

Nixon Warns of Peril to U.S. in Domestic Demands of 'New Isolationists'

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David Eisenhower receiving his Navy commission from President Nixon yesterday on his graduation from school at Newport, R. I., headed by Capt. Eugene H. Farrell, center.

Associated Press

NEWPORT, R. I., March 12 — President Nixon today denounced "new isolationists" who favor cuts in the defense budget in order to spend more on domestic programs.

In a speech to the graduating class of his son-in-law, David Eisenhower, at the Naval Officer Candidate School here, Mr. Nixon said he knew the argument of the "new isolationists."

"Though we cut defense spending, we cannot cut it enough. Though we greatly increase domestic spending in proportion to defense spending, we cannot increase it enough."

The President said he also understood the sentiment behind those who favored a shift in national priorities, but added:

"I understand these arguments. I understand the cost of weakness, too. This question of what is enough is not academic—it is crucial to the survival of this nation."

Then, the World War II Navy cargo officer who is now the Commander in Chief of all American forces, warned:

"If we have the most extensive urban renewal programs and the most far-reaching medical care provisions, and the finest highways, and the most comprehensive education assistance efforts, and the most effective antiproverty programs

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—if we have all this and more and we have it all at the expense of our ability to defend ourselves, then we would soon enjoy none of the fruits of our efforts, and the only peace we would know would be that terrible peace imposed upon those who are the victims of their own lack of vigilance."

In citing his cuts in the defense budget, Mr. Nixon apparently was referring to his first two years in office, because he has proposed an increase in defense spending of \$1.5-billion to \$76-billion for next year. Last year Congress cut \$3.2-billion from his defense budget.

The President did not name the new isolationists nor did he identify those he was criticizing when, in defending his Vietnam policy, he said:

"Today, despite the terrible evidence of this century, there are those who have refused to learn the hard lessons of the history of tyranny. They would tell us — as their predecessors in other times have told us — that the appetite for aggression can be satisfied only if we are patient and that the ambitions of the aggressor are justified if only we understand them properly.

"I am never surprised to see these positions held. But I am always astonished to see them held in the name of morality. We know too well what follows when nations try to buy peace at the expense of other nations. I do not believe we are

prepared to take that course."

The President, who plans to spend the weekend in Key Biscayne, Fla., detoured north to Rhode Island from Washington to speak to the graduating class of 216 new ensigns and 10 nurses, David Eisenhower ranked 17th in the class.

The Presidential jet landed at Quonset Point Naval Air Station, across Narragansett Bay from Newport. It was at Quonset Point that Mr. Nixon went to officers candidate school in World War II. He reminisced about his naval experience, remembering how difficult it was for him to learn to shine his shoes properly.

Looking back on his naval experience, Mr. Nixon said: "I wouldn't have missed it but I wouldn't want to do it again."

Police Block Protesters

NEWPORT, R. I., March 12 (AP)—Several hundred protesting construction workers were blocked by military policemen today from entering the naval base where President Nixon was speaking.

The "hardhats" stopped about 40 yards of a guardhouse at a gate to the base when they were met by 17 marines, military policemen and a fire engine. The group was on Government property at the time and had by-passed a barricade.