

This flag represents the Government and political institutions of the most splendid Republic ever builded by the genius and statesmanship of man. It is based upon a noble concept of the rights of the individual—the concept that Government rests upon and is created to serve the individual—that in his personal responsibility lies its weakness or its strength.

That is the America our fathers gave us. It is our America and we are determined that it shall remain our America. If it is to remain our America we, and we alone, can preserve it and protect it and hand it down to our sons, stronger and nobler for our having lived and served and sacrificed. Every citizen of the Republic has a task and a duty to preserve it—civilian and soldier alike. Individual rights, individual privileges, carry with them individual responsibility.

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 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.”