will be long and hard, I believe very strongly that the problems will be solved, and the work will be done. I believe very strongly that you Corpsmen...
came here because you know the goal is worth working for,
and I believe just as strongly that the staff has come here
because they know that you are worth working with.

When you graduate from Kilmer, you will be ready for a
regular job at regular pay. I pledge you your Government's
determined efforts to assure you a job when you are ready
for it. We will have the cooperation of business and labor
to assist you in finding the best possible job. And as a
nation we are going to do everything possible to assure a
healthy economy, so that there will be adequate job oppor-
tunities for all who wish to work -- and who have the
training for it.

Will you have that training? The answer is up to you.
The eyes of all Americans are on you, as they will be on
the thousands who follow you here and who will enter other
Job Corps Centers throughout the country. I extend to each
of you my sincerest wishes for success. We are all counting
on each of you to do his part. We shall not fail you.

***
Bill:
This Kennedy speech was great. Here is the top and transcript.

Barbio

Ted
PRESENTATION CEREMONIES OF THE KILMER JOB CORPS CENTER, PATTerson, NEW JERSEY, SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1965

Mr. Vice President, Governor Hughes, other honored guests, Ladies and Gentlemen. Let me say that we indeed are honored by the presence of so many distinguished guests on this the Dedication Day of the Kilmer Job Corps Center, and we most certainly wish to extend to each and every one of you a most hearty and sincere welcome. Now, presumably this is a dedication day for a set of physical facilities. To me it goes a little bit beyond that. This is also a kind of dedication day for those of us on the Staff at the Center. We on the Staff at this Center are dedicated to helping carry out the objectives of the Economic Opportunity Act, spelled out in these words. To eliminate the paradox of poverty in the midst of plenty in this nation, by opening to everyone the opportunity to work, and the opportunity to live in decency and dignity.

Now of course our objective goes beyond this in detail, specifically as part of the Job Corps program, we are dedicated to achieving these objectives. To increase the employability of young men and at other centers, to increase the employability of young women, and secondly and equally important we believe, is to prepare them for the responsibilities of citizenship.

Now, I would like at this particular time to introduce the next guest. It is unfortunate that Mr. Shriver found it impossible to be here, however, we are privileged to have with us the Director of Job Corps, Dr. Ottis J. Singleterry.

DR. SINGLETERRY (Not Transcribed).

We could not be here having this ceremony this morning, if it were not for the man whom I am going to introduce to you. From the very moment that we began to examine this facility and to work out the progra
that eventually became the Job Corps Center, we worked very closely and I might say in the best spirit of cooperation with the Governor of New Jersey. Governor Hughes was in every way sympathetic and interested in this program and its effect on the young people of this country, his concern was far wider, I think, and I think I can say this, and simply this project scheduled for his own state. There were many problems and we both were, I think concerned with their resolution, and in fact we were involved with them, which this testifies to today. And it is with a very real warm personal gratitude that I introduce Governor Richard Hughes.

GOVERNOR HUGHES (Not Transcribed)

We are indeed glad to have the Senators from New Jersey with us this morning and it is my pleasure now to preface their introduction with a statement that this is indeed a bi-partisan program. We hope in the best sense of the term that the country sees it as a bi-partisan program. And if it's going to be a success, it is not only going to have to be bi-partisan in Washington it is going to have to be bi-partisan in the country, and I think the presence of these two gentlemen on the platform this morning certainly symbolizes this feeling. It is now my pleasure to introduce the distinguished Senator from New Jersey, Senator Clifford Chase.

