

REMARKS OF
VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
THIRD VICE PRESIDENT'S CONFERENCE WITH MAYORS
MAY 5, 1965

Gentlemen, I am ~~very~~ happy to welcome you today to the Third Vice Presidential Conference of Mayors.

4 In March, the President designated me to act as liaison man between the White House and the cities and suburban areas of our country. I have sent each of you a copy of the President's Message on the Cities and Suburbs and a letter. I must say I have received many kind remarks responding to my letter.

The conference today is another in a series of conferences I intend to hold with Mayors and other government officials at the local level.

Already the dialogue between the White House and local government is producing a better appreciation of your problems here in Washington.

This Administration has declared war on fronts that I know have not been attacked so broadly in any other country in the world.

-- It is a war on poverty.

-- A war on ignorance.

-- A war on waste.

-- A war on ugliness.

-- A war on discrimination.

-- A war on illness.

The declarations of war can be found in the thoughtful and imaginative messages that President Johnson has sent to Congress this year. Some of those messages which are of particular interest to you are on your desks this afternoon.

At the head table with me are men you should know. Their purpose is not only to answer your questions and to tell you about their programs -- it is to learn first-hand from you the problems you experience on the home front.

Administrator Robert Weaver has command of a program which is concerned ~~in general~~ with making our cities better places to live in. His programs have to do with grants and loans in areas of particular concern to you as Mayors. These programs should be of great aid to your cities and we want to make sure that you are utilizing them to the fullest extent. They include urban renewal ... public housing ... community facilities, such as the collection systems for your sewage disposal plants... college housing... and mass transit grants.

Director office of ec off

I know you will have many questions for Sargent Shriver. He is working with a new program.

I am sure there are many, many problems with applications for such activities as Job Corps Training Programs, Work Training Programs, Project Headstart, Project VISTA.

Secretary of Labor Wirtz is here to answer any questions you may have about the Manpower Development and Training Act, one of our excellent tools in the war against ignorance and unemployment. The Neighborhood Youth Corps project is one that you are interested in. In our last conference, over 70 percent of the cities represented had projects. Youth Opportunity Centers are also of great importance to you. They are operating in 81 cities.

The Job Development Program is a new program and the Labor Department plans to ask Mayors to take a special interest in it.

I would mention here that, as chairman of the President's Council on Equal Opportunity, I am charged with coordinating the federal government's programs in the areas of Civil Rights and Equal Opportunity.

Many of the programs such as the Equal Opportunity Program, Federal Aid to Education, and Manpower Development and Training deal with the root causes that contribute so greatly to racial tensions in our cities. The federal government stands ready to work with you to the limit of ~~our~~^{its} resources in fighting the social and economic conditions leading to discrimination in jobs, housing, education, and other areas of community life.

Governor Leroy Collins of the Community Relations Service and other appropriate members of the Cabinet are anxious to work with local leaders in combating these difficult problems.

Secretary Celebrezze is here to discuss the war against ignorance and disease. He has men with him from the Public Health Service, from the Office of Education and others. You will want to be aware of the help available to you through the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. You will notice on your desk today a large book entitled "Vice Presidential Conference, Grants-in-Aid Programs of HEW".

*Booklets -
Budget - waste
- saving
etc.*

At this point I am going to ask for questions.

The time is short, so in the interest of efficiency, I am going to ask that we move from one subject to the next in orderly fashion, and that all questions be confined to the subject at hand. In this way we'll be working one at a time on each subject.

First of all, I would like to get into the subject matter of housing, a Department of Urban Development, and the other programs administered by Bob Weaver.

STENOGRAPHIC TRANSCRIPT

HOUSING AND HOME FINANCE AGENCY

Washington, D. C.

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MAYORS' CONFERENCE

Washington, D. C.

5 May 1965

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MAYORS' CONFERENCE

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Washington Hilton Hotel
Jefferson Room

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2:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 5, 1965

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The Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey, Vice President of
the United States (presiding)

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C O N T E N T SPAGE

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P R O C E E D I N G S

VICE-PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Ladies and Gentlemen.

I was just checking to see how many of the ladies we had here with us.

My fellow public servants and members of the President's Cabinet, Governor Lawrence, the Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity, our one General here, he is in charge of the War on Poverty, and Robert Weaver, who is the Chief Administrator, as you know of the Housing and Home Finance Agency.

You have met, I am sure, all of our distinguished panelists today. If you haven't, I will start right over here to my right, the Secretary of the Department o

1 And the man that wages war and conducts peace,
2 the Director of the Peace Corps and the Administrator of the
3 Office of Economic Opportunity, the Generalissimo in the War
4 on Poverty, Sargent Shriver.

5 And my fellow Mayors. It is just grand to have
6 you here and I want you to know how much we appreciate your
7 coming to Washington today to spend these few hours with
8 us.

9 We are going to have a jam-packed afternoon. We
10 are going to get right down to business. You will have to
11 bear with us a little bit in Washington. I have one
12 Constitutional duty. That is to preside over the Senate
13 and it never fails but what the Senate becomes unruly on the
14 days that it should be peaceful and there isn't much that I
15 can do about that because these are men of independent
16 persuasion, so today we had to do a little housekeeping and,
17 it took a little longer than we had hoped.

18 The mayors that are here with us today -- and I
19 am sure you have been visiting with one another primarily
20 are city officials of our fine American cities in the
21 population levels between 50,000 and let's say 150,000.

22 Maybe some of you with a little larger or smaller
23 city, but we have tried to bring in a group that we thought
24 had some problems in common in also some thoughts in common.

25 The aggregate population of the cities invited

1 today represented here is 16.5 million, almost nine percent
2 of the total population of the United States.

3 The March 30 Conference, the previous Conference
4 that we had, there was a population represented of about
5 50 million so we have a sizable number of the people of the
6 United States that have had their representatives here in
7 Washington to discuss matters of the relationships of
8 Government, Federal and State and local.

9 In March the President designated me to act as
10 liaison man between the White House and the cities in the
11 suburban areas of our country.

12 At the same time he designated the former Governor
13 of Tennessee, Buford Ellington, to act as liaison man with
14 the Governors of the Fifty States, and I hope he might
15 join us sometime today. I have sent each of you a copy of
16 the President's Message on cities and suburbs and a letter
17 that explained to you the purpose of this meeting and I
18 just say I am most gratified with the responses we have
19 received and many of your comments.

20 This Conference is another in a series of
21 conferences that we intend to hold with Mayors and other local
22 government officials. Already a very constructive dialogue
23 has grown up between the White House and local government and
24 I think it is producing a better appreciation of your problems
25 and I hope we might have a little even better understanding:

1 of some of the problems and the difficulties that prevail
2 here at the Federal level. Your government, your Federal
3 Government, and this Administration has declared war on several
4 fronts that I know have not been attacked so broadly in
5 anyother time in any other country.

6 I have in a jocular manner referred to our
7 General in charge of the War on Poverty. Mr. Shriver is
8 a remarkable public servant and there is a war on poverty
9 and there is a war on ignorance. There is a war on waste
10 and a war on ugliness and a war on discrimination and last
11 but not least a war on illness.

12 All of these struggles relate to the better
13 development of our cities and our people. These declarations
14 of war can be found in the messages that have gone up to
15 the Congress and in the bills that have been introduced and,
16 as I have presented already some of the men who are going
17 to be with you today to answer your questions, might I
18 just say that these distinguished public servants that are
19 here with you also are backed up by a number of their
20 specialists and aids from their respective departments.

21 In my early years, as some of you know, I was
22 Mayor of one of America's fine cities, Minneapolis, Minnesota,
23 and I have kept in close touch with local government,
24 serving on the Intergovernmental Relations Commission under
25 the administration of President Eisenhower.

1 I have spent many years in the Senate confining a
2 good deal of my attention to matters of local government, so
3 I hope that we can have a working partnership here that will
4 be of some help.

5 Now our Nation is faced with growing urban problems
6 and they are going to continue to grow because your cities
7 are going to grow and there isn't any public official that
8 is closer to the problems of the people or the needs of the
9 people than a mayor of a city. It doesn't make much differ-
10 ence whether it is electric light that is knocked out or
11 whether it is a parking meter that seems to swallow up the
12 nickles faster than the time clock, you will hear about it.

13 We have problems of our urban blight, the explosive
14 growth in our population creates unprecedented demands for
15 housing that people can afford. There is the upgrading of
16 our educational system too so that we can have opportunities
17 for our people and there is a need - above all - to make
18 our urban centers wonderful places in which to live.

19 Fortunately, many of you represent just that kind
20 of a place because cities of your sizes, the sizes that
21 you represent here, are not as yet cursed with some of the
22 bigness and ugliness that comes with older and larger
23 cities.

24 Now these men that we have around the table here to-
25 day are the ones that have charge of these programs. Mr.

1 Weaver has command of a program that in general seeks to
2 make our cities better places in which to live. They include
3 urban renewal, public housing -- you know what they are --
4 community facilities.

5 And there is the matter of health -- I mean of your
6 sewage disposal plants. He has programs under his juris-
7 diction of college housing for your small and large colleges
8 and mass transit grants to help you with your transportation
9 problems.

10 Mr. Weaver has a particular challenge in the
11 President's War on Ugliness.

12 In answer to your questions, I am sure he will
13 touch upon the things that his agency is doing to beautify,
14 to help beautify America. Let me say at this point this
15 is one thing everyone of us can do and if you forget everything
16 else I have said when you leave here you go home and make
17 up your mind to set up the kind of organization that will
18 make your city the most beautiful city in the Nation and you
19 can do it. It really doesn't take much money. Just a little
20 organization and insistence.

21 I travel around this wonderful country of ours
22 a great deal and I would be less than honest with you if
23 at times I didn't feel a little sad when I think of it
24 as I recall going into a little country like Denmark or
25 Switzerland or Norway or Sweden or to go into a little

1 village along the Rhine and I will see immaculate communities.
2 In fact I want to say quite frankly that the harbor in Oslo
3 is a public park and the City Hall is right on the seacoast
4 and it is cleaner than this room and neat and orderly and
5 yet it is one of the businest ports in the world.

6 They know how to do it. And some people have found
7 out, like in the countryside of Great Britain where the
8 population density runs four or five hundred to the square
9 mile, that you can't throw a beer can out on the curb every
10 half minute out of every car window.

11 If we get our children to remind dad and mother
12 not to be litterbugs you would be surprised what it could
13 do to cut down the costs of keeping the city streets clean.

14 So your population grows. I will be frank with
15 you, we will have to learn how to do this or we will crawl
16 out from a mess of garbage in our great cities and you can
17 make that City Hall a little prettier too.

18 Do you know how pretty the Capitol is? Mrs.
19 Johnson is really doing something for this city in cooperation
20 with out City Commissioners and in cooperation with private
21 groups, with the Board of Trade, in cooperation with every
22 department of the Government, they have planted more flowers
23 in Washington, D. C. in the last month than in the preceding
24 fifty years.

25 This city is really beautiful today, all over

1 and it still has much to go. There are blighted areas.
2 But we can make it much more beautiful. A few trees, a
3 few bushes, a few flowers. I don't know whether you found this
4 to be the case but we are deluged today by requests from the
5 nurseries to help make Washington beautiful. Interestingly
6 enough from all over the world. The Government of Holland
7 offered to send in enough bulbs to plant tulips all over
8 this whole city - free.

9 I made a little talk about that in the Senate
10 a couple of years ago, about how poorly the Capitol grounds
11 looked and the Ohio nursery has just turned it over to us
12 and we will do it for nothing. We would love the opportunity
13 to do it. I think you can do the same thing at home. Just
14 get the nurseries to say, "Look, we got a little contest
15 going on with Peoria" -- is the Mayor from Peoria here
16 today -- "whatever it might be. Just make our city look
17 a little better. Mr. Shriver will tell you a little bit
18 about the Job Corps and work training programs, Project
19 Headstart, Project Vista, and Secretary Wirtz is here to
20 answer any questions you may have on Manpower Development and
21 Training and on the Neighborhood Youth Corps because that
22 is a project you are really interested in.

23 Sixty-nine of the cities represented here are
24 involved in Neighborhood Youth Corps, according to our
25 information. There may be many more.

1 The job development program is a new program which
2 the Labor Department plans to ask the mayors to take a
3 special interest in. Some of you will be asked for appoint-
4 ments in the near future with Labor Department officials.
5 This program is one started through a goal set by the
6 Job Development Program is a new program which the Labor
7 Department plans to ask the mayors to take a special interest
8 in.

9 Some of you will be asked for appointments in the
10 near future with Labor Department officials. This program
11 is one started through a goal set by the President himself
12 to fill 10,000 jobs by January of ~~1965~~ in the service
13 industries.

14 I should say by 1966 in the service industries.
15 This is the area where experts agree jobs go unfilled while
16 we have the manpower which if properly trained could do the
17 job.

18 Secretary Celebrezze is here to discuss the
19 war against ignorance. He has his top lieutenants from the
20 Public Health Service, from the Office of Education and other
21 areas. The Health, Education and Welfare is an integral
22 part of the President's assault on all the subjects I have
23 enumerated earlier, particularly in the areas of overcoming
24 illness and ignorance.

25 Just a few things. We have really given you

1 material. One of the things I found out when I was mayor
2 is when I came to Washington no one ever told me where to
3 go to find out anything. It was sort of like those childhood
4 games we used to play, blindman's bluff, hide and seek. You
5 just couldn't find out anything and the Government is so
6 big it just overwhelms you and then if there is one thing
7 I would like to have the Vice President's office do is
8 be an information center for you if you have got a problem.

9 I am ever indebted to the departments represented
10 here today for putting together, for the first time by the
11 way, the material that you have in your desk, and I also
12 asked my staff and I see they did get it, we were -- they
13 were trying to round this up and get it to you before we
14 started here today, this little pamphlet on security that
15 you have from the Defense Department and there should be
16 a similar one on the budget and there ought to be one on
17 the War on Waste. I want you to know that your government
18 is working on this waste problem within government and if
19 you don't think that we have a captain even in charge of
20 that, you go over to the White House and leave a light on
21 sometime and you will find out.

22 Did the pamphlet on the budget get here? It's
23 not here yet. All right.

24 First of all, that little pamphlet you have there
25 on defense structure is important for your mental comfort.

1 You ought to know what we have and what has been done. This
2 is put together by Bob McNamara, Secretary of Defense and
3 his specialists, and you will hear a little bout this tonight,
4 we will have the Secretary of State with us for a little
5 while tonight when we have our reception and I want you to
6 see what has been happening on the budget and I hope that we
7 will have enough timesomewhere to discuss it just a little
8 bit. It is not here with you at the present time. You have
9 this Vice Presidential Conference Book on Grants and Aid
10 Programs, and you have some other materials there that
11 will tell you all about the many projects that are available.

12 One final thing and then I am going to sit down.
13 I am Chairman on the President's Council of Equal Opportunity.
14 I am also charged with coordinating the Federal Government's
15 programs in the areas of civil rights and equal opportunity.

16 Many of the programs, such as Equal Opportunity
17 program, Federal Aid to Education, Manpower Training and
18 Development, these programs deal with the root causes of
19 poverty and discrimination. If you just treat it on top you neve
20 get at it. We've got to get down under it and find out what
21 causes it and get at these. We didn't call you in here
22 to give anybody any lectures on discrimination or on civil
23 rights or anything like that. I happen to believe that
24 when I help educate somebody and improve education you do about a
25 much for human dignity as you can do.

I happen to believe when a person is trained for a

1 job and has the skill for a job and somebody gets out and
2 tried to help him find a job you are doing something for
3 human dignity and equal opportunity and equal rights. One
4 friend of mine said not long ago it doesn't do much good
5 to have nondiscrimination in employment if there are no
6 jobs and it doesn't do a great deal of good to have non-
7 discrimination in employment if you are not trained to do
8 anything, so we are talking about, likt an orchestration, this
9 isn't just a program of passing a civil rights act and saying,,
10 "Now everyone act nicely to one another"or it isn't just
11 passing an education act, it is all together and the Presdnt
12 in the real sense is sort of the conductor and here are
13 the specialists and here are the different sections and you
14 are a part of this great orchestration of American life
15 and we got to work together.

16 There isn't any way that the Federal Government
17 can do this program. Isn't it a fact we just as well never
18 even print the booklets or pass the laws if we depend on
19 the Federal Government to do it.

