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Dr. Alvin

Telephone

BOY SCOUT CONFERENCE  
HONOLULU, HAWAII, FRIDAY, MAY 17, 1974

IT IS GOOD TO BE WITH YOU TODAY. I'M STILL A SCOUTER IN  
SPIRIT, ALTHOUGH IT HAS BEEN MANY YEARS SINCE I'VE BEEN IN A SCOUT  
UNIFORM, *altho Esquire Magazine on June cover put me back in uniform*

ONE OF THE PROUDEST MOMENTS OF MY LIFE CAME IN THE COURT  
OF HONOR WHEN I WAS AWARDED THE EAGLE SCOUT BADGE. I STILL HAVE THAT  
BADGE. IT IS A TREASURED POSSESSION.



*Actually that picture brought back great memories*

*from Tenderfoot to Eagle Scout - TROOP 15*

*Many summers at Scout Camp  
as a Camper & Counselor,*

*after WW II troop committee-men  
fund raised.*

*I'm PROUD of every scouting experience  
Camping / Hiking / Swimming /*

I ENVY YOU SCOUTERS IN YOUR WORK WITH YOUNG PEOPLE. I SERVED FOR SOME TIME AS A SCOUT ADVISOR IN GRAND RAPIDS AFTER WORLD WAR TWO BUT I REGRETFULLY LEFT THAT WORK WHEN I WAS ELECTED TO CONGRESS.



I HAVE GREAT ADMIRATION AND RESPECT FOR THOSE WHO CONTINUE TO GIVE OF THEIR TIME AND ENERGY TO THE SCOUTING PROGRAM.

SOME OF MY HAPPIEST MEMORIES GO BACK TO THE DAYS WHEN I WAS A SCOUT IN TROOP 15 OF THE TRINITY M.E. CHURCH IN GRAND RAPIDS.

THOSE MEMORIES INVOLVE THE HIKES, THE CAMPING, THE OUTDOOR  
LIFE WHICH I BELIEVE ARE A MAJOR FACTOR IN THE CONTINUED SUCCESS OF  
SCOUTING.

THOSE OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES ARE OF GREATER AND GREATER  
IMPORTANCE TO OUR NATION AS IT BECOMES MORE AND MORE A NATION OF  
CITIES AND METROPOLITAN AREAS, RATHER THAN OF FARMS AND SMALL TOWNS.



THE CONCRETE OF THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS AND THE BRICKS  
AND STEEL OF BUILDINGS WALL US AWAY FROM THAT CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE  
EARTH AND SKY WHICH CAN HELP US REALIZE WHAT IS IMPORTANT IN LIFE  
AND WHAT IS NOT.

WE ALL NEED THE SENSE OF RENEWAL THAT CLOSE CONTACT WITH  
NATURE BRINGS.



ONE OF THE MOST INTENSE STUDENTS OF NATURE, HENRY

DAVID THOREAU, REALIZED THAT SOME OF THE MOST BASIC TRUTHS CAN BE

FOUND OUTDOORS. IN HIS BOOK, "WALDEN", THOREAU SAYS: "I WENT TO

THE WOODS, BECAUSE I WISHED TO LIVE DELIBERATELY, TO FRONT ONLY

THE ESSENTIAL FACTS OF LIFE, AND SEE IF I COULD NOT LEARN WHAT LIFE

HAD TO TEACH....."



THAT TO ME EMPHASIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF SCOUTING. IT DOES  
GET US OUT INTO THE WOODS. IT DOES GIVE US A CHANCE TO LOOK AT THE  
ESSENTIAL FACTS OF LIFE, AND TO LEARN FROM THEM LESSONS THAT CAN  
HELP EACH OF US MEET THE CHALLENGES OF LIFE.

