

MAY 30, 1966

V. F. W.

Comptroler - VFW

VFW Memorial Services
Commander Ronald Kunitz
Adjutant - OM - Lancel J
Merle Hughes - Eastland
Conclun
Members
of VFW
+ Auxiliary

1. Memorial Services are for those who gave their lives that the rest of us might enjoy the liberties we have. We all owe them a debt of gratitude.

Personal - Dedication of President & Democracy - Crest Notes
2. It is a cause of sadness that we still have men

fighting in Vietnam, but it is necessary for us to fight there if we are not to see much of Asia fall under the domination of the Chinese Communists.

The men themselves are doing a tremendous job. When in Vietnam I visited about 100 Minnesota servicemen, and their morale is high and their courage exceptional. Sure they would like to be home, but they know there is a job to do and they are doing it.

Thomas Paine said in 1776:

"These are the times that try men's souls.

The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot

will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of his country; but he that stands NOW,

deserves the love and thanks of man and woman."

These men now in Vietnam deserve our thanks. + help - CT Bell

3. We must continue to explore ways to negotiate an honorable peace, while maintaining a strong hand. And we must seek ways, difficult as they are, to bolster the economy of Vietnam and other potentially dangerous developing nations. This is not an unrealistic dream---it is a practical necessity.

The Secretary of Defense has recently quoted some figures which make it all too apparent that poverty and war go hand in hand. In the last eight years there have been no less than 164 internationally significant outbreaks of violence in the world. Not one was a formally declared war, but that doesn't make it any the less dangerous.

Of the 38 nations rated as very poor---with less than \$100 per year per capita income, 32 have suffered outbreaks of violence.

We must work for Peace in human
Dead - No attention to Peace -
- Institution for Peace
Dangers of Nuclear Power.

UN
Nuclear Power
Very Poor

Of nations classified as "rich" (over \$750 per capita income), only one had a significant outbreak of violence.

87 % of the very poor nations : (under \$100 per capita), 69% of the "poor" nations{ and 48% of the middle income nations have experienced some violence in the last eight years.

No question that economics and violence are inversely related. For our own safety, we had better do what we can to improve the ~~economic~~ economic conditions of the developing world.

Until we can arrive at an economically better world, which will require even more effort of the defeloping nations than it will of us, it will continue to be a dangerous ~~xxxxx~~ world. We will have continueing need of soldæers.

In times like these, the service is for all true pruposes wartime service.

I am proud to have sponsored the Cold War G.I. Bill, to give educational and other benefits to servicement ~~servang~~ now.

~~Thisxxxx~~ Teddy Roosevelt:

"A man who is good enough to shed his blood for his country is good enough to be given a square deal afterwards. More than that no man is entitled to, and less than that no man shall have."

But it is not a reward---it is a readjustment, and it is also the best investment this nation can make. Experience with ~~WE~~ WWII GI Bill shows that increased tax revenues from higher earnings ~~fm~~ more than paid for the whole program.

Thus thes@ men contribute ~~xx~~ as much in peace as they do in war. Your organization is doing the nation a service by representing ;them.

Cliff Koon

Republican

Party at his

house

33946021

Hartley Dordans

Don

Escher Granlet

Farmer

Lourence Bergeron

Littler 12

Clavel

Cliff Koon

July 18 1975

Samuel 1975

Cliff 1975

Will 1975

Notes:

VFW was formed in 1914 by merger of other groups having roots in the Phillippine and Spanish American Wars. The outstanding characteristic of the VFW is the requirement of membership that a man must have served during a war or campaign of the United States for which ^{service} the military awards a campaign badge. This means that they have all served overseas, and a high proportion of them in combat.

At the time of the hearings on the Cold War G.I. Bill, the VFW took the position that the Act need only give benefits to those who served overseas in campaigns (i.e., who would have met the eligibility requirements of the VFW). Yarborough took them to task for this, saying it was too narrow a view. It should be added that their national convention did not take a position on the Cold War G.I. Bill, so their lobbyist was left with a free hand. He explained to Yarborough that he was afraid that GI Bill expenditures would detract from other veterans programs such as hospitals, and that was the reason for his position.



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