

THE FRONTIERS OF KNOWLEDGE

*Address by HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
Vice President
United States of America*

*Delivered at formal opening of
new Engineering Center
General Dynamics
Electric Boat division
Groton, Connecticut
October 31, 1966*

THE FRONTIERS OF KNOWLEDGE

By HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

I couldn't help but note that we have a very fine representation here of all the public officials who serve this vast area of the United States, this highly important area of the northeastern part of our country in this State of Connecticut. I want to talk to you today about this company, this great scientific and engineering and technological resource that is the Electric Boat division of General Dynamics, one of the outstanding corporations of our great America.

Just a very few months ago, in July, Mrs. Humphrey came up here to christen the WILL ROGERS. That visit made the Humphrey family a submarine family. We have a little replica of the WILL ROGERS at our home. It's now our ship and we're going to follow her fortunes in the years to come with a deep and personal interest. I'm delighted to be here today at the place where the WILL ROGERS was built, and I'm more delighted to be with the fine people who built her.

You here at the Electric Boat division are the heirs of a great shipbuilding tradition. Somewhat more than sixty-six years ago your predecessors delivered the world's first practical submarine to the United States Navy — just sixty-six years ago. Only a few days ago, I stood in the auditorium of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington and noted that only

*Additional copies of this address can be obtained
from the Public Relations Department
General Dynamics
Electric Boat Division
Groton, Connecticut 06340*

five years ago America's first space flight was made by John Glenn, and that capsule of his is today a museum piece, which indicates the rapidity of change in our society. After only seventeen years my fellow Americans, the first computer is today a museum piece in the Smithsonian Institution. The computer has revolutionized the modern industry, the weapons systems and, indeed, is in the process of becoming even a management tool that makes the decisions for management itself.

IN the years since the first submarine was launched you've launched 250 submarines to serve this nation in war and in peace, including the first nuclear powered submarine and the first Polaris missile firing submarine.

These are great accomplishments and I'm happy to say that I served in the Congress at the time we made the decision for the nuclear submarines, and I was one of those that believed it was possible and practical, not because I knew anything about nuclear power or submarines, but because I trusted those that had the vision and the engineering know-how.

But, I think, your greatest achievement is in designing and building the first weapon system in man's history that was developed to prevent war rather than to wage it, and that system is the Polaris submarine. It stands guard in many seas today to prevent the outbreak of war. It is inconceivable to me, and I hope it is inconceivable to any potential adversary or adversaries, that a decade ago the idea of a submarine capable of launching a ballistic missile from beneath the surface of the sea was

only an idea. Yet it advanced from an idea to reality in a short period of time thanks to the development of nuclear power and to the skills and the efforts and the dedication of the Polaris team.

MY friends, one of the great senators from this state, Brian McMahon, was indeed a pioneer in the whole concept of nuclear power and isn't it appropriate that nuclear powered ships — nuclear powered submarines, should come from Connecticut? I think of that good man many times and he's honored you by his memory and his services.

The **GEORGE WASHINGTON**, the first of the Polaris submarines, was started here in February 1958. The ship was commissioned in a little less than eighteen months — that's an unparalleled record of accomplishment. It showed the world what we can achieve. In the years since the **GEORGE WASHINGTON** joined our fleet in the closing days of 1959 we have improved and refined the Polaris.

THAT first submarine fired a missile with a range of 1,200 miles. Our latest submarines can fire a missile twice the distance — 2,500 miles. A new, more advanced weapons system, the Poseidon, will have greater range, greater payload, and will pose a greater threat to aggression and a greater deterrent to the aggressor. Let me once again underscore that peace is not always attained by the wishing for it, but having the strength to sustain it. In other words, peace through strength is more than a slogan. In the world in which we live, my friends, pray-

ers for peace, and I advocate them, need to be coupled with strength for peace. I advocate both because that's the only way that I know, through the application of reason, compassion, judgment, prayer, and development and strength, that you can maintain peace.

Now there are other things that we expect from our submarine force. We face a challenge on the seas and we're a maritime people. We are a sea power. We must have a submarine force capable of overcoming any challenge of our command of the oceans. In time of war we cannot afford a disruption of commerce or allow any limitation to be placed upon our ability to move men and material over sea lanes, and remember this: that the mobility of American power is one of the sure guarantees of a peaceful world today.