SO I AM GREATLY HEARTENED BY THE FACT THAT SCOUTING  
CONTINUES TO EMPHASIZES THE OUT-OF-DOOR LIFE---AND, IN FACT, EXPANDS IT  
FAR BEYOND THE SIMPLE CAMPING TRIPS OF MY YOUTH TO INCLUDE THE "HIGH  
ADVENTURE" EXPERIENCES. ~~I HOPE YOU SCOUTING LEADERS CONTINUE TO  
EMPHASIZE THE OUT-OF-DOORS IN YOUR PROGRAMS.~~



IT DIDN'T OCCUR TO ME AT THE TIME I WAS HIKING, SWIMMING,  
CAMPING, COOKING, CANOEING AND TAKING PART IN THE OTHER OUTDOOR  
SCOUTING ACTIVITIES THAT I WAS LEARNING SOME THINGS WHICH WOULD PLAY  
AN IMPORTANT PART IN MY LIFE.



ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT LESSONS WAS THAT OF SELF-DISCIPLINE. YOU AND I KNOW THAT YOU DON'T CAMP FOR THE NIGHT SUCCESSFULLY UNLESS YOU HAVE A SCHEDULE OF THINGS TO DO BEFORE YOU CRAWL INTO THE SLEEPING BAG. AND YOU HAVE TO FOLLOW THAT SCHEDULE. IF YOU DON'T, YOU'RE LIABLE TO BE FACING SOME UNPLEASANT CONSEQUENCES, LIKE HAVING YOUR TENT BLOW DOWN BECAUSE IT WASN'T STAKED PROPERLY, OR BEING FLOODED OUT BY A RAINSTORM BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T TRENCH THE TENT PROPERLY.

*I was looking at an old picture at  
Camp Shawondosse - <sup>Duck</sup> <sup>Lake</sup>.  
Geo Muller &  
Self discipline - others  
Teamwork - patrol (troop)  
Leadership -  
Doom-Creeps -*



I THINK THAT PRINCIPLE OF SETTING A SCHEDULE AS TO WHAT YOU WANT TO ACHIEVE AND HOW YOU WANT TO GO ABOUT ACHIEVING IT HAS HELPED ME AS MUCH AS ANY SINGLE THING I LEARNED IN SCOUTING.

I FEEL, THEREFORE, THAT YOUR WORK IN SHOWING THE SCOUTS HOW TO PROPERLY SET THEMSELVES TASKS AND THEN FOLLOW THROUGH ON THOSE TASKS IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE. THE MORE CITIZENS WE HAVE WHO PRACTICE SELF-DISCIPLINE, THE BETTER OFF OUR COUNTRY WILL BE.





WE HAVE ALL HEARD THE DOOM-CRIERS WHO WEEP THESE DAYS ABOUT  
OUR COUNTRY'S FUTURE. THEY CLAIM THE NATION IS FALLING APART. THEY  
SEE NOTHING BUT TROUBLE AHEAD FOR ALL OF US.

WELL, TO ME, YOUR VERY PRESENCE HERE IS PROOF POSITIVE THAT  
THOSE DOOM-CRIERS ARE WRONG. THEY ARE 180 DEGREES OFF COURSE.



IN FACT, YOU HERE ARE PLAYING A MAJOR ROLE IN HELPING  
BUILD THE LEADERS WHO WILL BRING NEW STRENGTH AND PURPOSE TO OUR PEOPLE.

I BELIEVE THAT SCOUTING PROVIDES THE BEST LEADERSHIP TRAINING  
PROGRAM FOR YOUNG PEOPLE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD.

I MENTIONED EARLIER THE SELF-DISCIPLINE WHICH SCOUTING HELPS  
DEVELOP. THERE ARE OTHER IMPORTANT LEADERSHIP QUALITIES WHICH  
SCOUTING BUILDS.



THE ENTIRE PROGRAM IS A DAILY DEMONSTRATION OF THE  
USEFULNESS AND POWER WHICH COMES FROM TEAMWORK. IT SHOWS WHAT A TEAM  
CAN DO, IF COORDINATED AND PROPERLY MOTIVATED.

