



'It's a
Great
Country'

Work for Political Change, President Urges Youth



UPI Telephoto

EVANGELIST BILLY GRAHAM AND PRESIDENT NIXON
The President was undaunted by the shouts of protest

A Wild Response in Tennessee

United Press

Knoxville, Tenn.

President Nixon, shouting over chanted obscenities from a small crowd of protesters in a jammed football stadium, told the Nation's youth last night to work for change through politics, not violence.

Mr. Nixon, appearing before 75,000 persons at the Billy Graham crusade in the University of Tennessee's Neyland Stadium, called the present generation "the great young generation."

He praised youths who "do not approve of violence" but who "as I do, do approve of dissent."

"This is a country where a young person knows there is a peaceful way he can change what he doesn't like about America and that's why it's a great country," said the President in a 15-minute, extemporized speech.

CROWD

Nearly all of the overflow crowd was wildly responsive to Mr. Nixon's speech. Only a small group of protesters, about 300 strong, 60 yards from the podium, kept up a running chant, which at times grew so loud that Mr. Nixon was forced to shout to be heard.

"I am just glad there seems to be a rather silent majority on the one side rather than the other side tonight," said Mr. Nixon, and the roar of the crowd drowned out the dissidents.

"I respect those who disagree with me," Mr. Nixon said. "No one can be sure their decisions are right."

"I can understand why so many of our young people speak of their desire for peace," he said. "I want it and you want it. I recognize that a great number of our young people are concerned about the fact that in our great cities the air is dirty and in some places the water is polluted. There are not enough parks."

"There is alienation between the races in this country and also alienation between generations."

"I believe in young America and I think they have something to say," Mr. Nixon continued. "So it is a generation that is not the lost generation that some Americans think . . . it can be and it will become the great generation."

Mr. Nixon also touched on
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President Praises Nation's Youth

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religion, saying that problems can be solved but people will still "have a sterile life unless we have spirit" from religious faith.

The dissenters chanted "1-2-3-4 we don't want Nixon's war," "Thou shalt not kill," and, for about 30 seconds, "Bull—, Bull—."

The dissenters were located at about the 20 yard line on one end of the field and the podium was at the opposite 20 yard line.

Mr. Nixon appeared, if anything, to be stimulated to more impassioned oratory by the small group of protesters. After his speech, he sat down and remained throughout Graham's fiery sermon.

Graham, who had to shout over the dissenters when he introduced Mr. Nixon, sat impassively during the President's speech, watching the speaker and paying no attention to the noisy protesters.

During his sermon, a former student identified as William Carroll Bible ap-

peared on the sidelines in long, flowing robes, a beard and should-length hair, bellowing "Billy Graham, here me."

Police grabbed him, hustled him under the stadium, cracked him on the shins with billy clubs and hauled him into a rest room.

He was one of several protestors arrested.

Officials of Graham's crusade estimated the crowd in the stadium at 75,000, and said 25,000 more were outside the gates.

State police and secret service agents moved around the dissident group and police photographed them. The group left after Mr. Nixon's speech.

Press secretary Ron Zeigler said Mr. Nixon was "elated by his reception" in Tennessee.

It was the President's first speech on a college campus since last June, when he made the commencement address at the Air Force academy.