

February 21, 1977

I was much interested in three points in The Farewell Address: first, Washington's warning against factionalism, East versus West, South versus North, Party against Party. Secondly, he warns us that nations never do anything except in their self-interest — and that we should be wary of over-commitment to any foreign power.

Third, when Washington talks about religion, it seems to me he was better able than any political leader living today to appeal to common understandings, common assumptions, about morality and duty, such as existed in his time, but exist precariously, if at all, today.

A great address!

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