

ADDRESS BY  
GENERAL MAXWELL D. TAYLOR  
CHIEF OF STAFF, UNITED STATES ARMY  
TO THE COMMITTEE OF ONE HUNDRED  
COMMITTEE OF ONE HUNDRED CLUBHOUSE, MIAMI, FLORIDA  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 1956 -- 8:00 PM (EST)

THE ARMY FOR PEACE

GENTLEMEN, IT IS A PLEASURE TO APPEAR THIS EVENING BEFORE THE COMMITTEE OF ONE HUNDRED AND TO TALK TO YOU A BIT ABOUT YOUR ARMY. I PRESUME THAT IT IS BECAUSE YOU WISHED TO HEAR SOMETHING ABOUT THE ARMY THAT YOU INVITED THE CHIEF OF STAFF TO APPEAR TONIGHT.

IT IS A RECURRENT DUTY OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF TO APPEAR ON A WIDE VARIETY OF SOAPBOXES ABOUT THE COUNTRY AND TO EXPLAIN TO VARIOUS GROUPS OF CITIZENS WHAT THE ARMY IS UP TO, WHY WE NEED AN ARMY AND WHAT ARE ITS HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS. I FIND THAT A LOT OF PEOPLE HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ARMY WHICH REMIND ME OF MY OLD GRANDFATHER. HE WAS A CONFEDERATE VETERAN

WHO DEVELOPED IN ME AN EARLY INTEREST IN THINGS  
MILITARY. I REMEMBER ONCE ASKING HIM WHAT BRANCH  
HE BELONGED TO IN THE CONFEDERATE ARMY. "IN THE  
CAVALRY UNTIL MY HORSE DIED. AFTER THAT IN THE  
INFANTRY." WHEN I WENT TO WEST POINT AND RETURNED  
ON FURLOUGH, IT WAS HIS TURN TO ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT AN  
ARMY QUITE DIFFERENT FROM GENERAL SHELBY'S. HE  
ALWAYS STUMPED ME WITH THIS ONE: "SON, WHAT DO YOU DO  
IN THE ARMY WHEN YOU'VE GOT NOBODY TO FIGHT?"

NOW THAT I HAVE BECOME CHIEF OF STAFF, I AM STILL  
ASKED THE SAME QUESTION IN VARIOUS FORMS, AND I STILL FIND  
IT DIFFICULT TO PRODUCE A SIMPLE ANSWER. IT IS HARD TO  
GET OVER THE IDEA THAT THE ARMY JUSTIFIES ITS EXISTENCE  
AS MUCH -- IF NOT MORE -- WHEN IT IS NOT FIGHTING THAN WHEN  
WAR IS ON. ITS PRIMARY PURPOSE IS TO PREVENT WAR BY

DETECTING ATTACK -- ONLY WHEN THE DETERRENT FAILS DOES  
ITS MISSION CHANGE TO THAT OF FIGHTING A WINNING WAR.  
BUT TO DEVELOP THAT DETERRENT STRENGTH SO ESSENTIAL  
TO PEACE CALLS FOR COMPLEX ACTIVITIES WHICH MUST GO ON  
EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR THROUGH MANY QUARTERS OF THE  
WORLD. THEIR VARIETY AND SCOPE DO NOT LEND THEMSELVES  
TO EASY EXPLANATION AS YOU WILL SEE AS I PROCEED.

TO BEGIN WITH, THE ARMY IS ONE OF THE BIGGEST  
BUSINESS ENTERPRISES IN THE WORLD, HAVING CAPITAL ASSETS  
IN REAL ESTATE, SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT, AND VARIOUS HOLDINGS  
TO THE VALUE OF OVER 44 BILLION DOLLARS. THE HARDWARE  
WHICH REPRESENTS THE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES IN THE HANDS  
OF OUR TROOPS AND IN OUR DEPOTS AMOUNTS TO ABOUT 25  
BILLION DOLLARS, AND WE HAVE THE PROBLEM OF OBSOLESCENCE  
OF MATERIEL AT AN ANNUAL RATE OF OVER A BILLION DOLLARS.