SENATOR CLIFFORD CHASE

Mr. Chairman, Reverend Clergy, Mr. Vice President, Governor, my Colleague Pete Williams, my colleague Ed Patton, every distinguished man and woman on the platform and in the audience and the beautiful lady in the front row, and the back row and every row. You know that remark about bi-partisanship does apply to this meeting. Makes me think about story about the fellow that asked for the receipt for horse and rabbit stew.
There was one horse and one rabbit. When you see the size of the Democratic Delegation here, the size of the Republican Delegation, it might occur to some people that this bi-partisanship is more symbolic than actual. I was thinking of that earlier, as a matter of fact, when Dick Hughes in his earlier remarks properly called attention to the fact that we had in our presence the Mayor of Newark, and what a fine executive he is. And I thought I wish I could find some Republican whose fine work I could praise. Now I am sure there is somebody around somewhere, but the big wind that blew over here last November, Mr. Vice President, you haven't heard of that I'm sure. And the effective work that Dave Wellinsk in this particular part of our state, makes it very discouraging for me, for us fellows. But this is a bi-partisan thing. It's got to be if it's going to succeed. And as a supporter and as a warm, and a warm friend of the objectives of this program, I am certainly happy to be here. Its kind of a sentimental occasion for me in part, because, in large part, the Job Center is under the auspices of the, and the direction of Rutgers, my old Alma Mater, and I am very sure that the success which we fervently hope for the new ground being broken here is going to be much enhanced, at least the possibility for it by the caliber of the two sponsors, this great industrial company, with so many other interests in New Jersey, and our State University and I wish you the very best. Both of you, the, your success will be the success of our country.

Now I would like to talk about the shafts and not the shalt nots. By nature I am kind of an optimist, I think, and yet I am in the opposition. The oppositions duty is, when necessary, to oppose, at least to look with a critical eye on things. And so as a friend of this program and of its objectives, I do just want to strike a warning note, not about this project, and not about the great objectives we are talking about, but
about the fact that there has been some suggestion that in part we may be getting off the track. And it may be constructive rather than destructive at the outset to call attention to this fact and to sound a warning rather than wait until we have gotten deeply morassed in the kind of thing that might happen here. But I am talking of course, about the possibility that this thing may get into bureaucratic hands or in political hands, that it may be regarded by some as a haven for unemployed politicians and by others as a haven for unemployed bureaucrats, and we don't want this. Its got to be clean and its got to be lean, this whole program, I am not talking about this Camp Kilmer project, I am talking about many of these so-called community action things over the nation. We don't want this to be a political plum pudding, and we don't want any Little Jack Horners around here, and we can't afford it. Now I believe, as everyone does, that has any sense, that a laborer is worthy of his hire, and that you have to pay for what you get and its proper to pay good salaries and good wages for effective work. But we have got to remember that public jobs still pay on than the average less/private jobs, Mr. Geniene, you know that this is so, and so do you Governor, and so do I, even though we equipped ourselves later. That the great bulk of the people whose hard earned tax dollars go into of all sorts, these projects, are also paid for by the government, get a lot less than we do even, and that we can't afford to waste a single cent. And the question isn't for instance whether Patterson the Governor, the Mayor ought to be getting less or more than the man who runs the anti-poverty program, the question is whether you need, and Patterson and every other administrate, city in the country, full time, deep staffs to operate and they, and this is the thing I think we ought to watch more, and the storm warnings are flying, the press has been overly friendly to the objectives of this program, but it has voiced concern about the high priced overhead, and we
seem to be getting into and other citizens have too, Dr. Nabrih, President of Harvard, last week said this, "What we do not want is to build up people and give them a lot of apparatus so that they can run around and administrate, we don't want the money spent at the top and the man in the alley still down where he was when we started. Well that's all the negative stuff I am going to say. And it doesn't apply to this project. It does apply to the Job Program I know that the people at the top in Washington, I know that Sargent Shriver and I am quite sure John Bultett too, I know our Governor and all of our Congressmen, and the Mayors and what not, know the problem and the difficulty and I am happy to say that there has been evidence of effective action in some quarters in the State of New Jersey to cut this out. But I just want to encourage it. While I am a warm friend, and will continue to be of the objectives and of the program itself, I can be as an implacable an enemy of that part which might go wrong, if it does. So let's not let it. And let the dream that we see in these boys here, that has been so well expressed by that youngster who spoke already on the platform, come true. And it will take all of our imagination, all of our energy, all of our dedication to make it do it. Mr. Vice President, thank you so much for coming up here, not only for the free ride that you gave me, you and Miriam, but for coming into our state, I noticed that we are down for remarks, we Congressmen who everybody else except the Vice President, is going to make an address. I thought well that is quite appropriate. As a matter of fact even if it hadn't been planned that way it would have turned out that way because the Vice President loves to make addresses. I used to hear him regularly twice a day, three or four times as regularly as the ringing of a bell, when we were in the Senate together. Why aren't you back in the Senate Mr. Humphrey? Well, we all know why, darn it. Wherever he is he is a great man. Its a
wonderful thing to have him here. And as I say even if he hadn't been
set down as the address, his talk would have been the address, I think
because, well it's the same as in that old Scotish saying, wherever the
McGregor sits, there is the head of the table. Thank you so much for
coming.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, Senator Harrison Williams address.

