

**TRANSCRIPT OF
REMARKS BY
GENERAL MAXWELL D. TAYLOR
CHIEF OF STAFF, U.S. ARMY
AT AMERICAN ORDNANCE ASSOC MEETING
ABERDEEN, MD. - 4 OCT 1956**

**General Detrick, Admiral Hussey, Ladies and Gentlemen of the
Ordnance Association:**

As a visitor myself, I can appropriately thank General Detrick and all of his staff for this presentation we've had this afternoon. I only regret that I was unable to be with you during the morning hour. As I sat here this afternoon, I couldn't help looking back to the first time I sat on this firing line watching an Ordnance demonstration. That was in 1921 and I was a first classman at the United States Military Academy. Then, the pride of the Ordnance Corps was the 16-inch Coast Artillery Gun which was indeed a very impressive weapon. But I must say that the gap between that weapon and the Redstone Missile, for example, measures rather accurately the progress that the Army is making in weaponry and also the great problems created by modern warfare. Fortunately, we have the men of the ability of the Ordnance Corps and we have men of the ability of industry represented by the membership of your group. Only by that effective combination could we have come from the period of the 16-inch Gun to the period of the Redstone Guided Missile. I've often been asked what has been changed in the requirements of the Army as we enter the Atomic Age; I sometimes sound reactionary, I suspect we still the three old fundamentals which always brought victory on the battlefield.

First, we need firepower. And you, ladies and gentlemen, ^{today} have seen some of the examples of modern Army firepower. We have destructive capability now in our Army never dreamed of by soldiers of the past. Next, we must have mobility in order to move this firepower and the personnel which mans it. You have seen some examples today of the progress made in giving surface mobility to our Army. We're also interested in something you've not seen, namely, air transportability, which allows us not only to move on the surface of the ground, but also in the air. But finally, the third factor of Army success is the indispensable factor: good people. We must have good people to man our weapons -- to organize and utilize our mobility, and give us that creative thought in order to weld together the effectiveness of technology in terms of effectiveness on the battlefield. Fortunately, we have this great team in and out of the Army, and your presence today is only suggestive of the potential might of the modern Army supported by the great American industry.

I want to thank you all for coming today. It was the weather that separated the men from the boys. Thank you very much.

(Transcript furnished by OCINFO)