IN TERMS OF PERSONNEL, THE ARMY HAS ON ITS PAYROLL OVER  
ONE MILLION SOLDIERS AND AROUND 440,000 CIVILIANS. IT IS  
A GLOBAL ARMY, SCATTERED IN BASES ABOUT THE WORLD WITH  
SOME 40 PERCENT OF IT SERVING OVERSEAS IN 73 COUNTRIES.  
OUR CURRENT EXPENDITURES WHICH SUPPORT ARMY OPERATIONS  
UNDER PRESENT CONDITIONS AMOUNT TO BETWEEN EIGHT AND  
NINE BILLION DOLLARS A YEAR. THE BREADTH OF ACTIVITIES  
SUPPORTED BY THIS BUDGET I CAN ILLUSTRATE ONLY BY GIVING  
YOU A BRIEF TRAVELOGUE ON THE ARMY AS IT IS ENGAGED IN  
THE DEFENSE OF THE COUNTRY.

LET ME START IN THE FAR EAST. IF YOU VISITED  
KOREA TODAY, YOU WOULD FIND A CONSIDERABLE PORTION OF  
THE ARMY, A REINFORCED CORPS, DEFENDING THE FORTIFIED  
HILLTOPS OF KOREA ALONG THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE. IN  
REAR OF THAT BATTLE LINE, YOU WOULD FIND MANY DIVERSE

ARMY OPERATIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, THROUGHOUT RURAL KOREA YOU WOULD FIND ARMY SOLDIERS WITH PIECES OF HEAVY ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT ENGAGED IN ASSISTING IN THE REHABILITATION OF THAT UNFORTUNATE COUNTRY. THESE DETACHMENTS ARE ASSISTING KOREAN CIVILIANS IN REBUILDING SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, HOSPITALS, IRRIGATION PROJECTS, REPAIRING BRIDGES AND ROADS, AND GENERALLY ASSISTING NOT ONLY THE GOVERNMENT, BUT ALSO THE LITTLE MAN IN THE REPAIR OF WAR DAMAGE.

IN JAPAN, YOU WILL FIND THE ARMY ENGAGED IN TRAINING ITS TROOPS AND IN MAINTAINING DEPOTS, PORTS, AND SUPPLY FACILITIES NECESSARY TO SUPPORT ANY RECURRENCE OF MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THE FAR EAST. ONE IMPORTANT DUTY IS THE TRAINING MISSION WHICH IS ASSISTING THE JAPANESE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR OWN FORCES.

ON OKINAWA, AS IN KOREA, YOU WOULD FIND ELEMENTS OF THE ARMY WORKING TO IMPROVE THE ECONOMY OF THAT ISLAND. IT IS SURPRISING HOW OFTEN THE ARMY IS CHARGED WITH REPAIRING THE DAMAGE OF WAR AFTER PARTICIPATING IN A MILITARY VICTORY. IT HAS BEEN OUR LOT IN ITALY, GERMANY, JAPAN, OKINAWA, AND KOREA TO IMPLEMENT AND SUPPORT MAJOR PROGRAMS OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION DESIGNED TO RESTORE WAR DEVASTATED AREAS.

MOVING SOUTHWARD TO FORMOSA, WE MIGHT VISIT THE ISLAND OF QUEMOY WHICH IS STILL UNDER THE THREAT OF COMMUNIST ATTACK. THERE YOU WOULD FIND CHINESE TROOPS IN CONSIDERABLE NUMBERS, ADVISED AND ASSISTED BY MEMBERS OF THE ARMY MILITARY MISSION TO THE NATIONALIST GOVERNMENT.

SIMILARLY, IN SAIGON, YOU WOULD FIND ARMY FORCES PREOCCUPIED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDIGENOUS FORCES OF VIET NAM.

