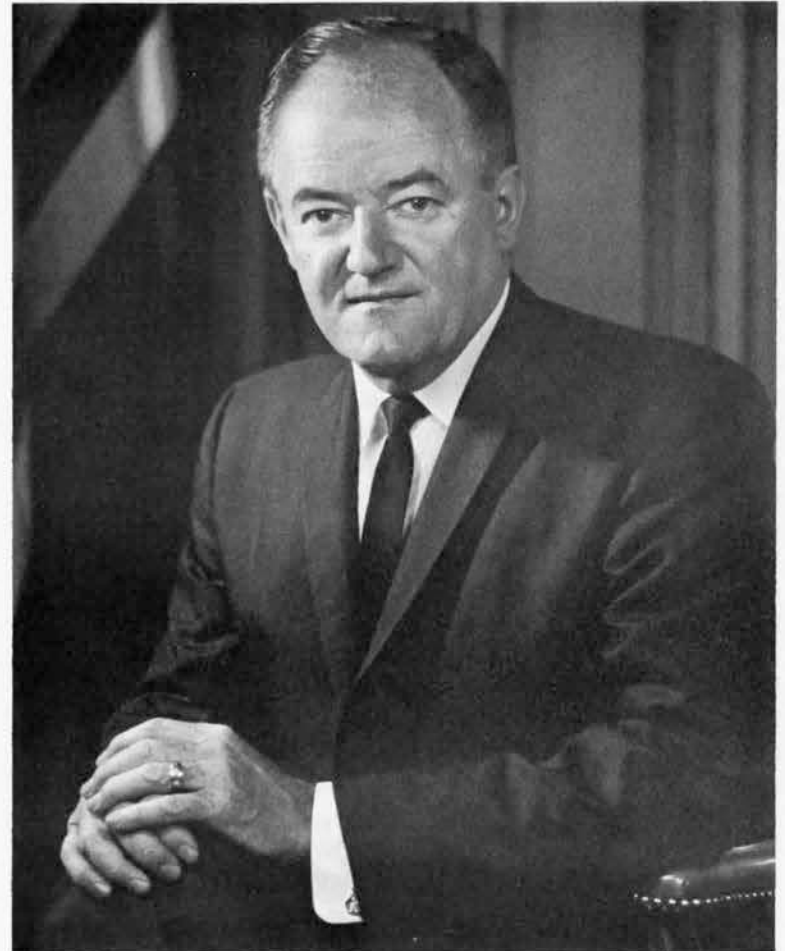


COMMUNITIES AND YOUTH: A COMMITMENT TO OPPORTUNITY

**An address by
HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
Vice President of the United States**



Delivered by the Vice President at the Third National Legislative Conference of the National League of Cities in Washington, D.C., March 14, 1967.



I'm delighted once again to participate in the Third National Legislative Conference. This is, I think, a very critical point for our cities, and the Third Legislative Conference is at a very timely moment. It comes at a timely moment because, many people feel, and understandably so, that much more needs to be done by the Federal Government for our cities than has been done. It is true that

more needs to be done for our country than we're able to do. It is also true that we ought to do much more to help the world than we're presently able to do. Our standards should always reach upward and outward; at the same time we must have priorities, too. Why is this? It is because we must live within our resources. We have to do the best that we can with what we have.

Many people have said if we didn't have this terrible struggle in Vietnam, we could do more for our cities; and that's true. And may I say that in my family, if someone hadn't been ill, look what we could have done. The fact is that you have to deal with what is there and with what resources you have.

After Vietnam

Now I think the question about what we ought to do and what we will do is of paramount importance. As you know, your President has recently appointed a task force headed by Mr. Gardner Ackley, Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors. It's entitled "After Vietnam." That doesn't mean that between now and after we do nothing. In fact, you have been told here that much is being done and even more is being done than was ever done by all of us; by you at the local government levels, and by the Federal Government.

But we should also look to the future. In fact, I think we ought to be taking a look at this last third of the 20th Century; this should be done by examining how we're going to make the American city the city beautiful, in 10-year steps. What are we going to do during the next 10 years? What will we do for the second 10 years? What will we do in the third 10 years? What can we point to in the American city in the year 1976, which will be the 200th birthday of the freedom of the American people? What kinds of cities can we show that make the phrase "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" really meaningful in the latter part of the 20th Century? What kind of city are we going to have in Century 21?

Any man that's worth being in public life ought to think that far ahead. I talked to about 10,000 students yesterday in Stillwater, Oklahoma, at Oklahoma State University. I spoke to them about Century 21 and this last third of the 20th Century, because, I said, "That's your time; that's when you're going to be in charge, even of my Medicare. I want to know what you're going to do with it. This is the period when you're going to be managing the destiny of every community, of every county, of every institution, of every business,

particularly the destiny of our country." So we ought to look ahead.

Now we're looking ahead in this Government to what we can do when the day of peace comes or when this war can be de-escalated, and when we can hopefully take the resources that we're presently putting into war and defense and put them into more constructive purposes on the domestic and international scene.

Let me be very frank with you, as I have been before. I served in the Congress of the United States when there was war in Korea, and I heard many people say then: "Isn't it a pity that we spend all of these resources on this terrible struggle? Look at what we ought to do back home." In Korea we were spending as much as 10 percent of our Gross National Product. We're spending less than 10 percent now; we're spending less than 3 percent in the war in Vietnam. When the war in Korea was over, there wasn't a move made out where you are, or here, to do anything about our cities, or our poor, or our needy, or anything else of much consequence. And I've said to the students who frequently meet me at college gatherings with all of the placards and what-have you: "Look: when this struggle is over I'm going to say 'follow me,' because I want to take the 20 billion dollars that we're putting into this struggle and put it into your cities and your schools and into Head Start and into education and into water pollution and air pollution control, into the humanities and the fine arts. I want to take this and more, but where are you going to be? I'll make a prediction. You'll be content and you'll be saying 'let's cut those taxes, let's cut the budget, let's retrench: we've gone through a terrible period of strain.'" That's exactly what I heard in Washington 10 years ago. We did not mobilize. We did not organize. Some of us pleaded in the Congress for what we call public works, but the shelf looked like Mother Hubbard's cupboard.

What we need now to do is to look down that road, because just as surely as you're in this room today, there will be the day—and I say, prayerfully and hopefully, that it won't be far—when we can start to have arms control that will cut back on armament, when we can have a peace in Vietnam that will permit us to reallocate resources, when we can have many things if we but will it and plan it.

Now, your President has appointed that task force. I know you have your plans in the National League of Cities for the kind of use of manpower, and of the technological and scientific and financial resources of this country, to make the city beautiful, to make mod-

ern urban American what it ought to be. And that's what I would like to have you think about.

Now, HUD Secretary Robert Weaver has outlined for you on this occasion the sort of things that we have before the Congress. I want to level with you this morning. You're going to have the fight of your life to get what the President has already recommended to Congress. So when other people say what we ought to have a trillion dollars, or that we ought to have 250 billion dollars, or that we ought to have 50 billion dollars, let me say that's completely unrealistic as far as Congress is concerned. I say that respectfully because we do have a large budget and far reaching needs.

I'm generally an optimist. I was born one, and they always say that if the Vice President of the United States isn't optimistic, then it must really be a terrible situation. I don't like grumpy folks. I like to be on the happier side of life. But I was in Congress for 16 years, and if you think you can get the full request for Model Cities without the fight of your life, then you're in the wrong town and the wrong generation, because it will be a scrap. Certainly we must work together. So, I urge you to contact your Congressman, contact your Senator, and talk to them about your needs.

Creative Federalism

"Creative federalism" has the least sex appeal of any phase that was ever created by any public administrator, and I think I was almost one of the first to say it. But let me put it this way: there is a partnership today that's being worked out.

We have at long last come to the recognition that our problems internationally and domestically, problems in water pollution, problems in air pollution, problems of urban transit, problems of communication, the matters that relate to the development of better neighborhoods, that every one of these problems is too big for any one segment of the economy. Too big, too expensive, too complex for the local community; too big for State government alone. Too much for the Federal Government alone—even if the Federal Government should inject itself that far into local matters, and I'm not sure that it should. It's too big for private industry, just like the space program is too big for the Air Force or for Martin or McDonnell Aircraft. But it's not too big for this country. One thing that we've learned from the space effort (and I happen to be Chairman of the Space Council and I learned the biggest lesson of my life) is that mobiliza-

tion of resources for the achievement of an objective is a sound principle.

What it really boils down to is partnership, under good management, with definite goals. What we need to have today is involvement of the private sector into our urban problems. A way must be found for the business community in general and the giant corporations in particular to contribute to the rehabilitation of our cities. There is no reason business corporations shouldn't be able to make a good profit in rebuilding the slums. They should not be expected to do it on the basis of charity. With the incentive of private profit as additional motivation, plus the cooperation of Federal, State, and local government, we will get the job done.

