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news release

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

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TEXT PREPARED FOR DELIVERY
BY
SENATOR HUBERT HUMPHREY
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

If there is one issue dominating all others in this campaign it is this: which candidate for President of the United States is better prepared to assume the fearful responsibility for the destiny of America both at home and abroad?

The choice is a simple one: between the radicalism of Senator Goldwater and the responsibility of President Lyndon Johnson.

The leader of the Goldwater Party--through public statement, written word, and basic philosophy--has left responsible Americans with only one course of action: an overwhelming vote of confidence for President Johnson on November 3.

By every standard of American life, Senator Goldwater is a radical--and he preaches and practices the doctrine of radicalism.

He seeks to destroy the social and economic achievements of the past generation.

He repudiates the bipartisanship in the conduct of our foreign affairs--a tradition established by Senator Arthur Vandenburg and President Franklin D. Roosevelt and upheld faithfully by leaders of both political parties.

He distrusts the past, misrepresents the present, and misunderstands the future.

He accepts the support of irresponsible extremist groups and alienates loyal and responsible members of the Republican Party.

It is not surprising that the harshest denunciations of Senator Goldwater have come from members of the Republican Party.

---more---

Former Vice President Nixon said: "...it would be a tragedy for the Republican Party if every Goldwater view as previously stated were not challenged, not repudiated." (Des Moines Register, June 10, 1964)

Governor Nelson Rockefeller described Goldwater as the candidate of "an extremism outside the main currents of American life." (Kansas City Star, April 28, 1964.)

Governor William Scranton termed Goldwater's view "a weird parody of Republicanism...the echo of fear and reaction, the echo from the never-never land that puts our nation backward to a lesser place in the world of free men...the fast draw and quick solution." (as quoted by Arthur Krock, New York Times, July 10, 1964)

It was Senator Goldwater who termed the Eisenhower administration a "dime store New Deal." (U.S. Senate, May 6, 1960)

It was Senator Goldwater who announced that "one Eisenhower generation is enough." (Times Magazine, July 24, 1964)

It was Senator Goldwater who said "Nixon would be difficult to sell to everybody." (Newark Evening News, June 16, 1961)

It was Senator Goldwater who repudiated the 1960 Republican Platform by casting his vote in the Senate against 25 of its key provisions.

In his heart, Senator Goldwater is neither a loyal Republican nor a true conservative. He is a radical in the true and basic meaning of that word.

Our English word "radical" is derived from the Latin word "radix" ---meaning root. And Senator Goldwater wants to pull everything out by their roots--whereas a true conservative wants to conserve the best of the past.

Senator Goldwater seeks to weaken Social Security -- if not destroy it entirely -- by making it voluntary.

He seeks "prompt and final termination" of farm price support programs.

He seeks to sell TVA "even if they could only get a dollar for it."

On three great issues of conscience to come before the U.S. Senate in the past decade -- the censure of Senator Joseph McCarthy, the nuclear test ban treaty, and the civil rights bill -- Senator Goldwater voted "No" on each occasion.

He preaches the doctrine of selfish irresponsibility -- a doctrine uninformed by history, uncontrolled by reason, and untempered by charity.

It is this doctrine of selfish irresponsibility which appeals so directly to various extremist groups in America.

The Goldwater Convention in San Francisco refused flatly to repudiate extremism. And by its refusal to condemn the lunatic fringe of American politics, the Goldwater Party has permitted into its ranks those individuals and organizations whose stock in trade is the politics of hate and catastrophe.

The Minority Report on Extremism to the 1964 Republican National Convention cited the John Birch Society and others as "groups whose tactics are wholly alien to the American democratic tradition."

The report accused them of using "secrecy, vigilante tactics, violence, smears, and character assassination...(of dealing in) unfounded rumors, gross exaggerations, and falsehoods to trigger public hysteria..."

And Senator Goldwater said of the John Birch Society: "I am impressed by the type of people in it...they are the kind we need in politics." (Christian Science Monitor, November 8, 1963)

The United States is a great, diverse nation of almost 200 million people. The overwhelming majority of-- whether Democrats or Republicans -- are loyal to the fundamental values of our society. The overwhelming majority are committed to those priceless ideals we hold in common -- faith in our future, mutual trust, and the spirit of liberty.

