

bombs. But we are not about to send American boys 9 or 10,000 miles away from home to do what Asian boys ought to be doing for themselves.

President Eisenhower said in 1954 to the Government of Viet-Nam, "President Diem, we want to help you help yourselves. We will give you advice, we will provide leadership, we will help you with material things, with your weapons and the things that you do not have, to protect your independence because we are so proud of our independence we would like for you to have independence, too, and not be swallowed up by the Communists."

We have been doing that for 10 long years under three Presidents. We have now some 18,000 men in Viet-Nam, officers and men, advising, counseling, leading them. We have a good deal of material that we have sent there, very costly to our taxpayers each month. The reports that come in are gloomy from day to day.

But we have a choice. We can seek a wider war. China is there on the border with 700 million men, with over 200 million in their army. And we could get tied down in a land war in Asia very quickly if we sought to throw our weight around. Or we could retreat and pull out and say "Goodby" to the rest of the world, that we are going to live on our own shores, and we would let Asia go to other people. But we don't seem to think that either of those alternatives is the wise decision.

We are going to continue to try to make these people more effective and more efficient, and do our best to resolve that situation where the aggressors will leave their neighbors alone, and they will finally learn to live together in peace as they have in other parts of the world.

So we are going to assist them against attack as we have. We will work to help

them achieve progress and self-confidence. We will not permit the independent nations of the East to be swallowed up by Communist conquest.

In the developing world, the great continents, other continents, that we are interested in—Latin America, Africa—we have only a single goal. What is that goal? America does not seek slaves or satellites. We do not seek domination or dominion. We only want those countries to live in freedom and independence. We want them to be strong enough to resist the aggressions of others. We want to help them meet the needs of their people for food and shelter and education.

These are some of the policies that we have followed. They are the policies we are going to continue to follow.

The White House has a very special atmosphere when great events are happening, as they happened all last week. As I sit in my office late in the evening, at night, I am very deeply conscious of the immense powers that this Nation commands.

So this great power cannot be put into the hands of those who would use it either impulsively or carelessly. We must constantly be deliberate, prudent, and restrained. Before we shoot from the hip, as Mr. Rayburn, the great political leader, used to say, the three most important words in the English language for everyone are, "Just a minute."

So let's say to the rest of the world that the world's hope for peace cannot be left with those who really have no faith in the possibility of a lasting agreement, and who really predict war. The future of man should not be entrusted to those who would tear down the institutions and policies which a threatened world has carefully built for its own protection.

That is our central concern. It is also the concern, I think, of a watching and worried

3 billion people in other parts of the world.

But we will not have peace just because we desire it, not just because we want it. There is only one road to peace, and that is to work at it, patiently, deliberately, wisely, step by step, year by year, never to become reckless, never to become weary of the journey and irritated with folks who may not agree with you the first time you talk to them. That is the course, I think, that we should follow, the course of the prophet Isaiah, "Come now, let us reason together."

Here are two great powers. When they put their thumb on the button, they can kill 100 million Americans in a matter of hours. When we move our thumb up on that button and sound the alarm, and the bell rings, we can kill 100 million Russians in a few hours. A total of 300 million people could be wiped out from daylight to dark.

But that is not the kind of world that you want to live in. So the prophet Isaiah says, "Come now, let us reason together."

And I say to all the world that we are a mighty power, but we don't brag about it and we don't throw our weight around. We have more strength and we are going to maintain it, at great sacrifice from our taxpayers. We have more strength than any other nation, more strength than all nations put together, and we are going to keep it. Our guard is always going to be up, but our hand is always going to be out.

The leadership, the responsible leadership, of both parties in this country—and I believe in the two party system. And that is why I so earnestly want every person to go and vote his convictions so all can see that there are not many people who approve the temporary captivity leadership of the present Republican Party of extremes. And we will be voting for a strong two party system on November the 3d.

When they pass on these extremists, the

men who booed others at San Francisco, the men that are intolerant of others' opinions, the men who speak off the cuff—when they act decisively on their judgment, then there will be a new group of moderate leaders come in and build a stronger and a more effective Republican Party.

