

*Transcript*

SEEGERS UNION BUILDING (STUDENT BODY)  
MUHLENBERG COLLEGE  
VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY  
SEPTEMBER 23, 1966

PREIDENT JENSEN, I AM VERY VERY PLEASED AND HONORED TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY OF BEING ON THIS CAMPUS, TO SEE THESE FINE STUDENTS, SOME WHO ARE EXERCISING THAT PREVIOUS RIGHT TO DISSENT WHICH ALL OF US SO JEALOUSLY GUARD, AND OTHERS WHO I TRUST ARE ~~EQUALLY~~ EXERCISING THAT EQUALLY PRECIOUS RIGHT OF ASSENT, OR SUPPORT WHICH WE ALSO HONOR AND JEALOUSLY GUARD (Applause).

I AM WELL AWARE OF THE TREMENDOUS GROWTH OF THIS FINE COLLEGE. AS I SAID JUST A FEW MOMENTS AGO, WHEN I USED TO LISTEN TO THE FOOTBALL REPORTS ON SATURDAY NIGHT, I ALWAYS USED TO HEAR THAT LISTING ON THAT SPORTS SPECIAL THAT USED TO COME OUT TO MINNESOATE ABOUT 5:55, THEY WOULD START OUT THE LIST AND THEREWOULD BE MUHLENBERG RIGHT THERE. I USED TO WONDER WHY THEY DIDN'T GIVE ~~MINNEK~~ MINNESOTA AS MUCH PUBLICITY AS THEY WERE GIVING YOU. NOW IF YOU CAN GIVE ME ANY ANSWER, I WOULD BE VERY HAPPY TO TAKE THAT MESSAGE HOME. I ASKED A FEW OF THE YOUNG FOLKS TODAY WHETHER OR NOT THE FOOTBALL TEAM WAS IN GOOD SHAPE, AND ALL THEY DID WAS TO GIVE ME A LOOK OF COMPASSION AND CONCERN. I WANT THE TEAM TO KNOW THAT I HAVE MUCH MORE FAITH IN YOU.

YOU ARE HAVING ONE ~~KE~~ OF THE GREAT OPPORTUNITIES THAT WILL COME IN YOUR LIFE - TO SHARE IN A UNIVERSITY OR A COLLEGE EDUCATION AND I KNOW THAT YOU ARE GOING TO MAKE THE MOST OF IT. WE ARE MAKING VAST INVESTMENTS IN EDUCATION THESE DAYS ON THE AMERICAN SCENE. THE FEDERAL AID TO EDUCATION IS TREMENDOUS. IT IS UP TO ABOUT BILLION FEDERAL 10 1/2 ~~MILLION~~ DOLLARS OUT OF THE/TREASURY. BUT MORE IMPORTANT LY THE PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION, THE GREAT STATE AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS AND PRIVATE FACILITIES ARE SPENDING BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS BECAUSE WE HAVE AN EVER INCREASING STUDENT POPULATION. THE FUTURE IS AS UNCHARTED AS ANYTHING COULD POSSIBLY BE EXCEPT TO SAY THAT I HAVE NEVER KNOWN OF A GENERATION THAT HAD MORE KNOWLEDGE AND MORE TOOLS TO GUIDE ITSELF THROUGH THAT UNCHARTED FUTURE.

I HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF SERVING AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPACE COUNCIL OF YOUR GOVERNMENT, THE CHAIRMAN ON THE COUNCIL ON OCEANOGRAPHY. I HAVE SOMETIMES SAID IN JEST THAT WHENEVER THEY HAVE AN ASSIGNMENT THAT PUTS YOU OUT OF THIS WORLD OR TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA, THEY GIVE IT TO THE ~~VICE~~ VICE PRESIDENT, ~~BECAUSE~~ BECAUSE SPACE SURELY TAKES YOU TO THE FAR STRETCHES OF THE UNIVERSE AND THE OCEANOGRAPHY TAKES YOU TO THE DEPTHS OF THE SEA. BUT OUT OF THESE TWO NEW DIMENSIONS OF OUR COSMOS AND OUR WORLD, WE ARE LEARNING A GREAT DEAL. WE ARE EXPLORERS NOW IN THIS THE 20TH CENTURY, LIKE SOMEWHERE IN THE 14TH AND THE 15TH AND THE 16TH CENTURY. AND WE ARE OPENING WHOLE NEW AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE. I TALKED TO A GROUP LIKE THIS NOT LONG AGO AND MENTIONED SOME POSSIBILITIES. WITHIN ANOTHER DECADE WE WILL BE ~~BE~~ IN THE PROCESS OF BEING ABLE TO DESALT THE WATERS OF THE SEAS. ~~DE~~ DESALINIZATION IS NO LONGER A LABORATORY EXPERIMENT. DESALINIZATION IS NOW A COMING REALITY TO BRING SWEET WATER TO THE ARID LANDS OF THE EARTH.

