



# news release

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## VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY SAYS VOTERS CANNOT 'AFFORD LUXURY' OF STAYING HOME IN '68

Los Angeles, Calif., October 24--Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey warned today that dissatisfied voters cannot afford the luxury of "protest voting" or sitting it out in this critical election year.

In remarks at the Shrine Auditorium here, Humphrey declared that Americans will cast a "critical vote" on November 5th. "It is up to you" said Humphrey, "to stop the tide of reaction." Pleading for an end to hate, he stated that "this country does not have to be torn and divided."

Stressing that the central issue of the campaign is the question of trust, Humphrey asked "whom can the American people trust to lead this country for the next four years. Can we trust each other as people?"

He charged that Nixon has refused to discuss the issues in this campaign because he doesn't want the American people to remember his past record. He said that the only decisions Nixon has made in this campaign are his selection of Spiro Agnew as a running mate and the decision "to say nothing else for the rest of the campaign."

The text of Vice President Humphrey's remarks is attached.

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REMARKS BY  
VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY  
SHRINE AUDITORIUM  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
OCTOBER 24, 1968

For release  
Friday AMS October 25

There are two weeks left in this campaign.

Whom can the American people trust to lead this country for the next four years.

Can we trust each other as people?

My Republican opponent has made two decisions in this campaign which relate directly to this crucial issue of trust.

First, he decided who should be his vice-presidential running mate -- the man who would be a heart-beat from the Presidency itself in this nuclear age.

And Mr. Nixon chose Spiro T. Agnew -- a so-called "urban expert" who says, "when you've seen one slum you've seen them all"... a man who says you can't learn anything about poverty from the poor people.

The poor people of American have seen the Agnews before -- and when you've seen one, you've seen them all.

Mr. Nixon then made a second decision. He decided to say nothing else for the rest of the campaign.

He's been on vacation -- and I say the White House is no place for a vacationer. What'll he do? ... Turn off the hot line to Moscow two days a week while he rests up?

He has refused to speak out on any vital issues. He has refused to debate -- even though I bought the time on national television.

He has stayed in the shadows -- stayed off the issues -- and relied instead on a massive advertising campaign, staged TV shows, balloons and confetti.

I say this is no way to run for President.

The people.. to trust you... have to know where you stand.

I know why Mr. Nixon won't debate. He is afraid that the people will remember his past record.

Where do you stand on Medicare, Mr. Republican? You used to call it a Socialist scheme.

What about aid to education? In 1960 you broke a tie vote in the

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Senate against federal aid to education.

What about Head Start and the Bi-lingual Education Act?

What about the Peace Corps? Do you still think it's a haven for draft dodgers?

What about that treaty against nuclear testing we now have in the books. Is it still the "cruel hoax" you used to think it was?

Are you against the passage of the treaty to keep nuclear weapons out of the hands of the Nassers and the Castros of the world because you think that's a "cruel hoax", too?

Where do you stand on Vietnam, Mr. Nixon? When are you going to reveal your secret plan? Or is Mr. Agnew right... was the whole thing a "ploy"?

And why do your advisors tell us a little unemployment is just what America needs? Whose job should we take away first?

\* \* \*

Mr. Nixon made another decision. He came out here to California and enthusiastically endorsed a candidate for the United States Senate who has accused his opponent of treason.

Mr. Agnew said I was "soft on Communism" -- though of course, he said later he didn't really mean it. Sound familiar to you?

\* \* \*

There is another fellow in this race besides Richard the Silent -- George the Loud.

George Wallace dishes out some mighty tough talk about law and order ...and then he claims to be the friend of the working man.

If it weren't so serious, it would be ridiculous.

Law and order: George Wallace couldn't provide it in Alabama. He had the highest murder rate in the country. And his program for law and order in the country is to run over people he doesn't like with his car.

And, as for the working people in George Wallace's Alabama...they make the third lowest wages in the country.

He was a union-busting governor... and you know it. The unions in his state just refused to support his candidacy.

And mothers, Alabama doesn't spend its record six percent sales tax on education. It has the second lowest per pupil expenditure for education... black and white... of any state in the country.

America doesn't need your brand of medicine, Mr. Wallace.

\* \* \*

Now let's talk about California.

Millions of Americans have come here in search of a better life.

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Many have found it.

But for too many, hope has all but died.

This is a great nation -- but it can be greater.

This is a great state -- but it can be greater.

Let's be honest about where we must go... in California... in America.

There are those in this campaign who are spreading hate and bigotry. They say "law and order" but they really mean black and white.

They say: Humphrey wants to give a black man a job. He wants to give a Mexican-American a job.

And it will be your job --- that's what they say.

They say Humphrey wants to go too fast.

Let me tell you something:

Yes, I want to give a black man a job.

I want everybody in this country to have a job -- and with a booming Democratic economy, everyone will have a job.

Let's not fool ourselves: When someone gets a job who didn't have one before... when somebody gets education or training.... all of us benefit.

Yes, I want to change things.

Listen: Some Americans have been left waiting outside for more than a hundred years. It's time they had their chance.

I say this country does not have to be torn and divided.

We don't have to hate each other.

We have seen enough of hate.

I call on all Americans to build this country together...to build one nation, not two...one nation indivisible under God, with law and order, yes... but with liberty and justice... for all.

A week from next Tuesday you will have a chance to cast what may be the most critical vote you will ever cast.

It is up to you to stop the tide of reaction.

