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ADDRESS BY THE HONORABLE HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AT THE CENTENNIAL CONVENTION OF THE MINNESOTA
NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION, ST. PAUL HILTON HOTEL,
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA, ON MARCH 4, 1967.

PRESIDENT ADAMS: Ladies and gentlemen, it is our privilege and pleasure at this time to introduce a man who is a very familiar figure to all of the Minnesota Press as well as to the rest of the citizens of our State.

As Mayor of Minneapolis, he attended a number of sessions of what was then the Minnesota Editorial Association. He was a familiar figure as the Senior Senator from Minnesota at subsequent meetings of the Minnesota Newspaper Association. And now, we are pleased that at this Centennial Convention we are able to present to you the Vice President of the United States, The Honorable Hubert Humphrey.

(Standing Applause)

THE HONORABLE HUBERT H. HUMPHREY (Vice President of the United States of America): Thank you, Mr. Adams, for your gracious and generous introduction and the warmth of your reception here today. I just pulled some papers out of my pocket. These are sort of props. I haven't the slightest idea what I am going to talk to you about. I thought I had better take a look and see what was in there. One is a bill from Daytons, but I won't talk to you about that.

When I first heard from your Manager, Bob Shaw, about the possibilities of coming here, and he suggested last evening, I wanted very much to accept that invitation, but we had a rather busy day yesterday and a very busy evening. Therefore, we had already committed ourselves to some other

1 engagements and simply couldn't get away. So I started
2 bargaining with him through one of my office associates to
3 see if we couldn't come in some time today. I was told,
4 of course, that you have Mr. Norman Isaacs as your luncheon
5 speaker and he is, without a doubt, one of the outstanding
6 men in the field of journalism in our nation. No man who
7 is Vice President wants to compete with that. That is just
8 too much. So I just suggested maybe in between coffee
9 breaks they might let Muriel and I come by so we might
10 shake hands and say "Hello."

11 We were greeted today by Mr. and Mrs. Mills. We are
12 so pleased to see them once again. I haven't been at
13 Cambridge for a long time and I guess they are just as
14 happy about it -- but I want Mr. and Mrs. Mills to know
15 that we surely are very appreciative of their courtesy and
16 extending the hand of welcome to us. When you get back to
17 Cambridge and you find a soul here and there that is willing
18 to remember my name, extend a greeting, if you will.

19 What impressed me particularly was the number of
20 vice presidents that this organization has. The other day
21 I was privileged to present a certificate to the twenty-fifth
22 millionth worker that had participated in a collective
23 bargaining election by the National Labor Relations Board.
24 I know a good deal about the National Labor Relations Act,
25 or at least I thought I did. One thing that I knew about it

1 is that you can always come to them with a charge of unfair
2 labor practices. When I go out and address organizations
3 such as yours, I generally find they have anywhere from
4 two to 20 vice presidents. You seldom find any organization
5 that is worth anything today which has one vice president.
6 I was speaking to the International Ladies' Garments Workers
7 Union up in New York and their President said they have
8 twenty-one vice presidents. I asked if he didn't think that
9 was "featherbedding" and he said, "No, it is just a good way
10 to take care of those that think they ought to be President."

11 (Applause)

12 The purpose of my observation about the three vice
13 presidents that you have (and of course the splendid Board
14 of Directors) is that quite obviously, the Minnesota Newspaper
15 Association carries a tremendous responsibility and has all
16 sorts of things it must do which require the kind of
17 administrative, executive talent and association.

18 I might also observe, President Adams, that you maybe
19 have a more difficult time than President Johnson. President
20 Johnson sometimes feels that one vice president is too much.
21 So if you start to feel that three is too much, you will have
22 a kindred soul in the President of the United States.

23 (And I am speaking only symbolically here. I know nothing
24 about your politics.)

25 I have looked over your program and I have noticed that

1 you have had some imports in from Washington. You have been
2 privileged to hear one of the outstanding editors of the
3 nation and, of course, one that was here in the City of
4 St. Paul for a considerable period of time, J. Russell Wiggins.
5 He is a gentleman that we hold in high esteem and respect. I
6 trust that Russ was able to get here yesterday. You have had
7 a very distinguished servant of the State of Minnesota, one
8 that I had a wrestling match with here a few years back, but
9 we came out good friends. He kept his job and I kept mine,
10 and I think that is the way it ought to be. I notice that
11 you had my old friend Val Bjornson speak to you. And yesterday,
12 if my memory serves me correctly, you had our Junior Senator,
13 Walter "Fritz" Mondale speak to you. When I came in here I
14 see you have the best of all worlds because you had the
15 Senior Senator, Senator McCarthy, out here visiting and talking
16 with you individually. He is persuasive collectively or
17 individually, so beware! You have had a very fine program
18 and I doubt that there is a thing I can add to it -- but
19 since I am standing on my feet I thought I would just take a
20 few moments of your time.