20 What is more, we don't want the Federal Government
21 to do it alone. We are in it together. It is a partnership.
22 It is what we call creative federalism. That is a big
23 fancy name that you can remember.

24 More important, we will try to help you do your
25 job and you try to help us do our jib and we will both do a

1 better job for the people we work for. If we don't worry
2 about holding it in each other's limited area -- I speak
3 for myself, why, we will get the job done a little better.

4 We have had professional fight promoters in this
5 country. We have had people that said, "Sick 'em" to the
6 local government, who said, "You can't be against the
7 State."

8 We have people who say to the State Government,
9 "You've got to be against the Federal Government," and
10 people in the Federal Government say, "You've got to be
11 against all the others."

12 The process is you get some mighty good articles,
13 good for two or three speeches, even get a little following
14 now and then on the basis you are just for local government
15 and the other fellow is for the big nasty government and
16 you can get a column like I saw recently criticizing
17 Sargent Shriver because he was for local government and
18 insisted the Federal Government should not do it all and
19 I thought, "That's a switch." We always used to get
20 people saying the people in the Federal Government wanted
21 to do it all. We will quit that nonsense. We are much
22 more interested in working together than we are in fighting
23 together.

24 We are a whole lot more interested in respecting
25 you rather than suspecting you and we would like to feel
that you have some reason to believe that these men here at
the head table are giving a lifetime of service to their

1 country and believe me they are. They don't have much time
2 to do anything else and I have been in local government long
3 enough to know if you expect appreciation and medals for it
4 you will be a lonesome fellow. The best you can expect out
5 of it is that you go away feeling, "I did my best." That
6 old fellow said when he was going to be buried they asked
7 what did he want them to put on his tombstone. And he
8 said, "Put, 'He did his damndest.'"

9 We will do our best. I want to keep the questions
10 running in terms of your fields of interest and the best
11 way to do that is to kind of see to it that we start out
12 with the topic and follow down through that topic in the
13 hopes that we can concentrate the attention upon different
14 cabinet officers and the different programs that we have
15 here.

16 Why don't we start out like this: On housing
17 and urban development. We haven't had a chance for rehearsal.
18 We live on a fast pace. The last time we had each cabinet
19 officer and director give a short statement. I think the
20 best thing to do now is to let this man take his stand
21 here and we will sort of put him on the witness stand. If
22 he would like to make a short statement in defense of himself
23 before we give him the treatment, that is perfectly all right
24 I am sure. Then I would like to have you put the questions
25 to him. I am sure you have some questions relating to

1 housing, urban development, urban redevelopment, community
2 facilities; the program such as your sewage disposal pro-
3 grams, what are the new bills in Congress and anything you
4 have that relates to the Housing and Home Finance Agency, any
5 problem that you have that you have not been able to get
6 an answer to.

7 You may have sent in a letter that hasn't been
8 answered yet. This is the time to get it.

9 I present now, first of all for your consideration
10 and interrogation the Director of the Housing and Home
11 Finance Agency, Robert Weaver -- Just a minute, Bob. I must
12 tell you that I have a friend who just dopped into the room.
13 I don't know how long we are going to let her stay here
14 but Mrs. Humphrey is here. I haven't told her that this
15 is a working session.

16 MRS. HUMPHREY: You better introduce them and tell
17 them who I am.

18 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: I already did.

19 Say hello and we will go to work.

20 MRS. HUMPHREY: I didn't want to interrupt. I
21 happened to be at this luncheon honoring Mrs. Humphrey today
22 just at the other end of the hall and someone said, "Your
23 husband is speaking two or three doors down the way, don't
24 you want to go see him?" So here I am. I haven't seen
25 him since before breakfast.

1 I truly think it is wonderful that you all come
2 in to work on many of the problems that are ever present with
3 the urban America and I know you have a good working Conference
4 going here and I would like to listen in and be a part of
5 it but I have another meeting or two to attend to so thank
6 you very much. I just wanted to welcome you.

7 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: There are always
8 surprises. I want you to know I am boss in my house. You
9 knew that, didn't you?

10 All right, Bob -- is your wife coming?

11 MR. WEAVER: I just put her on the train this
12 morning for New York City, I wouldn't guarantee, however.

13 REMARKS OF THE HONORABLE ROBERT C. WEAVER

14 DIRECTOR - HOUSING AND HOME FINANCE

15 AGENCY

16 MR. WEAVER: I do not think I will take the time
17 to make any defense or any statement. I will say any of
18 your letters are in the mails now. I do think all of you
19 are in some way involved with our Agency and I am sure you
20 have some questions and I would be delighted to respond
21 to any of them you may have. This includes, of course, not
22 only the programs that are in action but also the proposals
23 which we now have before the Congress; if you want to ask
24 about those or make any comments, the floor is open.

25 MAYOR LACKEY: Mayor Lackey, Niagara Falls, New

XXX

1 York,

2 I think many of us are concerned about the ARA's
3 future and the lack of funds for continuation of much of its
4 program.

5 What bill is before Congress now that would provide
6 funds for that program.

7 MR. WEAVER: I will let the Vice President state
8 that.

9 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: The ARA is now in a
10 bill before the Congress. That is a composite between what we
11 call the old accelerated public works program and the
12 area of redevelopment program. It is really an economic
13 regional development type of project. The hearings are well
14 underway. We expect to pass that bill this year. There
15 seems to be great support. In fact, may I say the support
16 is so much for it that the President is slightly worried
17 about what Congress may do to the budget.

18 The last I heard was they wanted to double it.
19 The public works aspect of this, which mean so much to many
20 of your communities and I know that many of you have already
21 plans on the board, so to speak, and you have had votes on
22 bond issues and what-have-you for public works and area
23 redevelopment projects, the support in the Congress from
24 the local government has been tremendous and I was told
25 yesterday, as a matter of fact, that the committees were

1 expanding the program of the President.

2 We are hopeful they won't go too far in terms
3 of our budget needs but it will pass and it will be under
4 one administration and I gather, as I recall, it will be
5 in the Department of Commerce, where ARA is presently
6 located, but it will put together the public works that
7 used to be a separate type of project with the Area
8 Redevelopment which includes the sharing between the private
9 industry, State and local and Federal Government all in
10 one type of redevelopment agency.

11 I imagine you will have that before the end of
12 this Congress, sometime maybe in August or so.

13 MR. WEAVER: I think the reason that question was
14 directed to me was because the Community Facilities Administra-
15 tion was carrying on the accelerated public facilities program
16 and I imagine there is another program of that type which
17 will continue but the funds don't come to us. They come
18 under the ARA Act.

19 MAYOR RUSKIN: Mayor Ruskin, New Rochelle, New
20 York.

21 I was wondering if you knew the status of the \$3 million
22 demonstration grant for the New Haven Railroad which is of
23 such concern to the communities on the Eastern Seaboard.

24 MR. WEAVER: Yes, I do. Unfortunately there's
25 been a great deal of discussion in the press which hasn't been

1 too accurate.

2 The first thing is ground rules. Under our demon-
3 stration program we are not in any position to bail out
4 a railroad, per se... The demonstration grant is only eligible
5 if it involves a technique or new approach or some new methods
6 which have applicability elsewhere to a given industry.
7 This would be to all of the railroads which are providing
8 commuter services.

9 The authorities in the Tri-State area have not
10 yet presented to us a proposal. Therefore we cannot tell
11 you whether or not the proposal will be approved or disapproved.
12 We can say, first, that when it is presented and if it is
13 presented it will have to have a demonstration feature which
14 is its applicability to other lines and secondly, that the
15 magic of a \$3 million figure or an 18-month period is purely
16 somebody's imagination because this would depend upon the
17 particular project which isn't in existence at this time.

18 We are working with them to try to develop something
19 that will be eligible and we hope we can be of assistance.

20 MAYOR HOLTZ: Mayor Holtz from Covington, Kentucky,
21 and we are considering a downtown urban renewal project and we
22 keep hearing that it is possible the percentage of funds allo-
23 cated to this particular phase of this may be greatly reduced
24 or eliminated and of course the commercial communities especially
25 are very hard hit because of shopping centers outside that

1 are drawing away their lifebloods and it's necessary they
2 rejuvenate themselves. Do you think there will be any
3 reduction in this urban renewal money for downtown areas?

4 MR. WEAVER: At the present time the proportion
5 of money which can be used for downtown projects is 30 percent
6 of the total amount.

7 There is nothing in the proposed Administration
8 bill that would reduce that in any way. The philosophy is
9 this program should not become exclusively a "downtown"
10 program. Downtown, however, is a very vital part of the
11 total program and we intend to continue that position.

12 MAYOR PIERCE: Mayor Pierce, Camden, New Jersey.

13 What progress is being made in changing the
14 attitude of the Housing Authority officials throughout the
15 country in their excluding, in many cases, portions of cities
16 from eligibility for FHA loans and which really works a tremen-
17 dous detriment and hardship upon people who are seeking
18 to sell their properties and actually has an effect of driving
19 people out into suburban communities?

20 MR. WEAVER: First, there has been a great deal
21 of progress made in the last four years in the changing of
22 FHA attitudes. We have, for example, a very close relation-
23 ship now between urban renewal and FHA where they come
24 in and agree jointly at the beginning of the price of the
25 land, let us say, in an urban renewal area for a Section 220

1 insured loan. Let me point out, however, that FHA is a
2 mortgage insurance operation and therefore in order for
3 FHA to insure a mortgage it must have reason to believe the
4 mortgage has a good chance of being paid off; that it has
5 the security to back it up; and that it can get a private
6 person to buy the paper. This means that FHA cannot willy-
7 nilly go in and insure any house in any neighborhood under
8 any set of circumstances simply because somebody wants it
9 insured.

10 The value of the house depends on the neighborhood
11 as well as the structure. We are attempting to come out
12 with a position which increasingly will permit us to go
13 into some of the areas which are not the prime areas in our
14 urban communities but in doing this we have to do it on an
15 area-wide basis because these are hard loans.

16 This means they have to have enough value behind
17 them to offer security so that if there is a proposal for
18 doing an area and upgrading an area this is something that
19 FHA can enter.

20 If there is a proposal of a hit and miss and
21 taking the worst house in a series of 50 blocks disconnected,
22 then FHA insurance is not the tool to do that thing.

23 _____ In relation to the question I
24 asked you earlier, we are nearing the successful completion
25 of the first phase of urban renewal: We are running into

1 problems in financing the future developments of this
2 kind.

3 I am wondering if the other communities are
4 experiencing this difficulty and if there is any consideration
5 being given to permitting communities to spread these payments
6 over a longer period of time.

7 MR. WEAVER: I think there is, of course,
8 another built-in technique. Most of the communities are
9 providing a good proportion of their local contribution through
10 cash credits in lieu of the -- credits in lieu of cash
11 where they put up certain public facilities which serve
12 the area which are counted.

13 This is the biggest relief I think that has
14 been offered. As far as the specific question you asked,
15 it would have to be treated on a case-by-case basis and
16 I believe in your instance we have already made one such
17 arrangement in the past.

18 It is a question of how long and how often we
19 can do it in the future.

20 MAYOR JOHNSON: Mayor Johnson, Cedar Rapids,
21 Iowa. We like the open spaces program and the urban renewal.
22 Can we declare a war on all the paper work and changing
23 the rules in the middle of the game in the urban renewal
24 program?

25 MR. WEAVER: The answer is no and I think you know

1 why it is true.

2 We can certainly cut down on the paper. We
3 have attempted to do so. There is no way you can have a
4 program as cumbersome and complicated as urban renewal without
5 some paper work and also there is some advantages in this for
6 you and me too.

7 That is the fact, while urban renewal is a very
8 long and drawn out process to date despite the fact they
9 have -- there have been about four billions of dollars
10 involved in it, we haven't had a major scandal yet and
11 when you deal with real estate in that term and don't have
12 a major scandal, there is something really important and
13 I don't think it is the genius of the Administration, I
14 think part of it is that everything happening under urban
15 renewal is in the open.

16 You have to have a hearing and declare what
17 you do there and the possibility of hanky-panky when done
18 out in the open takes longer but is less than when you cut
19 corners.

20 MAYOR DOUGLAS: Mayor Douglas of California.

21 My attention has been called to the fact that
22 the long delay in processing veterans loans and FHA loans
23 is hampering a lot of business in our city and the applications
24 are being held up for technicalities and it is suggested
25 that possibly a collect telephone call could resolve these

1 rather than a three-week delay in sending them back and
2 forth or with conditional approval that the technicality
3 involved be complied with when the papers are returned and
4 the processing could thus be speeded up and the cutback
5 in granting the loans is seriously affecting us, 4.5
6 being required as some 5.2 applications are being denied
7 and rejected and no 4.1 and 4.2 are being approved and we
8 have a very low foreclosure record and we were wondering
9 if some of this could be relaxed to help us raise our tax
10 base.

11 We feel in our city many of those people resided
12 there and shopped there and now it is being turned over to
13 industry which is going to make it better than ever but in
14 the interim we would appreciate it if something could be
15 done to speed up these loans.

16 MR. WEAVER: All I can say is I think that we
17 have instituted an FHA and I can't speak for your city because
18 I don't administer that, a new program called the
19 Hartford Program, which has greatly accelerated the processing.

20 Now as far as the particular situation that
21 you mentioned is concerned I don't think I could answer
22 that because I don't know the details of it. I would suggest
23 this, however, that if there are certain situations of this
24 sort, if you will send me a letter on it we will check
25 it out right away.

1 We can't do it in a direct phone call, whether
2 we pay for it or you pay for it. These things become so
3 complicated it isn't something that anyone can, off the top
4 of his head, say yes or not, but we will be delighted if we
5 can, to straighten out this particular situation and by
6 "straightening out" it means, if you call it to our attention
7 we will have somebody go there and look at it and try to
8 correct one case so all the cases will be corrected in turn.

9 MAYOR DOUGLAS: Thank you.

10 One other question if I may, Mr. Weaver. We
11 have an urban renewal project which is not in the stage of
12 having the \$4.5 million public works put in and where we
13 have a couple of buildings going up there.

14 Our public library, which was in this area --
15 we have to build a new one and the citizens feel that we
16 are put to an expense by being relocated through this re-
17 development which a former administration went into.

18 Now we are going to proceed with this redevelop-
19 ment but I mean the former administration in Vallejo into
20 it, and we are going right ahead with the redevelopment
21 but the citizens feel that we are forced to build a new
22 library because ours is being torn down in redevelopment.

23 Now we have had bond issues up twice and because
24 of costs they have been voted down. Now under this
25

1 we understand we might get a little help. In California,
2 money is very short in this. We feel being that we are
3 going to go to the library in the redevelopment area to
4 stimulate the area and also a City Hall and auditorium
5 which we will build that we should have some Federal
6 help because we are forced to this expenditure through a
7 redevelopment project.

8 MR. WEAVER: The issue you present here is a
9 situation which a previous local administration made commitment
10 with urban renewal on the basis of which certain urban
11 renewal funds were made available to you.

12 I think if you put the shoe on the other foot
13 you will see the dilemma that I am in.

14 If a previous administration made a commitment
15 to you and I didn't like it I don't think it would be fair
16 to you if I were to say I wouldn't live up to that commit-
17 ment.

18 I am afraid we are sort of trapped by our
19 predecessors' mistakes or successes and I think in a contractual
20 basis, since I am not a lawyer I could speak this way, that
21 we have to abide by these situations.

22 However, on the particular problem you raise there
23 may be some help and we will be happy to look at that
24 particular situation, as far as the contractual relationship
25 is concerned I am afraid we are both stuck with that.

1 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Is there any help under
2 the Library Assistance Act?

3 MR. WEAVER: I could not say off the top of my
4 head.

5 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: They were paid for the
6 library, were they not?

7 MR. WEAVER: This may be a part of their local
8 contribution, you see.

9 MAYOR DOUGLAS: We still feel that we are
10 forced to this larger expenditure and under the Library Act
11 which is 88,269, California has not enough money to give
12 us the help.

13 MR. WEAVER: You may be able to do something under
14 the Library Act but not under the Urban Renewal Act since
15 that is water under the dam.

16 MAYOR DOUGLAS: Could you put more money in the
17 Library Act?

18 MR. WEAVER: I cant put it in the Urban Renewal
19 Act.

20 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Give me your letter,
21 we will look int ot.

