

STATEMENT BY VICE PRESIDENT AGNEW
UPON DEPARTURE FROM KATHMANDU, NEPAL

FOR TAPING 9:15 a.m., JANUARY 6, 1970
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As I leave Nepal, after much too brief a visit, I wish to express my deepest and most heartfelt appreciation to His Majesty the King, His Royal Highness the Crown Prince, Prime Minister Bista, and the people of Nepal, for making this an exceptionally informative and pleasant experience. My expectations were surpassed in every way, and I would find it difficult to single out what impressed me most. However, I would like to mention two aspects of this visit about which I plan to report in detail to President ~~Nixon~~ ^{THE} and other members of our government in Washington.

First, my conversations with His Majesty and members of the Government of Nepal provided a comprehensive and encouraging view of productive and constructive efforts being made to improve the life of all Nepalese. I was particularly impressed by the desire of the Government of Nepal to carry forward its development ^{AI} efforts through vigorous self-help, calling upon other governments to assist only in ways which will be complementary to the primary efforts of the Nepalese people themselves. This same spirit of self-reliance is clearly reflected in Nepal's foreign policy.

Secondly, I wish to record my admiration for the concrete steps which Nepal has taken in the field of economic and social development. I was privileged this morning to visit your modern facilities for producing textbooks, and your National Vocational Training Center where young people are learning the technical skills essential to economic growth. Another aspect of this program is your increasing agricultural production, made possible by the use of new seeds and new methods. The United States is proud to have been associated with your progress in this field.

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In the course of my conversations with your Government, I had occasion to discuss the Nixon Doctrine, which reaffirms my country's determination to fulfill commitments to the security of Asian nations and, equally important, to support within the limits of our resources the plans and programs which Asian nations themselves devise to improve the welfare of their peoples. Nepal provides an excellent example of the way in which a variety of nations can successfully join together in a common development effort. I am proud of the small part which my own country has been able to play.

I cannot leave without thanking Their Majesties and all the people of Nepal for the warmth and courtesy with which you have received my wife and me. Your hospitality, which helped make this visit such a rewarding one for both of us, will live long in our memories.

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