21 Many things have been said about the Office of Vice
22 President. I thought today I would just visit with you
23 briefly about it. I know there are questions on your mind
24 about the economy, about the C.I.A., about Viet Nam, and of
25 course all of those matters are less important than the things

1 I am about ready to talk to you about -- I let Muriel handle
2 those subjects. But since you do have a rich program today
3 and a big program, there is no desire on my part to take over
4 for Mr. Isaacs, and I thought I would just talk to you a
5 little bit about the vice presidency.

6 The first thing I should note to you about it is that
7 most everybody says it isn't anything really too much that
8 you ought to fight about or worry about. I tend to agree
9 with that. That is why I have gone to my friends in the
10 Republican Party that gathered in Washington recently and
11 said that because they already had signs of tension and
12 dissent and splitting amongst their ranks with Romney and
13 Reagan and Nixon and Percy and Goldwater and all of them,
14 I said, "Since you want to heal these wounds, I don't see
15 any reason in the world why you should fight over who is
16 going to be Vice President." I have decided that since
17 America needs something along the lines of continuity --
18 and since there ought to be something that will unite us
19 (obviously it won't be the candidates for President that
20 will unite us or even the prospective candidates in either
21 Party) I have decided to offer myself on either ticket for
22 re-election. (Applause)

23 As we say, in Washington, this is "under study," which
24 obviously means there will be no action. In case you get a
25 letter from Washington which says, "This is under study" you will

1 now know what it means.

2 I have truly had a wonderful experience in this office.
3 I served for sixteen years as one of your two Senators and
4 those were years that I will never forget -- and years that
5 some of you won't either. They were years of valuable
6 experience in government. The role of a United States Senator
7 is a very unique role. I don't suppose there is any finer
8 office where you can give to the people than that office.
9 The United States Senator represents the Federal System. He
10 is the representative of the state as well as the nation. He
11 is independent to a very large degree, controlled only by
12 his own conscience and his own commitments. He has, of course,
13 a degree of party loyalty, but you will find I am sure that
14 as you examine the votes, most of those men that really have
15 a good record, one that you can be proud of in each party
16 or either party, you will find there is a great deal of
17 what we call "voting together" or "switch voting" -- picking
18 and choosing. Most of the issues in the Congress are
19 settled by unanimous votes. Only a limited number of issues
20 are settled by what we call "split votes" or "highly partisan
21 votes." Even when they are partisan, there are breaks within
22 the party ranks.

23 This is the unique quality of our system. We don't demand
24 rigid discipline of our parliament or our Congress, but what we
25 should demand, however, is genuine application to the duties

1 of office and high performance in that office -- unstinting,
2 unselfish service to the people that send you there. Party
3 regularity, yes, is something to be desired. Party discipline
4 is something we do not have. Really, concentrating on the
5 issues and the tasks of the day and the years ahead is what
6 you can do when you are in the Congress of the United States.
7 I have said many times that I think a good Senator (and
8 fortunately we have good Senators) is one who is not thinking
9 only of the year 1967, but he is really thinking of the years
10 five, ten years ahead. Because most every proposal that
11 becomes public law and public policy requires an incubation
12 period. It requires a period of public relations, so to
13 speak, a period of the planting of the seed, of the turning
14 of the soil, of the nourishment of the plant in the hope
15 that it will flower. That is why I think we need men in
16 the Congress of the United States that do have vision.

17 Your Executive Branch of Government, likewise, needs
18 to have that quality of vision. Those who are the administra-
19 tors of Government are required to do the day-to-day chores,
20 the day-to-day administrative duties, and those are tremendous
21 in number and many of them are very burdensome in terms of
22 their importance.

23 I am no longer Senator and I have been very well aware
24 of it for a long time. Some of my friends are not -- but
25 people have said, "I think the Vice President, or Hubert

1 Humphrey has changed." I hope so, for the good, but I would
2 say what is more important is that the job has changed and
3 people need to know about the tasks for the job.

