ARRIVAL STATEMENT --- VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

ROME --- MARCH 30, 1967

Ars. Humphrey and I want to express our appreciation to you for your generous welcome.

We have for your generous welcome.

It is a great pleasure for us to come to Italy and to this ancient city of Rome.

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I have come here to obtain the views of the leaders of this great republic on subjects that vitally concern all of us. And I shall have the honor of calling on His Holiness, Pope Paul VI.

This is a time of great new opportunities -- the opportunity to strengthen the North Atlantic Alliance ... to conclude a treaty to halt the spread of nuclear weapons ... to complete the Kennedy Round and thus reduce the barriers to international trade ... and to expand our technological cooperation.

We share with you the ideal of Atlantic Partnership and

the ideal a united Europe with which the United States can work
in close cooperation and on equal terms.

We share with you, too, the vision of a world living in brotherhood and in peace -- a world, as Pope Paul said in his historic Encyclical earlier this week, where men are determined "to wage war on misery."

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Many millions of our fellow citizens came from these shores. These sons of Italy make productive and responsible citizens and many have risen to positions of highest responsibility in the United States.

We are also reminded of Italy's vital role in world affairs, of the steadfast defense of freedom and democracy in this strategic peninsula, and of Italy's great contribution to European and Atlantic security and cooperation—and Italy leadershy in the Vast Mediuman area.

With few other nations are the ties that bind us together so close and cordial as with Italy.

Saragat, Frime Minister Moro, Vice Premier Nenni, and with you,

Minister, to exchange views on our common endeavors toward

peace and a better life for all mankind. We feel that we are not only

in a country with which the United States is closely allied, but that

we are also among close friends.

TOAST BY VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

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IN RESPONSE TO PRIME MINISTER MORO ---- MARCH 31, 1967

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Mr. Prime Minister, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen:

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I thank you most sincerely for your kind words.

to exchange views with you and your colleagues on common problems and interests. It is heartening to know that our two peoples and governments are united as never before in our common purpose --

the achievement of a just peace and the achievement of a better, more secure world.

Mr. Prime Minister, you have recently completed three years at the helm of the Italian Government. In the great tradition of de Gasperi, you have shown courage, justice and statesmanship in achieving progress and reform at home, while furthering European unification, the Atlantic Alliance and world peace in the foreign field. I assure you that the friendship and good wishes of the American people are with you in your endeavors.

I have already met with some European leaders on this trip -
I will meet with others before returning to America -- and have been gratified by the support I have found among our NATO partners for our joint efforts to strengthen the Alliance and to make progress in other fields such as non-proliferation of nuclear arms. They also, like you, are striving to achieve greater European unity and a more effective partnership with America. I am reminded of the words of the

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Venerable Bede who wrote "While the Colosseum stands, so will Rome; but when Rome falls, the world will end." As every visitor to Rome can see, the Colosseum still stands, and I am tempted to paraphrase Bede and say that so long as America and Europe work together, the world will not end but will prosper.

I raise my glass, gentlemen, to the health of your President and of the great Italian nation and people, knowing that in doing so I express the sincere wishes of the people of the United States.

TOAST FOR PRESIDENT SARAGAT

MARCH 31, 1967

BY VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY --- MARCH 31, 1967

Mr. President:

I thank you most warmly for the kind words you have just spoken.

It is a great pleasure for me to be in Rome again and to participate with you and your colleagues in exchanging views on common problems and interests. I think of my visit to Rome in 1961. I met a number of Italian leaders then and found a friendship and cordiality,

and interest in my country that I shall always remember. I met you then, Mr. President, and learned much from your incisive comments on Italian and world affairs.

I am thus very happy to renew our personal relationship. Our two countries are united as never before in a common purpose, the achievement of peace with justice and social and economic progress in conditions of security and freedom.

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Mr. President, I do not intend to review your illustrious record in the service of Italy and the West, for this is a toast and not the reading of what would surely be a lengthy discourse. However, I want you to know of the high esteem that all Americans hold for you. We know you as a strong and courageous friend of the United States, and as a staunch and consistent supporter of the Atlantic Alliance and of Italian democracy against Communism and Fascism. We know of your support and guidance for the various steps undertaken over the last decade to achieve

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the integration of Europe, within the framework of a close Atlantic partnership between Europe and the United States.