The best answer to this mobility is the submarine capable of seeking out and destroying any challenger and you're building that kind of a submarine now which we hope will never have to be used. One such vessel was launched here just recently. I refer of course to the PARGO. Many of you recall on June 3rd 1964 that President Johnson came to Groton to lay the keel of that vessel, and his words on that occasion stand to me like a sermon to the American people. He said:

"We are a nation of peaceful people. We have stated time and time again that all we seek for all of the world is peace — peace built on freedom and mutual respect among men and nations. But common sense dictates that peaceful purpose must be supported by peaceful power. There are those

who oppose freedom and security. They seek by fear and subversion to thwart man's hopes for peace. Yet they do not understand our motives for peace. We must be sure that they do not misunderstand our means of power."

I BELIEVE that's a lesson and a message that every American would do well to understand. Our ultimate power, however, even beyond this military power, is our desire, or is in our desire and our efforts, to give every human being the right of dignity, of self-respect; the chance to earn a living to the best of his or her ability.

We have an example here because General Dynamics was one of the original signatories of the Plan for Progress. American businesses answer to equal employment opportunity for all persons, without regard for race, creed, color, or nationality. And it pledged to give every American an equal opportunity to do a job.

The result is here a workforce that represents a real cross section of our wonderful America. In this new building we have practically every scientific and engineering discipline represented, with qualification to do the job at hand the only standard and the only regard. We have scientists, engineers and designers of many races, creeds, and nationalities — but working as Americans.

In the shipyard, too, we have nearly 3,000 men who hold jobs because of the skills they have acquired or improved under the Manpower Development Training Act.

Don't tell me these programs don't help. They do. Ask the person who had some help from the program. These men are now better able to help themselves and their families and their communities through the improved ability to earn a better living, to make a greater contribution to their country, and to lead a happier life.

And because we have these new and better skills, we have new and improved capabilities in undertaking the job which must be done — the exploration and the conquest of the oceans.

THOUGH the Electric Boat division is primarily engaged in the design and construction of military submarines, it has also a far reaching interest in the development of under-sea research vehicles. As Chairman of the new Marine Science Council this is of great importance to me.

The sea represents the vast unexplored area of the earth. It's an area that holds great promise, however, a great promise of wealth as we seek it. It represents 70% of the earth's surface. The seas represent an area that hold the promise of danger if we ignore them, for others are seeking the secrets of the deeps — certain in knowledge that they will be as vital as the secrets of space in the years ahead. We're not going to ignore this challenge.

In fact, we're reaching out to meet it here because right now the Electric Boat division is designing and building NR-1, the first nuclear powered research submarine for the United States Navy. With the unlimited endurance of

nuclear power, NR-1 will have a capability unmatched by any research vehicle now in operation or envisioned. It will put America at the head of the line in deep sea research.

THIS task is only natural for the shipyard.

It built the research submarine Asherah. It built the research submarine Aluminaut, the first all-aluminum vehicle, and it has built and is operating its own research submarines, Star II and Star III, which have already performed useful scientific work for government and private industry. The shipyard is now designing and building two deep-diving specialized research submarines for the U. S. Navy, known as Autec I and Alvin II. These are two-man vehicles that can dive to 6,500 feet and provide us with vast new knowledge.

Because we're going to have to feed God's children from the seas in a large part, we're going to learn a great deal about the wealth of the seas. We're going to mine the ocean floors. We're going to learn about the control of the temperature from the sea. Because, more than any other known factor on the face of the globe, the waters of the seas determine the conditions of weather and atmospheric environment. And, this is knowledge that we need to develop and to have.

Now the road ahead is going to be difficult for we are seeking to push ahead the frontiers of knowledge, both in space and under the seas. Now, we've undertaken difficult tasks before, and I can only weigh that the difference between a great country and an ordinary country

is the ability to do what some people think is impossible, and we've done that. Let me end therefore, by a quotation. A quotation that I think tells the story:

"At every crossway on the road that leads to the future, each progressive spirit is opposed by a thousand men appointed to guard the past."

THERE are always those who say you can't do it. There are always those that say, no-no, not now, go slow, wait awhile. There are always those that say, well — we used to do it the other way — let's continue. And if we had listened to those voices, there would have been no Polaris. Had we listened to those voices, there would have been no nuclear powered submarines. Had we listened to the voices that guard the doors of the past, we wouldn't have any America. So, I suggest to those of you who have been so brave as to stand in this rather cool and wintry breeze, that let us never for a moment guard the past. Let's open up the gates to the future, because America is a nation that belongs to tomorrow. It has given much to the yesterdays, but it is a nation of tomorrow and generations yet to come; and thank God that I have a chance to live in such a nation. And, I know that you join me in saying, you couldn't ask for a higher privilege.