But we will always maintain our bipartisan cooperation, and together we will do what is best for America, because when you do what is best for your country, you do what is best for your party and for yourself.

So the hour is here, the clock is ticking, the calendar is moving. You have a privilege that millions in other countries are denied. You have a right, an obligation, and a duty to see that you and yours go to the polls November the 3d and select the leadership that in your judgment most nearly represents the best interest of this country.

I am not going to discuss individuals in this matter. That is a decision you can make for yourselves by listening to the radio, seeing the television, reading the morning newspapers.

I am very happy that the college permitted me to come here today and have free speech. This is a great university and I treasure this invitation.

I am also mighty grateful to the Akron paper for their endorsement yesterday. I must run along because I can just intuitively feel Mrs. Johnson getting ready to send another note up here. But I can't leave until and unless I tell you that they say that it has been more than 100 years since some of these papers have endorsed a member of my party.

But I want to tell you about my party. I said my philosophy many years ago: I am a free man first, I am an American second, I am a public servant third, and a Democrat fourth—in that order.

We must not be complacent about what is happening in the world. We must not be

complacent about what is happening at home. You have a duty to do, so go do it in accordance with the dictates of your own conscience.

I saw a poll coming down here this morning. It showed that I had most of the Democrats and had 30 percent of the Republicans. But that distressed me, that I only had 30 percent of the Republicans. Those are good people if they get the truth and if they get the facts, and we have to improve that situation between now and November the 3d.

So let's all put our shoulders to the wheel and unite instead of divide, and again in the

words of the prophet, let's go out and reason together.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:33 p.m. at Memorial Hall at the University of Akron, Akron, Ohio. In his opening words he referred to Dr. Norman P. Auburn, president of the University, Mayor and Mrs. Edward Erickson of Akron, Senator Stephen M. Young of Ohio, Frances McGovern and Robert E. Sweeney, Democratic candidates for Representative from Ohio, and Ernest Leonard, chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee for Summit County. Later in his remarks he referred to former Senator Harold H. Burton of Ohio, Senator Lister Hill of Alabama, Arthur H. Vandenberg, U.S. Senator from Michigan during the Truman administration, Senator Everett McKinley Dirksen of Illinois, and Senator Bourke B. Hickenlooper of Iowa.

Mrs. Johnson also spoke briefly. The text of her remarks was released.

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Governor Kerner, my old and dear friend Paul Douglas, one of the Nation's most effective Congressmen, Mel Price, Governor Shapiro, Mayor Fields, Paul Powell, Jim Ronan, and my good friends of Illinois:

It is good to be in Illinois and with your neighbors and my friends, Senator Symington, Senator Long, Mayor Gunn of St. Louis, Congresswoman Sullivan, Congressman Frank Karsten. You know, somehow or other I have a feeling in my bones this afternoon that this is going to be a great Democratic year for Otto Kerner, one of the great Governors in this Nation; Stu Symington, one of the great Senators in the Nation; Sam Shapiro; Leonor Sullivan; Frank Karsten; Mel Price; and, I would hope, Lyndon Johnson and Hubert Humphrey.

Standing here by this plaque dedicated to our late beloved President, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, I am aware again of the sense of high purpose that he brought to the Presidency of the United States.

He had a vision of a world at peace. "We will not reach that goal today," President Kennedy said, "or tomorrow. We may not reach it in our own lifetime. But the quest is the greatest adventure of our century."

President Kennedy is gone today, but the vision remains and the great quest for peace stretches before us. Peace is the most important issue of this campaign, for one simple reason: without it, we will never have the chance to do something about the other issues that concern us.

The question is not who wants peace. I think everybody wants peace. The real question is what is the best way to achieve peace, what is the best way for us Americans to keep the peace.

I think you have a clear choice. On the one hand is the choice of a government which believes that the best way to keep peace is to be prepared to use power with restraint and to always be firm but always be fair. And this is the policy that I follow.