4 A man takes on an assignment, whatever it may be, and
5 he should discipline himself to that assignment and to its
6 qualifications and its characteristics. There is only one
7 President of the United States at a time. It is very hard
8 for most people to remember that, but that is a fact -- that is,
9 one elected President at a time. Of all the people who should
10 not try to be President, is the Vice President, because you
11 cannot have two voices at the top level of this Government.
12 There are enough voices anyway in a free society to disconcert
13 any of us. But that is one of the prices of freedom, and a
14 very worthwhile price, I might add. At the top levels of
15 government there must be one voice, and that is why there
16 is what we call executive leadership; there is what we call
17 the President's Program, and this is why we have always
18 said that in matters particularly of national security and
19 foreign policy, the President must speak for the nation.
20 At least he must speak for the Government. This doesn't
21 deny others the right to speak their mind. It doesn't deny
22 others the right of dissent, which is a precious right, nor
23 does it deny others the right to advance proposals and
24 suggestions. To the contrary, those who are in the
25 Legislative Branch and those who are in the private arena, and

1 those who are in the fields of communication and education,
2 I think have a definite responsibility to offer other
3 suggestions. I don't believe any one person or group has
4 a monopoly on wisdom or virtue. I happen to believe that
5 the cross-fire of ideas is what makes possible a good idea.
6 I happen to believe that protest and dissent that are within
7 the fields of law and order, not violence but law and order,
8 have a legitimate place and indeed a much-needed place in
9 a democracy. It is from this ferment of ideas that we really
10 get the forward movement that has made this country what it is.

11 I mentioned that I want to tell you a little about
12 the Vice Presidency. The Vice President is a member of the
13 President's Cabinet. He is not the Cabinet, nor is he
14 Secretary of State or Secretary of Defense. He is one of
15 the President's advisors. He was not a member of the Cabinet
16 until about 20 years ago. Sometimes when I have been before
17 certain groups I have listed out some of these great, illustrious
18 characters that have been in the Vice Presidency -- names that
19 you or no-one else has ever heard of. But I think it is fair
20 to say that since the time of the 30's, this office has taken
21 on increasing importance or increasing responsibility by the
22 very nature of things -- and it should. After all, you pay
23 the bill. After all, the office is provided for by the
24 Constitution. The Constitution only lays down two
25 requirements: The Vice President shall be the Presiding Officer

1 of the Senate, and in case of a tie he may -- he is not
2 required -- he may break the tie by his vote. Other than that,
3 except to stand in the curtains and on the sidelines, so to
4 speak, waiting in case he is needed, the Vice President has
5 no Constitutional responsibility. This is a very unique
6 office in the field of government. No other country has an
7 office quite like this -- because for literally generations,
8 unless a President was the victim of assassination or death,
9 the office was of little or no consequence. It remained
10 static and idle and frequently the Vice President didn't
11 even live in Washington, nor did he attend any of the
12 meetings of the Cabinet, nor was he seen for months on end
13 by the President of the United States. I have been reading
14 the history of this office and it is a fascinating one:
15 The people who served in it, why they served in it, and
16 what, if anything, they did in it, and what they did once
17 they had responsibility.

18 The office is important enough, in the way American people
19 have treated their Presidents, so people ought to be a little
20 concerned about who is in it -- because no country on the
21 face of the earth has had a greater record of violence toward
22 its Chief of State, than the United States. This is a sad
23 thing to say, but we have had a record of attacks, of violence,
24 of assassination, that is really terrifying. Therefore, I
25 think it has become ever more important that those persons that

1 occupy this office of Vice President, know what goes on in
2 government. In these few moments that I have, I would just
3 like to tell you, this is what I try to do.

4 I am not a policymaker of the Government, even though
5 I am privileged to advise and counsel on policy. I am one
6 of the men that has an input into that policy, but I have
7 said a number of times, I would rather have ten minutes inside
8 the White House, talking to the heads of departments and the
9 President, and the leaders of the Congress who join with him,
10 than to have a week outside carrying a sign. Because I think
11 the inside work is that much more important. I think it is
12 very important for the Vice President of the United States to
13 know all that goes on in this world and every morning of my
14 life, to the best of my limited ability, I have somebody --
15 and not only somebody but sometimes several -- come by, spend
16 an hour, a half hour, an hour and one-half, to do what we
17 call the "briefing," all of the information that we can
18 gather around the world. This leads me to say this -- that
19 with all of the difficulties we have had in the Central
20 Intelligence Agency, it is needed, it is vital, this country
21 would be crippled without it, it is every bit as important
22 as any part of our Armed Services, if not more important,
23 because at least it affords us information that we gather
24 from many places in the world and from many sources so that
25 we are in a position to know what our adversaries are up to

1 and even what our friends are up to. Otherwise, we would be
2 like the blind leading the blind -- stumbling around on this
3 troubled continent.

