ynwad SCRTPT thaten TOR SENA m-Stitich Ren Non OF NEW YORK COUNTY May 14, 1964 enner Johnson Abramentation / comias a Spr erman tortu Friends and fellow Democrats there's nothing I like better than being with you in New York tonight. These days in Washington, I'm continually torn between duty and desire - and it's a rare night when desire wins. ww, we're in the middle of a frustrating, 20ting AD De filibuster - a filibuster that is preventing the Senate from working its will on the most significant legislation confronting Congress in decades. to tell you about the need for givil rights legislation, nor do I have to explain the bill you. to Orato Great Resources here)-not u

But I can tell you that Regardless of how confusing

day-to-day developments in the Senate may seem, I can in effective meaningful assure you of one thing - WE ARE GOING TO PASS & CIVIL

RIGHTS BILL.

We are going to pass a fair and effective civil rights bill if it means we have to keep the Senate in session all year. President Johnson has made that pledge to the American people. And as his floor manager in the Senate, I will do everything in my power to see that that pledge is carried out.

We are going to pass a civil rights bill because it is morally right, politically right - and internationally, it's imperative.

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This bill is a bi-partisan bill - worked out under

the able leadership of Attorney General Robert F.

Kennedy and responsible Democratic and Republican

leaders in the Congress...men such as Speaker McCormack

and Manny Coller and Minority Leader Charlie Halleck

and Bill McCulloch of Mio.

But that is not what I want to talk to you about

tonight.

I want to talk to you about what we have to do

after this civil rights bill becomes law.

I am concerned about the future. This civil rights program is just a beginning - the beginning of a

program that will bring a new dimension of freedom

and economic progress to our country.

Let this will not come unless we start planning now to implement the civil rights law and start to create a climate of tolerance, reason and justice. Let First, I would like to emphasize something that should be apparent to everyone. Civil Rights is a national issue it is not confined only to the South. His a morial issue Men President Johnson spoke in Atlanta last week he was not speaking only to a Southern audience. His words were heard throughout the land and his warning was directed to the North as well as the South.

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waving the tattered and discredited banners of the past who seek to stir up old hostilities and kindle old hatreds who preach battle between neighbors and bitterness between
states. That is the way back to the anguish from which
we came."

This is a warning that all Americans should keep

atlante LBJ .

in mind <u>We Democrats should keep it in mind</u> when we read the gloomy reports of the political pundits about the so-called "white backlash" and other dire results if we persist in fighting for a good civil rights bill.

A.G. SEK.

It is certainly clear that many peddlers of panic have been roaming the country. By voice and by pen they seek to exploit the inner fears of decent Americans. There is not a section of the bill they have not lied about or distorted.

These peddlers of fear are clever, calculating demagogues. They know that the average voter doesn't take the time to learn all the details of the civil rights bill so these demagogues prey on this lack of information.

They prey on it by sticking their grimy fingers into the very heart of our fellow Americans. They tell lies to frighten them about what will happen to their children in school, what will happen to their homes, what will happen to their families. I am confident that the majority of Americans will not be deceived for too long.

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But this is where we, as responsible party leaders, must take an active role. We must make certain that the truth is known. / We must not permit ignorance to grow. s who try to exploit ignorance We must expose the 🕏 And we must have the political courage to stand and fear. for what is morally right even if we know it is not universally popular. As political leaders we carry a heavy responsibility $_{\odot}$ We must help create a national climate that will respond to President Johnson's call for an end to hatred and rancor and the beginning of a new tolerance of difference S whether that difference be political, religious or racial.

This is a responsibility none of us can avoid either as citizens or as political leaders. It is the kind of responsibility President Kennedy spoke about in his memorable Inaugural Address when he said "I do not shrink from this responsibility - I welcome it."

Since 1961 when the beloved John F. Kennedy took office our country has made unprecedented strides on the road to a Better America. We will continue that progress under Lyndon B. Johnson.

But as responsible men and women we know that our goal of a Better America is not one that will be reached overnight. It will require work. It will require persistence. It will require patience. It will require action. The goal we are seeking for all Americans was stated best by the late Pope John XXIII in his great encyclical, Pacem in Terris.

Pope John emphasized that "racial discrimination can in no way be justified" and he added:

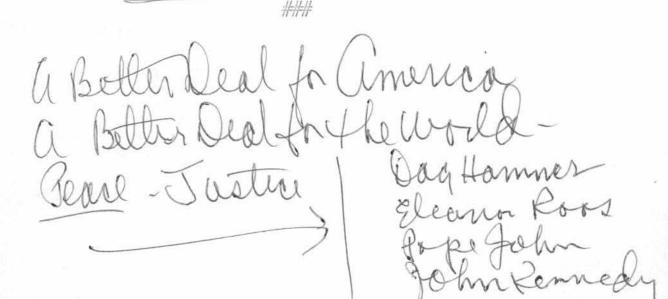
"For, if a man becomes conscious of his rights, he become equally aware of his duties. Thus he who possesses certain rights has likewise the duty to claim those rights as marks of his dignity, while all others have the obligation to acknowledge those rights and respect them."

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There - in the word dignity - we have the sense of what we Seek for all Americans. The preservation and elevation of human dignity is the base for every other individual and social value. Every human being deserves to be treated with dignity, for every individual is a person of infinite worth.

It is our task as citizens to translate these ideals into living, day-to-day terms that will add meaning and reality to our lives.

And it is our task as public servants to marshal the resources of this great nation to work for the dignity of all citizens.



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