

Transcript of Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey's remarks at
Pacific Lutheran University Convocation, Sept. 29, 1966, Tacoma, Wash.

President Mortvedt and members of the faculty of Pacific Lutheran and the distinguished members of this panel and particularly to you, Terry -- I see that you're running strong in this constituency, and very lovely and gracious Mrs. Hicks who is with us and by the way you're so pretty, why don't you just stand up and add a little extra beauty to this stage. I've always thought well of Floyd and I like his judgment as to his ladies, and I was very happy that Jean could join me this morning to be here at Pacific Lutheran University.

Now the best way to have a Meet the Press is for the victim to permit the victimizers to start to work at once on the subject matter. I would like to extend a greeting to each and every one on this college campus. I noticed that your President is of very fortunate background. He's a graduate of St. Olaf College out in Minnesota -- he had a very good start in life. He went along a little later to a small Eastern school by the name of Harvard and now is out to this grand and wonderful University as your President and as your school administrator. I noticed as I was shaking hands with the members of the faculty a number of former Minnesotans. There seems to be a substantial number of people here with Scandinavian backgrounds. I want to join with you. I always say, "My fellow Scandinavians and fellow Minnesotans and that covers most of the people in the State of Washington. The idea of the cultural exchange program started here. We sent these people from Minnesota to Washington and you haven't sent many back. I must say, you're very difficult to deal with. But my Norwegian grandfather would be happy to know that I'm out here at Pacific Lutheran University right now, and my Norwegian mother who was born in Norway will be very happy when I tell her about it this weekend when I'm going to be seeing her. So now that I've said that, that should kind of cushion the blows that come. I thought possibly if I associated myself with you, why -- however, I don't notice too many Scandinavian names along here. I think they stacked this panel against me. All right, Terry, who don't we start with you."

(Mr. Terry Oliver, Student Body President, Pacific Lutheran University.)

Thank you, Mr. Vice President. On your present tour, you have encountered several reactions against our military involvement in Viet Nam. Now, in your opinion, why are these American citizens reacting so strongly against the policy of the United States in Viet Nam and do you feel there is any validity in their reaction in light of our policy there?

I do find that a few who are militant in their opposition to our policy in Viet Nam, and I want to underscore the fact that it is a very few. They receive a disproportionate amount of publicity as most people do that do things that are a little counter to the grain of what appears to be the majority. You have an accident on the highway and you get your picture in the paper, but the 50,000 cars that got home safely, nobody ever says anything about them--they just make it and they got home and had their dinner. I go to these university campuses. I address audiences of 10 - 15,000 students and there will be 25 that are carrying placards and the 25 get four columns and the 15,000 get that much. Now, that's

the unusual part of it. I'm not saying that news is not news. Don't misunderstand me, but I think the time is at hand for candor. I do not think that the noise of a minority indicates the opinion of a majority. I do feel that it is certainly the right of a minority of one to stand up and be heard. I do feel that the right to be different, the right to dissent, is a precious right, but I also think that with it goes some obligations. It isn't only a matter of disagreeing with what we're doing--it's also a matter of presenting some plausible alternatives.

Now, to get back to your question. I can say that there are very few that are militantly opposed to our policy. I think that some of those who are militantly opposed to our policy have been militantly opposed to a lot of things. I think there are some amongst our youth who join in these protests just because they like to join in protests--I did myself, and if you don't have a little protesting in you when you're at your age, you won't have much when you're older, that's for sure. You know in my days on the campus at the University of Minnesota, I was in a few movements that, on occasion, made a speaker stand up and take notice, but there's a difference between what I call having the right to disagree and the right to just be plain disagreeably disagreeing. You don't have to be disagreeable to disagree. You can do it with a great deal of good manners and with a good deal of thought.