22 MAYOR IHLENFELD: Mayor Ihlenfeld of Wheeling,
23 West Virginia.

24 We have two urban renewal projects and they are
25 getting along fine but we are faced with a problem -- I

1 imagine many of these other communities are too. The major
2 part of the interstate highway system is focusing right
3 through our community. We are not only dislocating a
4 tremendous number of families and homes but also some
5 industry.

6 Now it is almost a physical impossibility for
7 a community of our size to take care of all of these things
8 all at one time but once these industries have gone beyond
9 our borders, they are gone.

10 I am wondering if there are any programs in
11 existence now other than urban renewal or any programs
12 in the thinking stage that is aimed at taking care of
13 these rather urgent problems which will happen to us in
14 July of 1965 and July of 1968?

15 MR. WEAVER: Are you speaking of the problems
16 of dislocatees and of relocating families and businesses,
17 and so forth?

18 MAYOR IHLENFELD: Families and small businesses.

19 MR. WEAVER: Obviously the urban renewal program
20 per se cannot be of any help. As you know a few years ago
21 the Highway Act as amended so as to make the payment of
22 benefits for relocation under the Highway Program permissible.
23 And I think this is a situation where probably the State
24 Highway Division would be the key element in this because
25 it is permissive but is not required, as I understand it.

1 MAYOR IHLENFELD: Could I say one thing further?

2 West Virginia has been crowded between Ohio and
3 Pennsylvania. In other words their roads are coming through
4 us and we have been criticized as a State in the past for
5 not getting on the job.

6 Now they have really got on the job and we
7 are thankful for it but by the same token, Wheeling, one
8 of the major cities in the State, simply cannot, in the
9 time allotted to it, make up the loss which it may be threatened
10 with suffering because of this.

11 MR. WEAVER: One of the things you should do,
12 and either while you are here or when you go back, is
13 contact Mr. Whitton, Commissioner of Public Highway Programs
14 here, who is sympathetic and able in these matters and he will
15 give you better advice than I could.

16 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Go and see your Senator.

17 MAYOR IHLENFELD: I have been to see him.

18 MAYOR SCHREIBER: Schreiber, from Galveston,
19 Texas.

20 We have a grade raising problem. We are attempting
21 to raise approximately one-third of the city and it will
22 take money and I wonder if there is a program to help ~~of~~ us.

23 MR. WEAVER: Not of-- Not that I know of per se.
24 It may be a part of some of the other programs but I don't
25 think there is any grade raising program per se.

1 MAYOR SCHREIBER: Thank you.

2 MAYOR HAYES: Lloyd Hayes, Port Arthur, Texas.

3 Our need is for a complete community center with
4 a new city hall, fire and police and health units. What
5 Federal funds are available for this or what is anticipated?

6 MR. WEAVER:: Many of the urban renewal projects
7 in our larger cities and some of our smaller cities have
8 a reuse which is for public facilities and we have in these
9 complexes of City Halls and Fire Departments, et cetera,
10 and here of course the part that the urban renewal does itself
11 is to write down two-thirds plus the cost of the land which
12 is a very sizable factor.

13 Now, depending upon what is done in the public
14 facility legislation in it is legion around here so I
15 cannot tell you which one, there may be assistances for some
16 types of help as far as public facility buildings are
17 concerned which might help you but at the present time there
18 is no such legislation on the books.

19 MAYOR SANEKEN: Ron Saneken, Mayor of Lincoln
20 Park in Michigan.

21 We are very fortunate last year to complete
22 three APW projects which were tremendously successful including
23 a new fire hall and recreation center and new water system
24 and we are tremendously interested in continuing along in
25 that direction, and we thank you for the aid you gave us

1 last year.

2 Having been elected for a short two-year term,
3 I am not taking any three-year subscriptions and I cannot
4 wait until August, and I was wondering if there was any
5 way we could accelerate your accelerated program by
6 anticipating the passage of the legislation and getting
7 to work now in preparing our plans.

8 I would like to know the identity of the bills
9 and if there is any way we can anticipate its passage.

10 MR. WEAVER: We have an accelerated advanced
11 planning for public works which is of some help but I must
12 say anyone who plans ahead of time before the money is there
13 does it at a certain degree of personal risk because there is
14 no telling whether the money would be there or not and I
15 might say this gentleman answered in part your question
16 under the accelerated public works program such things have
17 been done in those cities that were eligible under that
18 program.

19 Now, as to what the chances are for the passage
20 of a similar legislation that -- I would defer that to the
21 Vice President.

22 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: I was just asking Mr.
23 Peterson, who is my staff man that works with us on these
24 Mayors' Conferences, to get me the details of the Economic
25 Development Act which the President sent to the Congress.

1 It is in both House and Senate but there is
2 going to be a bill. There isn't any doubt about that. That
3 is, when I say "no doubt," I mean, unless the Congress gets
4 completely bogged down which it surely shows no signs of
5 doing and that does include a substantial sum of money,
6 I forget the details. I think it is around \$400 million
7 for public works and there is another sum for area redevelop-
8 ment and ~~that~~ does include funds for public facilities
9 along the lines that you are speaking of.

10 I will get you the number of the bill, the House
11 bill and the Senate bill and here is the chance for you to
12 be heard, is to get these numbers of these bills and get
13 a copy of them.

14 We will get you some information this afternoon
15 on this particular aspect of the legislative program and you
16 may want to get in touch with your Congressman, your Senator;
17 these Senators and Congressmen can be helpful to you.

18 I mentioned to Mayor ^{the} ~~of~~ Wheeling a while ago that
19 Mr. Whitman in the Public Roads, if you go with your Congress-
20 man and Senator you will get all the information that I
21 think he has. Why, you will get it anyway but it is good
22 to have them with you because they can take that back to
23 the Congress and if there is a need of amendment they are
24 quite helpful, particularly if they are the Chairman or
25 ranking member on a Committee.

 I can assure you it is quite a powerful position.

1 MR. WEAVER: Mayor Valentine.

2 MAYOR VALENTINE: Mayor Valentine, Rome New
3 York.

4 We are faced with an-- We are committed to a
5 two and a half million dollar aqueduct line and due
6 to the phase out of Griffiths Air Force Base we have to put
7 this line in and construction has started.

8 Is there any possible way that we will be able
9 to receive Federal aid.

10 MR. WEAVER: I don't know. I think we would have
11 to check that out. Off the top of my head I would be dubious
12 about it. Again it goes back to the question of what the
13 pending legislation is and what is passed and also not only
14 what is in the bill but what requirements and criteria, what
15 size of city is going to be included, or across the border
16 or restricted to a certain group, so we have to check the
17 legislation very carefully.

18 MAYOR VALENTINE: Due to the phase out of Griffiths
19 Air Force Base, the loss of homes and water supply, we
20 wouldn't have been committed to such a problem if we hadn't
21 lost the base.

22 MAYOR VACCARELLA: Mayor Joseph B. Vaccarella,
23 from Mt. Vernon.

24 I left a pamphlet with some suggestion on your
25 table there. I don't want to take up too much time but I

1 want to say this: I believe that the Federal Government
2 should exert more pressure on communities so they may protect
3 their investment in urban renewal.

4 I believe the Government should put more pressure
5 on communities and find out what accounts for the delays
6 on these projects, the financial conditions where they found
7 these urban renewal notes and take a drain off the
8 city's treasury.

9 For short term or for long term.

10 Then Mount Vernon is in a very bad position due
11 to a split government. I believe the Governor should exert
12 more pressure on communities where relocation, where nothing
13 has been done since 1960 when the first application for planning
14 was filed.

15 I also would like to suggest it is my opinion, sir,
16 that the urban renewal funds should be permitted on much
17 more broader a basis so that without any limitations to the
18 project boundary, so that we may be able to knock down the
19 deteriorated buildings and put up new ones.

20 Mount Vernon is in a very bad condition due to
21 the fact that Mount Vernon's Federal contract is conditional
22 on the State contract and the City of Mount Vernon will
23 together help in order to receive Federal progress aid.

24 I do say in delays of these projects where you
25 can't get relocation in five years, Mr. Weaver, I do

1 believe the Government should exert a little more pressure
2 on these projects.

3 MR. WEAVER: I am sure the Government, if it is not
4 now, will certainly exert more pressure on these projects.
5 I feel we have a responsibility not only under law but out
6 of decency and as many of you gentlemen know we have been
7 tough on relocation recently and we will continue to be and
8 certainly take this to heart.

9 I don't think we can do much on a split situation
10 between the City Council and the Mayor in a local government.
11 I think we should get our wrists slapped if we attempted
12 to do so and I have been around too long to attempt it.

13 The relationship between the City and State is
14 a matter of State Government and State has all the power
15 anyway so you better go after them and get them to change
16 their ways because we can't get them to change it.

17 MAYOR GIBBS: Mayor Gibbs of Newton, Massachusetts.

18 In 1963, we completed the CRP program, the planning
19 phase. It was a hundred thousand dollar grant, one-third
20 city services, two funds of the Federal Government. We
21 have money left over and I can't get you people to come up
22 so we can return your money.

23 I should think you would be glad. It is not a
24 program that has gone sour because you have been utilizing
25 our reports in sending it all over the country as an example

1 of good planning.

2 I wish somebody would let me return a little Federal
3 money.

4 MR. WEAVER: I am sure I will accommodate you and
5 I want to say that misery loves company, I am sure all of
6 you ladies and gentlemen have had situations where you find
7 things are not going the way you think they are.

8 MAYOR GIBBS: Frankly, it makesz me a little
9 disturbed. They are getting more involved in urban renewal
10 which I would like to do.

11 MR. WEAVER: I would guarantee if you get more
12 involved we will get your money left over real quick.

13 (MAYOR FROM PUEBLO, COLORADO): I wonder, while
14 I am sitting next to him, could he give me the check and
15 I would take it back with me because we need some new
16 projects there.

17 This morning we talked about mostly on sewers.
18 I do want to tell you folks how happy we are that the
19 Government has been so kind to Pueblo and helped us with our
20 new health building and also we are going to build a new
21 tower and our airport runway and they have been very goob.
22 But we still well, we will be asking for money for sewers
23 and paving and everything else that comes up.

24 MR. WEAVER: Thank you. I am sorry that wasn't
25 louder because that was complimentary.

1 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: May I suggest it will
2 help everybody to tie us in a little closer. If you are
3 over on this side, grab that mike. If you are over there,
4 well, there's a mike over there, and so on. Whoever gets
5 recognized, move to a mike.

6 MAYOR GLENHILL: Mayor Glenhill, from Pottsville,
7 Alabama.

8 We have had problems in Alabama, but we don't have
9 problems in the area you are head of and I want to thank
10 you for the support you have given our city in the past
11 several years. Thank you very much.

12 MR. WEAVER: Thank you.

13 MAYOR MOELKE: Mayor Harvey Moelke, Livonia,
14 Michigan.

15 Our community is the second fastest growing
16 community in the State, Mr. Weaver. I understand that within
17 the next 30 or 40 years we will be duplicating all of our
18 existing cities. We have a severe problem which I think
19 your Administration can help through the facilities of the
20 FHA.

21 Most of the new subdivisions being built in our
22 city are FHA subdivisions. We find that the developers
23 are stripping the soil, the top soil, bulldozing down the
24 trees, destroying all of the natural beauty which President
25 Johnson's program is trying to preserve.

1 What can FHA do to require developers to leave the
2 trees and topsoil?

3 MR. WEAVER: I think we can do a great deal and
4 I think it is a little more than trees and topsoil but
5 I agree with you 100 percent.

6 It always seemed to be perfectly illogical for people
7 to go out in the country to enjoy the beauty of nature and
8 the first thing that happens is somebody bulldozes the trees and
9 contours and plant a little pine tree that high (indicating)
10 in front of the house.

11 It doesn't make sense. We are now in the process,
12 first, in our own regions of really trying to upgrade the
13 requirements of land planning and utilization.

14 We are encouraging the use of houses so that the
15 contours of the land will remain and the houses will be
16 adjusted to them, rather than vice versa.

17 We also have in our proposed housing bill, Title X,
18 which is a proposal for financial assistance through the
19 development of large suburbs and new communities, one which
20 we haven't gotten too much support from, incidentally, and
21 I think that these tools in addition certainly the Title X
22 provisions, will put the Federal Government for the first
23 time sir, with a stamp of approval for better planning and
24 this it seems to me should be a condition for FHA grants
25 insofar as it can be done under the law and under the

1 economic situation of the country. I am with you one hundred
2 percent on this.

3 MAYOR COOPER: Mayor Cooper from Hollywood,
4 California.

5 I would underscore this last gentleman's remarks,
6 particularly in the area of apartment house development in
7 our city and cities I have seen. The children's play areas
8 aren't large enough. These areas, many of the developers
9 receive Federal assistance both from tax benefits and
10 in mortgage assistance.

11 We do not have sociologists in our cities to tell
12 us which way to agree. We don't have municipal architectts
13 or municipal economists. We can't control these factors
14 although we fight to keep the standard as high as we can
15 and what are you going to do to prevent the development of
16 new slums, future slums in apartment house development as
17 it is growing and it is growing very fast in our area because
18 of the war baby boom.

19 MR. WEAVER: I think two things: I think very
20 often the apartment house developments that are produced,
21 particularly in your section of the country, are more often
22 financed by conventional rather than FHA insurance.
23 We do not have much leverage because money is so plentiful
24 now only about 18 percent of the starts are financed either
25 by FHA insurance or VA guarantees but we are having two

1 things which will be of great importance here: The first
2 is in the housing bill of 1965 we are proposing a new open
3 space program to be used in the central system which will
4 permit us to assist up to 40 percent or maybe 50 percent
5 in the acquiring of land which is now improved in which
6 you can put little parks, little squares and make open
7 spaces, playgrounds, etcetera, and also under our
8 beautification provision under this same title, we would
9 make grants to help you to plant trees, to fix the river
10 banks and to put small construction there, not swimming
11 pools but little things, diosks, and other things, and plazas
12 and other things, and so forth, as to open up our central
13 cities and make them more beautiful and vital. By making
14 these public facilities rather than a part of the
15 particular development, which very often since the tenants
16 pay for it becomes restrictive to the tenants, will probably
17 be better in many instances than the approach through the
18 project per se unless they are extremely large and also it
19 is an approach where we have some leverage and we don't
20 have it inmost of these apartments.

21 MAYOR TAYLOR: Mayor Taylor, from Pontiac,
22 Michigan.

23 We have about \$13 million worth of urban
24 renewal and I think I spoke out at the Mayors Conference
25 in New York concerning the red tape and I notice that has

1 been brought out here. I do think you have improved to
2 some extent. However, I have an exact example here that
3 is taking us almost six months to get a mandatory return
4 through our biggest project. We submitted it to the Chicago
5 Urban Renewal Office on September 22, 1964. We are now
6 advised that the anticipated approval in Washington will
7 be July 1, 1965.

8 We will have been in the program for five years
9 in September of 1965. It would seem to me that some of the
10 programs that have been in the works this long that we ought
11 to receive some consideration in moving these along a little
12 faster and this is what some of the problems are and I think
13 I feel it here in the room today with some of the questions
14 being asked. We need help now.

15 MR. WEAVER: You are absolutely right in that
16 feeling. I want to say, however, that there are always
17 two sides to these things. Most of these I look into I
18 find that they did make the submission five months ago
19 but the submission was incomplete and then we had to go back
20 to the community and get more information and then we had
21 to go back and get more information and I want to say
22 only that while I am sure we are far from as good as we
23 ought to be and we are going to be better that this is
24 a two-way street and very often your bureaucrats, just like
25 mine, don't give you the whole story, just their side and

1 mine give me my side of the story and the truth is in between

2 MAYOR TAYLOR: That is fine, except some of the things
3 are very technical that could be handled. I believe somebody
4 suggested, by phone, at least, their approval.

5 MR. WEAVER: I want to say that a program that we
6 have here, for example where there is involved about
7 \$700 million a year, that you cannot operate that program
8 by a telephone because you have got to have the sequence of
9 of the people who have been handling it and who know what
10 the background is.

11 For example, there isn't one question about one
12 project that is asked of me today that I didn't know anything
13 about in detail.