4 The Vice President of the United States is also, by
5 Act of Congress, the Chairman of the Space Council. I wish
6 I had time to tell you what we do. I had a Space Meeting
7 yesterday. We are just completing the review of the entire
8 Apollo Program, the lunar program. We have been reviewing
9 the recent President's Science Advisory Report on "after the
10 man on the moon, then what?" We are answering questions that
11 come into your mind every day, "Is it all worth it?" As
12 Chairman of the Space Council, I have as my associates the
13 Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, the Director
14 of the National Aeronautics and Space Agency, the Director
15 of the United States Information Agency, the President's
16 Science Advisor, and the Chairman of the Atomic Energy
17 Commission. We coordinate the space program, defense and
18 civilian. We are responsible for international cooperation
19 in space, working with our friends in Western Europe, Japan,
20 India, and many other countries; setting up the tracking
21 stations so when we put a man in orbit we know a little bit
22 about what is happening. This is one of the most fascinating
23 programs I have ever been engaged in and it takes a lot of time.

24 Just this last summer Congress decided we should have
25 another program, called Oceanography, or Marine Sciences,

Engineering and Development, very important to the Great Lakes where we have the largest body of sweet water in the world. Oceanography is the study of the seas, the currents, the food of the seas, the minerals of the sea beds. Seventy-one (71) percent of the earth's surface is water and we know very little about it, except the surface. You will notice that every time the Congress gives me an assignment, these are by statutes. Both of these are by statute and relatively new -- Oceanography just within the last year and the other one within the last ten years. Both of them are enough work for any one man, either one of them. But whenever the Congress gives the Vice President an assignment, it is either out of this world or in the bottom of the ocean. I am not sure if I should read anything into that, but I do know that is a fact. I want to come back to Space and Oceanography but I just want to tell you two or three other things, and I want to conclude on the other.

My other assignments are to be Chairman of the Advisory Council on the Peace Corps. This is a fascinating one. I was the man that introduced the legislation for the Peace Corps and handled the bill which was passed in the Senate, held its hearings and advanced it early in 1958. It became law when Mr. Kennedy became President. I have the job of coordinating that program in an advisory capacity with many top people in America that serve on that Advisory Council,

1 working with the returnees who have completed their two years
2 of volunteer service, trying to interest other young people
3 to join the Peace Corps. It is a tremendous enterprise --
4 six years now, over 250,000 applicants and well over 10,000
5 that have served in over 50 countries. It is possibly the
6 most acceptable program that we have overseas and I think
7 does one of the finest jobs.

8 I have been given the opportunity to serve as the
9 Chairman of the Advisory Council of the Office of Economic
10 Opportunity. This, without a doubt, is one of the most
11 difficult assignments because we are working with people,
12 we are working in areas where there have been no solutions
13 in the past and very little progress.

14 I will only say this -- I know many of you have criticism
15 on what we call the "War on Poverty." There is a misconception
16 about it. I was just reading some reports this morning where
17 people say, "The trouble with the War on Poverty is that
18 the people who are supposed to be getting the money don't get
19 it." It isn't a program to give people a lot of money. That
20 is called "welfare" and I thought we had agreed some time ago
21 that we didn't want a welfare state in this country. I think
22 what America needs and wants is a state of opportunity. What
23 we are trying to do is to break the rolls of welfare, to break
24 out of it. We are trying to train people. I met yesterday
25 with Mr. Chad McClellan of Los Angeles, who had just come

1 come away from a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of all
2 of the Bay Area, Oakland, San Francisco, and all of that area,
3 where with 90 percent local funds, raised by local businessmen,
4 they are engaging in programs of training and orientation,
5 to rehabilitate, train and employ thousands of hard-core
6 unemployed people who walk the streets, engage in riots and
7 get into all kinds of trouble. We are not trying to see that
8 they get a Federal check. We are trying to see that they get
9 an education. We are trying to see that they get some training.
10 We contract out with business firms, large corporations, to
11 train them. I went into Chicago not long ago and went to what
12 we call the Urban Progress Center, where we are now dealing
13 with people who don't even know how to punch a time clock
14 when they come to a factory. They can neither read nor write.
15 They can't read a bus -- when I say they don't know how to
16 get on a bus, obviously they can get on them but don't know
17 where they are going because they can't read the signs on
18 the streets. They are Americans. They have lived here and
19 have lived here longer than most any people of your ancestors,
20 in this room. Most of them are negro Americans. Not all.
21 Some are white Americans from the Appalachia, the mountain
22 country and the hill country. We are teaching them and
23 thousands of them are being employed -- thousands of them.
24 In fact last year, over one million of them were employed
25 and they have added new income. I know some of you are aware