So, Terry, my own view is that most people in America are unhappy about any war. They ought to be. War is a dirty business, and the American people are essentially a peaceful people. But I think that most of the American people according to every indication of public opinion sampling either support what is now our policy or, frankly, want it to be a little tougher, and the job that your President has is to try to restrain the emotions of the American people so that we do not push this country further into a struggle running dangers that came from escalation. We seek to bring to bear that amount of power which is necessary for the achievement of our limited objectives. We're not seeking to conquer North Viet Nam; we're not seeking to destroy Communist China; we're not seeking conquest of anybody. What we're seeking to do is to convince the North Vietnamese that their front called the National Liberation Front which was organized in Hanoi in 1959 and which is neither national nor liberating and the only honest word is that it is a front, that that organization ought to stop its subversion and if the North Vietnamese who are Army regulars who are in South Viet Nam by the thousands be withdrawn and the aggression should cease and as an expression of our concern about this and our desire to arrive at a peaceful settlement, Ambassador Goldberg has said that we're prepared for a cessation of hostilities at any moment; we're prepared to suspend bombing of the North whenever the North Vietnamese are prepared to stop their infiltration of the South and we're prepared to come to a conference table to meet with anybody, discuss the possibilities of a negotiated settlement. I think that mainly the American people support the Administration's policy and indeed would possibly, some of them, maybe want to go a little further.

(Miss Pamela Hammack, Clover Park High School)

Vice President, with the price of living going up and the recent fall of the stock market, it seems evident that the United States economy is heading toward inflation. What preventive measures is the Administration taking to stop this trend toward inflation?

There isn't any doubt but what there are some inflationary pressures in this economy, and the Administration has been well aware of it and also has taken what we think are necessary actions. This is a very delicate economy, very delicate. It is an economy that is going at high rates; it's intense; it has a high velocity; it's industrial capacity is being strained. The steel labor force is fully employed with the exception here and there of a dislocation due to some technological change. The gross national product is approximating \$750 billion. We're working under great pressure in this economy. Yet, we've had steady growth for 68 months with an average annual economic growth of around 5 percent which is double what we had the preceding decade and while there are inflationary pressures, the economy is essentially healthy and why do I say that--because first of all, there is relatively full employment. Secondly, the economic productivity of American industry continues to improve. There is no lag in the productivity increase. It goes at the rate of about 3 to 4 percent per year in the basic industries. Improvement in productivity. Wages are good. Profits are still very good. Dividends are good and while there have been fluctuations in the market, basically the market conditions are far better right now than they have been if you average them out over the past five years. The market is much better than it was on the last five-year average. I don't think we ought to look upon our economy as one that today is the victim of inflation.

I think we ought to make a comparison here. A man like myself and your President of this University, any of us that have any responsibilities and we get along about our age, we work hard, we go take a physical exam and the doctor says well you're in good shape, for a man of your age, they generally add, I might add, but once in awhile you'll even find a friendly doctor who will say oh, your vascular system, your heart is as good as a man of 25 or 30 years of ago. You're in good shape. But, he'll say, now look, don't overdo. There's a limit. Watch the diet a bit. Get a reasonable amount of rest. Don't push yourself constantly. Now, that doesn't mean that you're ready for the mortician. It just means that it's a matter of self-discipline that one ought to exercise which most of us don't and I surely don't do it nearly enough myself. But, basically you're healthy and all that the doctor was saying to you was take it a little easy on occasion. Watch yourself; don't overdo; don't push too hard.

This is really what we're saying about the economy. The economy is basically very good. There are jobs galore. This, class, for example, this student body right now, the graduating class, they'll be in here asking you to come to work. When I graduated, I was begging for a job. They're begging to get you on the job. There's a tremendous opportunity today. So, the economy is in essentially good shape. Now, let me give you one fact. The lady, Pamela, asked about the cost of living. The cost of living went up from 1956-1961 one point higher than it has gone up from 1961 up to July 30, 1966. The cost of living, and that's what people--housewives and workers--think about in other words, the price of the things that he or she tends to buy, went up one percent more in the five years from 56-61 than in the years from 61-66. In the meantime, in the previous five years, from 56-61, there were two recessions that took a terrible economic toll, there was as much as 7-1/2 percent of our work force unemployed as of January, 1961. The country was in the doldrums and we paid out an unbelievable price in loss of wages and productivity of our factories. So, I would only point out, that if this weren't an election year, you maybe wouldn't hear quite so much about this word inflation as you do--not to underestimate its seriousness. But let's make honest comparisons and I repeat my comparison--five years from 56-61 the cost of living index went up one percent more than from 61-66 and I'd rather have what I call good employments, good wages, good profit,

