VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY DEMOCRATIC DINNER SAN JUAN. PUERTO RICO **NOVEMBER 27, 1965** Bugnes nother y como esta? am delighted to have this opportunity to = address my fellow Americans in Puerto Rico. spent several days in Caribbean sunshine and am ready again to face the northern latitudes and the Repub Tonight I want to discuss the gains that President Johnson, with the help of a progressive Congress, has made in building a Great Society . . . in building a strong nation that can meet its responsibilities to all Americans, to all the people of this Hemisphere, and to all mankind.

To thought call themselves the Revolutionaries - Take a Look at this Revolution - the Continues agreement Revolution.

But first who have share revolution that

But first I want to pay tribute to some of the men who have shaped the remarkable economic and social revolution that in 25 short years has made Puerto Rico an oasis of peace and progress in a troubled Caribbean.

This is the revolution that raised per-capita income

Schools

from 270 dollars to 830 dollars a year . . . created 60,000 new industrial jobs . . . made private housing construction the number one industry . . . and transformed a backward, agricultural island into a modern, industrial society.

This is the revolution that has transformed San Juan
-- a city founded a century before the Mayflower reached

Plymouth Rock -- into Latin America's boom town.

This is the revolution that is making the Puerto Rican experience a pattern for a peaceful, democratic future in this Hemisphere.

San Juan Born The main architect of Puerto Rico's rapid development, of its well-known Operation Bootstrap, and of its unique commonwealth status is my long-time friend and your first elected governor: Luis Munoz Marin.

This is a man whose advice is often sought by the executive and legislative branches of our government. This is a man who nurtured and inspired this economic and social breakthrough in Puerto Rico. This is a man who steered Puerto Rico safely past mistakes that today stifle progress in parts of our Hemisphere.

a great governor who insists that we can create a peaceful, democratic future in this Hemisphere . . . who insists that we must help make a for all Latin America out of the remarkable exception that is Puerto Rico. —

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of the Carabbean

Donnya Jelisa

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I spoke a moment ago of San Juan as a boom town

And who can separate the city of San Juan from its

VIVacious. indomitable mayor of 19 years, Dona Felisa?

At a time when President Johnson re-emphasizes

the need for talented women in government, she has

already blazed a distinguished trail.

Indeed, the incredible energy with which this city

has grown seems only a true reflection of Dona Felisa's

own great vitality. I salute a grand and Charming Lady-Donnjo Falisa.

and I wish to pay tribute to my friend Ted Moscoso, the first coordinator of the inter-American effort that Heave borrows heavily from the proven Puerto Rican experience: The Alliance for Progress. May the Alianza help bring all men in the Americas out of the shadows of se and into the sunlight of human rights and Doceal Four years of experience, may I say, have deepened our understanding of this new inter-American 🕯 Today we know the Alianza depends for success on more than economic development. Today we know the Alianza must have political content and ideological substance as well as economic help. - Progres Gannette meas This policy of peaceful social and economic revolution, so well demonstrated here in Puerto Rico, is the essence Here is its heart, min of Alianza policy.

These outstanding leaders seek to extend to all Latin America the social and economic progress they have built in Puerto Rico. They seek for the people of this island what President Johnson seeks for all America: a fuller, more prosperous, happier life for each citizen, for each community.

Wasted Juman Provinces Today we Americans are keenly aware of the high cost of wasted human resources — a cost measured in hopelessness and helplessness . . . in resentment and rejection . . . and in the loss to our nation of valuable energy and talent.

This Administration is dedicated to the development of these resources. This Administration is dedicated to the proposition that every American deserves an equal chance to make his tomorrow better than today.

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That is why per federal government is spending about 350 million dollars in Puerto Rico this year -- investing in the education, health, job training, housing and economic development of this island and its people.

That is why only 15 states have received more funds than Puerto Rico from the Office of Economic Opportunity in the war on poverty. So far more than 16 million 800 thousand dollars has been allocated and more is on the way.

That is why the Department of Agriculture alone will spend more than 55 million dollars this year in Puerto Rico — including four million, 700 thousand dollars for the school lunch program and one million, 200 thousand dollars for research at the Puerto Rican Agricultural Experiment Station.

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/ I speak of dollars knowing full well they are not

the whole story. For good money and bad political

leadership mean waste and disillusion.

What we have here is a creative partnership with

political leaders who are both able and honest.

With this kind of leadership, money is an investment.

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These investments in Puerto Rico's people -- and in its future -- show why we see the Great Society not as a welfare state, but as a state of opportunity.

While most Americans can make the most of their abilities -- enjoying the highest standard of living in man's history -- there still are far too many living without that opportunity. Even in Puerto Rico -- even with your gains -- prosperity is bypassing thousands of families.

That is why this Administration, with the help of Congress, is waging an attack on ignorance, hunger and disease. The American people are united in their dedication to the success of our effort.

In nine short months, our American Congress has made into law the hopes and ideas of 40 years. And we have only begun.

We have built a base from which America can move forward.

Educ

The bill says Education, but it means "You shall receive the tools with which to make the most of your future."

Parety

The bill says Poverty, but it means "You shall have hope where there has been no hope, you shall have a chance to break the cycle of ignorance and unemployment

. . to be a full and productive member of our society."

Medican

The bill says Medicare, but it means "You shall have adequate care in your older years, you are not forgotten by your children."

Housing

The bill says Housing and Urban Development, but it means "You can live in something more than concrete and carbon monoxide, you can walk the streets in safety and health."

The bill says Arts and Humanities, but it means

'You can find more in life than material satisfaction,

you can touch new fountains of creativity and expression."

We are creating in America a society in which each child will have an equal chance to make something better for himself, for his children after him, and for all mankind.

Yes, we Americans are united in recognizing our responsibilities to our own people. But we also are building a strong and free America able to meet our responsibilities both in this Hemisphere and throughout the world.

Today we know that it is within the means of men, for the first time in history, to either destroy mankind or to extend mankind benefits on a scale never seen before.

Our choice is clear. We must resist aggression.

We must help those in the world -- the disinherited, the hungry, the humble, the weak -- who need our help.

And we must pursue the peace. There is no alternative.

This, then, is what the Great Society is all about.

It is the recognition that we can create in America our society of opportunity. We can offer each person and each community a chance to be better tomorrow than today. And we can offer to other nations both help and hope in achieving their own social and economic renewal.

A century ago, the Argentine poet Jose Hermandez wrote: "America has a great destiny to achieve in the fate of mankind . . . One day . . . the American alliance will bring world peace . . . America must be the cradle of the great principles which are to bring a complete change in the political and social organization of other nations."

Quatsouty

This vision can be fulfilled. In the words of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 'The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today.

Let us move forward with a strong and active faith."



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