BY

AND THE WAR ON HUNGER WILL BE WON MORE ~~ON THE~~ TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE THAN BY GIFTS FROM AN ABUNDANT AMERICA AND FROM OUR OWN AGRICULTURE. WE ARE AT A POINT NOW IN MEDICAL SCIENCE WHERE TRANSPLANTS OF HUMAN ORGANS IS BECOMING A MATTER OF CUSTOM AND PRACTICE IN THE ~~MA~~ AMERICAN HOSPITAL. WE'RE LEARNING A GREAT DEAL ABOUT GENETICS AND ~~CELL~~ CELLULAR STRUCTURE AND WE'RE LEARNING MORE AND MORE WHAT IT IS THAT MOTIVATES PEOPLE AND ALL OF THIS IS DESIGNED TO BRING ABOUT WHAT YOU AND I WANT. A WORLD IN ~~IN~~ WHICH THERE CAN BE PEACE AND TRANQUILITY AND A WORLD IN WHICH THERE CAN BE AN ENRICHMENT OF HUMAN LIFE.

THE FACE OF THE

I WOULD SAY TO THIS FINE STUDENT AUDIENCE THAT NO COUNTRY ON ~~THE EARTH~~ EARTH, PLACARDS NOTWITHSTANDING, HAS CONTRIBUTED AS MUCH TO THE PEACE OF THE WORLD AS THE UNITED STATE OF AMERICA. IT CONTRIBUTES IT YEAR IN AND YEAR OUT (applause).



YOU KNOW MY DEAR FRIENDS, I HAVE LEARNED A GREAT DEAL IN MY DAYS AND ONE OF THE THINGS THAT I HAVE LEARNED IS IF YOU WANT TO GET YOUR PICTURE IN THE PAPER, HOLD UP A SIGN. AND I HAVE ALSO LEARNED THAT IF YOU REALLY WANT TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO HUMANITY, STUDY THAT BOOK AND LEARN THAT GREAT KNOWLEDGE THAT IS TO BE FOUND IN YOUR LIBRARY. OPEN UP YOUR MINDS TO NEW THOUGHTS. USE A UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE EDUCATION FOR DIALOGUE OR DISCUSSION. IT IS NOT IMPORTANT TO WIN DEBATES. WHAT IS MORE IMPORTANT IS TO SEEK TRUTH AND AS YOU SEEK IT YOU WILL FORGET THAT EACH DAY YOU HAVE TO HAVE ONE POINT ON YOUR SIDE OR ONE ON THE OTHER.

NOW MAY I TAKE JUST A MOMENT TO DISCUSS AN ISSUE THAT SEEMS TO BE UPPERMOST IN THE MINDS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND SEEMS TO BE GETTING A GOOD DEAL OF ATTENTION FROM SOME OF OUR VERY FINE YOUNG PEOPLE.

I HAVE BEEN A LIBERAL, POLITICAL LIBERAL ALL OF MY LIFE. AND I CONTINUE TO BE ONE. BY THAT I MEAN MY INTEREST IN THE EDUCATION, THE HEALTH, THE ADVANCEMENT OF HUMAN KIND, THE LIBERATION OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT, THE EXTENSION OF HUMAN OPPORTUNITY, AND MAY I JUST SAY THAT WE NEED YOUNG PEOPLE IN THIS EFFORT. WE NEED YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY WHO HAVE A SOCIAL CONSCIENCE AS THEY'RE DEMONSTRATING HERE TO GO INTO THE SLUMS OF AMERICAN CITIES AND HELP DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN LIVE A GOOD LIFE. WE NEED YOU WITH A COLLEGE EDUCATION TO TAKE A CHILD BY THE HAND AND WALK INTO WHAT WAS ONCE A SEGREGATED SCHOOL AND HELP THAT CHILD LEARN HOW TO LIVE IN THAT SCHOOL AND RECEIVE AN EDUCATION. WE NEED YOU AS TUTORS. WE NEED YOU IN WHAT WE CALL VISTA, VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA IN SERVICE TO AMERICA, TO HELP PEOPLE IN THE POVERTY STRICKEN AREAS OF OUR COUNTRY, ON THE INDIAN RESERVATIONS, IN THE SLUMS, IN THE BACK COUNTRY OF AMERICA, WHERE PEOPLE AS YET HAVE NOT ENJOYED THE PRIVILEGES OF ALL THAT THIS SOCIETY HAS TO OFFER.

