

TV SCRIPT

AUGUST 10, 1963

TRIP TO MOSCOW

Bob Coar: This is Washington, and this is Senator Humphrey. As you know, Senator Humphrey has just returned from a very important trip to Moscow, and here he is to report to you the people of his state.

Senator Humphrey: Well, thank you, it is a real pleasure to report to you after an eventful and most interesting journey on an official mission for our government, to Moscow, the USSR, the Soviet Union. First of all, I was one of several Senatorial delegates sent by President Kennedy to the signing ceremonies of the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, Monday, August 6, in Moscow. The Senators who journeyed to Moscow were Senators Fulbright (Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee), Pastore (Chairman of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy), Sparkman (Chairman of the Subcommittee on European Affairs of the Foreign Relations Committee) and Humphrey (Chairman on the Subcommittee on Arms Control and Disarmament of the Foreign Relations Committee). These were the four Democratic members; the two Republican members were Senator Saltonstall (Senior Republican in the Senate, and the ranking Minority member of the Armed Services Committee) and Senator George Aiken (one of the Senior Republicans in the U. S. S. and a ranking member on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee). This was a bi-partisan committee as it well should be, because the treaty ratification should not be a partisan matter. This

is something that must be considered on its merits, without regard to partisanship. And the ultimate decision as to Senate action must be based upon what we believe to be in our national interests, and our national security.

The delegation that was dispatched to Moscow left Washington, D. C. at 11:30 on Friday night, August 2. That delegation flew to Moscow via Copenhagen, Denmark with our first stop. We went into the large new presidential jet which was an experience within itself. Other members of the party included the Secretary of State and Mrs. Rusk, our Ambassador to the United Nations, Adlai Stevenson, the Director and Administrator of the Arms Control Agency, William C. Foster and Mrs. Foster, former chief negotiator for the U. S. Government at Geneva and in Korea, both for President Eisenhower and President Kennedy, Arthur Dean and Mrs. Dean, (Mr. Dean being one of the outstanding lawyers of our country); there were a number of professionals from the Department of State, and then, of course, there were the regular secretarial and secret service people who were included. Saturday in We spent/Moscow and spent Saturday evening, Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday in Moscow and left Moscow at 10:30 A.M. Wednesday morning. And, believe it or not, I was back here in the U. S. S., Wednesday afternoon voting on the Appropriations Bill for Health, Education, and Welfare activities. We left at 10:30 A.M., we stopped in New York City to permit Ambassador Stevenson to go directly to the United Nations and then journeyed to Washington, D. C.

arriving here at approximately 4:45 in the afternoon. What an amazing world we live in! The rapidity and speed of communication is dazzling, it is almost overpowering. Imagine being able to have breakfast in Moscow, lunch in Copenhagen, and dinner in Washington, D. C., and at the same time participate in the debates of the U.S.S. and cast two votes on roll call votes, and being present for final passage of an important Appropriations Bill.

Well, that's sort of a travelogue, but it gives you some idea of what can be done over one weekend. Now the treaty signing was on Monday, prior to the treaty signing in Moscow, we had an early morning of our delegation at the U. S. Embassy in Moscow with our Ambassador, Mr. Foy Kohler, and with our Secretary of State, Dean Rusk. Then we had a meeting at the Foreign Ministry office of the Soviet Union with Mr. Gromyko, the Soviet Union's Foreign Minister, and at 11: o'clock we met for one hour with the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mr. Nikita Khrushchev. I hadn't seen Mr. K. since 1958, he recalled our visit, he was pleasant, the entire proceeding was rather informal, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers looked well, spirited, vigorous. He was getting ready to take his vacation at the Black Sea summer home. He invited all of us to come as his guests, but those of us in the Senate knew that we needed to return here for our official duties. The Secretary of State, however, and the Director of Arms Control remained over to discuss some important questions with the Soviet Union Prime Minister or Chairman. Those discussions have been going on during the week, and the days

after the Senatorial delegation returned to Washington.

At 1:30 P.M. on Monday, we had an elaborate luncheon in the Kremlin, prior to that having visited the areas of the Kremlin, which is a tremendous structure. We were taken into the Museum areas, the ^{living} quarters of the late Czar, the fantastic display of gifts that had been bought or brought to the Czars. Really, this is one of the most elaborate, the most luxurious, the unbelievably rich and expensive accumulation of gifts and articles relating to a Nation that I have ever witnessed. The Kremlin has been completely redone, it's very beautiful. And our luncheon was at 1:30 in a beautiful old room, the earliest room, the first room having been constructed in about the 15th century. And then in the afternoon at about 4:00 we had the signing ceremonies with the three foreign ministers, the British F M, the U. S. Secretary of State, and the Soviet F M, standing at a large long table signing in their respective languages, or signing I should say the treaty in three languages, French, English, Russian. Back behind these three foreign ministers were the delegates and the officials that were privileged to be present for the ceremony. By the way, the Secretary General of the U. N., U Thant, was also present. He was invited because the agreement had been under the auspices of the United Nations. I think this was particularly significant, and U Thant made one of the most remarkable addresses of all on the occasion of the