Protest voting...staying home.... these are luxuries you can't afford.

Your country needs you on November 5.

California is crucial. California may choose the next President.

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Let's be honest with ourselves -- we Democrats always have been.  
The campaign has been uphill all the way. It's still uphill.  
But the **hill** is not nearly as steep as it was the last time I  
came to California.

And, with your help, we will win.

I ask your help.

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REMARKS OF HUBERT H. HUMPHREY  
SHRINE AUDITORIUM,  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
OCTOBER 24, 1968

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Thank you very much.

I want to thank you for your introduction but more importantly I want to thank you and all the sponsors of this meeting tonight for a turnout that will leave Mr. Nixon sleepless between now and November 5th.

And by the way, the fellow who has been the third nominee, George Wallace, won't sleep either.

My good friend, Congressman Gus Hawkins, thank you once again for all of your very generous help to me. I know that you have addressed this great gathering and may I thank you without trying to take the time tonight, by naming them, each and every one of them, all of the distinguished stars of the entertainment world, these wonderful generous people, each of whom I would like so much just to spend the evening talking to, being with, sharing a wonderful evening together. I thank them collectively. I thank them for what they are doing for all of us to help all of us in this effort.

(Applause.)

I have just come away from dedicating a school over in Compton, and I know that some of you -- and I thought you might be interested in the circumstances. This school is known as the Robert Kennedy Elementary School.

(Applause.)

Mrs. Robert Kennedy had been invited to attend but could not. Senator Edward Kennedy, my good friend, had been invited, but he is doing some other work for us, so I went over, and I was a substitute, and we had a wonderful time over there dedicating a great school to a great American that believed in education and young people.

Earlier today we were in San Diego, and I want to tell you the town was jumping, full of Democrats down there. And of course we had a little fun in the garment district of Los Angeles, too, so it has been a busy day, one meeting after another.

Tonight, here at the great Shrine auditorium, I am with my friends and I want you to know how much this means to me to see this great auditorium filled with hundreds, yes, thousands of people outside. May I say that if we have this much enthusiasm and dedication from here on out, until November 5th, we are going to pull off the political miracle of the 20th century with our victory.

(Applause.)

You know for a long time, for a long time, I have been trying to get my Republican opponent to do a little debating. I thought if he didn't want to debate me, he might want to debate his vice presidential nominee. They both could have quite a nice argument among themselves.

(Applause.)

If he didn't want to debate, they maybe could have the old Nixon debate the new Nixon and then we would find out the real Nixon.

But I haven't been able to get him on stage, on platform or before a television camera. You know, there is only one thing I guess we can do if a man is unwilling to face the public. I don't know any reason that he should have the chance to look out of the White House window to face America.

(Applause.)



But, my friends, if you have got a sorry record, you really don't want it exposed. It is sort of like putting dirty laundry on the line. Then I could well understand why the debate challenge has been turned down.

So tonight I am going to talk to you a little bit about the record, about my record, about the record of the other two candidates, and about the record of the political parties, and I want to talk to you a bit about the tomorrows, too, because that is what is important, the tomorrows.

The central issue that we are going to decide in this critical election, the first issue, is whom can the American people trust to lead their country for the next four years. That is the number one issue. And the other issue is can we, as just people, can we learn to trust each other, to live together as neighbors, and as friends rather than as enemies and strangers, and we are going to decide these issues, ladies and gentlemen, and not only will the American people be watching this decision but the whole world.

Now, my Republican opponent had made at least two decisions that indicated his course. The first one was the most vital. He decided, as every presidential nominee must, who should be the vice presidential running mate. Who would be the man that he would ask to be but one heartbeat away from the presidency, if he were to be elected, and, ladies and gentlemen, that is a serious issue in these days of uncertainty. Surely we here in Los Angeles could be mindful of the unpredictability, of the uncertainty of life itself. Surely we know we live in a dangerous world. Surely we know we live in troubled times. Surely we know there are demagogues loose in this land. Therefore it seemed to me that the basic fundamental test of character of a man who has sought to be president of the United States was how much did he think of his country, what did he think of his country when he selected the man that was to stand along side of him, and if he should be elected president and if fate should decree that he should not survive that term, who would be the president of the United States in his stead.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, I took that challenge seriously, and I can say to this audience that there has never been a time that a better man has been selected for the office of the vice presidency than the man that I selected in Ed Muskie.

(Applause.)

Senator Muskie, my teammate, and I want this audience to know that we run as a team. The work of government is too big today for anyone, and when I am your president, your vice president will have distinctive roles to perform. He will be a man that has responsibility and authority, and he will be given the task of coordinating and directing the great programs that relate to our cities, that relate to the field of human rights, that relate to the development of our young. He is going to be given the job of being the president insofar as I am concerned, with me, the assistant president of me.

(Applause.)

The man will work with me to see to it that the programs that you pay for through your taxes, that the programs of this government are coordinated and effectuated and made to work so that they help equal and get the job done in a hurry. That is what we need done.

Now, the Republican nominee selected a man who said, "When you have seen one slum, you have seen them all."

Ladies and gentlemen, I say when you have seen one slum you have seen one too many. We ought to get rid of them.

(Applause.)

Now, the third party candidate made his selection, too. The third party candidate believes in repression at home and he believes in force abroad. Ladies and gentlemen, it is my considered judgment that --he Bombsey Twins, and that is what they are -- (applause and laughter) -- will not be elected, should not be elected, and with your help cannot be elected.