14 The only ones I know about are those in deep
15 trouble. The same is true of the Commissioner. You have to
16 make three calls to find out who to call and he would have
17 to have a conference call so it is difficult to do this on
18 the basis of a phone call. However, where there are these
19 situations, all I can say -- and I say it with absolute
20 sincerity and dedication -- where these come up, if you let
21 me know about them I will find out what it is, try to
22 straighten it out and try to prevent it from happening
23 again.

24 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: We have others on the
25 panel here and as -- I know how much you enjoy interrogating

1 this distinguished Director and Commissioner because he is
2 good and he has done a fine job for us all.

3 I spent 16 years in the Congress. If anybody had
4 a problem in my States, excluding the quality of glue on
5 the postage stamps, that I didn't hear about it, it's a
6 mystery to me.

7 Actually, I must say I used to feel I was primarily
8 a service station and an errand boy. But the Government
9 is pretty big and I learned a lot about this big Government
10 and I got one suggestion for you if you have any problem
11 with any department of Government. You get your Congressman
12 You would be surprised at the treatment he gets. When a
13 question comes in from a Congressman there is a little red
14 tag on it. I've got one right here in my pocket. I just
15 took it off.

16 I had a question coming from a Congressman. There
17 is more fear of a Congressman than there is of atomic
18 weapons, and rightly so.

19 I respect the Congressman and believe me, this
20 is a fact. They want to help you and Mr. Weaver cannot
21 answer all the letters and he obviously, if he sees very
22 many of them he isn't doing his job.

23 It is just impossible, in the flow of papers,
24 that come through an office. But your Congressman will know
25 how to get at it. He knows more than any living mortal about

1 how to get things done. Even if he isn't a good Congressman
2 he knows that. I don't know of any who are not. I know
3 some that are better than others but that is strictly
4 political. I really mean that since you are in the city
5 now, if you have a problem you please take it up with that
6 member. He will be appreciative of the fact that you have
7 come to him. You never need to worry about your politics.
8 I never asked a man that came in my office a question about
9 his politics. I asked him just one question: "Are you from
10 Minnesota?" And I always used to teach all my staff there
11 were really two major enemies, the Communist movement and the
12 Executive Branch.

13 I shouldn't let you in on such a secret now
14 that I am in the Executive Branch but I would get these
15 bright young fellows from college and they had some sort
16 of a feeling that the most intelligent aspect of government
17 was the Executive Branch.

18 I would have to brainwash them and get them cleaned
19 up and get their thinking fixed up and teach them how to
20 attack executive officers and I will tell you that
21 there is a whole-- Let me tell you, there are thousands
22 of them on Capitol Hill that know how to wage gorilla
23 warfare better than the Viet Cong does when it comes to
24 this.

25 So I am serious, take this to heart and you will

1 have no problem. You will expedite your projecg.

2 By the way, may I say tothe Mayor from Massachusetts,
3 that is, Newton? I will see that a Congressman gets ahold
4 of you in a hurry and get that money from you right quick.

5 There are difficult problems. I will be very
6 frank with you. When you borrow money to buy a hcase, you
7 can have a lot of trouble, particularly if you get a lawyer
8 working with you. He can find more things that you have to
9 sign and you go back and have to sign again.

10 Most of us like tokeep out of jail and when you
11 are dealing with other people's money and you have about 14
12 investigating committees looking down your throat, and by the
13 way, I have been on some of those, I know how they work.
14 That is the nice part of this. I have been on the other
15 side of the table. I know how we used to get a little hungry
16 and get some fellow up from the Executive Branch and eat him
17 for awhile and there is nothing juicier than a chance to
18 find some wrongdoing. So that if Bob Weaver seems to duck
19 a little bit when you mention some ofthose papers you are
20 signing up, remember this: This dear man has been in public
21 life a long and and comes out with a sort of halo over his
22 head, and I think that is marvelous.

23 Now we are going to get down to the next question
24 and on our Agenda today I put down the subject of the
25 program, the Economic Opportunity Program, we call it for

1 lack of a better phrase on our War on Poverty and we have
2 three of the generalissimos here on this:

3 We have General Celebrezze and General Wirtz,
4 and the Four-Star General, Sargent Shriver over here. He is
5 the coordinator of this program. In all seriousness this is
6 the program that relates to our education, our health
7 needs, our neighborhood youth corps, our manpower training,
8 our job corps, our Vista program, et cetera.

9 I thought I would ask Mr. Shriver to quickly --
10 and Sarge just put it in one of those concise packets you
11 have. Tell our Mayors here and fellow public servants quickly
12 what the program is.

13 I would like them if Secretary Wirtz would follow
14 through and tell quickly what the Labor Department has to
15 offer in this total Economic Opportunity effort, and then
16 if the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare would do
17 the same I think we could put together those three statements
18 in about 15 minutes and get on with the questioning because
19 this means a great deal to you.

20 There is a lot here for the municipalities. We
21 will start off with the Coordinator of the program, the
22 Director, Mr. Shriver.

23 MR. SHRIVER: Thank you very much.

24 Mr. Vice President, Colleagues, Ladies and
25 Gentlemen:

1 I feel very much at a disadvantage speaking to
2 you. I noticed Bob Weaver being addressed, very properly,
3 as Dr. Weaver. He has a Ph.D. which proves his credentials.
4 Other people here are members of the Cabinet, former Governors,
5 former Mayors and so on. And I don't have any of those
6 titles. As a matter of fact when I got this job one of the
7 first questions asked me was, "What do you know about
8 poverty?" It was sort of a snide implication in that
9 question. "What does Shriver know about poverty."

10 It reminded me of a story which involves the
11 Vice President a little bit and I thought I would tell it
12 to you. It is the only explanation I have as to why I
13 have the job.

14 This problem is something I hope however you
15 won't miss because I think there are lots of things in it
16 for your States and for the States in which you live. It
17 is complicated. I have sometimes said it is a little bit
18 like the Department of Defense in the sense that in that
19 Department there are a whole galaxy of different weapons for
20 waging military warfare.

21 We all know the difference between the Army,
22 Navy, Marine and so on. We know the difference between an
23 aircraft carrier and a tank and bullet.

24 We know that these different weapons are needed
25 at different times to carry on different types of
warfare.

1 Poverty is just as difficult to overcome as any
2 military foe we ever faced and it is not possible to overcome
3 poverty with one single purpose program.

4 This program is not like a patent medicine. We
5 are not selling medicine down here.. We are not going to
6 try to cure your diseases from dandruff to falling arches
7 with one position. We have at least 12 new programs in the
8 War Against Poverty. They are summarized in this book that
9 you have there and I hope you might at least look at the
10 Table of Contents.

11 These programs are aimed, first of all, at young
12 people 16 to 22. There are three different programs. One
13 is called the Job Corps. That is a program whereby young
14 people are taken out of the communities where they live and
15 are placed in controlled environments, if you will, environ-
16 ments where they are located 24 hours a day for education,
17 job training, physical education, nutrition, change of attitude
18 and hopefully making them employable and good citizens of
19 our country.

20 A second program is called the Neighborhood Youth
21 Corps. That is being run for the War Against Poverty by the
22 Department of Labor.

23 Under this program young men and women, both of
24 those programs are open to boys and girls, stay at home.
25

1 They get part time work at home. They can work for you in
2 your municipal government. They can do anything in your
3 municipal government which you would be willing to have
4 youngsters of that age carry out for you.

5 Some people said it is like a domestic or a kind
6 of an urban chore corps. We all know they used to talk
7 about chores on the farm: milking the cows, doing work like
8 that for youngsters.. We used to call them chores around
9 the farm. We don't have chores like that yet in American
10 cities but we need them.

11 This is real work, work that would not be performed
12 by others; work which doesn't compete with labor but it's
13 genuine work that can be conducted in any public agency
14 or any private philanthropic work in your community.

15 Third, there is something called work study. This
16 is for youngsters in high school or college who continuing
17 on with their education because of the fact they don't have
18 enough money to do it.

19 Under this program they can get jobs, part time
20 jobs to finance their way through school. Work study, it is
21 run by Frank Keppel, over there against the wall, the
22 Commissioner of Education.

23 Now all of these programs are already in operation.
24 The response to them has been extraordinary. 250,000 young-
25 sters have applied for the Job Corps. In Bill Wirtz'

1 Neighborhood Youth Corps, the Administrator of which
2 is Jack Howard, there are twentyfive to forty thousand
3 young men and women at work in the Neighborhood Youth
4 Corps. In work study I think there is something like fifty
5 or sixty-thousand youngsters on college campuses all across
6 America participating in that part of this War Against
7 Poverty now.

8 There is another program called Project Headstart.
9 You will see it in the Table of Contents. This is for little
10 children four and five years of age who have never been
11 to school before.

12 This program was announced on January 19. We
13 thought we would be doing a great job if we could get a
14 hundred thousand poor children into special programs this
15 summer to prepare them for school this fall.

16 Next week, I think that is less than four months
17 after the start of it, we will announce programs covering
18 600,000 children. I think it is the biggest step from
19 zero. I mean a scratch start on the 19th of January, until
20 let us say the 12th of May, almost in the history of the
21 government, 600,000 children, 45,000 teachers will be
22 employed teaching these kids. We will need as many as twenty
23 to forty thousand volunteers in the program. This will
24 reach into -- it ought to reach into every city that you
25 represent. It certainly will reach into every Congressional

1 District in the United States. That is a brand new program
2 for little children. If it is successful we have authority, ---
3 we are asking authority from Congress to continue this on a
4 year-round basis just for little children. The Vista
5 volunteers, that is the Domestic Peace Corps. There are
6 about 16,000 people who have applied for that already.
7 That is more than we got in the first year of the Peace
8 Corps. 16,000. There are about 200 out at work right
9 now. There will be 2000 by the end of June. What do they
10 do? Again, they work in your governments, they can work
11 in private philanthropic agencies, they get \$50 a month. We
12 pay for it. They can be teachers, remedial teachers. They
13 can work in institutions for the mentally ill, in
14 municipal hospitals, in institutions for the mentally
15 retarded, with migrants, et cetera.

16 You have to apply for them to come. They can
17 come into our State only with the Governor's approval. There
18 is the Small Business Administration. That is the program
19 to try and finance men who are able to go into business
20 on their own but have no collateral to put up for a loan.
21 They cannot get a loan from any bank or from the Small
22 Business Administration under its previous authorities.

23 Under this bill in this new program loans are
24 available to people, long-term basis, some of the
25 loans, but where the person indicates that they have got

1 the morals and got the intelligence; they've got the ambition
2 to get into business in their own.

3 The Adult Basic Literacy Program. That is another
4 program, only small this year, but \$20 million. But again
5 it is for people who are adults and who are illiterate.
6 It is also for people who are not technically illiterate
7 but who don't speak English, Spanish-speaking Americans.

8 This can be carried on in any school district in
9 any one of your cities anywhere in the United States. Again
10 you have to apply. It is run for us by Frank Keppel's
11 department.

12 We have a program called Work Experience. There
13 is a leaflet about this in the materials supplied to you
14 from HEW. This is it right here. It is a program for unem-
15 ployed fathers of children who are on ADC, to get jobs
16 for the fathers and give them the experience on the job to
17 be able to keep the job and stay employed, take their family
18 off relief. This is run by HEW for the War Against Poverty.
19 There are rural loans, loans to small farmers or people who
20 live in Rural America. Forty percent of all our poverty
21 is in rural America. These loans are \$2500 or less. They
22 are handled by the FHA, Farmers Home Administration, which
23 is part of the Department of Agriculture. I wouldn't go
24 into that however because I assume, as Mayors, you don't
25 have too many applicants for that type of program but it is

1 there and it is an important part of our effort.

2 One other thing that we have which the Vice President
3 I am happy to say is going to take over for us, at least
4 if I understand him correctly he is, and that is we have the
5 responsibility for running an information center where we
6 can give you answers, presumably within six or eight months,
7 fast answers, computerized answers to questions you have
8 about how to get things in Washington, how do you go to see
9 to get what?

10 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: I will turn that over
11 to you.

12 MR. SHRIVER: The Vice President said he would
13 take that job on and with his permission we will turn that
14 over to him. Those are some of the programs. That is not
15 the total War Against Poverty by any means. We have many
16 other portions of the Federal Government which have to be
17 coordinated to make this effort a total success. There is
18 the new Appalachia bill, MDTA which Secretary Wirtz has been
19 running for several years already. There are activities,
20 programs such as the tax reduction program last year which
21 it is estimated produced as many as four to five hundred
22 thousand new jobs in our country.

23 The tremendous new Federal Aid to Education
24 bill, the new health bill. All of these things have
25 dovetailed and under a community action program can be focused

1 on the needs of the poor in your communities. That is as
2 quickly as I can give it, an overview of the total effort
3 at this stage. I'm sorry it's so technical and sort of
4 factual but it is, I hope, enough to get you interested in
5 glancing through this volume because in this volume nearly
6 every part of this program can be of help to you.

7 Thank you.

8 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: I deeply regret that it
9 is so warm in here.. I have been doing my level best to
10 get the management to improve the air conditioning. It is
11 a brand new hotel. The air conditioning ought to be in good
12 shape. But I guess we have hot items in here and it is
13 just a little more than the facilities can take.

14 If you bear with us gentlemen. Why not make
15 yourselves as comfortable as you can by taking off your
16 coats if you feel a little warm?

17 Ladies, you just keep those men fanning you there.
18 Just before I introduce Secretary Wirtz I want to toss in
19 just a little as you go on, here and there.

20 Mr. Shriver mentioned to you this booklet that
21 you have. I would suggest with each of these books, as
22 you take them home with you, that where you do have staff
23 people that work with you, please have them get acquainted
24 with it.

25 It will solve your problems of where to go. The

1 addresses. Not only the telephone numbers and addresses
2 of the tops of the agencies but of the people really on the
3 action line are in there.

4 As Mr. Shriver has said to you, anything that
5 relates to any of these problems concerning the needs of
6 your community are available, the answers are available
7 through their information service and I want to say I will
8 share that with you but every once in a while I find people
9 just don't know where to turn and my advice is if you don't
10 know where to turn, write your Congressman or Vice President
11 and we will find out where to turn. That is one thing I
12 have learned around here, is, where to go. Some people
13 have told me too.

14 Now I want to present to you one of the most able
15 and distinguished of our cabinet members who has a story
16 to tell you that I think is worthy of your most serious
17 attention.

18 He is the Secretary of Labor and is deeply involved
19 in the programs that mean a great deal to your community.
20 Secretary Willard Wirtz.

21 REMARKS OF THE HONORABLE WILLARD WIRTZ

22 SECRETARY OF LABOR

23 SECRETARY WIRTZ: Thank you, Mr. Vice President.

24 There isn't time to go into a lot of details. We
25 can't cover all the questions you will have. I should like

1 only to say that if any come up in the future involving
2 any problem with which I have anything to do I will be very
3 grateful. If you don't call your Congressman, if you get
4 in touch with me directly and gentlemen I will be glad to
5 have you pick up the phone and call me about whatever problem
6 may come to your attention. And if you can't get the right
7 answers out of the computers, drop around and see us.

8 Two hours of sitting here put me in a sultry
9 frame of mind, as you can see. I will speak very briefly to
10 the particular parts of the program which are administered
11 by the Department of Labor and then, at the Vice President's
12 request, tell you a little bit of the other side of the
13 problem that we face.

14 With respect to the Manpower Development and
15 Training Act, I would like to start with a question if I may.
16 How many of the Mayors in this room have, in the cities which
17 you represent, any Manpower Development and Training programs
18 at this time.

19 (Show of hands.)

20 My figures are wrong, then, because I inquired
21 at the time of this assignment as to how many of the 202
22 cities here represented do have Manpower Development and
23 Training Act programs, and the answer came back, 10. I
24 am sure from this show of hands that is wrong. It is probably
25 about 30 or 40 but the point is still a very important one.

1 At the meeting of the larger cities a month ago
2 every single one of the cities represented there had
3 Manpower Development Training Act programs. I would gather
4 from the response here that it is less than 25 percent as
5 far as this group is concerned and I suspect that the obvious
6 moral of that story is one to which both you and we should
7 give serious consideration to because I am afraid that
8 whether because of the difficulties of administration, red
9 tape or what it might be, responsibility for which I would
10 be glad to share with you, there has not been a sufficient
11 extension of that program to these communities and so I
12 should tell you there are today -- there have been approved --
13 this is a program that goes over two and a half years now --
14 several thousand programs covering over 400,000 people and
15 this is a program with respect to which there should be some
16 way of establishing a better relationship between our
17 administrative officers and your officers.

