

Franklin School
Mrs. Schreiber -

REMARKS

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VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

DEDICATION

Mr. Gates
Mr. Farnum
of Livonia
Hi

ADLAI STEVENSON HIGH SCHOOL

LIVONIA, MICHIGAN

OCTOBER 22, 1965

It is, for me, a source of particular satisfaction --
and humility -- that you have seen fit to invite me
here today.

my friend

< The dedication of this high school in the name of
Adlai Stevenson -- the first so-named in our country --
takes its deepest significance not as a monument to his
memory, but as a first milestone in the bright new world
he foresaw for all men.

Today would have been a day of tremendous satisfaction for him -- because no man in our time was so dedicated to the idea that the only lasting mark a man can leave is a beacon by which the future generations can guide themselves.

In man's physical world, the trail ^{blazed} of yesterday is the highway of today. You need merely look about you to see its proof. Only two centuries ago, the French voyagers, pushing westward through the Lakes, paddled their birchbark canoes through the blue waters of the wilderness peninsula of Michigan.

Not one of them could possibly have dreamed of the highway he was blazing or the breadth and power of the new civilization which would use it.

↳ It is my firm conviction that today we embark upon another such adventure, for there are future highways of the mind as well as of the wilderness.

↳ Only 400 ~~short~~ years ago, man believed he was the center of the universe, that the planets themselves revolved around him and had been doing so for only 5,000 years.

↳ Then Copernicus saw with his mind's eye that the earth itself was in motion, that it was not the center of the universe, but part of a larger and more majestic movement.

↳ Man today stands on the threshold of such discovery about himself.

↳ As man once believed the earth was the center of the Heavens, each nation believed it was the center of this earth -- and spent its blood and treasure trying to make other nations revolve around it.

↳ This concept compelled other nations, in turn,
to preserve at similar cost the independence of their
culture and people.

↳ Hundreds of millions of innocent people died, cities
were destroyed, libraries of priceless knowledge were
obliterated because of this ghastly concept.

↳ But it is no more ordained that the peoples of this
world shall revolve around any one nation than that the
planets and stars of the Heavens shall revolve around
this earth.

↳ Adlai Stevenson knew this!
That was the great idea of Adlai Stevenson. It is
man's latter-day discovery. It is the concept underlying
the United Nations.

↳ Today our poets and philosophers -- yes, and our
forward-looking political leaders, -- already sense that

humanity is on the brink of development of a society
which may ~~unleash~~ ^{release} man's spirit and human potential

-- a society where, as President Johnson has said, men
strive not for themselves alone but for all men. !

↳ The United Nations represents the triumph of the
concept that no nation is the center of this earth any
more than man is an island to himself.

↳ Adlai Stevenson, a Copernicus of public life, gave
strength and insight to this concept and he marshalled the
giants of the ages to the cause of the United Nations.

↳ "Know Thyself," said Socrates.

Adlai Stevenson added to this the Copernican view:
That the key to a man's understanding of himself and
of his country will be found in all other men and nations.

L In a physical world of clashing arms and nuclear weapons, Adlai Stevenson took the noble path of Athens.

L His was the knowledge that the only victory is in civilized persuasion . . . ~~that that army never existed,~~
~~not that weapon ever invented or devised, by which~~
~~hostile forces can enter into the realm of men's minds~~
~~or hearts.~~

L He knew that no nation and no man could ever extinguish the light God gave to men of every race,
color and creed: the light of man's free spirit.

*Man's
free
spirit.*

L No physical force ever existed which can turn back
the force of the evolution of man's soul - his free spirit.

Consider the preponderant force of the pagan emperors of Ancient Rome.

Their legions were pitted against a forlorn group of men and women who insisted unto death that all men are brothers.

Which has lived through the centuries -- the physical force, or the noble idea? *of brotherhood*

Where are the Caesars, where are the Legions now?

And where is the noble idea?

of brotherhood
The idea governs the consciences of billions of people of all religions -- and may it soon govern the conduct of nations. *Man free spirit lives!*

~~Like the early idea among men, two thousand years ago, the early idea -- as among nations -- faces a heavily armed world.~~

~~L The United Nations today may appear weak in the physical world. But that nation does not exist which is powerful enough to kill it. For the idea moves forward.~~

And among its allies is the United States of America,

~~It~~ the most wealthy and powerful nation on earth.
We have made our commitment to the idea and the precepts which underly the United Nations.

~~For~~ In this nuclear age, we have reached the maturity to know that the strongest and weakest in mankind are equally vulnerable to mankind's dangerous inventions.

We have come to realize that, faced with a world two-thirds hungry, sick and ignorant, no one nation, acting alone, can hope to carry the burden of remedying those conditions.

We have come to know that both man's survival and his progress depend on his devising common and peaceful solutions to disputes and disagreements which, in previous history, were settled by force. (X)

h We have come to see that the ~~evolution~~ ^{change} of man's technology has indeed forced ~~evolution~~ ^{change} in man's organization and behavior.

L Adlai Stevenson placed his faith and hope in the United Nations -- even in times when it was mocked, belittled and disregarded ~~as an international instrument~~.

~~for~~ ^{his} greatness was in his ability to look far beyond the limited horizons of the mockers and belittlers.

L Today Adlai Stevenson is not with us. But his aspirations, his breadth of vision, his commitments to the United Nations as an institution . . . to the interdependence of man as a reality of life are shared by this nation.

L Adlai Stevenson was in his lifetime not chosen for the American Presidency. But the Presidency is today filled by another man ~~of depth~~ ^{of high} and purpose and of

equal devotion to the betterment of the human condition.

And under his leadership our evolution toward the great idea has moved swiftly forward.

~~But Johnson knows~~ as Adlai Stevenson knew. — Once men and nations understand the great common bond which sweeps them along together, like the great hidden undercurrents of the sea, new worlds open.

↳ Could the French couriers viewing these wilderness shores have imagined modern Detroit?

↳ Could Columbus, tracing his lonely line across the Atlantic, have dreamed he was blazing trail for ocean liners and jets?

↳ Could Galileo, training his telescope on distant sky, have dreamed that man would one day leave this planet?

↳ These are miracles we today accept.

↳ Adlai Stevenson accepted them and their expanding truths as the challenge of the future.

↳ He believed that man was no more condemned to
eternal war than he was to eternal polio, cholera or
yellow fever.

↳ He believed -- and the coming generations will
prove -- that the upward striving of man will bring
revelations by which he may cure the ills of his body
politic as he now cures the ills of his physical body.

↳ You stand on the threshold of these great new
perceptions. *perceptions.*

↳ If one may presume to speak for his great and
gentle spirit, I know that Adlai Stevenson would want
this school to stand not as a monument to him, but
to the promise and the goal of the true brotherhood
of man. *to Peace - to Justice,*
for all - to Freedom.

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Let us then make our hopes the hopes of all
men. Let us make our cause the cause of mankind.

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