

THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

July 16, 2005

YOUNG MEN

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Dear Fellow Scouters:

Congratulations on your participation in the 2005 Varsity "Operation On Target." You are to be congratulated not only for where you stand but, more importantly, for what you stand for.

The values of Scouting have never been needed by the people of the world more than they are today. As war rages in various parts of the world and disrupts the peace of society, and as the youth of today are tempted more than ever to compromise their moral values, it is time that more of our youth made a commitment to stand on higher ground, morally, and to lift their friends and associates to safety as well.

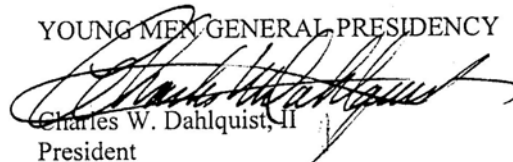
How well I remember my years of being with the Varsity Scouts on top of the mountains looking over the valley and signaling from one mountain peak to another. There was a feeling that we were part of a much larger process linking much of the free world. Earlier this year, I stood in Russia, Armenia and Ukraine – which have all seen such major changes in the past few years. I was impressed that there are fine young men, just like you, all over the world. And there is a need for us to feel a link with the rest of the world and increase our understanding and respect for each other – all the while maintaining our own values.

As you stand atop these mountains today, I challenge you to decide now to stand tall and stand up for principles of truth and right. You have been sent here for a particular purpose and a particular mission. Each of you has been given talents and abilities that are singular to you. I challenge you to commit in this early morning hour as you stand atop this mountain peak to utilize those talents and abilities not only to become that which a kind Heavenly Father would have you become, but to use those talents in serving others and making this world a better place, for true joy comes only in service.

I congratulate you for your accomplishments to this point. I congratulate you for your personal and team accomplishments. And I pray that you will be firm and true and steadfast as these mountains in keeping your bodies clean, your minds awake and alert and your morals strong. May God bless you, your Varsity team members and your leaders.

Sincerely,

YOUNG MEN GENERAL PRESIDENCY


Charles W. Dahlquist, II
President

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