1 of what is being done here in some of the Twin City areas
2 but I just want to say this: I know we are not doing enough.
3 I know that people are impatient, and they ought to be -- and
4 I know what makes news -- mistakes. That is right -- it is
5 tragedy and mistakes. I just want to say that I don't think
6 there have been very many screaming headlines about the
7 thousands and thousands of people who never had a chance in
8 their lives, never knew what it was to ever have a job, never
9 had a pay check, never went to a factory. There has been
10 very little headline news about that, and that I can understand.

11 I saw an article in this morning's WASHINGTON POST -- I
12 am sorry we didn't bring it with us. Just two days ago there
13 was a big headline story in the WASHINGTON POST in Washington,
14 D.C., "Boston University Press Asks Impeachment of Johnson."
15 It is edited by a University newspaper, eight members of the
16 staff. This morning there was a petition presented to the
17 President, signed by 6,089 students supporting the President.
18 I want to be honest with you. It is on page 8, Section B,
19 and it is this big -- one column, about two inches. But the
20 charge of impeachment by eight people that maybe didn't know
21 what they were talking about but just decided to go on a kick,
22 that was big stuff. I don't think that is news any more than
23 some of the experience that I have had.

24 I went out to Stanford University. I had 2,000 people
25 in an auditorium that behaved beautifully, magnificently, a

1 credit to themselves, their families and their university.
2 I would say of that 2,000 about 500 openly disagreed with
3 most of what I said. They had an entirely different point
4 of view, which is their right. They even went so far as to
5 wear a white arm band to show their disagreement -- but they
6 were respectful. They were intelligent. They wanted dialogue.
7 They asked questions and they wanted to debate. I like people
8 like that. But they didn't even get the time of day, and
9 some young ruffian who wasn't even a student on the campus
10 (and by the way there were 12 leaders that caused the commotion
11 that you read about and of the 12, one was a student and
12 11 of them were just roaming the coast seeing what they could
13 do to stir up trouble -- not students) I don't think was
14 entitled to that much attention. I think the people who
15 were entitled to the attention were the fine young men who
16 sat there and asked the Vice President of the United States
17 questions, the likes of which I have never heard and hope
18 I don't have to answer again -- they were tough, they were
19 good and they made me squirm (and that was real news)!

(Applause)

21 I might add, since I am on that particular subject --
22 I hadn't intended to mention it but that is one of the
23 advantages of not having a written speech, you don't know
24 what you are about to say -- I happen to believe that there
25 has been a tendency to overplay the few that do not represent

1 very much except just themselves, rather than the many. I
2 will never forget when I was at Rutger's University, there
3 were 42 nations represented at their 300th anniversary.
4 There was the Chancellor of the University of Oxford, there
5 were 350 of the top scholars of the world and there were
6 brilliant presentations. It just so happened because I
7 suppose in this country they feel they need to have a public
8 official at these gatherings that I was also invited. I
9 addressed the group, received as did others, an Honorary
10 Degree. There were 14,000 people in this audience. It was
11 in pageant, beautiful, medeival European style with the flowing
12 robes. There were about 40 people that had advised all the
13 television and all the media that they were going to walk out.
14 They were a full block and one-half away from anything going
15 on, except somebody selling popcorn and hamburger down the
16 street -- that is a fact. They were way down a block, a block
17 and one-half. But when I read the Report of the 300th
18 Anniversary of Rutger's I read, "Forty Students Walk Out on
19 Vice President." The poor Chancellor from Oxford didn't even
20 get a line. The President of the University of Utrecht from
21 Holland, the founding university from Rutger's, they didn't
22 even know he was there; 350 of the greatest scientists and
23 scholars, 22 Nobel prize winners -- they didn't even know
24 they were present. This 40 decided they would be a little
25 embarrassing to somebody and walked out. As a matter of fact,

1 they made room for people we wanted in and it was nice they
2 did it.