high economic activity in 61-66 than to have had fluctuating employment, unemployment, relatively low gross national products, relatively lower profits and dividends which you had from 56-61. Now, we're taking some steps. Where the great problem that we face today is in what we call capital expenditures for new equipment, new plants, new buildings, big commercial buildings, the rate of investment in capital equipment is very high and it absorbs the money. It takes the money out of the mortgage market. It takes the money out of the loaning market for consumer goods and so we have imposed a -- we've asked the Congress to suspend the investment tax credit which was a bill that was passed some years ago that aided industry in expanding its investments. We've asked the Congress to slow down the rapid write-offs, what we call depreciation allowances, to slow the rate of those down. We have imposed some new taxes, we imposed some new excise taxes in the first session of the 89th Congress. We stepped up the rate of withholding taxes. There's been an imposition of additional Social Security taxes. We've pulled out of this economy approximately \$10 billion of tax revenue most of it from Social Security purposes, but this has a tendency to dampen down the fires of inflation; so I would say to Pamela that if we exercise any kind of reasonable self-discipline, I think industry and labor is showing good sense in that, there's really a good record. To be sure there have been some wage increases--as much as 5 percent. But, most wage increases today have related to productivity increases and a wage increase that relates itself to productivity increase is not inflationary because productivity takes care of the additional amount of income that comes to the worker.

(Mr. Bill Brown, University of Puget Sound)

Mr. Vice President, a recent proposal by the Communist bloc countries to the General Assembly of the United Nations requested the dissolution of the United Nations committee for the Reunification of Korea. What is the Administration's stand on this proposal and how would its adoption affect our military and political interests in South Korea?

Well, the United States, of course, has had as a national position for some time that there ought to be free elections in Korea. We believe in free elections, and we have supported the Commission for Reunification feeling that the people in Korea would like very much to have one country instead of divided countries. We believe that divided countries, essentially, are dangerous in the long run just as a divided Germany and a divided Viet Nam and a divided Korea pose some danger. But, in the meantime, if that Commission is unable to succeed, we shall continue to support very strongly the government of South Korea and the economy of South Korea. One of the most helpful, better signs in Asia today, one of the most comforting signs, is the breakthrough of economic progress in South Korea. A few years ago, Korea was static and stagnant in terms of its economy. Right, now, I've been in Korea twice this past year, and our leading economists and members of the World Bank and others tell us that Korea is now on the verge or threshold of the greatest breakthrough economically of any country of Asia save Japan and it's beginning to move, and so we're going to do two things: we're going to continue to assist Korea and we only give her modest economic assistance. We shall continue to keep our treaty obligations with South Korea, to defend her frontiers against Communist aggression and the probing of Communist attacks, and we shall also continue to support the Commission for the Reunification of Korea under free elections internationally supervised. The interesting thing about the Communist movement is that it never really wants any free elections. Its never won a free national election in all of its history. I think young people ought to know that. There have been one billion

people that have gained their freedom in the last 20 years in the world and 70 new nations in the last 20 years and the Communist party and the Communist movement haven't captured a single one of the 70 new nations--not one. Whatever power they have been able to extend has been by force not by ballot. They have had no national elections that they have ever won in all of the history of the Communist movement. Is it any wonder that they frown upon free elections and is it any wonder that they never want any elections that are internationally supervised to be properly conducted.

(Mr. Steve Harshman, Franklin Pierce High School)

Mr. Vice President, just how effective has our Peace Corps program been in our relations with other nations?

