Tom Ragner - all amy rue Jother T. **OPENING REMARKS** VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY STUDENT DISCUSSION PANEL · Ben NOTRE DAME UNIVERSITY **JANUARY 16, 1967** Una I am delighted to be at Notre Dame today - not only because I've wanted to respond to your invitations, but also because Notre Dame took on a special significance for me this fall. That was because, as a Number Two man myself was delighted to see your Number Two man, Coley O'Brien step into the breech so well against Michigan State and Southern California. I hope Coley knows that he struck a blow for all Number Twos with what he did. So I'm for Notre Dame. Today I hope we can talk not only about the things we face in our country and in the world today, but what we will face in the future. It has slipped by without much notice, but we have

just entered the final third of the 20th century.

The overall changes the first two-thirds of this century have brought to our public and private lives have been greater than those in the several centuries preceding. And, if we talk about technological change alone, we see more new developments than in the five thousand years preceding.

L believe the next 33 years will make the last 66 seem like a period of stability and calm.

And those will be the years in which you will be in charge.

What does lie ahead in these years? -- aside from the probability that, in the year 2000, the Fighting Irish will still be Number One in football.

 $\chi$  In great measure, the world of the year 2000 already exists in the minds of our scientists and technologists.

For example, as Chairman of the National Space Council I can foresee the development of earth-orbiting stations, manned and supplied by regular ferry services... the establishment of a base for exploration on the moon... and the launching of probes



Communication Satellits -3-

into every part of our solar system.-

As chairman of the new Marine Sciences Council, I am equally sure that we will develop man's capability to live on the ocean floor and mine it for valuable minerals... and that we will draw upon desalinated seawater to make the deserts blossom.

And there's much more. Scientists foresee the virtual elimination of viral and bacterial diseases ... commercial transport by ballistic missile... and the use of robots for everyday work and high-IQ computers for more sophisticated tasks.

 $\chi$  Yes, it will be a world of scientific and technological miracles. But will it be a <u>human</u> world, a world more fit for people to live in?

Will it be a world of peace?

And this America of ours: Will it be a nation free of poverty, free of racial and religious discrimination?

Will its "alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears?"

L I believe that we can make that kind of America and that kind of world.

Ke live, as the President reminded us in his State of the Union message last week, in a time of transition.

The old world of narrow nationalism is dying, and the new world of international cooperation is struggling to be born.

For the first time in human history, man has the means - <u>if</u> he has the will - to banish poverty, hunger, and needless disease from the face of the earth.

Lise time of testing, but it is also a time of infinite promise. And we are already hard at work shaping the future.

Brick by brick, we have been building peace ... through the United Nations... through the test ban treaty under President Kennedy ... through agreement on the peaceful use of outer space under President Johnson... and in many other ways.

And, particularly in recent years, we have been laying a solid foundation for a better America. We have taken up arms against poverty, against discrimination, against every form of ugliness and injustice in our cities and our countryside.

2 There will be difficulties, there will be disappointments ... and, believe me, there will be plenty of hard and challenging work for <u>you</u> to do. 2 But I am an incurable optimist... and the more I see of this generation of young people, the greater the confidence I have in the future.

I've done enough talking. I just wanted to get things underway. Now I'd like to hear from you.

####

## 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.