3 I have had the privilege of making some speeches around
4 the country as Vice President.

5 One final thing, I work with the youth of America in
6 what we call Youth Council work. I want to ask and implore
7 every editor here today to bend your efforts this summer to
8 see to it that our unemployed youth, if any, have a job,
9 that young people have an opportunity for gainful work and
10 that they also have an opportunity for wholesome recreation.
11 Of course in the smaller communities the problems are not
12 nearly as severe. Since I am in the capital city of St. Paul
13 and I know the Mayor is deeply interested in these matters,
14 as are other officials, I hope we will not wait for trouble
15 before we act. I think it is most unfortunate that most of
16 the jobs seem to turn up after some of the wild men have
17 instigated trouble. Those jobs ought to be available before
18 the trouble comes, and it happens time after time.

19 I have worked with the mayors of all the cities in
20 America. The President has asked me to be the liaison between
21 the White House, the Executive Branch, and local government.
22 This past week Mrs. Humphrey and I were host and hostess to
23 all county officials that were in Washington on their National
24 Legislative Conference. Next week it is the National League
25 of Cities. We hold conferences throughout the United States and

1 the purpose is to acquaint local government officials with
2 what the Federal Government programs happen to be. With all
3 of the communication we have, we don't seem to be able to
4 communicate too well sometimes. I think this is one of the
5 real problems that the Federal Government faces today. The
6 programs oftentimes are too complex. They need simplification,
7 and it is the duty of some of us who are in these programs
8 to take them out and explain them to the people so if they
9 are desired and usable, they can be applied.

10 I said I wanted to leave you on the subject of the
11 two greatest interests of mine -- if not the two greatest, the
12 two heaviest responsibilities. That is Space and Oceanography,
13 and I want to tell you about them very quickly.

14 We spend billions of dollars on these programs and I
15 am asked, "Is it worth it?" My answer is, "Yes!" Today the
16 United States of America is the foremost industrial power
17 in the world. It is not only so because we have capital,
18 even though we have plenty of that -- never enough but quite
19 a lot more than others. The Prime Minister of Great Britain
20 sent me a letter just this past week as a result of a talk
21 I had made in New York to some industrialists on what is
22 called the "Technological Gap" between Western Europe and
23 the United States. We have always thought of the people in
24 Germany, Holland, the Lowlands, France, Italy, Great Britain,
25 as being highly, technically advanced. But the simple

1 truth is that they are falling far behind. Their competitive
2 position in the world is getting worse, as compared with the
3 United States, and there is a reason for it, and they are
4 concerned. The reason is that this country -- private industry
5 and government -- have plowed in every year approximately
6 25 billion dollars in research and development. Of that
7 amount about 16 billion dollars is scheduled funds --
8 atomic energy money, space money, defense money, National
9 Institute of Health, National Science Foundation. All of this
10 is what we call the investment money to increase the pool of
11 knowledge in technology from which we can draw. We are the
12 greatest nation on the earth when it comes to electronics and
13 the computers. The electronics and the computer is like the
14 heart and the brain. When a European speaks of himself, he
15 speaks that he has good limbs, good arms, good torso -- but
16 he says I have heart trouble, really no good electronics and
17 there is something wrong with my head because my computer
18 technology is not right. The first computer was built 17
19 years ago and it is a museum piece in the Smithsonian Institute,
20 to show you the rapidity of change. The first space capsule
21 ever sent into orbit by the United States is only six years
22 old. That is John Glenn's and it is in the Smithsonian
23 Institute. The rapidity of change is fantastic. The investments
24 that we are making in these great programs that have taglines
25 on them like the "Moon Program" is merely an objective to

1 arouse people's interest. It is a benchmark. We are not
2 primarily interested in just getting to the moon. We are
3 interested in developing the tools, the equipment, the
4 excellence, the professional capacity, the skills, that
5 permit a person to get to the moon. Because when we do
6 that, we develop whole new industries. We develop a degree
7 of efficiency and competence in this country that is the
8 miracle of the world.

9 What we have been able to do in the Space Program, more
10 than anything else, is to bring together a working partnership
11 between government, private industry, finance, and the
12 universities -- the professional people on university campuses.
13 We have changed the whole concept of education because we
14 have forced people to work together, the pooling of their
15 resources, inter-disciplinary. Twenty years ago a Dean in the
16 School of Engineering was like a member of the United Nations
17 and had separate sovereignty, as compared to the Dean of a
18 Medical School. Today you can't put a man in orbit unless
19 the engineering and medical aspects of it are working together.
20 It does no good to make a good space capsule if you don't know
21 what the effects of outer space will be on the human body.
22 Therefore medicine, physiology, the life sciences, even the
23 behavioral sciences, are tied right in with engineering,
24 electronics, physics and all that goes with what we call the
25 physical sciences.