IN MY 25 YEARS IN POLITICAL LIFE, I HAVE FOUND THAT TEAM  
WORK REALLY HELPS GET THINGS DONE IN GOVERNMENT. THOSE WHO BEST  
UNDERSTAND THE POWER OF A GROUP OF PEOPLE WORKING TOGETHER FOR A COMMON  
GOAL ARE THOSE WHO BECOME THE LEADERS OF OUR NATION. THE MORE YOU CAN DO  
TO BRING TO THE BOYS AND YOUNG MEN WITH WHOM YOU WORK THE IDEA OF  
TEAMWORK, THE BETTER LEADERS YOU WILL DEVELOP.

*Teamwork*



ANOTHER MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE SCOUTING PROGRAM  
IN BUILDING LEADERSHIP--AND THIS I OFFER FROM MY HEART AS WELL AS  
FROM MY EXPERIENCE -- LIES IN THE MORAL VALUES IT OFFERS THE  
INDIVIDUAL. THESE ARE VALUES WITHOUT WHICH LEADERSHIP IS DIFFICULT.  
MANY THINK IT FASHIONABLE THESE DAYS TO LOOK DOWN UPON SCOUTING  
VALUES AS KID STUFF --- ALL RIGHT FOR BOYS, PERHAPS, BUT HOPELESSLY OUT  
OF DATE FOR ADULTS IN A CYNICAL WORLD. WHAT A MISTAKEN IDEA!



IN MY TRAVELS AROUND THE COUNTRY -- AND I'VE BEEN IN MORE  
THAN HALF THE STATES OF OUR NATION IN THE PAST 5 MONTHS -- I HAVE  
FOUND A DEEP HUNGER FOR THOSE BASIS VALUES WHICH THE SCOUTING PROGRAM  
TEACHES. YOU KNOW THEM. THE SCOUT LAWS: A SCOUT IS TRUSTWORTHY.  
A SCOUT IS LOYAL. A SCOUT IS HELPFUL. A SCOUT IS FRIENDLY. A SCOUT  
IS COURTEOUS. A SCOUT IS KIND. A SCOUT IS OBEDIENT. A SCOUT IS  
CHEERFUL. A SCOUT IS THRIFTY. A SCOUT IS BRAVE. A SCOUT IS CLEAN.  
A SCOUT IS REVERENT.

*Same principles*



THOSE LAWS, WITH THE SCOUT OATH OR PROMISE TO HELP OTHER  
PEOPLE, TO KEEP HIMSELF PHYSICALLY STRONG, MENTALLY AWAKE AND MORALLY  
STRAIGHT, AND TO DO HIS DUTY TO GOD AND HIS COUNTRY, FORM BASIC VALUES  
ON WHICH TO BUILD ONE'S LIFE.

THEY ARE BASIC VALUES ON WHICH TO BUILD A NATION.

THEY ARE BASIC VALUES ON WHICH TO BUILD A WORLD.



THE MORE PEOPLE WE HAVE WHO DO A GOOD TURN FOR ANOTHER  
EACH DAY, THE LESS SUSPICION AND DISTRUST WE WILL SEE.

THE MORE PEOPLE WE HAVE WHO BELIEVE IN TRUTH AND HONESTY,  
THE FEWER PROBLEMS WE WILL HAVE IN GOVERNMENT.

THE MORE PEOPLE WE HAVE WHO RESPECT OUR NATION, ITS LAWS  
AND ITS FLAG, THE LESS WE WILL HEAR ABOUT OUR COUNTRY FALLING APART.



THE THREE GREAT PRINCIPLES WHICH SCOUTING PROVIDES --  
SELF-DISCIPLINE, TEAMWORK, AND MORAL AND PATRIOTIC VALUES -- ARE THE  
BASIC BUILDING BLOCKS OF LEADERSHIP. I APPLAUD SCOUTING FOR  
CONTINUING TO EMPHASIZE THEM.