Well, Steve, you brought a smile to my face. The Peace Corps program, I think, is the finest endeavor that this nation has ever made in the field of international cooperation. The Peace Corps is a non-political instrument of this Government. The Peace Corps goes to those countries at the invitation of those countries. The Peace Corps volunteers do not involve themselves in the politics of the countries. They maintain a neutrality; they're above the many factions and politics that take place in a particular country and we preserve that posture of the Peace Corps. It was my privilege to be the author of the Peace Corps in the United States Senate and to manage the bill and to hold the hearings. I introduced the Peace Corps proposal as a project in 1959, and we were able in the Foreign Aid Act of 1960 to get authorization in general language for a pilot project, and when President Kennedy was elected in 1961, or took office in '61, he utilized the legislative authority which was granted in the Foreign Aid Act for a pilot project to have the beginning of the Peace Corps, and it was my privilege to handle the Administration's bill in the Congress to establish the Peace Corps. We need Peace Corps volunteers; we need a constant flow of them. We like to maintain in the field at least 10,000 of these talented people in the Peace Corps. Most of the Peace Corps volunteers are young people, but not all of them. Some of them are retired; they've come back wanting to serve their country. There's a great opportunity to learn and a great opportunity to serve and I think the Peace Corps volunteer that gives two years to serve mankind is performing one of the most important acts in the steps toward peace that you can possibly perform. I'm one that believes that you don't get peace by asking for it, I don't think you get it by parading for it, I don't think you get it by wishing for it. I think you get peace by working for it, and it's like the building of a mighty cathedral--sometimes peace, which in a very real sense is man's highest achievement, not just the absence of war, but peace that is dynamic represents growth, creativity, and harmony amongst peoples and nations. That peace takes time to build. You build it through education, you build it through the Peace Corps; you build it through food for peace; you build it through international economic assistance; you build it through the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund and the International Voluntary Service and a host of other things. When I see young people, as I do, so concerned about peace, and they ought to be, because there's no generation that has more to lose than the young generation in a war and our concern and your concern over peace is a legitimate concern and you must continue to have that concern. But, I remind you that the man that sometimes makes the loudest noise about peace is doing the least about it. I'll tell you who is doing more for peace than all the peace paraders in America put together--one Peace Corps volunteer in India, one Peace Corps volunteer in Pakistan, one Peace Corps volunteer in the Dominican Republic--that person is doing more for the cause of peace than all the student

demonstrations put together because that person as a student is helping other people live a full life and to build a life that is enriched and to build a country that can make a contribution to the peace of this world. That's the way you ought to give your life to the cause of peace. Train yourself, educate yourself to remove bigotry and prejudice from your mind, learn about the world in which you live, volunteer for service at home and abroad in the world in which you live and you'll be making a real contribution to peace. We, thank goodness, have thousands of young people from our college campuses who have done this and every one of us ought to be grateful for those who have taken that extra step in the cause of peace. The Peace Corps is our best effort overseas.

(Mr. Michael Fuller, Tacoma Community College)

Mr. Vice President, recent articles in the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR have reported Mr. Shriver and Mr. Katzenbach as being opposed to a court test of the Constitutionality of the Administration's education programs from the standpoint of their being in violation of the Constitutional principles of the separation of church and state. The paper reported that the officials indicated that they would rather continue operating possibly unconstitutional programs than take the chance of hindering or preventing the carrying out of the programs. Would you comment on this matter and give your position in favor or opposed to a court test of the Constitutionality of these programs that involve Federal Aid to church-related schools?

Well, I didn't know that Mr. Katzenbach took that position and I surely didn't know that Mr. Shriver was involved in that--I doubt that he is. I am strongly for Federal Aid to Education, and I want to say that this very fine school right here receives a little of it through college dormitory loans and others. It is much needed. We have Federal Aid to Higher Education, Federal Aid to Secondary and Elementary Education, and I am primarily interested in the student. The first bill I ever voted on when I came to the Congress of the United States in January, 1949, was Federal Aid to Education. It didn't get anyplace--passed the Senate and they killed it in the House. Then we used to pass it in the House and they'd kill it in the Senate. They sort of gave it what I call the "Congressional Shuffle" and you always got out-shuffled. In the meantime, the school systems of America were being denied the resources that we needed. You know, this is the United States of America. Our citizenship is in the United States of America, first and then our citizenship is as a local citizen, a citizen in a state. This is one nation, they say, and they say it is under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all and you either mean it or you don't and there's one word or one passage in Scripture that ought to be held up to people all the time--"Woe to ye hypocrites." If you're hypocritical about one nation and if you're hypocritical about it being under God and if you're hypocritical about it being indivisible for goodness sakes quit talking about it. But I happen to believe it is one nation, I happen to believe there is one citizenship, I happen to believe that the reason that man is important is because he is a creature of God Almighty. I think this is what makes what we call human dignity. Otherwise, how could you believe that many people were very dignified unless you have this belief of faith and the one God and the family of man under that one God. Now, getting back to Federal Aid. We used to kid it off on racism. They used to say, well you can't do that. That will mean integration. That was one gang that ganged up on Federal Aid. Then the Supreme Court lowered the boom on them and the Congress finally acted to remove that kind of restraint, and ordinarily we killed Federal Aid on the issue of church and state and finally we found a way that we think is Constitutional for the Federal Government to aid the students and schools, elementary, secondary,

