

REMARKS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

VETERANS DAY

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CEMETERY

NOVEMBER 11, 1965

~~We meet today to honor brave men and deeds.
We enjoy the freedom their valor won.~~

On this resting ground of American heroes,
we meet to examine the lessons of war *and responsibilities of Leadership.*
We meet to commemorate a day of peace.

When a nation sends its young men to war,
it must be sure indeed that the cause is worth the
terrible cost.

In this century young Americans have given
their lives in two world wars -- and in conflict since --
for a noble purpose: The cause of a just and lasting
peace.

Commander Borg

Mr. Driscoll

REMARKS

Genl Herrick

Mr. Chief Justice

Secretary Fowler

Captain Donlon

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

VETERANS DAY

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CEMETERY

NOVEMBER 11, 1965

Distinguished
Guests, Ladies &
Gentlemen.

WE MEET TODAY TO HONOR BRAVE MEN AND ^{their} DEEDS.

WE RECALL THE SCENES OF THEIR COURAGE AND SACRIFICE

-- THE ARGONNE AND BELLEAU WOOD, NORMANDY AND

GUADALCANAL, HEARTBREAK RIDGE AND DA NANG. WE

ENJOY THE FREEDOM THEIR VALOR WON -- THE FREEDOM

THEIR COURAGE GUARDS TODAY.

Have we learned the lessons of this century
so that peace may finally be secured?

When World War I ended 47 years ago today,
it seemed that anything but ^{lasting} peace was unthinkable.

But the peace of World War I was lost when
the free and strong nations of the West closed their
eyes to international bullying in other places. It
was lost when large nations justified the sacrifice
of small nations to those playing the game of willful military
power.

↳ Today we know that World War II began not
in 1939 or 1941 but in the 1920's and 1930's when
those who should have known better, persuaded
themselves that they were not their brothers' keepers.

IT IS NOW TWENTY YEARS SINCE THE END OF WORLD WAR II.

THESE HAVE NOT BEEN YEARS OF GENUINE PEACE.

THESE HAVE BEEN THE YEARS OF THE COLD WAR.

THANKFULLY, THEY HAVE BEEN YEARS DURING WHICH THERE HAS BEEN AN ABSENCE OF WORLD WAR.

BUT, THERE CONTINUES TO BE AGGRESSION AND DESPOTISM IN THE WORLD. AND, OFTEN WITHOUT BENEFIT OF FULLEST HONORS AND UNDERSTANDING, AMERICAN MEN ARE CALLED UPON TO RESIST AGGRESSION AND GIVE THEIR LIVES IN DISTANT PLACES FOR THE DREAM OF WORLD AT PEACE IN FREEDOM.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON HAS REMINDED US OF -- "THE CLEAREST LESSON OF OUR TIME. FROM MUNICH UNTIL TODAY WE HAVE LEARNED THAT TO YIELD TO AGGRESSION BRINGS ONLY GREATER THREATS AND BRINGS EVEN MORE DESTRUCTIVE WAR. TO STAND FIRM IS THE ONLY GUARANTEE OF A LASTING PEACE."

THE DANGER OF WAR -- NUCLEAR WAR -- TORMENTS MANKIND. BUT THAT WAR HAS NOT OCCURRED BECAUSE, IN THESE YEARS, WE HAVE CONSCIOUSLY AND DEVOTEDLY WORKED TO WIN THE PEACE.

WE HAVE DARED TO STAND FIRM AGAINST THOSE WHO WOULD TERRORIZE THEIR NEIGHBORS.

↳ We have extended the hand of cooperation to both the strong and weak, the rich and poor of the world.

↳ We have come to realize that anything that happens on this planet can and does affect us all,

↳ We have learned that there is no place to hide in a world which grows smaller day-by-day.

↳ In Greece and Turkey, in Berlin, in Korea, in Vietnam, we have stood with other nations against aggression when those places could have been sacrificed as was the Sudetenland -- and with the same probable end result.

Through the Marshall Plan, Point Four, the United Nations, the NATO alliance, the Organization of American States and other international agencies and programs, we have made known our commitment to the

interdependence of nations and international
cooperation.

↳ Through the maintenance of powerful military
forces we have demonstrated our ability to meet
aggression. Through patient and sometimes painful
negotiation we have shown our determination to halt
the arms race and control the atom.