I AM ALSO GREATLY HEARTENED BY THE SUCCESS IN THE  
BOY POWER '76 PROGRAM, WHICH IS REACHING SO WELL TOWARD ITS GOALS  
FOR THE BICENTENNIAL YEAR.



THE EFFORT TO BRING THE SCOUTING PROGRAM INTO THE INNER  
CITIES AND POVERTY AREAS OF OUR COUNTRY IS OF IMMENSE IMPORTANCE  
AND CAN PLAY A MAJOR PART IN HELPING ALLEVIATE SOME OF THE PROBLEMS  
WHICH THOSE AREAS POSE FOR OUR COUNTRY.

I ENCOURAGE YOUR EFFORTS, TOO, IN DIRECTING THE SCOUTING  
PROGRAM TOWARD ANOTHER AREA OF CONCERN TO OUR NATION -- CONSERVATION.



THE MORE OUR YOUNG PEOPLE CAN LEARN ABOUT THE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL DIFFICULTIES WE MUST OVERCOME, THE BETTER EQUIPPED THEY WILL BE TO HELP US OVERCOME THOSE DIFFICULTIES. THE ROAD TO SOLUTION OF OUR ENERGY PROBLEMS IS NOT A SHORT ONE. BUT IN CHARTING OUR COURSE DOWN THAT ROAD, CLEAR KNOWLEDGE OF THE PROBLEMS AND OF THE DIRECTIONS IN WHICH WE MUST GO TO MEET THEM ARE OF GREAT VALUE.



ALL IN ALL, IT SEEMS TO ME THAT AS WE NEAR THE BICENTENNIAL  
YEAR WHICH IS THE GOAL OF THE BOY POWER '76 PROGRAM, SCOUTING IS STRONGER  
AND MORE IMPORTANT TO THE NATION THAN EVER BEFORE.

IN FACT, I FIND THAT SCOUTING AND THE BICENTENNIAL  
HAVE A STRONG BOND BETWEEN THEM -- YOUTH. IT IS WELL FOR ALL OF US  
TO REMEMBER JUST HOW YOUNG WAS MUCH OF THE LEADERSHIP WHICH CREATED  
OUR NATION NEARLY TWO CENTURIES AGO.



NATHAN HALE, AN OFFICER IN THE CONTINENTAL ARMY, WAS JUST  
21 YEARS OF AGE WHEN HE SAID BEFORE HE DIED: "I ONLY REGRET THAT I  
HAVE BUT ONE LIFE TO LOSE FOR MY COUNTRY."

THOMAS JEFFERSON, ELECTED TO THE LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA AT  
25, WAS EXACTLY THIRTY-THREE YEARS OLD WHEN HE WROTE THE DECLARATION  
OF INDEPENDENCE.



JONATHON DAYTON, ONE OF THE SIGNERS OF THE CONSTITUTION,  
WAS TWENTY-SIX. JAMES MADISON, A LEGISLATOR FROM HIS MID-TWENTIES,  
WAS THIRTY-FIVE WHEN HE DRAFTED THE PLAN THAT BECAME THE BASIS  
FOR A REMARKABLE DOCUMENT, OUR CONSTITUTION.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON BECAME THE FIRST SECRETARY OF THE  
TREASURY IN HIS EARLY THIRTIES. HE WAS A MEMBER OF GENERAL WASHINGTON'S  
STAFF DURING THE REVOLUTION AT THE AGE OF 24.



AS YOU CONTINUE TO WORK TOWARD YOUR GOALS FOR THE  
BICENTENNIAL, I HOPE YOU WILL KEEP MIND THE FACT THAT VERY YOUNG  
PEOPLE PLAYED A VERY IMPORTANT PART IN WINNING OUR FREEDOM AND  
BRINGING INTO BEING THIS GREAT REPUBLIC.