1 The upgrading of our universities has been fantastic
2 as a result of these great programs of scientific research
3 and development and is showing its effect in every walk
4 of life. Since you are primarily in the field of communication,
5 let me tell you what is in the offing:

6 In ten years we will be communicating almost entirely
7 insofar as long distance communication is concerned, by
8 communication satellite, or the laser beam -- most likely,
9 just communication satellites. We will be communicating with
10 live television, even without ground stations because we will
11 be able to build communication satellites that generate their
12 own power, send their own signals, and do it with precision.
13 As a matter of fact, within another month, I shall be doing
14 on Telstar, a worldwide, open, live television broadcast for
15 one hour with correspondants from several nations, interviewing
16 like Meet the Press out of Washington.

17 We will be having in university classrooms professors
18 from a dozen countries or half a dozen countries or three
19 countries, coming in in closed circuit television through
20 communication satellite. It is just incredible what is in
21 the offing! It is already here -- it is only a matter of the
22 perfection of it.

23 Today your government communicates with Southeast Asia
24 in order that we can have instantaneous communication in
25 Viet Nam through communication satellite. We don't have enough

1 cables or telephone wires or wireless to do it. It is done
2 by communication satellite and we are doing this all around
3 the world. I haven't any doubt but what this is going to
4 have a tremendous effect on news dissemination, on what you
5 are doing in your press, and certainly it is going to have a
6 great effect upon education, to take you to the other aspect
7 of it, the other part of the environment.

8 People say, "Why should we be so interested in these
9 things?" My answer, particularly on the Space Program and
10 the program on Oceanography is that we live in the universe
11 and the Solar System is one of the blocks in that universe.
12 The Solar System is our neighborhood. In that Solar System
13 are the moon, the earth, Venus, Jupiter, Mars and others.
14 We need to know about our neighbors. That is the kind of
15 a world we are living in. We are talking now not about the
16 20th Century but about the 21st Century. Remember that most
17 of the people that will be doing things for this country
18 will be doing things in the 21st Century. We are in the last
19 third of the 20th Century. Every plan we have, every thought
20 we have, from here on out, must be based on Century 21 and
21 in Century 21 we will be doing things that the laboratories
22 today are experimenting with. The scientist says it is 15
23 years from the successful laboratory experiment to practical
24 or commercial application. Only 15 years from now leads us
25 to the year 1982. So must of what we are talking about today

1 in embryonic laboratory form, will be the pattern of the day
2 for the year 2,000 when your children or your children's
3 children will be in responsible positions and fullness of
4 life.

5 We will be mining the ocean beds. We have just approved
6 what we call "fish protein concentrate" -- and what does
7 this mean? It means food from the sea. The population of
8 this earth is said to be tripled by the year 2,000. It will
9 be triple what it is now. How are we going to feed those
10 people? Not just by the resources that we presently have
11 put to work, even though may I say by the year 2,000 we will
12 be watering the deserts with the waters from the sea. There
13 is no doubt about it. We are right at that point now. That
14 will be within the next decade for sure. It just happens
15 the desert lands are the most fertile of all. But more
16 importantly, we will be mining the oceans. We will be
17 harvesting the oceans. We will plant fish like you plant
18 soybeans and we will harvest it. I have been meeting with
19 people who are planning large laboratories and lagoons in
20 the Pacific right now where all of this experimental work will
21 go on just as you have an Experimental Farm for the Department
22 of Agriculture or for your County Agent. In fact, we have
23 just passed legislation for Sea Grant Colleges, just as we had
24 them for Land Grant Colleges. This is just the beginning.

25 We will mine the ocean floors right off the Coast of

1 Florida. Less than 30 miles off the coast of Florida, off
2 Cape Kennedy, there is 1200 square miles of pure manganese
3 ready to be mined, the richest ore deposit ever discovered.
4 There are literally hundreds of square miles of pure copper.
5 Off the estuaries of the rivers in Alaska is pure gold that
6 has, in a sense, been mined by the pressures of water of the
7 rivers coming out of the mountains. We will be able to do
8 in a short time from communication satellite, or I should
9 say from satellite sensor satellites, to fly a hundred or
10 two or three hundred miles above the earth and by ultra
11 violet ray and other sensors, to detect mineral deposits in
12 the earth. We now do it by plane. We discovered one of the
13 largest gold mines in the world just a few years ago in
14 Nevada by a plane flying at high altitude with sensors.
15 No longer do people run around picking with a pick trying
16 to find where these resources are. It is just incredible
17 what is going to happen!