SENATOR HARRISON WILLIAMS (Not Transcribed)

Ladies and Gentlemen, the Vice President of the United States.

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

Thank you very much. Thank you, thank you very much.

Thank you very much Dr. Singleterry. Reverend Clergy and my good
friend, the distinguished Governor of this the Garden State, New Jersey,
my colleagues in the Congress, because after all the Vice President has
at least one duty, he presides over the senate. And you can see the
trouble I have. Senator Case and Senator Williams, two very close friends
Congressman Patton and others, good friend, and Mr. Geniene, we are in-
debted to you for your succinct and direct comments. I think all of us
learned a great deal from that brief but illuminating address, its billed
as remarks, but to me it was an address. Mr. Harold Geniene of the
International Telephone and Telegraph Company Corporation. But the speaker
of the day is this young man from down in Texas. This young man by the
name of Cosmic Areolla. I want to say that I am going to spread the word
when I get back to Washington that here is a budding politician. I'm
going to check up and see just who the Senator is or the Congressman is in
your District and forewarn him. Or maybe I should alert the Governor, but
truly we were all touched by the, by this fine young gentleman that as
a Corpsman here at this great center, and has given us an insight as to
his feelings about this new opportunity that is his. Let me say that the
only reason that Mr. Shriver isn't here is because he is an exceedingly busy man and that there were some very serious problems that came up this morning, again we have all kinds of problems these days. And Mr. Shriver is deeply emmeshed in some of those. He would have loved to have been here and you would have loved to have him, he is a remarkable man. He had to stay in Washington because he had a lot of work to deal with, the only man that doesn't have much to do is the Vice President, and they can ship him out anytime to these activities.

So I boarded the plane this morning. We did have a couple of things that we had to do ahead of time, you have heard about some of the things that are going on in our country. Very distressing very disturbing things. And I had to pay a little attention to that and when I got here I got a phone call that I had to take, but they can't get me on the phone now. I'm here.

Now, I think I ought to explain to these men these corpsmen that are here that there is a difference between remarks and an address. Its length. Or some people say that remarks are interesting and addresses are enduring and on occasion boring. So you just lean back now and consider that part of your education is going through a little sacrifice. That's character building they tell us.

