



Southern Pines North Carolina

"In taking over The Pilot no changes are contemplated. We will try to keep this a good paper. We will try to make a little money for all concerned. Wherever there seems to be an occasion to use our influence for the public good we will try to do it. And we will treat everybody alike." — James Boyd, May 23, 1941.

'The Trumpet Summons Us Again ...'

Now, after the body of John Fitzgerald Kennedy has been laid to rest, the nation's dark night of the soul is ending—the night of anguish that fell upon the United States with the firing of an assassin's rifle last Friday.

There is no wakening from the past week's nightmare, for it was no dream. The lifting of the darkness, indeed, makes more hideous the reality of what has happened. But light is returning and Americans must live in the world that it reveals.

"Now," the slain President had asserted in his Inaugural Address, "the trumpet summons us again . . . to bear the burden of a long twilight struggle, year in and year out . . . a struggle against the common enemies of man: tyranny, poverty, disease and war itself . . ." The words ring with added grandeur as the nation faces a new beginning after his death. No greater tribute can be paid Mr. Kennedy than a thoughtful, fervent, unremitting commitment to that struggle. Nor is there now, in these United States,

a more potent power, to dispel the darkness and rekindle hope, than those words. A great leader has fallen. He has been replaced, in President Lyndon Baines Johnson, by another leader wholly committed to the noble tasks so eloquently outlined by the young President on that cold January 20, 1961.

We have full confidence in Mr. Johnson's leadership. But the people of the United States should remember that the dead President said, in words that move us even more deeply now: "In your hands, my fellow citizens, more than mine, will rest the final success or failure of our course."

Mr. Kennedy is gone. But as the past week's darkness lightens, there is great comfort in this thought: the people of the United States remain—to heed, if they will, the still-echoing, strong, young voice that placed supreme importance on their own efforts in setting and holding the nation's future course.

Mindful of this, President Johnson and the people must now, together, "go forth to lead the land we love."

Let All The Facts Be Known!

Lee Harvey Oswald, President Kennedy's alleged assassin who was fatally shot before he could be brought to trial, took to the grave with him a number of secrets the American public would like to know—and both he and Jack Ruby, the man who killed him, are most uncomfortable thorns in the side of Dallas, Texas.

The public might or might not have learned, if he had lived, what Oswald's motives were, whether he was alone in the plot to kill the President, what connection, if any, his radical associations had with the crime and so forth. There might have been a possibility of a confession. It is a vast pity that the normal procedures of justice could not have been

followed, whether or not Oswald ever "talked."

The President has ordered full investigation of the case by federal authorities. There should be a complete revelation of every shred of evidence uncovered, so that politically motivated speculative charges and counter-charges will not be made—or if made, as currently in the Soviet press, they will be subject to some control by the facts of the case, as made public for everybody to see and understand.

The evidence against Oswald was overwhelming—but if there is more to the story, or more can be uncovered, the whole nation, as has now been promised, should be told.

They Came To Honor Him

The coming here of national leaders from all over the world to attend the funeral of President Kennedy is an extraordinary thing.

The young American president, who had fallen so tragically under an assassin's bullet, had been in office less than three years. He had accomplished a few things—and a few great things; he was cut down in the promise of so much more.

He was young, his full powers not yet come to fruition, his brilliance, his energy, his devotion even not yet fully tried. And still, from lands far and near, allied or unfriendly still, they came, the leaders, to stand beside the young leader's grave.

An American Heroine

Mrs. Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy has won the undying admiration and affection of the American people and the world.

Gallant and brave beyond belief in the ordeal of her husband's sudden assassination and the ensuing series of events and ceremonies—all occurring in the public eye—she was at once so strong and so frail, so imperturbable and so touchingly and ordinarily human, that she is now, without question, the most loved woman in the land.

Not once did she falter—and it was a performance of instinct, not conscious direction. She rode with the President's body on the plane from Texas, and when the body came off the plane, she was with it, touching the casket lightly, as though reaching out for a hand, and she rode with it, in the ambulance, to the Naval Hospital.

Her Sunday night return to the Capitol rotunda, where the body lay in state, was almost anonymous among the hundreds filing by, again to reach out, touch and kiss the casket like a child seeking reassurance: a heartbreaking incident. Yet one marveled, with vast respect, at the honest, strong compulsion that sent her back there, when lesser spirits would have retired under sedation.

A British observer defined her quality throughout as "majesty." Of course, she was worthy of the term, but to us it seemed grandiose. We know only that a new American heroine is on the scene.

When lilacs last in the dooryard bloom'd,
And the great star early droop'd in the western sky in the night,
I mourn'd, and yet shall mourn with ever-returning spring . . .

