

unselfishness of General Maxwell Taylor who gave up the highest post of his profession to leave here alone to serve freedom in far-off Vietnam simply because I indicated and implied that he might be useful there. I am proud of the service to our national defense which has been rendered since 1961 by dedicated civilian officials, too under the brilliant and driving leadership of a great Secretary of Defense, Robert McNamara, and an Under Secretary of Defense, Cyrus Vance. Our soldiers and our civilians are one team.

In our country's history, the oldest article of faith is the principle that we pursue today. Many others have said it since, but President Washington, our first President, said it first a long, long time ago: "To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace."

This morning America's military men stand vigil for peace and freedom--in West Berlin and in South Vietnam, at Guantanamo and in the Seventh Fleet, in nuclear submarines under the sea and in SAC planes high in the skies. Wherever they patrol, our Nation's heart is with them. Our Nation's life is in their hands. We pray God to keep them and to speed them home in a day of peace that they will have won.

Thank you.

(10 September 1964--7, 600)H/dc:en