(Applause.)

Now, Mr. Nixon makes second decisions. I don't know what I said was that good, but I sure like it. Mr. Nixon makes second decisions, he has altered that decision a little bit in recent days. He had decided that he would take a long vacation during this campaign. He decided that he would become the man of distinction, that he would become the person that was cool, and calm, and poised, that he was to be the well-tailored, well-manicured, cool person in this campaign. Well, I want you to know that, first of all, the White House is no place for a man that specializes in vacations. That is where we start with, number one.

(Applause.)

I wonder what he would do if he got there. Would he take off the hot line to Moscow on weekends while he suns himself?

(Applause.)

He decided that he wasn't going to speak out on the vital issues. Every issue that was brought up he said, "It is too sensitive," or "We are in negotiations," or "It is out of my jurisdiction," or "This is something that is local." He had more reasons not to talk, more reasons not to talk. He didn't have much to say, but he had more reasons not to talk.

(Applause.)

So he refused to talk. He decided to take the American people for granted. He decided that it was all wrapped up, he read the polls. He heard the good news, and every time I read about him they would say that he was confident. Well, I want to tell you something, folks, he has got the itch tonight, don't think he hasn't.

(Applause.)

Richard the Silent has become Richard the Worried.

(Applause.)

And in a little bit he is going to become Richard the Last.

(Applause.)

He has been play acting, you will forgive me for intruding in your business, and he doesn't do ver well at it. He doesn't carry a union card either, I might add.

(Applause.)

He has been play acting, he has been pretending he is president, and he has been pretending he is president so long that by the time November 5th comes, people are going to think it is time for a change, and they are going to elect Humphrey.

(Applause.)

My friends, let's see why he doesn't really want to stand up and debate the issues. I will tell you why, because here is the first question I would ask him. I would say, "Mr. Nixon, there are a lot of people around this country that are aged 62, 65, and over, lot's of them, 27 million of them. How did you vote on social security? How did you vote on Medicare? Did you really mean it, Mr. Nixon, when you said that it wouldn't work? I think we ought to find out. Have you changed your mind, and is the death bed religion election religion, or do you really mean it?" I think we ought to find out. He used to call it -- he used to call it a socialist scheme. That is when I introduced it. I remember when he was in the House, and I was in the Senate, and I introduced the first Medicare bill, and he denounced it as a socialist scheme.

(Applause.)



Well, last year, my friends, 7 million of our senior citizens, 7 million of them, thought it was a very humane act, 7 million of them received the best medical and hospital and nursing home care this country is capable of, and they didn't have to go down and plead poverty and get it. They got it because they were Americans.

"Mr. Nixon, where do you stand, for example, on something like Project Headstart or the Bilingual Education Act. It would be interesting to know, because all during your public career you never raised your voice for little children. You never raised your voice for that Spanish surname American, that Mexican-American, that American, not once."

(Applause.)

"Mr. Nixon, since you are the one," and I keep reading about it, "Mr. Nixon, where do you stand on federal aid to our kids in elementary and secondary schools?"

I was out here to Compton tonight, a school that received \$627,000 in federal aid under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act so little children can get a first class, high quality excellent education?"

(Applause.)

You know why he doesn't want me to ask him that question? Because he had a chance to vote on it once, just once when it counted. The only time the vice president can ever vote is when there is a tie in the Senate, and there was a tie vote on federal aid to education which would have meant millions of dollars had it passed to go to the school districts to help children, black and white, Anglos and Mexican-Americans, children of every kind and every walk of life, and how did Mr. Nixon vote when he had a chance to vote for the youth of this country? He voted no. That is why he doesn't want me to ask him about these matters.

(Boos.)

"Mr. Nixon, what about the Peace Corps? Do you remember when you called it, when John Kennedy asked for it and I introduced it, you called it a haven for draft dodgers, do you remember that?" I want to ask him about it. One of the finest programs that this country has. And what about the Test Ban Treaty to prevent nuclear testing in the atmosphere, to prevent nuclear radioactive fallout in our food, to prevent youngsters and children yet unborn from being injured from radioactivity?

"Mr. Nixon, do you remember you called it a cruel hoax and catastrophic nonsense? I remember, and I would like to ask you about it. I want to know what you think about it."

So there are some differences, you see. When that treaty was signed, that Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, the one that Mr. Nixon called a cruel hoax, the one that the world has acclaimed as being a building block in the edifice of peace, the late beloved John Kennedy handed me the pen which I hold and possess, and he said to me in the record words, "Hubert, this is your treaty," because I worked for it for seven years while Mr. Nixon denounced it.

(Applause.)

And now we come up to date. What about the new treaty to stop the spread of these dangerous weapons, considered to be the most important act in the postwar period for peace, a treaty to stop the spread of nuclear weapons? Mr. Nixon says he likes it, he says he thinks it is fairly good. We have spent several years trying to negotiate. I personally went to Europe a year ago April to six countries to try to get it signed up. Finally we got it with 80 nations signing it, and when it came to the Senate of the United States, Mr. Nixon told his Republican allies, and he has a few Dixiecrats along with them, he told his Republican allies, "It is a good treaty, but don't ratify it now."

Yes, this fellow has more buts than I can count.

(Applause.)

And now, my friends, what about this, my working friends, you know some of us have been at this work a long time, some of us have fought for civil rights and human rights for a quarter of a century, some of us have been browbeat because of it, some of us have been criticized and people have been angry with us because of it; where does Mr. Nixon stand? When he is up North, he whistles "Yankee Doodle," and when he is down South he whistles "Dixie."

