From the Office of:
SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY FOR RELEASE: SUNDAY A.M.'S
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SENATOR HUMPHREY URGES OFFICIAL ACTION TO CURB ANTI-SEMITISM IN RUSSIA

Senate Majority Whip Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) said tonight that the U.S. government should use its official channels to protest the "rising tide of anti-Semitism" in the Soviet Union.

"In this situation in Russia where there seems to be a rising tide of anti-Semitism the American government should speak out officially against it in an unmistakable and clear cut manner," he said.

"It should be brought up at every conference and in value of every negotiation."

Humphrey told the annual convention of the American

Jewish Congress in Miami Beach, Fla., that the United States

should be advocating disarming the world of its prejudice

and bigotry as well as its weapons.

"This kind of disarmament needs to take place in America just as it does in the Soviet Union," he said.

"This government of ours and the American people should speak up for freedom wherever freedom does not exist at home and abroad . . . we should speak up for human dignity wherever people are victims of indignity and of humiliation."

Humphrey said the United States must continue to focus on its unfinished business at home where the Senate is engaged in the civil rights debate.

"We will get a civil rights bill," he predicted,

"which will give us the legal framework for an attack on the

long delayed inequities in voting, education and jobs and the

public indignities to which our Negro citizens have been

subjected."

The new civil rights law, he said, would fall short of its goals unless Americans speak up for human dignity for those who are victims of indignity and humiliation.

(OVER)

"We will be in a much better position to condemn assaults on human dignity and freedom abroad when we have put our own house in order," he said, "when we have made our Constitutional guarantees living realities for all our citizens."

Humphrey said 3 million Jews in Russia are being subjected to a systematic assault on their dignity and freedom, making their welfare a proper subject of official U.S. protest. The United States, he said, has a long history of precedents for speaking out against the oppression of minorities anywhere in the world.

"We have never felt that our principle of nonintervention in the affairs of other states has limited our
obligation to make protests on behalf of our moral duty to
humanity," he said.

Humphrey said leaders of the Soviet Union are embarrassed by official discussion of evidence that minority groups are oppressed in Russia.

"The Communists and the Soviet Union are always trying to peddle their propaganda and are always on the offensive with the theme of communism and of world revolution," he said.

"We ought to speak up for our kind of revolution - the revolution for human freedom, the revolution that assures and guarantees human dignity."

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ruing Kane Robbi Prinz naya Richards SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY CONVENTION OF AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS Abril 18, 196 A matter of major concern is before us all tonight. And although it is an old one it has a special urgency. It involves an attack on man's right to freedom_and dignity, both at home and throughout the world. I know I could not talk to a more friendly group on this subject. However I do not want us to talk just to each other about freedom everywhere. This means talking it up in business associations, in civic groups and at social gatherings - wherever we meet other people. (b) Dunning Problems 7 Freedom & Selectly Equality Circleterties isical + Humankisources

The ancient prophets of social justice whom we honor, and like to think we follow, did not win their spurs in arm chair. They spoke up and were read "loud and clear."

That is why we still hear them centuries later.

I want to talk with you tonight about threats to as you know freedom and dignity both at home and abroad. Anti-Semitism is on the rise in the Soviet Union. At home we face the task of securing full rights of citizenship and full freedom and dignity in the law for the American Negro.

effort to suppress an entire Jewish community of three million persons. This systematic assault on their dignity and their freedom is not a problem for Russian Jews alone - nor a problem only for Jews. History tells us that if freedom can be denied to one individual or group, it can be denied to any individual or group.

Sometimes Constituted

This is not one of those matters of the internal affairs of a nation, affairs in which others should not interfere. It is a situation in which the United States should use official channels in an attempt to curb it.

This is a time for vigorous protest . . . and such a protest will make a difference.

be a rising tide of anti-Somition the American government should speak out officiall, as st in an unmistakable and clear cut manner. It should be brought up at every conference and in every negotiation.

The Soviet government has attempted to both deny the situation and to gloss it over. The facts will permit neither.

Recently at the great festival time of Passover, the Russian government - for the third year in a row - prevented the public baking and distribution of matzoh. Soviet officials cynically encouraged Jewish communities in the West to ship matzoh in, then held it up in customs until it was too late for the religious holiday.

For nearly 25 years no schools have been permitted in which Jewish children can be educated in their religious and cultural life. The synagogues are being pressured into closing. Jews in Russia are both harassed as a group and persecuted as individuals.

Since Russia reinstated capital punishment three
years ago, Jews have been given more than 60 per cent of
the death sentences even though they represent only one
per cent of the population. More attention has been called
to the fact that they're Jews than to their alleged crimes.
Even Stalin, in his attempts to persecute the Jews, didn't
do that.

It is not necessary to catalog the details. It is better that we do what we can to mobilize the protest.

Our government has a long history of precedents for speaking out against the oppression of minorities anywhere in the world.

We have made our protests many times and in many ways.

We have never felt that our principle of non-intervention

in the affairs of other states has limited our obligation

to make protests on behalf of our moral duty to humanity.

We have communicated directly with foreign governments in the past - such as the time Secretary of State Cordell Hull called in the German ambassador to protest Hitler's oppression of Jews and other minority groups in Central Europe. I admit that Secretary Hull did not prevail. But the point is that we have done and should do this sort of thing.