O powerful western fallen star! . . .
O great star disappear'd—O the black murk that hides the star! . . .
O harsh surrounding cloud that will not free my soul . . .

—WALT WHITMAN
(After the assassination of President Lincoln)

THE INAUGURAL'S MESSAGE: STILL STRONG AND CLEAR

'Let Us Go Forth To Lead The Land We Love...'

The late President John Fitzgerald Kennedy's Inaugural Address delivered January 20, 1961, has taken its place among the great documents of the national history. Now, after his assassination, it gains new meaning as we measure the man against his own noble words and, in this time of grief, take strength from the Inaugural's still-bright invocation: "Let us begin . . ." The complete address follows:

We observe today, not a victory of party but a celebration of freedom—symbolizing an end as well as a beginning—signifying renewal as well as change. For I have sworn before you and Almighty God the same solemn oath our forebears prescribed nearly a century and three-quarters ago.

The world is very different now. For man holds in his mortal hands the power to abolish all forms of human poverty and all forms of human life. And yet the same revolutionary beliefs for which our forebears fought are still at issue around the globe—the belief that the rights of man come not from the generosity of the state but from the hand of God.

Dare Not Forget

We dare not forget today that we are the heirs of that first revolution. Let the word go forth from this time and place, to friend and foe alike, that the torch has been passed to a new generation of Americans—born in this century, tempered by war, disciplined by a hard and bitter peace, proud of our ancient heritage—and unwilling to witness or permit the slow undoing of those human rights to which this nation has always been committed, and to which we are committed today at home and around the world.

Let every nation know whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty.

This much we pledge—and more.

Faithful Friends

To those old allies whose cultural and spiritual origins we share, we pledge the loyalty of faithful friends. United, there is little we cannot do in a host of new cooperative ventures. Divided, there is little we can do—for we dare not meet a powerful challenge at odds and split asunder.

To those new states whom we welcome to the ranks of the free, we pledge our word that one form of colonial control shall not have passed away merely to be replaced

by a far more iron tyranny. We shall not always expect to find them supporting our view. But we shall always hope to find them strongly supporting their own freedom—and to remember that, in the past, those who foolishly sought power by riding the back of the tiger ended up inside.

To those peoples in the huts and villages of half the globe struggling to break the bonds of mass misery, we pledge our best efforts to help them help themselves, for whatever period is required—not because the Communists may be doing it, not because we seek their votes, but because it is right. If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich.

Special Pledge

To our sister republics south of the border, we offer a special pledge—to convert our good words into good deeds—in a new alliance for progress—to assist free men and free governments in casting off the chains of poverty. But this peaceful revolution of hope cannot become the prey of hostile powers. Let all our neighbors know that we shall join with them to oppose aggression or subversion anywhere in the

Americas. And let every other power know that this hemisphere intends to remain the master of its own house.

To that world assembly of sovereign states, the United Nations, our last best hope in an age where the instruments of war have far outpaced the instruments of peace, we renew our pledge of support—to prevent it from becoming merely a forum for inactivity—to strengthen its shield of the new and the weak—and to enlarge the area in which its writ may run.

Finally, to those nations who would make themselves our adversary, we offer not a pledge but a request: that both sides begin anew the quest for peace, before the dark powers of destruction unleashed by science engulf all humanity in planned or accidental self-destruction.

We dare not tempt them with weakness. For only when our arms are sufficient beyond doubt can we be certain beyond doubt that they will never be employed.

No Comfort

But neither can two great and powerful groups of nations take comfort from our present course—both sides overburdened, both

rightly alarmed by the steady spread of the deadly atom, yet both racing to alter that uncertain balance of terror that stays the hand of mankind's final war.

So let us begin anew—remembering on both sides that civility is not a sign of weakness, and sincerity is always subject to proof. Let us never negotiate out of fear. But let us never fear to negotiate.

Let both sides explore what problems unite us instead of belaboring those problems which divide us.

Let both sides, for the first time, formulate serious and precise proposals for the inspection and control of arms—and bring the absolute power to destroy other nations under the absolute control of all nations.

Let both sides seek to invoke the wonders of science instead of its terrors. Together let us explore the stars, conquer the deserts, eradicate disease, tap the ocean depths and encourage the arts and commerce.

Let both sides unite to heed in all corners of the earth the command of Isaiah—to "undo the heavy burdens . . ." (and) let the oppressed go free."

New Endeavor

And if a beachhead of cooperation may push back the jungles of suspicion, let both sides join in creating a new endeavor—not a new balance of power, but a new world of law, where the strong are just and the weak secure and the peace preserved.

