Analysis of documents about war prevention of president dwight and general george...

History



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Analysis of documents 26-1 and 27-5

In both documents, President Dwight and General George take time to caution Americans on how to prevent wars and prepare for the war just in case one cropped up. In document 26-1, General George Marshall outlines the lessons learned from the World War 2. General George believes that the citizens are the only ones who can ensure that there is no misuse of power by schemers who are always ready to send armies to war. According to George, some of the factors that saved America during the Second World War were the errors made by the opponent armies and ocean distances. He believes that these factors cannot be relied on in the future wars. George made the Americans aware of their vulnerability and strengths and by that; the American army knew what to do and not to do in wars. General George is, however, concerned with the peace of the world which he believes that only the strongest can bring peace to the world. Because of the concern by George for a peaceful world, Americans are now taking the responsibility to visit war torn areas, to try and bring peace. Countries like Afghanistan, Iraq. He continues to say that for a nation to be strong there must be a contribution from all the nation citizens. In document 27-5, American President Dwight D Eisenhower surveys American achievements during the 1950's and identifies threats posed by these achievements. In a farewell address, the president expresses concern for peace to prevail and for use of intellect and other decent means to resolve conflicts. He urges people to analyze differences intellectually, and not involve wars (Johnson) 250). The president urges that people should not think that a costly measure would be the miracle to solve a crisis; instead. He believes

that each proposal given should be weighed and considered. He advises that there cannot be emergency improvisation of national defense. President Dwight's advice has helped America negotiate with 'enemies' in trying to find amicable solutions that have been arising. It is rare, for America go to war with a country without negotiating and finding a solution. The president acknowledges the presence of influence in every city, state house and office, but warns that the people must not fail to comprehend the grave implications. According to the president, there must be a guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence in the council's government, despite the involvement of the military complex. The president reminds the people of America that maintaining balance involves time and, the American people should avoid living only for today. America is seen as one of the most prepared country in a situation where a war was to start any time. They have the latest equipment, latest technology and are always a step ahead. This is because of such caution taken from the report by President Dwight that they are prepared.

Conclusion

Both documents emphasize on the peace prevailing and avoiding a war. General George tries to emphasis that if there were no wars, then Americans would save a lot of money. He also calls for participation of all citizens in ensuring that the nation is safe. President Dwight believes that if there is a way of settling crisis and issues without fighting then that method that is peaceful and decent should be used instead.

Reference

Johnson, Michael. Reading the American past, Volume II: from 1865: selected historical documents. Boston: Bedford/ St. Martins, 2008. Print.