

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY AMBASSADOR JACINTO CASTEL BORJA OF  
THE PHILIPPINES TO THE UNITED NATIONS AT THE ILLINOIS  
PAVILION OF THE WORLD'S FAIR -- JULY 31, 1964**

It is an honor to appear in the Illinois Pavilion, a place dedicated to the memory of one of the greatest sons of the State. Abraham Lincoln is of course more than merely a great son of Illinois. He is America's foremost gift to human dignity, the first of an illustrious line from that state which includes my distinguished colleague in the United Nations, Ambassador Adlai Stevenson, and the distinguished Governor Otto Kerner.

Few names are more honored than that of Abraham Lincoln. His place in history is that of a creator of a new moral universe in which the great ideas of freedom, the equality of man and the dignity of the individual take precedence over all others. In a world in which these ideas are being tested, the name of Abraham Lincoln is a constant source of strength and inspiration. For the spark that he ignited in his long tragic struggle has turned into a mighty flame that lights the hearts of freedom-loving peoples everywhere. Without him human dignity would be an orphan in a world of self-seeking and the one world idea would still be an illusion to its dreamers.

The inspiration of Abraham Lincoln is of particular relevance to our time for the threats to freedom are many and hide under various disguises. The threat of Communism is only one of them although it is the most immediately dangerous to us in our region. The relaxation of tensions which followed the Cuban crisis has not been reflected in my part of the world -- Southeast Asia -- where a bitter underground struggle in Vietnam has erupted into the open and threatens to embroil many other countries. We who are close to the scene of fighting are not disposed to regard this turn of events with any amount of composure for our own fate and the fate of our free institutions are part of the long-term stake in the deadly confrontation between the democratic and communist forces in Vietnam. The eyes of the world are focused on the test of strength and ideas in that beleaguered land and democracy can ill-afford a show of weakness. Democracy must win.

The Communist threat in Vietnam or indeed any Communist threat in Southeast Asia has always been of grave potential danger but it is particularly so at this point when most of the Southeast Asian countries are in frantic haste to discover for themselves the political and social forms and institutions which can insure a measure of internal stability. This continuing search is at best fraught with extreme difficulty, what with accentuated forms likely to take the place of substance because of age-old thinking attuned to the formal point of view. But its interruption and frustration under pressure of the Communist threat

could have

could have consequences fatal to the chances of free democratic institutions to take root and flourish.

Another continuing threat to freedom is colonialism. The great age of classic colonialism is gone and will never return but we are faced today with the last of the expiring breed of colonizers, fiercely and fanatically determined to hold on to their remaining possessions in the face of universal censure. That this form of colonialism will eventually disappear, I have no doubt but it has in the meantime poisoned the wells of human feeling and posed grave danger to international peace and security.

The violation of human rights and denial of dignity to the human person which are at the root of all colonial practices reach their most extreme phase in the philosophy of apartheid, which is racialism thinly disguised, and which is without question the most openly vicious form of colonialism extant.

Thus, the problem of colonialism continues to plague mankind. The passing of the age of classic colonialism has unfortunately also marked the rise of two other forms of colonialism -- the first symbolized by the so-called captive countries and the second by hidden control, chiefly through economic means, of one country by another. The situation in the captive countries, despite recent efforts at the relaxation of tight control and direction by the Soviet Union, speaks sufficiently for itself. But the second is infinitely more subtle and therefore far easier to hide from public scrutiny. In this, precisely, lies its danger -- that it will subvert and then strangle its all-too-often unknowing victims.

And finally, one of the greatest threats to freedom arises from the consequences of economic underdevelopment. The age-old conditions of disease, ignorance and poverty which afflict the greater part of the world today provide poor soil for the nourishment of ideas of freedom and may, as indeed has been demonstrated, encourage the growth of anti-democratic forces instead.

Underdeveloped countries face two problems of equal difficulty; the first is how to achieve economic growth in the shortest possible time and the second is how to achieve economic growth democratically. The problem is therefore compounded, for it is by no means certain that economic growth by itself can be correlated with the development of democratic institutions. As the difficulties of capital accumulation in underdeveloped countries mount and outside resources remain

scarce

scarce, a totalitarian solution becomes more than a possibility and may in fact be preferable to the risk of outright failure.