AS WE CONTINUE OUR TRAVELS AND SKIRT THE SOUTHERN PERIPHERY OF THE SOVIET UNION, WE SEE THAT U.S. ARMY MISSIONS ARE ASSISTING THE ARMIES OF PAKISTAN, IRAN, TURKEY, GREECE, AND YUGOSLAVIA.

ARRIVING IN WESTERN EUROPE, WE FIND THAT THE PRINCIPAL STRENGTH OF THE ARMY OVERSEAS IS DEPLOYED ON ANOTHER FRONTIER OF DEMOCRACY. HERE THE SEVENTH ARMY IS A POWERFUL COMPONENT ELEMENT OF GENERAL GRUENTHER'S NATO FORCES. I AM PROUD TO PAUSE FOR A MOMENT ON THIS ARMY. SEVENTH ARMY COMBAT UNITS PATROL THE IRON CURTAIN DAY AND NIGHT, AND THEY MAINTAIN THEMSELVES IN SUCH A STATE OF ALERTNESS THAT THEY CAN, AND DO, MOVE OUT OF THEIR GARRISONS ON SURPRISE ALERTS EACH MONTH. EVERY COMBAT VEHICLE CARRIES AT ALL TIMES THE AMMUNITION, FOOD, AND FUEL NECESSARY TO ENGAGE

IN COMBAT ACTION. THESE UNITS ARE REQUIRED TO MUSTER 85 PERCENT OF THEIR PERSONNEL STRENGTH AND MOVE COMPLETELY OUT OF THEIR GARRISONS WITHIN TWO HOURS AFTER ALERT NOTIFICATION. IN THE LARGER HEADQUARTERS YOU WILL FIND THAT STEEL HELMETS, PERSONAL WEAPONS, AND INDIVIDUAL FIELD GEAR ARE SHELVED ALONGSIDE DESKS AND FILE CABINETS. THE SEVENTH ARMY IS WITHOUT DOUBT THE BEST-EQUIPPED, BEST-TRAINED, COMBAT-READY FORCE IN EUROPE.

ELSEWHERE, YOUR SOLDIERS ARE PERFORMING OTHER ARDUOUS TASKS. THEIR WATCH ON THE LINE OF FREEDOM IS OFTEN LONELY. WE HAVE SOME SOLDIERS ISOLATED ON THE TOP OF THE WORLD MANNING RADAR STATIONS IN THE WILDERNESS OF ALASKA AND SUPPORTING THE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM IN THE ARCTIC. OTHER TYPES OF UNITS ARE ACTIVE IN THESE FROZEN WASTES. THIS MONTH WE WILL MOVE A BATTALION COMBAT TEAM OVERLAND FROM THE UNITED STATES

TO ALASKA. THIS WILL BE A 2500 MILE MARCH, THE FIRST  
MOVEMENT OF ITS KIND EVER ATTEMPTED IN MID-WINTER.  
WHEN IT REACHES ALASKA, THIS BATTALION WILL JOIN WITH  
OTHER ARMY UNITS IN EXERCISE "MOOSE HORN" TO MANEUVER  
IN A REGION WHERE WINDS REACH A VELOCITY OF 80 MILES PER  
HOUR AND TEMPERATURES DROP TO 65 DEGREES BELOW ZERO.