The overwhelming majority of Americans repudiate the politics of radicalism -- whether of the right or of the left. They agree with President Johnson, who said:

"Let us put an end to the teaching and the preaching of hate and evil and violence. Let us turn away from the fantasies of the far left and the far right, from the apostles of bitterness and bigotry, from those defiant of law, and those who pour venom into our nation's bloodstream."

I believe profoundly that America will repudiate Goldwater radicalism at the polls on November 3rd.

The American people know that performance -- not promises -- is the true test of a man.

The American people know the challenges of the 1960's and call for responsible, moderate, progressive and enlightened leadership.

In Lyndon Johnson we have a man who can provide this kind of leadership. He has been tested as few men in our history: by public service under four Presidents, by leadership in the Congress of the United States, by sudden elevation under tragic and dreadful circumstances to the White House.

To every post he has held, President Johnson has dedicated all his great talents and all his abundant energy. He has given every waking hour -- and including many when most of us would have been asleep -- to the job in hand, whether as a young Congressman from Texas or as President of the United States.

In Lyndon Johnson we have a man who possesses the qualities to ~~create~~ unity from diversity and consensus from conflict -- who pursues his duties as commander-in-chief with responsibility and restraint.

In Lyndon Johnson we have the one man superbly qualified to lead our nation and the world away from the last Great War toward the first Great Society.

Performance--not promises--is why the American people will elect Lyndon Johnson as President of the United States on November 3rd.

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Background material

Rochester, New York

Rochester started from a flour mill---put there because of water power from the Genessee River -- and the millstones from that first mill operated by Ebenezer Allen are in the wall of the Monroe County Courthouse. Colonel Nathaniel Rochester of Maryland, bought the Allen holdings, laid out the city which bears his name.

The opening of the Erie Canal in 1824 started the city on the course of continuing expansion and diversity based on surrounding rich agricultural area, transportation, power, skilled labor, and the initiative and ingenuity of men like George Eastman, Jacob Bausch (Bausch & Lomb optics), George Taylor (thermometers), William Gleason (machine tools -- bevel gear cutter), and George Selden (internal combustion engine whose patent claims successfully contested by Henry Ford.)

Central city of a metropolitan trading center of more than 600,000, Rochester has industries in 15 of the 16 major classifications set up by the Census Bureau. It is known almost as widely for its leadership in the nursery business as in photography and optics.

Considered a conservative region by all traditional standards in America, it has nothing in common with the Goldwater-Miller philosophy.

Rochester has one of the most far reaching community renewal programs of any American city. City, state, and federal governments are cooperating. The city already has one of the nation's best park systems -- 7 large and 30 small parks -- but the six urban renewal programs will make it an even better place to live. More than \$30 million in federal capital grant funds will be available for the Rochester program. Much local initiative and heavy private investment in urban renewal, with local criticism of federal projects being slowed by red tape.

Rochester has always depended on water transportation, located at the mouth of the Genesee on Lake Ontario. The Erie Canal and then the New York State Barge Canals have been important to its commercial life. It has been stimulated again by the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

Rochester is a music, education, and art center. Eastman School of Music is a part of University of Rochester. The latter is also known for its medical research -- heavily supported federally -- particularly in the field of biological effects of radioactive materials. Rochester Philharmonic is one of nation's top orchestras. Rochester Institute

Rochester, New York -- page 2

of Technology has roots to 1829 and is building a new campus at edge of city. It plays a key role in the city's manpower retraining program, with federal participation. Memorial Art Gallery and Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences are outstanding in nation.

John C. "Jack" Williams, Democratic candidate for Congress from 36th District, is former newspaperman (Rochester Democrat and Chronicle), worked in Department of Commerce, Washington, 1961, in trade promotion, then served two years as Assistant City Manager.

