

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

ALFALFA CLUB ANNUAL DINNER

Statler-Hilton Hotel

Washington, D.C.
January 25, 1975

President Ford, former President Borman, honored guests, gentlemen of Alfalfa. . .

I hope you will not consider it immodest if I say this night is long overdue . . .

. . . President Humphrey. . .

You've gotta believe, Frank, you've gotta believe.

I had no doubts about the outcome of this election until George McGovern told me he was 1000% behind me.

And Ed Muskie suggested I give my acceptance speech on a flat bed truck outside of the Washington Post.

And Mayor Daley suggested that we move this convention to Chicago.

And someone . . . I don't know who . . . hired Victor Lasky to write a book about me.

With all that advice and help, I knew I needed support, so I organized a Chairmen for Humphrey Committee. I sought the most powerful men I could find Hebert (A-bear), Poage, Patman, and Alexander Butterfield.

If I were going to crash, Mr. President, I would want the FAA in on it.

Now, you have heard President Borman disclose one of my secrets. Yes, it is true that I streaked through the streets of Minneapolis in the interest of full disclosure. (Shake head in disbelief.)

But nobody looked.

Well, that's not quite true. One person did, and I heard him say, "There's old Hubert with his tongue flapping again."

President Borman, you will have a chance to hear my entire speech. I don't intend to give a long one, but if I do, don't worry about that 7 a.m. flight. If it's on Eastern Airlines, - it won't be leaving on time, anyway.

This past year of Alfalfa has indeed been an illustrious one.

Borman's rocket was fueled with 90 proof alcohol. But it had no second stage booster, and it was doomed to fall short of its mission because of material fatigue.

When it should have orbited, it would only bump and grind.

In any case, while Frank continues the search for that G string, I can assure him that whatever he found, while boring on the moon, does not compare to what he may find in the Tidal Basin. The samples you get there are really worth assaying.

You have heard from President Borman the accomplishments of Alfalfa's astronaut year. I can promise only a half-astronaut year, but hopefully one of significant accomplishment, too.

After all, I have been orbiting the White House longer than all the astronauts who orbited the moon.

Of course, my orbit has been rather crowded. We did ground Harold Stassen finally, and Fritz Mondale decided he didn't like that weightlessness.

But, Eugene McCarthy and Fred Harris have designed a permanent political space station. It flies an elliptical orbit with no high points.

There is a great effort going on to build a one-man rocket on the hill. Henry Jackson tilts it right, then Mo Udall tilts it left.

By the time they get it set, Nelson Rockefeller will have bought the launching pad. Of course, he's bringing his own fuel. He's the only one who can afford the extra \$3 a barrel.

He may be the only man in America, under the Ford tax rebate plan, who gets enough back to finance a trip.

Now to the Alfalfa platform for 1975. I've talked to Secretary Butz about it. It wasn't easy. He thought Al Falfa was a mafia leader from the Bronx.

He has, however, given us our slogan for the year: Don't eat-a the grass, smoke it.

With his help, if recession and inflation continue, I can assure you that Alfalfa will be on everyone's tongue this year . . . and possibly in their stomachs, too.

Under my leadership, Alfalfa will insist that it be treated like any other dissident party. We shall ask for CIA surveillance and "enemy list" status at IRS.

We will ask that President Ford give us our tax rebates now, while the Treasury still can afford the postage.

We are going to give Bill Simon a long term contract . . . 3 months.

We shall move Congress to its proper home . . . the National Air and Space Museum.

We shall seek jobs and food stamps for the soon-to-be unemployed . . . Casper Weinberger, Roy Ash, Herb Stein, Claude Brinegar . . . and the endless list of long-term jobless.

We will provide Donald Rumsfeld a new hatchet made in Illinois. You don't know that he's used it until you try to turn your head.

Rationing is a must. We will ration Henry Kissinger's job to 42 under-employed members of the State Department.

To guarantee our survival, we will ask Henry Kissinger, when he is next in Washington, to provide one Arab oil well for each member of Alfalfa . . . using force only if necessary.

