

REMARKS TO NATIONAL CONVENTION, JUNIOR
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, BALTIMORE

June 27, 1967

I welcome you to Maryland where the crosscurrents of thought from north and south meet and merge, where the union of states was preserved and its anthem inspired, where a nation's boundless beauty is cast in miniature, where pleasant living is the everyday fact of life, and where a people are in mourning for a baseball team that can't seem to bring itself back to greatness.

I don't think there is a person in our State who wouldn't trade the Chesapeake Bay for a few base hits or the Patapsco River for a flood of Oriole runs or a Governor for one strong-armed pitcher who can put three straight strikes across the plate.

As host to this convention of dedicated and involved leadership, I invite you not only to *meet* in our midst but to *live* among us. To see where it *happened* at Fort McHenry and Antietam and Frederick and old Annapolis, and to see where it's *happening today* as you tour Maryland's giant space industries or catch the tempo of ships moving in and out of the great Port of Baltimore.

And as you linger and look here, you will find that Marylanders, like yourselves, live very much in the present. For all our landmarks and traditions we are today people absorbed in today's problems and challenges and while we maintain a respectful reverence for the past, we set our sail to prevailing winds and set our sights to destinations ahead. We bury old cities to build new ones. We bend old barriers to open new gates. We let the past provide the *setting* but not the *settlement* for the future.

In the nation's oldest active statehouse where General Washington resigned his wartime commission, modern legislators meet to pass revolutionary laws, and where John Paul Jones now rests in peace, we commission future captains to help keep the world's peace, and to carry America's message and *might* across the seas. There is something very historic about Maryland that will enchant you, but something very young and vital that communicates with the same degree of vigor and confidence that you bring to your work in your community.

There is something here of every state, and one who is not a stranger to his own land and legends will feel himself immediately at home. So know that you are among friends, that we are honored by your pres-