



The Armed Forces observed their second anniversary on May 19th, with our Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps teamed for the defense of freedom this year as never before in history.

This is a winning team. It preserves and perpetuates the long tradition of America's Armed forces that defeat can never be admitted because defeat means an end of the freedom we have come to take almost for granted.

It was only fitting that this nation honor these four arms of its military power on Armed Forces Day, when for nearly a year these fighting men have been actively engaged in a stand against aggression on behalf of the United Nations. For the first time since the consolidation of the Services,

they are engaged in combat, defending on foreign fields, in distant waters and skies, the freedom all Americans hold dearer than life itself.

The purpose of Armed Forces Day, conceived and inaugurated in 1950, is to familiarize Americans with the state of national defense and the organization of the Armed Forces. In this year of tension and dangers, when men are striving to better the state of national defense, and when the Armed Forces are expanding, this is doubly important.

On Armed Forces Day, loyal Americans dedicated themselves to a deeper knowledge of the Armed Forces, and to support and honor the men and women of these forces. Americans who know their "defenders of freedom," and who have watched with anguish and pride the great fight they have made, honored them on May 19th.

On this Armed Forces Day, 1951 your United States Army is bearing a major burden of the stand against aggression. Men of your Army are doing this task well, are leaving firmly impressed on the history of the free world the mark of a man—the American combat soldier.

Naval power is an important element of America's armed strength. On and under the seas, and in the air above the seas, the Navy maintains a vigilant guard against all who might seek to challenge our country's free way of life.

One of the many vital tasks with which the United States Air Force is charged is to aid in the prevention of war by means of a strategic striking force in being. If war should come in spite of our efforts, it would also prove an important factor in helping to win the victory. The Air Force also gives major consideration to the air defense of the United States, tactical support of ground forces, and air transport for personnel and sup-