For members of Alfalfa who are also members of Congress, we will secure your FBI file from Clarence Kelly.

And for one lucky Alfalfa family, a two week vacation with Gordon Liddy, or a weekend in Jamaica with Governor Marvin Mandel.

But whether we get what we deserve or not, let us tonight pledge to President Ford, in all seriousness, our determination to work with him to help solve the problems of our nation.

Let the true Alfalfa platform be a simple one. At President Ford's next State of the Union message, let him be able to say, with our support, there is good news for America and the world -- a national economy and society growing stronger and better, and a world ever closer to peace and harmony.

Let us launch the most important rocket of all -- a new century of American greatness taking off to reach, not the moon, but the ideal society we all yearn for.

There's space for all of us on that rocket.

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STATLER-HILTON HOTEL

WASHINGTON, D.C.

JANUARY 25, 1975

in chief Justice,
L PRESIDENT FORD, FORMER PRESIDENT BORMAN, HONORED GUESTS,

and distinguished

GENTLEMEN OF ALFALFA, . . .

L I HOPE YOU WILL NOT CONSIDER IT IMMODEST IF I SAY THIS

NIGHT IS LONG OVERDUE . . .

. . . PRESIDENT HUMPHREY,

*That sounds so beautiful!
Just as I have always thought
it should be*

L YOU'VE GOTTA BELIEVE, FRANK, YOU'VE GOTTA BELIEVE!

H

now L I HAD NO DOUBTS ABOUT THE OUTCOME OF THIS ELECTION UNTIL

GEORGE MCGOVERN TOLD ME HE WAS 1000% BEHIND ME!

L AND ED MUSKIE SUGGESTED I GIVE MY ACCEPTANCE SPEECH ON

A FLAT BED TRUCK OUTSIDE OF THE WASHINGTON POST.

L AND MAYOR DALEY SUGGESTED THAT WE MOVE THIS CONVENTION

TO CHICAGO.

AND SOMEONE . . . I DON'T KNOW WHO . . . HIRED VICTOR /
LASKY TO WRITE A BOOK ABOUT ME.

WITH ALL THAT ADVICE AND HELP, I KNEW I NEEDED SUPPORT,
SO I ORGANIZED A CHAIRMEN FOR HUMPHREY COMMITTEE. I SOUGHT
THE MOST POWERFUL MEN I COULD FIND: HEBERT (A-BEAR), POAGE,
PATMAN, AND ALEXANDER BUTTERFIELD.

IF I WERE GOING TO CRASH, MR. PRESIDENT, I WOULD WANT THE
FAA IN ON IT!

NOW, YOU HAVE HEARD PRESIDENT BORMAN DISCLOSE ONE OF MY
SECRETS. YES, IT IS TRUE THAT I STREAKED THROUGH THE STREETS
OF MINNEAPOLIS IN THE INTEREST OF FULL DISCLOSURE. (SHAKE HEAD
IN DISBELIEF.)

L BUT NOBODY LOOKED.

L WELL, THAT'S NOT QUITE TRUE! ONE PERSON DID, AND I HEARD HIM SAY, "THERE'S OLD HUBERT WITH HIS TONGUE FLAPPING AGAIN."

L PRESIDENT BORMAN, ~~4~~ YOU WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO HEAR MY ENTIRE

SPEECH L I DON'T INTEND TO GIVE A LONG ONE, BUT IF I DO, DON'T

WORRY ABOUT THAT 7 A.M. FLIGHT L IF IT'S ON EASTERN AIRLINES,

IT WON'T BE LEAVING ON TIME, ANYWAY!

L THIS PAST YEAR OF ALFALFA HAS INDEED BEEN AN ILLUSTRIOUS

ONE.

L BORMAN'S ROCKET WAS FUELED WITH 90 PROOF ALCOHOL. BUT IT HAD NO SECOND STAGE BOOSTER, AND IT WAS DOOMED TO FALL SHORT OF ITS MISSION BECAUSE OF MATERIAL FATIGUE.