and higher education under our three acts--the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and Higher Education Act and we believe it is Constitutional, the deans of law schools believe it is Constitutional, and I voted for it thinking that it was Constitutional and I took an oath to uphold the Constitution when I became a member of the United States Senate. I haven't the slightest doubt but what it's Constitutional. Therefore, I haven't the slightest worry as to whether or not it is tested in the courts. I only want to say this--that I've been around in public life long enough to know how much delay you can get when you start wanting to test everything in the courts--not to get the decision but to get the delay. I've seen many things delayed and delayed and delayed by people who didn't want the decision, but who wanted the delay so if we could get a prompt Supreme Court decision where it could be quickly enacted, and by the way, the Senate has passed such a proposal as you know to provide for that kind of a court decision, I'm for it. But, if it's going to be one of these where you string it out for ten years in the courts and try to get an injunction on the use of Federal Aid to Education, I'm opposed to it because that's the old philosophy and that's got a little smack of Birch to it and a little smack of something else and I just don't like it. So, I'm a strong Federal Aid to Education man and if the courts get around to ruling on it, that's their duty. In the meantime, as a Senator I voted for it and I think I know as much about the Constitution as the court does--at least I thought I did when I voted because I took my oath that I would only support legislation that was Constitutional, so I wouldn't worry too much about that article. In the meantime, I'd try to get an education and get these schools built up and get our elementary schools built up and get our secondary schools built up. I haven't seen anything happening in America that's destroying the independence of our school systems because of Federal Aid and I don't think we've hurt the churches or particularly helped them by Federal Aid. I think everything's going along pretty good so let's stick with it.

(Mr. Jon Nakagawara, Stadium High School)

Mr. Vice President, how much progress has the government of South Viet Nam made in the drafting of their new constitution and how much aid did Professor John T. Roach give the South Vietnamese when he was in that country?

Whenever I hear the word "aid" I think it means money. Well, as you know, it was I believe on the 9 of September or the 10th day of September, around that period, that the elections took place in South Viet Nam for what is known as the Constituent Assembly, and that election was to choose from over 500 candidates about 100 Constituent Assemblymen who are required to write the new constitution for the Republic of South Viet Nam and to promulgate the new election laws for the purposes of the election of whatever form of government the constitution provides. There has been, as I recall, one meeting of that Constituent Assembly since then and that's rather good--we're still in the month of September. The election results were finally tabulated around the 20th, as I recall, of September and the first meeting was held, all of the elected members were present, the meetings are scheduled now on a regular basis until the Constituent Assembly prepares a written constitution and once that constitution has been prepared, it then provides that same assembly the type of an election law that will make possible the election of members of Parliament or Congress or whatever form of government South Viet Nam comes out with. I think that was a very important election, by the way. It was pooh-poohed in this country a great deal. I don't know what it is about us that we're so cynical. I can't understand it.