THE REAL TEST OF A CONSCIENCE IS NOT TO PARADE. THE REAL TEST OF CONSCIENCE IS TO PARTICIPATE IN RECTIFYING OLD WRONGS AND INJUSTICES. THE REAL TEST OF YOUR HUMANITARIANISM IS NOT TO SAY BY CARD THAT YOU WANT PEACE IN VIET NAM BUT THE REAL TEST OF A CONSCIENCE IS TO HELP US GET PEACE IN THE SLUMS AND THE GHETTOS OF OUR CITIES SO THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE CAN ALL ENJOY THE BLESSINGS OF LIFE SUCH AS YOU ARE ENJOYING. EVERYBODY WANTS PEACE, EXCEPT THOSE WHO ARE THE TOTALITARIANS.

THAT HAVE USED WAR AS AN INSTRUMENT OF PUBLIC POLICY. THIS NATION WANT PEACE AND I SAY TO MY YOUNG FRIENDS THAT IT IS THE FIRST TIME I HAVE TALKED TO YOUNG FRIENDS LIKE THIS. WHEN I SEE THAT SIGN THAT SAYS "END THE WAR IN VIET NAM," THAT IS A DAILY PRAYER OF YOUR VICE PRESIDENT AND THAT IS THE DAILY PRAYER OF YOUR PRESIDENT AND AMBASSADOR GOLDBERG OFFERED A FORMULA YESTERDAY IN THE UNITED NATIONS FOR ENDING THE WAR IN VIET NAM.

WE ARE PREPARED DEAR YOUNG FRIEND, AND YOU'RE A GOOD MAN TO SIT DOWN ANYPLACE ANYWHERE AT ANY TIME UNDER ANY AUSPICES ANYWHERE IN THIS WORLD TO NEGOTIATE A JUST AND HONORABLE PEACE IN VIET NAM. WHAT YOU OUGHT TO BE DOING IS TO ATTACHING THE CONSCIENCE OF THE WORLD TO ASK HO CHI MINH AND MR. MAO TSE TUNG TO NEGOTIATE A JUST AND ENDURING PEACE THAT THIS BELOVED AMERICA WANTS AND THAT OTHER NATIONS WANT.

BE PROUD OF YOUR COUNTRY. THE NATION OF THE PEACE CORPS. THE NATION OF THE NUCLEAR TEST BAN. THE NATION OF THE MARSHALL PLAN. THE NATION THAT HAS GIVEN 150 BILLION DOLLARS IN GRANTS AND AIDS. THE NATION THAT TODAY HAS THOUSANDS OF YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN OVERSEAS AS CIVILIANS, TEACHING, EDUCATING AND HEALING. BE PROUD OF OF THE UNITED STATES WHO HAS GIVEN MORE TO MORE PEOPLE IN A SHORTER PERIOD OF TIME THAN ANY NATION ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH (Applaud).

AND I SAY TO THIS AUDIENCE, THAT NO NATION CAN ~~FINISH~~ EVEN COME CLOSE TO THE CONTRIBUTION THAT WE HAVE MADE. YOUR AMERICA HAS GONE BEFORE THE UNITED NATIONS AS A MEMBER OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS, A CHARTERED MEMBER, ~~OFFICE~~ PLEADING THE CAUSE FOR PEACE, AND THIS NATION IS PREPARED TO WALK THE EXTRA MILE BUT THERE CAN BE NO PEACE UNLESS THERE ARE THOSE THAT ARE WILLING TO SIT DOWN AND NEGOTIATE. THE ROADBLOCK TO PEACE IS NOT IN WASHINGTON. THE ROADBLOCK TO PEACE IS NOT IN YOUR CONGRESS. THE ROADBLOCK TO PEACE IS NOT IN THE AMERICAN PUBLIC. AND YOU YOUNG PEOPLE KNOW WHERE IT IS. IT IS ~~HANOI~~ HANOI. IT IS IN PEKING AND IT IS IN THE MINDS OF THOSE WHO HAVE MADE WAR AN INSTRUMENT OF INTERNATIONAL