Pres Genl Dynamics = Roger Lewis
Pres Elect Boat → J. William Jones
REMARKS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

ELECTRIC BOAT DIVISION

GENERAL DYNAMICS

GROTON, CONNECTICUT

OCTOBER 31, 1966

A few months ago Mrs. Humphrey came here to christen the WILL ROGERS.

This made us a submarine family. The WILL ROGERS is now our ship--- and we will follow her fortunes in the years to come with a deep personal interest.

I am delighted to be here today at the place where she was built but I am more delighted to be with the fine people who built her.

You are the heirs of a great shipbuilding tradition. Somewhat more than 66 years ago, your predecessors delivered the world's first practical submarine to the United States Navy.

ATCH Hi band
Mayer Hillman
Sharp
Mallone

Sen Ribicoff
Bill St. Onge

Sen Dodd

Lt. Gov Dooey
uncommitted
colleges

Gov Dempsey

Computer 17
John Glen 5 yrs

Cerimon
XII
Nov 9

↳ In the years since, you have launched 250
submarines to serve this nation in war and peace, including
the first nuclear - powered submarine and the first Polaris
missile-firing submarine.

↳ These are great accomplishments.

But your greatest achievement is in designing
and building the first weapons system in man's history
that was developed to prevent war, rather than to wage war.

↳ That is the Polaris submarine.

↳ It is inconceivable to me, and I hope inconceivable
to ~~our~~ potential adversaries, that a decade ago the idea of
a submarine capable of launching a ballistic missile from
beneath the surface was only an idea.

↳ Yet it advanced from idea to reality in a short
development of nuclear power and to the
period thanks to the skills, the efforts and the dedication
of the Polaris team. The GEORGE WASHINGTON, the first
Polaris submarine, was started here in February 1958.

↳ The ship was commissioned in a little less than 18 months, an unparalleled accomplishment that showed the world what we could achieve.

↳ In the years since the GEORGE WASHINGTON joined the fleet in the closing days of 1959, we have improved and refined the Polaris.

↳ That first submarine fired a missile with a range of 1,200 miles.

↳ Our latest submarines can fire a missile twice the distance -- 2,500 miles.

Po-Si-Don ↳ A newer, more advanced weapon system, the POSEIDON will have greater range, greater payload, and will pose a greater threat to aggression.

↳ But there are other things that we expect of our submarine force.

↳ We face a great challenge on the seas.

↳ We must have a submarine force capable of overcoming any challenge of our command of the oceans.

*We are a
Sea Power*

↳ In time of war we cannot afford any disruption of our commerce or allow any limitation to be placed on our ability to move men and materials over sea lanes.

↳ The best answer to this is the submarine capable of seeking out and destroying any challenger. You are building that kind of submarine now.

↳ One such vessel was launched here just recently. I refer, of course, to the PARGO.

↳ Many of you will recall that on June 3, 1964, President Johnson came here to Groton to lay the keel for that vessel.

His words on that occasion hold true today:

"We are a nation of peaceful people. We have stated time and time again that all we seek for all the world is peace --- peace built on freedom and mutual respect among men and nations. But common sense dictates that peaceful purpose must be supported by peaceful power. There are those who oppose freedom and security. They seek by fear and subversion to thwart man's hopes for peace. Yet they do not understand our motives for peace, we must be sure that they do not misunderstand our means of power."

↳ Our ultimate power --- even beyond our military power --- is in our desire and our effort to give every human the right to dignity and the chance to earn a living to the best of his ability.

Human Power

↳ We have an example here. General Dynamics was one of the original signatories of the Plan for Progress.

↳ It pledged to give every American an equal opportunity to do a job. The result is that the work force here represents a true cross-section of America.

↳ In this new building, we have practically every
scientific and engineering discipline represented, with
" qualification to do the job at hand " the only regard and standard.

↳ We have scientists, engineers and designers
working as Americans.

↳ In the shipyard, too, we have nearly 3,000 men who
hold jobs because of skills they acquired ^{or improved} under the
Manpower Development Training Act. These men
are now better able to help themselves and their communities
through an improved ability to earn a better living and
lead a happier life.

↳ Because we have new and better skills, we have
new and improved capabilities in undertaking a job
which must be done -- the conquest ^{of the oceans} of the oceans.

↳ Though the Electric Boat Division is primarily engaged in the design and construction of military submarines, it also has a far-reaching interest in the development of undersea research vehicles and, as chairman of the new Marine Sciences Council, this is of first-hand importance to me.