L WHEN IT SHOULD HAVE ORBITTED, IT WOULD ONLY BUMP AND GRIND.

L IN ANY CASE, WHILE FRANK CONTINUES THE SEARCH FOR THAT "G"

STRING, I CAN ASSURE HIM THAT WHATEVER HE FOUND, WHILE BORING

ON THE MOON, DOES NOT COMPARE TO WHAT HE MAY FIND IN THE TIDAL

BASIN. ~~THE SAMPLES YOU GET THERE ARE REALLY WORTH ASSAYING.~~

L YOU HAVE HEARD FROM PRESIDENT BORMAN THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF

ALFALFA'S ASTRONAUT YEAR. I CAN PROMISE ONLY A "HALF-ASTRONAUT"

YEAR, BUT HOPEFULLY ONE OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENT, TOO.

L AFTER ALL, I HAVE BEEN ORBITTING THE WHITE HOUSE LONGER THAN

ALL THE ASTRONAUTS WHO ORBITTED THE MOON.

L OF COURSE, MY ORBIT HAS BEEN RATHER CROWDED. WE DID GROUND

HAROLD STASSEN FINALLY, AND Fritz MONDALE DECIDED HE DIDN'T

LIKE THAT WEIGHTLESSNESS.

BUT, EUGENE McCARTHY AND FRED HARRIS HAVE DESIGNED A

PERMANENT POLITICAL SPACE STATION. IT FLIES AN ELLIPTICAL

ORBIT WITH NO HIGH POINTS. and -

↳ THERE IS A GREAT EFFORT GOING ON TO BUILD A ONE-MAN ROCKET

ON THE HILL. HENRY JACKSON TILTS IT RIGHT, THEN MO UDALL TILTS

IT LEFT

(and Lyod Bentzen is ready to sell the claim to the highest bidder)
then Political actionants

↳ BY THE TIME ~~THEY~~ ^{they} GET SET, NELSON ROCKEFELLER WILL HAVE

BOUGHT THE LAUNCHING PAD. OF COURSE, HE'S BRINGING HIS OWN

FUEL. HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN AFFORD THE EXTRA \$3 A BARREL,

In fact HE MAY BE THE ONLY MAN IN AMERICA, UNDER THE FORD TAX REBATE

PLAN, WHO GETS ENOUGH BACK TO FINANCE A TRIP.

- ▷ ~~Our Main Diet~~ Corn -
- ↳ ~~Our National~~ Game-Vacations
- ↳ ~~Our Party~~ Song - Bewdded, Bothred + Bewddered

↳ NOW TO THE ALFALFA PLATFORM FOR 1975 | I'VE TALKED TO SECRETARY

BUTZ ABOUT IT, IT WASN'T EASY | HE THOUGHT AL FALFA WAS A MAFIA

LEADER FROM THE BRONX -

~~HE WAS, HOWEVER, GIVEN US OUR SLOGAN FOR THE YEAR: DON'T~~

~~EAT A THE GRASS, SMOKE IT.~~

↳ WITH HIS HELP ^{and plus} IF RECESSION AND INFLATION CONTINUE, I CAN

ASSURE YOU THAT ALFALFA WILL BE ON EVERYONE'S TONGUE THIS YEAR

. . . AND POSSIBLY IN THEIR STOMACHS, TOO.

↳ UNDER MY LEADERSHIP, ALFALFA WILL INSIST THAT IT BE TREATED

LIKE ANY OTHER DISSIDENT PARTY | WE SHALL ASK FOR CIA SURVEILLANCE

AND "ENEMY LIST" STATUS AT IRS.

↳ WE WILL ASK THAT PRESIDENT FORD GIVE US OUR TAX REBATES

NOW, WHILE THE TREASURY STILL CAN AFFORD THE POSTAGE.

↳ BUT, A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE NOT GOING TO SPEND THEIR TAX REBATE,

THEY WILL HOLD ON TO IT IN CASE THAT SOMEDAY IT MIGHT BE WORTH
SOMETHING.