But, above all, we have fulfilled the responsibility
of leadership.

↳ We have not waivered. We have not turned
inward. We have not withdrawn from the world.

And we will not.

↳ We know that mankind can destroy itself in one
horrible nuclear holocaust.

∟ We know that one more totalitarian military adventure, one more exercise in international irresponsibility, can obliterate what man has created through the ages.

∟ But, there are those who would have us turn away from the lessons of this century.

They plead, as others have ~~plea~~ before, that mankind's plight in other places need not be our concern. ∟ We hear -- even in Western nations scarred by centuries of war -- the appeals of those who would turn modern nations away from interdependence and international cooperation. These voices must be rejected. Theirs is the counsel of despair and defeat.

∟ Today in Vietnam we reaffirm our knowledge of the lessons of war.

As our President has said: "There are those who wonder why we have responsibility there . . . we have it for the same reason that we have a responsibility for the defense of Europe."

↳ We are not in Vietnam to establish any American colony or base. We are not there to enrich ourselves or to subjugate others to our will.

We are in Vietnam to keep a commitment established by international treaty.

We are there because, once again in history, it must be proved to aggressors that the price of their aggression comes far too high.

↳ The aggression we face in Vietnam is not one in which massed armies attack across national frontiers.

↳ It is one in which the battlefield is often the homes of men. It is one in which the innocent suffer to the pain of all of us.

↳ The aggression in Vietnam is one which deals in organized assassination and terrorism yet masks itself as a "war of liberation." ↳ It is waged by hard and callous men who seek to prove that force and Communist militancy can win the future — by men convinced that democratic societies are soft and weak and unable to meet their form of warfare,

↳ To these, we say: Do not be misled. Do not misunderstand the processes of a free society. Do not mistake our respect for the right of dissent for internal division or lack of resolve.

↳ We will remain in Vietnam until a just and lasting peace can be established there.

At the same time we shall now -- and after establishment of that peace -- dedicate ourselves to creating conditions which will enable all the people of Vietnam, North and South, and all of Southeast Asia to look forward to a tomorrow without danger of attack, without hunger, and with social justice and security.

There are times when American power must be used -- when there is no alternative in face of determined aggression.

But military power alone will not provide stability and security unless it is accompanied by political, social and economic effort -- and the promise to the people of a better life. And thus we work with the Vietnamese people toward that goal.

~~No~~ peace will not come through military victory alone. Nor will peace come by good intention. Peace comes to those who earn it . . . work for it . . . sacrifice for it.

∟ Peace will be won only through the untiring practical efforts of this generation and others to follow -- efforts to improve the conditions of man's life.

∟ It will be won only when all men realize that they share a common destiny on this planet.

∟ Peace will be won when starvation, ignorance and injustice are eradicated from a world which has the resources to defeat them.

∟ There is no alternative to peace. Let us pursue it with perseverance and patience.

Four years ago John Kennedy stood in this place to give this message:

"There is no way to maintain the frontiers of freedom without cost and commitment and risk. There is no swift and easy path to peace in our generation . . . We cannot save ourselves by abandoning those who are associated with us, or rejecting our responsibilities."

Today his body lies in this place among others who have given their lives so that this lesson might be clear. Today that lesson is not lost.

Let us ^{then} prepare ourselves for long and hard burdens ahead. Let it be written in history that in this time the lessons of history were heeded.

Today we heed the words of Lincoln, who hated war but waged it for the cause he knew was just:

"With malice toward none, with charity for all,
with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the
right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in."

Let it be written that, *in our time, as in deep past,*
when man's freedom was
threatened, there were free men willing to give their
lives to preserve it. ~~THE AMERICAN~~

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- ✓ Mr Chief Justice -
- ✓ Secretary Fowler
- ✓ Captain Donlon
- ✓ Distinguished guests, Ladies and
Gentlemen!

REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY, VETERANS DAY,
ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CEMETERY, NOVEMBER 11, 1965

We meet today to honor brave men and deeds. We enjoy the freedom their valor won.

On this resting ground of American heroes, we meet to examine the lessons of war.

We meet to commemorate a day of peace.

When a nation sends its young men to war, it must be sure indeed that the cause is worth the terrible cost.