Space
+
Oceanography

The seas represent the last unexplored area on earth. It is an area that holds promise of wealth if we seek it.

Over 70% Earth's Surface

↳ It is an area that holds promise of danger if we ignore it, for others are seeking the secrets of the deep, certain in the knowledge that they will be as vital as the secrets of space in the years ahead.

↳ We are not ignoring this challenge problem. We are meeting it.

Right now, the Electric Boat Division is designing and building NR-1, the first nuclear powered research submarine for the United States Navy. With the unlimited endurance of nuclear power, NR-1 will have a capability unmatched by any research vehicle now in operation or envisioned.

↳ This task is only natural for the shipyard.

↳ It built the research submarine, ASHERAH.

↳ It built the research submarine ALUMINAUT,

the first all-aluminum vehicle.

↳ It has built and is operating its own research submarines STAR II and STAR III which have already performed useful scientific work for government and for private industry.

↳ The shipyard is now designing and building two deep-diving specialized research submarines for U. S. Navy, known as AUTEC I and ALVIN II. These ² two-man vehicles will dive to 6,500 feet and provide us with new knowledge of the ocean.

↳ This is knowledge we must have.

↳ The road ahead will be difficult for we are seeking to push ahead the frontiers of knowledge, both in space and under the seas. We have undertaken many difficult tasks but to those who would defer to difficulty, I can only quote Baron Maeterlinch who wrote:

"At every crossway on the road that leads to the future, each progressive spirit is opposed by a thousand men appointed to guard the past."

So, let us move on to the future, certain in hope and certain that in God's good time it is our own.

#####

Alou 8

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY'S SPEECH

AT DEDICATION OF NEW ENGINEERING BUILDING

OCTOBER 31, 1966

Thank you. Thank you very much, Congressman St. Onge, President Lewis of General Dynamics and the President of Electric Boat Company, Mr. William Jones, my esteemed associates in the U. S. Senate, Senators Dodd and Ribicoff, Lt. Governor Fred Doocy, the Presidents and representatives of colleges and universities that are here with us today and may I say just a word of greeting to these good Mayors. I- somebody checked the political pedigree and I notice that Mayor Mallove is outnumbered two to one by Mayor Gillman and Mayor Sharp, but Mr. Mayor we'll hope and pray for them and I think it will all work out fine. I miss our good friend Governor Dempsey today but he is a busy man and I extend through him to you my warm greetings on this chilly Minnesota afternoon. Very frankly, when I got up here to talk I said- I think I'll take off my coat, I feel rather warm. You know we have two seasons up home, 4th of July and winter and right now we sort of consider it the 4th of July season but those that are in the back row are the ones that are taking the brunt of the wind, those of you that are in the middle, I spent most of my political life, undoubtedly you are a little warm and those up front will just have to endure what comes.

I couldn't help but note that we have a very fine representation here of all of the public officials that serve this vast area of the United States, this highly important area of the northeastern part of our country in this state of Connecticut. I am glad to see, however, that the Commissioner of Police is a good Irishman by the name of Mulcahy that sort of keeps everybody else in line. They always rely upon those good folks. They keep themselves in line and others too and that's helpful.

I want to talk to you today about this company, this great scientific and engineering and technological resource that is the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics, one of the outstanding corporations of our great America.

Just a very few months ago, in fact it was a much more pleasant day than this, in July, Mrs. Humphrey, my Muriel, came up here to christen the WILL ROGERS and I have already told Mr. Jones and President Lewis that it took me at least two months to get her back to understanding what regular living is like. They spoiled her, they treated her beautifully, royally and told her that this is the way that a good husband ought always to treat a wife, and I hope that I can do the same for both of you fellows some day.

But I can tell you this -- that that visit made the Humphrey family a submarine family. We have a little replica of the WILL ROGERS at our home--it's now our ship and we're going to follow her fortunes in the years to come with a deep and personal interest and I'm delighted to be here today at the place where the WILL ROGERS was built and I'm more delighted to be with the fine people who built her, and I'm so happy that the name was WILL ROGERS. You just have to bear with me because if you didn't know it, he was a Democrat, and I just can't skip the chance to say it. You ought to know that was the risk you were taking on an occasion like this. But, I'll get to a Republican name a little later, so don't worry.

