

REMARKS BY

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

57th NATIONAL GOVERNORS CONFERENCE

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

JULY 27, 1965

our nation
Our government, over these past few days, has been

reaching important decisions.

These decisions touch the lives of ~~hundreds~~ of thousands of American families. They could mean the expenditure of great resources -- of money, material, and, yes, of human life.

~~Such~~ decisions challenge and test the quality of our leaders and our people.

We are facing Communist aggressors who are tenacious, arrogant and ruthless.

Gov Sawyer
Gov Rolvaag - Carl & Thane

Mr Mc Knight - 300

Mr Cross

*President regrets not
being here tonight*

*Talk to you of our
Country -
its troubles
its promise
etc*

They are practicing a new and sophisticated kind of aggression -- an assault that is organized in detail, with forces trained in terrorism, and skilled in a kind of sadistic warfare that we Americans have only begun to understand.

South Viet Nam is the testing ground for the so-called "war of national liberation" -- a contest in which totalitarians *- the Communists -* believe they can baffle and defeat not only the forces of the Republic of South Viet Nam but also the forces of the most advanced of all nations. In South Viet Nam the Communist aggressors seek to demonstrate decisively that murder and terrorism -- and not peaceful coexistence -- is the path to ~~eventual Communist triumph.~~ *follow.*

✓ We learned long ago that we cannot live safely in our continental refuge! There was no place to hide from nuclear attack. We could only deter it by building our own nuclear striking forces to unimaginable power. And in this task of defense we succeeded. Our Power is Awesome!

✓ Now we are discovering that in a world filled with the explosive ferment of poverty, the misleading catchwords and slogans of communism can set our world aflame. We have found that it is not sufficient to have achieved a strong nuclear deterrent.

✗
✓ While our nation enjoys the greatest prosperity in history, and possesses unequaled power, we also live in a world filled with disorder, violent change, yes, revolution.

Two-thirds of the world is poor, hungry, ~~sick~~ sick, and illiterate,
And the gap between the rich nations and the poor nations widens
each year. These restless, poor and yet proud people demand, by
whatever means, something better.

At the same time we are engulfed in great waves of
scientific and technological change that could give to man the
~~to destroy all he has created or better yet~~
means ~~literally~~ to destroy poverty, disease and ignorance
throughout the world. *the ancient dream of man*

Such a task is surely not beyond the ability of this
great nation and the other advanced countries of the world.

But it cannot be accomplished unless at the same time
we learn to cope with the day-to-day gangster tactics that make
any kind of orderly progress almost impossible.

Thus we have not one great task in the world, but two--
to provide the helping hand of friendship, and to shield those
who wish to help themselves build a better life.

And we must realize that this gigantic task of helping others to help themselves, of resisting aggression and protecting freedom can only be sustained if America, the leader of free nations, is powerful ^{resolute, unafraid} and united.

Today in Southeast Asia, and elsewhere, we carry ^{heavy} burdens. They require great allocation of our resources to national security and defense.

⊗ Nevertheless, -- even should these burdens grow heavier -- we must still devote ourselves to building a better america ^{a better} society here at home.

~~For~~ ^{growing} our wealthy nation has resources for both defense and social justice . . . for national security and domestic well-being.

Today we face no choice between guns and schools, ammunition and medical care. We can and do have both.

We face instead long term, continuing necessities on many fronts -- necessities which are within our power to meet.

For the only way we Americans will be able to carry our world burdens in the years ahead will be by creating today, ^{tomorrow} a strong, healthy and cohesive society. *We have unfinished work to do -*

and We know there are great tasks ahead in our own country.

✓ In five years, 211 million people will live here. Half of them will be under age 25. Within ten years we will need, each year, over 2 million new homes . . . welfare and health facilities for 5 million more people over age 65 . . . transportation systems to move goods and people . . . fresh air and light and open space.

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The statistics themselves stagger the imagination. The very size and scope of our society creates a challenge that can only be met by concerted and unified action, by teamwork among all levels of government, by cooperation among all segments of our society.

But It can be done.

In fact we have demonstrated it.