So this is what we mean by creative federalism, but more importantly it's what we mean by a working partnership, where the Federal Government does its share, where the State government is called upon to do its share. Now, fellow mayors and local government officials, I hope you're taking the case of your city to your State legislature. I hope you're taking it to your Governor. It's wonderful to come to Washington, and as a mayor I found out what problems we had in going to the State legislature. It's not always the easiest place to get a good hearing for your problem, but there's a difference now. There's reapportionment and that reapportionment is taking effect. State governments are beginning to clearly understand their responsibilities to urban and metropolitan areas. The orientation of the past is giving way to a realization of the present. Now I appeal to you not only to bring your case for the help of your cities and communities here in Washington, but go to your State legislatures.

The efforts of the National League of Cities have been helpful on this. The President of the United States has insisted that before rules and regulations are written State and local governments be given an opportunity to comment on this. We ought to take a look at regulations to see whether they fit. You know, if you have a waistline of 36 inches, there's no use trying to put on 24-inch pants. It just doesn't work, no matter how much you hold your breath. Once in a while these regulations are just plain out of step. And that's why the President issued a memorandum to his Cabinet Secretaries. The reason for this memorandum was because your officers and directors met with me and I followed through for the President, who directed me to get this taken care of. I then took it up with the Bureau of the Budget and the memorandum was drawn

up. We are now in the process of implementing that memorandum. One thing I'll say about the President: when he tells you to do something, you sort of get the message.

Improving Law Enforcement

I want you to study the President's message on law enforcement. We simply have to have an America in which there is a degree of tranquility. We have to have an America in which there is law observance. We have to strengthen the law enforcement agencies of our country. Now that ought not all be done by Washington. I think it would be unfortunate to have a huge national police system. I think law enforcement should remain a local and State responsibility, aided and supplemented by what facilities the Federal Government can give. But we simply have got to have it.

This means that you must begin new training programs. It means you must recruit more and better people for your police departments. It means you must involve your police departments in community action. It means you must work with the Governor who, with the attorney general, is the chief law enforcement officer in your State. The law enforcement problem is not a problem for the FBI or the Attorney General of the United States. Safe streets and safe parks and safe neighborhoods are your parks, your streets, and your neighborhoods. And it's there where the enforcement must take place. It's there the police must be trained and recruited. It's there where you have to pay for those salaries. It's there where you ought to join with your university on police training programs, not only in law enforcement but in community relations and race relations. Join every university and college with programs not only in how to put handcuffs on, or how to enforce law, but how to encourage law observance. You know better than anyone else that law enforcement is only possible when the law enforcement officials are given your support.

Mr. Mayor, and Mr. Councilman and Madam Councilman and Madam Mayor, no chief of police or law enforcement officer will do any more than you expect of him. And when you're a mayor of a city you have an obligation to be out in the front line backing that officer and that badge. And you also have an obligation to see that the law enforcement officer is a responsible citizen who respects human dignity, who is free of race prejudice, who treats people as people; and you should train them and educate them and indoctrinate

them in human relations as well as in law enforcement techniques. This is the biggest issue in our country today, make no mistake about it. This is one thing that everybody understands. I think it's an outrage that decent people cannot walk in parks and streets in American cities without being the victims of mugging and attack.

I'm not talking about just being tough. I'm talking about a sensible, scientific modernization of police facilities, manpower, training, education, community relations, race relations, and working with our young people. Now give us some support up in Congress for that legislation, too, will you? Then see your Governor and your State legislature. Discuss this with your own city council. I speak of these things because I'm involved in them, and my heart goes out to you because I know what a difficult assignment you have.

An Adventure in Opportunity

Now let me tell you about a new assignment I have. Last week the President signed an Executive Order establishing the President's Council on Youth Opportunity. And the purpose of this Council, of which I have been appointed Chairman, is to assure that, insofar as is possible, the necessary services and opportunities are made available to all the youth of America, so that these young people may be equipped for more productive roles in our society.

I was asked by students the other day, "What is the objective of your Administration?" I told them that the primary objective of this Administration is to expand the frontiers and areas of opportunity.

I have had misgivings about the phrase "the war on poverty." You know, I'm a peaceful man myself, and I think there's a better phrase—"An Adventure in Opportunity." That's what it amounts to. We're not just trying to ease the pain of poverty. What we're really trying to do is to find ways to bring American people, American citizens, into this great experience and adventure of opportunity like you've had and like I've had.

A kid born in Wallace, South Dakota, grew up in Doland, South Dakota, went to Minneapolis and became Mayor, and is now Vice President. I call that opportunity. And I think that every boy and girl in America ought to have a chance. Whether they make something out of it or not will be their business. But this is what we mean by what we're trying to do: expanding these areas of opportunity, opening the gates of opportunity with education and with training and with all the many other programs that are going on in

Federal, State, local, and private institutions. And again it's a great partnership; I see it every day. If I could just tell you the things that are happening! Thirty-five thousand kids from the slums are in universities today that could not otherwise have been there. Right out of the dirt of the slums. They were intelligent, they were tested, they were found to score above the average, but they never would have had a chance. They would have gone down the road of ruin; but 35,000 of them today are at great universities because there was an "adventure in opportunity," or a "war on poverty."

Now that's important. How do I know that those 35,000 may not come up with some answers to some of our problems? And every day this is beginning to happen. A million, two hundred fifty thousand children are in Project Head Start. They are embarking on an adventure in opportunity. They never would have had it if we hadn't tried this. It's a wonderful thing. And 16,000 kids that were school drop-outs, lost and gone, are in the Job Corps. I know you've heard a lot of complaints about it. Well, let me tell you that every boy and girl that went into the Job Corps went in there on his own volition. Every one volunteered, and every one of them was a trouble child, every one of them was in trouble, and every one of them was in enough trouble that your local community service couldn't help them. We've graduated 16,000, and of the 16,000, 13,000 have jobs. Of the total that came in, 5 percent had had a job. Their average wage was 70 cents an hour. Of the 13,000 that now have jobs, out of the 16,000 that have this far graduated, the average wage is \$1.71 an hour.

I hear people say it costs an awful lot to train them. Well, it does. You know what, we're going to get all the money back that we ever put into Job Corps training. We have a way to do it. We just deduct from every paycheck.

I think I ought to tell you one little human interest story. There was a young lady down at New Orleans that was in one of these opportunity centers, and she went through her orientation program, her indoctrination, and she got a job. She'd never had a job in her life. She had been in all kinds of trouble, an unmarried mother, tremendous troubles. Finally she got a job at an office which printed medical publications. When that first check came she went back to her sponsor and she looked at that check and started to cry. She said, "This is the first check I've ever received in my life and I'm 28 years of age; the first check I've ever received that I earned. I'm the happiest person in the world." She said, "I'd like to keep it

except I need the money so badly. I just wish I could have it because it will live in my memory all of my life." Well, the teacher was deeply moved. Four months later this same lady came back. She had been so proud of that first check, she had been so grateful for the opportunity that had become hers, she loved her country for the chance she'd been given. She said, "I just want you to see. Look what they've done to my check." She said, "Look at the tax deductions they're already taking out." Now that's rehabilitation! A real normal citizen.

We're going to try to do something this summer and all year long with our young people. You and I know that most of the people are equipped for jobs. We're now getting down to the hard core, as they call it, right down where it's mighty difficult to place a person on a job. A simple example is when a corporation advertises for 100 workers; if 100 trained workers are sent today, 85 of that 100 never last a week. That's the average. Eighty-five leave after the first week and they don't know what ever happened to them. Some of you have manpower training programs and other programs in your city. We have a million young people in training today. Five years ago we didn't have one. Not one. I know we haven't done enough, but we've done a million times better than was done 5 years ago.

These young people are getting jobs. The difference is training, and orientation. We give them the attention that it takes, about 4, 5, or 6 weeks to get them ready for the job. They have to be taught personal cleanliness, how to get on a bus, how to get to their job, how to punch a time clock, how to talk to a supervisor, and among other things know what to do when a coffee break occurs. After they've had their indoctrination, do you know what the results are? You send 100 of them to the employer and instead of 85 leaving, 95 stay. That's the average, and that's pretty good results.

I'm talking now about the real tough problems in your town. The problems I'm talking about are where you live—in my town, in your town. That's where the schools are, that's where the slums are, where the problems are, and that's where the good schools are, too; that's where the good housing is and that's where the bad neighborhoods happen to be. So we're talking about where we live. All Washington does is try to bring this information together, and hopefully to design some policies, with your coordination and cooperation, so that we can meet some of the problems of your town.

Summer Programs

Now the President's Council on Youth Opportunity, which I chair, will give special emphasis in the next few months to summer programs, which we think can contribute to sound development of youth through special education, through employment, through recreation and health services. There's a sound reason for this emphasis upon the summer. Even though the Council's responsibility is a year-round one, this emphasis is sound not just because the summer tends to be the time of problems for some youths, but because the summer offers the community a unique opportunity to help prepare its youth.

Historically, in our society, the summer has been a time of maximum freedom for young people from the daily routines of school. Likewise, many of the resources of your community, its youth leaders, and the school system itself, are also free to concentrate on special efforts to open up opportunities for youth. In encouraging maximum efforts to help young people for the summer of 1967, the Federal Government has available today tools and programs in far greater supply and for more useful application than ever before.