Williams campaign emphasizes importance of federal programs to improve urban environment, citing civil rights, anti-poverty, retraining, housing, equal employment opportunity, etc., as proper attack on social problems highlighted by racial disturbances in Rochester last winter. Public housing program currently embroiled in bitter local political squabble.

Rochester was one of the most important termini on the "Underground Railroad." It has always been intense about reforms and was the home of Susan B. Anthony.

More in keeping with Goldwater approach -- ("I don't have to study world problems, etc.") -- was the activity (1848) of Margaret and Katherine Fox, pioneer spiritualists, whose seances in their Rochester home were famous for what came to be known as the "Rochester Rappings."

For Release. Thursday P.M.S, Oct. 22, Text prepared for Delivery by Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, Democratic Vice Presidential Candidate at Rochester, New York, Oct. 22, 1964.

More candy

Many speakers

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For Release. Thursday P.M.S, Oct. 22, Text prepared for Delivery by Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, Democratic Vice Presidential Candidate at Rochester, New York, Oct. 22, 1964.

Handwritten:
L. Ron
C. Carlson

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The End

Remarks of Senator Hubert H. Humphrey
War Memorial Auditorium
Rochester, New York
October 22, 1964

Senator Humphrey. Thank you, thank you very much.

Thank you very much, Mr. O'Brien, member of the Monroe County Democratic Committee, the esteemed, respected mayor of this great City of Rochester, Frank Lamb.

By the way, Mr. Mayor, I just can't help but make note of the fact of how much better Rochester looks since you got a Democratic administration. (Applause)

All we need to do is make sure we keep it, and Rochester, a great City of New York, will become without a doubt one of the most beautiful, enterprising, progressive cities in the United States under the Democratic administration.

I am very happy to be here in Monroe County in this fine, progressive city. I am very pleased even though I know that you have about as many political speakers here as we have surplus bushels of wheat out in the Midwest. But, you know, we put those surplus bushels of wheat to good use. We help the people with our food, and you must put this surplus of Democratic speakers to good use. You get the voters to elect a Democratic President, Lyndon Johnson, and a Democratic government. (Applause)

I am delighted to share this platform today with two gentlemen that undoubtedly will be in Washington very shortly. I hope they have made all the appropriate preparations so that they can serve comfortably full time, actively, in the House of Representatives, and I have the great privilege of saying that President Lyndon Johnson and his Vice-Presidential running mate would be most happy, in fact, we ask the people of the 36th District, to see to it that John C. Williams is sent to Washington to help us keep this country moving forward in the paths of economic and social progress. (Applause)

And we need a partner there, too. We need to have a man from the 37th District. After all, if you are going to have someone from the 36th, he will get lonesome unless there is someone from the 37th, someone that works with him, cooperates with him, and someone that will help us with our program for the future, and Neil F. Vockler is just the right man to serve from the 37th. (Applause)

Now, I recognize that I am in the home city of one of our

colleagues in the Senate, and I want to be very frank with you, that in the Senate of the United States we have a sort of a warm fellowship. We have an aisle that divides us, the Democrats and the Republicans, and I must tell you that the Republican side of the aisle is beginning to look like a cut-over forest. There isn't much left there.

But there is still room on the Democratic side of the aisle, and there is a great deal of room for a United States senator that will be a cooperator with the Democratic Administration, a great deal of room for a United States senator that will work and speak and fight and vote in the traditions of Bob Wagner and Herbert Lehman and great Democrats from this Empire State of New York. (Applause)

And you know who we need. We need Robert Kennedy elected to the United States Senate. (Applause)

I have looked over this happy audience. It is a brisk day, but it is just made for somebody from New York and Minnesota. We really enjoy this kind of climate.

Somebody said to me aren't you going to wear a coat, and I said, "You mean in the middle of the summer?" (Laughter)

I spent a good deal of my time at Duluth, Minnesota, at the head of the Lakes. After all, we are lake ports, Rochester and Duluth, Minnesota. We often say in Duluth that we have just two seasons. We have the Fourth of July and winter. (Laughter) And it is now winter there.

