

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, D.C.

December 3, 1966

TO: Terry Edwards

FROM: Julie

RE: SEPTEMBER 13 -- TOWN AFFILIATION
UNEDITED AND EDITED TRANSCRIPTS

COMMENTS BY VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY 42
At Town Affiliation Banquet 27
Washington, D.C. 16
September 13, 1966 18

I want to truly extend a hand of friendship ^{and} of cooperation and
of fellowship to people in other lands who ^{are good will} are of vital importance
to our country and to the purposes of our country. I am sure ~~that~~
you know that ~~the~~ People-to-People diplomacy is the most effective
diplomacy. ^{and} when you say, people-to-people, you of course are
talking about institutions that people create ^{such as} like towns and cities,
~~and villages.~~ ^{WANT FOR MORE "RECRUITS"} Some of you here have been engaged in this work for
a decade or more, some of you are new, all I can say is get some
more recruits. We need more of this and not less of it, ^{and} more
importantly it doesn't cost much. In these days of budgetary
problems ^{and} inflation, ^{and} high prices and what have you, ~~everybody~~
~~talks about~~, I think that the things we can do by ourselves, yes,
with the cooperation of ~~the~~ government, but basically by ourselves,
prove to be very, very important. ^{CONGRATULATIONS TO AWARD-WINNING CITIES} As I ~~know~~ have been told, I
believe there are eleven, ^(is that correct Mr. Bortman, eleven)
cities that have received high honors here. ^{There} I have some notes
here that are ~~very~~ sort of mixed up, but ~~these~~ are the ~~small~~ 11
winners. I want to tell you however, that it isn't just the winners
that help us win what we are really after in this world, namely
world peace and ~~world~~ understanding, it is those that are the try-
ers as well as the winners. ~~While~~ I want ~~you~~ to take this moment
to salute with particular pride and honor those who have done so
well as to be the recipients of high honors, the ^{WINNERS} recipients of

the awards ^{for} your outstanding program of People-to-People Town Affiliation. I want to congratulate you, but I want to congratulate the many, many others (and that runs into several hundreds) ^{also} who have not been able to achieve the winning citations. But I can tell you that you have come mighty close. It was difficult to judge, ^{but} I know. This is election night in the United States, so we can all be very generous. To those who win and to those who don't, those of us who are not exactly in the midst of the battle always extend a hand of friendship because we are not in a position to be insulting anybody. ^{LEADERS IN PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE PROGRAM} Let me thank Mr. Bortman ~~who is the~~ National chairman of the Civic Committee of the People-to-People Program.

I have worked with Mark Bortman many, many years and have found him to be a source of inspiration and also a most effective and practical man. I want to congratulate you and thank you.

① I want to also say a word to Mrs. Gertrude Swanson whom I saw just a moment ago, of Minneapolis, Minnesota. (I just don't want to forget the home state.) Gertrude has done a remarkably good job, and to the Reader's Digest Foundation a very special word of thanks because Mr. Sterling Fisher, the Executive Director, has been of monumental assistance to all of us in these endeavors. ^{OUR SHRINKING WORLD} You know,

^{NATIONAL COUNCIL ON SPACE} I have the privilege in the government of being the chairman of space ^{interest}. Of course in these days with Gemini 11 in orbit and the many fine scientific experiments ~~that~~ we are conducting right now even as I speak, I take a special ^{space} interest in travel. Some people think ~~that~~ I am engaged in space travel. I met a friend or two here that said, why, just the other day I saw that you were in New York and then you were in Iowa. I said yes, and then I was in New Mexico.

and I was in Utah, ~~and I was~~ in Minnesota and ~~I was~~ back in Washington, all in a couple of days. But this is the age of the jet, of course, it is the space age, ~~but~~ I feel that I will leave that to Conrad and Cooper for a while, as much as I would like to get in on it myself. The jet age has made all of us neighbors. If there is one fact of international life it is this, that Wendell Wilkie was right---it is one world, and it is a smaller world all the time, smaller only in the sense that communication has brought us together. It is also a very interdependent world and none of us any longer enjoys what some people thought was their right of independent action without regard to the well-being of other people. We no longer have that luxury, that privilege or that so-called right. We are neighbors and as such we must conduct ourselves as good neighbors. The only way in which you can be a good neighbor is to get to know your neighbor. It is very, very difficult to carry bitterness or mistrust or hatred in your heart if you get to know the other person. That other person has so much in common with you that you soon find out that the human family is exactly what we said it was and what it is,--a human family. ~~And~~ if we conduct ourselves as a human family we ~~will~~ have our differences (because we have those in our family, we ~~will~~ have our disputes, we have those sometimes in our family, but we have a greater allegiance and a greater love, and that is to the family. The

family of man and the human family is a very, very important family.

In fact, it is the only family that we have, and I suggest ~~that~~ we

spend a great deal of time taking care of it. In this jet age

modern science and technology have literally been breaking down the walls of time and have been breaking down other walls and barriers that have separated us for so long. The walls of language, culture and economic conditions, all these, if not broken down, at least can be hurdled, particularly if you get a good running start. ~~and~~ I think that this conference is providing that running start. I want to thank you on behalf of a ^{grateful} ~~greatful~~ government, a democratic government, a free government, and a free society for what you're doing. ^{OUR NEIGHBORS ARE NOT "FOREIGN"} And may I say to friends who are here from other countries, I don't say foreign countries because there are no foreign countries any longer, there are other neighbors but nothing is foreign. The word foreign is a negative word. It indicates to me that it is something that you do not know, do not want to know and do not understand. I have often thought that we should change even the names of some of the committees in our congress. Instead of calling them ^{"F"} Foreign ^R Relations and ^{"F"} Foreign ^R Affairs we ought to call them ^{"I"} International ^R Relations and ^{"I"} International ^R Affairs, so that we start to think positively. So may I say to the ambassadors and the representatives of embassies, to visitors from cities in other parts of the world, ~~and may I say that we are~~ extremely grateful for your attendance here and for your cooperation.

(CONTINUATION OF AWARD)

I have just been told as I speak here that Mr. Sterling Fisher of the Reader's Digest Foundation is going to provide this conference and this People-to-People Town Affiliation Program for 5 years.

\$8,500 each year for awards. Is that right? May I say that if
anybody else feels so motivated, ^{please speak up.} ~~Truly~~ we are indebted
to Mr. Fisher, not only for this generous act, but for many others.

Well, I think ~~that~~ I have said enough except to thank you on
behalf of our President and on behalf of our country for your
attendance. ^{LEADERSHIP BY MAYOR} To my fellow mayors, since I was once a mayor and
once a mayor always a mayor, ^{where} may I say to you we really appreciate
your leadership, ~~and I bet~~ I'm right in saying that you have no
more happy endeavor, no more joyful endeavor or rewarding endeavor
than your ^S ~~sister~~ ^C ~~city~~ program, your People-to-People, your Town
Affiliation program, whatever title you may put on it. I know
that you love it. ^{out} Well, why don't we just cut the speech and
have some fun? ^{Thank you very much.}

#



Minnesota Historical Society

Copyright in this digital version belongs to the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, link to, or email content, however, for individual use.

To request permission for commercial or educational use, please contact the Minnesota Historical Society.



www.mnhs.org