FOR RELEASE: TUESDAY AM's November 1, 1966

REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY O'CONNOR - SAMUELS - SEDITA - LEVITT PRE-VICTORY DINNER, AMERICANA HOTEL NEW YORK, NEW YORK OCTOBER 31, 1966

Tonight is a Republican holiday: Tonight is Halloween.

All across our country the Republican faithful are huddled together to hear the Barry Goldwaters and the Richard Nixons conjure up all the gremlins . . . all the demons . . . all the scare stories they use to frighten God-fearing citizens under their beds.

They're huddled together, in city, town and hamlet across this land, to be where the reaction is.

They're huddled together, on this annual occasion, to repeat once more the solemn Republican statement of principle:

No No; Go Slow; Not Yet; Never Never

I say: Let them have their night. Let them have a good cry and enjoy themselves. Because our turn is coming.

Once week from tomorrow night is Democratic night: Next Tuesday night is election night.

One week from tomorrow night we'll have a celebration in New York.

We'll celebrate victory. We'll celebrate victory for Howard Samuels . . .victory for Frank Sedita . . .victory for Arthur Levitt . .victory for our Democratic Congressmen . . .victory for the Democratic ticket.

We'll celebrate victory -- victory for social progress and leadership and liberalism in the Empire State. We'll celebrate the victory of your next Governor: Frank O'Connor.

Last month I came to the Democratic convention in Buffalo to make a prediction.

I predicted that, before this campaign was over, the people of New York state would come to recognize in Frank O'Connor the qualities the people of this city have known and recognized for many years -- qualities of vision, of integrity, of compassion, of leadership.

And they have.

Tonight I'll make another prediction. I predict that -- despite the presence in this campaign of a spoiling candidate . . .despite the predictions by the smart money -- the people of New York will send Frank O'Connor to the statehouse in Albany.

And they will.

For the people of New York -- as the people of America -- want imagination and determination and commitment. They want action.

They want performance, not public relations.

They want performance, not promises.

They want performance, not pleas for patience.

Six years ago a great Democratic President promised to get this country moving again.

"Let us begin," was the challenge set forth by President John Fitzgerald Kennedy. And we did begin. We broke this country free from eight years of apathy and slumber . . .eight years of no no; go slow; not yet; never never . . .eight years of the bland leading the bland.

And when we lost our young President -- our President of hope and faith -- "Let us continue," was the charge to a grief-stricken nation by President Lyndon Baines Johnson. And we have continued.

In these three years we have made into reality the hopes and dreams of a generation.

"What became, Humphrey, of your liberal program?" they ask me. And I reply: We made it into law.

In these three years we have more than doubled our federal investments in education.

We have more than doubled our federal investments in medical care.

We have declared national war on poverty.
We have set right an unjust immigration policy.
We have determined to make our cities safe and livable.
We have brought unprecedented economic growth and prosperity to our people.

And we have, without equivocation, made it our national business that every American -- every American, no matter what his religion, his last name, or the color of his skin, shall have an open and equal place in our society.

We have, at home and in the world, faced up to responsibility.

We have not practiced isolation in the world. We have not practiced isolation in America. We have not talked in the bland vernacular of general good will and then proceeded with programs and policies to benefit a chosen few.

We have placed our faith . . . our commitment . . . our hearts with the course of liberalism.

We have taken our stand with the people -- with the Negro teenager reaching forward to break free of the ghetto . . . with the Puerto Rican mother struggling to keep her family together . . .with the enduring farmer trying to earn a decent return for his back-breaking work . . .with the forgotten and by-passed people and towns hidden in the mildewing hollows of Appalachia . .with the still-innocent child looking out from his slum window toward the stars . . with Americans, wherever they are, living in the midst of affluence, yet being ground down beneath signs that read "White Only" . . .beneath oppressions and injustices that have no place in America.

We have taken our stand with old people living out their lives in empty, lonely rooms . . .with the talented, creative child needing only the spark of stimulus to give him brilliance. . . with human beings living, and paying exorbitant rents, in ratinfested, filthy tenements which lie in the shadow of glittering skyscrapers . . .with honest citizens dwelling each day with the threat of crime and violence.

We are determined to tear down the tattered tarpaper that separates our growing, prosperous America from the "other America" -- the America of one-sixth of our citizens who are citizens only in name.

And we shall do it. Make no mistake about it. We shall do it.

And when we're done we shall have an America that matches its creed with deed . . . an America where every single child can look ahead to a productive life of opportunity and open doors.

This is the commitment President John Kennedy made to our people. This is the commitment President Lyndon Johnson is carrying out. This is the commitment I pledge to you shall be carried forth.

Where stands New York? Where stands the Empire State -- traditionally in America the state of innovation, of creativity, of social experiment, vitality and growth?

Where stands New York -- the state of Al Smith and Herbert Lehman, of Averell Harriman and Franklin Delano Roosevelt?

Despite our strong new federal programs, the Empire State is the state where economic growth lags behind the national average.

New York is the state where industrial output and personal income have risen at a slower rate than in the rest of our nation.

Yours is the state where unemployment remains above the national average.

This is the state where rivers and lakes are disgracefully polluted . . .where green space is well on the way to being bulldozed, paved over, and billboarded from Niagara Falls to Montauk.

This is the state where 27 hundred family farms closed down last year.

The Empire State is the state which needs today a Governor to bring it back to its position of national leadership.

The Empire State needs the courage and integrity of the man who voted in the legislature for reapportionment when it was far from an easy position to take.

The Empire State needs the humanity and honesty of the man who went -- unannounced and unpublicized -- to Selma, Alabama to march in Mankind's cause.

The Empire State needs the tenacity of the man who has fought through his campaign in the face of an announced expenditure of 4.3 million dollars by the opposition party.

The Empire State needs a Democratic Governor with qualities of vigor and determination to match those of your United States Senator, and my friend, Robert Kennedy.

The time is short. And we have many rounds to make.

I urge each one of you who is here tonight to give the fullness of your time and energy in these next seven days.

I urge every citizen of New York -- every citizen who believes in the principles of American liberalism . . .in the principles of the New Deal, the Fair Deal, the New Frontier, the Great Society . . .every citizen who wants his vote to count for social justice and social progress -- to consider the stakes next Tuesday.

There are only two choices facing the people of New York next Tuesday.

One choice is for the continuation of Republican government in Albany.

The other choice is Frank O'Connor.

Frank O'Connor is the good man . . . the able man . . . the man of heart who needs your help.

Frank O'Connor is the man, who with that help, will be the next Governor of the State of New York.

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So-onto Victory -!

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