

MINNESOTA RADIO TAPE OF FEBRUARY 25

FOR BROADCAST WEEK BEGINNING MARCH 3

Ladies and gentlemen and fellow-Minnesotans---

This is your Senator, Hubert Humphrey, reporting to you
from my office on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

Recently, I took a long---and important---trip to Geneva, Switzerland,
to attend the 18-nation Disarmament Conference. I was asked to make this
trip by the President, by the Department of State, and by Mr. William C.
Foster, head of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and also our
chief negotiator at the Disarmament Conference.

My role at the conference was, officially, an "observer." But as the
Chairman of the Senate Disarmament Subcommittee and as a member of the
Foreign Relations Committee, I did represent the United States Senate.

Let me give you a bit of background first. In recent weeks, the Geneva
conference has been involved in negotiations for a treaty banning the

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testing of nuclear weapons. The goal of the United States has been to secure a treaty which would not only ban the testing of nuclear weapons, but also provide for what we call an adequate "verification" or inspection system, to assure that the treaty can not be secretly violated by any power.

In Geneva, I met frequently and informally with delegations from the Soviet Union, from Great Britain and many of the other nations represented at the conference.

My purpose was to emphasize three, important points of policy held by the United States Government.

First, that the United States wants a nuclear test ban treaty, and is sincerely interested in negotiating an effective treaty which can help halt the spread of nuclear weapons and the dangers of accidental nuclear war.

Second, that the United States insists that any such treaty include a system of inspections and verification which it considers adequate to detect any violation of the treaty itself.

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Third, the United States is not willing to sit indifferently at the Geneva conference while the Soviet Union pursues tactics of stalling and propaganda.

I repeated these points again and again as I met with other delegates to the disarmament conference, particularly the Soviet delegates.

What were my conclusions after the five days I spent in Geneva attending the conference?

(Ad lib:

- 1 -- Are the current negotiations "serious" and are we justified in continuing them?
- 2 -- What are the chances for a test ban treaty?
- 3 -- What about charges that we have done nothing but make concessions to the Soviet Union?

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