You know, if you read your own American history, you'd have reason to be a little more tolerant of others. This election in South Viet Nam was participated in by over 80 percent of the eligible electorate, that's number one; over 500 election officials were the victims of attack and terror by the Viet Cong. The Viet Cong said that that election had to be smashed; they threatened every person that went to the polls with death. They put out propaganda that said if you went to an election box, you would be sprayed with machine gun fire or killed with a hand grenade and they gave plenty of demonstrations that they meant it. You see, a year ago this last May there were provincial and municipal elections in Viet Nam. This went unnoticed by most of the American people. They elected their village leaders, their village consuls a year ago this last May and 70 percent of the eligible electorate in local elections participated. In that election the Viet Cong didn't take any interest. They didn't participate and they didn't take any interest and this election the Viet Cong and North Viet Nam made it an article of war so to speak. And number one, they said that nobody would vote, they said it was a phony that the Vietnamese wouldn't even go to the polls--that's where they started. Then they found out that wasn't the case, so the next thing they said is if the election officials tried to hold the election, they'd kill the election officials--they killed five of them in one week just to show that they meant it and then they terrorized and beat up and maimed 500 more just to show that they meant business and 83 percent of the eligible electorate the adult population of South Viet Nam voted, in any event voted in areas that are infested by the Viet Cong. The Communists suffered a greater defeat by the ballot than they've suffered thus far by the bullet and you may recall it was Abraham Lincoln who did say that the ballot had much more power and meaning and force than any bullet. So, this was a substantial victory and we'll go on I'm sure to see other victories in South Viet Nam. The South Vietnamese want to build a nation. May I just give you a little background here. They've had a thousand years of mandarin rule from the Chinese. They had a hundred years of French colonialism and they've gone through 26 years of constant war since 1946. It's a wonder that there's any society left at all. They need peace and they need it desperately. This country of ours knows that they must have it and we're prepared to fight to get it for them to help them but you cannot build a nation with somebody with a gun in your back--particularly when he starts shooting it about every other time he threatens you and that's exactly what's been going on in South Viet Nam. I'm going to give you a little American history. I'm sorry I don't have the exact part but your professor of history can get it and if you want to find out what happened to your own country, write the Library of Congress and ask them to give you as I did the Review of American Constitutional Government before we got the Constitution. The capitol of the United States changed eleven times from 1776 to 1789. During the Revolutionary War, the British were chasing the Continental Congress all over the lot. It was pretty hard to find out where they were. By the way, 1/3 of the total population of our fellow Americans in the Revolutionary War were Tories for the King. That's a lot more than any number of Viet Congers they have in South Viet Nam and they fought against the Revolutionary troops and they went to Canada, many of them, after the Revolutionary War. We didn't have it easy and we had to have one Constitution. We started to write the Constitution of the Articles of Confederation what was it in 1777 and we completed it in 1781. Think about our own Constitutional Convention. Over a hundred were invited, 55 came, 39 stayed, and 38 signed. That's our patriotic background. Thank goodness that that number stayed. The 55 men, but many more were invited and they weren't even elected, they were appointed and they were selected as a result of the Annapolis convention, a conference which was held about a year prior to the

Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia. They were supposed to come to the Constitutional Convention the first part of May. They didn't get there until about the 20th--I'm using round figures here, there's a day or two in between, and they didn't get around to completing the work on the Constitution until in September and when they got around to completing the Constitution, little Rhode Island wouldn't even sign and by the time they got around to finishing the writing of it, of the 55 who came 16 of them walked out and said they'll have nothing to do with it. And yet it's the greatest document ever struck off by the hand of man at any time in human history said Gladstone. So be a little remindful of your own history. And I'll tell you something else, remember that this country after it had its government had the whiskey rebellion, had the cessationist movement in the New England states in the 1800's. Remember that its first chief of staff under John Adams after George Washington was a traitor, was in the pay of the Spanish government. We had a lot of trouble. Now, if you'll just get a little deeper in history than Bunker Hill and the Boston Tea Party, if you'll really start to find out what it took to build this country and what used to happen in your own Congress and how we had elected our own Congress, you'll have a little more patience, I think, with other people who are trying to build their own country. Why, there was a time in the Congress of the United States that the lobbyists didn't stay in the lobby, they came in on the floor as they did in most state legislatures in the states of the United States. The lobbyists of some of the great industries of this country in the late 1800's and early 1900's they didn't wait to talk to their legislator outside in the cloak room, they went and stood right along side of his desk and said here's the way to vote. So, we have a little political background that would be well to study and if you do study your own political background, you'll have more patience and tolerance. I'll end up by saying this--I have a lot of fun when students come to my office, the Vice President's office, and I tell them a little bit about the capitol. Washington, D.C. wasn't always the beautiful city that it is now, believe me. It was once a mosquito infested swamp, and it is a fact that Mrs. Adams, Abigail, did hang out her laundry in the East Room of the White House, and it is a fact that Thomas Jefferson did get up to greet the British Ambassador and Thomas Jefferson was standing in his nightgown in the White House door. It is a fact that we weren't always so polite and we didn't always have deodorant and eau de cologne and detergents. It is a fact that we too once were a striving, underdeveloped nation with great rising hopes and rising expectations, and all I ask young Americans to do is to remember that many a nation today is struggling to become an adult nation, a mature nation and you have to have infinite patience. And I also want you to remember that we would never have been a nation if we hadn't had foreign aid, and, if you want to find out who died for this country sometime, go to Yorktown where we had the final battle of the British and most of the casualties were French. They were there and we received aid from the French and we didn't receive aid from Louis XVI because he loved democracy. We received aid from Louis XVI because he hated the British. And sometimes even in our foreign aid program, we occasionally extend aid for some political purposes and I know people hold their hands up in horror and say, "You shouldn't do that." Why not? You ought to be interested in your country. Of course, we sometimes deal with governments that we do not always cherish. We're not supposed to be in a position of constantly getting moral verdicts on everybody that we talk to. Had we done that we wouldn't have gotten a start in this country. I ask you to be idealists and realists and, if you're both, you know that when a nation is trying to build a nation, when the people of a nation are trying to build a nation, they need help and you'll know that when people are trying to build a nation after they've been under colonialism for a long time, it takes a long time to build that nation and the people in South Viet Nam today are building a nation despite the fact that they're terrorized,