But Duluth, Minnesota, like Rochester, New York, has learned some good habits. It, too, once was a citadel of Republican strength, and then they started to read, and then they started to think, and then they started to look ahead, just as they have done in Rochester, New York, and Duluth now has a Democratic mayor and votes Democratic, and Rochester has a Democratic mayor and votes Democratic. Ah, the wonders of education. (Applause -- Laughter)

Is it any wonder that the Republican standard bearer says that he thinks some people would be better off if they didn't have any education. It is a sure way to get a vote for the party of retreat, for the party of negativism, but we of the party of hope, the party of progress, the party of Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman and John Kennedy, this party believes in education. (Applause)

We are coming down to the line, as they say, in this campaign. I think most everybody has made up their mind how they are going to vote, but I must forewarn my friends from the Democratic Party, and I must also forewarn those valiant, courageous, honest souls that have joined us even though they have been traditionally Republicans. The opposition has yet to discuss the issues in this campaign.

Somebody said to me as I came into your airport that this campaign has been described as both dull and vicious. I hope that that is not the description of it. But if it has lacked the color or the sparkle that some might have wished, may I say it is primarily because in order to have a debate that brings out the best in the people, that challenges your intellect, that makes you think through the issues, you have to have someone that is willing to debate the issues, the issues that affect the American people, and we have not had that kind of discussion from our opponents.

They have yet to discuss with you how we make our cities a better place to live. They have yet to discuss how we improve transportation and communications and expand our commerce. They have yet to discuss how we can better improve our school system, our higher education, our technical and vocational education. They have yet to discuss what we can do to make the twilight years of life, years for our elderly, more pleasant, more dignified, and better.

My dear friends, the opposition has yet to discuss their programs and policies for peace in this world, for strengthening America's security, for making this country more secure.

They have failed to discuss a single major issue, but they reach deeper and deeper into the barrel of smear and innuendo and half-truths, and they continue to do it now, and they will do it in the days ahead because when you are losing and you have nothing else to talk about, the politics of desperation takes over. And I am afraid that the opponents are becoming desperate.

Therefore, I warn this audience that we can expect one so-called smear bombshell after another.

American people don't like it. The American people won't tolerate it. The American people will rebuke it. And they will rebuke those who dispense it.

I appeal to my fellow Democrats and to those independents and Republicans that stand with us to discuss the issues in this

campaign and not the personalities.

Let me make it crystal clear. I happen to know the standard bearer of the Republican Party. I know him as a fellow senator. I know him as a human being. I have never contested his patriotism because he is a patriot. I have never contested his personal integrity because I believe he is a man of integrity. I have never said a word about his personal life because I think it is a good one.

I feel that he would make a good neighbor, but I don't think he would make a good president, and that is why I am here today. (Applause)

I haven't said a word about this fellow on the ticket with him. I feel he speaks well enough for himself. Not only that, I like the State of New York. And I want all New Yorkers to know that we respect you, that we ask for your help and that we don't intend to make any unkind remarks about any of your fellow citizens.

I make no unkind remark about the candidate of the Republican Party for the Senate. I make no unkind remark about the candidate of the Republican Party for Vice-President. I only say this, that you have a choice in this election, and when you have a choice and it is a good one, I think you have got the good sense to make the right choice, and I think you are going to elect President Lyndon Johnson for another four years in the White House and Robert Kennedy for six years in the United States Senate. (Applause)

And I think you are going to elect these two congressmen, these candidates for Congress, from the 36th and the 37th Districts.

Now, let me talk to you a little bit about what I consider to be the one dominating issue above all others in this campaign.

This issue is which candidate for President of the United States is better prepared to assume the fearful responsibility for the destiny of America in the days ahead, both at home and abroad. That is the issue that you must contemplate, and it is on that issue that you must make your decision.

The choice as I see it is between the radicalism of Mr. Goldwater and the responsibility of President Lyndon Johnson.

