MR. CHAIRMAN AND FELLOW SOUTH CAROLINIANS:

As American citizens and as South Carolinians participating in a program honoring the great achievements of the United States Army, we cannot fail to recognize our duties and responsibilities in a world in which peace is not yet a reality, and our security is not yet assured.

The great privilege of citizenship in a free America carries with it the obligation to find our personal tasks in the preservation of democracy, and to work at those tasks. Your duty and mine, today and every day we live, is to perpetuate as best we can the way of life we enjoy, and to hand it down unchanged to the generations to come.

We are also duty-bound to maintain America's leadership in the preservation of democratic principles throughout the world, both with our economic means and with the might of our arms.

To accomplish this high purpose, we must have a complete national security. Our armed forces must be maintained at full strength, with men available not only from the Army and other regular branches of the service, but also from the National Guard and the Organized reserve. And for this solemn duty, we may draw inspiration from the sacrifices of thousands of Americans on foreign battlefields — Americans who fought valiantly and died for the rights and privileges of their loved ones at home.