Where does he stand, I want to know.

(Applause.)

Where does he stand on another one of the fundamental issues? The other day his chief economic adviser said, and speaking for his candidate, the Republican nominee, he said that he thought now -- he, the Republican nominee, ought now that we should maybe have a little higher rate of unemployment. Who is to be unemployed? Well I have got one suggestion. Nixon's the one.

(Applause.)

Ladies and gentlemen, a man who seeks to be President of the United States and who will have a good deal to say about the destiny of this republic and this economy -- any man that thinks that we ought to have as a remedy for any problem that we have today a higher rate of unemployment has disqualified himself from public service.

(Applause)

Now, Mr. Nixon has made another decision. He came out here to California, he was out here once before -- by the way, if he wasn't good enough to be in Sacramento in the State House what makes you think he ought to be in Washington in the White House?

(Applause)

He came out here to California after he had selected Mr. Agnew and said he was outstanding. He came out here to California and he enthusiastically endorsed a Republican candidate for the United States Senate who has accused his opponent -- (Boos) -- who has accused his opponent of everything in the book, even to the point of disloyalty. And Mr. Nixon says that he needs Max Rafferty.

(Boos)

That he needs Max Rafferty to get his forward -- listen to this -- he needed Max Rafferty to get his forward-looking program through the Congress.

Wow -- forward-looking.

I want to tell you something. It makes a horse and buggy look like a rocket -- if that is forward-looking.

(Applause)

Yes -- Mr. Nixon endorsed a man who has called his opponent a traitor.

Mr. Agnew got a little out of hand one day and he said that I was soft on Communism. Now, some people scolded Mr. Agnew for that. I never did -- I defended him. I said all that happened was he got one of Nixon's old speeches, that's all.

(Applause)

So there you have it.

Let me ask you. What did Mr. Republican ever do for the old folks?

(Cries of "Nothing")

What did Mr. Republican ever do for the young people?

(Cries of "Nothing")

What did Mr. Republican ever do for the union people?

(Cries of "Nothing")

What did he ever do for the black people?

(Cries of "Nothing")

What did he ever do for the Mexican-American people?

(Cries of "Nothing")

What are we going to do for Mr. Nixon?

(Cries of "Nothing")

Nothing -- alright.

Now, there is another man in this race, and I want to talk about him.

I used to say there were Richard the Silent and George the Loud. But the other man deserves our attention.

Let me tell you first, my friends, that it is not comforting, not at all comforting, to know that in these United States of America, a nation that should by this time understand the meaning of freedom -- it is not comforting to me to know that there is a substantial body of people who can follow the voice of one who preaches suspicion and doubt and racial bias and bigotry. I think it's a dangerous thing, and I wouldn't spend the time on it tonight if I didn't. But I think the American people better understand, better clearly understand that with Mr. Nixon and Mr. Thurmond on the one hand, and Mr. Wallace, that there is a strange

combination here which does not bode well for the future .

Mr. Wallace is a very, very open, crude demagogue -- very open.

(Applause)

The Republican candidate is more refined, but let me put it on the line .

Ladies and gentlemen, we have got a fight on our hands, and I do not under-estimate it. The lines are drawn.

George Wallace dishes out some mighty loud talk on law and order, for example, and he claims to be the friend of the working man.

Now, if it weren't so darned serious I suppose we could laugh at it and say it was ridiculous. But when a man draws from eighteen to twenty to twenty-two per cent of the nation's polls it is serious, and let's quit kidding ourselves. It is serious, and some of it is in the union movement and some of it is everywhere else, and we have got to lay it on the line.

Now - law and order.

This Governor, the man that has the power as Governor for law enforcement -- he couldn't provide it in Alabama. He has the highest murder rate of any state in the union, and he talks about law and order.

(Applause)

And his program -- remember what he said -- he said if anybody were to lay down in front of his car, he would run right over him. Well, ladies and gentlemen, with a Presidential candidate that will run over people, and a Vice-Presidential candidate that says he would bomb them back into the stone age, I think you had better be concerned.

I don't think we can have that in America.

(Applause)

I know what that phrase means out of the lips of Mr. Wallace, of law and order. You know it, too. And let's lay it on the line. What it means, it says let's keep the black man down. That is exactly what it means.

Law and order -- of course we want it. Nobody needs it more than the poor. They are the worst -- they have the most difficult time of all. It is the person who lives in the slums and the ghettos that is the victim of more crime than anybody else. And what we need -- what we need is equal protection of the law for all of our people.

(Applause)

Let me tell you that a little black boy and girl deserve as much protection coming home from school as a white one. And a black mother -- a black mother deserves as much protection coming off that bus, coming home, as a white one. And when I am privileged -- when I am President, if I can have anything to say about it - and I will - they will both have the protection that they need.

(Applause)

Listen, my union friends, let's just get down to cases about his being a friend of the working man.

There is one candidate in this election, one candidate, that has been with this trade union movement, that has fought alongside of you, been with you in good times and bad -- just one -- and his name is Hubert Humphrey.

(Applause)

We worked together, we fought together, we have suffered together, we have won together and, by cracky, we are going to do it again. We are going to win together.

(Applause)



So, Mr. Wallace says he is a friend of the working man, with wages in Alabama the third or fourth lowest in the nation; a union-busting Governor if there ever was one -- and you know it. Right-to-work law and proud of it.