NOW BEFORE WE RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES PROPER,  
LET'S SUM UP THE MEANING OF WHAT WE HAVE SEEN ABROAD.  
WHAT IS THE ARMY DOING OVERSEAS IN THE COURSE OF THE  
DISCHARGE OF THESE VARIED MISSIONS? FIRST AND FOREMOST  
IT CONSTITUTES A DETERRENT FORCE -- DETERRING WAR WHEREVER  
THE ARMY IS DEPLOYED. THE PRESENCE OF AMERICAN TROOPS  
ALONG THE IRON AND BAMBOO CURTAINS, READY TO FIGHT IF  
NECESSARY, IS A CONSTANT REMINDER TO ANY POTENTIAL  
AGGRESSOR THAT HE WILL BE MET PROMPTLY BY THE AMERICAN

SOLDIER. THAT FACT IS A SOBERING REMINDER TO SUCH AN  
AGGRESSOR OF THE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES WHICH A RASH  
ADVENTURE WOULD ENTAIL. I WOULD POINT OUT THAT  
NO ARMED AGGRESSION HAS BEEN INITIATED WITHIN RANGE OF  
U. S. ARMY GUNS, WHEREVER STATIONED. AS AN ADDITIONAL  
DETERRENT, THE ARMY IS CREATING NATIVE STRENGTH OFTEN  
IN AREAS WHERE PRESENT AMERICAN MILITARY STRENGTH  
DOES NOT EXIST. WE HOPE THAT THESE NATIVE FORCES WILL  
DISCOURAGE ANY AGGRESSOR SEEKING TO PICK UP EASY BOOTY  
WITHOUT A FIGHT. I WOULD ADD THAT WHEREVER AGGRESSION  
HAS BEEN RESISTED, IT HAS BEEN THE LAND FORCES OF FREE  
NATIONS WHICH HAVE BORNE THE BRUNT OF THE AGGRESSION, AND  
WHICH HAVE PLAYED THE DOMINANT ROLE IN MILITARY RESISTANCE  
THERE TO.

NOW LET US LOOK AT WHAT THE ARMY IS DOING AT HOME.

HERE, TRAINING IS ONE OF OUR PRIMARY MISSIONS. WE EXPECT TO GIVE BASIC TRAINING TO ABOUT 300,000 MEN IN THE COURSE OF THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR. I MIGHT REMIND YOU OF THE TREMENDOUS TURNOVER OF PERSONNEL WHICH FACES THE ARMY ANNUALLY. FOR EXAMPLE, THE ARMY ENTERED FISCAL YEAR 1955 WITH 1,400,000 MEN. IN THAT YEAR, WE LOST 800,000 AND GAINED 500,000, ENDING WITH A TOTAL STRENGTH OF 1,100,000 MEN. JUST IMAGINE THE EFFECT UPON YOUR OWN BUSINESS ENTERPRISES IF YOU WERE FORCED TO TURN OVER HALF OF YOUR PERSONNEL IN ONE YEAR, AND TO DO THAT EVERY YEAR.

THE PROBLEM OF TRAINING IS COMPOUNDED BY THIS TURNOVER OF PERSONNEL. IT IS FURTHER COMPLICATED BY THE GROWING COMPLEXITY OF OUR WEAPONS. THIS IS NO

LONGER AN ARMY OF JUST RIFLEMEN, CLERKS, COOKS, CANNONERS,  
AND THE LIKE. THE ARTILLERY GUNNER OF WORLD WAR II,  
WHILE HE MIGHT HAVE SERVED ANY ONE OF SEVERAL WEAPONS,  
MUST NOW SPECIALIZE TO SERVE THE 280mm ATOMIC CANNON,  
THE "HONEST JOHN" ROCKET, THE "NIKE" AND "CORPORAL"  
GUIDED MISSILES, OR ANY ONE OF SEVERAL OTHER TYPES  
ARTILLERY. IT REQUIRES 42 WEEKS OF SCHOOL TRAINING TO  
QUALIFY SOLDIERS AS MAINTENANCE SPECIALISTS FOR "NIKE".  
THE TURRET OF AN M48 TANK IS LADEN WITH DIALS, INSTRUMENTS,  
AND SWITCHES IN NUMBERS REFLECTING THE COMPLEXITY OF  
MODERN ARMOR. THE ARMY MUST RUN AN EXTENSIVE SYSTEM  
OF SCHOOLS TO TRAIN MEN FOR NOT ONLY SUCH WEAPONS AS THESE,  
BUT TO PROVIDE FOR THE INTELLECTUAL AND PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT OF OUR SENIOR OFFICERS IN THE FIELDS OF TACTICS  
AND STRATEGY.