↳ WE SHALL GIVE AMERICA, ALFALFA'S PROGRAM FOR ENERGY

CONSERVATION -- NO ONE CAN DRIVE A CAR UNLESS IT'S PAID FOR.!

↳ WE ARE GOING TO GIVE BILL SIMON A LONG-TERM CONTRACT

. . . 3 MONTHS.

↳ WE SHALL MOVE CONGRESS TO ITS PROPER HOME . . . THE NATIONAL

AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM.

↳ WE SHALL SEEK JOBS AND FOOD STAMPS FOR THE SOON-TO-BE

UNEMPLOYED . . . CASPER WEINBERGER, ROY ASH, PETER BRENNAN, Earl Batz

CLAUDE BRINEGER . . . ~~AND THE ENDLESS LIST OF LONG-TERM~~

~~JOBLESS.~~

L WE WILL PROVIDE DONALD RUMSFELD WITH A NEW MIRACLE HATCHET,

L YOU WON'T KNOW THAT HE'S USED IT UNTIL YOU TRY TO TURN
YOUR HEAD.

(Pause)

L I HAVE A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT, NEXT WEEK WASHINGTON, D.C.

WILL BE VISITED BY ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS AND RESPECTED

FOREIGN DIPLOMATS OF OUR TIME -- HENRY KISSINGER.

L TO GUARANTEE OUR SURVIVAL, WE WILL ASK HENRY KISSINGER TO
PROVIDE ONE ARAB OIL WELL FOR EACH MEMBER OF ALFALFA . . . USING
FORCE ONLY IF NECESSARY.

L RATIONING IS A MUST, WE WILL RATION HENRY KISSINGER'S
JOB TO 42 UNDER-EMPLOYED MEMBERS OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

L FOR MEMBERS OF ALFALFA WHO ARE ALSO MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, WE
WILL SECURE YOUR FBI FILE FROM CLARENCE KELLY, AND IN THE SPIRIT
OF OPENNESS IN GOVERNMENT AND FULL DISCLOSURE -- WE SHALL HAVE
each file
~~THE FBI FILE ON EACH CONGRESSMAN~~ PUBLISHED IN THE NEW YORK TIMES
AND THE WASHINGTON POST #

L AND FOR ONE LUCKY ALFALFA FAMILY, A TWO WEEK VACATION
WITH GORDON LIDDY, OR A WEEKEND IN JAMAICA WITH GOVERNOR
MARVIN MANDEL -- TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED. # (Pause)

L BUT WHETHER WE GET WHAT WE DESERVE OR NOT, LET US TONIGHT
PLEDGE TO PRESIDENT FORD, IN ALL SERIOUSNESS, OUR DETERMINATION
TO WORK WITH HIM AND TO HELP SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF OUR NATION.

LET THE TRUE ALFALFA PLATFORM BE A SIMPLE ONE. AT PRESIDENT

FORD'S NEXT STATE OF THE UNION MESSAGE, LET HIM BE ABLE TO

SAY, WITH OUR SUPPORT, THERE IS GOOD NEWS FOR AMERICA AND

THE WORLD -- A NATIONAL ECONOMY AND SOCIETY GROWING STRONGER

AND BETTER, AND A WORLD EVER CLOSER TO PEACE AND HARMONY.

LET US LAUNCH THE MOST IMPORTANT ROCKET OF ALL -- A NEW

CENTURY OF AMERICAN GREATNESS. *and*

THERE'S SPACE FOR ALL OF US ON THAT ROCKET -- *and with*

one of America's great poets
CARL SANDBURG: *and let us take inspiration from Carl Sandburg*

"I SEE AMERICA, NOT IN THE SETTING SUN OF A BLACK NIGHT
OF DESPAIR AHEAD OF US. I SEE AMERICA IN THE CRIMSON LIGHT
OF A RISING SUN FRESH FROM THE BURNING, CREATIVE HAND OF GOD.
I SEE GREAT DAYS AHEAD, GREAT DAYS POSSIBLE TO MEN AND WOMEN
OF WILL AND VISION. . ."



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