In this century young Americans have given their lives in two world wars -- and in conflicts since -- for a noble purpose: The cause of a just and lasting peace.

Have we learned the lessons of this century so that peace may finally be secured?

When World War I ended 46 years ago today, it seemed that anything but peace was unthinkable.

But the peace of World War I was lost when the free and strong nations of the West closed their eyes to international bullying in other places. It was lost when large nations justified the sacrifice of small nations to those playing the game of willful power.

Today we know that World War II began not in 1939 or 1941 but in the 1920's and 1930's when those who should have known better persuaded themselves that they were not their brothers' keepers.

It is now twenty years since the end of World War II. These have not been years of peace. They have been years, rather, during which there has been an absence of world war.

There continues to be aggression and despotism in the world. And, often without benefit of fullest homage, American men continue to sacrifice their lives in distant places.

The danger of war -- nuclear war -- torments mankind. But that war has not occurred because, in these years, we have consciously and devotedly worked to win the peace.

We have dared to stand firm against those who would terrorize their neighbors.

We have extended the hand of cooperation to both the strong and weak, the rich and poor of the world.

We have come to realize that anything that happens on this planet can and does affect us all.

We have learned that there is no place to hide in a world which grows smaller day-by-day.

In Greece and Turkey, in Berlin, in Korea, in Vietnam, we have stood with other nations against aggression when those places could have been sacrificed as was the Sudetenland -- and with the same probable end result.

Through the Marshall Plan, Point Four, the United Nations, the NATO Alliance, the Organization of American States and other international agencies and programs, we have made known our commitment to the interdependence of nations and international cooperation.

Through the maintenance of powerful military forces we have demonstrated our ability to meet aggression. Through patient and sometimes painful negotiation we have shown our determination to halt the arms race and control the atom.

But, above all, we have fulfilled the responsibility of leadership.

We have not waivered. We have not turned inward. We have not withdrawn from the world. And we will not.

We know that mankind can destroy itself in one horrible nuclear holocaust.

We know that one more totalitarian military adventure, one more exercise in international irresponsibility, can obliterate what man has created through the ages.

But, there are those who would have us turn away from the lessons of this century.

They plead, as others have pled before, that mankind's plight in other places need not be our concern. We hear -- even in Western nations scarred by centuries of war -- the appeals of those who would turn modern nations away from interdependence and international cooperation. These

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voices must be rejected. Theirs is the counsel of despair and defeat.

Today in Vietnam we reaffirm our knowledge of the lessons of war.

As our President has said: "There are those who wonder why we have responsibility there . . . we have it for the same reason that we have a responsibility for the defense of Europe."

We are not in Vietnam to establish any American colony or base. We are not there to enrich ourselves or to subjugate others to our will.

We are in Vietnam to keep a commitment established by international treaty.

We are there because, once again in history, it must be proved to aggressors that the price of their aggression comes far too high.

The aggression we face in Vietnam is not one in which massed armies attack across national frontiers. It is one in which the battlefield is often the homes of men. It is one in which the innocent suffer to the pain of all of us.

The aggression in Vietnam is one which deals in organized assassination and terrorism yet masks itself as a "war of liberation." It is waged by hard and callous men who seek to prove that force and Communist militancy can win the future -- by men convinced that democratic societies are soft and weak and unable to meet their form of warfare.

To these, we say: Do not be misled. Do not misunderstand the processes of a free society. Do not mistake our respect for the right of dissent for internal division or lack of resolve.

We will remain in Vietnam until a just and lasting peace can be established there.

At the same time we shall now -- and after establishment of that peace -- dedicate ourselves to creating conditions which will enable all the people of Vietnam, North and South, and all of Southeast Asia to look forward to a tomorrow without danger of attack, without hunger, and with social justice and security.

There are times when American power must be used -- when there is no alternative in face of determined aggression.

But military power alone will not provide stability and security unless it is accomplished by political, social and economic effort -- and the promise to the people of a better life . And thus we work with Vietnamese people toward that goal.

No, peace will not come through military victory alone. Nor will peace come by good intention. Peace comes to those who earn it . . . work for it . . . sacrifice for it.

Peace will be won only through the untiring practical efforts of this generation and others to follow -- efforts to improve the conditions of man's life.

