

REMARKS AT UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
COMMENCEMENT, HEIDELBERG, GERMANY

June 2, 1968

The office of Governor brings many burdens and an occasional blessing. Among our nation's fifty Governors, the Governor of Maryland alone can look forward to a responsibility which is really a blessing, and that is the University of Maryland commencement at Heidelberg.

I shall cherish the experience of visiting this historic City and participating in this impressive ceremony. I am proud that Maryland, in its own way, shared in Heidelberg's great University tradition; and I am particularly honored that Chancellor Kiesinger has joined us **today**.

As I bring greetings and good wishes to today's graduates, their families and the University faculty, I also convey the warmest regards of the citizens of Maryland to the citizens of Germany.

James Garfield, the twentieth President of the United States said, "Next in importance to freedom and justice is popular education, without which neither freedom nor justice can be permanently maintained."

The Department of Defense, through its support of the Armed Forces educational programs, demonstrates that the causes of freedom and education may be simultaneously served. We are primarily a nation of citizen soldiers and the time that a citizen spends as a soldier is best spent when it combines the development of his talents as a citizen with the sharpening of his skills as a soldier. In this way the citizen soldier fights for freedom on two fronts; with his mind and with his body.

Military service properly viewed and used becomes not an interruption but a continuation of individual enrichment. Those of you who have seized this opportunity are to be congratulated for being both good citizens and good soldiers.

I think we all agree that knowledge is a formidable force and the ultimate weapon to peace and progress. I think we are also sufficiently schooled in the "Realpolitik" to realize that until all men recognize the rule of knowledge, free men must rely on the rule of strength.