I want to mention some of those to you. Before I do, remember this. I look at some mayors around here who have had some troubles in their home towns. Let's not have riots stimulate us into action. Many a community in America has been shocked into action because of violence and riots. I don't think we ought to have a system in which we reward violence. I think we ought to be able to foresee what's going to happen and we ought to take the preventive steps. We ought to do the things that we ought to do anyway before somebody gets out in the street and tears the place apart. What we do when we fail to act really is to encourage emotional, militant, aggressive forces to take things into their own hands.

Therefore, I say to the established order, to the leaders of the community: work with the people that want to do things through the democratic process. Work with the people in racial groups, in ethnic groups, and in religious groups even if you may not always agree with them, or that you may think are a little far out, but that at least want to do things in a democratic nonviolent way. Work with them. Give them a break before it's too late. Find some answers before things get out of hand.

In every place that I've been in America where there's some trouble on the streets, the programs to give employment and recrea-

tion generally came after the windows had been broken and the televisions had been stolen and the buildings had been burned. I think we have come now into a new period if we but will it, from protest to progress.

Instead of having these people say "burn, baby, burn," we ought to have them saying, "learn, boy, learn. Earn, earn, earn."

So, I really appeal to the leaders here to take a good look at your community. You know your community better than anybody in Washington. Go back there and take a look, and if you start to sense that there is trouble brewing—and there most likely is—go ahead and start to do something about it before it materializes. Call in the responsible leaders who have been your neighbors, your friends that have been trying to do things with the Urban League, the NAACP, and other groups. Say, "Listen, let's work together, let's get this thing going before it's too late."

Well now, I said we have some Federal programs. We have an expanded Neighborhood Youth Corps which can supply more than 165,000 jobs for young people this summer. Take a look at what kind of work these neighborhood youth boys are doing. If they're not doing what you think they ought to be doing, take it up with the officials in charge and say, "Let's get them into park work, public facilities maintenance work, and playground supervision." We did that here in the District of Columbia last year. We raised over \$100,000 in this city from private donations to light the playgrounds—and by the way, I found out why the Washington Senators didn't do too well at night baseball games: the lights that we got for our playgrounds were from the old Washington Senators' ball park here. I want to tell you, some of the lights made a candle look like a streak of lightning!

But we did take those lights out and, with the splendid cooperation of the Potomac Electric Power Company, we installed those lights in over 80 playgrounds in the city. We raised the money, over \$100,000, for the cost that was involved, and Pepco did it at a third or a fourth of what it really cost. We opened up our playgrounds in Washington, D.C. Of course, it's a national disgrace that they weren't illuminated before. Here in the Nation's Capital, we've got lighted night clubs, but we're short on lighted playgrounds.

We didn't even have three public swimming pools in use in Washington. Well, we're getting some more swimming pools. And it's just sensible that you have to have them in your own home town. Every kid in the United States ought to have a chance to use a swimming

pool. We ought to put that in the Constitution. Furthermore, since we've ruined half the lakes, we ought to give them clean swimming pools.

We have new Federal supports for manpower training, such as the Nelson-Scheuer and Kennedy-Javits programs. Our school systems have had a year to plan and to work under the greatly expanded assistance of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. We have Presidential support and we should soon have Congressional authorization for an expanded Head Start program, to deal more effectively with our younger children. We have Community Action agencies funded under the Office of Economic Opportunity, with more experience, sharper goals, and established working relationships with local groups. There will be launched within this week a combined effort by the Departments of Labor and Commerce to encourage employers to open up employment opportunities for young people. Last year, through a similar program, we were able to open up job opportunities through private industry for more than one million deprived and needy young people. This year we're going to concentrate especially on more jobs for disadvantaged youths, using the full resources of the United States Employment Service's Youth Opportunity Office.

The U.S. Civil Service Commission will also make special efforts to open up more jobs in government service. We will seek the cooperation of local groups, both public and private, to increase opportunities for summer camping experiences and for related activities in preparation and resulting from such a period of work and recreation. We met just last week with the top camp experts. Of all the camping facilities in America, there was a 25 percent vacancy last year. Unused. Now, we can do something about that. Find out around your respective towns what camps you have. Let's see that those facilities are used for your young people.

We will, through a cooperative national effort to be initiated by a National Share Your Summer Conference, encourage new opportunities for more advantaged families to share a portion of their summer with the disadvantaged young people. The President's Council on Youth Opportunity is preparing, and, within the next few days, will send to the mayors and the executives in the cities throughout the United States, a whole packet of suggestions and aims which will assist local planning for youth this summer. This packet includes a checklist of possible alternatives and brief descriptions of programs already carried out successfully by other communities,

so you can see what others have done. This may suggest to local leaders a project which they may wish to organize.

Now the success of our hopes for summer opportunities for young people depends upon the mayors and the executives of our cities. The Federal Government can offer supporting services, but it cannot put together a program which meets the needs of your specific community. Every community is different. This can only be done at the local level by local leaders. So, Mr. Mayor, or Madam Councilman, or whoever runs your town and is in charge, you and your executive staff, you're the most efficient catalyst which can bring about the planning and the execution of a successful program. The President's Council on Youth Opportunity will try to provide an effective linkage for you with the Federal Government, but the planning and the action and the execution are in your hands.

Mobilizing The Community

If you've not done so already, you may wish to consider, on your return home, immediately calling together your task force on Youth Opportunity in Summer, 1967. Call it together with the assumption or the presumption that you're desperately going to need it. Let me say that you ought to look forward to a summer that will be a challenge to you like no other summer has ever been, so get yourself ready for it.

Your local task force might well include representatives of the following: your recreation department, your local school board, your local employer council such as the Chamber of Commerce, your labor movement, your private health and welfare council, your local Community Action Agency, and your local colleges and universities. Let me underscore this: the colleges and universities ought to be where the action is. You have experts at these colleges and universities. They ought not to be in a meadow of meditation or some kind of a retreat just for reflection. A college and a university ought to be an action instrument. They'll learn more about social science by being involved in your community than they will in that classroom. I just noticed the other day, for example, that at Stanford University the students have organized a wonderful program of assistance to help the disadvantaged.

I was at Oklahoma State University yesterday and they're doing the same thing. They're doing it at Temple University in Philadelphia. All around the country, young people, professors, gradu-

ate students, seniors, and juniors are being brought into community action programs, many of them on a volunteer basis. You ought to go to your colleges and universities and talk to the dean and the president, and say, "Listen, how about including in the curriculum a little time for these budding political scientists and these would-be public administrators to come on downtown and put in about three hours a week working in one of the departments?" It could be an internship while they're going to school. That gives you some help, and they'll learn a whole lot more than they'll learn reading; they'll learn from doing.

So, my friends, I'm going to conclude my message to you this morning by asking you to really bear down on education, employment, recreation, and health services. You ought to go away from here asking yourself: "What are my plans for these things? What is my need in this town? Will the playgrounds and the recreational facilities in my town be open this summer? Will they be lighted for full-time use by the children of the community throughout the summer?"

In order to make these resources available under proper supervision, have you explored the possibility of supporting staff from the neighborhood Youth Corps and from the university and other places for these programs? By the way, take a chapter out of Sears & Roebuck in Chicago. Do you know what they did in their parking lots? The workers parked their cars there all day, and at the end of the day the Sears & Roebuck people, working with the Municipal Services of Chicago, cleaned up those parking lots, had machines come in and sweep them, laid out all kinds of badminton courts and volleyball courts and basketball courts, and opened up the parking lots at night, fully illuminated for the children of that neighborhood.

You don't need to build new playgrounds. They are all there. Get your police department to seal off four or five streets. Get the trucking companies to bring in mobile bands and have your mobile equipment set up your basketball court, set up ping-pong tables, set up volleyball courts, bring in a portable swimming pool. You can do it. You don't always have to have a checkbook. Sometimes it can just be done. You'd be surprised how well it has worked in some of our cities.

Then ask yourself whether the leadership of the school system has realized that there are 12 months in a year, not nine or 10. Have they reviewed the Elementary and Secondary School Act, to see

what summer programs could be initiated? Have the private agencies which run summer camps sought ways to offer additional opportunities for summer camping experiences? Have they really assessed the likely vacancy rate in camps, which I mentioned, in order to plan for ways to make sure that no disadvantaged child is denied this opportunity while beds are vacant in these camps?

Have the community action programs and private groups planned together the ways to establish and underwrite health services in the inner city for inner city children? Have the local officials exercised tight accounting controls so they know full use has been made of Federal funds? Let me give you an example. I hope that we don't have another one like this. We found last summer that one city had 2 million dollars of Federal funds in its bank that it sort of "lost" for summer programs. It went unnoticed and unspent. That's unheard of, but it did happen. And we do find, as we look around, that there are funds unused.