that they're propagandized, that they're the victims of subversion, that they're victims of what they call the wars of national liberation, and the victims of French colonialism that's sapped their strength, and I must say that the American people of all the people on the face of the earth ought to be the most tolerant and the most understanding because we, too, were once a colony, and we launched the great revolution of this world. The Communists are no revolutionaries. They're a bunch of reactionaries. They do not revolt for emancipation, they revolt to be able to control. Their revolutions are designed to fix their despotism upon people. Our revolution was designed to remove a despotism from people. It isn't Karl Marx that excites the world, it's the Declaration of Independence and Thomas Jefferson and we are the legitimate revolutionaries of this world. And as such, we ought to understand that we have a great burden to carry--a great burden of help for others and patience with others.

(Mr. Terry Oliver, Student Body President, Pacific Lutheran University)
Thank you, Mr. Vice President. I understand our time is limited so one more brief question. Undoubtedly, one of the most important domestic endeavors of this administration has been the war on poverty. Could you briefly evaluate for us in terms of specific accomplishments this program?

Yes, it's about 2-1/2 years old. It's a war against man's most ancient enemy, one that no civilisation of today has ever been able to conquer; namely, poverty. The purpose of the war on poverty is not to make poverty more tolerable but to find ways of eradicating it or at least minimizing it. Its other purpose is to help people lift themselves out of the shadows of their life, out of their prisons which they find themselves locked by their illiteracy, their disease, their sense of hopelessness and despair. And we do have people that live like that in this great country. The war on poverty has already touched the lives of about 5 million Americans and helpfully. The war on poverty has offered thousands of young people the first chance they ever had for an education in our job corps centers and our neighborhood youth corps. In our work-study programs, of course, it has been very helpful. The war on poverty has given youngsters that are in the pre-kindergarten age the project Headstart. Thousands of these youngsters had the first chance they've ever had for some loving care, some medical attention, and some organized play and sociability. The war on poverty has brought in about 10,000 community leaders to the forefront in American community action under the Community Action Program. I think the war on poverty has made substantial progress, but I wouldn't be very frank with you if I didn't tell you that it has its serious limitations. But, it's like any other great effort that you make against intractable enemy. It's difficult to gain the victory. You know, we've been asking doctors for half a century to find the cure for cancer and one out of every five in this room will have cancer under present estimates as to the incidence of cancer and malignancy. Now, if that's the case, it's quite a serious problem and we ought to do something about it. So we pour in millions of dollars into research and we've been at it for 50 years, and, you know what, they haven't discovered the answer. Oh, they've found some things--some chemo-therapy, some drugs that retard it, they've found the use of certain types of radio-active materials that tend to have some effect on certain types of cancer, the use of cobalt, massive surgery. There are a number of things that we've discovered that have been helpful, but we have not been able to find out how to really cure cancer. Now, do you abolish the medical profession? Does the editor write an editorial and say that well, these doctors are just moon-doggers. Here they are, they've been at it for 50 years, we've given them billions of dollars and

they can't even find a cure for cancer. What kind of a doctor is that. As a matter of fact we haven't even found the cure for the common cold. No, we don't say that and we shouldn't say that. What we say is, "Doctor, doctor take more research, more laboratories, more funds. Go to it because one out of five of every one of the people in this land will be seriously afflicted and most likely die from it. So, we give more research funds, more technical assistance, more laboratories to doctors, to chemists, to the scientists, to the medical technicians, to the laboratory technicians who try to find answers to the disease of cancer.