18 There are three types of programs: The Communist
19 type is the so-called institutional training project program.
20 It is a program which we administer with the Department of
21 Health, Education, and Welfare. The point of contention
22 is particularly characteristically the local employment office
23 or at least that is as good a place to start as any and that
24 should be the point of pickup. They are programs which
25 are devised to provide training in any occupation for

1 which there is an identifiable shortage in the particular
2 community and they cover both training provisions for the
3 training and for the payment of training allowances. I will
4 be glad to go into any further detail later about that which
5 may'be of interest to you but I take it the problem with
6 which we should start is the problem that there hasn't been
7 an adequate extension of that program to communities of
8 this size.

9 With respect to the Neighborhood Youth Corps
10 programs which Sarge has referred to already, I should like
11 to do two things here, to tell you the scope of that program
12 very quickly and to speak a word about the administration
13 of it. That is the second program which Sargent listed,
14 to give you some idea of the order of the magnitude of the
15 program. It started, as far as administration is concerned,
16 just after the election last fall.

17 The first projects were approved in January. Between
18 January and October of this year, all in 1965, over 200,000
19 boys and girls will have gone through and completed the
20 projects which are coveredd by the Neighborhood Youth Corps
21 program.

22 Now I am not talking about futures, I am talking
23 about presents, and I am saying as of October we will this year
24 have completed -- you will have completed -- projects under
25 the Neighborhood Youth Corps covering 200,000 boys and

1 girls. The matter of immediate interest to you should be
2 the summer program which was announced by the President
3 some ten days to two weeks ago. A \$40 million project program
4 under which we will this summer work out at the suggestion
5 of one of the initiations of the local communities, programs
6 covering between fifty and sixty thousand boys and girls
7 of this summer. If that announcement has been made, the
8 limitation will be a double limitation of money and adminis-
9 trative help and if your program suggestions for that are
10 not in at this point they should come in very quickly because
11 that program will be exhausted very shortly. It will total
12 for the year \$140 million, it will mean the training in
13 the Neighborhood Youth Projects, the employment and training
14 of about 200,000 boys and girls.

15 I want to say one word about the administration
16 of this program.

17 I have a good deal of sympathy with the suggestion
18 raised here about the difficulties of getting quicker service.
19 We are working under a stringent, stringent personnel ceiling.
20 The 200,000 boys and girls who go through these programs
21 in a period of nine months will have had the services at the
22 Federal level of 212 people.

23 Our total staff for the handling of that whole
24 program is 212 people. That means one person for each one
25 thousand trainees and I wish the situation were different.

1 I believe completely in the pressures for economy.
2 I simply point out to you some of the problems we face and
3 what we are trying to do with it.

4 The other point which I was asked to address
5 myself to is this: We are talking about the good things
6 we are doing. I would like to give you a small handful
7 of statistics about the problems we still face. It is
8 the broad problem of unemployment. Sarge looks at an individual
9 and says he is poor. Tony look as him and says he is un-
10 educated. I say he is unemployed.

11 We are like the blindfolded ones touching the
12 elephant. If my comments on this situation are oriented in
13 terms of unemployment, you will appreciate that that is a
14 hazard of my particular occupation.

15 I have a pretty strong feeling that if we can
16 develop another two or three million jobs in this country,
17 a good many of the other problems would begin to fit into
18 place.

19 The situation is there. You hear unemployment
20 reported in terms of 4.7 percent. It is good. It is down from
21 6.8 percent four and a half years ago. But that figure is a
22 misleading figure in a good many ways and from the standpoint
23 of your administrative responsibilities there are other things
24 you must know about it.

25 As far as adult unemployment in this country is

1 we have done now extraordinarily well. That problem has
2 lent itself very readily to the only basic approach which
3 there can be to the unemployment problem and that is the
4 stimulation of the economy to the point where it is producing
5 an important and sufficient job. Adult male unemployment
6 is down now to 3.5 percent and the heads -- the unemployment
7 of heads of families -- it is a technical figure, but includes
8 those in these most responsible positions as far as the
9 family life is concerned is down now under three percent.

10 Those problems are not licked but we are on the way
11 toward licking them. A very long way. At the other end
12 of this picture, are these figures.

13 We give them to you in several ways. First what
14 impact which I hope people in this room will feel which un-
15 fortunately the country cannot feel. There are going to
16 be 2.2 million unemployed 16 to 21-year olds in this country
17 in June of this year.

18 Next month, almost two and a quarter million
19 unemployed boys and girls just in that age range. The
20 unemployment figures for the teenager group in this country
21 are almost unbelievable. For boys there are 11.5 percent
22 and for girls 15 percent and those are figures the white
23 boys and girls.

24 The unemployment figure right now for non-white
25 boys and girls is, for boys 22.5 percent and for girls,

1 teenagers, 32 percent. And these figures are getting worse.
2 The disparity between the unemployment situation for adults
3 and for youngsters is getting worse. The disparity between
4 the unemployment figures for young women and the young men
5 is getting worse. And the disparity between the figures
6 for non-white teenagers and white teenagers are getting
7 worse.

8 The problem today centers on this unemployment
9 situation as far as the youth unemployment situation. If
10 you wonder why, it is for two reasons. One is that the
11 machines are coming in and taking over the skilled jobs
12 and a good many of those in this group, this age group, are
13 those who have the least skill, the least ability, to
14 compete with the machines.

15 The other reason is suggested by another statistic, a
16 fairly hard one to state or follow, so let me give it to
17 you slowly, the number of 18 and 19 year olds in the work
18 force will increase this year more than it did in the whole
19 of the decade of the '50s. That is because of the post-war
20 baby crop to which one of you referred earlier. It is the
21 combination of these two things, of the effect of automation
22 on the work force and the post war baby crop in the present
23 population explosion which explains the fact in June of
24 this year, just next month, two and a quarter million
25 16 to 21 - year olds unemployed in this country at the pinnacle

1 of your prosperity, at the height now of 50 months of
2 uninterrupted economic expansion and the moral is perfectly
3 simple and direct and that is that we have got to do something
4 about this problem and this set of problems as such. We
5 recognize that with the economy expanding at an unprecedented,
6 unpredicted, fantastically marvelous rate there will still
7 be some left out and as to that situation we have got to
8 direct particular attention. It is for that reason that
9 two months ago President Johnson -- three months ago now --
10 the establishment of a job development program, seeing the
11 Secretary of Commerce and Secretary of Labor with the other
12 Cabinet members who are interested in this area of partici-
13 pating in the program to the task of developing new jobs
14 at a rate of at least 10,000 a month working with American
15 industry. There are lots of jobs which wouldn't develop just
16 as a result of economic expansion which require the attention
17 of particular nature, including a training program, including
18 basically an educational element, including a number of
19 other factors, management factor and so on and so forth,
20 so on and so forth, so what we are doing now is sitting
21 down with special groups from the business community to
22 work with them, to work out with them the development of jobs
23 which wouldn't otherwise be there.

24 If the concept is vague let me illustrate it --
25 let me suggest a single illustration. We sat down with the

1 Chrysler Corporation to talk with them about the fact that
2 most people wait two or three weeks to get a car repaired
3 when they bring it in to any -- not just a Chrysler repair
4 station -- but any other. There is something wrong in an
5 economy going as well as this one is about the fact that
6 you have to wait two weeks to get your car repaired.

7 We have worked out with the Chrysler Corporation
8 a program which will mean in the spring, in the next six
9 months of one thousand boys who would not otherwise have
10 been trained as automobile repair men.

11 Chrysler is putting in \$6 million of the project
12 cost. We are putting in \$1 million of the project cost. They
13 are getting \$10 million worth of advertising out of it
14 too. And together we are developing and working out this
15 program which will mean the development, as I say, of a
16 thousand jobs. This is one illustration of a number of
17 projects being worked out.

18 Last Wednesday, the Secretary of Commerce and I
19 met with representatives of all of the large oil companies
20 and all of the large automobile companies, and spent a full
21 day with them talking about an expansion of the program.

22 Their interest in it was such that our concern
23 at the end of the day was not about whether the program would
24 go but whether we would be able to service it.

25 We are talking in terms of taking the men and women

1 who finish the training program, who finish school and at
2 least giving them an opportunity at a job, find out whether
3 it will work or not, whether they will work out and we are
4 talking in terms of their offering employment which they
5 would not otherwise offer and I can only report to you that
6 the response is unprecedented in any Administration program
7 of this kind that I had anything to do with. I think there
8 is no question but that today American business and American
9 labor recognize that we have simply got to do something about
10 picking up especially this youth unemployment situation.

11 I think you would be surprised at what you would
12 find in your own communities with the willingness of America
13 business at this point just to take on a few more people
14 because of the special circumstances which we now face.

15 We could cure it. The youth unemployment situation.
16 If every business enterprise in the country would take on
17 one extra person. There are many more companies than there
18 are the number of unemployed youth at this point.

19 It is a difficult problem but it is within reach.
20 I would like to leave with you these three points: We are
21 doing, I think, a great many things that were not being
22 done a year ago. We are meeting a problem of unprecedented
23 proportions which the country doesn't realize particularly
24 with respect to youth unemployment.

25 Third we are finding a degree of cooperation in the

1 business community, in the labor unions, from the private
2 organization as a whole which I think is a matter of very real
3 relevance and importance to you because the War on Poverty
4 will not be won in Washington. The full employment will not
5 be achieved here in Washington. The full educational opportunity
6 will not be established here in Washington. Ninety-five
7 percent or more of every single one of these jobs has to
8 be done locally and privately and the biggest lesson of
9 recent experience as far as we are concerned is there is
10 an attitude in this country today of complete willingness
11 to cooperate in programs of that kind.

12 Thank you.

13 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: I thought you might
14 be very interested in this report which is quite disturbing
15 to all of us about the youth unemployment problem and I hope
16 that each of you will, in your own ingenious way, try to
17 help us do something about it.

18 The President has appointed a Cabinet task
19 force to work on it where we have every department of
20 government asking each and everyone of its constituents
21 to help so to speak.

22 The Department of Defense, the National Aeronautics
23 and Space Agency, asked to talk with their contractors, the
24 people who work with them to see if they can't alleviate
25 this.

1 Some of you come from communities where you are
2 concerned about some of the developments that might take
3 place sometime this summer. We have had demonstrations,
4 we have all sorts of things that will take place. The
5 summer months are not easy months to deal with and the
6 power and vitality and the explosiveness of young people
7 is a matter that hasn't been fully measured as yet but we
8 know there is great potential there for good and also
9 times for a little trouble.

10 Everytime you get one of these young people employed ---
11 in the hope of employment and training, you ease off that
12 tension in the city just a little bit more. I think it is
13 just that simple and it is money in the bank fellows and
14 ladies, it is just money in the bank. It is cheaper than
15 hiring a policeman.

16 I heard the President say the other night that we
17 spend \$450 a year for public education per child, \$1,800 a
18 year for a school dropout, \$2,500 a year for relief, \$3,600
19 a year if you throw them in the penitentiary!

20 We've got the values upside down and we are all
21 taxpayers. We pay for it, you know, one way or another
22 you pay for it. No doubt about that.

23 When you get home, go to the employment office
24 in your city and --- a State employment office --- and get
25 ahold of the director and tell him you want in your city ---

you are the Mayor, you are the top man, you are the boss, you are in charge, you go there and say, "I want you to set up a special office in the employment office here to recruit and bring together a potential worker, a young person with a job. If you just do these things ordinarily you will never get it done.

The fact is you just simply have got to get yourself into a frenzy about it to get the job done and I will guarantee you if you have about three big demonstrations around town about something you will be in a frenzy. I don't need to spell that one out, do I? It's easier to get a small fever before you really get the real stuff, you know, if you really go to that employment office and then to the Chamber of Commerce and then to your labor movement and go to each one of them and say, "Here's the way it is in our town," your offices can tell you. Your welfare office, your statistical office, if you have one, your employment office, they will tell you what the problem is and you mark it down as another one of the little projects you will follow through on when you leave Washington, D. C., and go back to your town and you will be a happier mayor.

I want to bring you the Former Mayor of the City of Cleveland who did such an admirable job they never wanted him to leave. Boy that was something, I never quite had that happen to me.

1 This gentleman has done a monumental job here in
2 Washington. I noticed the other day that the House passed
3 an appropriation -- or they are in the process of doing it,
4 of slightly over \$7 billion; isn't that right, for his
5 Department, and he has to manage this Department, and I don't
6 want to say I have any, what we call, administrative prejudice,
7 but if you have got to have somebody handle that much money
8 I am glad he is a former Mayor and I am happy to present
9 to you the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, Mr.
10 Celebrezze.

end lw

lwl

1 SECRETARY CELLEBREZZE: Mr. Vice-President, I don't
2 anyone assembled here today to think the reason I haven't
3 taken my coat off is because I have a dirty shirt on, but
4 I have found out after being mayor of a large city five times
5 and being Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare for
6 approximately three years that I can tolerate the heat.

7 And in another respect, ladies and gentlemen, I
8 envy you. You are well represented in this Administration.
9 Dave Lawrence, who came from that small city of Pittsburgh,
10 a former mayor, Vice-President Hubert Humphrey, former Mayor
11 of Minneapolis, another small community, and I came from
12 that great city of Cleveland, so that we are well represented
13 here and I can truly say that we know what the problems are
14 and we try to represent you in these proceedings to the best
15 of our ability.

16 Technically, Mr. Vice-President, I handle probably
17 thirty bills a year, when you include the Social Security
18 Trust Funds. The budget which came out, which was
19 \$7,373,000,000, but we expect to add on to that the education
20 budget, so I don't know. How do you start a flower fund?

21 The Department of Health, Education and Welfare
22 has been in the business of eliminating poverty for a great
23 many years. We handle 160 separate programs. A hundred of
24 them are grant programs and I have furnished you with a book.
25 If you thumb through it you will find there is some program

1 which affects you directly in your local community.

2 We cooperate with the Office of Poverty in three
3 areas, in the basic -- in the adult education, in the work
4 experience program which you can either take under the public
5 assistance programs or under the poverty program and we are
6 working with the Office of Poverty or the Office of Economic
7 Opportunity in the work study program and I may also add
8 in the new Higher Education Facility Act we are asking for
9 a much broader work study.

10 I think two of the bills, as I look back, which will
11 have the greatest impact upon communities of America is the
12 Primary and Secondary Education Act that was already passed
13 and the Hospital Insurance Program, which has passed the
14 House and is now being heard in the Senate. I say that not
15 from a basis of hospital care for the aged because this bill
16 is much broader than that.

17 In this bill we will continue to pay Social
18 Security benefits to aid the dependent children, removing
19 the ceiling of eighteen years of age and lifting that ceiling
20 to twenty-two years of age providing that child is in school.
21 For the first time we will make available to children a sort
22 of junior Kerr-Mills Act.

23 Under our programs, under these specified programs
24 where we are engaged in now with aid to the dependent
25 children, the blind and disabled, for the first time these

1 youngsters will be able to receive medical attention so that
2 they can stay in school, so they can equip themselves for what
3 lies ahead and you and I know that we can speak about unem-
4 ployment, we can speak about disease, we can speak about
5 poverty and no matter how you go around in a circle you
6 come back to one basic element and that is education.

7 And the Vice-President and President have just
8 dedicated themselves to make sure that every young man in
9 this great country of ours, if he wants to, can get an
10 education to move into this society which is being effected
11 by technological changes and automation, which are good.

12 There is nothing wrong in automation. Automation
13 actually creates jobs. But you have to have skill.

14 Now we are here to help you. I have brought with
15 me three of the people which affect directly, the Commissioner
16 of Education, Francis Keppel and one of the finest Welfare
17 Administrations of this country, the former Welfare
18 Administration of North Carolina, now in my department,
19 Commissioner Winston. Dr. Terry was to be here but he is
20 attending a meeting of the World Health Organization in
21 Geneva and sent instead Dr. Hundley of the Public Health
22 Service.