I was very much pleased to hear the remarks of our two Senators from New Jersey. May I say in all sincerity, that both of them are truly great humanitarians. And while the Senior Senator, my friend Cliff Case took this opportunity to offer a word of admonition, I do not consider it unfair criticism. I want to assure my colleagues in Congress, and I want to assure the American people that this program of economic opportunity, this program that is commonly called the War on Poverty, this program will be a program in the field, out on the firing line where the work needs
to be done. And I can assure you that under my responsibilities with this program, and the President has asked me to take a keen interest in it. I haven't been able to ascertain exactly what my title is, but he says take an interest in it and to kind of keep an watchful on it, I can assure you that this program will be as lean as Cassius. That is in terms of its adornment. But it will be hungry to do the job. Watch you Cassius. Hungry and lean. Well I want to say, watch this program, because its going to be a working program. This isn't filled up with frills and fancy, fancy Dan operations, this is going to be a working program, and the people that are in it are going to produce or, they won't be in it. And I think everybody understands that. I believe that we can be assured of this because one of the great successes in American public affairs is the Peace Corps, and the man that headed the Peace Corps and still heads it, is Sargent Shriver, and there has never been a better program that the United States Government has put its insignia upon. It makes the American Eagle hold its head just a little higher, and look a little more beautiful, and the man that Directed the Peace Corps, directs now this Economic Opportunities program. And I know him, and I know that with men like Dr. Singleterry, and others, that we are going to have the kind of program that you can be proud of and that will go right down to the community action level. And we are not going to have anybody interfere with it in terms of messing it up, as they say. Because this program is dedicated to people its a pro-people program. And I am happy to say that the Governor of this State understood that in the beginning. The first executive order by any Governor in the United States was issued right out of Trenton, New Jersey, by the Governor of the State of New Jersey, Governor Hughes. He didn't hardly wait for the President to get his signature on the law, I guess there was a race on between the two. And the first
programs, the first loans and grants under this program, the whole economic opportunity program were in the State of New Jersey. As I recall there are 75 projects in this great State of New Jersey. And the Neighborhood Youth Program, the Neighborhood Youth Corps which is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Labor has one of its outstanding projects right in the City of Newark, and the Mayor of that City, Mayor Andesio, has every right to be proud of that success. You know that the Neighborhood Youth/Program is a part-time work program and study program for youth that live at home in our great urban centers and need a little lift and that program is under way. And I would like to point out also that in this state so that the mothers of the State of New Jersey, that the program known as Head Start, to give pre-school children just a little head start so that when they get into that school in September that there moved along a little better because they are underprivileged, that that Program of Head Start is receiving active support by the Governor and the official family of this state, and this is in my mind one of the most interesting programs of all. If you can give the little one a chance, just bring him up a little bit, if he comes from a home where there deprivation, where there maybe hasn't been the best of surroundings, if you can give that little one just a little extra break in those summer months, I think its 8 weeks that they are contemplating, maybe I am wrong in the number weeks but that Head Start Program really gives them a head start. And Governor Hughes, I want to compliment you on your willingness to see to it that the communities of your state meet their responsibilities, and that the State of New Jersey helped in that responsibility. Well, by the, I came up here with some notes that told me that about 160,000 enrollees, applicants for the the Job Corps. But I got my information last week. Now there are a 175,000. This is what has already been noted thus far.
Yes, may I say quite frankly and happily, I have been long associated
as Dr. Singleterry's pointed out, with the idea of a new youth conservation
Corps, a Youth Opportunities Program, I happen to believe that the real
power of this country is in its young people. I happen to believe that
the fulfillment of that power is in the knowledge that know how, the
brain power, the spiritual power, the feeling of belonging of those young
people. And I've seen too many young people drop out of school, too many
that didn't get a break, too many that literally messed up their lives.
I'm interested in young people. Mrs. Humphrey and I are parents and we
are frank enough to tell you that everything hasn't always been easy, and
we feel that young people deserve the first break that any community can
give. The best of opportunity. I have a very simple social philosophy
about the role of Government. I do not believe that Government owes you
a living. I do not believe that Government owes you a salary, but I do
believe that a Government of a free people owes you an opportunity to make
a living and to make something out of your lives. And that is what we
are trying to do.

So we have been interested, and I have been personally interested,
and your Senators are interested with me in this Job Corps, and when I
did see that first camp on film, when I did see these young men, I was
moved and touched, because I saw hope not despair, I saw promise and not
lost horizons, and I recall that we passed in the Senate three times,
three times a Job Corps Program, and three times it was defeated on the
basis of racism. What a price we have paid for that. What a price
America has paid for intolerance, for segregation, for discrimination,
for bigotry. Oh may the day come when we cleanse ourselves of this evil.
And the day is fast approaching when we better, because there isn't any
opportunity in the Land of the Free, there isn't any meaning in the Pledge
of Allegiance, unless we mean every word of it. One Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. And if you don't mean all of those words quit repeating them. Because its not only hypocrical, it is indecent. But we must mean those words and thats what this camp is about. Its one nation, its a spiritually guided nation. It is an indivisible nation, and it is a nation that is committed by tradition and history and commerce and law to liberty, and to justice, for all. Whenever we fail in that commitment my friends, we pay a sad and terrible price. As we are and as we have.