Chairman of the Space Council,

I have seen the great American space launchings at Cape Kennedy. I have seen Americans working together there -- scientists and technicians... military officers... men from our universities... the giant prime contractors... the smaller sub-contractors... officials of government... business... labor... medicine.

I have seen these people -- not defending their separate sovereignties but contributing to a partnership, a common cause, for the benefit of this nation and all people. I have seen them there -- dedicated to excellence and success.

*Standards
worthy of
Americans!*

↳ To see Cape Kennedy is to know what men can do.

It is a great lesson for our time.

That same dedication and unity of effort that have vaulted us into the far reaches of space must be applied throughout all our society.

↳ We can no longer afford the debility of disunity. !

↳ We can no longer tolerate the cancers of hate and discrimination. |

⌞ We must no longer divide ourselves by emotional appeals and labels -- "Northerner," "Southerner," "labor boss," "economic royalist." *We are one nation - one People -*

⌞ If interdependence is the new dimension of international security, it is even more so a fact and requirement of domestic strength.

But ⌞ Today there are those who take for granted our role as leader of the free world -- just as some take for granted our democratic American heritage.

⌞ But I ask you to consider that role *and heritage*

The mantle of leadership is not a cloak of comfort, but rather the robe of responsibility.

⌞ Leadership does not permit a person or a nation license or luxury.

⌞ Leadership imposes responsibility — *sacrifice - duty!*

~~Today,~~ to deserve and insure that leadership, we must build a nation of men and women able to fulfill the hopes of those who came before us and to lay the groundwork for the yet-unborn generation to follow us.

⌞ Today the world asks: What is the nature of today's American? -- this American being tested as never before.

⌞ I see today's American as the same restless, adventurous, citizen as his forebears.

⌞ I see this fellow American as the son or daughter of a rich nation ^{yet} and a person of conscience, with a deep concern for the fate of his fellow man.

⌞ I see him as one who has defeated the enemies of freedom, yet extends the hand of friendship and cooperation to build a new and better world community.

✓ I see today's American surrounded by materialism, yet questioning its value... impatient with things as they are, but not impetuous in remedy or judgment.

Generous but not patronizing.

Motivated by ideals, but satisfied only with accomplishment.

Strong, but ^{neither} ~~not~~ belligerent nor arrogant.

Willing to debate, but able to decide!

✓ And the American of this generation believes that the world need not destroy itself by war.

✓ He knows that the pursuit of peace is an act of courage and that resisting aggression is the duty of free men.

Ⓚ ✓ The qualities I see in today's American are the very qualities we must have to strengthen our people in a time of trouble and danger.

And ✓ Together, as Americans, we are forging a society of strength and justice and opportunity. And, despite those who would turn us in other directions, we must move ahead in our

determination: ^{yes} we must reinforce our determination - our resolve;

↳ That all Americans will have an education that can give them opportunity to lift themselves.

↳ That all Americans will have an equal right to vote.

↳ That older Americans will have adequate medical care.

↳ That we can make our cities better places in which to live and work in safety and health.

↳ That we should preserve this nation's beauty, history and natural resources.

↳ That we must give the aging, poor and by-passed hope for life and work.

↳ That we should open our doors again to immigrants who can enrich and lend new vitality to our national life.

↳ That we should help others too in less-fortunate places to find a better life.

↳ That we defend our nation, and those who seek freedom, against attack.

and That we shall not drop the torch of international leadership.

↳ We ^{SHALL} ~~will~~ need patience, perseverance and inner strength to meet the forces moving against freedom, to preserve the peace -- above all, in the words of our President, "to press forward, not for our gain and our greatness alone, but rather for the gain and the good of all mankind."

↳ This will not be easy. We are an impatient people. Yet we must learn patience. In Southeast Asia we must be prepared to endure. The plain truth is that we must face the prospect of ~~months, and even years~~ of a long and difficult ordeal.

↳ We must be prepared to stick to that great task of restoring the peace. We must remain until we have proved to the aggressors that the cost of aggression is too high, and that they must leave their neighbors alone.

✓ If we falter, if we weaken, we will face the prospect of more Communist aggressors moving against other free nations, ~~in Southeast Asia~~. And their aggressive doctrine of subversion and terror can be exported to other parts of the world -- yes, even to the Western Hemisphere.

