

Remarks of the Vice President

Breakfast for Prime Minister Moro

April 22, 1965

Mr. Prime Minister, Mr. Foreign Minister, Mr. Ambassador, distinguished guests from Italy, Senators and Congressmen, Gentlemen: It is a great pleasure to greet you Prime Minister Moro, Foreign Minister Fanfani, and your distinguished colleagues from Italy, and to welcome you to Washington and to Capitol Hill.

We welcome you as the leader of a great nation, with whom our country has long had close ties.

We welcome you to Washington at the beginning of a new Administration, an Administration dedicated to building a great society for all our people. We welcome you as leader of a government dedicated to social progress and economic betterment for all your people.

Mr. Prime Minister, you come to the United States as the leader of what is known as the "Center-Left" experiment in Italy. We salute you as one who has successfully brought together all

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the progressive non-Communist parties in Italy,

Too often, the progressive parties dissipate their energies by fighting one another. In this situation, too often the gainers are either the Communists on the one hand, or the economic *and Political* reactionaries on the other hand.

You and your colleagues are showing that ~~the~~ progressive, democratic, non-Communist parties of Italy can work together for the benefit of all Italians - ~~and for the benefit of the free world.~~

You are showing that this can be done without in any way altering your firm allegiance to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization -- without in any way weakening the close ties between Italy and the United States.

✓ We welcome too the efforts of modern Italy to share her ancient civilization with the developing nations of the Mediterranean world, and with her fellow Latin nations in the Americas, with which she shares so much in common. ~~to~~ *along with* her traditional interests in Africa, we are pleased to hear that

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Italy hopes to expand her involvement in Latin America. As one who has long encouraged greater European involvement in Latin American affairs, I am confident that an enlarged Italian role in Central and South America would have highly beneficial results for all concerned.

Mr. Prime Minister, we welcome you as the head of a government which is showing bold innovation to meet the problems of our era. A few years ago, in January 1962, you expressed the attitude of our government as well as your own

when you stated: "Times change and woe betides
those who do not change with them." We in this
Administration and you in yours are moving ahead to
tackle new problems in new ways. These words also
apply to our broader endeavors in the world at large.

↳ You and President Johnson noted in your
communique yesterday that one nation alone cannot
build a good society, let alone a great society. We
must work together for our own interests and those
of the world. I know that the United States and
Italy will continue to do so.



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