"Nearly a 100 years ago, our survival as a free united land was in jeopardy. The threat was domestic. Abraham Lincoln, whose every act and word was swiftly tried in the forum of public judgment, was beset with a multitude of problems. Congress had a Committee on the conduct of the war. There was a demand for "bold" action. A New York newspaper cried for policy and leadership. There were frustrated generals. General McClellan was constantly crying for more of everything. An ex-President was still around, giving advice. And through it all, it was the calm, steady guidance of our first Republican President, who never forsook what he deemed to be his just cause, that the nation remained united and free, to go forward to new majesty and achievement.

"Today—nearly a 100 years later—another Republican President—Dwight Eisenhower is confronted with the issue of survival in a turbulent and challenging age. Committees of Congress are investigating. There is a demand for "bold" action. There is the same clamor for policy and leadership. There are frustrated generals. Some of them resign. There is a clamor for more money, more weapons, more of everything. A former President who could not secure a victory in a police action is freely giving advice. Such are the recurring patterns of human behavior. But through it all, a calm President, with fidelity to principle and in the belief that his course is right will effectively meet the challenge of today and guide the nation through to a greater destiny.

In such a season as this, it is so easy to find communion with Lincoln. One might stand with him at Gettysburg as he uttered the prayerful hope for a new birth of freedom; or at his second Inaugural where he urged his fellow citizens to strive on to finish the work we were then in; or as he said to Congress in his second annual message that, "the occasion is piled high with difficulty and we must rise with the occasion."

I want to stand with him for a moment in a church in Springfield Illinois in March of 1940. He was then but 31. The occasion was a debate on fiscal policy. On that occasion he said, "The probability that we may fall in the struggle should not deter us from support of a cause we believe to be just." That same sentiment he uttered on other occasions and it has been phrased to read, "Let not the probability of defeat deter us from asserting a cause which is just."

Lincoln's life was a testament to this principle. Defeated for the Senate and the Vice Presidency, after Fort Sumter, after his excoriation by Horace Greeley, after the nomination of Fremont by Anti-Lincoln Republicans, after Grants losses in the Wilderness, after Sherman's first failure to reach Atlanta, after his demobilization by his own leaders, he went steadily forward to assert a cause which he believed just. And in the doing, he was enshrined in every American heart as no other man.
Today, there is a dissident spirit in the land. There is uneasiness and concern. What better can we do than to assert and reassert our cause. It is simple, it is basic, it is durable. It is simply this—to keep our country at peace; to keep it secure; to keep it solvent; to keep it free; to keep it tranquil and happy; to keep it abreast of the challenges of growth and change.

This is the 6th year of this Republican administration. When the snide attacks on President Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles have failed; when the investigations have been stilled; when the incandescent headlines have been forgotten, there will remain the patent and incontrovertible fact that young Americans do not die on some far-off battlefield and that more and more of them can cherish the hope of remaining at home. That is our cause.

When the Sputniks have been forgotten and the political brigadiers have uttered their last criticisms of our policy on security, we are more likely to remember survey of our military posture by Hanson Baldwin of the N.Y. Times who on Feb. 1st wrote that "Qualified men are almost unanimous that the U.S. still retains definite superiority to the Soviet in overall military power, in industrial strength and in basic technological, engineering and scientific capabilities." Security is a part of our cause.

Solvency is a part of our cause. It is 26 years ago that Franklin Roosevelt stated that nations can be wrecked on the rocks of loose fiscal policy. In 18 of the 20 years which followed under Democrat rule, spending exceeded revenue. The two years which were an exception, produced a balanced budget because a Republican Congress did the job. This Administration made a covenant with the people to keep the nation solvent. And that covenant has been kept. It is a part of our cause.

The preservation of our free enterprise system embodies the future hope of America. It's very essence is that economic decisions are made in the market place. Already it is plain that in the years immediately ahead our population growth, the increase in the number of youngsters who will be in school for a longer period, and the lowering of the retirement age will mean a heavier burden of productivity upon a smaller percentage of producers. That burden must be offset with new techniques and new processes. These can flow only from individual effort and only the moral climate of a free economic system will make it flourish to the full. But despite this hard fact, there has been and there still persists, an effort to transfer to government the power to make the economic decisions which must remain in the market place. It is the relentless effort to remake America and intrude government deeper and deeper into the economic life of the nation through more and more regulation and control. Since control is the very essence of Socialism, it can be said that this nation could be socialized without government ever assuming ownership of a single activity. From its very inception, the Republican Party has opposed these
efforts. And today as before, the preservation of this free system of which freedom itself is the lifeblood is a part of our cause.

Lincoln once observed that it is the legitimate function of government to do for them what they cannot do for themselves or do so well in their separate and individual capacities. Growth and change are inevitable. Government must keep abreast of change and changing needs. The record of this administration in the field of housing and highways, social security and small business, industrial peace and agriculture is basic and constructive. They are a part of our cause.

This is the Republican cause. It is just. It is moral. Faith in our cause and courage to face up to our duty are our greatest weapons. And in the spirit of Lincoln, we shall not let the probability of defeat deter us from asserting a cause which is just. That course will ever have the approbation of a free people.