23 These people are available to you while you are
24 in town. If you have any specific problems dealing with
25 any one of the 100 grant programs, not limited only through

1 the poverty programs but in air pollution and water pollution
2 and community health facilities and in many other programs
3 which we have, we would be most pleased to sit down with you,
4 explain these programs.

5 We find that many times we have to do a selling
6 job to the local communities to get into these programs.
7 None of these programs are compulsory programs. You have
8 to choose to participate and we do that purposely.

9 Almost all of these 100 grant programs have to go
10 through your state organization because we don't want to be
11 accused of the Federal Government trying to mingle in local
12 affairs.

13 These programs are there for your aid. You can
14 either accept them or reject them. Nothing is forced upon
15 you. I think that that is one of the elements of keeping
16 close to the communities is that in the administration of
17 these 160 projects, the Secretary of Health, Education and
18 Welfare has 260 advisory committees advising him. You mayors
19 know what can happen when you have that many advisory
20 committees. But this Administration is dedicated to uplifting
21 of human values.

22 Now I know what the problems are. I was former
23 President of the American Municipal Association, former
24 President of the U. S. Conference of Mayors. I know what
25 the problems are on the local level. I know the difficulty

1 that you had with your state legislatures. I know that many
2 times you ran to Washington and ran awfully hard because I
3 couldn't get anything out of the state legislature.

4 It just makes me mad when some mayor gets up and
5 sees you are engaged in all these programs, why don't you
6 let us alone?

7 The programs we are engaged in, ladies and gentlemen,
8 are the programs you have hollered the loudest for, for many,
9 many years. That was the purpose of the U. S. Conference
10 of Mayors when it was first organized during the depression
11 years. That is the purpose of the American Municipal
12 Association which is now the Council on State Government --
13 National League of Cities.

14 Someone asked me the other day what is the National
15 League of Cities. I don't know. The only two organizations
16 I know is AMA and the U. S. Conference of Mayors.

17 We want you to write to us, tell us what your
18 problems are and we will give you a straightforward answer
19 and Vice-President Humphrey was not kidding when he said that
20 the Congressmen are very influential. Let me tell you, if
21 you think a Congressman is influential, you get your Senator
22 to move.

23 I never was so happy in my life as when Hubert
24 Humphrey was chosen to become Vice-President. He was in my
25 hair all the time.

1 VICE-PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Now I know.

2 SECRETARY CELLEBREZZE: But I do want to convey
3 to you, many people are complaining, I read today about our
4 welfare programs, high cost. Sure we have high cost today,
5 but we are finally approaching the problem with the right
6 course.

7 I thought it was tragic to just send a check to
8 a family every month and feel as though you had done all you
9 could. It was not. You have to give that family an oppor-
10 tunity to lift itself up by its own bootstraps.

11 So you have these work training programs. You
12 have these adult education programs. You have these work
13 experience programs. And naturally while you are running
14 a dual program, the expenses go up. But in the long run
15 these people will contribute more to the economy by way of
16 tax dollars than what we pay them to retrain them.

17 Let me give you a classic example. Last year we
18 retrained 140,000 disabled persons. 17,000 of them were on
19 welfare programs. They are now out working, in cooperation
20 with the State Rehabilitation Program they are out working and
21 in three years those 17,000 will pay more in taxes than what
22 it cost us to rehabilitate them.

23 But it isn't the pure dollars and cents we are
24 interested in. We are interested in human values and human
25 dignity and if we are to succeed in America, the responsibility

1 comes right back to our local communities because it is you
2 that are closest to the people.

3 You have got them sitting in your lap. You have
4 got them calling you at all hours of the night. You have
5 got them coming to you not only with problems of municipal
6 affairs but with personal problems.

7 You are the father confessor for a great many
8 citizens. And if these programs are going to work they will
9 work because you have taken an active interest in them and
10 we are here merely to advise you, to attempt to get as much
11 matching funds as we can and in certain cases pay 100 percent
12 of the program.

13 I want to express my appreciation to you, Mr.
14 Vice-President, for calling these mayors in. I don't
15 recall, I wish that they had called us in when I was mayor
16 of a large city. We used to do it through our conferences
17 once a year with small groups, but we are trying to make
18 you part of this Administration, regardless of your politics.
19 part of this Administration so that the Federal Government,
20 working with the local and state governments, can walk the
21 path together and that path is human values and human
22 dignity.

23 Thank you very much.

24 VICE-PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: If you will take a look
25 at your budget book when you get a moment, I would hope

1 that we might have had the time to have the Director of
2 the Bureau of the Budget over here. One sheet in there
3 on page 9, in the right-hand corner you will find your
4 little page number.

5 Budget expenditures for aid to state and local
6 governments, and you will see what has been happening in
7 terms not only of percentage of the Federal budget but the
8 amount.

9 Actually, the percentage of the Federal budget
10 in '59 or '57 was 4.6 percent that was going to state and
11 local governments. Today it is 9.3 percent. It has
12 doubled. And these are funds that are much needed for
13 your own many municipal needs.

14 MAYOR HELCHER: Would you welcome a question
15 yourself on this subject? I am Mayor Helcher. My question
16 has to do with the return of Federal money to the local
17 community without restriction or particular program
18 identification. Is that proposal still kicking around or
19 is it dead?

20 VICE-PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: No, it is not dead. It
21 is under the most serious consideration. As you know, the
22 advisors, the economic advisors to this government, and
23 they are not all in government, by the way, there are many
24 people from industry and labor and finance that call in
25 all the time to analyze our tax structure, revenue structure

1 and its impact on the economy as well as how well it
2 produces adequate resources for governmental needs.

3 These advisors have been giving very serious
4 consideration to a kind of, what we call revenue-sharing
5 program.

6 I would not want to mislead you. There has been
7 no governmental decision made on it, including the decision
8 not to do anything about it. This was the subject of the
9 task force that President Johnson appointed. There were
10 some very strong recommendations made.

11 The Council of Economic Advisors has been looking
12 into it. The Joint Committee on the Economic Report of
13 Congress and the Joint Committee on the Budget of Congress
14 has been looking into it, so this is a live matter.

15 This year we are going to have an excise tax
16 reduction about an estimated billion and a half dollars.
17 We hope that will add a little extra thrust to this economy
18 plus do away with some very serious administrative problems
19 and burdensome taxes.

20 You will be happy to know when we reduced the tax
21 rate last year substantially that the increase in revenues
22 has gone far beyond what we had ever anticipated. In fact,
23 with reduced costs, the President has been able to hold down
24 the expenditures more than had been even the Congress
25 authorized or anticipated.

1 We would have had probably a billion dollar better
2 picture than we had contemplated so we have got a little
3 problem right now, may I say, in the Dominican Republic
4 and Viet Nam that will require the use of some of that
5 money, but not all of it. Fortunately the budget process
6 has been, I think, very responsible.

7 I want you to really take a good look at this
8 booklet when you get the chance. Don't do it now. These
9 are not tricky figures. These have to stand the scrutiny
10 of the business council and of the top business and corporate
11 economists of this government as well as people from every
12 walk of life. No tricks. You can't play any games on each
13 other.

14 The facts are the facts, and we still have a
15 budget deficit, no doubt about that, and we are still working
16 to eliminate it. We have reduced it. We still have to put
17 most of our money into defense and security in space and we
18 are going to have to, for the foreseeable future.

19 I hope tonight we will be able to have Secretary
20 Rusk here to tell us a little bit about some of our overseas
21 problems, possibly somebody from the Defense Department just
22 visit with us during the reception hour.

23 Where is the question for Mr. Shriver?

24 MAYOR DE MURO: Mr. Vice-President, I am Mayor
25 DeMuro from Passaic, New Jersey. This is either to Mr. Wirtz

1 or Mr. Shriver. Back in January, January 15, we filed an
2 application for in-school training under the Neighborhood
3 Youth Corps Act of Economic Opportunity. We received notice
4 that the application was approved. We received a letter from
5 our Congressman that we would be in receipt of approximately
6 \$75,000. Governor Richard Hughes of New Jersey approved of
7 it, somewhere around March 1.

8 But as of this date, up until today, we have not
9 received the monies to put into effect this program that was
10 approved way back in March, March 1. Is there any reason for
11 it? Is there no money available? What is the answer?

12 SECRETARY WIRTZ: I will inquire of Jack Howard
13 who is here whether he knows of that case.

14 MR. HOWARD: I don't have the facts but I will
15 find out immediately.

16 SECRETARY WIRTZ: If we can meet immediately after
17 the meeting we will take it up right then.

18 MAYOR DE MURO: Thank you.

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1 MAYOR EICHOLZ: Mayor Eicholz, Covington, Kentucky.

2 We are part of a metropolitan area you would call
3 greater Cincinnati which involves two states, four counties,
4 four major cities and 112 lesser ones and we just wonder how
5 many of us should file community action programs. This is
6 getting to be a problem. Every county and city wants to file
7 one. Actually as I understand it this is for the purpose of
8 our surveying our needs and I have got three different
9 opinions on this. Local people give me one, State another,
10 and Washington gives another, and I wonder if anyone here
11 could tell me whether the whole community as one should file
12 one request or application or whether we should split it
13 down into various governmental agencies.

14 MR. SHRIVER: In the first place we don't have any
15 rule up here that says you have got to do it one way or
16 another. Cincinnati can have one and you can have one right
17 across the river and that is a decision that you have to
18 reach in Covington yourself with the people there, and if
19 it is more advantageous for your city to be linked with
20 Cincinnati or a couple of other cities on the Kentucky side
21 that is your decision. We don't care.

22 You say that leaves you up in the air? It leaves
23 you where you are in charge of your whole government. You
24 do it the way you want to.

25 We feel that to the extent you can get together in

1 economic entities that are available or may be more available
2 than just one city, that is desirable. Charleston, West
3 Virginia has a program which involved neighboring two or
4 three counties. They did that because the counties wanted
5 to be in with Charleston. Fine with us.

6 If you find that neighboring three or four smaller
7 towns want to be in with you, that is all right. No absolute
8 way you have to do it.

9 While I am here -- I am afraid I have to leave in
10 a few minutes -- I would like to introduce the Deputy
11 Director of our program who came to us from the AFL-CIO
12 where he was head of the Industrial Union Division. Before
13 that he was the Deputy Director of the HHFA with Bob Weaver
14 and therefore has experience on the governmental side and
15 in the Labor Union Movement and now with us, Jack Conway.

16 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Before you ask a question
17 I want to ask the meanest question of the afternoon because
18 I know some of you read about it and I think that somebody
19 ought to say something about it. I mentioned it to him
20 just a moment ago so you will know we are on the up and up
21 with it. It is all about this salary structure of this
22 poverty program. I am sure you read about it.

23 Sarg, why do you pay these people so much to work
24 with the poor? I think that is what people would like to
25 know. Why don't you tell us all about that.

1 MR. SHRIVER: We made an analysis of all the jobs
2 we have okayed in the biggest cross section of 39 cities
3 across the country and the facts are that we don't pay the
4 salaries which have been considered to be so outlandish.

5 In the first place, I can't give you all the
6 figures exactly right but the salaries of the people that
7 have been okayed are completely on a line with other people
8 in the community. They are comparable to wages paid to the
9 Urban Redevelopment Administrator. They run four or \$5,000
10 under Mayors. They run anywhere from ten to \$15,000 under --

11 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: You mean those underpaid
12 Mayors?

13 MR. SHRIVER: In these 39 cities that is a fact.
14 It may not be true in your city. However, we okay the
15 salaries that come to us after making a study across the
16 board of salaries in that community. For example, the
17 Community Chest people run anywhere from ten to \$20,000 higher
18 than what we are offering or what we are okaying at the
19 community level. In the second place we don't set these
20 salaries. We don't set them. Salaries are proposed to us.
21 We compare them with other salaries in the community. They
22 have to be in line.

23 In the third place, in a lot of cases we don't
24 pay the total salary. For example, the man in Washington
25 gets \$25,000. We don't put up a nickel for his salary.

1 It comes from the Ford Foundation which made a grant to the
2 City of Washington.

3 In many places, like up in Patterson, New Jersey,
4 that got a lot of publicity. In Patterson, New Jersey, we
5 okayed a salary of \$16,000 which is perfectly in line with
6 the salaries in that town. After we okayed it, the people
7 of Patterson put up six or \$7,000 additional in order to get
8 a particular guy and made that salary to twenty-two or
9 twenty-three which was higher than the Mayor of Patterson, so
10 he got angry, but we didn't pay that salary. In fact, I
11 would be happy to give you these figures, you can look at
12 them yourself, the salaries we have authorized, even though
13 we don't pay them in their entirety in most cases, the salaries
14 we have authorized have been in line with comparable public
15 officials, school superintendents, heads of public welfare,
16 heads of Red Feather organizations in the cities across the
17 United States.

18 The final thing I would like to say is this: I
19 came to this job out of private business. In private busi-
20 ness they say the most expensive thing you can do is hire
21 cheap help. You can't expect to get a good program well
22 administered with inexpensive help. The poor in this country
23 have been accustomed to the worst schools, to the worst
24 medical care, to the worst housing, and I for one don't
25 intend to subject them at this stage to the worst public

1 administration.

2 (Applause)

3 MAYOR SMITH: We have had the Youth Corps in opera-
4 tion for a number of years and we are very proud of it and
5 very recently I visited Philadelphia to see how the oppor-
6 tunity program was working there. They had something to be
7 proud of. We would like in some manner to copy this but we
8 find the contributions of monies, as you said a few minutes
9 ago comes from people at General Electric and automotive
10 industries, we have none of that in our area. We have a Navy
11 plant there.

12 Is there some way the Navy shipyard can enter into
13 this training program to help the youth of our area? They
14 are anxious to get started. They have organized a group
15 called the Tidewater Youth Association.

16 MR. SHRIVER: The answer is, yes.

17 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: How do they do it.

18 MR. SHRIVER: The contribution at the local level
19 in that program or any other program under this can come
20 from private industry, from another department of the Federal
21 Government, from you, from a local philanthropist. I think
22 somebody got up before from Huntsville, Alabama. In that
23 town a businessman named Milton K. Cummings produced out of
24 his own payroll or own wallet or bank account the total
25 matching funds for the program of community action in

1 Huntsville, so there is nothing to stop what you are suggest-
2 ing.

3 SECRETARY WIRTZ: I understood the question to be
4 whether there is any provision within the military establish-
5 ment, Department of Defense for making contributions to those
6 coming from private sources. Frankly, I don't know. I would
7 like to talk with the Secretary of Defense about it.

8 MR. SHRIVER: Not in cash but they can provide
9 service. NASA is already doing this. NASA at their plant
10 is doing practically I think what you propose. Not cash but
11 services and training.

12 MAYOR HARRINGTON: Harrington, Bedford, Massachusetts.

13 We have done very well and the programs in Bedford
14 are working well, but one question is critical: This
15 operation Headstart which is supposed to take place this
16 summer. As I understand it, you are seeking out first of
17 all those communities within the U. S. which are in the most
18 abject state of poverty. They receive the money first.
19 Whatever is left after these particular areas are cared for
20 will be allocated to other communities who are also in
21 poverty, perhaps not as severe but the particular problem
22 I have is, we filed our application early, we feel this
23 problem is critical to us because we have a great many
24 numbers of first generation Americans who are in poverty.
25 We want to know how soon decisions will be made as to which

1 cities and which towns are going to be allocated funds because
2 we have to secure to the best of our ability the best teachers,
3 the best locations and the best programs.

4 MR. SHRIVER: The deadline for filing applications
5 under this program was the 26th of April. The first group
6 of about 2,000 will be announced on the 12th of May. That
7 is -- what is that, 16 days after the deadline closes, and
8 there will be about 2000 announced on that day covering
9 probably half a million children.

10 Second, the first part of your statement is not
11 true. We are not giving the money out to those places where
12 the incidence of poverty is worse and then saving up what
13 little is left and dishing it out to other places where
14 poverty is not so bad. That is not true. That is not the
15 way it runs.

16 We give the money out on the basis of applications
17 coming into us where it is proven that poor children are
18 involved. No matter where they are in the richest county in
19 America, if they are poor they have got just as good a chance
20 to be in this program as if they are from the poorest county.
21 In that connection, when this program got started a lot of
22 people said it wouldn't reach the poorest towns. We made a
23 study and designed 182 counties as being counties where
24 we wouldn't ask for a 10 percent contribution. The director
25 of this has the authority to go to a hundred percent and we

1 didn't ask for ten. I think it probably will turn out where
2 the per capita income for every man, woman, everyone of them
3 will be in project Headstart. The grants will be the 12th
4 of May.