18 For example, we have already learned something. We
19 already know that some of the great typhoons are related to
20 water temperature. When we see the water temperatures rising
21 in the Pacific, such as around the Sea of Japan, a certain
22 number of degrees, you can forecast with almost certainty
23 that there will be a major storm, a huge tidal wave or typhoon.
24 Why? We don't know. We know that the control of the tempera-
25 ture will be based a great deal on what we learn from the seas

1 and we are right now at the point where we can at least give
2 adequate weather information and by computerizing it, we will
3 be able to give it much better. We are putting up two or
4 three big satellites called "Nimbus" which will take pictures
5 of the earth. Your newspaper will be able to have in its
6 office a little photo machine that will bring directly from
7 these Nimbus satellites the picture of the weather right over
8 your town. For example the other day I saw a picture of the
9 weather over Duluth. I was visiting one of these laboratories
10 and Nimbus was making its orbit and it puts its cameras down
11 over Minnesota and the Great Lakes, up at the head of the
12 Lakes at Duluth, and there I saw the picture of the cloud
13 formation and a description of what the cloud formation meant
14 in terms of temperature and weather right there before my eyes.
15 You will be able to plug it in at your local newspapers and
16 you can do so now as do some of the large journals. This
17 is the kind of world of change that we are living in.

18 I think the only question is, with all of the
19 scientific advance that we are making, do you think we will
20 be able to live together? That is the great issue and that
21 is what most everything is all about. We surely know we have
22 created instruments of fantastic discovery and power. I wonder
23 whether we are building the same kind of people. Ultimately,
24 that is what it gets down to. This is why when you hear people
25 give lectures about "Is God dead?" and all that sort of thing,

1 I think the more you learn about science, the more you learn
2 about the wonders of the world, the greater belief you must
3 have -- it is a compulsion, it is a necessity to believe there
4 is something more in this world than just material things.
5 There has to be a scheme of things. There must be a plan.
6 Somehow it is inevitable. There must be a greater force and
7 power on earth than man's own individual capacities. There
8 must be that and that is what I think leads people to spiritual
9 reality and spiritual experience.

10 I also believe that out of that knowledge we understand
11 the importance of human relations. Make no mistake about it,
12 human relations, human engineering, is every bit and more
13 important as the engineering I have mentioned. What you
14 print, what you say, what I do, what I say, relates to human
15 engineering. It relates to forces, attitudes, tensions, hopes,
16 aspirations that people may have. That is why I believe while
17 you wouldn't want to take a vote on this and agree to it, but
18 whether you like it or not or believe it or not, there is a
19 community of interest between the man that sets the type or
20 prints the paper, or the reporter or the editor or the
21 editorial writer and the man that is in public life. Some
22 how, some way together, we are all working with people,
23 influencing the mind, influencing the attitude, bringing
24 people to some recognition of a point of view and presenting
25 them with facts that they must make judgment upon as to the

1 decisions they will have in days to come.

2 Mr. Mills, Mr. Adams, and others, this is what you
3 get if you just let me drop by. There is so much to say and
4 so much to do. I know some of you may have expected I would
5 be talking on matters of international relations. I would
6 have liked to very much but I thought you might like to know
7 the work that I have in local government, the work in poverty,
8 the Peace Corps, the Cabinet, the National Security Council,
9 the Space Council, Oceanography -- even in travel and
10 discovering America, we have the Vice President in charge of
11 what we call the Cabinet Committee.

12 I have the most exciting job in Washington. It is a job
13 that is filled with responsibility and no authority. That
14 is number one. Number two, it is a job in which you are a
15 general practitioner in a very big clinic and seldom does
16 anybody really come to you for what you call particularized
17 treatment. It is when you can't find a specialist or get
18 to him that they come over to the Executive Office Building,
19 knock on the door and say, "Is Dr. Humphrey in? I would
20 like to talk to him about my chillblains," or something
21 like that, and we visit about whatever may come.

22 Thank you very much and I want to wish you well.
(Standing Applause)

23 PRESIDENT ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Vice President, for
24 the privilege of your visit to our Centennial Convention. It
25 has been enjoyable and you have left us with a lot to think
about. We are thankful that you could come.

(The meeting recessed at 12:40 o'clock p.m.)



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