Have the members of your task force, both those from summer camp groups and those recreational and educational groups, fully investigated the availability of surplus foods and milk from the Federal Government? If you have a Federal base near your city, go to the general or colonel that's in charge, or the admiral or the captain, and say, "What can you do to help us in this summer program? Do you have a swimming pool that you can open up to us? Do you have some playground equipment? Do you have some extra blankets? If you have a textile manufacturing company, if you have a shirt manufacturing company, go to them and tell them you want little jerseys for all the little kids that are going to take the athletic program. Have the name of your town or some name put on them. We did it here in Washington last summer and it was magnificent. We didn't pay a nickel for them. There are shoe manufacturers that will help you with athletic goods. You often need not pay for any of this, you know; just ask. How do you think we keep our churches open? We have to ask. Ask and it shall be given. Seek and ye shall find. It still works in politics too, and it will work in your city.

People are generous in America. Go out and find them. The American business community wants to help you. The most socially conscious element in your community will often be the man who runs the biggest business. All over America they're trying to help. Go to them. Don't wait for President Johnson or Vice President Humphrey. If you need our help, we'll be there. But I want us to have a partnership. I want this to be the best summer America ever had.

I love our young people; so do you. I find most of them are pretty good, too. They want to do things. Call on the talent in your community. Get the best swimmers, get your athletes, get your college teachers, get your businessmen, get the people that have never been called on before. Mobilize them. Get your police department to become a recreation unit as well as a law enforcement unit. Let policemen go and visit with the kids and play with them. The police and the children ought to be friends, every one of them.

Sometime I'll come back and talk to you about this again. Thank you, very much.

MP-53
AUGUST 1967

mayor Graham
mayor Tolliver
mayor Hugh

Pat Healy

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EXCERPTS FROM REMARKS BY VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
TO THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES, 11:00 A.M., MARCH 14, 1967

Last week President Johnson signed an Executive Order establishing the President's Council on Youth Opportunity. The purpose of this Council, of which I have been appointed Chairman, is to assure that, insofar as possible, the necessary services and opportunities are made available to all the youth of America so that they may be equipped for more productive roles in our society.

The President's Council will give special emphasis to summer programs which can contribute to the sound development of youth through special education, employment, recreation and health services.

There is sound reason for this special emphasis on the summer, even though the Council's responsibility is a year-round one. This emphasis is sound not just because the summer tends to be a time of problems for some youth, but because the summer offers the community unique opportunities to help prepare its youth.

Historically, in our society, the summer has been a time of maximum freedom for young people from the daily routines of school. Likewise, many resources in the community - its youth leaders, the school system itself - are also free to concentrate on special efforts to open up opportunities for youth.

✓ In encouraging maximum efforts to help young people for the summer of 1967, the federal government has today available tools in far greater supply and more useful application than ever before.

--We have an expanded Neighborhood Youth Corps which can supply more than 165,000 jobs for young people which provide them with useful work and in which they can provide recreation supervision, park and public facilities maintenance and a multitude of other services.

✓ --We have new federal supports for manpower training, such as the Nelson-Scheuer and the Kennedy-Javits programs.

✓ --Our schools systems have had a year to plan and work under the greatly-expanded assistance of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

✓ --We have Presidential support, and we should soon have Congressional authorization, for expanded Head Start programs to more effectively reach younger children.

✓ --We have community action agencies, funded under the Office of Economic Opportunity, with more experience, sharper goals, and established working relationships with local groups, both public and private.

✓ --There will be launched within the week a combined effort by the Departments of Labor and Commerce to encourage employers to open up employment opportunities for young people. Last year, through a similar program, we were able to open up job opportunities for more than a million youths. This year we will especially

Employment

(con't)

concentrate on more jobs for disadvantaged youth, using the full resources of the U. S. Employment Service. The U. S. Civil Service Commission will also make special efforts to open up more jobs in government agencies.

L --We will seek the cooperation of the local groups, both public and private, to increase opportunities for summer camping experiences and for related activities in preparation for and resulting from such a period of work and recreation. *Campy*

L --We will, through a cooperative national effort to be initiated by a national "share your summer" conference, encourage new opportunities for more-advantaged families to share a portion of their summer with disadvantaged young people.

L --The President's Council on Youth Opportunity is preparing and within a few days will send to the Mayors and executives in cities throughout the United States, a collection of aids which will assist local planning for youth this summer, including a checklist of possible alternatives and brief descriptions of programs, already carried out successfully by communities, which may suggest to local leaders a project for which they may wish to organize.

L The success of our hopes for summer opportunities for youth depends upon the Mayors of our cities. L The federal government can offer supportive services but it cannot put together a successful program which meets the needs of your specific community. This can only be done on the local level by local leaders. Mr. Mayor, you

and your executive staff are the most efficient catalyst which can bring about the planning and execution of a successful program.

↳ The President's Council on Youth Opportunity will try to provide effective linkage for you with the federal government. But the planning and the execution are in your hands.

↳ If you have not done so already - you may wish to consider on your return home, immediately calling together your task force on youth opportunity in the summer of 1967.

↳ Your local task force might well include representatives of the following: your recreation department; your local school board; your local employer council such as the Chamber of Commerce; your private health and welfare council; your local community action agency; and your local colleges and universities.

↳ To this group you may want to put these questions: What are their plans for making opportunities available for youth this summer in education, employment, recreation and health services?

For example, are the school playgrounds and other recreational facilities to be open and lighted for full-time use by the children of the community throughout the summer? In order to make these resources available under proper supervision have they explored the possibility of supportive staff under the Neighborhood Youth Corps and other programs?

↳ --Has the leadership of the school system reviewed the Elementary and Secondary School Act to see what summer programs they could initiate beginning in the fiscal year 1968, which begins on July 1, 1967?

Have the private agencies which run summer camps sought ways to offer additional opportunities for summer camping experiences?

what is your need?

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L Have they really assessed the likely vacancy rate in the camps which serve your community in order to plan for ways to make sure that no disadvantaged child is denied this opportunity while beds stand vacant in these camps?

L Have the community action programs and private groups planned together for ways to establish and underwrite health care services for inner city children?

L Have local officials exercised tight accounting controls so they know full use has been made of federal funds, rather than, as happened in at least one major city, find out too late that at least \$2 million for a federally supported summer program went unnoticed and unspent?

L Have the members of your task force, both those from the summer camp groups and from the recreational and educational groups fully investigated the availability of surplus foods and milk from the federal government for use in connection with their programs.

L This is the type of action which must be taken and the type of questions which must be asked. The Council on Youth Opportunity will try in the coming weeks to enlarge the horizons of local leaders as to what ought to be done, what has been successfully done, and the ways -- public and private -- federal, state and local -- which can be found to finance it.

L When your local task force finds that the delay in reaching a desired goal or the obstacle to successful implementation of a

desired program is primarily federal, then that is a point at which the President's Council on Youth Opportunity may well be of maximum service to you.

For our part, we are also taking stock of our emphasis on these programs, and we are looking at our unused, or underused resources. We ask the same of you.

We ask of ourselves and all Americans the maximum effort to see that the summer of 1967 is one preceded by expert community planning. This can assure a summer of opportunity for youth!

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Third National Legislative Conference
National League of Cities
March 12-15, 1967

The Vice President of the United States

MR. HUMPHREY: Thank you, thank you. Thank you, my good Scandinavian friend, Mayor Tollefson. It's always good, you know, to have the Vice President, who is half Norwegian, introduced by a thoroughbred (LAUGHTER) and I really appreciate the kindness of Mayor Tollefson. I want to thank Mayor Graham for his courtesies that were extended to me on my visit to his city and his state, and I'm surely delighted that I was met at the door this morning by one of my favorite mayors, Mayor High of Miami, Florida. I see my friend, Mayor ^{NAFTALIN} ~~Haphlan~~, is here. By the way, he's running for re-election and I'm solidly for him. (LAUGHTER) And I look down here and see my old friend Herschel Lashkowitz and you've become a permanent fixture up there in Fargo, Herschel. Well, we need a little continuity in the upper midwest. (LAUGHTER)

I'm delighted once again to participate in the National Legislative Conference. I see it's our third of the National League of Cities.

I've been given a review of some of the program that you have here and what some have already said to you and what some are going to say to you. I don't think it would be exactly proper for me to try to crowd in on their territory. We sort of try to keep jurisdictional disputes out of the Federal establishment. We're against duplication, you know; we're for efficiency; (LAUGHTER) we're strongly in support of coordination. There are more coordinators in Washington right now than there are voters out home (LAUGHTER) that vote right. So I'm going to stay away from those topics.

I would like very much, if you don't mind this little parochial interest even though I recognize I'm not Vice President of Minnesota, to welcome all of my friends that are from my home state that are here. I hope that before they

leave Washington that they'll do me the honor of paying a visit at our office. I'd like very much to see them. I'll have to tell you, when I said I'm not Vice President of Minnesota I even had one of my colleagues in the Senate came to me the other day. We had a judgeship that came up out in Minnesota. Everybody in Minnesota wanted to be a Federal Judge. Anybody that even ever thought he ever went to law school wanted to be a Federal Judge. I was getting letters from everybody and I would pass them along to my two friends in the Senate from Minnesota. Finally one of them said you know, I just thought I ought to remind you of the Constitution. Each State is entitled to two Senators; not three. (LAUGHTER)

Which is just about as good as a couple years ago (my goodness I hope we don't have to wait so long) when the Minnesota Twins had won the American League Pennant I was slightly overly enthusiastic, you can imagine. It was just my first year as Vice President; I hadn't really been housebroken yet and disciplined as to what I was supposed to do. Every time I'd go to a meeting around any place in the country I'd start bragging on the Minnesota Twins and tell them what a great team they were and how they were going to do this and do that. Of course, I went to the first game out home at Bloomington where our stadium is and I showed a great deal of partiality towards the Minnesota Twins and I received a telegram from a lady out in Los Angeles. She said I voted for you in the last election, but I didn't vote for you to be Vice President of Minnesota. You are also Vice President of the United States. (LAUGHTER) I am for the Dodgers. So this morning I just thought I'd remind you what my role is.

