

**Editorial—**

# **The Awesome Power Of the President**

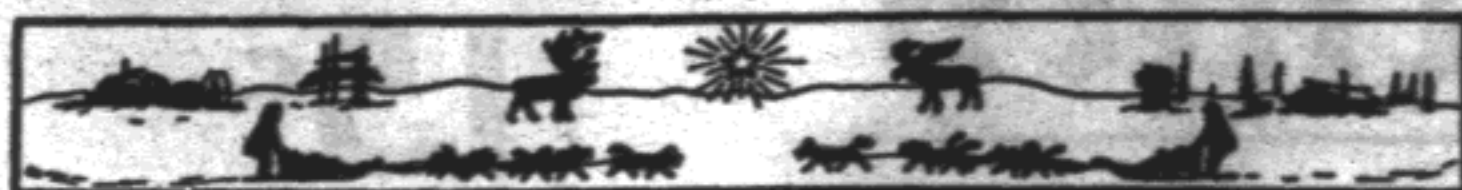
The President of the United States, Lyndon Baines Johnson, shook the collective senses of the people of America and the world last Sunday when he made a momentous statement that he would not seek the Presidency of his country to succeed himself.

Except for a very few people close to him, he caught the country and the world by complete surprise. The result was shock and disbelief on the part of his political followers, his political foes and millions of

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**"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." - Voltaire**

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## The Awesome Power..

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ordinary citizens.

When a man of his stature—a man who had won the majority of votes for the right to lead his country—makes a world-shaking pronouncement, the people of the United States are jolted into awakening that the man who had been chosen to lead them does, indeed, possesses awesome powers. The public, whether it knows it or not, is stunned into realization that it does have a leader it instinctively depends upon to carry the responsibilities of the affairs of state and country.

President Lyndon Johnson forcefully offered the history of the world a page last Sunday which it will record as one of the most stunning in the course of time.

The President's decision is being weighed by analysts. He told the country and the world that this was not the time for "any personal partisan causes or to any duties other than the awesome duties of this office..."

The President, of course, was talking about his country's problems of which one of the most pressing is the Vietnam situation. He wants to devote his full time to this great problem instead of losing valuable periods in the time-consuming duties of campaign for re-election.

From the tone and profoundness of his declaration, we feel that President Johnson means what he said—the urgency of achieving peace in Vietnam. This is foremost in his mind. May he succeed in this difficult mission and may the humble in all walks of life give him the support he needs.

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