signing ceremonies. Those ceremonies were in a very beautiful hall in the Kremlin with magnificent chandeliers lighting the entire area. And for the first time, the American television cameras were permitted in the Kremlin to witness such an important ceremony, otherwise ordinarily ^{be} it would/the Soviet television that would make the film available to our cameramen, but we insisted this time that our newspaper people photographers and television operators be permitted to be there in their own right. And that insistence was granted for the first time in the Kremlin. There were several firsts, of course; you know, one of interesting developments at that ceremony was the toasting that goes on by the Soviet officials on the occasion of each signature. The President of the U. S. being toasted, and the Prime Minister of Great Britain or I should say the Queen of England as the head of state and the President of the Soviet Union. With each signature, this little social ceremony went on. That evening there was a tremendous reception in the Kremlin. Present were all of the Ambassadors at the Soviet Union. I met many old friends, people that I knew in the United Nations, and the heads of all the different departments of the Soviet Government, as well as the representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church and the chief Rabbi in Moscow. Here was another first, for the first time the head of the Church, of the Russian Orthodox Church and the chief Rabbi were present at the ceremony, and Mr. Khrushchev went over to greet them as did our Secretary of State. I went also to greet them. I thought this was rather significant, because each of these

things has some hidden, and sometimes ^{obvious} ~~hidden~~ meaning. Well, I thought that I just give you a little of the background. Now, let me tell you something of the importance of the treaty.

Everyone knows that it is a significant treaty to ban nuclear tests in the atmosphere, underwater, and outer space. I shan't go into the provisions of the treaty, because I did that when Mr. William C. Foster was a guest on this telecast. By the way, that telecast was made prior to the initialing and the signing of the treaty, and we were of the opinion that the negotiations would be successful, so we took the chance and made the telecast on film.

The treaty, as each of the foreign secretaries indicated, is a first step in the reduction of the arms race, or in the lessening of the tensions in the international arena. From here on out, we'll have to proceed with caution, of course, but we must proceed to explore the possibilities of easing these international tensions. We ought not to assume that there will be a quick and sudden chance. We ought to remember that the Soviets, the Communists, still want to dominate this world and we must be on guard. But we ought to recognize also that we have great strength, and that that strength is not merely in weapons, or in bombs, but I saw how our strength really measures compared to the Soviet Union in my visit to Moscow. Our economic structure is so much more vital, so much more flexible so much more alive, there isn't any comparison between our economic system and theirs. They are so much behind despite the advances

they have made. But, I must say that in 1958, my previous visit, and in 1963, there have been marked changes, marked improvements in the area around Moscow, many new homes, the people look better, they are better dressed, shops are filled with good foods and reasonably good supplies, but prices are scandalously high. How would you like to pay \$345 for an ordinary suit of clothes, I mean, for an ordinary television---17 " television---that's the average price. \$150 - 175 for a suit like I have on which I paid \$59 for, here in the United States. The Russian worker works a month and a half for one suit of clothes. The Russian worker would have to work three to four months for one television set. Prices are high. Goods are scarce, and yet the people are demanding more of the consumer goods, and I think that this is going to have an impact upon Soviet policy, because Mr. Khrushchev is not immune from public pressures, nor is anybody in this day and age. So I happen to believe that if we tried to muster the real strength of our nation, we can win any conflict, any contest. If Mr. K. wants competitive co-existence, then let's compete, but let's compete in other areas besides just the weaponry. He can build the big bombs, he can build rockets, and sputniks, they have the capacity to do, but they are not able to build all of the bombs and all of the sputniks, and the rockets, and the housing that they need, and the schools, and the clothing, and the food and the automobiles, and all the other things that we need for decent living. Therefore, I want for us to explore other

possibilities, how can we engage in the trade, for example, in this area, to our advantage as well as theirs. Why don't we press more for our cultural exchanges, more students to go abroad, more tourists, because everytime a Russian sees a Western European or an American, he knows that there is a better life to be found somewhere else. He knows that there are better clothes, and there are better clothes, and better foods, and he becomes restless, and he asks more of his government. Well, this trip was rewarding to me and Mrs. Humphrey who journeyed with me, we visited with hundreds of Russian people, we found them to be like we are---interested in peace, interested in a better life, but regrettably so ill-informed because they live in a society that is a closed society in more areas and most instances. I am hopeful that in the days ahead that we will be able to penetrate that society with our ideas of freedom and opportunity. This is our challenge.

Thank you.



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