

And let us renew our pledge that we will make any sacrifice we may be called upon to make to sustain our government, our liberty and our American way of life.

REMARKS, FOURTH WORLD WIDE ARMED FORCES
EDUCATION CONFERENCE – BALTIMORE

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It is indeed a privilege for me to welcome to Maryland such a distinguished group of educators. As many of you undoubtedly already know, I place great faith and reliance in conferences such as the one that is to take place here today and tomorrow.

I have always held the opinion that if the government and society are to function efficiently and smoothly, then we who serve in positions of public trust must rely heavily upon the advice and guidance of experts. This is particularly true in the field of education. Our future prosperity and security will depend to a very large degree on the decisions we make now. Time and events have proven conclusively that no nation can expect either to gain or maintain a position of leadership among nations without sound programs for educating its citizens.

While it is true that most of our energies today are devoted to examining ways and means of providing higher education for a growing population of young people, I do think it wise that we also scrutinize the higher education needs of other groups. Events of the past several years have demonstrated how vital it is that we carefully prepare now for the future higher educational needs of military personnel. Certainly it is true that as the military becomes more specialized, greater demands are going to be placed upon those who choose the military as a career. The men and women selected to perform these specialized tasks must be capable of meeting greater demands upon their intellect and it is our obligation to see that these men and women are capable of meeting these demands.

But apart from being able to perform more specialized tasks, I think it wise if we devote greater attention to the role of the military man in relation to society in general. It was not too long ago that members of our armed forces were considered as a group apart from the social fabric that forms this great nation of ours. This of course, is no longer the case. The military is now an integral part of