OF INTERNATIONAL POLICY AND YOU STUDENTS IN A GREAT UNIVERSITY OUGHT TO BE PUTTING UP SIGNS SAYING THAT AMERICAN IS WILLING TO WALK THAT EXTRA MILE FOR PEACE AND WE ASK THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD TO JOIN US IN THAT WALK BECAUSE THIS IS A PEACEFUL NATION AND THIS STUDENT BODY KNOWS IT, DON'T YOU? (Applause)

SO LET ME JUST SAY KINDLY THAT WE SUPPORT THE GENEVA COURTS YOUNG MAN AND ARE PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE UNDER THOSE TERMS. THE MAN THAT'S TALKING TO YOU SAT WITH MR. KOSYGIN FOR FOUR HOURS AND ASKED HIM TO NEGOTIATE THOSE TERMS. WE SUPPORT THE END OF THE WAR IN VIET NAM. THE MAN THAT'S TALKING TO YOU WENT TO THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA AND ASKED HIM TO HELP US NEGOTIATE THE END OF THAT WAR IN VIET NAM, TO SIT WITH THE COMBATANTS, AND WHAT DID HE TELL ME? THEY WANT NO END OF THE WAR, MR. VICE PRESIDENT. THERE IS NO ROOM FOR PEACE IN THEIR MINDS AT THIS TIME. END AGGRESSION IN VIET NAM. I'LL SAY END IT. IT JUST SO HAPPENS THAT THE FORCES OF THE NORTH COME TO THE SOUTH AND HAVE BEEN RAPING IF YOU PLEASE SOUTH VIET NAM AS THE SIGN SAYS, NOT YOUR BELOVED AMERICA, YOUNG MAN, BUT OUTSIDE FORCES.

DON'T MISUNDERSTAND ME. YOU HAVE YOUR POINT OF VIEWS, YOUR RIGHT TO THAT POINT OF VIEW. BUT SOMEWHERE IT IS WRITTEN IN TEXT AND IN SCRIPTURE "SEEK YE THE TRUTH" AND IF YOU SEEK THE TRUTH, YOU WILL BE CARRYING OTHER BANNERS. YOU WILL BE ASKING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO LEAD A WAR ON WORLD POVERTY. YOU WILL BE ASKING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO DO MORE AS I ASKED THEM HERE TODAY IN THE UNITED FUND TO HELP THE SICK, HEAL THE SICK, TEACH THE ILLITERATE, TO HELP THE POOR TO HELP THEMSELVES AND THAT'S WHAT AMERICAN YOUTH NEEDS. THAT'S WHAT WE NEED ~~TEXT~~ <sup>OF YOU</sup>. WE CALL UPON AMERICAN YOUTH FOR YOUR CONSCIENCE, FOR YOUR IDEALISM. WE CALL UPON YOU FOR YOUR BRILLIANT MINDS TO PROMOTE THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN PEOPLES. WE ASK YOU TO HELP US IN THE PROCESS OF CONCILIATION BETWEEN IDEOLOGIES, NOT TO TRY TO BREAK THIS WORLD APART, BUT TO BRING IT TOGETHER.

AND I CALL UPON THE STUDENTS OF THIS GREAT COLLEGE, MUHLENBERG COLLEGE, BACKED BY A GREAT CHURCH, LIVING IN A GREAT FAITH, TO REMEMBER THAT THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IS A NATION THAT HAS BY ITS HISTORY RESISTED AGGRESSION, WORKED FOR PEACE AND IS PREPARED AS OF THIS HOUR TO LEAD THIS WORLD IN A GREAT AND MIGHTY MOVEMENT

TO RIGHT OLD WRONGS, TO CORRECT OLD INJUSTICES, ~~AND~~ TO SHARE OF OUR BOUNTY  
ALL  
AND OUR WEALTH/THROUGHOUT THE WORLD ~~AN~~ BUILDING A BETTER SOCIETY IN EVERY  
CORNER OF THE ~~WORLD~~. GLOBE.

THANK YOU VERY, VERY MUCH.



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