WE ARE ALSO ENGAGED IN MANY LOGISTICAL AND RESEARCH  
ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF THE ARMY AND IN PREPARATION FOR  
THE NECESSITIES OF WAR. ONE OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
MILITARY PREPAREDNESS IS THE DEVELOPING AND STOCKPILING  
OF THE WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT NECESSARY FOR POSSIBLE  
FUTURE WAR. IN 68 DEPOTS AND STORAGE ACTIVITIES WE  
ARE STORING, PROCESSING, DISTRIBUTING, AND REHABILITATING  
ARMY EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES. IN 22 PERMANENT ARMY  
ARSENALS WE ARE DEVELOPING WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT  
REQUIRED EITHER TODAY OR IN THE FUTURE.

THE ARMY IS A PRINCIPAL CUSTOMER OF U. S. INDUSTRY.  
LAST YEAR, IN FACTORIES AND SIMILAR PRIVATE ENTERPRISES,  
THE ARMY PLACED ALMOST TWO MILLION CONTRACTS TOTALING  
5-3/4 BILLION DOLLARS. IN LABORATORIES AND SIMILAR  
ENTERPRISES, THE ARMY HAS PLACED 140 MAJOR CONTRACTS IN  
SIX MONTHS TOTALING 33 MILLION DOLLARS TO SUPPORT THE

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS OF THE ARMY.

NOW WHAT DO THESE COMPLEX FUNCTIONS AT HOME REPRESENT? BY AND LARGE, THEY REPRESENT THE DEVELOPMENT OF RESERVE STRENGTH TO SUPPORT THE ARMY'S REQUIREMENTS IN PEACE AND WAR. THEY ARE ACTIVITIES DIRECTED AT DEVELOPING THE SINEWS OF WAR, CAPABLE OF SUPPORTING OUR NATIONAL POLICIES OVERSEAS. THEY ARE ACTIVITIES DIRECTED AT GETTING THE MOST DEFENSE OUT OF THE MEN, MONEY, AND MATERIALS PLACED AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE ARMY. THEY ARE AIMED AT GIVING US LASTING POWER -- THE ABILITY TO ENDURE -- IF THE DISASTER OF WAR SHOULD BEFALL US.

ADDED TOGETHER, ARMY OPERATIONS ABROAD AND AT HOME, ARE VARIED AND COMPLEX. THEY HAVE, HOWEVER, AN EXTREMELY SIMPLE PURPOSE: TO DEVELOP AN ARMY WHICH WILL DETER WAR AND, IF THE DETERRENT FAILS, IS READY TO FIGHT.

PERHAPS A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
DETERRENCE MIGHT BE IN ORDER. TO BE EFFECTIVE IN THIS  
WAR-DETERRENCE, OUR MILITARY PROGRAMS MUST CREATE IN THE  
MIND OF A POTENTIAL AGGRESSOR TWO THINGS. ONE, THAT  
AGGRESSION INIMICAL TO THE INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES  
AND HER FREE WORLD ALLIES WILL BE CONTESTED. TWO,  
THAT IN THIS CONTEST THE AGGRESSOR WILL LOSE IN THE END.  
IF THE AGGRESSOR BELIEVES THAT WE CAN BEAT HIM IN WAR,  
HE IS NOT LIKELY TO START ONE. TO BE CONVINCING, THIS  
DETERRENT CONCEPT MUST BE BASED ON REALITY; IT CANNOT  
BE MERE TALK, BLUFF, OR THREAT. INSTEAD IT MUST BE  
SUPPORTED BY VISIBLE EVIDENCE OF OUR NATION'S MILITARY,  
ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, AND MORAL STRENGTH IN BEING.