Now you here at the Electric Boat Division are, as has been indicated, the heirs of a great shipbuilding tradition. Somewhat more than sixty-six years ago, as President Lewis said, your predecessors delivered the world's first practical submarine to the United States Navy--just sixty-six years ago. Only a few days ago, I stood in the auditorium of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington and noted that only five years ago America's first space flight, John Glenn, and that capsule of his is today a museum piece which indicates the rapidity of change in our society. Only seventeen years ago, my fellow Americans, the first computer which today is a museum piece in the Smithsonian Institution. The computer has revolutionized the modern industry, the weapons systems and indeed in the process of becoming even a management tool that makes the decisions for management itself. Well in the years since the 66 that the first submarine was launched. You've launched 250 submarines to serve this nation in war and in peace, including the first nuclear powered submarine and the first Polaris missile firing submarine. These are great accomplishments and I'm happy to say that I served in the Congress at the time we made the decision for the nuclear submarines and I was one of those that believed it was possible and practical, not because I knew anything about nuclear power or submarines, but because I trusted those that had the vision and the engineering know how, but I think your greatest achievement is in designing and building the first weapons system in man's history that was developed to prevent wars rather than to wage it and that system is the Polaris submarine. It stands guard in many seas today to prevent the outbreak of war. It is inconceivable to me and I hope it is inconceivable to any potential adversary or adversaries that a decade ago the idea of a submarine capable of launching a ballistic missile from beneath the surface of the sea was only an idea yet it advanced from an idea to reality in a short period of time thanks to the development of nuclear power and to the skills and the efforts and the dedication of the Polaris team. My friends, one of the great senators from this state, Brian McMahon, was indeed a pioneer in the whole concept of nuclear power and isn't it appropriate that nuclear powered ships--nuclear powered submarines should come from Conn. I think of that good man many times and he's honored

you by his memory and his service. Well, the GEORGE WASHINGTON, the first of the Polaris submarines, was started here in February 1958. The ship was commissioned in a little less than 18 months - that's an unparalleled record in accomplishment. It showed the world what we can achieve. In the years since the GEORGE WASHINGTON joined our fleet in the closing days of 1959 we have improved and refined the Polaris.

That first submarine fired a missile with a range of 1,200 miles. Our latest submarines can fire a missile twice the distance--2,500 miles. A new, more advanced weapon system, the Poseidon, will have greater range, greater payload, and will pose a greater threat to aggression and a greater deterrent to the aggressor. Let me once again underscore that peace is not always attained by the wishing for it, but having the strength to sustain it - in other words, peace through strength is more than a slogan. The world in which we live, my friends, prayers for peace, and I advocate them, need to be coupled with strength for peace. I advocate both because that's the only way that I know through the application of reason, compassion, judgment, prayer, and development and strength that you can maintain peace.

Now there are other things that we expect from our submarine force. We face the challenge of the seas and we're a maritime people. We are a sea power. We must have a submarine force capable of overcoming any challenge of our command of the oceans. In time of war we cannot afford a disruption of commerce or allow any limitation to be placed upon our ability to move men and material over sea lanes and remember this that the mobility of American power is one of the sure guarantees of a peaceful world today. The best answer to this mobility is the submarine capable of seeking out and destroying any challenger and you're building that kind of a submarine now which we hope will never have to be used. One such vessel was launched here just recently. I refer of course to the PARGO. Many of you recall on June 3rd 1964 that President Johnson came to Groton to lay the keel of that vessel and his words on that occasion stand to me like a sermon to the American people. He said:

"We are a nation of peaceful people. We have stated time and again that all we seek for all of the world is peace -- peace built on freedom and mutual respect among men and nations. But common sense dictates that peaceful purpose must be supported by peaceful power. There are those who oppose freedom and security. They seek by fear and subversion to thwart man's hopes for peace. Yet they do not understand our motives for peace. We must be sure that they do not misunderstand our means of power" - end of quote.