You are having a very rich and important program here. This is, I think, a very critical point for our cities, and this Third Legislative Conference is

at a very timely moment. It comes at a timely moment because first of all many people feel, and understandably so, that much more needs to be done by the Federal Government for our cities, than is being done or has been done. And let me join with you all on that. I must say that I'm always a very restless person. I think much more needs to be done for the Humphrey family than I'm able to do and I think much more needs to be done for our country than we're able to do. I think we ought to do much more to help the world than we're presently able to do. We ought to always have standards that reach upward and outward. But we have to have priorities, too. And we also have to live within our resources. We have to do the best that we can with what we have.

Many people have said if we didn't have this terrible struggle in Vietnam, look at what we could do for our cities; and that's true. And may I say that if my family, if someone hadn't been ill, look what we could have done. And you can say that in your family. The fact is you have to deal with what is there and what resources you have, and you are faced with the problems that confront you.

Now I think the question about what we ought to do and what we will do is of paramount importance. As you know, your President has recently appointed a taskforce headed by Mr. Gardiner Atley, Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors. It's entitled "After Vietnam." That doesn't mean that between now and after we do nothing. In fact, you will be told here and have been told that much is being done and much more is being done than was ever done before by all of us; by you at the local government levels, and by the Federal Government.

But we want to take a look also to the future. In fact, I think we ought to be taking a look at this last third of the 20th Century; we have about 30 years to go in it. We ought to be taking a look at the 10-year bites so to speak, looking ahead at how we're going to make the American city the city beautiful, in 10-year steps. What are we going to do with the next 10 years. What will we do the second 10 years. What will we do the third 10 years. What can we point to in the American city in the year 1976 which will be the 200th anniversary, the 200th birthday of the freedom of the American people. What kind of cities can we show that makes the phrase "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" really meaningful in the latter part of the 20th Century. What kind of a city are we going to have in Century 21.

Any man that's worth being in public life ought to think that far ahead. I talked to about 10,000 students yesterday at Stillwater, Oklahoma, at Oklahoma State University, and I've never met finer young people in all my life and if there's anybody here from Oklahoma I want to say I've been on a hundred college campuses and never met finer people. (APPLAUSE) I spoke to them about Century 21 and this last third of the 20th Century, because I said that's your time; that's when you're going to be in charge, even of my Medicare and I want to know what you're going to do with it. (LAUGHTER) This is a period when you're going to be managing the destiny of every community, of every business, of every institution, particularly of our country. So we ought to look ahead.

Now we're looking ahead in this Government as to what we can do when the day of peace comes or when this war can be de-escalated, and when we can hopefully take the resources that we're presently putting into war and defense and

put them into more constructive purposes on the domestic and international scene. Now let me be very frank with you, as I have been before. I served in the Congress of the United States when the war in Korea was on and I heard many people say then isn't it a pity that we spend all of these resources on this terrible struggle and look what we ought to do back home. When the war in Korea was over we spent far more than we were spending now. When we were spending as much as 10 percent of our Gross National Product; we're spending less than 10 percent now; we're spending less than 3 percent in the war in Vietnam. But when that war in Korea was over there wasn't a move made out where you are or here to do anything about our cities, or our poor, or our needy or anything else of much consequence. And I've said to the students who frequently meet me at college gatherings with all of the placards and what have you, I said look, when this struggle is all over I'm going to get me a picket sign and I'm going to start marching around and I'm going to say follow me because I want to take the 20 billion dollars that we're putting into this struggle and put it into your cities and your schools and into Headstart and into education and into water pollution control and air pollution control, into the humanities and the fine arts. I want to take this and more, and where are you going to be. I said I'll make a prediction. You'll be contempt and you'll be saying let's cut those taxes, let's cut the budget, let's retrench; we've gone through a terrible period of strain. That's exactly what I've heard in this town for 10 years and we did not mobilize, we did not organize. Even some of us that pleaded in the Congress of what we call public works; that shelf looked like Mother Hubbard's cupboard.

We did not do it and I think the point we need now to do is to look down that road, because just as surely as you're in this room today, there will be

the day and I hope and say it prayerfully and hopefully that it won't be far off, when we can start to have arms control that will cut back on armament. That we can have a peace in Vietnam that will permit us to reallocate resources. That we can have many things if we but will it and plan it.

Now, your President has appointed that taskforce. I hope you have a taskforce and I think you have. I know you have your plans in the National League of Cities for the kind of use of manpower, the technological and scientific and financial resources of this country to make the city beautiful, to make modern metropolitan urban America what it ought to be. And that's what I would like to have you think about.

Now, Bob Weaver, Secretary Weaver, has outlined for you on other occasions and on this occasion the sort of things that we have before the Congress. I want to level with you this morning. I've been in this City for 18 years and you're going to have the fight of your life to get what the President has already recommended to the Congress. So when other people say you ought to have a trillion dollars, or you ought to have 250 billion dollars, or you ought to have 50 billion dollars, just let me say that's sort of like taking a voyage on LSD as far as the Congress up here is concerned. And I say that respectfully. We have a large budget, we have many needs, we have fantastic needs. As I noted, Mr. Weaver lists his items for a model city at 412 million dollars. You're going to have to use every bit of influence that you ever had in your life to get 412 million dollars for the model city's program.

I hope that we can get it. I'm generally an optimist. I was born one and they always say if the Vice President of the United States isn't optimistic, then it must be really a terrible situation. Because I like to be optimistic. I just don't like grumpy folks. There are some people know how to be that way

better than I do. I like to be on the happier side of life. But I was in Congress 16 years and if you think you can get 412 million dollars for model city without the fight of your life, then you're in the wrong town and in the wrong time and the wrong generation, because it will be a scrap. Two hundred fifty million dollars of new money for urban renewal for the model city area; 30 million dollars to implement the new metropolitan development act; 40 million dollars for rent supplements; 20 million dollars for new research and development programs for the cities; 230 million dollars advanced funding for urban mass transit. Now that's what's in the pipeline in Congress right now and you add that up; that's a sizeable sum of money and we're going to need your help to get it.

So I urge upon you to contact your Congressman and your Senator while you're here to talk to them about your needs. There is nothing sacrosanct about any of these items. Some of them can be expanded. Some of them may be. Some of them may be retrenched or retracted. But I think you ought to make your fight for it.

I want to compliment Mayor Tollefson on his analysis which I happen to agree with (and of course that makes it a very good analysis) of the urban needs for the balance of this Century, and I think I sort of got on the same wave length with him early; namely, that we take these 10-year intervals, we chart our course, we plan what we want to do not only in Washington but back home. Then may I go on my favorite theme. We've got what we call the creative federalism. That has the least sex appeal of any phrase that was ever created by any public administrator and I think I was almost one of the first to say it and I almost apologize. (LAUGHTER) But, let me put it this way. There is a partnership today that's being worked out. We have at long last come to the

recognition that our problems internationally and domestically, problems in water pollution, problems in air pollution, problems of urban transit, problems of communication, the matters that relate to the development of better neighborhoods, that everyone of these problems is too big for any one segment of the economy. Too big for the local community, too expensive, too complex; too big for state government alone. Actually, too much for the Federal Government alone, even if the Federal Government should inject itself that far into local matters, and I'm not sure that it should. It's too big for private industry, just exactly like the space program is too big for the Air Force; too big even for Martin or McDonald Aircraft. But it's not too big for this country and the one thing that we've learned out of space (and I happen to be Chairman of the Space Council and I learned the biggest lesson of my life) is the mobilization of resources for the achievement of an objective is a sound principle and you can mobilize.

What it really boils down to is partnership. Under good management. Partnership with definite goals. What we need to have today (and this is why I've talked so many times about the involvement of the private sector of our economy) involvement of the private sector into our urban problems, involving the business community, involving the giant corporations into the rehabilitation of our cities. There is no reason in the world that a business corporation shouldn't be able to make a good profit rebuilding the slums. I don't know why you expect them to do it on the basis of charity. If you can have the incentive of private profit as additional motivation plus the cooperation of Federal, state and local government, all of them carrying their fair share of the load, we're going to get the job done.