We are confronted with an uninviting paradox -- economic underdevelopment is inimical to free institutions but economic development, unless wrought firmly in the refined moulds of the democratic process and treated most sympathetically by outside powers-that-have, itself could lead to dictatorship and totalitarianism. How to avoid one rock without running into the other is a problem which will continue to engage the best energies of those who are genuinely concerned with the future. The United Nations is pledged to this effort.

The recent trade and development conference in Geneva geared towards revising the structure of world trade for more democratic and equitable benefits to developed and developing countries, that is, to poor and rich alike, attests to her dedication to a commitment that is of the essence to peace and survival.

We who desire to pay homage to Abraham Lincoln and the ideas for which he stood might perhaps, as an act of devotion to his memory and to the condition of man in our time, pause and reflect on the proper solutions to the manifold dangers that confront freedom everywhere.

Arrival of 100 members of Sigma Pi Ichi  
in Front Courtyard  
will be closed to the public for  
Sigma Pi Ichi

presentation of "Great Moments with Mr. Lincoln"

Mr. Robert Miller, official host of Sigma  
will speak and then introduce guests  
program will last approximately 15 minutes

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Members and guests asked to participate please  
gather in Front Courtyard at 3:00 p.m., guests  
at the Lincoln head near the benches

Official Title of the Ambassador to the Philippines

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, United States  
to the Philippines

*JAC*  
Mr. Cassin  
Mr. D'Anjou  
Troopers  
Miss Belle  
Chief Ushers  
Administrative Staff  
Ushers and Usherettes

RE: Scheduled Special Events for Friday, July 31

SPECIAL EVENT - NUMBER ONE

- 10:45 a.m. The Philippine Ambassador to the U.N. is arriving at Gate 2, will be met by a Trooper and brought to the Illinois Pavilion
- 11:00 a.m. Seminar in Library with Ambassador, Aid and Mr. Cassin, Miss Marmaduke, etc., Miss Belle as hostess
- 11:15 a.m. Ambassador will give speech from the WGN podium in Lincoln Theatre
- 11:30 a.m. Presentation of Great Moments with Mr. Lincoln

SPECIAL EVENT - NUMBER TWO

- 3:00 p.m. Arrival of 500 members of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity in Front Courtyard (Pavilion will be closed to the public for special showing to Sigma Pi Phi)
- 3:15 p.m. Presentation of "Great Moments with Mr. Lincoln"
- 3:30 p.m. Mr. Herbert Miller, official host of Sigma Pi Phi will speak and then introduce guests program will last approximately 15 minutes

All ushers and usherettes asked to participate please be on hand in the Front Courtyard at 3:00 p.m., guests will enter past the Corglum Lincoln head near the benches

Official Title of the Ambassador to the Phillipines

Ambassador Extraordianry and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of the Phillipines to the United Nations

H.E. Jacinto Castel Borja

August 6, 1964

*Approved  
G. W. ...*

The Honorable Jacinto Castel Borja  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative  
Philippine Mission to the United Nations  
13 E. 66th Street  
New York, New York 10021

Dear Ambassador Borja:

Thank you for sending us a copy of the fine speech which you delivered at the Illinois Pavilion last week. In light of the current difficulties in the Viet Nam area, your remarks were most timely as well as prophetic.

We are most grateful for your contribution to the Pavilion's Special Events program, "In the Lincoln Tradition." WGN, Inc., the Pavilion's communications sponsor, joins us in expressing sincere gratitude for your cooperation.

You were, I am sure, gratified at the warm and hearty response to your address, and I can assure you that it made all of us here at the Pavilion very proud to have you. I wish to thank you, also, for your kind comments about the Illinois Pavilion and its presentation.

We hope you will come to visit us each time you are on the Fairgrounds. If you will let us know in advance, we will be glad to arrange for you and your party to have a special reception and escort through the Pavilion without waiting.

Most cordially,