Well this is just a little lighter note. This is Camp Kilmer. You've heard now about it, we all know about it. This camp, I believe was named after Joyce Kilmer and he is the man who wrote that song and poem Trees. Only God can make a tree, but man can destroy one. Or man can preserve one, and the Job Corps and the Conservation Camps, the kinds that you have read about, down in Maryland and other that will be out in my native state of Minnesota. Those in the forests and parks, those Job Corps camps are designed to save trees. I have some notes here that tells me a little bit what we have in mind. For example, by June, I think it is yes, June of this year the Job Corps will have opened 75 rural centers. Ten men's training centers, ten women's training centers with approximately 19,000 enrollees, studying and working at these centers, and by mid-April thats only about a month away there will be enrollees from each of the 50 states in these respective camps. Now, what are they going to do in these camps? This is the report by the way, to the President, that I read out from, the first five months of the Economic Opportunity Act. Well, we will build, the first year the Job Corpsmen they will build approximately 12,000 new picnic and camping sites. This is the group that works in these outside camps now, one like Camp Kilmer. They are to create nearly 3,000
miles of new roads. 3,500 miles of trails. Build 100 helicopter ports. Helispots in inaccessible areas. 1,000 miles of fences and mark about 5,000 miles of boundary lines, plant about 375,000 acres of trees and rehabilitate another 500,000 acres of trees. And look at the training that will come with it and then you will have these great urban centers, this is one of the first. My goodness me, when you know how many, how much there is to be done in this country, wouldn't you have thought that a long time ago that somebody would have said let's get busy and do it. There isn't a road site that doesn't need fixing up. There isn't a park that doesn't need improvement. There isn't a city that doesn't need help and the best way to beautify America is to put people to work getting it done. Giving people something to do. We ought not to have any programs in our country except those that are crippled and incapable to work, that doesn't permit a person to earn what he gets, either out of study or out of work. That way you build a country and a person.

Now, this camp was sent, has been the site of many of young men as has been noted today, that put on his uniform and went out to help fight the wars of this country, for what we believe or what he believed. Today this center is a post or a camp for young men who are fighting a different kind of war. But it is one that you can't loose. There aren't any casualties in this war except the casualty of poverty. There are no lives going to be lost here, but there are going to be some saved, and every graduate of this camp will not walk out to be shot, or shot at, but he will walk out to help build America and to help build a better world. We have a war to win, we believe in winning. We've won great wars on the battlefield. Now we have a war to win right here. This isn't a war against an enemy across the sea this is a war against a faceless enemy at home. This faceless enemy of poverty right here in America. Imagine
the richest nation on the face of the earth. There has never been any
thing like it. Never in all the annals of history, no nation has ever known
such prosperity. And yet it is a fact that in the midst of this affluence
and prosperity are these pockets of poverty and are these individuals who
through many, because of many circumstances, sometimes through no fault of
their own, sometimes through fault of oneself. But be that as it may, there
without anyone trying to find fault, there are individuals that have been
left behind and who have had no real opportunity.

Now the Congress of the United States has expressed the purpose or
expressed the policy behind this whole program and I want our young friends
here and I am primarily talking to them today, I want them to know what
the Congress had in mind. And the best way to know about it is to read it.

It is the policy of the United States to eliminate the paradox of
poverty in the midst of plenty in this nation, by opening to everyone the
opportunity... You just put that word on your wall. If they let you scratch
anything on walls. Just get yourself a little sign up there. I know that
you have a lot of other signs up there, I've been around boys, I want you
to know, and I want you to know if you just put up there, beside of what-
ever pin up you have, just remember the whole program that has been de-
signed by Congress is for the purpose of opening up avenues of opportunity
removing road blocks, clearing the channels, just put up that word opportu-
unity. Opportunity for education, for training, the opportunity to work,
the opportunity to live and in decency and dignity. These are opportunity
camps. Not work camps as such, or not just camps, these are opportunity
camps. And everyone of these opportunity camps depends upon the individual
that is in it. Somebody else can't make opportunity for you. You have
to help in that. I think that this is a mighty fine goal, for worthy young
Americans. This goal of working for and fighting for opportunity. Its
worthy of Americans that marched out of this camp off to two or three wars. Some never to return, so that here in this Kilmer Job Corps Center you men will start a new march. A march to opportunity. You young men will march along side the best that this country has to offer. The best teachers, the best of industry, the best of the university, the finest of the community. And all that we know about education, all that we know about science, all that we know about industry, about business, it will be here, to help you. And you will participate, and that, these forces will participate in your program. This large corporation, one of the largest in the world, and this famous university, are working together here as has been noted, as partners with you. Now remember this, they are not just partners with themselves, they are partners with you. For all practical purposes, when you walk out of here if you really want to be able to brag a little and say, I have gone through a University, and that you proved that you could get through a lot faster than most of those that have been going there. Not only that I venture to say that there are millions of young men that have never met the President of one of the worlds finest and largest corporations, and found out what a fine man he is as you have found out today from Mr. Geniene. At least I never had at age 18. I think I had gotten to Watertown, South Dakota by then. I grew up in a town of about 600 it was a great cultural center. And I can't recall, I guess my grade, father did, yes, he took me in the eighth 1/2, I guess Mom wouldn't let him go to Minneapolis alone, so that he took me along with him, and I remember that my, at that time that I was basically impressed with the quality of the fire engines, but I think after that the biggest town that I got to until I was 18 years old and attended the University of Minnesota, was Sioux Falls or Watertown, South Dakota, I'm not saying that they are not fine towns, but they are not as big as Newark, or Philadelphia, or Camden
or even Trenton. Not even as big as Princeton. So you are really getting quite an experience now, you never can tell you might wind up being Vice President, or much better.