I believe that's a lesson and a message that every American would do well to understand. Our ultimate power, however, even beyond this military power, is our desire or is in our desire and our efforts to give every human being the right of dignity of self respect, the chance to earn a living to the best of his or her ability and we have an example here because General Dynamics was one of the original signatories of the Plan for Progress. American Businesses answer to equal employment opportunity for all persons without regard for race, creed, color or nationality. And it pledged to give every American an equal opportunity to do a job. The result is here a work force that represents a real cross section of our wonderful America. In this new building we have practically every scientific and engineering discipline represented, with qualification to do the job at hand the only standard and the only regard. We have scientists, engineers and designers of many races, creeds and nationalities but working as Americans. In the shipyard too we have nearly 3,000 men who hold jobs because of the skills they have acquired or improved under the Manpower Development Training Act. Don't tell me these programs don't help. They do and ask the person who had some help from the program. These men are now better able to help themselves and their families and their communities through the improved ability to earn a better living, to make a greater contribution to their country and to lead a happier life. And because we have these new and better skills, we have new and improved capabilities in undertaking the job which must be done--the exploration and the conquest of the oceans. And though the Electric Boat Division is primarily engaged in the design and construction of military submarines, it has also a far reaching interest in the development of undersea research vehicles and, As Chairman of the new Marine Science Council and that's a new assignment that Senator Dodd and Senator Ribbicoff and Congressman Bill St. Onge gave to me. This matter of marine research is of first hand importance to me and I want to say that Bill St. Onge that you served on the House Marines Committee. You have been a great help in advancing a whole new era of research and technology called oceanography. It's an old one, but taking on new deminsions, and my fellow Americans, you'll be interested to know that everytime the Congress gives the Vice President an assignment, its either Chairman of the Space Council, which puts me out of this world; or Chairman of the oceangraphic council which puts me at the bottom of the sea. Now I don't know if you can read anything into that or not, but I do. Now the sea represnets

Now the sea represents the vast unexplored area of the earth. Its an area that holds great promise however, and a great promise of wealth as we see it. If represents 70% of the earths surface. I told the President not long ago, I said Mr. President I know you have the most important job in the world, you're President of these United States. But I want you to know that I have the job of being Chairman of the Seas - 70%. That didn't go over very big there either. Now the seas represent an area too that hold the promise of danger, if we ignore

them, for others are seeking the secrets of the deeps-the depth of the seas, certain in knowledge that they will be as vital as the secrets of space in the years ahead, and we're not going to ignore this challenge. In fact, we're reaching out to meet it right here because right now the Electric Boat Division is designing and building NR-1, the first nuclear-powered research submarine for the United States Navy. With the unlimited endurance of nuclear power, NR-1 will have a capability unmatched by any research vehicle now in operation or envisioned. It will put America at the lead at the head of the line in deep sea or deep ocean research. This task is only natural for the shipyard. It build the first research submarine Asherah. It build the first research submarine Aluminaut, the first all-aluminum vehicle, and it has built and is operating its own research submarines Star II and Star III which have already performed useful scientific work for government and private industry. The shipyard is now designing and building two deep-diving specialized research submarines for the U. S. Navy, known as Autec I and Alvin II. These are two-man, two-man vehicles that can dive to 6,500 feet and provide us with vast new knowledge of the ocean.

Because, we're going to have to feed God's children from the seas in a large part. We're going to learn a great deal about the wealth of the seas. We're going to mine the ocean floors. We're going to learn about the control of the temperature from the sea. Because, more than any other known factor on the face of the globe, the waters of the seas determine the conditions of weather and atmospheric environment. And, this is knowledge that we need to develop and to have.

Now, the road ahead is going to be difficult for we are seeking to push ahead the frontiers of knowledge, both in space and under the seas. And the most interesting part of my work, as your Vice President, is to be Chairman of these two activities. I'm a layman - I claim no professional knowledge, but I surely claim a great interest and believe me, what a fascinating experience. Now, we've taken under - undertaken difficult tasks before, and I can only say that the difference between a great Country and an ordinary Country is the ability to do what some people think is impossible, and we've done that. Let me end therefore, by a quotation. A quotation that I think tells the story "At every cross-road on the road that leads to the future, each progressive spirit is opposed by a thousand men appointed to guard the past."

There are always those who say, you can't do it. There are always those that say, no - no, not now, go slow, wait awhile. There are always those that say, well, - we used to do it the other way - let's continue. And if we had listened to those voices, there would have been no Polaris. Had we listened to those voices, there would have been no nuclear powered submarines. Had we listened to those voices we would not have been

exploring as we will on the November 9th with Gemini 12 outerspace. Had we listened to the voices that guard the doors of the past, we wouldn't have any America. So, I suggest to those of you who have been so brave as to stand in this rather cool and wintry breeze, that let us never for a moment guard the past. Let's open up the gates to the future, because American is a nation that belongs to tomorrow. It has given much to the yesterdays, but it is a nation of tomorrow and yet generations to come; and thank God that I have a chance to live in such a nation, And, I know that you join me in saying, you couldn't ask for a higher privilege. Thank you very much.



Minnesota Historical Society

Copyright in this digital version belongs to the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, link to, or email content, however, for individual use.

To request permission for commercial or educational use, please contact the Minnesota Historical Society.



www.mnhs.org