I AM CONFIDENT THAT TODAY, TWO CENTURIES LATER, THE  
YOUTH OF THIS NATION WILL PLAY AT LEAST AS IMPORTANT A PART -- IF NOT  
MORE IMPORTANT -- IN MOVING THIS REPUBLIC AND ITS PEOPLE INTO A  
BETTER WORLD.



I AM CONFIDENT THAT YOUR ABILITY TO BRING IDEALS, VALUES  
AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING TO MILLIONS OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE WILL HELP  
TO BRING ABOUT A NEW ERA--A TIME IN WHICH NOT ONLY OUR REPUBLIC WILL  
PROGRESS IN PEACE AND FREEDOM, BUT A TIME IN WHICH THE ENTIRE WORLD  
SHALL BE SECURE, AND ALL ITS PEOPLE FREE.

THANK YOU.



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REMARKS BY VICE PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD  
BOY SCOUT CONFERENCE, HONOLULU, HAWAII  
FRIDAY, MAY 17, 1974

FOR RELEASE AT 9:00 A.M. HAWAII TIME (3:00 P.M. E.S.T.) FRIDAY

It is good to be with you today. I'm still a Scouter in spirit, although it has been many years since I've been in a Scout uniform.

One of the proudest moments of my life came in the Court of Honor when I was awarded the Eagle Scout Badge. I still have that badge. It is a treasured possession.

I envy you Scouters in your work with young people. I served for some time as a Scout Advisor in Grand Rapids after World War II, but I regretfully left that work when I was elected to Congress.

I have a great admiration and respect for those who continue to give of their time and energy to the Scouting program.

Some of my happiest memories go back to the days when I was a Scout in Troop 15 of the Trinity M. E. Church in Grand Rapids.

Those memories involve the hikes, the camping, the outdoor life which I believe are a major factor in the continued success of Scouting.

Those outdoor activities are of greater and greater importance to our nation as it becomes more and more a nation of cities and metropolitan areas, rather than of farms and small towns.

The concrete of the streets and highways and the bricks and steel of buildings wall us away from that close contact with the earth and sky which can help us realize what is important in life and what is not.

We all need the sense of renewal that close contact with Nature brings.

One of the most intense students of Nature, Henry David Thoreau, realized that some of the most basic truths can be found outdoors. In his book, "Walden", Thoreau says: "I went to the woods, because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what life had to teach..."

That to me emphasizes the importance of Scouting. It does get us out into the woods. It does give us a chance to look at the essential facts of life, and to learn from them lessons that can help each of us meet the challenges of life.

(more)

So I am greatly heartened by the fact that Scouting continues to emphasize the out-of-door life -- and, in fact, expands it far beyond the simple camping trips of my youth to include the "high adventure" experiences. I hope you Scouting leaders continue to emphasize the out-of-doors in your programs.

It didn't occur to me at the time I was hiking, swimming, camping, cooking, canoeing and taking part in the other outdoor Scouting activities that I was learning some things which would play an important part in my life.

One of the most important lessons was that of self-discipline. You and I know that you don't camp for the night successfully unless you have a schedule of things to do before you crawl into the sleeping bag. And you have to follow that schedule. If you don't, you're liable to be facing some unpleasant consequences, like having your tent blow down because it wasn't staked properly, or being flooded out by a rainstorm because you didn't trench the tent properly.

I think that principle of setting a schedule as to what you want to achieve and how you want to go about achieving it has helped me as much as any single thing I learned in Scouting.

I feel, therefore, that your work in showing the Scouts how to properly set themselves tasks and then follow through on those tasks is of great importance. The more citizens we have who practice self-discipline, the better off our country will be.

We have all heard the doom-criers who weep these days about our country's future. They claim the nation is falling apart. They see nothing but trouble ahead for all of us.

Well, to me, your very presence here is proof positive that those doom-criers are wrong. They are 180 degrees off course.

In fact, you here are playing a major role in helping build the leaders who will bring new strength and purpose to our people.