All this will not be finished in the first 100 days. Nor will it be finished in the first 1,000 days, nor in the life of this Administration, nor even perhaps in our lifetime on this planet. But let us begin.

In your hands, my fellow citizens, more than in mine, will rest the final success or failure of our course. Since this country was founded, each generation of Americans has been summoned to give testimony to its national loyalty. The graves of young Americans who answered the call to service surround the globe.

Now the trumpet summons us again—not as a call to bear arms, though arms we need—not as a call to battle, though embattled we are—but a call to bear the burden of a long twilight struggle, year in and year out, "rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation"—a struggle against the common enemies of man: tyranny, poverty, disease and war itself.

Will You Join?

Can we forge against these enemies a grand and global alliance, north and south, east and west, that can assure a more fruitful life for all mankind? Will you join in that historic effort?

In the long history of the world, only a few generations have been granted the role of defending freedom in its hour of maximum danger. I do not shrink from this responsibility—I welcome it. I do not believe that any of us would exchange places with any other people or any other generation. The energy, the faith, the devotion which we bring to this endeavor will light our country and all who serve it—and the glow from that fire can truly light the world.

For Your Country

And so my fellow Americans: ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country.

My fellow citizens of the world: ask not what America will do for you, but what together we can do for the freedom of man.

Finally, whether you are citizens of America or citizens of the world, ask of us here the same high standards of strength and sacrifice which we ask of you. With a good conscience our only sure reward, with history the final judge of our deeds, let us go forth to lead the land we love, asking His blessing and His help, but knowing that here on earth God's work must truly be our own.

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A WARNING IN CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN'S WORDS

We Must Abjure Hatred, Bitterness

In his tribute to the late President John F. Kennedy, spoken as the body lay in the rotunda of the Capitol at Washington on Sunday, Earl Warren, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, found in the President's death, as did others this week, a warning to Americans on "forces of hatred and malevolence" in the nation. The Warren tribute follows:

There are few events in our national life that unite Americans and so touch the heart of all of us as the passing of a President of the United States.

There is nothing that adds shock to our sadness as the assassination of our leader, chosen as he is to embody the ideals of our people, the faith we have in our institutions and our belief in the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.

Such misfortunes have befallen the nation on other occasions, but never more shockingly than two

days ago.

We are saddened; we are stunned; we are perplexed.

John Fitzgerald Kennedy, a great and good President, the friend of all men of goodwill, a believer in the dignity and equality of all human beings, a fighter for justice and apostle of peace, has been snatched from our midst by the bullet of an assassin.

What moved some misguided wretch to do this horrible deed may never be known to us, but we do know that such acts are stimulated by forces of hatred and malevolence, such as today are eating their way into the bloodstream of American life.

What a price we pay for this fanaticism!

It has been said that the only thing we learn from history is that we do not learn. But surely we can learn if we have the will to do so. Surely there is a lesson to be learned from this tragic event.

If we really love this country, if we truly love justice and

mercy, if we fervently want to make this nation better for those who are to follow us, we can at least abjure the hatred that consumes people, the false accusations that divide us and the bitterness that begets violence.

It is too much to hope that the martyrdom of our beloved President might even soften the hearts of those who would themselves recoil from assassination, but who do not shrink from spreading the venom which kindles thoughts of it in others?

Our nation is bereaved. The whole world is poorer because of his loss. But we can all be better Americans because John Fitzgerald Kennedy has passed our way, because he has been our chosen leader at a time in history when his character, his vision and his quiet courage has enabled him to chart for us a safe course through the shoals of treacherous seas that encompass the world.

And now that he is relieved of the almost super-human burdens we imposed on him, may he rest in peace.

ALL HAVE PART IN THE SLAYING

"We have been present at a new crucifixion.

"All of us have had a part in the slaying of our President. It was the good people who crucified our Lord and not merely those who acted as executioners.

"By our silence; by our inaction; by our willingness that heavy burdens be borne by one man alone; by our readiness to allow evil to be called good and good evil; by our continued toleration of ancient injustices . . . we have all had a part in the assassination."

—DEAN FRANCIS SAYRE Washington Cathedral

The Governor's Tribute

North Carolinians mourn the death of John Fitzgerald Kennedy, President of the United States of America, and mourn the tragic and disgraceful cause.

This wholesome, courageous, warm-hearted leader of the free people of the world spent most of his life, in uniform and out, in bold and intelligent attack on tyranny, bigotry and oppression.

With a passionate concern for all people, often harassed from both sides and from behind, President Kennedy set his strength determinedly for human understanding and world peace, remaining always resolute in his faith, always undaunted and unafraid. The valiant soldier of freedom is dead. All mankind is less.

—GOV. TERRY SANFORD