JOHN F. KENNEDY

INAUGURATIONAL ADDRESS

FOR I HAVE SWORN BEFORE

ALMIGHTY GOD

THE SAME SOLEMN OATH
OUR FORBEARS PRESCRIBED NEARLY
A CENTURY AND THREE-QUARTERS AGO

THE WORLD DIFFERENT NOW

> For man holds in his mortal hands the power to abolish all forms of human poverty and all forms of human life

And yet the same eliefs for which fought are still at issue around the lobe-the belie that the rights of man come not from the generosity of the state

GOD

WE DARE NOT FORGET TODAY THAT WE ARE THE HEIRS OF THAT FIRST Let the word go forth **REVOLUTION.** tempered by war, disciplined by slow undoing of those

at home and around THE WORLD

JANUARY 20 1961

WE OBSERVE TODAY

not a victory of party but a celebration of freedom -symbolizing an end as well as a beginning -- signifying renewal as well as change.

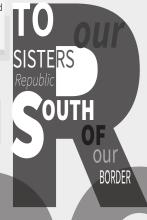
To those people in the huts and villages of half the globe struggling to break the bonds of mass misery, we pledge our to help them help themselves,

for whatever period is equiped not because the communists may be doing because we seek their

votes, but

because it

is right.



convert our good words into good deeds in a new alliance for progress to assist free men

in casting off the chains of poverty. But this peaceful revolution of hope cannot become the prey of hostile powers. Let all our neighbors

know that we shall join with them to

aggression or subversion nywhere in the Americas. And let every other power know remain the master of its own house. To that world assembly of sovereign states, the United Nations, our last best hope in

an age where the instruments

of war have far outpaced the instruments of peace, we renew our pledge of support to prevent it from

merely a forum for invective--to

strengthen its shield of the new and the weak and to enlarge the area in which its writ may run offer NO

that both sides begin anew

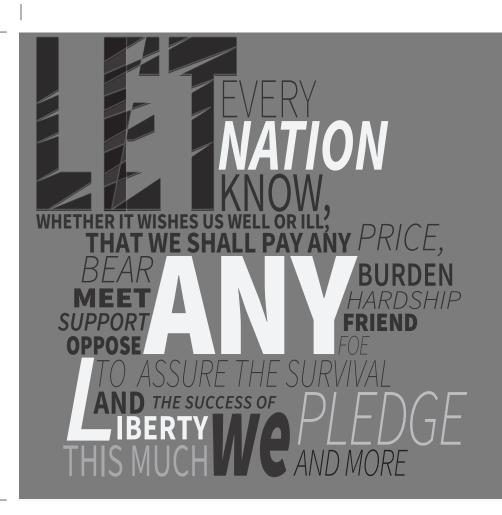
FOR PEACE

BEFORE the DARK of DESTRUCTION

<u>UNLEASHED</u> by science engulf

FINALLY TO THOSE NATIONS WHO

neverfearto



To those old allies whose cultural and spiritual origins we share, we pledge the loyalty of faithful friends. United there is little we cannot do in a host of cooperative ventures. Divided there is little we can do--for we dare not meet a powerful challenge at odds and split asunder. To those new states whom we welcome to the ranks of the free, we pledge our word that one form of colonial control shall not have passed away merely to be replaced by a far more iron tyranny.

BUT WE SHALL always hope to find them strongly SUPPORTING their own FREEDOM and to remember that, in the past THE BACK OF THE TIGER ENDED

LET BOTH SIDES

what problems unite us instead of belaboring those problems which divide us.

for the first time, **FORMULATE**

serious and precise proposals for the inspection and control of arms--and bring the absolute power to destroy other nations under the absolute control of all nations.

UNITE to heed in all corners of the earth the command of Isaiah--to "undo the heavy burdens ... (and) let the oppressed go free."

S to invoke the wonders of science instead of its terrors. Together let us explore the stars, conquer the deserts, eradicate disease, tap the ocean depths and encourage the arts and commerce.

And if a beachhead of cooperation may push back the jungle of suspicion, let both sides join in creating a new endeavor, not a new balance of power, but a new world of law, where the strong are *just* and the weak secure and the peace preserved.

nor will it be completed in the first

NOR IN THE life OF THIS ADMINISTRATION

or even perhaps in our lifetime on this planet. But let us begin. I your hands, my fellow citizens, more than mine, will rest the final success or failure of our course. Since this country was founded, each generation of Americans has been summoned to give testimony to its national loyalty. The graves of young Americans who answered the call to service surround the globe. Now the trumpet summons us again-not as a call to bear arms, though arms we need-not as a call to

Though
embattled we
are-- but a call to bear
the burden of a long twilight
struggle, year in and year out,
"rejoicing in hope, patient in
tribulation"--a struggle against the common
enemies of man: tyranny, poverty, disease and war
itself. Can we forge against these enemies a grand and
global alliance, North and South, East and West, that can assure
a more fruitful life for all mankind? Will you join in that historic effort?

We shall not always expect to find them supporting our

JOHN F. KENNEDY

In the long history of the world, only a few generations have been granted the role of defending freedom in its hour of maximum danger. I do not shrink from this responsibility--I welcome it. I do not believe that any of us would exchange places with any other people or any other generation. The energy, the faith, the devotion which we bring to this endeavor will light our country and all who serve it--and the glow from that fire can truly light the world.

my fellow AMERICANS
ask not what your
country can do for yourask what you can do for your country.

MY FELLOW CITIZENS
ASK NOT WHAT AMERICA WILL DO FOR YOU

but WHAT TOGETHER

WE CAN DO

for the

FREEDOM OF MAN

OF THE WORLD:

Finally, whether you are citizens of America or citizens of the world, ask of us here the same high standards of strength and sacrifice which we ask of you. With a good conscience our only sure reward, with history the final judge of our deeds, let us go forth to lead the land we love, asking His blessing and His help, but knowing that here on earth God's

WORK MUST TRULY BE OUR OWN

- JOHN F. KENNEDY
PRESIDENTIAL INNAUGURATION 1961