The leader of the Goldwater Party through public statement, through written word, and basic philosophy, has left responsible Americans with only one course of action, and that course of action is an overwhelming majority vote on November 3rd for President Lyndon B. Johnson. (Applause)

By every standard of American life, the standard bearer of the Republican Party, Mr. Goldwater, is a radical, and he preaches the doctrine of radicalism. He seeks to repeal the social and the economic achievements of the past generation. He repudiates the standards of bipartisan foreign policy. He distorts the past. He misrepresents the present. And he misunderstands the future.

He accepts the support of irresponsible extremist groups, and he alienates loyal and responsible members of the Republican Party.

It is not surprising that the harshest words of criticism of Senator Goldwater have come from Republicans themselves. Former Vice-President Richard Nixon, for example, said, "It would be a tragedy for the Republican Party if every Goldwater view as previously stated were not challenged, not repudiated."

I must say that that is a harsh statement, but it was made by Mr. Nixon who today is running around our country telling you that you ought to elect Mr. Goldwater.

Now, that isn't what he really means. Deep down in his heart he knows you are not going to do that. Deep down in his heart, what he is doing is going around hoping he can pick up the pieces of the Republican Party after this election. (Applause)

Governor Nelson Rockefeller -- I think you have heard of him -- Governor Rockefeller describes Mr. Goldwater as the candidate of "an extremity outside the main currents of American political life."

Governor William Scranton of Pennsylvania termed Goldwater's view, and I recite it, "a weird parody of Republicanism, the echo of fear and reaction, the echo from the never-never land that put our nation backward to a lesser place in the world of free men. The fast draw and the quick solution."

These are the words of a distinguished Republican governor about the Republican standard bearer for the Presidency.

And it was Senator Goldwater himself who termed the

Eisenhower Administration a "dime store New Deal," and it was Senator Goldwater himself who announced "one Eisenhower in a generation is enough."

End of quote.

My, how these men love each other. (Laughter)

It was Senator Goldwater who said, "Nixon would be difficult to sell to anybody."

It was Senator Goldwater who repudiated the 1960 Republican platform on 25 specific issues, voting against those 25 platform commitments 25 times. No, no, 25 times.

In his heart, deep down in his heart, Senator Goldwater knows that he is neither a Republican nor a conservative. He knows that he is a radical. (Applause)

On the three great issues of conscience in this past decade to come before the United States Senate, the censure of Senator McCarthy, the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, and the Civil Rights Bill, the Senator from Arizona voted no on each occasion.

He has voted no on education, on public works, on aid to the elderly, on scholarships for the students, on higher education, medical education, agriculture, REA, minimum wages.

You name the bill and you will be right 99 times out of 100 if you say "I think Senator Goldwater voted no." (Applause)

This gentleman preaches the doctrine of selfish irresponsibility, a doctrine uninformed by history, uncontrolled by reason, and untempered by charity.

It is the doctrine of selfish irresponsibility which appeals so directly to the very extremist groups that Governor Rockefeller, Richard Nixon, Governor Scranton, and others warned us about.

The Goldwater convention in San Francisco refused flatly to repudiate these extremist groups. And by its refusal to condemn the lunatic fringe of American politics, the Goldwater Party has permitted into its ranks those individuals and organizations whose stock in trade in politics is the politics of hate, the politics of division, the politics of despair, and the politics of catastrophe.

Let me quote to you from the minority report of the Republican 1964 Convention, the report on extremism, and listen to the words of fellow Republicans, and you will now understand why so many great Republican newspapers, why so many honorable true Republicans have refused to support Mr. Goldwater and are joining in the support of President Johnson.

I quote the exact words of a document which the Goldwater Party would like you to forget. I quote the words of the most responsible members of the Republican Party in convention assembled.

The report accused, for example, and cited the John Birch Society and other groups whose tactics are wholly alien to the American democratic tradition. The report accused them of using "secrecy, vigilante tactics, violence, smears, character assassination, of dealing in unfounded rumors, gross exaggerations, and falsehoods to trigger public hysteria."

End of quote.

I ask you to read your morning press about the very film that was to have been played on the networks last night. Read the description of its intent. Read the description of the man who prepared that film and said that it was to be used. For what purpose? To trigger public hysteria, to play upon the passions of the people, to arouse their fears.