TO BE EFFECTIVE, THIS DETERRENT STRENGTH MUST BE  
BALANCED SO THAT IT IS APPLICABLE TO A VARIETY OF POSSIBLE

SITUATIONS. BALANCE DOES NOT MEAN EQUAL STRENGTH IN  
ARMY, NAVY, AND AIR FORCE. BALANCE MEANS FLEXIBLE,  
PROPORTIONED STRENGTH TO DETER OR FIGHT ANY VARIETY OF  
ARMED CONFLICT, FROM JUNGLE OR ARCTIC WARS, TO ATOMIC  
WARS, OR THE NON-ATOMIC ONES OF ANY SIZE.

WHAT DOES THE ARMY HAVE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THIS  
BALANCED STRENGTH WHICH WE HOPE WILL DETER WAR?  
PRIMARILY (LIKE ANY OTHER MILITARY FORCE), IT DETERS  
THROUGH ITS STRENGTH IN BEING, BY THE FACT OF HAVING  
SUFFICIENT MEN AND RESOURCES TRAINED AND DISPOSED TO  
FIGHT SUCCESSFULLY IF CHALLENGED. THE ARMY IS A  
DETERRENT FORCE ABROAD AND ITS DETERRENT EFFECT  
EXTENDS INTO NEIGHBORING AREAS WELL BEYOND THE ACTUAL  
CONFINES OF OUR GARRISONS AND BASES.

AGAIN, AS I STATED EARLIER, THE ARMY DETERS WARS  
BY HELPING TO DEVELOP THE FORCES OF OUR ALLIES.  
IT PERFORMS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN TEACHING THE INDIGENOUS  
FORCES OF 44 FREE COUNTRIES HOW TO USE AND MAINTAIN THE  
EQUIPMENT MADE AVAILABLE UNDER THE MILITARY AID PROGRAMS,  
AND IN ASSISTING THEM TO DEVELOP OVER 200 COMBAT DIVISIONS.  
THIS EFFORT TO CREATE STRENGTH WHERE A POWER VACUUM  
WOULD OTHERWISE EXIST IS A TIME-CONSUMING PROCESS  
WHICH WILL REQUIRE MEN, EFFORT AND PATIENCE FOR A  
CONSIDERABLE TIME.

NOT ONLY DOES THE ARMY DETER WARS BY ITS FORCES  
ABROAD, BUT ALSO BY ITS FORCES AT HOME. THE GENERAL  
RESERVE IS A TERM WHICH WE USE TO DESCRIBE ARMY TROOPS  
IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES HAVING VARYING DEGREES  
OF READINESS FOR PROMPT OVERSEAS MOVEMENT. THESE

UNITS REPRESENT TO ANY POTENTIAL ENEMY THE IMMEDIATE REINFORCEMENTS HE WOULD ENCOUNTER AFTER THE OUTBREAK OF WAR OR THE INITIATION OF LOCAL AGGRESSION. TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY ARE STRONG, WELL-TRAINED AND EQUIPPED, AND OBVIOUSLY READY FOR TROUBLE, THEY ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF ARMY DETERRENT STRENGTH.

BEYOND THE ACTIVE ARMY UNITS AT HOME THERE MUST BE AN EFFECTIVE RESERVE COMPOSED OF CIVILIAN-SOLDIERS. THE RESERVE COMPONENTS, OUR NATIONAL GUARD AND THE ARMY RESERVE UNITS, MUST BE READY -- AND IN BEING -- TO BE EFFECTIVE. AT THIS MOMENT THE ARMY IS WORKING HARD TO BUILD UP THE STRENGTH OF THE ARMY RESERVE. IT IS HERE THAT I CAN CITE AN IMMEDIATE NEED FOR CIVILIAN SUPPORT AND UNDERSTANDING. THE ARMY IS NOT RECEIVING ANYWHERE NEAR THE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS IT REQUIRES. THE ARMY

IS READY TO TRAIN THOUSANDS OF MEN, BUT FIRST THESE MEN  
MUST BE PERSUADED OF THEIR DUTY TO UNDERGO THIS RESERVE  
TRAINING. I BESPEAK YOUR INTEREST IN THE RESERVE  
PROGRAM WHEREVER YOU LIVE.