I wish to stress our continued dedication to the concept of partnership with a uniting Europe. As used by President Kennedy in 1962 and subsequently by President Johnson, partnership conveys a sweeping conception — an ideal — of a united Europe with which the United States could work in close cooperation and on equal terms. We are determined to play our full part in achieving this ideal.

Mr. President, your country and mine share common goals. We believe in one world of peace and liberty, where every man and woman enjoys individual integrity and every nation is free to decide and to act without serving either domestic tyranny or performing unwilling roles in support of others. I need not say that there are still many obstacles facing us in our common effort to achieve this goal. However, as President Johnson stated in his Columbus Day Proclamation last year,

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"New shores of promise await those who, like Columbus, push on undaunted by the failures of the past or fear of the unchartered future." The task will not be easy but together we will prevail.

To you, whose life is a symbol of the long tradition of Italian enlightenment and genius, I raise my glass, Mr. President, and to the great nation you represent, knowing that I interpret the sincerest best wishes of the people of the United States.

m Prefect - consul-Gent wheeler

Mayor Bargellini APRIL 1, 1967 Saturday acting mayor Jagoria
Thank you, your Excellency, we are delighted to be

See Maria

We have heard from many Americans who have visited Florence since the tragic flood of last November of the amazing courage and fortitude of the people of Florence in rebuilding their

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We have been told that Florence is again as it always has been, a city which every visitor to Italy should see.

This is our first trip here and we are only sorry
that our stay must be such a short one. We are very grateful
to you and to the Government of Florence for the arrangements
you have made for us and are eagerly looking forward to this visit.

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lovely and historic city.

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REMARKS FOR RECEPTION BY COMMUNE OF FLORENCE IN PALAZZO VECCHIO APRIL 1, 1967 Saturday

Thank you, Mr. Lagoria. I should like to read a telegram I have just received from Mayor Bargellini who, as you know, is now in the United States.

"I am a guest in your very important country and send salutations—hoping

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Florence pleases you as much as New York pleases me."

Let me assure you, Mr. Vice Mayor, and ladies and gentlemen, that even after a very short tour here, I am convinced that Florence is one of the loveliest cities in the world, and I am every bit as pleased to be here as Mayor Bargellini could be to be in New York.

I told him I would look after things here during his absence.

I have seen some of the areas which were worst struck by the tragedious floods of last November.

What has impressed me and Mrs. Humphrey is not the damage caused by the floods, but the fact that the damage is hardly noticeable.

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The historic buildings of Florence and the lovely shops on the Ponte Vecchio seem as attractive to the visitor as ever they could have been before last November.

This is ample evidence of the remarkable efforts which all the people of Florence have made in the past months.

Florence has always been a center of great attraction and interest for visitors from my country.

You may be sure, Mr. Vice Mayor, that I will carry back to the United States the message that Florence is as beautiful and bustling as ever and that the interest of Americans in visiting Florence will continue undiminished.

The shortness of my stay in Italy prevents my visiting any other of the famous cities which were devastated during the floods.

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While Florence was perhaps hardest hit, we in America are also much aware of tragedies in such centers as Venice and Pisa and in the beautiful Italian countryside. You all have not only our sympathies but our admiration and respect for the splendid efforts you have made.

DEPARTURE STATEMENT FROM PISA, ITALY SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 1967

Mrs. Humphrey and I want to express our warmest thanks for the hospitality that has been shown us in Italy.

I was able to learn at first hand the views of the Italian Government on a number of important issues.

One does not have to go far to see the economic and social progress Italy has made in recent years.

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This is in part a tribute to the vitality and energy and capacity of the Italian people and their leaders.

It is also a reflection of democracy at work . . . free men working together in the common national interest.

I am confident of the Italian people's commitment to progress in freedom and democracy.

It is this firm dedication which marks the close relationship of our two countries.

We are allied not merely to protect ourselves, but in defense of freedom and progress for independent peoples everywhere.

We depart from Italy heartened by the knowledge that the strong ties binding our two countries continue close and undiminished.

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We also know that the candid and friendly exchange of views we have had can only strengthen our Atlantic Partnership.

Grazie e arrivederci.".

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