

GREETINGS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

UNITED NATIONS DAY CONCERT

CONSTITUTION HALL

WASHINGTON, D. C.

OCTOBER 24, 1966

*Bob Benjamin  
Mary*

*Dr Robert Page  
Temple University  
choir*

It is my honor to bring you the greetings of President Johnson, and of Secretary Rusk, both of whom are in Manila this evening, in the quest for peace.

↳ We are deeply indebted to the three distinguished artists -- Mr. Isaac Stern, Mr. Eugene Istomin and Mr.

Leonard Rose -- who rearranged their schedules at very short notice so that they could be with us.

↳ Last month I had the honor to ~~represent my country~~ *Join Ambassadors* at the convening of the 21st General Assembly.

↳ Almost 80 foreign ministers are attending this present meeting of the General Assembly -- which is an indication of the importance the nations of the world today attach to the United Nations.

United Nations as a vehicle for ~~multilateral~~ discussion, private consultations, and quiet diplomacy.

∠ If we think back to the League of Nations we remember that, after 21 years, no foreign ministers were flocking to its meetings or talking in its corridors.

∠ They were busy preparing defense or battle plans, ~~for~~ *For* after 21 years the League of Nations was dead and Hitler was unleashing war.

∠ I believe that our confidence in the United Nations is not misplaced. Since I spoke to you at this occasion a year ago we have seen a number of accomplishments.

-- The dangerous outbreak of fighting between India and Pakistan was halted and agreement subsequently reached for the withdrawal of forces called for in the Security Council.

-- UN peacekeeping missions continue to help prevent renewed flare-up of old hostilities in such world trouble spots as Cyprus and along the Arab-Israeli borders.

-- The General Assembly approved a convention against all forms of racial discrimination, which Ambassador Goldberg signed recently on behalf of the United States.

-- Negotiations for a treaty governing the exploration and use of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, are moving ahead, and we hope the few remaining difficulties can be resolved so that early agreement can be achieved.

-- We have taken an active lead at the United Nations in suggesting steps which we hope help the people of South West Africa move towards self-determination enshrined in the UN Charter.

---

So the United Nations is making progress.

If it is still not as strong as we would like it to be,

LA It has demonstrated ~~nevertheless~~ that it is a useful and ~~creative~~ and growing force for world peace and cooperation.

This year UN Day is dedicated to the cause of refugees.

The office of the High Commissioner for Refugees, since it was founded 15 years ago, has helped thousands of people to start life over again. We in the United States are grateful to the High Commissioner's office for its work to insure generous policies of asylum and to prevent the forcible return of refugees to places where their life or freedom would be threatened.

It is time to let our distinguished artists take over.

The music we hear tonight is man made; its soul and beauty are expressions of the men who composed and play it. The United Nations, too, is a man-made institution and only as good as men are willing to make it.

Your presence here and your support, for which I thank you, will help make the United Nations a more effective instrument for peace.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS FOR UN DAY CONCERT

CONSTITUTION HALL

OCTOBER 24, 1966

It is a great pleasure to greet you tonight and to extend a particular welcome to the distinguished ambassadors and representatives of foreign governments who are with us.

Secretary Rusk, who invited you here tonight, joins me from Manila in greeting you and regrets he cannot be with us.

This annual musical tribute to the United Nations is very special this year. We are deeply indebted to the three distinguished artists featured here tonight -- Mr. Isaac Stern, Mr. Eugene Istomin and Mr. Leonard Rose. They have graciously offered to be with us this evening after hearing that the Philadelphia Orchestra could not be present because of the strike. You have our deepest gratitude for rearranging your own schedules so that you could be with us tonight.



Our pleasure in seeing all of you here tonight is even greater because your presence here tonight aids the United Nations Association of America and the fine work it is doing in mobilizing the support of Americans for the United Nations.

Last month, along with Secretary Rusk and Ambassador Goldberg, I had the honor to represent the United States at the convening of the 21st General Assembly. I was able to greet and talk with a number of the foreign ministers and delegates attending. Almost eighty foreign ministers are attending this meeting of the General Assembly which is an indication of the tremendous importance the nations of the world attach to the United Nations as a vehicle for multilateral discussion, private consultations, and quiet diplomacy.

If we think back to the League of Nations we remember that after 21 years no foreign ministers were flocking to its meetings or talking in its corridors. They were busy preparing defense or battle plans, for after 21 years the League of Nations was dead and Hitler was unleashing the bloodiest war that mankind has known.

I was privileged to be here last year. Since then the United Nations has added to the outstanding achievements already on its record:

-- The dangerous outbreak of fighting between India and Pakistan was halted and agreement was subsequently reached for the withdrawal of forces called for in the Security Council.

-- UN peacekeeping missions continue to help prevent renewed flare-up of old hostilities in such world trouble spots as Cyprus and along the Arab-Israeli borders.

-- The General Assembly approved a convention against all forms of racial discrimination, which Ambassador Goldberg signed recently on behalf of the United States.

-- Negotiations for a treaty governing the exploration and use of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, are moving ahead, and we hope the few remaining difficulties can be resolved so that early agreement can be achieved.

-- We have taken an active lead at the United Nations in suggesting steps which we hope help the people of South West Africa move towards self-determination enshrined in the UN Charter.

So the United Nations is making progress. If it is not as strong as we would like it to be, it has demonstrated nonetheless that it is a useful and creative force on the world scene.



This year UN Day is dedicated to the cause of refugees.

The office of the High Commissioner for Refugees since it was founded 15 years ago has helped thousands upon thousands of people begin new lives in strange surroundings. We in the United States are grateful to the High Commissioner's office for its work to insure generous policies of asylum and to prevent the forcible return of refugees to places where their life or freedom would be threatened.

It is time to let our distinguished artists take over. The instruments they play are much more eloquent than the voice of the Vice President.

The music we hear tonight is man made; its soul and beauty are expressions of the men who composed and play it. The United Nations, too, is a man made institution and only as good as men are willing to make it. Your presence here and your support, for

for which I thank you, will help make the UN a more effective instrument for peace.

We need it more than ever, for in the words of President Johnson:

"More than ever we support the United Nations as the best instrument yet devised to promote the peace of the world and to promote the well-being of mankind"

#####



# 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](http://www.mnhs.org)