I believe that Scouting provides the best leadership training program for young people anywhere in the world.

I mentioned earlier the self-discipline which Scouting helps develop. There are other important leadership qualities which Scouting builds.

The entire program is a daily demonstration of the usefulness and power which comes from teamwork. It shows what a team can do, if coordinated and properly motivated.

In my 25 years in political life, I have found that team work really helps get things done in government. Those who best understand the power of a group of people working together for a common goal are those who become the leaders

(more)

of our nation. The more you can do to bring to the boys and young men with whom you work the idea of teamwork, the better leaders you will develop.

Another most important part of the Scouting program in building leadership -- and this I offer from my heart as well as from my experience -- lies in the moral values it offers the individual. These are values without which leadership is difficult. Many think it fashionable these days to look down upon Scouting values as kid stuff -- all right for boys, perhaps, but hopelessly out-of-date for adults in a cynical world. What a mistaken idea!

In my travels around the country -- and I've been in more than half the states of our nation in the past 5 months -- I have found a deep hunger for those basic values which the Scouting program teaches. You know them.

The Scout Laws: A Scout is Trustworthy. A Scout is Loyal. A Scout is Helpful. A Scout is Friendly. A Scout is Courteous. A Scout is Kind. A Scout is Obedient. A Scout is Cheerful. A Scout is Thrifty. A Scout is Brave. A Scout is Clean. A Scout is Reverent.

Those laws, with the Scout Oath or Promise to help other people, to keep himself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight, and to do his duty to God and his country, form basic values on which to build one's life.

They are basic values on which to build a nation.

They are basic values on which to build a world.

The more people we have who do a good turn for another each day, the less suspicion and distrust we will see.

The more people we have who believe in truth and honesty, the fewer problems we will have in government.

The more people we have who respect our nation, its laws and its flag, the less we will hear about our country falling apart.

The three great principles which Scouting provides -- self discipline, teamwork, and moral and patriotic values -- are the basic building blocks of leadership. I applaud Scouting for continuing to emphasize them.

I am also greatly heartened by the success in the BOYPOWER '76 program, which is reaching so well toward its goals for the Bicentennial year.

The effort to bring the Scouting program into the inner cities and poverty areas of our country is of immense importance and can play a major part in helping alleviate some of the problems which those areas pose for our country.

I encourage your efforts, too, in directing the Scouting program toward another area of concern to our nation -- conservation.

The more our young people can learn about the energy and environmental difficulties we must overcome, the better equipped they will be to help us overcome

(more)

those possibilities. The road to solution of our energy problems is not a short one. But in charting our course down that road, clear knowledge of the problems and of the directions in which we must go to meet them are of great value.

All in all, it seems to me that as we near the Bicentennial year which is the goal of the BOYPOWER '76 program, Scouting is stronger and more important to the nation than ever before.

In fact, I find that Scouting and the Bicentennial have a strong bond between them -- youth.

It is well for all of us to remember just how young was much of the leadership which created our nation nearly two centuries ago.

Nathan Hale, an officer in the Continental Army, was just 21 years of age when he said before he died: "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country."

Thomas Jefferson, elected to the legislature of Virginia at 25, was exactly thirty-three years old when he wrote the Declaration of Independence.

Jonathon Dayton, one of the signers of the Constitution, was twenty-six. James Madison, a legislator from his mid-twenties, was thirty-five when he drafted the plan that became the basis for a remarkable document, our Constitution.

Alexander Hamilton became the first Secretary of the Treasury in his early thirties. He was a member of General Washington's Staff during the Revolution at the age of 24.

As you continue to work toward your goals for the Bicentennial, I hope you will keep mind the fact that very young people played a very important part in winning our freedom and bringing into being this great Republic.

I am confident that today, two centuries later, the youth of this nation will play at least as important a part -- if not more important -- in moving this Republic and its people into a better world.