5 MAYOR HARRINGTON: If any of us are Mayors in
6 cities not in the first 2000 will there be a subsequent
7 announcement?

8 MR. SHRIVER: Yes.

9 SECRETARY CELEBREZZE: Even if you don't qualify
10 under Shriver's program, under the new primary and secondary
11 education bill which is aimed at families in 2000 or less or
12 people on public assistance receiving more than that, if
13 your School Board and State Board approves what we call a
14 pre-school program, you can qualify under the secondary
15 primary education bill.

16 MAYOR GRABAREK: Durham, North Carolina.

17 First of all we in Durham are in total concept
18 with the purpose of the poverty program perhaps more
19 beautifully articulated by Mr. Celebresze, but I would like
20 to introduce some items of practicality in my community.
21 When the budget for salary was set up, the salary for director
22 was Eighteen to \$20,000. I am a Mayor of 20,000 people.
23 My manager gets \$16,000. He administers a budget of
24 \$8.5 million. Supervises 900 employees. We have a tremendous
25 volunteer community action program which I would like to

1 institute in the city. We need volunteer help to push these
2 programs. If we put the man in, I don't see as a matter of
3 practicality how we should expect the city manager to give
4 his total cooperation to this program as I would like to see
5 it done.

6 Secondarily, when additional budget salaries were
7 set up we are losing in the city of Durham our best case
8 workers in the Health Department who are applying for jobs
9 in the poverty program and accepting them at substantially
10 higher salaries. The same is true in my Welfare Department
11 and all of our social workers.

12 The head man of our community planning council
13 accepted a job with the poverty program. Fine. But could
14 I leave you with the impression that we are siphoning the
15 limited number of professional social workers we have in the
16 community and building up a vacuum down the line and I leave
17 you with this thought, perhaps couldn't it be done that in
18 the future we used fixed agencies in business to see if we
19 couldn't channel some efforts through these areas and if
20 not then perhaps run them to the total program or finally
21 shouldn't the salaries be geared at least to some economic
22 level within that community.

23 I want to see everybody be paid as much as they
24 are worth. Properly publicly administered at the highest
25 possible level but there must be an element of practicality

1 and humanitarianism about this that must make its contribution
2 at the right place, and if you do it at the beginning I can
3 see a successful program. If you violate the points I
4 mentioned, you will have pitfalls.

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1 MR. SHRIVER: I agree a great deal with what you
2 say except I disagree with the conclusion. The salaries
3 set by community action program in Durham are set there, not
4 in Washington. These suggestions come from your people. I
5 don't know whether you are on the community action program
6 in Durham. I assume you are. Usually mayors are. Or if
7 the mayor isn't his representative is.

8 Therefore if a program proposing certain salary
9 levels comes to us it comes with your approval. Not you
10 specifically in Durham because as I say, I don't know whether
11 you are on the program there, but the community action program
12 is supposed to include governmental officials from that
13 community as well as private agency people as well as
14 representatives of business, labor and even the churches
15 in that community so if proposals come to us from you and
16 they are out of line, I don't think that the first responsi-
17 bility for that belongs with us. I think it belongs at the
18 local level.

19 Now you are obviously wanting to get up and say
20 that is wrong.

21 MAYOR GRABAREK: I don't want to be in disagreement
22 but the program is of serious nature to us and I want to give
23 it all the impetus I can. The point of the matter is I did
24 appoint this program in the city. I asked forty-seven citizens
25 to serve. They accepted. We submitted our proposals. When

1 the proposals are made and find their way to Washington there
2 is an exterior pressure being applied saying what some of
3 these payments should be and they come back in a budget to
4 us for approval so it is not the community.

5 We have hammered down for example after three
6 months the \$18,000 to \$20,000 salary has been reduced to
7 \$15,000 with the understanding of all the groups that I have
8 to work with simply to accommodate this feature. But if we
9 had gone along at 18 to 20 we were doomed for failure. It
10 is not necessarily the budget.

#3

1 MR. SHRIVER: I will put my record against anybody
2 else's record for knocking salaries down. This is the first
3 instance I have ever heard of, and we have funded over 350
4 different cities, where anybody has said we proposed a higher
5 salary than came from the community and I will look into it
6 myself because that hasn't happened in any case in America
7 up until now. In fact, every salary coming to us has
8 come from the community and we have knocked 50 percent of
9 them down.

10 I am happy to get this because Durham was a impor-
11 tant city.

12 SECRETARY CELEBREZZE: May I address myself to the
13 second part of that question, about the shortage of welfare
14 workers?

15 We have the same problem in Washington. As a
16 matter of fact, I went out to San Jose to dedicate a new
17 welfare building and the director there was getting, I think,
18 \$32- or \$34,000 at that time, and the Secretary of Health,
19 Education and Welfare was getting \$25,000 -- but the
20 Administration recognized that problem. We get an extreme
21 shortage in skilled welfare workers, and under 1962
22 amendments, Welfare amendments, we made provisions for money
23 for them to uplift and train more workers.

24 Under the education bills we made provisions to
25 make it easier to train -- this question of supply and demand

1 right now. It is a critical problem.

2 I was faced with the same problem in Cleveland
3 where it seemed to me the best people were moving out. The
4 only way we can solve that is through the provision the
5 Federal Government has made available to various people in
6 various welfare departments and train more experience people.
7 There isn't much we can do. Just human nature. If you
8 can make more money someplace else, they will move.

9 The problem is a greater supply of skilled people
10 and that is not only true in welfare, it is true in teaching,
11 and in colleges the competition is so great. Industry
12 finds it. Federal Government finds, in bringing sometimes
13 good, qualified people into the government, that we can't
14 match what they are making in industry. Unless the individual
15 is dedicated, he won't come in. But we did recognize our
16 problem under the 1962 amendments when a later legislation
17 was passed by Congress broadening the supply of qualified
18 people in this particular area.

19 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: The gentleman right
20 here had one more question. Mr. Shriver has another
21 appointment. Mr. Conway can possibly take it.

22 MR. SABONJIAN: I was just going to say -- I am
23 the Mayor of Waukegan, Illinois, population of 65,000. I
24 am surprised that the Mayor of Durham says that -- I think
25 his problem as city manager, 900 employees for a town that

1 size, maybe if he would get rid of some employees, maybe he
2 wouldn't need that money.

3 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: I will match you two
4 fellows at the reception. I think we should -- Mr. Shriver
5 and Mr. Weaver both had to go, and I am sure you would like
6 to let them know how you feel.

7 (Applause.)

8 Believe me, if you have a problem in this, don't
9 hesitate to get hold of Mr. Shriver's office. He has done
10 a great job over there.

11 MR. WALSH: Mr. Walsh, from Portland, Maine.

12 Remember the Community Action Program, we were
13 under the impression it was a grass roots program and could
14 be set up to suit the local community and fit the needs and
15 problems of the community. We wrestled about two months
16 and set up a program under the leadership of the city
17 council, with the cooperation of UCS and with a citizens
18 advisory committee.

19 The regional office in New York is frowning on
20 our program on the grounds that the so-called advisory
21 committee should be autonomous. We would like to know why
22 we can't have a program under the leadership of the elected
23 local city officials.

24 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: That is a good question
25 and I want Conway to handle that one. I am sort of on your

1 side.

2 MR. CONWAY: Legislation sets forth very clearly
3 that a community action organization can be public in
4 character, it can be a non-profit corporation which is
5 created for this purpose, or it can be a combination of the
6 two.

7 The kinds and shapes and forms of community action
8 organizations that have emerged over the last few months
9 in the country are varied. We have some all-public
10 community action organizations. The city of Detroit has
11 one such. The City of Chicago is another. Atlanta and
12 Fulton County, for example, is an all-public combined city
13 and county organization.

14 On the other hand, we have community action organiz-
15 ations that are built around the community health and welfare
16 councils, or a combination of a municipal plus the health
17 and welfare council approach, and we have many, of course,
18 that have formed corporate bodies and have become the commun-
19 ity action organization.

20 The law clearly sets forth that these community
21 action programs we carried out this way must be carried out
22 with the maximum feasible participation of the resident of
23 the target areas, the areas themselves where the poor people
24 are living. We started out on the assumption that it was
25 wrong to ask a community to achieve perfection in the first

1 two or three months when this law was getting underway,
2 and it wasn't until March of this year that we put together
3 the final guidelines which are available in this booklet you
4 all have, which have now been made available to all of the
5 communities operating under the program already, as well as
6 those communities that are in process of setting up their
7 organization right now.

8 Many of the communities get started without meeting
9 all of the requirements of the law to the extent that the
10 situation calls for. The current hearings, as a matter of
11 fact, taking place in the House of Representatives, just
12 concluded most of the tension of the education and labor
13 committee went to this question of the nature of the
14 coordinating community action organization and how it would
15 operate and how it was possible to build into the community
16 action organization the poor people themselves so that they
17 could develop a sense of self-sufficiency and could par-
18 ticipate effectively in the actual planning, as well as the
19 carrying out of the community action program.

20 Now, I don't know what particular deficiency would
21 be with regard to community action program as you set it up.
22 The one thing that we are frowning on is to have window
23 dressing advisory committees. You can have an advisory
24 committee combination with all public policy boards, but
25 if this is the combination that is put together we feel, in

1 order to meet the qualifications of the legislation, that this
2 advisory committee has to have a strong participating role in
3 the formation of policy and plans and have some review
4 function of the actual carrying out of the program.

5 Now, Portland, Maine is the one that I have not
6 had any personal contact with, but I assure you I will
7 contact our regional office people and try to find out what
8 deficiencies there are so that we can work with you and
9 correct them.

10 DR. MORGAN: Mr. Vice President, I am Dr. Robert
11 Morgan. I have a question I would like to direct to the
12 Secretary of Labor on this matter of employment.

13 As I am sure the Vice President is aware, the
14 Mississippi River this year did some phenomenal things. Mr.
15 Secretary, our city put up a gallant fight against the river.
16 However, 32 of our industries were inundated by six feet of
17 water. The number of employees laid off was 1,859.

18 Mr. Secretary, I would like to know what provisions,
19 if any, are available for these industries to solve this un-
20 employment problem because many of these industries are hair-
21 line industries, or industries which if they don't get some
22 kind of aid, will disappear from our employment scene all
23 together.

24 I should also inform you that last year our city
25 had an unemployment rate of 1.7, so we have a valid and vital

1 industry employment factor in our city, and I would hate to
2 see it go down the drain because of a calamity such as this.

3 I would appreciate your advice.

4 SECRETARY WIRTZ: Would this employment be
5 temporary? Are these temporarily out of business, or is it
6 permanent?

7 DR. MORGAN: Some of them will be permanently out
8 of business, because of the monumental nature of the disaster.

9 SECRETARY WIRTZ: I should think the answer would
10 be a combination of two facilities that would be available.
11 It sounds as though you have a small business administration
12 loan possibility, and certainly, there is enough possibility
13 that it should be taken up.

14 My second answer would be to suggest that that
15 situation as it involves a more permanent difficulty like
16 a situation which is illustrated by the South Bend experience
17 and we have set up an interagency group, one of the members
18 of it is just 10 feet to your right, Mr. Ruttenberg. We have
19 sent representatives from the government into those communities
20 to see whether there is a combination of training and business
21 development provision which can be undertaken and we would
22 very much want to do it in this case.

23 If there was an indication of that kind in the
24 unemployment you refer to, there would be small business
25 loans, training programs, which ought to be brought to the

1 attention -- I am assuming the coverage of unemployment
2 compensation and so forth, but Mr. Ruttenberg is right there
3 and this is a situation for that.

4 May I answer the Mayor of Passaic?

5 You question was about the program announced in
6 March. I recall it came back, I think that was one where the
7 announcement jumped the gun a little bit. We were all
8 concerned about the fact some other projects were announced
9 in nearby towns and we wanted to get the announcement out
10 as early as we could.

11 The signing on that project was April 5. The
12 signing by the Youth Corps was April 20, two weeks ago. The
13 check went out today.

nd 3

1 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: May I say to the Mayor
2 you can really tell them when you get things done. We will
3 vouch for you, too.

4 SECRETARY WIRTZ: I will find out later whether
5 it went out before or after your comments.

6 MAYOR MUHLEMAN: I am Mayor Muhleman, of Rock
7 Island, Illinois. I have a question for Secretary Wirtz.

8 Last December we applied for approval and funds
9 on this neighborhood job corps. We have been organized, we
10 are ready to go with it this summer.

11 Now we understand we will not be up for considera-
12 tion in the new fiscal year. Unless some remedy can be pro-
13 vided, it means we will have to abandon this until 1966.

14 SECRETARY WIRTZ: Can you tell me what the objection
15 is that we have interposed to that project?

16 We have no objection other than

17 MAYOR MUHLEMAN:
18 the fact we were 90 on the list of cities in the Midwest
19 applying and we are just too far down the line.

20 SECRETARY WIRTZ: Do you know, Mr. Howard?

21 MR. HOWARD: No, sir. I will check that one out.

22 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: May I make one suggestion?
23 After we are through here, we have a reception suite where
24 we are going to get a little air-conditioning and a little
25 refreshment and the Secretary of State has promised me he will
come over -- Secretary Rusk -- and talk to us a little bit.

1 I think you will find that interesting.

2 During that time, too, we have so many of the top
3 officials of the agencies in the Government with us, so if
4 you have any particular problems, I want you to corner them,
5 so to speak, to go to them and talk it out while you are here.
6 You will have that opportunity. We will introduce them again
7 before we break up.

8 There are three members here from the Vice President's
9 office so they will be helpful. I will have them looking
10 around making sure if you need somebody you will know who
11 these men are.

12 They will bring them to you. Keep that in mind.
13 Before we go any further, there were so many questions asked
14 here just a while ago about this accelerated public works
15 and ARA and I asked Mr. Peterson of our staff to get some
16 information on it. He not only got the information, but he
17 got the director and he not only got the director, but the
18 director came over loaded with the pamphlets that tell you
19 all about it and the Bill number in the Senate is S-1648.

20 This Bill, I want to say to you most respectfully,
21 is sort of money in the bank for you.

22 The next one is H.R. 6991. The Senate Public Works
23 has completed the hearings yesterday and the House Public
24 Works is to start its hearings on Monday.

25 Now, if Mr. Bill Batt, who has been the Director

1 of the ARA, the Area Redevelopment Administration, would like
2 to take just a very few minutes here -- have these been passed
3 out yet?

4 Will you start to pass those out? This will give
5 you the material. Now you can have enough to read. You won't
6 get lonsesome for us for a long time. Every time you pick up
7 one of these, remember you had a good time in Washington.

8 This is Mr. Batt.

9 MR. BATT: Mr. Vice President and members of the
10 Cabinet, essentially this bill is a combination of the best
11 features of the Area Redevelopment Act and the Public Works
12 Act plus an extension of the Appalachian aid to other
13 potential regions which you folks in the States will come up
14 with.

15 We have had, for instance, much discussion about
16 the possibility of the Great Lakes forming a region, of the four
17 corner states in the Southwest perhaps forming a region.
18 This is entirely up to the initiative of the States.

19 There is another idea in here and this is to keep
20 the kind of multicounty arrangements which Georgia and
21 Connecticut and a couple of other states have been experimenting
22 with for the past several years, to help them do joint planning
23 on a multicounty way is based around growth centers. These
24 are in the newer sections of the bill.

25 But essentially the meat and potatoes of this bill

1 which provides in very quick summary -- you can see it on
2 page 47 of this folder you are getting -- an annual authori-
3 zation of \$515 million to do much the same kind of things we
4 have been doing in ARA and ABW but it would be the primary
5 difference in orientation would be that the Public Works which
6 you folks are particularly interested in would have to have
7 some relation to the economic growth of the area.

8 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: I also note -- correct
9 me if I am in error on this, Mr. Batt -- but there are com-
10 mercial and industrial facility loads of \$170 million and
11 there is grants and aids for Public Works, \$250 million, and
12 then there is what we call the Loan Guaranty will back up
13 some \$250 million worth of loans.

14 Now, this is the type of area redevelopment,
15 industrial, economic development that is involved here.
16 What they have sought to do, and I want to emphasize this so
17 you may keep this in your thinking, is that it is not merely
18 putting in a new courthouse or recreation center, et cetera.

19 It is where this contributes in a measure to the
20 economic growth and development of your community in its eco-
21 nomic expansion. It is tie din. I think you will find this
22 progress has real merit. It provides much better planning, by
23 the way.

24 When we put the Appalachia Program through Congress,
25 we had a number of Congressmen and Senators who said, "What

1 about our part of the country," for example, the upper Great
2 Lakes, and we had to tell them to wait their time and we will
3 get some legislation up here to take a look at their needs.

4 One other little pamphlet that I want to call to
5 your attention. These are not here in numbers so, but Mr.
6 Keppel, who is the Commissioner of the Office of Education
7 and truly one of the great educators of our country -- and
8 may I say, speaking of salaries, Mr. Keppell could walk out
9 of this Government any day, tomorrow morning, and get salaries
10 that would stagger you. He administers a program that is a
11 little larger than most State Commissioners of Education and
12 most Superintendents of Education, and he is talking to
13 people in education every day who make twice what he makes.
14 We were hopeful we might have been able to get Mr. McNamara
15 over here.

16 He kind of gave up a little income at the Ford Motor
17 Company to come down here and administer a \$56 billion enter-
18 prise called the Department of Defence.

19 This is entitled "The First Work of These Times,"
20 a description and analysis of the Elementary and Secondary
21 Educationn Act of 1965. I think you are going to be asked a lot
22 about this at home.

23 Most of yourselves, as mayors, are not related
24 directly to the school boards, but when I was mayor of my
25 city, I found that they ask you about everything. When

1 Mrs. Smith came on in to see you, she had a shopping list,
2 except it was all in the mayor's office: Welfare, boy was in
3 trouble with the police, the fire station door wasn't operating
4 right, and it was making too much noise in her neighborhood.

5 All that was on there, you sort of took care of it.
6 I think it is sort of nice if you have this material available.

7 Frankly, may I add, too, that we are all called
8 upon a great deal to speak to different groups and you are
9 called upon to go on out to different clubs and organizations.
10 There little pieces of information provide you with a good deal
11 of factual information and evidence and the type of descriptive
12 material that makes your presentation helpful to our community,
13 because these are taxpayers. They paid for this. They are
14 entitled to know about it. They are entitled to hear both
15 of your affirmations of the programs and your complaints and I
16 hope you will take time to look them over.

17 MAYOR DIPRETE: My name is James DiPrete, Mayor of
18 Cranston, Rhode Island.

19 I don't have a question. I have an observation.

20 I have been sitting here all afternoon in sheer
21 amazement. When I received your telegram, I very frankly,
22 sir, thought that you were going to come in here this afternoon
23 and breeze in and make a fast speech and go off on some other
24 junket and I want to tell you I am a Republican, so I mean
25 this when I say it, that I am impressed, and I am deeply

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1 impressed, with the fact that the Vice President of the
2 United States and members of the President's Cabinet take
3 their coats off and are willing to sit down and work with the
4 Mayors of various cities throughout the country. I think
5 everyone in this room shares that sentiment.

6 (Applause and standing ovation.)

7 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: I thank you very much
8 for your kind words. When you get a job to do, you had just
9 as well do it. Otherwise you really don't end up helping
10 yourself or anyone else.

11 Before we go any further, we will come back here
12 to take on another question or two, but you have had a good,
13 long day here, and we will have a little fun, too, and we are
14 going to later. As I say, I am so anxious for you to meet the
15 Secretary of State, a wonderful citizen and truly remarkable
16 man.

17 By the way, here is a boy who came from a sharecropper's
18 family, so to speak, and worked his way up to being the
19 President's first officer. I think that is a remarkable
20 achievement. I think you would like to hear a little from
21 David Lawrence.

22 MR. LAWRENCE: Thank you very much, Mr. Humphrey.
23 Between you and Mayor Celebrezze, Pittsburgh has been put in
24 its proper category. Naturally, I don't quite agree with you.
25 However, I could not help in sitting here but reflect back to

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1 the days I was in the Mayor's office. I was there for about
2 13 years in Pittsburgh. And I became President of the U. S.
3 Conference, to think of the problems we had and how we used
4 to bat them out in the Conference and go to the Administration
5 with them and sometimes not do so very well.

6 It is a different situation now. The Administration
7 is coming to the mayors. I think that is a great forward
8 step because more and more, and I don't need to sell you
9 gentlemen, the country is becoming urbanized, and the problems
10 of the cities and the immediate urban areas are becoming one
11 of the most important and vital concerns of the people and
12 I think that is one of the great things the President of the
13 Administration has done.

14 He has cut out a lot of differences of people.
15 The line has been too severely drawn between the city and
16 county and the state and Federal Government and he is breaking
17 down those barriers by having these meetings and I want to
18 congratulate, too, what the gentleman from Rhode Island said
19 about the Vice President coming here and batting these matters
20 out with you.

21 I was more than pleased when the President picked
22 him because I know of no one who knows the problems of a
23 mayor better than the mayor himself, and he has had the
24 experience. He went through all the things you are going
25 through as the Mayor of Minneapolis and I congratulate the

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1 mayors, that you have come here in great numbers as you have,
2 to meet this situation and I predict that you will look back
3 on today in theyears to come with a great deal of appreciation
4 of what you did, because you made the contact here and con-
5 tinue to keep it up to serve you in every way the Administration
6 can.

7 Way back in the U. S. Conference days, I was one
8 of those who led the movement favorable to establishing a
9 department of municipal affairs or urban affairs or municipal
10 and urban affairs here in the Government because of the great
11 volume of business that does exist between these bodies and
12 I am sure you will get out of this a great deal of satisfaction,
13 a great deal of good to your municipality and to the country
14 itself. We are here in Washington to serve you in every way
15 that we can because we have in this Administation, I think,
16 cut down these barriers. I don't think today that, rather
17 looking back, there was a time when we have broken down the bar-
18 rier between business and labor and the Secretary of Labor here
19 and his predecessor played a great part in that progress.

20 We are breaking down the barriers and contests that
21 existed over the years that were just in the imagination of
22 the people.

23 There was never any great reason why capital should
24 battle labor as they did in the past because one depended
25 upon the other and I think if the President does nothing else

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1 than to break down all of these imaginary barriers and lines
2 of demarcation between various groups, he will have served his
3 country very well.

4 My congratulations.

5 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Before we break up, I have
6 some messages here. Is the Mayor of San Bernadino here?

7 Mr. Mayor, there is a letter for you that came to
8 my office, and there is

9 Is the Mayor of Midland, Texas, here?

10 Yes, sir, here is a telegram for you, sir.

11 And there is a message here for the Mayor of Dayton,
12 Ohio. And one -- there is still another one.

13 Let's see here. Mayor Cannon of Dayton; and Mayor
14 Avery of Midland? Two of them for him. There is the Texas man
15 here. Here comes Texas. They grow them big. Now would you
16 also be pleased to do us the favor of keeping your name tag on
17 for the reception? It will help with all of us to become a
18 little better acquainted.

19 Mayor(?) I would like to make a state-
20 ment before we adjourn.

21 In our telegram and also in statements we made, the
22 statement was made -- I would like to enter something here
23 which I think might answer many of the questions of the people
24 here.

25 The 200 million population in this country, every

1 100 million of Federal program amount to about 50 percent as
2 your share, so when we talk about a billion, we are talking about
3 \$5 per capita. We can very easily compute our population
4 of individual cities to see what other share would be if
5 we are all honest enough to say we only want the money which
6 we are contributing.

7 Then we are talking about \$5 per capita and this is
8 probably why many of you are asking the question "Why aren't we
9 getting the balance of the funds of the project initiated I
10 have a publication here which might be of help to all of you.

11 The Congress sent this out, "City Govern-
12 ment for 1962." Also one for 1963. This is a publication of
13 the Department of Commerce that will give you many of the
14 figures and I think from this you could determine many of the
15 things when you have in your area which may be similar or
16 dissimilar with other areas of the country.

17 I am Mayor of a suburb of Minneapolis. This shows
18 that Boston, which has received many Federal grants, has a debt
19 of \$203 per capita. Minneapolis has a debt of \$155 per
20 capita.

21 We have never asked for or received any Federal funds.
22 We have torn up 200 miles of streets, put in utilities, sewers,
23 water. We are completing the building program for schools that
24 has built 20 schools in the last ten years. We have a ratio
25 of debt to revenue of \$5 debt to \$1 of revenue and we can't

1 ask for funds in my estimation and I can't see how others can
2 ask as the Mayor of Pontiac, Michigan, was talking about a
3 \$16 million grant, he has a population of 82,000 -- this is
4 a per capita gift to that city of 200 per capita or equivalent
5 to 40 years of programming at a million dollars per capita.
6 I would hope that we could either change many of these
7 programs to loans to be paid back because all of these commun-
8 ities that I have seen get in the fund are much better off
9 financially than the cities who are not receiving the funds
10 and I hope that one simple way to eliminate the whole thing
11 would be to reduce Federal incomes another 5 percent. Let us
12 keep that money rather than get a share back from the Govern-
13 ment.

14 Thank you.

15 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: I want to say most
16 respectfully that if the State of Minnesota had local incomes
17 in the city so you can get some revenue, it would help.
18 I was Mayor of Minneapolis and tried to get a little tax put
19 on there and it takes God and man together to amend the city
20 charter and I might add one of the reasons that some of the
21 cities need a little extra help is that they are older cities
22 and some of them are the victims of chronic unemployment
23 through no fault of their own. Some of them have serious
24 racial problems through no fault of their own. Some of
25 them have all sorts of difficulties.

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1 per capita debt is also related to per capita income, I might
2 say, so that you also have to consider that.

3 What is your per capita income? I would only
4 repeat what Mr. Celebrezze said here. I don't know a single
5 Federal program that has been conjured up by somebody just
6 because he thought he ought to spend money. I just paid my
7 income taxes and I was mean for 35 days. We pay taxes, too.

8 In fact, they watch us to make darned sure we pay
9 them, both the Internal Revenue and the Opposition.

10 I really must say these programs, they are not forced
11 upon you. You don't have to take them. They are passed by
12 the members of your Congress and they are generally bipartisan,
13 with very few exceptions. The reason they are there is because
14 somebody thought they ought to be there and you could get
15 enough votes out of 538 members in the Congress to pass
16 them.

17 I am perfectly aware of the fact some communities o
18 don't like them and there may be good reasons but for every
19 letter I have received telling me "Don't do it.", I must say
20 most of the things I have heard from you here today -- and
21 I think you are all pretty good citizens -- is that, "Look,
22 we really need a little extra act. We are

23 When are you going to get that application
24 approved? What happened to the Public Works Program? And
25 it all is for the people. This is all one country and I

1 want to tell you one thing else so we might as well get
2 straight, this is such a mobility of population in this country
3 that we can't afford to have any part of the country less
4 than the best.

5 Let's leave New York and go down to Mississippi,
6 and people living in Mississippi come to South Dakota, California
7 and Oregon. We need to have it upgraded. This is the whole
8 purpose of these programs, not to help one particular city or
9 state.

10 The only reason the Federal Government gets into this
11 is that it is sort of needed, and if you don't think so,
12 imagine what the road system would be like without it, or the
13 airport system. I was thinking about the number of things
14 that go on that we don't think of. Our airports, communica-
15 tions, road system, river system, keeping these rivers -- I
16 must say in my state of Minnesota only recently one commun-
17 ity turned down the offer of some Federal funds for flood.

18 Well, I regret that, because their losses this year
19 would have paid for gold-plating the levees. We just plain
20 decided we weren't going to spend that money out there
21 because they- didn't think it was really going to snow. It
22 just snowed and just raised heck and the last estimate I saw
23 was \$56 million in losses and it was a \$2 million flood
24 project.

25 MAYOR DELLA CHEISA: I am Mayor Della Cheisa

from the

1 from the City of Quincy, and I can truly say that if it were
2 not for the Government spending, we would be in the worst de-
3 pression that we were ever in because the Government spending
4 helps everybody down through the line but that is not the
5 reason why I asked for the floor at this particular time.

6 I didn't think I was going to be able to get
7 within 100 yards of the Vice President. If you look down
8 in that rostrum, you will find I made you an honorary citizen
9 of the City of Quincy and furthermore you don't have to pay
10 any city taxes.

11 It may interest you to know, Mr. Vice President,
12 that I have made many, many people honorary citizens, including
13 Churchill. I recall Congress a few years ago made him
14 an honorary citizen of the United States, but I made him a
15 citizen six years ago and I was the first elected official to
16 introduce Kennedy as the next President of the United States
17 when he was still a candidate right in front of Quincy Square,
18 and I also want you to know that my wife, when I informed her
19 I was coming here, wanted me to bestow that honor on you due
20 to the fact she was born in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

21 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Thank you.

22 This defense pamphlet, I hoped we might get the
23 Secretary of Defense, as I said, but we were unable to,
24 but this is the type of material he has used and I thought
25 you ought to have it. It is quite reassuring.

1 Mr. McNamara has put through a tremendous cost-
2 saving program in the Defense Department. He is an outstanding
3 administrator, as you know, and you would be interested to
4 know when you study this that while we have been able to reduce
5 some of the costs, we have some of the costs, we have
6 increased the strength and firepower of this great Nation,
7 and that should be reassuring. Finally, if you take a look
8 at your budget pamphlet, you will get a little for
9 the past 10 percent the average increase -- for the last two
10 years we have been able to maintain about a billion dollars a
11 year. It is still out of balance and very big --

12 MAYOR RICHARD: May I ask a final question?

13 Melvin Richard, Mayor of Miami Beach. We have been pleased and
14 honored to play host to all the people at the head table from
15 time to time and I think you have seen we have good capital
16 improvements in our city, but our ad valorem taxes have
17 reached their maximum in municipal financing.

18 Now, I call attention to the fact that those cities
19 which in the past have provided well in meeting the capital
20 improvement needs of their citizenry now find that a con-
21 tinuation of a reasonable degree of excellence and service
22 requires- some taking by Federal grants and aids, but those
23 cities experience difficulty in qualifying because of past
24 do-it-yourself characteristics while those cities which in
25 the past have had less efficient administration and tension

1 to their citizens are in a very enviable position to qualify
2 for Federal grants and aids. Those who have served well are
3 penalized and those who served poorly are rewarded.

4 Is there any conception on the Federal level in legis-
5 lation to remedy this type of situation?

6 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: It surely is a matter
7 that is given every bit of consideration that human beings
8 of our intelligence can do and we might not be the smartest
9 ones but this was discussed at length when these programs are
10 brought before us.

11 When you get up to Congress it is just dandy to
12 have a formula that can be adopted and be passed, honestly,
13 that meet some of the very well taken points that you
14 raise and I know what you mean.

15 In other words, you have gone to great effort,
16 taxes yourselves, bonded yourselves, gone to the limit and you
17 have a more difficult time. It is your view, rather than
18 somebody who didn't quite go that far. I don't know what
19 the answer is to that, I will be frank with you.

20 One of the things I hope we can get out of these
21 continued meetings, and that is why the candor of your com-
22 ment is appreciated, and we will have more meetings and we
23 hope you will be back.

24 We are meeting with your staff of the National
25 Municipal League all the time. We are meeting with the City

1 Managers, that is my next meeting we are going to have. We
2 are meeting with the local county officials. We are going to
3 meet more with them. We are going down to the Mayor's of the
4 Cities of 15,000. We are going to hope that out of these
5 discussions all of this is being taken down, and we try to go
6 over it and digest it.

7 If we can get some good practical suggestions
8 that we can put into the grist mills of this Government at
9 the Executive Branch and Legislative Branch, I don't know
10 the answer to that one. I used to snort about that when I
11 was Mayor of Minneapolis.

12 I remember we sort of really had to put the taxes
13 pretty heavy on our own people and someone else would come in
14 and get a little extra grant but I don't know what to do about
15 the misery. I think we ought to break it up and I want to
16 take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for
17 coming.

18 (Standing Ovation and applause.)

19 (Whereupon, at 4:50 p.m., the Mayors' Conference
20 was concluded.)

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