So this is what we mean by creative Federalism, but more importantly it's what we mean by a working partnership, where the Federal Government does its

share, where the state government is called upon to do its share. Now, fellow mayors and local government officials, I hope you're taking the case of your city to your state legislature. I hope you're taking it to your governor. The only place in the world to come is not Washington. It's wonderful to come here and as a mayor I found out what problems we had going to the legislature. It's not always the easiest place to get a good hearing for your problem, but there's a difference. There's reapportionment now and things are different and that reapportionment is taking effect. State governments are beginning to clearly understand their responsibilities to urban and metropolitan areas. The orientation of the past is giving way to a realization of the present. Now I appeal to you not only to bring your case for the help of your cities and your communities down here to Washington, but go to your state legislatures and say listen we need help too from you. Technical services, if nothing else. Legal services, if nothing else. Surely some grants and aids, if nothing else. The improvement of law enforcement in this country and let me put a plug in for it.

I want you to study the President's message on law enforcement. On safe streets. We simply have to have an America in which there is a degree of tranquility. We have to have an America in which there is law observance. We have to strengthen the law enforcement agencies of our country. Now that not ought to all be done out of Washington. I think the worst thing that could happen to this country would be to have a huge national police system. Or let me retract that. I think it would be unfortunate to have a huge national police system. I think law enforcement should remain a local and state responsibility aided and supplemented by what facilities the Federal Government can give.

But we simply have got to have it. (APPLAUSE)

This means that you must put up new training programs. It means you must recruit more and better people for your police departments. It means you must involve your police departments in community action. It means you must go to the governor who, with the attorney general, is the chief law enforcement officer in your state. The law enforcement problem is not a problem for the FBI, for the Attorney General of the United States. Safe streets and safe parks and safe neighborhoods are your parks, your streets and your neighborhoods. And it's there where the enforcement must take place. It's there where the police must be trained and recruited. It's there where you have to pay for those salaries. It's there where you ought to tie in with your university on police training programs, not only in law enforcement but in community relations and race relations. Tie in at every university and college with programs not only in how you put the handcuffs on, or how you enforce the law, but how you encourage law observance. You know better than anyone else that law enforcement is only possible when the law enforcement officials are given your support.

Mr. Mayor, and Mr. Councilman and Madam Councilman and Madam Mayor, no chief of police or law enforcement officer will do anymore than you expect of him. And when you're a mayor of a city you have an obligation (if you have anything to do with the police department) to be out in the front line backing that officer and that badge. And you also have an obligation to see that that law enforcement officer is a responsible citizen that respects human dignity that is free of race prejudice, that treats people as people, and you should train them and educate them and indoctrinate them in human relations as well as law enforcement techniques. This is the biggest issue in our country today,

make no mistake about it. This is one thing that everybody understands. I think it's an outrage that decent people cannot walk in parks and streets in American cities without being the victim of mugging and attack. We are supposed to have the gorilla war in Vietnam, not here. So that job needs to be undertaken.

I'm not talking about just being tough. I'm talking about a sensible, scientific up-to-date modernization of police facilities, manpower, training, education, community relations, race relations and working with our young people. Now give us some support up in Congress for that legislation too, ^{will} you? Because it will help you. Then go see your governor. Go see your state legislature. Go see what you can do on that in your own city council. I know you're going to do it. I speak of these things because I've so involved in them and my heart goes out to you because I know what a difficult assignment you have.

Well, now I want to end up on what I came here to tell you about. That was just sort of openers. (LAUGHTER) I always make two speeches. (LAUGHTER) You don't have to pay for it anyway. I get paid whether I make these speeches or not, but I just love to come and see you and I think we have a meeting of the minds. You know the President has asked me to work with you as his liaison in local government matters. I want you to know that my office is at your service. Patrick Healy knows that. Your Secretary out here works closely with us and you're very fortunate. Let me just say that the cooperation that your Federal Government is receiving from your officers, from Mayor Tollefson here, Mayor Graham and others that have served you and from your own professional staff. That cooperation is wonderful and it's indispensable. So if Pat's around here, I don't know what you're paying him, but raise his pay a little bit. (LAUGHTER)

He's entitled to it. He didn't ask me; maybe you're already doing it. But he's surely done a good job.

Now let me tell you about a new assignment I have. Last week the President signed an Executive Order establishing the President's Council on Youth Opportunity. And the purpose of this Council, of which I have now been appointed Chairman, is to assure you that insofar as possible the necessary services and opportunities are made available to all the youth of America. So that these young people may be equipped for more productive roles in our society.

I was asked by a student the other day, what is the objective of your Administration, the Administration of President Johnson and Hubert Humphrey; they even said the Johnson-Humphrey Administration and I thanked him for that reference. As Senator Dirksen said, let's include Hubert in too. (LAUGHTER) He said that in a sort of friendly partisan way. (LAUGHTER) Well, I told this group of young people I was talking to, the primary objective of this Administration is to expand the frontiers or the areas of opportunity.

I haven't even liked this phrase the war on poverty. I've been trying to figure out... You know, I'm a peaceful man myself, and this business of a war on poverty, maybe that's all right, but I think there's a better phrase -- "An Adventure in Opportunity" because that's really what it amounts to. We're trying not just to mollify the victory or ease the pain of poverty. What we're really trying to do is to find ways to bring American people, American citizens, into this great experience and adventure of opportunity like you've had and like I've had.

A kid born in Wallace, South Dakota, grew up in Doland, South Dakota, lived for awhile in South Dakota, went to Minneapolis and became Mayor, and now Vice President. I call that opportunity. And I just think that every

boy and girl in America ought to have a chance. Whether they make something out of it or not that will be their business. But this is what we mean by what we're trying to do. Expanding these areas of opportunity, opening the gates of opportunity with education and with training and with all the many other programs that are going on in Federal, state, local and private institutions. And again it's a great partnership and I see it every day. Oh, I could just tell you the things that are happening. The things that are happening. Thirty-five thousand kids from the slums in universities today that were picked out just like that. Right out of the dirt of the slums. They were intelligent, they tested, they were found to far above the average, they never would have had a chance. They would have gone down the road of ruin, and 35,000 of them today at great universities, because there was an adventure in opportunity or a war on poverty.

Now that's pretty darn important. How do I know those 35,000 may come up with some answers to some of our problems. And every day this is beginning to happen. A million, two hundred fifty thousand children in Project Headstart. They are an adventure in opportunity. They never would have had it unless we'd have tried this. It's a wonderful thing. And 16,000 kids that were school drop-outs, lost and gone, in the Job Corps and I know you've heard a lot of complaints about it. Well let me tell you that every boy and girl that went into the Job Corps went in there on his own volition. He volunteered, he or she, and everyone of them was a trouble child, everyone of them in trouble, and everyone of them in enough trouble that your local community service couldn't help them. And we've graduated 16,000, and of the 16,000, 13,000 have jobs.

The 5 percent that came in that ever had a job, of the total number that came in, 5 percent had had a job. Their average wage was 70 cents an hour.

Of the 13,000 that now have jobs, out of the 16,000 that have thus far graduated, their average wage is \$1.71 an hour. And I hear people say you know it costs an awful lot to train them. Well it does, but it doesn't cost as much to train a boy in the Job Corps as it does to send them to Harvard. You don't pay the cost of everything if your boy or girl goes to college. They tap everybody else for that, you know. I've got three of them in college. I don't kid myself. I think I ~~am~~ am paying all I can possibly pay and one of them at least is doing a better job paying his own way than his other two brothers. But the fact of the matter is, what family ever paid for the education of their children. You just pay a token, a little tuition. You didn't pay for the library and the buildings. Some charitable group, some philanthropist or the state tax payers paid for that. Of these 16,000, 13,000 of them at \$1.71 an hour. You know what, we're going to get all the money back that we ever put into their training. We have a way to do it. We just deduct every paycheck. (LAUGHTER) (APPLAUSE)

I think I ought to tell you one little human interest story. There was a young lady down at New Orleans that was in one of these opportunity centers, and she had her orientation program, her indoctrination and she got a job. She'd never had a job in her life. She had been in all kinds of trouble, an unmarried mother, tremendous troubles. Finally she got a job over at a medical office where they printed medical publications. And she had her first check and when that first check came she came back to her sponsor and she looked at that check and she started to cry. She said this is the first check I've ever received in my life and I'm 28 years of age; the first check I've ever received that I earned. I got some welfare checks, but this is my first one I ever received.

I'm the happiest person in the world. She said I'd like to keep it except I need the money so badly. I just wish I could have it because it will live in my memory all of my life. Well this teacher was deeply moved and four months later this same lady came back. (Just to show you what rehabilitation takes place.) She was so proud that first check, she was so grateful for the opportunity that had become hers, she loved her country for the chance she'd been given. Four months later she came back and she says I just want you to see. Look what they've done to my check. She said look at the tax deductions they're already taking out. (LAUGHTER) Now that's rehabilitation! (LAUGHTER) Real normal citizen.

Well, we're going to try to do something this summer and all year long with our young people. You and I know that most of the people that need jobs now, I mean most of the people that are equipped for jobs, can get jobs. We're now getting down to the hard core as they call it. Right down where it's mighty difficult to place a person on a job. A simple example is that when a corporation advertises for 100 workers and 100 untrained workers are sent today, 85 of that 100 never last a week. That's the average. A big company advertises for 100 workers, the employment office sends them 100, 85 leave after the first week and they don't know whatever happened to them; 15 stay. We put up these big training programs like some of you have for example in your city, IOC, Reverend Sullivan's program. Some of you have these manpower training programs and other programs. We've got all kinds of them going. We have a million young people in training today. This 14th day right now of March. Five years ago we didn't have one. Not one. So I know we haven't done enough, but we've done a million times better than they did 5 years ago.