Ladies and gentlemen, my fellow Americans, if that is the price of political victory, it is too high, and I don't think the American people are willing to pay that price in order to see somebody elected to high public office. (Applause)

And what does the Senator from Arizona say of the John Birch Society? Listen to these words. After his own Party -- at least a substantial portion of his Party -- condemned it, he says of the Birch Society: "I am impressed by the type of people in it. They are the kind we need in politics."

End of quote.

What kind of politics, my fellow Americans? The politics of Lincoln? The politics of Wilson? The politics of Herbert Hoover? The politics of Roosevelt? The politics of Eisenhower?

I think not.

We do not need the extremist radicals of the left or the right to guide American politics. The American people are interested in following and walking down the broad road of progressive democracy. They don't want to be dragged into the gutters of the Communist left or of the Goldwater-Birchite right, and they are not going to be. (Applause)

I am happy to say that the overwhelming majority of Americans -- we are almost 200 million now, many races, groups, nationalities, and creeds -- but whether we are Democrats or Republicans, whether we are minorities or majorities, we are loyal to the fundamental values of American society. The overwhelming majority are committed to those priceless ideals that we hold in common, faith in our future, mutual trust, respect for human dignity, and a great devotion to the spirit of individual and political liberty.

The overwhelming majority of Americans repudiate, and have in the past and will in the future, repudiate the politics of radicalism whether of the right or of the left, and I think the American people remember and agree with the words of President Johnson who said, following that tragic day in Dallas, Texas, when our beloved President was taken from us at the zenith of his life -- remember these words, my fellow Americans. Let them be seared into your souls. Remember them as you would a creed of faith.

President Johnson said, "Let us put an end to the teaching and the preaching of hate and evil and of violence. Let us turn away from the fanatics of the far left and the far right, from the apostles of bitterness and bigotry, from those defiant of the law and those who pour venom into our nation's bloodstream."

My fellow Americans, those words were uttered as a warning to the people of this Republic. Great nations have perished because they listened to those who spread throughout the land bitterness and hatred and division. America will never be great nor can it preserve its greatness if it listens to the false prophets.

This is one country, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all, and that ought to not only be our pledge of allegiance. It ought to be our way of life. And we ought to make it so in this campaign and this election. (Applause)

I believe I now understand better than ever before why our President has such great support, because he is the healer. He doesn't open wounds. He seeks to heal wounds. He doesn't divide

us on the basis of race or ethnic group. He seeks to unite us.

Our President doesn't demean and criticize ethnic minorities. He praises them and welcomes them as a part of the great symphony of American life.

Oh, my friends, how fortunate it is that our gates have been opened so that America could be blessed by the cultures of many lands and by people from many areas of the world.

We the American people are of many faiths and many cultures but we are one people in spirit, one people in dedication to our country, and to the high and noble purpose for which it stands, and I was nothing short of shocked in this campaign when I heard the spokesman of the opposition condemn the immigrant, chastise and criticize the minority.

Let me make it clear in this beautiful city of Rochester that the immigrant has made America, that the minority adds up to the majority, and that President Lyndon Johnson and Hubert Humphrey are grateful that America is a nation of many peoples, many creeds, many faiths, and many points of view. Thank God that we have the richness of that diversity. (Applause)

I think the American people will make their decision on November 3rd, not out of hysteria but out of reason. The American people know that performance is the test of a man, and the American people know that the challenges of the 1960's call for responsible, moderate, intelligent, progressive, and enlightened leadership. And in President Johnson, the American people know we have a man who has been and can and will continue to provide this leadership.

He has been tested as few in our history, by public service under four presidents, by leadership in the Congress of the United States, as Vice-President of the United States, and then under the most unbelievable and tragic of circumstances, to rise to the high office of President and to fulfill that office with dignity, with responsibility, and with capacity and competence that has earned for him the respect of the overwhelming majority of the people of America, yea, of the world. (Applause)

So I come to this great audience in this beautiful and fine city of Rochester. I appeal to you as others have to think of your country and not just your Party, to think of your children, and not just your past, to think of how we can make America a better land in which to live, to think of how we can make this

world a safer place in which to live.