Well, when your Democratic nominee is elected, he is going to keep his pledge to the best of his ability. I pledged a long time ago that I would be for the repeal of Section 14-B, the right-to-work law, and I intend to keep it.

(Applause)

And now listen to this. I am going to talk to the ladies for a minute. Some of your husbands may be floating around with the vote

for Mr. Wallace -- I don't know. But if he is, you just have a little good talk to him and you know how to do it.

Let me tell you something. You just remind him that the bills have to be paid. You remind him that if he even mentions the name Nixon that the bills have to be paid.

We had three Republican recessions in eight years. We don't need any more.

(Applause)

And, mothers and fathers, you can remember one other thing -- that the highest sales tax in the union, six cents on every dollar, sales tax, is in George Wallace's state -- beside the highest one -- and the second lowest per pupil expenditures for education, black or white, of any state in the union was Mr. Wallace's. And he parades around this country saying that he is for the plain people, he is for the working people.

Ladies and gentlemen, let me tell you something. You know better.

I only mention it to you because I want you to remember the seriousness of it.

Mr. Nixon says he is for the forgotten people. He ought to know -- he has forgotten them for years.

(Applause)

Now, my friends, this nation of ours will do none of the things we want it to do, we will not be able to build the schools that we need to build, to pay the teachers that we need to pay, to provide the police that we need for our cities, to provide for decent hospital care and medical care, unless this economy of ours is moving, unless it grows.

Now, we have had eight years of reasonably good economic conditions, eight years of growing prosperity, eight years in which incomes have been up, dividends have been up, and profits have been up, and may I say to the businessman, if you don't vote Democratic, then it just tells me one thing -- you don't care about your stockholders. Because let me tell you something. Stock dividends have been up 66 per cent in these last eight Democratic years, and every corporate director in America ought to vote Democratic.

(Applause)

That working man, family of four, is having an increase of over 32 per cent after taxes, after even a rise in the cost of living, as compared to the Republican years of nine per cent.

Ladies and gentlemen, we have got to keep this economy moving, and if we don't, you have the problems that we talked about.

So the issue is retreat, stagnation, or progress. Should it be progress in our economy -- and our answer is yes. That is the way we build the hope in this land.

Well, now, what does the back room -- what do they say, you know, in the back room, when they are talking about the Democratic candidate. I know what they are saying. I listen to it and here is what they are saying.

First of all they say Humphrey is going to spend too much. That's what they say.

Let me tell you what is the most costly thing this country ever had -- a depression, a recession. That is what is costly in this country. And we are not going to let it happen.

Let me tell you something else that is costly. Let me tell you something else that is costly -- despair, unemployment, not being needed, not being wanted, hate, slums, poverty, ghettos -- that is what is expensive, ladies and gentlemen. And I am willing to spend to get rid of them.

(Applause)

But, my friends, we do not spend -- we invest.

Let me tell you every time you train a worker for a job, he becomes a taxpaying, productive, self-respecting citizen.

Eight long years of Republican trouble and not one job training program. Eight long years of Republican trouble and not one dime for your schools.

No, ladies and gentlemen, no nation ever was in financial trouble investing in its people.

When we invest in education, invest in health, invest in jobs, invest in training, we make America richer and better, and that is what we are going to do.

(Applause)

Then they say Humphrey wants to give - this is what they say to the blue collar white worker -- they say Humphrey wants to give a black man your job; he wants to give a Mexican-American your job. I have heard it. I know what the gossip is.

And then they say to that same worker "It will be your job that he is trying to take". That is what they say.

They say Humphrey wants to go too fast.

Well, let me tell you something. I want everybody -- everybody - I don't care what he looks like -- I want everybody that says he is an American in this country to have a job, and I say you can only have it with a booming economy.

(Applause)

And let's not fool ourselves. When someone gets a job who didn't have one before, when somebody gets an education or gets training who didn't have it before, everyone of us benefits.

The only way we lose is when you put the wrong people in charge.

It's not going to be a black man that will take your job; it's not going to be a Mexican-American that will take your job. It's a Republican administration will take your job.

(Applause)

Yes -- I want to change things, and I want to cause change, change for the good, to change our cities, to make them liveable.

Yes -- if you please -- to try to clean the air that we breathe and the water we drink.

Yes, my friends -- to change it so that that person who has gotten social security can have the benefit worthy of a human being, and that their benefits will go up as the cost of living goes up; that their drugs will be included, their prescription drugs will be included under social security.

Yes, I want to change things. I want to change them a lot.

(Applause)

But the biggest change that I want is for Americans to understand that we need each other, and that we have to build one America. We cannot have two societies separate and unequal. We cannot have this country torn apart by demagogues. We cannot have this country literally divided by hate and fear.

We need an America that is just what it is, what we call it --- these United States of America. Well, the people -- not we, the



black and we the white. But just we the people.

And, ladies and gentlemen, that is the issue in this campaign.

(Applause)

You know, my friends, go from this meeting tonight determined to help us.

It has been -- you know what the fight is about. It is your fight for your family, for your kids, for your parents, for your country, for your city, for your state. It is not just my fight. I am the standard bearer. I am your leader, but I need the troops. I need the people to help me in this fight.

Then let's let the Republican Party know that the Presidency shouldn't go to the man with the biggest advertising budget. Let's let the Republican Party and the whole world know that the White House is not for sale. The White House is for a man of principle and compassion, the White House belongs to the people of this land. And I want you, my friends, to help me take that White House, to make it your house. They are the people of this land.