These young people are getting jobs. And let me tell you the difference. When you give them the training, the orientation, when you give them the attention that it takes, and it takes about 4-5 to 6 weeks to get them ready for a job, get them cleaned, show them how to get on a bus, how to get to their job, how to punch a time clock, how to talk to a supervisor, know what to do when the coffee break comes (most of them just went on the lam, just left) (LAUGHTER) That's a fact. But after they've had their indoctrination you know what the results are. You send 100 of them to the employer and instead of 85 leaving, 95 stay. Now that's the average. That's pretty good results.

And you're talking about and I'm talking about now the real tough problems in your town. We in Washington think it's all here. The fact of the matter, this is a very fictitious community in many ways. We have our local problems to be sure in the District of Columbia, but Washington is sort of like a billboard that you just keep listing all the problems on and you get to thinking they're all here. Really the problems I'm talking about are where you live. In my town, in your town. That's where the schools are, that's where the slums are, where the problems are, and that's where the good schools are too; that's where the good housing is and that's where the bad neighborhoods happen to be. So we're talking about where we live. And all Washington does is try to bring this information together, hopefully design some policies with your coordination and cooperation, so that we can meet some of the problems of your town.

By the way, your efforts had been helpful on this. I guess Senator Muskie or somebody told you about the interdepartmental order that's gone out, the Bureau of the Budget Order, to consult with you folks before we put out all these rules and regulations. We've got more lawyers down here that can write more

rules and regulations. We've got more lawyers down here that can write more rules and regulations than a dog's got fleas. (LAUGHTER) And the President of the United States has insisted that before those rules and regulations are written they talk to some of you. Kind of get in touch with reality. I had a battle with one of them the other day. He told me that we couldn't do something because the regulation didn't permit it. I said well now isn't that too bad. I said why don't you change the regulation. I said that isn't in Holy scripture. I can't find any place for it. (APPLAUSE)

And this is a fact. We ought to take a look at these regulations to see whether they fit. There's no use... You know, if you have a waist line of 36 inches there's no use trying to put on 24 inch pants. It just doesn't work. No matter how much you hold your breath. Once in a while these regulations are just plain out of step. And that's why the President ~~said~~ issued an Executive Order. The reason for it was your man Pat, your mayors here, your executive committee got together with the Vice President. I got together with the departments. I got together with Mr. Schultz at the Bureau of the Budget. I took the problem that you gave to me to the President. The President said you mean to tell me that's what's happening. I said that's right. He said, well get that fixed up but soon. One thing I'll say about the President; he is... When he tells you to do something you sort of get the message. (LAUGHTER)

And he's told me now to head up this youth Council on Opportunity, Youth Opportunity. Here's what I want you to do about it. This is going to be a little dull but you sit back and listen now because these are your instructions and I want to be right on target with this one. I don't want to get in any trouble. You know, generally when I get mixed up in these speeches I say something I

shouldn't and it gets in the paper, and I just have a heck of a time. (LAUGHTER)
So I want to be sure this time I don't get in any more trouble than I'm in already.

Now the President's Council, which the Vice President Chairs, will give special emphasis in the next few months to the summer programs which we think can contribute to sound development of youth through special education, through employment like I've been speaking to you about, recreation and health services. Education, employment, recreation and health services. There's a sound reason for this emphasis upon the summer. Even though the Council's responsibility is a year-round one, this emphasis is sound not just because the summer tends to be the time of problems for some youths, but because the summer offers the community a unique opportunity to help prepare its youth.

Historically in our society, the summer has been a time of maximum freedom for your young people from the daily routines of school. Likewise, many of the resources of your community, its youth leaders, the school system itself, are also free to concentrate on special efforts to open up opportunities for youth. In encouraging maximum efforts to help young people for the summer of 1967, the Federal Government has today available tools and programs in far greater supply and more useful application than ever before.

I want to cite some of those to you. Before I do it, remember this. And I look at some mayors around here who have had some troubles in their home towns. Let's not have riots stimulate us into action. Now that can sink right in deeply. Many a community in America has been shocked into action because of violence and riots. I don't think we ought to have a system in which we reward violence. I think we ought to be able to foresee what's going to happen and we ought to take the preventive steps. We ought to do the things that we ought to do anyway

before somebody gets out in the street and tears the place apart and then everybody gets together and says Oh, we've got to do something about this. Because what you're doing really is encouraging the emotional, militant, aggressive forces to take things into their own hands.

Therefore, I say to the established order, to the leaders of the community, work with the people that want to do things in the democratic process. Work with the people in racial groups, in ethnic groups and in religious groups that you may not always agree with, that you may think are a little far out, but at least they want to do it in the democratic nonviolent way. Work with them. Give them a break before it's too late. Find some answers before things get out of hand.

Yet every place that I've been in America where's there's been some trouble on the streets, the programs to give employment and recreation generally came after the windows had been broken and the televisions had been stolen and the buildings had been burned. I think we have come now ~~from a period~~ into a new period if we'll but seize it. From protest to progress. Instead of having these people say "burn, baby, burn" we ought to have them saying and they are saying "learn, boy, learn. Earn, earn, earn." (APPLAUSE)

So I really appeal to the leaders here to go and take a good look at your community. You know your community better than anybody in Washington. You just go back out there and take a look and if you start to sense that there is trouble brewing, and there most likely is, you won't have to get an advanced degree to figure that one out. You go ahead and start to do something about it before it materializes. Call in the responsible leaders who have been your neighbors, been your friends that have been trying to do things with the Urban League and the NAACP and a few other ones. Say listen, let's work together,

Let's get this thing going before it's too late.

Well now, I said we have some Federal programs. We have an expanded neighborhood Youth Corps which can supply more than 165,000 jobs for young people this summer, which provide them with useful work, in which they can provide recreation supervision; public facilities maintenance and a multitude of other services. Take a look at what kind of work these neighborhood youth boys are doing. If they're not doing what you think they ought to be doing, take it up with the officials in charge and say let's get them into park work, public facilities maintenance work, and playground supervision. Now we did that here in the District of Columbia last year. I sort of appointed myself Acting Mayor for awhile around here and had a great time. We raised over \$100,000 in this city from private donations to light the playgrounds and by the way, I found out why the old Washington Senators didn't do too well at night baseball games. The lights that we got for our playgrounds were from the old Washington Senators' ball park out here. I want to tell you, some of them made a candle look like a streak of lightning. (LAUGHTER) No wonder. They had those lights out there; were half dim. Anybody that hit a high fly it just went out into outerspace.

But we did take those lights out and with Pepco (Potomac Electric Power Company here) and their splendid cooperation (I pay them thanks publically wherever I go) we installed those lights in over 80 playgrounds in the city and we raised the money, over \$100,000 for the cost/^{that} was involved and Pepco literally did it at a third or a fourth of what it really cost. We opened up our playgrounds in Washington, D.C. Of course it's a national disgrace that they weren't illuminated before. By gosh, I come from Minnesota. We even have

a lighted playground in Waverly, Minnesota, and only 300 people. Here was the Nation's Capitol. We've got lighted night clubs, but we're short on lighted playgrounds. (LAUGHTER) And I'm going to keep talking like this until we get lights in everyone of them. I want you to know that.

We didn't have three active swimming pools in this city. You'd think we were against water, unless it was on the rocks.(LAUGHTER) Well, we're getting some more swimming pools. And it's just sensible that you have to have them in your own home town. By the way, you can get some portable swimming pools that are very good ones this year at a third of what they cost last year. They are excellent. Aluminum. Terrific. With all kinds of filters and you can put them up in your home town. If you want to find out how to do it, just come around and see me. We can do it and they'll be clean and you'll have something for your children out there to have some fun with. Every kid ought to have a chance to go into a swimming pool in the United States. We ought to put that in the Constitution. Every kid. Since we're ruined half the lakes, we ought to give them a clean swimming pool.

Now we have new Federal supports for manpower training such as the Nelson-Scheuer and Kenned-Javits programs. Our school systems have had a year to plan and to work under the greatly expanded assistance of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. We have Presidential support and we should soon have Congressional authorization for an expanded Headstart program, to deal more effectively with our younger children. We have Community Action Agencies funded under the office of Economic Opportunity, with more experience, sharper goals and established working relationships with local groups and there will be launched within this week a combined effort by the Departments of Labor and Commerce to encourage employers to open up employment opportunities for young

people. Last year through a similar program we were able to open up job opportunities through private industry for more than 1 million deprived and needy young people.

This year we're going to especially concentrate on more jobs for disadvantaged youths, using the full resources of the United States Employment Service, with their Youth Opportunity Office. By the way if you go home and you find a U.S. Employment Service or a State Employment Service office, they get some Federal funds, you know, that doesn't have a Youth Opportunity Window or a Youth Opportunity Office, you go right on in there. If you even want to picket a little bit, whatever you wish to do. You just go in there and get it set up because every office is supposed to have one.