Last night our President outlined for you and for the world his program of peace. I am proud to support a man who has the courage to work for peace. I am proud to stand along side of a President who knows that blessed are the peacemakers, who understands that the strength and the richness of America is not for conquest or luxury but understands that this strength is to be used with reason and restraint for but one purpose, to save mankind from the unbelievable catastrophe of nuclear war and destruction.

We have a man in the White House who understands it. I suggest that we make sure we don't turn that office over to one who is impetuous, irresponsible, rash, who engages in ultimatums, and in kinds of nuclear war games. That is too dangerous a decision for anyone to make.

So I ask you to join with me in helping elect the man that was selected in 1960 as our Vice-President, who has proven himself capable of undertaking the high duties and the burdens of the Presidency.

I believe that America will be in safe hands. I believe the world will be a happier place in which to live if the American people in this election by overwhelming majority will rebuke the agents of bitterness and dissension and distrust and if the American people will reaffirm once again the goals of the New Frontier, once again the goals of social and economic progress, and commit this country to honorable peace, to strength for victory over war itself, victory over disease, victory over pestilence, victory over ignorance, victory over prejudice.

That is the kind of an America that is worthy of our heritage.

Thank you very much. (Applause)

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Remarks of Senator Hubert H. Humphrey
Home of Mrs. Harper Sibley
Rochester, New York
October 22, 1964

Senator Humphrey. Thank you, Mrs. Sibley.

Well, I suppose there is one thing I really don't need, and that is to make another speech.

I just wanted to take one or two moments, first of all, to thank Mrs. Sibley for her generous and gracious hospitality in permitting us to come into her home and also to thank her son and her family.

I want you to know that these occasions are the pleasant moments in a very busy life. We were talking just a moment ago about where we might have a little gathering in Rochester, and my very efficient staff was a little bit concerned lest we didn't have it at some sort of a big hotel. But how wonderful it is to come to a home and one as gracious and as lovely as this. I sort of long for it. I don't see a home very often anymore, but I expect to a little bit later except I can't help but remember what President Johnson said at the end of the Democratic Convention.

You may recall that I used a line, "But not Senator Goldwater" -- (Laughter) -- and when we got to a meeting there were all the workers and the Party faithful gathered. He said "I want you all to take a little rest now because we have a good deal of work to do. I want everybody here to take a vacation, and I want you to prepare yourselves now for a real long campaign. I want everybody, but not Senator Humphrey!" (Laughter)

He really meant it. I haven't had half a day off since.

But I have enjoyed in many ways the privilege of traveling around our beautiful country and seeing people. We have had a wonderful reception. There are times and moments that are a little distressing and trying, but basically and fundamentally the whole experience is a rewarding one.

I see thousands, hundreds of thousands of people, and one of the most encouraging aspects of all of our travels is the appearance of the young people. We have thousands of them.

Yesterday I spoke at Southern Illinois University. We had about 12,000 or more students in a splendid reception, enthusiastic. Every place we go young people seem to be taking

a renewed interest in American public life. Sometime maybe we will get a good story about our young people, that they are really interested, and they are. They are just energized, that is all, and some of us that are a little older have a tough time keeping up with them. But I get inspired by their enthusiasm and by their sense of idealism.

I want to say one other word to you about this campaign. I know that there are many of you here that are maybe for the first time supporting a candidate on the Democratic ticket. American politics is different than other countries. We don't have sharp ideological lines. We have choices that we make, but generally they are within the framework of accepted standards.

I truly believe what I said today from the platform. I try to say what I believe every time. Once in awhile we have to be a little overdramatic in order to get our point across, but I believe that this election is very different, and so do you believe that or many of you wouldn't be here.

I think this is why many of the great publications that are traditionally Republican and very seldom support a Democratic candidate, which indeed is their privilege, this time are supporting President Johnson.