I am confident that your ability to bring ideals, values and leadership training to millions of our young people will help to bring about a new era -- a time in which not only our Republic will progress in peace and freedom, but a time in which the entire world shall be secure, and all its people free.

Thank you.

293-4311



~~REMARKS~~ <sup>By</sup> REMARKS BY VICE PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD  
~~BOY SCOUT CONFERENCE~~ BOY SCOUT CONFERENCE, HONOLULU, HAWAII  
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~~INSERT~~ ~~15 July 1974~~ ~~the church~~  
~~Some of the happiest memories I have are of the days when~~

These

~~I was active in scouting in Michigan. And the happiest of these~~  
memories involve the hikes, the camping, the outdoor life which I believe are a major factor in the continued success of Scouting.

~~and~~ Those outdoor activities are of greater and greater importance to our nation as it becomes more and more a nation of cities and metropolitan areas, rather than of farms and small towns.

The concrete of the streets and highways and the bricks and steel of buildings wall us away from that close contact with the earth and sky which can help us realize what is important in life and what is not.

We all need the sense of renewal that close contact with Nature brings.

One of the most intense students of Nature, Henry David Thoreau, realized that some of the most basic truths can be found outdoors. In his book, "Walden", Thoreau says: "I went to the woods, because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what life had to teach..."

That to me emphasizes the importance of Scouting. It does get us out into the woods. It does give us a chance to look at the essential facts of life, and to learn from them lessons that can help each of us meet the challenges of life.

INSERT PAGE ONE...AFTER FIRST PARAGRAPH.

One of the proudest moments of my life came in the Court of Honor when I was ~~awarded~~ awarded the Eagle Scout Badge. I still have that badge. *It is a treasured possession.*

I envy you Scouter<sup>s</sup> in your work with young people. ~~I have~~ I served for some time as a Scout Advisor ~~in~~ in Grand Rapids, after World War Two, but ~~I~~ regretfully left that work when I was elected to Congress.

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~~It~~





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It didn't occur to me at the time I was hiking, swimming, camping, cooking, canoeing and taking part in the other outdoor Scouting activities, ~~but~~ <sup>that</sup> I was learning some things which ~~are~~ <sup>would</sup> play an important part in my life.

One of the most important lessons was that of self-discipline. You and I know that you don't camp for the night successfully unless you have a schedule of things to do before you crawl into the sleeping bag. And you have to follow that schedule. If you don't, you're liable to be facing some unpleasant consequences, like hav<sup>ing</sup> your tent blow down because it wasn't staked properly, or being flooded out by a rainstorm because you didn't trench the tent properly.

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We have all heard the doom-criers who weep these days about our country's future. ~~They~~ claim the nation is falling apart. ~~They~~ see nothing but trouble ahead for all of us.

Well, to me, your very presence here is proof positive that those doom-criers are wrong. ~~They~~ are 180 degrees off course. ~~They~~ In fact, you here are playing a major role in helping build the leaders who will bring new strength and purpose



to our people.

*Believe that*

I ~~consider~~ the Scouting ~~program~~ provides the best leadership training program for young people anywhere in the world.

I mentioned earlier the self-discipline which Scouting helps develop. There are other important leadership qualities which Scouting builds.

The entire program is a daily demonstration of the usefulness and power which comes from teamwork. It shows what a team can do, if *properly* coordinated and motivated.

*helps* In my 25 years in political life, I have found that ~~only~~ team work *really* get things done in government. Those who best understand the power of a group of people working together for a common goal are those who become the leaders of our nation. The more you can do to bring to the boys and young men with whom you work the idea of teamwork, *the* better leaders you will develop.

Another most important part of the Scouting program in building leadership and this I offer from my heart *as* well as from my experience -- lies in the *moral* values it offers the individual. *These are* values without which leadership is difficult. Many think it fashionable these days to look down upon ~~the~~ Scouting values as kid stuff -- All right for boys, perhaps, but hopelessly out of date for adults in a cynical world.

*What a mistaken idea!*

In my travels around the country -- and I've been in more than half the states of our nation in the past 5 months, -- I have found a deep hunger for those basic values which the Scouting program teaches: You know them. ~~A Scout is trustworthy. A Scout is loyal. A Scout is reverent. A Scout is kind, and the rest of the 12 Scout Laws.~~

~~Those are important values on which to build ones life. They are important values on which to build a nation. They are important values on which to build a world.~~

I SERT FOR ~~THE~~ LAST PARAGRAPH ON PAGE THREE.

The Scout Laws: A Scout is Trustworthy. A Scout is Loyal. A Scout is Helpful.  
A Scout is Friendly. A Scout is Courteous. A Scout is Kind. A Scout is Obedient.  
A Scout is Cheerful. A Scout is Thrifty. A Scout is Brave. A Scout is Clean.  
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Those laws, with the Scout Oath ~~and~~ Promise to help other people, to keep himself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight, and to do his duty to God and his country, form basic values on which to build one's life.

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#  
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The more people we have who believe in truth and honesty, — the fewer problems we will have in government.

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The ~~the~~ three great principles which Scouting provides -- self discipline, teamwork, and moral and patriotic values -- are the basic building blocks of leadership. I applaud Scouting for continuing to emphasize them.

I am also greatly heartened by the success in the Boypower '76 program, which is reaching so well toward its goals for the Bicentennial year.

The effort to bring the Scouting program into the inner cities and poverty areas of our country is of immense importance, and can play a major part in helping alleviate some of the problems which those areas pose for our country.

I encourage your efforts, too, in directing the Scouting program toward another area of concern to our nation — Conservation.

The more our young people can learn about the energy and environmental difficulties we must overcome, the better equipped they will be to help us overcome those difficulties. The road to solution of our energy problems is not a short one. ~~But in charting our course down that road,~~ <sup>value.</sup> ~~clear knowledge of the problems, and of the directions in which we must go to meet them, are of great use in charting the proper course along that road.~~

All in all, it seems to me that as we near the Bicentennial year <sup>(all gaps)</sup> which is the goal of the Boypower '76 program, Scouting is stronger, and more important to the nation than ever before.

In fact, ~~it seems to me~~ <sup>I find</sup> that Scouting and the Bicentennial have a strong bond between them ~~and~~ Youth.



It is well for all of us to remember just how young was much of the leadership which created our nation nearly two centuries ago.

Nathan Hale, an officer in the Continental Army, was just 21 years of age when he said before he died: <sup>"I only"</sup> ~~regret~~ that I have but one life to <sup>lose</sup> ~~lose~~ for my country."

Thomas Jefferson, elected to the legislature of Virginia at 25, was exactly thirty-three years old when he wrote the Declaration of Independence.

Jonathon Dayton, one of the signers of the Constitution, was twenty ~~six~~ <sup>SIX</sup>. James Madison, a legislator from his mid-twenties, was thirty-five when he drafted the <sup>#</sup> plan that became the basis for <sup>a</sup> remarkable document, our Constitution.

Alexander Hamilton became the first Secretary of the Treasury ~~in~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~thirty-three~~ his early thirties.

He was a member of General Washington's Staff during the Revolution at the age of 24.

~~And there were~~  
~~There were many more of equally tender years.~~

As you continue to work toward your goals for the Bicentennial, I hope you will keep mind the fact that very young people played a very important part in winning our freedom and bringing into being this great Republic.

~~Because~~ I am confident that today, two centuries later, the youth of this nation will play at least as important a part -- if not more important -- in moving this Republic and its people into a better world.

I am confident that your ability to bring ideals, values and leadership training to millions of our young people will help to bring about a new era. A time in which not only our Republic will progress in peace, and freedom, but a time in which the entire world shall be secure, and its people <sup>all</sup> ~~shall be~~ free.

Thank you.

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