Now, I want you to be as tolerant in the field of social science, because just as many people are locked into helplessness and hopelessness and sickness by poverty as they are by cancer, and the effect upon the human spirit is just the same. People used to just let them die from cancer 50 years ago. There was nothing we could do about it. Fifty years ago we thought the poor shall always be with us, but we found out that there is something we can do about it. We're beginning to find out that you can do something. We're finding out that if you can break that child, for example, out of that background and environment of welfare and relief and hopelessness and despair, out of the urban ghetto, and get him into a project called upward bound where he looks like he might be a potential school dropout but at the same time has potential ability and you can bring that student into this college for a few weeks or a few months and let that student associate with you, that student takes on a whole new outlook on life. He doesn't downgrade you, you upgrade him. We have found out that by bringing him into our great school system where there are gifted students, students that seem to be less than gifted don't downgrade the gifted; it lifts the others up. This is social experimentation. We're looking into whole new techniques of teaching and of motivation and incentive. I've been to the Job Corps Camps and I want to conclude on this one to you, and you know I've read all kinds of articles about Job Corps Camp and here's what they say: "Job Corps Camp Riots, Job Corps Boy in Accident in Town, Local Folks Do Not Like Job Corps." Well, I'll tell you about these Job Corps people. I've lived with many of them, I stayed with them time after time. Most people who write about them have never seen them and most people who write about them have little or no interest in them except as a story. I've gone to see them and here's what they are. They're young boys 16 to 20 or young women from 16 to 20 from broken homes, from miserable environments. They're all school dropouts, every one of them. They couldn't take it and nobody seemed to care, and if they cared they couldn't do anything about it. They're young people and most of them have never had a physical examination. They're young people, if you please, and most of them have never gone to a dentist. They're young people, most of them, who have been in a degree of trouble with the law and we bring them into a Job Corps center and what happens? For the first time they get a clean bed in which to sleep, they get wholesome food, they get their teeth checked, they get a physical examination, they get lessons in personal hygiene and personal care, and they learn a trade. They learn how to read and write. How would you like to go into a room as big as this and see 200 young men ages 18 to 19 that can't even recite the ABC's, and they've been in school, and they've been letting them go from one class to another because they didn't want to flunk them out, and there are teachers here who know that I tell you the truth. If you want to learn something about this program, go to San Mateo County down in the Bay area, go to some of the other great areas where we're trying to do something. I tell you, it brings tears to your eyes to see young men in America that can neither read nor write.

They couldn't get a job in a filling station, they couldn't get a job in a restaurant, they can't write the numerals, they can't add; and they're helpless, they're victims, they're cripples, they need rehabilitation and we're trying to rehabilitate them. Now what happens in a Job Corps Camp? Thirty percent of them that come in leave and that's what you hear about. The 100% that came in that left have left before they came in--have left some other place--all dropouts; 30% dropout the second time. The 70% that remained finished their course and now with our new employment program that we have, of the 70% that remain, 22% of them enlist after they come out with better physical condition, better health, and better education in the Armed Services. They enlist and the other percentage goes out and applies for jobs where companies hire them. I submit to you that that's saving a life and the greatest thing that any man can do is to save another man's life and the Government of the United States working with universities, working with industries, working with Westinghouse and General Electric, working with I.T. and T., working with a host of big manufacturing companies today is getting thousands, we're going to give this year 35,000 young men, it ought to be much more, 35,000 young men a chance to live a life.

I've been down to Albuquerque in the new women's Job Corps Center. I went and spent an afternoon with them and I asked them, "What is your favorite course?", and what do you think they told me? Personal hygiene and personal appearance. For the first time somebody cared, for the first time they wanted to look good, for the first time they were interested in their health and they were studying to be beauty parlor operators, and some of them were studying to be practical nurses, and some of them were studying for electronics and every one of them going to get a job. That's what the poverty program is doing and I know it hasn't done enough, but it's done a whole lot more than any of its critics, and I don't have much time for those critics that have no alternatives to offer. They're the ones that can walk by this boy or girl and care not, and any person who is worth his salt in this country should be one that is willing to extend a helping hand either privately or through a Government of the people, by the people and for the people. That's the way this Vice President believes and that's the way I believed when I was in the Senate.



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