Presidential election debate continues

Goldwater
By David Nolan
Who are the Goldwaterites? Are we a "radical group" of "unwittingly irresponsible individuals" as some have charged? Are we merely "flag-waving extremists and reckless defenders of freedom"?

Undoubtedly there are some "ultras" in our ranks, just as there are in the ranks of our opponents, but these are not the heart of our strength. Our supporters are for the most part ordinary Americans, millions upon millions of them. These people, many of them well-educated and young, do not wish to starve the poor or drop the bomb, any more than their "liberal" counterparts.

We, like those we represent, have seen the tide of events running against freedom -- and quite-""muck it as you may, freedom is still an important word, perhaps the most important word in the world today. We do not want to lose our freedom.

Our country was built by men who believed in the importance of freedom, and of individual self-reliance and achievement. Now, nearly two centuries after our beginnings, those ideals are being lost. More and more, the values being stressed, particularly by our Democratic opponents, are those of "security" and "equality."

But security without freedom is not only illusory; it is a short-lived thing. For once one has lost freedom, security will soon be destroyed by those who aspire to ultimate power.

As for "equality," those who would legislate artificial equalities among men forget that we are equal only in our Constitutional rights, and not in our abilities or worth to society. A government which proclaims the incompetents and the parasitic to be the "equal" of skilled and productive men entitled to the same rewards and paternalistic protection against life's realities, has in effect reduced those who produce to the status of servants of the non-productive.

Those of us who support the Arizona Senator do not believe that others have the right to manage our lives, liberty or property. We believe in the fundamental dignity of the individual -- in treating each as he earns the right to be treated -- as opposed to the collectivistic philosophy of false equality where a talentless and lazy parasite is accorded all the privileges of those who discover, invent and produce wealth.

In short, we believe that all men, regardless of race, creed, national origin, are entitled to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness -- but not to happiness itself, unless they earn it.

This is the real problem of this year's election campaign. On the one hand, President Johnson is committed to do something about current problems and has for a long time shown great skill and responsibility in the development and implementation of programs responsive to the country's needs. Contrasted with this is a candidate who has a negative, destructive record in the Senate, a platform that stresses what he will not do, and a campaign strategy based on uniting as many "anti-" groups as he can.

The Goldwater camp is failing to fill the role of an effective opposition; it simply refuses to deal with issues. The Goldwaterites, professing that a situation does not exist will not make it go away, live in a world of real poverty and real hunger and real problems in urban transportation -- and real thermonuclear weapons.

That is why Scientists and Engineers for Johnson and Humphrey are actively campaigning on campus and sponsoring such activities off campus (in cooperation with other Greater Boston groups) as tonight's panel discussion on "The Presidency in the Atomic Age" (at Cambridge High and Latin, Broadway and Trowbridge St., 8:30 p.m.) featuring Jerome Wiesner and C. H. Townes of M.I.T. and G. B. Kistiakowsky and Stanley Hoffman of Harvard and moderated by M.I.T.'s Lincoln Bloomfield.

Johnson
By Aaron Seidman
At a time when self-governed states and the entire world face their severest test when exponential increases in information and population threaten to get out of hand, when technological advances in warfare call for insight and foresight in order to preserve not only American civilization but that of the rest of the world as well; when it is essential that there be a meaningful debate on the problems facing the nation--at this time the Republican party has bailed the United States of America.

The Democratic Party, with the aid of forward-looking Republicans, has led the fight for true democratic government throughout the entire country. The Kennedy-Johnson administration has concerned itself with conserving our national resources, eliminating pollution in our rivers (including the Charles') and in the air we breathe. It has encouraged the development of educational opportunities at all levels and fostered an unprecedented era of economic development.

Against this, the Republican Convention has offered us nothing.

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