(Applause)

- - - - -

Robert Kennedy  
School  
Compton

← Cong Must Hawkins  
✓ Davis Davis -  
✓ Sen Arnyuntz  
✓ Rev Brookins

REMARKS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

SHRINE AUDITORIUM

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

OCTOBER 24, 1968

Legislators

There are two weeks left in this campaign.

It's time we focused on the central issue.

Whom can the American people trust to lead this country for the next four years.

Can we trust each other as people?

My Republican opponent has made two decisions in this campaign which speak directly to this crucial issue of trust.

First, he decided who should be his Vice Presidential running mate -- the man who would be a heart-beat from the Presidency itself in this nuclear age.

And Mr. Nixon chose Spiro T. Agnew -- a so-called "urban expert" who says "when you've seen one slum you've seen them all" ... a man who says you can't learn anything about poverty from poor people.

The poor people of America have seen the Agnews before -- and when you've seen one, you've seen them all.

Mr. Nixon then made a second decision. He decided to say nothing else for the rest of the campaign.

He's been on vacation -- and I say the White House is no place for a vacationer. What'll he do? ... turn off the hot line to Moscow two days a week while he rests up?

He has refused to speak out on any vital issues.

He has refused to debate -- even though I bought the time on national television.

He has stayed in the shadows --- stayed off the issues --- and relied instead on a massive advertising campaign, staged TV shows, balloons and confetti.

I say this is no way to run for President.

The people ... to trust you ... have to know where you stand.

I know why Mr. Nixon won't debate. He's afraid that the people will remember his past record.

Where do you stand on Medicare, Mr. Republican?  
You used to call it a socialist scheme.

What about aid to education? In 1960 you broke a tie vote in the Senate against federal aid to education.

What about Head Start and the Bi-lingual Education Act?

What about the Peace Corps? Do you still think it's a haven for draft dodgers?

What about that treaty against nuclear testing we now have in the books. Is it still the "cruel hoax" you used to think it was?

Are you against the passage of the treaty to keep nuclear weapons out of the hands of the Nassers and the Castros of the world because you think that's a "cruel hoax", too?

Where do you stand on Vietnam, Mr. Nixon? When are you going to reveal your secret plan? Or is Mr. Agnew right ... was the whole thing a "ploy"?

And why do your advisers tell us a little unemployment is just what America needs? Whose job should we take away first?

Mr. Nixon made another decision.

He came out here to California and enthusiastically endorsed a candidate for the United States Senate who has accused his opponent of treason.

Mr. Agnew said I was "soft on communism" --- though, of course, he said later he didn't really mean it.

Sound familiar to you?

\* \* \*



There is another fellow in this race besides  
Richard the Silent --- George the Loud.

George Wallace dishes out some mighty tough talk  
about law and order ... and then he claims to be the  
friend of the workingman.

If it weren't so serious, it would be ridiculous.

Law and Order: George Wallace couldn't provide  
it in Alabama. He had the highest murder rate in the  
country.

And his program for law and order in the country  
is to run over people he doesn't like with his car.

And as for the working people in George Wallace's  
Alabama ... they make the third lowest wages in the  
country.

He was a union-busting governor ... and you know  
it. The unions in his state just refused to support his  
candidacy.

And mothers, Alabama doesn't spend its record six per cent sales tax on education. It has the second lowest per pupil expenditures for education ... black and white ... of any state in the country.

America doesn't need your brand of medicine, Mr. Wallace.

\* \* \*

Now, let's talk about California.

Millions of Americans have come here in search of a better life.

Many have found it.

But for too many, hope has all but died.

This is a great nation --- but it can be greater.

This is a great state --- but it can be greater.

Let's be honest about where we must go ... in California ... in America.

There are those in this campaign who are spreading hate and fear and bigotry.

They say "law and order" but they really mean black and white.

They say: Humphrey wants to give a black man a job. He wants to give a Mexican-American a job.

And it will be your job --- that's what they say.

They say Humphrey wants to go too fast.

Let me tell you something:

Yes, I want everybody in this country to have a job -- and with a booming Democratic economy, everyone will have a job.

Let's not fool ourselves: When someone gets a job who didn't have one before ... when somebody gets education or training ... all of us benefit.

Yes: I want to change things.

Listen: Some Americans have been left waiting outside for more than a hundred years. It's time they had their chance.

I say this country does not have to be torn and divided.

We don't have to hate each other.

We have seen enough of hate.

I call on all Americans to build this country together ... to build one nation, not two ... one nation indivisible under God, with law and order, yes ... but with liberty and justice ... for all.

A week from next Tuesday you will have a chance to cast what may be the most critical vote you will ever cast.

It is up to you to stop the tide of reaction.

Protest voting ... staying home ... these are luxuries you can't afford.

Your country needs you on November 5.

California is crucial. California may choose the next President.

Let's be honest with ourselves -- we Democrats always have been.

The campaign has been uphill all the way. It's still uphill.

But the hill is not nearly as steep as it was the last time I came to California.

And, with your help, we will win.

I ask your help.

# # #

1. cut tape
2. TWX to Ted VANDYKE
3. cc: EV Munsey
4. TWX to:  
Advance

REMARKS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

SHRINE AUDITORIUM

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

OCTOBER 24, 1968

I've come out here tonight to take my case to you, the people of California, because California could be decisive in this election.

