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August 31, 1960

PEACE REQUIRES WORK, HUMPHREY SAYS

Fergus Falls, August 30 -- Senator Hubert H. Humphrey tonight challenged "every Minnesotan and every American to do his share in the quest for a safeguarded, enduring peace."

"We cannot leave the task to the Government alone," Humphrey declared. "We cannot leave the effort to officials and diplomats. Every citizen must offer his own wisdom, his own determination, his own constant attention to a mighty effort to win lasting peace for our Nation and the world."

Humphrey addressed his challenge to an audience at the Otter Tail County Fair here.

Excerpts of his remarks follow:

"Tonight I could stand before you and give you reassurances that all is well, all is serene in the world.

"I could speak only of the blessings we enjoy in America -- our freedom, our democratic form of government, our abundance.

"But I would not be honest, I would not be offering the best service to my country if I did not ask you to recognize that our freedom, our democracy, our abundance -- all our blessings -- could be lost.

"All of you know that the world is divided between the forces of totalitarianism and the forces of freedom.

"You know that we must remain strong and unwavering before any threat, any attempt to nibble away at our power or the strength of other free nations.

"You know the nuclear weapons of today could -- in a few short hours -- annihilate all that we have built, all that we have achieved, all that we enjoy.

"And so you ask, 'What can I do? How can I help my country pave the way to peace?' Let me try to answer.

"I feel that it is necessary for every Minnesotan and every American to do his share in the quest for a safeguarded, enduring peace.

"We cannot leave the task to government alone. We cannot leave the effort to officials and diplomats. Every citizen must offer his own wisdom, his own determination, his own constant attention to a mighty effort to win lasting peace for our nation and the world.

"We must begin by realizing that peace is not passive -- it is active. Peace is not appeasement -- it is strength. Peace does not 'happen' -- it requires work.

"We must realize that peace cannot be secured, peace cannot endure, unless it has deep roots. There can be no peace in a world plagued by the ingredients of war -- poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy.

(over)

"We must support the work to remove these causes of war. We must face the fact that the man who is impoverished, hungry or illiterate is much more likely to pick up a gun than the man who enjoys reasonable security, dignity and education.

"The clear opportunity for Works of Peace is ready and waiting for us to accept.

"We can employ my Food for Peace program, using America's agricultural abundance to feed the hungry. We can employ my Health for Peace project, using America's medical genius to conquer disease. We can employ my Education for Peace proposal, using America's science and knowledge to help others to help themselves.

"There are many more efforts each American can support and demand to help pave the way to peace.

"But above all, America must strive constantly to find a way out of the terrifying arms race, to seek constantly arms control agreements with adequate inspections and complete safeguards. As we keep our defense force strong, we must continue, we must increase our effort for safeguarded disarmament.

"There can be no progress toward any of these goals, there can be no advancement toward a world of enduring peace until each of you and every other American is determined that our nation will set the winning of peace as its central policy.

"This is a democracy. Your representatives and your leaders will not act until they sense that all Americans want and demand a mighty effort to win enduring peace.

"You must be determined. You must express your determination. That is your role -- your responsibility -- your job -- your part in the quest for peace."

EXCERPTS OF REMARKS BY
SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
AT THE
OTTER TAIL COUNTY FAIR
FERGUS FALLS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1960, 8:00 P.M.

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But I would not be honest, I would not be offering the best service to my country if I did not ask you to recognize that our freedom, our democracy, our abundance - all our blessings - could be lost.

All of you know that the world is divided between the forces of totalitarianism and the forces of freedom.

You know that we must remain strong and unwavering before any threat, any attempt to nibble away at our power or the strength of other free nations.

You know the nuclear weapons of today could - in a few short hours - annihilate all that we have built, all that we have achieved, all that we enjoy.

And, so you ask, 'What can I do? How can I help my country pave the way to peace?' Let me try to answer.

I feel that it is necessary for every Minnesotan and every American to do his share in the quest for a safeguarded, enduring peace.

We can not leave the task to Government alone. We can not leave the effort to officials and diplomats.

Every citizen must offer his own wisdom, his own determination, his own constant attention to a mighty effort to win lasting peace for our Nation and the world.

We must begin by realizing that peace is not passive - it is active. Peace is not appeasement - it is strength. Peace does not 'happen' - it requires work.

We must realize that peace can not be secured, peace can not endure, unless it has deep roots. There can be no peace in a world plagued by the ingredients of war - poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy.

We must support the work to remove these causes of war. We must face the fact that the man who is impoverished, hungry or illiterate is much more likely to pick up a gun than the man who enjoys reasonable security, dignity, and education.

The clear opportunity for Works of Peace is ready and waiting for us to accept.

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8/27/60



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