

Statement on the 30th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor

Senator Hiram L. Fong Papers

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Statement by Senator Hiram L. Fong
On the Thirtieth Anniversary of
The Attack on Pearl Harbor
On the Floor of the Senate
December 7, 1971

Thirty years ago today Pearl Harbor was attacked.

Many wounds opened then and during the subsequent terrible fighting around the world have healed. Remnant scars are disappearing.

But none of us who lived through that day has forgotten, no one should.

I speak as I do without the least bit of vengeance. I speak because we who have survived owe it to those we commemorate on this anniversary to carry on towards the goals sought then which are still goals being sought today, the most important of which is a world at peace.

I need remind no one that the world is far from this main objective -- the Indian subcontinent is aflame; the Mideast simmers as friends of both Arabs and Israelis alike worry; America is withdrawing its combat forces from Vietnam but the fighting there is not over

However, I hope we do not despair.

- 2 -

During the 30 years since the attack, America has grown, the World has grown, and new generations are among us. In America, for instance, the median age is 27.7 years which means the majority of our citizens were not yet born when the attack occurred.

A sense of forgiveness does prevail in America, especially among our young.

Today we pray for peace. If this spirit can be made to prevail throughout the world, mankind, I feel, has reason for optimism and hope.

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