✓ But we are not going to falter — or fail.

We will uphold freedom's cause wherever that cause is threatened -- in another corner of the world or even in a darkened corner of our own country.

✓ I believe that Americans will not only embrace, but lead, the real revolution of our times -- the revolution that took flame from our own in America -- the revolution toward opportunity, human dignity, self-determination and self-respect, ~~for each child entering life.~~

✓ We are the progenitors of this world revolution of emancipation and liberty. It is our obligation, in our strength and wealth, to give it continued life.

yes ✓ We are the defenders and the advocates of that immortal and continuing commitment to all mankind: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

✓ We cannot stand aside and let totalitarians seize and distort to their own diabolical purpose the hopes and aspirations of the needy, the poor, the weak.

✓ We can and we will make the promise of America come true: "One nation, under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all."

and We must move forward with ^{*the*} strong and active faith. We *can + We*
must make sure that history will say that this was a time when
man's free spirit came under mortal threat, and man prevailed.

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REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY AT THE
NATIONAL GOVERNORS CONFERENCE, MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA,
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Our government, over these past few days, has been reaching important decisions.

Such decisions challenge us.

They test our fiber.

We face adversaries who are tenacious and strong and arrogant.

We face a new and sophisticated assault -- an assault from an enemy organized in detail . . . trained in depth . . . skilled in a kind of warfare we Americans have only begun to understand.

South Viet Nam is the testing ground for the so-called "war of national liberation" a contest in which totalitarians believe they can defeat the forces of the most advanced of all democratic nations. In South Viet Nam our adversaries seek to demonstrate decisively that arrogant militancy -- and not peaceful coexistence -- is the path to follow.

But, great, as it is, the challenge we face today in Viet Nam is only one of many challenges which confront us.

We no longer live safe in our contential refuge. There is no place to hide. There is no security in isolation.

While our nation enjoys the greatest prosperity in history, and possesses unequaled power, we also live in mounting danger and uncertainty.

The world is filled with disorder, violent change, yes, revolution.

We must face the fact that there are modern weapons which can destroy the civilized world in a half-hour's time.

We must face the fact that two-thirds of the world is poor, hungry, and sick, -- and the gap between the rich nations and the poor nations widens each year. These restless, poor and yet proud people demand, by whatever means, something better. This two-thirds of the world is the target for those who promise quick and easy solutions to old and complex problems.

The globe is exploding with people.

We are engulfed in great waves of scientific and technological change which we do not fully understand and which can overcome us or save us.

We must master science and technology so that it may serve man.

We must learn the techniques of defeating the new tactics of aggression.

But we must also learn this truth: The mere existence of deep poverty in the world is not only unjust -- it is an invitation to freedom's destruction.

And we must realize that this gigantic task of helping others to help themselves, of resisting aggression and protecting freedom can only be sustained if America, the leader of free nations, is powerful and united.

Today in Southeast Asia, and elsewhere, we carry burdens. They require great allocation of our resources to national security and defense.

Nevertheless -- even should these burdens grow heavier -- we must still devote ourselves to building a better society here at home.

For our wealthy nation has resources for both defense and social justice ... for national security and domestic well-being.

Today we face no choice between guns and schools, ammunition and medical care.

We face instead long term, continuing necessities on many fronts -- necessities which are within our power to meet.

For the only way we Americans will be able to carry our world burdens in the years ahead will be by creating today a strong, healthy and cohesive society.

We know there are great tasks ahead in our own country.

In five years, 211 million people will live here. Half of them will be under age 25. Within ten years we will need, each year, over 2 million new homes ... welfare and health facilities for 5 million more people over age 65 ... transportation systems to move goods and people ... fresh air and light and open space.

United we can seize the future and shape it for the good of man. Divided we will become the future's victim.

I have seen the great American space launchings at Cape Kennedy. I have seen Americans working together there -- scientists and technicians ... military officers ... men from our universities ... the giant prime contractors ... the smaller sub-contractors ... officials of government ... business ... labor ... medicine.

I have seen these people -- not defending their separate sovereignties but contributing to a partnership, a common cause, for the benefit of this nation and all

people. I have seen them there -- dedicated to excellence and success.