They are not only supporting President Johnson for what he is and for the policies and the principles that he stands for and that he speaks for, but they are supporting him because they are also concerned about the nature of the opposition. And this opposition, I don't mean it only in the person of the standard bearer, Mr. Goldwater, because I want to say a word about him. I know him personally. But the opposition that I speak of are the forces that are at work in American life.

We have a very difficult road ahead of uniting our people, of trying to make this one good society.

John Adams talked about the pursuit of happiness. And this should really be the goal of American life because we are such a blessed land.

You ought to see it. I have been practically every place in this country, and it is beautiful, and the people look healthy. Basically they are prosperous. There are new institutions of education in every community, new recreational facilities. Farms are lovely. New business houses. Wonderful office buildings. There isn't any place in the world like this.

And truly we are in an era that you might call of happiness and the pursuit of happiness, and yet within all of this, the blessed happiness and the opportunity for happiness, there are sinister forces, and I must say that all of my life and my father's life before me, I have been-- I have rebelled against these forces. I repudiate them.

I have been in the South. I have watched the KKK, Ku Kluxers at work. I have met up with the most radical extreme forms of political participation, the Birchites, as we call them. I have seen the so-called Minutemen who train their people for open guerilla warfare in the United States. And I have watched them preach their doctrines of bitterness and hatred to divide people on religion, to divide them on race, divide them on section.

And the thing that bothers me about this campaign was that for the first time a great political party had been captured, had literally been captured; not the party, the leadership.

There are millions of people in America who are of Republican persuasion that are discouraged, and they are very upset because the party was captured and for the first time this party that has been captured has offered a respectable platform for people that are not respectable.

We don't need these haters, and we should rebuke them. We have always had some, but they never before have had a chance to get on national television. They never before had an opportunity to be able to say, "Look, I can openly endorse somebody."

And as I said today, regrettably, regrettably, and I say it with sadness, Senator Goldwater has opened up the avenue for people to come into a political party that have no right to be in there.

I expect four years from now that this will be different. I truly do. I hope and pray that we may get back to a good, legitimate, honest two-party system. I hope that both political parties will rebuke the haters.

We have had some in our party. Thank goodness one or two are leaving. I hope more of them might do so. (Laughter)

We don't need any haters in the major political parties. We have enough things to talk about without that.

And therefore I think I know why people who have for a generation or more openly supported the Republican Party at this time have put their country above their party, have put their patriotism above partisanship, and that is why President Johnson and Hubert Humphrey are attempting in a very real sense to conduct a campaign of national unity, not just to make it a Democratic victory but to make it an American victory, to make it a victory for progress and for peace, and we are sincere in our dedication to the pursuit of peace.

I want to remind you what John Kennedy said at American University, June 10, 1963. I think it was his greatest message, his greatest speech. I have thought of it and spoken of it many times. I talked to him about it before he made it. We became close friends.

He said, "Peace is a process," and he reminded us there wasn't any such thing as instant peace, and he reminded us that peace was not merely the absence of war. It was also the harmony of life. And he reminded us that the peacemaker had to be more courageous even than the warrior and that it required discipline, responsibility, sacrifice, the willingness to give of oneself.

And unless we keep that in mind, there will be no peace. And frankly if we don't have any peace, it is all gone anyway.

Therefore, the task of statesmanship in the world today is how do you avoid the nuclear conflict without the sacrifice of your principles? How do you gain the real victory, not the victory that some people are talking about, the victory over war itself, the victory over injustice, the victory over bigotry, over prejudice, and those are the victories that we are talking about.

Now, we don't do a good job of it in a campaign because you have got to shout so much, you know, to get to be heard. There is so much noise in elections. But once we get this over with, we can talk more quietly, and then we can reason with one another rather than trying to arouse just the forces that will help us to win the election, so to speak.

But I think people are thinking very soberly. I think there is a lot of soul-searching in America today, and out of that soul-searching even in these next ten days I think there will be a better country come from it.

Sibley Home

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So, Mrs. Sibley, thank you for letting me use this beautiful room for these words, and thank you for your home, and thank you for you, for what you have done.

Mrs. Sibley. Thank you, Senator.

Senator Humphrey. Thank you very much. (Applause)

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