

the heaviest and most murderous bolts in the armament of Mars. Great nations have been overrun and conquered. Natural rights have been violated and extinguished by the blade of the sword. Frontiers have been destroyed and sovereignty wiped from the map by the bayonet's thrust. In such an hour of world danger, at a time when the processes of peace and the rule of law have been dethroned, and military might and conquest have usurped the seats of power, it is the duty of the American people to stand united.

It is a manifest obligation to our people, to our institutions, to our territory and to our lives; to the heroic traditions of a great and glorious past; to those whose blood and treasure established this Republic; to the martyred dead who have defended and protected it—it is our manifest obligation to all these to make America so strong upon the land and upon the sea and in the air that no power on earth shall dare to attack us or to challenge our safety.

We shall arm not for war, but for peace. We must be prepared to say to any power on earth who challenges our security or threatens our safety, "we want no war with you, but if you dare assail us, if you challenge our institutions, if you attack our territory, we shall resist on the sea and under the sea, on the land and above the land, with our Navy and our Army and with an air fleet unconquerable and irresistible.

To attain these noble ends we look back through the heroic history and treasured traditions of America for more than 160 years. We shake hands with and salute the Continental Congress that gave us the Declaration of Independence and with them exclaim, "With a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, fortunes, and our sacred honor."

To the Star Spangled Banner, that now flies so boldly, we pledge a firm devotion, which springs from a heart fired with true loyalty, and a mind tempered and cooled with a patriotic realization of the necessities of the moment.

"Long may it wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave."