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I have found from experience that the subjects of greatest concern to college students are foreign policy questions and the draft. So let me discuss these topics for a few minutes and then I will take whatever questions you want to ask.

There are positive developments on the foreign affairs front despite the continued tension in the Middle East and the pounding taken by some South Vietnamese troops when the Laotian incursion came to an end.

We are getting out of the Vietnam War. The U.S. involvement there is ending. The President now is removing U.S. troops from Vietnam at the rate of nearly 15,000 a month, so that we will be down to about 184,000 by next Dec. 1. In November the President will make another troop withdrawal announcement. If our withdrawals continue at the May-to-December rate, we will be down to 50,000 men by the fall of 1972.

So we are getting out of the war in Vietnam. We have succeeded in averting a new war in the Mideast, where a de facto cease fire is continuing. And we have made a solid beginning in the U.S.-Soviet talks aimed at cutting back the strategic arms race.

We are getting out of Vietnam while giving our friends in Southeast Asia the time and the means to defend themselves against Communist aggression. I believe the prospects now are that the South Vietnamese will retain their independence and that the rest of Southeast Asia will remain free of Communist domination.

As for those who shout, "Out now," I say that they would throw away our investment in South Vietnam at the very moment when success appears within reach. I think we can salvage something from the dreadful mistake of a guerrilla war in Southeast Asia fought on the enemy's terms. I think

we can salvage the right of self-determination for the South Vietnamese. There is a chance that an independent South Vietnam can survive the cruellest onslaught by Communist aggressors in the world's history.

I would make this one comment about the antiwar demonstrations that have been taking place in Washington. Those who demonstrated peacefully have acquitted themselves creditably. But those who have engaged in disruptive tactics--in civil disobedience--have broken the law and have infringed upon the rights of others. Not only have they violated the law, but they have brought discredit on the entire peace movement. Their activities have been counter-productive.

Turning now to the Mideast, I would point out that the United States took the initiative there to start the two sides talking and to stop the fighting. A year ago there was daily combat along the Suez Canal. There was growing danger that the United States and the Soviet Union would be drawn into a direct confrontation. Now we have at least a de facto ceasefire--and a kind of indirect negotiation. As for Israel's refusal simply to accept the terms of the United Nations resolution, I think this is understandable. After all, Israel is surrounded by enemies on all sides--enemies who are backed up by the armed might of the Soviet Union. Israel cannot be blamed for wanting defensible frontiers.

We know that centuries of hatred and decades of hostility cannot be ended overnight. There will have to be painful compromise on both sides before any kind of viable agreement can be reached in the Mideast.

On the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks--the so-called Salt Talks--the United States and the Soviet Union are carefully examining the strategic competition that has grown apace in recent years--despite the capacities for overkill on both sides. I would hope that specific agreements can be reached to curb the arms race. However, there now is

evidence of a determined Soviet buildup of a new missile equal and perhaps superior to the 25-megaton Russian SS9. This new development poses a definite danger to the SALT talks. Intelligence reports also indicate that the Soviet Union may have begun putting multiple warheads on some of its SS9 missiles. So this also is an ominous development. This leaves the United States no alternative but to remain strong while continuing to push for the kind of strategic arms agreement we can rely upon.

Let me now turn to the draft. The House has approved and the Senate is working on a bill to extend the draft for two years while paving the way for establishment of an all-volunteer armed force. One provision of the new draft bill eliminates college deferments. But prospects are that college deferments will simply be phased out--not ended abruptly.

Dr. Curtis Tarr, the director of Selective Service, calls college deferments the last remaining inequity in the draft law. As you may know, the President <sup>more than</sup> a year ago ended all occupational and paternity deferments. So we now have only college deferments.

What the new draft bill does is to practically double military pay for the lowest enlisted grades. The idea is to make military pay and fringe benefits competitive with certain civilian jobs and thus make the military more attractive to our young men.

We cannot end the draft overnight because to do so would be to gamble with the Nation's security. But we do believe that under this new legislation we will move steadily toward zero draft calls and an all-volunteer force.

And now I will answer any questions you may have.

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