Now, may I just add that each of you have made your own decision to participate in this exciting new job opportunity program. I knew you would. I had faith in you, I think the program is too small, I think we ought to have a larger one. You see if this proves out, the way I think it will, I am sure that these two Senators here and the Congressmen will take the lead along with others to get a bigger and better program. But we have to learn to creep before we walk, and walk before we run. And this president of ours, is going to make sure that this program works. He is a prudent and frugal fellow. He just doesn't want to throw the money around. He wants to make sure that we are getting a dollars worth of value out of a dollar spent. And that is the way it ought to be.

Now many of you may classify yourself as school drop outs. Now, I want to say a word about that. I am sorry when a young man or women drops out of school. But I think teachers ought to examine why, parents ought to too. School administrators ought to too. I find too many young people that tell me that school is not interesting. Now I suppose there is no obligation on the part of teachers and administrators to make schools interesting, there isn't any obligation on a speaker to make a speech interesting either, but if you are running for office, you ought to try. And I am of the opinion that if we really want to build this educational structure of ours along the lines that it should be the modern active, high powered economy such as we have and an exciting people such as we are, we've got to make education meet the needs of those that come to get it. And you are going to have a chance to find that kind of education right here. You are going to be using new teaching materials, you are going to have the best teachers that you can find, you are not going to
be compelled to sit in the classroom and have it pumped into you all day, you are going to be at work, you will be doing some teaching or some studying to be sure. You will have teaching machines that will learn you to teach yourselves, other times you will be using new kinds of books, which will also let you learn by yourselves. Even tell you when you are wrong. And when you have the right answer to a question. And I repeat that you have the best that industry and education can offer in the form of guidance and teaching. Now a lot of us didn't have that, I'd hate to think of the number of courses I have taken, I guess it must have been punishment for my sins, because a lot of courses sometimes are mighty difficult and dull, but you are going, we are going to try to find out here how to teach young people in a way that makes them want to go to school. And if we don't learn anything more than that in a camp such as this, it will be indeed a great blessing to America. Because our great public, private and vocational system must be sufficiently interesting, exciting and challenging so that youngsters just really cry out to go to school and to stay there rather than have people drag them by the nape of the neck, or say you just have to go. Now, no matter what kind of training you may decide to take, you will have a chance to get on the job training, practical training. Not book learning. And you will be using the same tools in your trade, the ones that you are going to use when you get out of here. No make believe, right down to earth. And you will participate in many special activities, which will make this life at the center a little I hope a little more enjoyable than was possible at any school. Together with your fellow corpsmen, you will be able to enact certain rules and regulations, you are going to have some self-government here, you will have a studentcouncil, watch out for that fellow over here, Arellio, I think he may take over. But the truth is there is nothing
better than a little practice in how to run a representative government. It will give you a little insight into it. You will get experience, in other words, today you have had some today, you have heard all of us politicians talking to you.

Now, you will also be engaging in many of your favorite activities and sports, and recreation. As a matter of fact I heard that you had got out of here last night to go over to a dance in a nearby town. I was surprised to see so many of you back. I might add that I might, I used to go to dances it was on Saturday night, great Saturday night fellow. I see they have shifted it back, gives you a little more time to rest for Monday.

Now there will be other opportunities for you. You will travel in and around this center. I think you are going to have, as they say a ball. I think you are going to enjoy it. And one of the nicest things that I found out about all of this is, that you have indicated by your actions and your attitude that you really like it and that you are here to do business, you are here to get something done.

