

IN THE COUNCILS of government,
we must guard against the acquisition
of unwarranted influence,
whether sought or unsought,
by the military-industrial complex.

The potential for the disastrous
rise of misplaced power
exists and will persist.

WE MUST NEVER let the weight
of this combination endanger
our liberties or democratic processes.

We should take nothing for granted.

16

16

Only an alert and knowledgeable citizenry can compel the proper meshing of the huge industrial and military machinery of defense with our peaceful methods and goals, so that security and liberty may prosper together.

AKIN TO, and largely responsible for the sweeping changes in our industrial-military posture, has been the technological revolution during recent decades.

IN THIS REVOLUTION, research has become central; it also becomes more formalized, complex, and costly.

- 5 -

This conjunction of an immense military establishment and a large arms industry is new in the American experience. The total influence -- economic, political, even spiritual -- is felt in every city, every State house, every office of the Federal government. We recognize the imperative need for this development. Yet we must not fail to comprehend its grave implications. Our toil, resources and livelihood are all involved; so is the very structure of our society.

In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition
, whether by any means whatsoever,
 of unwarranted influence by the military-industrial complex. The potential
 for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist.

We must never let the weight of this combination endanger our liberties or democratic processes. We should take nothing for granted. Only an alert and knowledgeable citizenry can compel the proper meshing of the huge industrial and military machinery of defense with our peaceful methods and goals, so that security and liberty may prosper together.

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In this revolution, research has become central; it also becomes more formalized, complex, and costly. A steadily increasing share is conducted for, by, or at the direction of, the Federal government.

- 5 -

In the councils of government, we must jealously guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence by the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist. We can ignore it only at our peril.

IV

Closely akin to, and largely responsible for the sweeping changes in our industrial-military posture, has been the technological revolution in our society during ^{recent} ~~the past five~~ decades.

In this revolution, research has become central; it has also become formalized, complex, and costly. A steadily increasing share is conducted for, by, or at the direction of the Federal government.

Today, the solitary inventor, tinkering in his shop, has been overshadowed by great task forces of scientists in laboratories and testing fields.

The free university has been, historically, the fountainhead of free ideas and scientific discovery. But now, partly because of the huge costs involved, research springs not so much from individuals engaged in random pursuit of knowledge, as from public agencies in grim pursuit of specific, predetermined results. For every old blackboard there are now hundreds of new electronic computers.

- 5 -

We must never let the situation endanger our liberties or democratic processes. We should take nothing for granted. Only an alert, knowledgeable, and wise citizenry can compel the proper meshing of the huge machinery of defense with our peaceful methods and goals, so that both security and liberty may prosper.

In the councils of government, we must jealously guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence by the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist. We can ignore it only at our peril.

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