And we're going to win this election -- with your help.

~~It's great to be back in California -- the most exciting, the most rapidly changing, state in the union.~~

~~And~~ It's great to be a Democrat. Because Democrats have more fun than anybody -- and they win more elections -- and they get more things done for all the people.

There are those this year who say there isn't much difference between the two parties.

I tell you there's all the difference in the world.



~~It's the same difference it's always been.~~

The Republican leaders were against the right to collective bargaining -- but the Democrats wrote it into law.

The Republican leaders were against social security -- but the Democrats wrote it into law.

The Republican leaders were against a minimum wage -- but the Democrats wrote it into law.

The Republican leaders were against legislation to prevent depression<sup>3</sup>-- but the Democrats wrote it into law.

We have rebuilt this country -- tamed the rivers, made the desert bloom, created the most productive factories and the most jobs in history, and we're winning the race to the moon.

And Democratic leadership has done all this and more -- over persistent Republican opposition.

The Republicans say no; We Democrats say go.

~~From the first social security act in the 1930's right down to the civil rights voting act of 196\_\_, it has been Democratic leadership that has done what the people needed.~~

*The time to go is now -- because ~~the~~ the choice between parties ... the choice between candidates ... was never so clear.*

~~And that's why it's more fun to be a Democrat.~~

~~It's the same thing today. And it will be the same thing tomorrow. And don't you forget it.~~

~~Time and again the Republican leaders have voted for the private interest groups -- and the Democrats have protected the public interest.~~

Adlai Stevenson demanded an end to nuclear testing -- but not Richard Nixon.

President Kennedy fought for the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty -- but not Richard Nixon.

President Kennedy got Medicare through the Congress -- but not Richard Nixon.

President Johnson got the civil rights voting act through Congress -- not Richard Nixon.

I have fought for aid to education -- but not Richard Nixon.

I have pledged to keep on working for full employment -- but not Richard Nixon.

Robert Kennedy supported the agriculture workers of California in their strike against the grape growers <sup>and so have I</sup> -- but not Richard Nixon.

I have called upon the Congress this month to ratify the treaty to stop the spread of nuclear weapons -- but not Richard Nixon.

The conscience of mankind cries out for an end to the spiraling nuclear arms race -- but not Richard Nixon.

Next week the people of the United States will elect a President they can trust -- but it won't be Richard Nixon.

(INSERT)

There are only <sup>seven</sup> ~~ten~~ days left in this campaign.

It's time we focused on the central issue: who can the American people trust to lead this country for the next four years.

Can we trust each other as a people?

And whom can we trust to lead us?

My Republican opponent has made three decisions in this campaign that give the answer.

First, he entrusted the Vice Presidential nomination to Spiro T. Agnew . . . so-called "Urban Expert" who says "when you've seen one slum you've seen them all" . . . a man who says he can't wait to try out his "new-found expertise" in foreign policy.

~~If Mr. Agnew thinks he knows all about slums, let him go to Watts . . . let him go to East Los Angeles. That's where he'll learn about poverty . . . that's where he'll learn about slums.~~

~~And if he thinks instant expertise will solve the problems of foreign policy, let him tell us his plan to end the war in Vietnam.~~

By choosing Mr. Agnew, Mr. Nixon played fast and loose with the national security -- by putting Mr. Agnew's finger one heartbeat away from the nuclear trigger.

~~And by choosing Mr. Agnew, Mr. Nixon played fast and loose with the people of the ghettos.~~ Those people have seen the Agnews before -- and they know that if you've seen one Agnew you've seen them all. And they're all Republicans.

Mr. Nixon made another decision. He came out here to California and <sup>enthusiastically</sup> endorsed a candidate for the United States Senate who has accused his opponent of treason.

~~CHECK QUOTE~~

And Mr. Agnew said I was "soft on communism" -- though of course he said later he didn't really mean it.

"Treason" . . . "soft on communism" . . . remember the Old Nixon?

Mr. Nixon may have succeeded in fooling some Eastern newspaper columnists. But out here in California you know the man.

So let's not hear any more talk about the New Nixon. There isn't any New Nixon -- just the same old Nixon you and I have met before -- and defeated before -- because we didn't trust him.

And Mr. Nixon made a <sup>second</sup> ~~second~~ decision. He decided to say nothing else for the rest of the campaign.

He's been on vacation -- and I say the White House is no place for a vacationer. What'll he do? . . . turn off the hot line to Moscow two days a week while he rests up?

He has refused to debate -- even though I offered to buy time on national television.

*And I know why. Mr. Nixon doesn't trust himself under pressure . . . and he doesn't trust the people,*

He has stayed in the shadows -- stayed off the issues -- and relied instead on a massive advertising campaign, staged TV shows, balloons and confetti.

And you can't trust a man who won't tell you where he stands.

Listen to this: ~~Last CHECK WEEK~~ one of Mr. Nixon's economic advisors said he thought the country needed a little ~~CHECK~~ more unemployment.

But listen to this: This very week the chairman of the Business Council, an organization of the presidents and board chairmen of large corporations, announced that it will be the duty of the next President of the United States to deliberately -- and I quote -- "force unemployment as high as 5 1/2 percent" -- or about four million persons, compared with two and three quarters million now. About 4 out of 5 of the Council members are openly supporting Richard Milhous Nixon for President.