Now, just let me say that if anyone thinks that coming to this center is sort of a picnic or a paid recreation, you are wrong. You are not going to find it too easy, this center if it is to be successful, the teachers and the corpsmen will have to work hard. Its always hard to learn new skills. I was out of school several years myself and when I went back I want to tell you it was hard to get back into the routine. And don't get a little discouraged if the first few weeks that you don't quite hit it as good as you want to, just remember that even Mickey Mantle doesn't do too well in Spring training. It takes a pretty good man to get tuned up for the main event. Now its difficult to teach these new skills. And you are going to have to face up to the fact that you are really at
the experimental level. It's sort of like being the first child. You know, mothers aren't used to children, until they have had at least one. And if you are the first child there is a lot of experimentation done. And this is one of the first camps, and you are going to get a little experimenting. And you are going to help others that come along.

Now, we are going to ask your help in helping solve these problems here. Now the question is when you leave here, have you really learned something. Have you found the experience to be valuable. The best that we can provide for you, I should say, will be provided for you I should say, will be provided. This business and university cooperation and cooperation with government, and further that that may I say that this government and this great economy is determined to keep this country moving ahead economically. So that when you leave here, that you are going to walk out into an economy where there are jobs for your trade. There is no use talking about a job if you are not trained. You can't work in a filling station unless you know how to read and write and arithmetic, or if you are let me know what station you are working at because I sure would like to go there with the bill. You need to know how to do things. One of the great needs in modern education, is to teach young people how to do something. It used to be that they learned it at home, father ran a general store, or a blacksmith shop, or a machine shop or a barber shop or a drug store as my dad did, so I learned a vocation from dad. Today you can't have that opportunity, because most of our fathers work for somebody else, you know, they won't let me bring my boys up to the Congress. Not even if I don't pay them. Because they suspicion that you are, you know. No its more difficult now, and that's why I think education today must concentrate, on the practical aspect of learning how to do something. Not just being a sort of a general overall critic of the
the arts and the humanities. That's wonderful, I believe in that too, I believe that enriches life, but let me tell you something you are better off to know how to get a pay check and very few people get a pay check by just looking at murals or looking at the beautiful wonders of nature unless you are writing for newspapers. If you learn how to be a good journalist, you may write about that. But you are going to have to know how to run that barber shop, how to do, as was said by Mr. Geniene, work in the culinary field, how to work at a station, to do automotive repairs, how to do all of the many things that American needs today and this American economy by the way is becoming a service economy. More and more people are needed in the service, not the armed services, but in the services, the repair businesses, the taking care of the great plants of America, and homes of America.

So I think you are going to have quite a time here, and I am going to be very frank with you again, I think that this is the most exciting age in the world, in which to live. I, it won't do much good to belly ache about the condition, that's putting it on the line to you, it won't do much good to gripe about this. Grippers find very few listeners. And pretty soon you get pretty tired of listening to yourself. The fact of the matter is that this is a brand new world. I don't know if its a better one than the old one but its a new one and its a different one. Its a world in which science is working miracles, its a world in which we are going to explore the universe and the cosmos. Its a world in which machines are changing every day. Its a world of automation. And its a world of space and a world of atomic energy. Its a world of miracles and medicine, its a world of opportunity, and you live in the best country on the face of the earth. You live in a place where people are on the move and all I can say is join the march. Get on the move with them, but if you are going to get on the march get in step, and be
sure that you know what's going on. And the whole purpose of the Job
Corps Training Center is to give people the opportunity to get in rhythm
and
to get in harmony with what is going on in this great/wonderful America.
And I think that America is going to be a whole lot better a year from
now than it is today. I think that America will be a lot stronger and
a year from now
richer/than it is today, and why, because first of all we are going to
strike down these barriers that have limited opportunity. We are making
great forward movements in the field of human relation. We are opening
up the doors of opportunity. There will be more young people trained,
there will be more young people educated, there will be more business firms
that have social consciences, that has been exemplified here today. So
to
all that I can say/you Job Corpsmen, good luck, give it all you got, do a
good job and may you prove to yourself that you have what it takes; and
if you prove to yourself that you have what it takes, you have proven to
America that America has what it takes.

Thank you very much.