
A New Year's Message from the President-Elect:

What America Faces in '61



Can a nation organized and governed like ours endure? That is the real question. Have we the nerve and the will? Can we carry through in an age where we will witness not only the new break-throughs in weapons of destruction—but also a race for mastery of the sky and the rain, the ocean and the tides, the far side of space and the inside of men's minds? We and the Russians now have the power to destroy with one blow one-quarter of the earth's population — a feat not accomplished since Cain slew Abel.

Can we meet this test of survival and still maintain our tradition of individual liberties and dissent? I think we can. It is the enduring faith of the American tradition that there is no real conflict between freedom and security — between liberty and abundance. Through centuries of crisis, the American tradition has demonstrated, on the contrary, that freedom is the ally of security — and that liberty is the architect of abundance.

For what we need now in this nation, more than atomic power, or air power, or financial, industrial, or even manpower, is brain power.

What we need most of all is a constant flow of new ideas — a government and a nation and a press and a public opinion which respect new ideas and respect the people who have them. Our country has surmounted great crises in the past, not because of our wealth, not because of our rhetoric, not because we had longer cars and whiter iceboxes and bigger television screens than anyone else, but because our ideas were more compelling and more penetrating and wiser and more enduring. And perhaps more important, we encouraged all ideas — the unorthodox as well as the conventional, the radical as well as the traditional.

In the words of Woodrow Wilson: "We must neither run with the crowd nor deride it — but seek sober counsel for it — and for ourselves." — **JOHN F. KENNEDY**



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COVER:

The newcomer on our cover may not know it, but photographer Doris Pinney sees her as the symbol of a bright new year. If she could talk, she would surely join us in wishing all our readers a very happy 1961.

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