ANOTHER SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF THE ARMY'S DETERRENT  
STRENGTH IS IN THE ANTI-AIRCRAFT DEFENSE OF THE UNITED  
STATES. WE ARE CONSTANTLY ADDING UNITS TO THE ARMY  
FOR THE MISSION OF PROTECTING MAJOR CITIES AND STRATEGIC  
BASES. THEY ARE REGULAR ARMY AND NATIONAL GUARD  
ANTI-AIRCRAFT UNITS ARMED WITH CONVENTIONAL ANTI-AIRCRAFT  
CANNON OR THE "NIKE" MISSILE. YOU HAVE PROBABLY HEARD  
ABOUT "NIKE". IT IS CAPABLE OF FINDING AND TRACKING  
DOWN HOSTILE AIRCRAFT WITH THE RELENTLESSNESS OF A  
BLOODHOUND AND WITH AN INTELLIGENCE ALMOST HUMAN.  
"NIKE" IS ONLY THE START OF A FAMILY OF MISSILES WHICH  
WE HOPE WILL MAKE OUR SKIES SO INHOSPITABLE AS TO DISCOURAGE

ATTACK.      PROGRESS IN MISSILES IS PROGRESS IN DETERRENCE.

THOSE OF US WHO ARE CONCERNED WITH PLANNING FOR  
NATIONAL SECURITY ARE ASKED TO DEAL WITH MANY  
IMPONDERABLES AND QUESTION MARKS.      THE TOUGHEST  
QUESTION REVOLVES AROUND THE UNCERTAINTY AS TO THE  
FORM WHICH A FUTURE WAR MAY TAKE.      WILL IT BE LONG  
OR SHORT?      WILL ATOMIC WEAPONS BE USED WITHOUT  
RESTRAINT?      IF SO, WHAT WILL RESULT FROM THIS RELEASE  
OF ATOMIC ENERGY WITH A DESTRUCTIVE POWER SO GREAT  
THAT ITS RESULT IS BEYOND OUR IMAGINATION?      AMONG THE  
STUDENTS OF FUTURE WARFARE, THERE ARE THOSE WHO FOCUS  
THEIR CONCERN ON THE BIG NUCLEAR WAR.      THERE ARE OTHERS  
WHO BELIEVE THAT WAR MAY ASSUME MANY FORMS.      THE SINGLE-  
TYPE OF WAR THEORISTS PREDICT THAT A FUTURE WAR WILL OPEN  
WITH ATOMIC AIR ATTACKS UPON THE UNITED STATES, FOLLOWED  
BY OUR RETALIATION WITH ATOMIC WEAPONS.      DEVASTATION

WILL BE GREAT ON BOTH SIDES; AND THE OUTCOME OF THE ENTIRE  
WAR WILL DEPEND UPON SUCCESS IN THIS FIRST BRIEF DESTRUCTIVE  
PHASE. THE ATOMIC AIR-DELIVERED BOMB, IF THE  
PROTAGONISTS OF THIS VIEW ARE CORRECT, WILL BE THE  
PRIMARY AND DECISIVE WEAPON.

THIS CONCEPT OF A SINGLE TYPE SHORT WAR IS A  
POSSIBLE FORM WHICH ARMED CONFLICT MAY ASSUME. NO  
ONE WILL KNOW UNTIL THE TIME COMES HOW RIGHT OR HOW  
WRONG ARE THE THEORISTS WHO SUPPORT IT.

