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May Kelly CHICAGO, ILLINOIS mayn Jaley Your Excellency, Monsignor, Reverend Clergy, Sector, Batter and my friends of the CYO: I am deeply honored to receive this award, in four both - I hope I may 6 "For God and Youth." Vierophoth blessed bythe young people of CYO exemplify what is right with the youth of America. You are our builders of the future. You will uphold our nation's best traditions and practice good citizenship and civic responsibility. V Broting my calle agas - Eugen Me Coth I follow Murturus speakers TFK +8 Colym Horan Root Kannely - Harry Trumm + Richar

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June 1

We are a young country. And we are getting younger all the time. The average age of the signers of the Declaration of Independence was 45. And that includes Ben Franklin, who was 70 at the time. Thomas Jefferson was only 33 when he drafted the Declaration.

Today the average age of a United States Senator is less than 58. The average Representative is about 50. And the average newcomer to the Congress is 44. The youngest Senator is 32; the youngest Representative,

25.

Today more than half of the electorate is less than 35. And by 1966, more than half of our population will be less than 25.

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Today's young people -- as students and as citizens -- are meeting their responsibilities in carrying that burden.

A poll in a national news magazine recently asked American students how far they would go -beyond mere talk -- to support a cause in which they believed. Some 93 per cent said they would sign a petition -- 72 per cent had already done so. Some 87 per cent said they would contribute money --58 per cent had already done so. Forty-three per cent were even ready to go to jail. - Volunten Jeneration More than 10,000 young volunteers are now serving in the Peace Corps. Another 3,000 have already returned after tours of duty. But most significant, more than 100,000 have asked to take part in the bold and imaginative experiment.

When VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America -the domestic Peace Corps) was launched, more than
3,000 inquiries were received from young people on
the first day of business.

No fewer than one-quarter of the members of our armed services are under twenty years old.

But Young Americans today live in a world that has the capacity to destroy itself. And they know that the detonators are in the hands of the older generation.

Yet they have responded not by turning selfishly inward, but by personal involvement in the world around them.

They have, far better than the older generation, grasped

the facts of our time.

We no longer live safe in our continental refuge.

There is no place to hide. There is no security in isolation.

While our nation enjoys the greatest prosperity in history, and possesses unequaled power, we also live in mounting danger and uncertainty.

Z The world is filled with disorder, violent change, yes, revolution.

We must face the fact that there are modern weapons which can destroy the civilized world in a half-hour's time.

We must face the fact that two-thirds of the world is poor, hungry, and sick, -- and the gap between the rich nations and the poor nations widens each year.

These restless, poor and yet proud people demand, by whatever means, something better. This two-thirds of the world is the target for those who promise quick and easy solution to old and complex problems.

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We must learn the techniques of defeating the new tactics of aggression.

But we must also learn this truth: The mere existence of deep poverty in the world is not only unjust -- it is an invitation to freedom's destruction.

And we must realize that this gigantic task of helping others to help themselves, of resisting aggression and protecting freedom can only be sustained if America, the leader of free nations, is powerful and united.

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I know that the vast majority of American young people are united in support of this nation's policies of commitment to the world -- and, specifically, our present role in Vietnam.

I am proud that CYO has endorsed them.

Others disagree.

Criticism and debate are vital to a democracy.

Nobody denies anyone the right to take issue with the policies of his government.

But the right to be heard does not automatically include the right to be taken seriously. The latter depends upon what is being said.

I salute those young people who not only dissent, but who by the logic and substance of their argument have compelled the citizens of America to pay attention to their views -- to take them seriously.

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Humanity's plea is for peace. Pope Paul dramatized this plea during his historic pilgrimage to the United Nations. And he spoke for all mankind when he told the UN delegates: War never again . . . If you wish to be brothers let the arms fall from your hands."

President Johnson has said the most important word in the world is "peace," We must pursue peace to the end of the earth or face the end of the earth.

But, my friends, we cannot have peace by retreating from our commitments and obligations, We cannot obtain peace be delivering up the people of small or weak nations to tyranny and terror. We cannot have peace by walking away from communist threats or acts of aggression. Certainly, by now, we should have learned the lessons of the past. My generation witnessed the sacrifice of whole countries in an effort to satisfy totalitarian appetite -- and only succeeded in whetting that appetite. The result was that war was not averted -- it was made certain.

I think that nations can come together to settle their differences around a conference table rather than a battlefield. But the way to peace — the way to avoid the awful alternative of nuclear destruction — can never be to placate aggressors or fail to live up to our commitments.

The pursuit of peace is an act of courage and resistance to aggression is the duty of free men.

I have faith in you and in your future. You are not complacent. You do not seek your own security. You are filled with a spirit that says: Change what is wrong by doing what is right . . . give of yourself . . . be involved . . . be committed . . . do not be satisfied with mediocrity . . . take part in life.

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President Johnson has said: "We are grateful for the progress that we ourselves have achieved. We are pleased and we are determined to press forward -- not for our gain and greatness alone, but rather for the gain and the good of all mankind everywhere." It is in this spirit that I call on you today: Have no little dreams. Make no little plans. Reach for the Do not be satisfied with things as they are. Be remembered, as Toynbee says, not for crimes or even astonishing inventions, but as the first generation to dare to make the benefits of civilization available to all mankind.

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REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY, AT THE CYO CONVENTION, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, NOVEMBER 13, 1965

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