To see Cape Kennedy is to know what men can do.

It is a great lesson for our time.

That same dedication and unity of effort that have vaulted us into the far reaches of space must be applied throughout all our society.

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We must no longer divide ourselves by emotional appeals and labels --

"Northerner, " "Southerner, " "labor boss, " "economic royalist."

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Today there are those who take for granted our role as leader of the free world -- just as some take for granted our democratic American heritage.

But I ask you to consider that role.

The mantle of leadership is not a cloak of comfort, but rather the robe of responsibility.

Leadership does not permit a person or a nation license or luxury.

Leadership imposes responsibility and affords few privileges.

Today, to deserve and insure that leadership, we must build a nation of men and women able to fulfill the hopes of those who came before us and to lay the groundwork for the yet-unborn generation to follow us.

Today the world asks: What is the nature of today's Americans? -- This

American being tested as never before.

I see today's American as the same restless, adventurous, citizen as his forebears.

I see this fellow American as the son or daughter of a rich nation and yet a person of conscience, with a deep concern for the fate of his fellow man.

I see him as one who has defeated the enemies of freedom, yet extends the hand of friendship and cooperation to build a new and better world community.

I see today's American surrounded by materialism, yet questioning its value, ... impatient with things as they are, but not impetuous in remedy or judgment.

Generous but not patronizing.

Motivated by ideals, but satisfied only with accomplishment.

Strong, but not belligerent.

Willing to debate, but able to decide.

And the American of this generation believes that the world need not destroy itself by war.

He knows that the pursuit of peace is an act of courage and that resisting aggression is the duty of free men.

Perhaps the qualities I see in today's American are those I wish to see. For these are the qualities that must strengthen our people in a time of trouble and danger.

But I believe my thinking is not wishful.

For today in America we are increasingly agreed upon common goals, in our states, in our cities, in our country.

Today in our society we increasingly recognize that what we do today will make tomorrow.

Together, as Americans, we are forging a society of strength and justice and opportunity. And, despite those who would turn us in other directions, we must move ahead in our determination.

That all Americans will have an education which can give them opportunity to lift themselves.

That all Americans will have an equal right to vote.

That older Americans will have adequate medical care.

That we can make our cities better places in which to live and work in safety and health.

That we should preserve this nation's beauty, history and natural resources.

That we must give the aging, poor and by-passed hope for life and work.

That we should open our doors again to immigrants who can enrich and lend new vitality to our national life.

That we should help others too in less-fortunate places to find a better life.

That we shall defend our nation, and those who seek freedom, against attack.

That we shall not drop the torch of international leadership.

We will need patience ... perserverance ... inner strength to meet the forces moving through the world, to preserve the peace -- above all, in the words of our President, "to press forward, not for our gain and our greatness alone, but rather for the gain and the good of all mankind."

I believe we Americans will prove equal to the hard tasks ahead.

We shall pursue, with resolution, the restoration of peace in Southeast Asia. We shall prove to the aggressors that the cost of aggression comes too high and that they must leave their neighbors alone. We shall once again demonstrate by

unequivocal action and deed that force of arms will not drive freedom from the field.

And, make no mistake about it, if aggression succeeds in one part of this world, it will quickly follow elsewhere. If we fail to stand today, we shall have to stand tomorrow.

We shall uphold freedom's cause wherever that cause is threatened -- in another corner of the world or even in a darkened corner of our own country.

I believe that Americans will not only embrace, but lead, the real revolution of our times -- the revolution which took flame from our own America -- the revolution toward opportunity, human dignity, self-determination and self-respect for each child entering life.

We are the progenitors of this world revolution of emancipation and liberty. It is our obligation, in our strength and wealth, to give it continued life.

We are the defenders and the advocates of that immortal and continuing commitment to all mankind:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed . . . "

We cannot stand aside and let totalitarians seize and distort to their own diabolical purpose the hopes and aspirations of the needy, the poor, the weak.

We can and we will make the promise of America come true: One nation, under God indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

We must, with strong and active faith, move forward. If we do, I believe that, in the end, history will say that this was a time when man's free spirit came under mortal threat, and man prevailed.



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