A recent incident in the Soviet Union shows its leaders are embarrassed to be caught in the act of oppressing minority groups - and particularly of having it become a subject of comment elsewhere in the world.

In this situation a particularly vicious book against Jews was published under auspices of the Ukranian Academy of Sciences. With that kind of authority behind it, you can be sure it wasn't a publishing accident.

But when copies finally found their way to various Western countries the Kremlin reacted in a hurry.

What appeared to be at least a partial repudiation of the book was issued by the Ideological Commission of the Soviet Party. This shows the effect of world-wide protest on Russian officials.

The Soviet Union - which likes to pose as the benefactor of all peoples - is vulnerable to pressure if we choose to exert it. Mr Khrushchev likes to speak up for revolution and for communism wherever he goes. etiquette of staying out of other people's affairs bothers him.

So we shouldn't be inhibited in exposing these ugly facts that stay hidden most of the time under the R cover of promises about a brave new world. You can be sure Khrushchev want facts about the oppression of three million Russian Jews spread abroad in information

Now is the time to apply the Pressure-Krusch hoistroubles -We Should Speak up for our Kind of Rivolution

centers.

Mr. Khrushchev likes to say that we make charges about Soviet transgressions against human rights in an attempt to aggravate the cold war. Far from it. We're pointing out these things so he can take a more moderate approach.

He needs to relax pressures from the West because he is being subjected to increasing criticism from the East.

I believe we should exploit this situation. Rather than inhibiting our possibilities of winning concessions or a thaw in the cold war, I'm convinced vigorous pressure on him to eliminate the persecution of Russian Jews will aid the cause of peace.

The Communists and the Soviet Union are always trying to peddle their propaganda and are always on the offensive with the theme of communism and of world revolution. We ought to speak up for our kind of revolution - the revolution for human freedom, the revolution that assures and guarantees human dignity.

We have an obligation to give a voice

we have an obligation to give a vice to those abroad who can't speak for themselves - and to arouse the conscience of humanity on behalf of a suffering minority wherever they are we know tonight that we have an unfinished task at home.

The Senate of the United States is engaged in one of the great debates in its history in an attempt to get a strong civil rights bill.

We will get a civil rights bill which will give us the legal framework for an attack on the long delayed inequities in voting, education and jobs and the public indignities to which our Negro citizens have been subjected.

But when this law is enacted it will fall short of its goals unless Americans speak up for human dignity for those who are victims of indignity and humiliation.

We will be in a much better position to condemn

assaults on human dignity and freedom abroad when we have

put our own house in order, when we have made our

Constitutional guarantees living realities for all our

citizens.

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My House in ord

The Negro has spoken out. I marvel at his long-suffering patience. He has paid taxes. He has fought and died for his country. Yet I can't imagine myself putting up with what he has put up with for so long. Some people are telling him that he must get out of the streets and do his speaking up in court. That is one of the things the civil rights bill will make possible.

I hope this bill will put him in that same bright sunshine of spontaneously-granted human rights that the rest of us enjoy. I don't believe that we have to look too long to find a conscience on this problem in America.

But I do think we have yet to find the courage to give voice to it.

Our late, beloved President Kennedy gave us an example of the courage to speak out. He is the first President who dared to call the problem of second-class citizenship for Negroes a moral issue.

And President Johnson, a Southerner, has taken the lead to give this fight for civil rights both his energy and his moral commitment. He made his position on this issue clear from the start. "We want this bill," he says simply, "because it is right."

I don't mind people around the country putting the spotlight on those of us in the Senate debating this civil rights question - or of reminding us of our responsibilities. But we can't do it alone. The Senate is giving this bill its full consideration but only the people of the country can pass it. The voice of the Nation's conscience must be kept before us.

It is unfortunate that many of those who harbor prejudice and bigotry - and in my public experience I have found them to be a minority - are not afraid to speak up and to agitate for what they believe. It isn't that they are so courageous. I think they have found they can trade on the indulgence of more stable people who find it more comfortable to remain silent.

There is a false idea that nice people - those of good will, good manners and good breeding - do not engage in the grubby world of public discussion with people not as nice as themselves.

But where justice is involved - where human freedom and dignity are at stake - this is an enormous error. A man has to stand up and be heard before he can be counted. These are moments of truth and those of us who want to be lined up for justice and dignity for all men must find our voices.

Now is the time to speak - and to continue speaking - until every American of whatever creed or color has the equal rights the Declaration of Independence promised him and the Constitution guaranteed him.

I think that if we get up and speak out for freedom and human dignity at every opportunity we will find that we have unburdened others from the anxieties of silence.

I think the time has come to do what we can on a larger scale as well - to advocate disarming the world of its prejudice and bigotry. This kind of disarmament needs to take place in America just as it does in the Soviet Union.

This government of ours and the American people should speak up for freedom wherever freedom does not exist.

We should speak up for human dignity wherever people are victims of indignity and of humiliation. We should be doing all we can to disarm the world of its prejudice and bigotry as well as its weapons. This kind of disarmament needs to take place in America just as it does in the Soviet Union.

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