Whose Job are they after? <sup>But</sup> Yours? <sup>I think they should</sup> I think ~~they~~ Mr. Nixon ~~should~~ be unemployed. <sup>Nixon and Legler</sup> And I don't think you can trust ~~them~~ with your job.

\* \* \* \*

~~that~~ While Mr. Nixon has been hiding out, some of advisors have been issuing statements.

What does Mr. Nixon really want" A \$170 billion dollar defense budget, controlled by computers -- and it doesn't matter whose finger is on the nuclear trigger?

Where does he stand on Vietnam? What would he do about it?

If he won't debate me, why won't he even face the nation, or meet the press, or national television?

You and I know the answer. Mr. Nixon doesn't trust himself under pressure -- and he doesn't trust the people.

Well, in 1962 out here, you didn't trust him with the future of California.

And in 1968 you won't trust him with the fate of the nation.

Let's talk about California, a minute.

For more than a century, this great California empire has been a symbol of hope to the American people . . . the new frontier we love.

Millions of Americans have journeyed westward in search of a better life.

Many have found it. But for too many hope has all but died.

This is a great nation -- but it can be greater.

This is a great state -- but it can be greater.

I'm not satisfied when --



--unemployment in Watts runs as high as 30 percent.  
--UCLA has 27,000 students but less than 70 of them are Mexican-Americans;  
--Mexican American children drown and get killed by machinery in the fields  
because their working mothers have no place to put them;  
--California has more juvenile felony arrests than adult felony arrests;  
--people keep watchdogs in their homes and guns by their bedside;  
--and fear and frustration and tension make daily life almost unbearable  
in spite of the wealth of this great nation.

Last spring Robert F. Kennedy came out here and told you what he proposed  
to do about it.

~~When I am President, I pledge you that I will carry on his great work.~~

Let's be ~~as~~ honest ~~as he was.~~

*about where we go. We must go ... in  
California ... in America.*

There are those in this campaign who are spreading hate and fear and bigotry.

They say "law and order" but they really mean black and white.

They say: Humphrey wants to give a black man a job. He wants to give a  
Mexican-American a job.

And it will be your job -- that's what they say.

They say Humphrey wants to go too fast.

Let me tell you something:

Yes, I want to give a black man a job.

*said with a booming*

I want everybody in this country to have a job -- ~~black, white, red, green, or~~  
*Democratic economy, everyone will have a job.*  
yellow.

Let's not fool ourselves: When someone gets a job who didn't have one before . . . when somebody gets education or training . . . all of us benefit.

Yes: I want to change things.

Yes: Change means dislocation, stress and strain.

But listen: Some Americans have been left waiting outside for more than a hundred years. It's time they had their chance.

I say this country does not have to be torn and divided.

We don't have to hate each other.

We have seen enough of hate. Right here in Los Angeles, last June, we saw what hate can do.

I call on all Americans to reject the voices of hate, of fear, of bigotry.

I call on all Americans to build this country together . . . to build one nation, not two . . . one nation indivisible under God, with law and order, yes . . . but with liberty and justice . . . for all.

Your next President will need your trust.

His tasks will be enormous.

He must--

--heal the hatreds and divisions among us;

--restore the basic decency of spirit which lies within us as a people;

--reassert this nation's moral leadership in a fearful world;

--tell a new generation that what we have is good . . . that it is worth saving . . . that the dream of their parents is still a worthy dream;

--and, first and above all, end the war in Vietnam. . . stop the bombing and negotiate an honorable peace . . . end the anguish and the killing . . . and bring our soldiers and our money home to build a better America.

~~That is what I will do if I am your President.~~

A week from next Tuesday you will have a chance to cast what may be the most critical vote you will ever cast.

It is up to you to stop the tide of reaction.

~~Some of you may be tempted to tstay home.~~

~~I say that this election is too important for anybody to be a political dropout.~~

~~Some of you may be lukewarm about the candidates.~~

~~I say to you you'd better get red hot about one if you want to save your job and win the peace.~~

~~Some of you may say a Nixon victory is inevitable so you'll register a protest by voting for Wallace.~~

~~I tell you that in California a vote for Wallace is a vote for Nixon . . . and a vote for Nixon Republicans means another Republican recession.~~

Protest voting . . . staying home . . . these are luxuries you can't afford.

Your country needs you on November 5. California is absolutely crucial.

California may choose the <sup>next</sup> President.

Let's be honest with ourselves -- we Democrats always have been.

~~This has been a difficult and confusing and tragic year. This fall we got off to a slow start.~~ The campaign has been uphill all the way. It's still uphill.

But the hill is not nearly as steep as it was the last time I came <sup>to California</sup> ~~out~~ here.

I've been around the country, ~~since then~~. I've been talking but I've been listening too. And I can tell you: we're on the move. And we're going to ~~be~~ keep moving, day and night in the next 11 days, right down to the wire.

The race is not always to the swift -- or to the slick.

It's to the man the people trust.

Let me give each and every one of you a piece of advice, you who believe with me.

Between now and November 5, don't go to any more meetings like this.

Instead, go home and get on the telephone and get out in your neighborhood and talk to your friends.

~~If each of you here tonight talks to ten people, we'll reach \_\_\_\_\_ people.~~

It's the way to win. And don't forget: One man, you, can make a difference.

I haven't got a multi-million dollar television and advertising campaign.

All I've got is myself -- and you.

And that's enough. *... to win this election ... to save this nation.*

~~Give me your help in this election.~~

~~With that, if we get down to it~~

# # #



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