

## CONVOCAATION

21 August 1964

HONORABLE CYRUS VANCE: Mr. President; General LeMay; Admiral Lee; General Schomburg; Gentlemen: Few Presidents have brought to the position of Commander in Chief such an intimate knowledge of military affairs as does our most distinguished speaker today. As a Member of Congress, President Johnson volunteered for active duty in World War II. He became a lieutenant commander in the Navy and was decorated for gallantry under fire in the Pacific.

In the House he served on the Naval Affairs Committee, the Armed Services Committee, the Select Committee on Postwar Military Policy, and the Joint Atomic Energy Committee. Later, in the Senate, he served for 12 years on the Armed Services Committee; and for nearly 10 years, as the outstanding Chairman of the Preparedness Investigating Subcommittee.

We are deeply honored that he has put aside the pressing affairs of state in order to be with us today.

Gentlemen: The President of the United States.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON: Secretary Vance, My Fellow Americans: On this occasion, I am privileged to speak before an audience of men who know their country's strength and its full meaning to this age.

You have come from duty in Vietnam and Korea, from the Disarmament Agency and SAC, and one of you from our National Security Council staff at the White House. You are here because your Nation recognizes in each of you the presence and promise of excellence in leadership.

For the years ahead, you are thinking ahead. You will be studying the basis of our military policy, the broad context of our Nation's widest objectives and the total world environment.