It will be won only when all men realize that they share a common destiny on this planet.

Peace will be won when starvation, ignorance and injustice are eradicated from a world which has the resources to defeat them.

There is no alternative to peace. Let us pursue it with perseverance and patience.

Four years ago John Kennedy stood in this place to give this message:

"There is no way to maintain the frontiers of freedom without cost and commitment and risk. There is no swift and easy path to peace in our generation . . . We cannot save ourselves by abandoning those who are associated with us, or rejecting our responsibilities."

Today his body lies in this place among others who have given their lives so that this lesson might be clear. Today that lesson is not lost.

Let us prepare ourselves for long and hard burdens ahead. Let it be written in history that in this time the lessons of history were heeded.

Today we heed the words of Lincoln, who hated war but waged it for the cause he knew was just:

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in."

Let it be written that, when man's freedom was threatened, there were free men willing to give their lives to preserve it.

Transcript - Veterans Days, November 11, 1965
Arlington Memorial Cemetery.

It is our good fortune that we have with us today one of the most eloquent of these leaders, the Vice President of the United States.

Thank you very much Commander Borg. Mr. Driver, General Herrick, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, Secretary Fowler, Members of the President's Cabinet, Captain Donlin, we surely once again pay honor and justified tribute to you distinguished guests and my fellow Americans. What a magnificent, beautiful and yet somber surroundings we have today.

We meet today to honor brave men and their brave deeds. We recall the scenes of their courage and their sacrifice -- the Argonne, Belleau Wood, Normandy, Guadalcanal, Heartbreak Ridge, Da Nang. We enjoy today the freedom their valor won and the freedom that their courage guards today. On this beautiful resting ground of American heroes, we meet once again to examine the lessons of war and the responsibilities of leadership. We meet to commemorate a day of peace. When a nation sends its young men to war, it must be sure indeed that the cause is worth the terrible cost. In this century, young Americans have given their lives in two great world wars and in conflict since for a noble purpose -- the cause of a just and a lasting peace. But, we must ask ourselves -- have we learned the lessons of this century so that peace may finally be secured?

When World War I ended 47 years ago today, it seemed that anything but a lasting peace was unthinkable. But the peace of World War I was lost when the free and the strong nations of the West closed their eyes to international bullying in other places. It was lost when large nations -- strong nations justified the sacrifice of small nations -- yes, weak nations to those playing the game of willful militaristic power. Today, we now know that World War II began not in 1939 or even 1941, but rather in the 1920's and the 1930's when those who should have known better persuaded themselves that they had responsibility for no one else and that they were not their brothers' keepers.

It is now 20 years -- a full generation since the end of World War II. These have not been years of genuine peace. They have been the years of what is termed the "Cold War." Thankfully, yes prayerfully thankfully, they have been years during which there has been an absence of world war. There continues to be aggression and despotism in the world. And, often without the benefit of fullest honors, national and international understanding, American men are called upon to resist aggression and to give their lives in distant places for the dream of a world at peace in freedom.

President Johnson has reminded us of the clearest lesson of our time in his own words: "From Munich until today, we have learned that to yield to aggression brings only greater threats and brings even more destructive

war. To stand firm, is the only guarantee of a lasting peace." The danger of war--nuclear war torments mankind. But, that war that we have every right to fear and be justly concerned about has not occurred because in these years we have consciously, sacrificially and courageously, devotedly worked to win the peace. We have dared to stand firm against those who would terrorize their neighbors. We have extended the hand of cooperation to both the strong and the weak, the rich and the poor of the world. We have come to realize that anything that happens on this planet can and does affect us all. We have learned that there is no place to hide in a world which grows smaller day by day.

In Greece and Turkey, in Berlin, in Korea, and now in Viet Nam, we have stood with other nations against aggression when those places could have been sacrificed as was the Sudetenland and with the same probable result.

Through the Marshall Plan, Point Four, the United Nations, the NATO Alliance, the Organization of American States, and other international compacts, agencies and programs, we have made known our commitment to the interdependence of nations and international cooperation and through the maintenance of powerful military forces, the most powerful in the world. We have demonstrated our ability to meet the naked aggression. Through patient and sometimes painful negotiation, we have shown our determination ---yes, our will and desire to halt the arms race and to control the atom.