PERSONALLY, I RATE THIS CONCEPT OF WAR AS ONLY ONE  
OF THE FORMS, AND NOT NECESSARILY THE MOST LIKELY, WHICH  
WAR MAY TAKE. PARTICULARLY AS ATOMIC DESTRUCTIVE  
CAPABILITIES GROW, IT SEEMS INCREASINGLY IMPROBABLE  
THAT AN AGGRESSOR WOULD INTENTIONALLY EMBARK ON THE  
GAMBLE OF ATOMIC WORLD WAR. AS LONG AS WE HAVE

POWERFUL WEAPONS FOR RETALIATION, AND ARE OBVIOUSLY  
READY AND WILLING TO USE THEM, I AM RELUCTANT TO BELIEVE  
THAT ANY HOSTILE NATION WILL INTENTIONALLY RISK THE HAZARDS  
OF GENERAL WAR. I AM BY NO MEANS SURE THAT SOME NATION  
SOME TIME MAY NOT ATTEMPT LOCAL ACTS OF AGGRESSION  
TO WHICH OUR ATOMIC RETALIATORY POWER MAY NOT BE THE  
ANSWER.

THE ARMY HAS SET FOR ITSELF THE TASK OF READINESS  
FOR ANY KIND OF WAR. THE ARMY IS EQUIPPED AND TRAINED  
TO APPLY MILITARY POWER WITH DISCRETION, TO DISCRIMINATE  
BETWEEN FRIEND AND FOE, AND TO TEMPER ITS APPLICATION  
OF FORCE TO FIT THE DEGREE AND SCOPE OF AGGRESSION.  
MILITARY PLANNING MUST ADJUST ITSELF TO THE INCREASING  
RELUCTANCE OF PEACE-LOVING PEOPLE TO EMBARK ON GENERAL  
ATOMIC WAR AND RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR INCREASED ATTENTION

TO THE CONSTANT DANGER OF EROSIVE EFFORTS AGAINST  
MILITARILY WEAK MEMBERS OF THE FREE-NATION COMMUNITY.  
SUCH AGGRESSIVE EFFORTS MUST BE DETERRED OR DEFEATED  
PROMPTLY -- OTHERWISE THEY MAY BRING ON THE BIG WAR  
WHICH NOBODY CAN TRULY WIN.

IN CLOSING, LET ME SAY THAT THE ARMY RECOGNIZES  
THAT BOTH VISION AND APPRECIATION OF THE LIMITATIONS OF  
VISION ARE ESSENTIAL IN ADJUDGING THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
THE FUTURE. IT IS DANGEROUS TO BE TOO POSITIVE ABOUT THE  
COURSE OF FUTURE EVENTS. HOWEVER, THE ARMY IS VERY  
CLEAR ABOUT AT LEAST TWO THINGS: FIRST IT IS DETERMINED  
TO GIVE THIS NATION THE BEST POSSIBLE DEFENSIVE STRENGTH  
FOR THE MEN, MONEY, AND MATERIALS WHICH YOU ENTRUST TO  
IT. NEXT, IT IS CERTAIN THAT THE ARMY'S QUALITY WILL BE  
IN PROPORTION TO THE SUPPORT IT RECEIVES FROM THE COUNTRY

IT PROTECTS. THIS IS YOUR ARMY WHICH I LEAD. IT WILL  
BE NO BETTER THAN YOU INSIST THAT IT BE. IT WILL REFLECT  
IN ITS QUALITY YOUR INTEREST IN ITS WELFARE AND YOUR  
RESPECT FOR ITS UNIFORM. I INVITE YOU TO VISIT OUR POSTS,  
CAMPS AND STATIONS AND SEE THE ARMY AT WORK. FOR THE  
MOMENT WE'RE NOT FIGHTING ANYONE, BUT WE ARE WORKING  
CONSTANTLY TO DEVELOP THAT VISIBLE READINESS TO FIGHT  
WHICH DETERS WAR AND MAINTAINS THE PEACE.

-END-