The U.S. Civil Service Commission will also make special efforts to open up more jobs in Government service. We will seek the cooperation of local groups, both public and private, to increase opportunities for summer camping experiences and for related activities in preparation and resulting from such a period of work and recreation. We met just last week with the top camp experts, in my office. I visited with them, top staff people, met with them. Twenty-five percent of the camping facilities of America... Or let's put it this way. Of all the camping facilities in America, there was a 25 percent vacancy. Unused last year. Unused. Now we can do something about that. Let's find out around your respective towns what camps you have out there. Are they all being used.

I belong to the Optimist Club. I know that we have a big camping program up in Minnesota. You belong to your church, they have camping programs. Let's see that those facilities are used for your young people.

We will, through a cooperative national effort to be initiated by a National Share Your Summer Conference, encourage new opportunities for more

advantaged families to share a portion of their summer with the disadvantaged young people. The President's Council on Youth Opportunity is preparing, and within the next few days, will send to the mayors and the executives in the cities throughout the United States a whole packet of suggestions and aims which will assist local planning for youth this summer, including a check list of possible alternatives and brief descriptions of programs already carried out successfully by other communities, so you can see what others have done. This may suggest to local leaders a project which they may wish to organize.

Now the success of our hopes for summer opportunities for young people depends upon the mayors and the executives of our cities. The Federal Government can offer supporting services, but it cannot and it ought not to put together a successful program which meets the needs of your specific community. Every community is different and you're in charge. This can only be done at the local level by local leaders. So, Mr. Mayor or Madam Councilman, or whoever runs your town and is in charge, you and your executive staff, you're the most efficient catalyst which can bring about the planning and the execution of a successful program. The President's Council on Youth Opportunity will try to provide an effective linkage for you with the Federal Government, but the planning and the action and the execution are in your hands.

If you've not done so already, you may wish to consider on your return home, immediately calling together your taskforce on Youth Opportunity in summer, 1967. Call it together with the assumption ~~or~~ the presumption that you're desperately going to need it. Just let me say that you ought to look forward to a summer that will be a challenge to you like no other summer has ever been. So get yourself ready for it.

Your local taskforce might well include representatives of the following:

your recreation department, your local school board, your local employer council such as the chamber of commerce, your labor movement, your private and health and welfare council, your local community action agency, and your local colleges and universities. Let me underscore this. That the colleges and universities ought to be where the action is. You have experts at these colleges and universities. They ought not to be a little meadow of meditation or some kind of a retreat just for reflection. A college and a university ought to be an action instrument and they'll learn more about social science by being involved in your community than they will in that class room. They ought to divide up their time (and I say this as an old teacher). I've been going around talking to the colleges and universities. And the colleges and universities are doing great things.

I just noticed here the other day, for example, out at Stamford University (I was out there; maybe some of you read about that) (LAUGHTER) but what you didn't read about very much was that there at Stamford University the students have organized a wonderful program of assistance in that Bay area on the part of talented young college students to go on out and help the disadvantaged . Now that's the news out of Stamford.

I was down here at Oklahoma State University yesterday and they're doing the same thing. They're doing it up at Temple University in Philadelphia. All around the country young people, professors, graduate students, seniors and juniors, are being brought into community action programs. On a volunteer basis, many of them. You ought to go to your colleges and universities and talk to the dean and the president and say listen, how about including in the curriculum a little time for these budding political scientists and these budding would-be public administrators to come on down town and put in about 3 hours a week working in one

of the departments. A kind of intern's internship, while they're going to school. That gives you some help and they'll learn a whole lot more than they'll learn reading; they'll learn from doing.

So, my friends, I'm going to conclude my message with you this morning by asking you to really bear down on education, employment and recreation and health services. You ought to go away from here asking yourself what are your plans for these things. What is your need in your town. Are the playgrounds, the school playgrounds and the recreational facilities in your town to be open this summer. Are they to be lighted for fulltime use by the children of the community throughout the summer.

In order to make these resources available under proper supervision, have they explored the possibility of supporting staff from the neighborhood Youth Corps and from the university and other places for these programs. By the way take a chapter out of Sears & Roebuck in Chicago. You know what they did in their parking lots? The workers put their cars in there all day and at the end of the day the Sears & Roebuck people working with the Municipal Services of Chicago cleaned up those parking lots, had these big machines come in and sweep them, laid out all kinds of badminton courts and volley ball courts and basketball courts and had mobile units and opened up the parking lots at night, fully illuminated for the children of that neighborhood.

You don't need to build a new playground. They are all there. Get your police department to seal off 4 or 5 streets. Get some mobile bands and bring them on in. Get the trucking companies to bring in mobile bands and have your mobile equipment set up your basketball court, set up your ping-pong tables, set

up your volley ball courts, bring in a portable swimming pool. You can do it. We don't always have to have a checkbook. Sometimes it can just be done. You'd be surprised how well it works. It has worked well in some of our neighboring cities.

Then ask yourself has the leadership of the school system out home really taken a look that there are 12 months in a year; not 9 or 10. Have they reviewed the Elementary and Secondary School Act, to see what ~~the~~ summer programs could be initiated beginning in fiscal 1968, which begins July 1, 1967. Have the private agencies which run summer camps sought ways to offer additional opportunities for summer camping experiences. Have they really assessed the likely vacancy rate in camps, which I mentioned, which serve your community, in order to plan for ways to make sure that no disadvantaged child is denied this opportunity while beds stand vacant in these camps.

Have the community action programs and private groups planned together the ways to establish and underwrite health services in the inner city for inner city children. Have local officials exercised tight accounting controls so they know full use has been made of Federal funds. Let me give you an example. I hope that we don't have another one like this. We found last summer that one city had 2 million dollars of Federal funds up in its bank that it sort of lost for summer programs. It went unnoticed and unspent. That's literally unheard of, but it did happen. And we do find, as we look around, that there are funds unused.

Have the members of your taskforce, both those from summer camp groups and recreational and educational groups fully investigated the availability of surplus foods and milk from the Federal Government. Have you looked at the availability of Federal property. Why the other day here in Washington we had children

in this city sleep on the floor and a junk dealer from Brooklyn came down here and bought from one of our Federal establishments mattresses for 38 cents a piece. And we had such bureaucratic snafu around here that we couldn't find out how to get those mattresses that were righthere in Washington to the people in Washington that needed them. When I tried to get them back, I want to tell you, I could have settled the war in Vietnam sooner than I could settle that. (LAUGHTER) It was really something.

So I'm telling you, if you have a Federal establishment around your place, a Federal base, go to that general or that colonel that's in charge or the admiral or the captain and say what can you do to help us in this summer program. Do you have a swimming pool out here that you can open up. Do you have some playground equipment. Do you have some extra blankets. And by the way if you have a textile manufacturing company, if you have a shirt manufacturing company, go to them and tell them you want little jersies for all the little kids that are going to take this athletic program. Have them on there. Have the name of your town. Get some name on them. We did it here in Washington last summer and it was magnificent. We didn't pay a nickel for them. You ought not to pay for any of this, you know; just ask. (LAUGHTER) How do you think we keep our churches open? We have to ask. Ask and it shall be given. Seek and ye shall find. It still works in politics too, and it will work in your city.

Go on out and find them. There are shoe manufacturers that will help you with tennis shoes for your kids. There are athletic manufacturers that will help you with athletic goods. I went out here to Junior Village when I was a Senator (this is for our disadvantaged children) and I found they didn't have playground equipment. I just made one little talk in the Senate about the shortage of playground equipment and I was deluged. We got so many baseball gloves,

bats and balls that I didn't know what to do with them. People are generous in America. The American business community wants to help you. Go to them. Ask them for help. Tell them to help pay for this. It's a whole lot easier to pay for recreation on the streets than to go around and pay later on to repair the broken windows and to repair the burned out buildings and to repair the damage of bitterness and hatred that crops up in these communities. I'm here to tell you that the most socially conscious element in your community (believe it or not) will be the man that most likely runs the biggest business.

Because they've been brought alive. All over American they're trying to help. Go to them. Don't wait for President Johnson or Vice President Humphrey. Get your name in the headlines. Mayor so and so has youth program for 5,000 needy children. Listen, that will get you more good... I don't want to talk politics, but it will sure help. (LAUGHTER) (APPLAUSE)

Thank you, my friends. I've kept you far too long, but I feel so strongly about these things. If we can be helpful to you, the Vice President's office is equipped, organized, staffed to help you. I don't care what hour of the night you call. If you want to get me you can call through the White House switchboard; they'll find me, so help me, no matter where I am. If you need our help, we'll be there. But I want us to have a partnership. I want to have this the best summer America ever had. I'm Chairman of this Council. I love our young people; so do you. I find most of them are pretty good, too. They want to do things. Call on the talent in your community. Get your best swimmer, get your athletes, get your college teachers, get your businessmen, get the people that have never been called on before. Mobilize them. Get that police department of yours out there to become a recreation unit as well as a law enforcement unit. Let them go and visit with the kids and play with them. The police and the

children ought to be friends, everyone of them.

Some time I'll come back and talk to you about that again. Thank you,
very much. (APPLAUSE)



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