

From the Office of  
Senator Hubert H. Humphrey  
429 Nicollet Hotel  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

FOR RELEASE  
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*Gyro club*

Warning that America's major cities were "rotting from within" because of urgent need for expanded slum clearance work, Senator Hubert H. Humphrey today urged President Eisenhower's new advisory housing committee to "reverse some of the present attitudes in Washington" by recommending a continued and improved Federal housing program.

Senator Humphrey, speaking before a luncheon meeting of the Gyro Club in Minneapolis, declared the government's low-rent housing program was the "lifeblood" of any effective community slum clearance project.

"Regardless of the business connections or preconceived ideas of members of the new Presidential commission just now launching the Administration's study on government housing policies and programs, I want to express the hope that this group may come up with a program to fill the required and urgent needs of the millions of Americans who have not yet been reached by the various housing programs of the past few years," Senator Humphrey said.

Senator Humphrey added that he had been "disturbed" by the Committee appointments announced by President Eisenhower "because they seem to be so heavily weighted with individuals who either personally, or through organizations, have opposed many of the steps for improved housing, especially the low-rent housing program."

"As I look at the committee membership, its roster of 21 breaks down by previous experience as follows: officers of banks or other lending institutions, 10; operators of real estate and building businesses, 5; architects, 2; veterans, 1; labor, 2; and all civic, professional, church, research and planning agencies, 1," Senator Humphrey said.

"The need for housing throughout the nation, particularly for the low and middle-income groups, is so great, however, that I believe even this group will recommend a continued and improved program to get on with the business of clearing slums and providing low income families with decent shelters -- if they face the facts.

"The facts demand it. The President promised this to the country, and he should do no less.

"It must be remembered that the low-rent housing program was developed after a long period of study. I am proud to have been associated with such leaders as Taft of Ohio, Ellender of Louisiana, Maybank of South Carolina, and Sparkman of Alabama in co-sponsorship of our low-rent housing program. These Senators were not wild-eyed radicals. Surely this new housing committee, regardless of any preconceived ideas, will conclude after investigation just as many of us have -- that instead of scuttling low-rent housing as some now want to do, it should be reinvigorated and expanded. Also, I believe the facts will force the Committee members to recommend to the President measures to provide more adequate financing for private housing. It will be a disappointment if they fail to face the facts, and let personal views supercede an objective study of the nation's needs."

M.T. Gutterman ←

Ted Gark ←

Kingsley Day ←

\* ~~Art Rigan~~ \*

American Foreign Policy

War II - (Isolationism to Internationalism)

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- U.N.R.R.A - Interim Aid

- Greek-Turk.

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- Marshall Plan

M.S.A

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