But, above all my fellow Americans, we have fulfilled the responsibility of leadership. We have not waivered. We have not turned inward. We have not withdrawn from the world and we will not. We know that mankind can destroy itself in one horrible nuclear holocaust. We know that one more totalitarian adventure, one more exercise in international irresponsibility can obliterate what man has created through the ages. But, even knowing this, there are those who would have us turn away from these lessons of history -- the lessons of this century. They plead as others have before them that mankind's plight in other places need not be our concern. We hear even in Western nations, scarred by centuries of war, that the appeals of those who would turn modern nations away from interdependence and international cooperation. These voices must be rejected. Theirs is but the counsel of despair and defeat. Today in Viet Nam we reaffirm our knowledge of the lessons of war. As our President has said: "There are those who wonder why we have responsibility there . . . We have it for the same reason that we have a responsibility for the defense of Europe." We are not in Viet Nam to establish any American colony, sovereignty or base. We are not there to enrich ourselves or to subjugate others to our will. We are my fellow Americans in Viet Nam to keep a commitment -- a word of honor established by international treaty and we are there because once again in history it must be proved to the aggressors that the price of their aggression comes far too high. The aggression we face in Viet Nam is not

one which many of the men in uniform -- World War I and World War II may have known. It is not one which massed armies attack across national frontiers, it is one in which the battlefield is often the homes of men -- the villages, the streets. It is one in which the innocent suffer to the pain of all of us. The aggression in Viet Nam is one which deals with organized assassination, terrorism -- yet masks itself as a "war of liberation." It is waged by hard and callous men who seek to prove that force -- brute force and communist militancy can win the future by men convinced that democratic societies -- our society are soft and weak and aren't able to meet their form of warfare. To these we say today, tomorrow and the days to come, "Do not be misled. Do not misunderstand the processes of a free society. Do not mistake our respect, our tolerance for the right of dissent for internal division or lack of resolve."

We will remain in Viet Nam until a just and a lasting peace can be established there. At the same time, we shall now and after the establishment of that peace, dedicate ourselves to creating the conditions which enable all the people of Viet Nam -- North and South, and of all Southeast Asia to look forward to a tomorrow without the danger of attack, without assassination and subversion, without hunger and a tomorrow with social justice, with freedom and security.

My fellow Americans there are times when American power must be used when there is no alternative in face of determined aggression. But, military power alone will not provide stability and security unless it is accompanied by political, social and economic effort and the promise to the people of a better life. And thus, we work hand in hand with the Vietnamese people towards that goal of a better life. No, peace will not come through military victory alone, nor will peace come by good intention. Peace comes to those who earn it, who work for it, who live for it, die for it and sacrifice for it. Peace will be only won through the untiring practical efforts of this generation and others to follow, efforts dedicated to the improvement of the conditions of man's life. It will be won only when all men realize that they share a common destiny on this planet. Peace will be won when starvation, ignorance and injustice are eradicated from a world which has the resources now to defeat them. There is no alternative to peace and it is to this noble objective that this nation has been dedicated from its birth. So, let us pursue that objective with perseverance and patience.

Four years ago, the late and beloved President John F. Kennedy stood in this place to give this message. His words are so relevant to this day and hour. There is no way said President Kennedy to maintain the frontiers of freedom without cost and commitment and risk. There is no swift and easy path to peace in our generation. We cannot save ourselves by

abandoning those who are associated with us, or rejecting our responsibilities. Today his body lies in this place among others who have given their lives so that this lesson which he so beautifully articulated from this very platform might be clear to each and everyone of us this hour. May we say to those we honor today and to our last President that lesson is not lost.

Let us then prepare ourselves for long and possibly hard and difficult burdens that lie ahead. But, let it be written in history that in this time the lessons of history were heeded.

Today we hear the words of the immortal Abraham Lincoln who like every president, and I believe every American, hated war but waged it for the cause that he knew was just. His words are a credo for everyone of us -- a standard to which we can rally -- a pledge to friend and foe alike, with malice towards none, with charity for all. With firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive -- strive on to finish the work that we are in. Let it be written then in our time, as in days past, when man's freedom was threatened there were free men willing to give their lives to preserve it.



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