

FEDERATION OF JEWISH PHILANTHROPIES

11/15

1. The invocation was given by RABBI KREITMAN (pronounced Krite-man).
2. Escorts to the dinner are Mr. ~~SAMUEL~~ <sup>Bud</sup> J. SILBERMAN, President of the Federation, and Mr. GEORGE H. HEYMAN JR., (pronounced Hyman), Chairman of the Federation Campaign.
3. ABE BEAME is dinner chairman.

(Eddy + Bobby?)  
Fund Raising?)

✓ <sup>abe</sup> Cong MULTER  
✓ Mutter  
✓ Abe Stark  
✓ Arthur Levitt

✓ Abe Beam  
✓ Rabbi Kritezman  
Samuel Selberman (Presid)  
REMARKS George Hyman (Ch)

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

✓ Stanley Steingut  
✓ Julius Leventhal  
Bud Selberman

FEDERATION OF JEWISH PHILANTROPIES

50th  
anniv

BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

NOVEMBER 15, 1967

Char Selman

THE FACT THAT THIS IS A NON-PARTISAN OCCASION  
WILL NOT SERIOUSLY LIMIT WHAT I HAVE TO SAY ABOUT OUR  
GUEST OF HONOR, FOR THE MOST IMPORTANT THING ABOUT  
HIM IS THIS: ⓧ Julius Leventhal - years of community service

STANLEY STEINGUT IS AN AMERICAN POLITICIAN IN THE  
Best FINEST SENSE -- A COMPASSIONATE AND SKILLFUL  
PRACTITIONER OF THE ART OF HUMAN BETTERMENT.

✓ HE HAS EXPRESSED HIS DEEP PERSONAL INSTINCT FOR  
PHILANTROPY THROUGH THE INSTRUMENT OF DEMOCRATIC

POLITICS, AND HIS JOY IN DOING SO HAS BEEN AN INSPIRATION  
TO MEN OF ALL PARTIES.

WE ARE ALSO HERE TO CELEBRATE THE FIFTIETH  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST CHARITABLE

ORGANIZATION -- THE FEDERATION OF JEWISH PHILANTHROPIES.

NO OTHER PRIVATE CHARITY IN ANY NATION HAS GREATER  
FINANCIAL RESOURCES AT ITS COMMAND,

MORE IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, IS THE CREATIVE AND  
ENDURING IMPACT THAT FEDERATION HAS HAD ON THE LIVES  
OF DOWNTRODDEN PEOPLE OF ALL FAITHS. IN A WORLD STILL  
~~ideological,~~ TORN BY RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS TENSION, YOU HAVE GIVEN  
UNBLEMISHED EXPRESSION TO THE HIGHEST JUDEO-CHRISTIAN  
IDEALS OF BROTHERHOOD AMONG MEN.

AND YOU ARE SUCCESSFUL ~~in no small part,~~ BECAUSE YOUR  
COMPASSION HAS ALWAYS BEEN EFFICIENTLY ADMINISTERED.

I WAS REMINDED A FEW DAYS AGO THAT DURING WORLD WAR II,

WHEN BRICKS AND MORTAR FOR HOSPITALS WERE SCARCE,  
YOU PUT YOUR RESOURCES INTO PLANNING FOR THE <sup>future</sup> WELFARE  
NEEDS OF NEW YORK DURING THE NEXT TWO DECADES. THE  
EFFICIENCY AND SCOPE OF YOUR PRESENT SERVICES, AND THE  
EFFECTIVE COOPERATION YOU HAVE ACHIEVED WITH PUBLIC  
AGENCIES IN THIS CITY, ARE TESTIMONY TO THE SUCCESS  
OF THAT PLANNING EFFORT.

\* \* \*

FEDERATION'S NOBLE EXAMPLE INVITES REFLECTION  
ON THE GENERAL STATE OF GIVING AND CARING IN AMERICA TODAY.

OUR PAST RECORD IS ONE WE CAN BE PROUD OF.

THERE ARE, IN THE UNITED STATES, MORE VOLUNTARY  
ORGANIZATIONS WITH MORE MEMBERS, MORE CONTRIBUTORS,  
AND MORE DIVERSE SERVICES, THAN IN ANY OTHER NATION.

IN YEARS PAST, AS MANY AS ONE AMERICAN IN SEVEN HAS  
CONTRIBUTED TIME OR MONEY TO CHARITABLE CAUSES.



ANCIENT TRADITION DICTATES THAT RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD PROVIDE FOR THE NEEDY. THAT TRADITION IS REFLECTED IN THE SACRED WRITINGS OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE AND IN THE DEEDS OF THEIR LONG HISTORY, EVEN IN TIMES WHEN THEY THEMSELVES WERE PERSECUTED.

BUT WE AMERICANS HAVE ADDED A NEW DIMENSION TO GIVING BY MAKING IT A PART OF SECULAR MORALITY.

GIVING IN THE UNITED STATES HAS BECOME AN INTEGRAL PART OF COMMUNITY LIFE. IT IS A PART OF THE PHILOSOPHY OF FREE ENTERPRISE -- WITNESS THE CHARITABLE FOUNDATIONS THAT ARE A PECULIAR HALLMARK OF AMERICAN BUSINESS -- OF LABOR, FRATERNAL, PATRIOTIC AND COUNTLESS OTHER GROUPS.

OUR RECORD AS A GENEROUS PEOPLE INCLUDES MORE THAN CARE FOR THE NEEDY. IT INCLUDES STEADY PROGRESS IN CIVIL RIGHTS AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY. IT INCLUDES

Free  
Enterprise

A SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM AND MEDICARE WHICH ARE  
NOT ONLY NECESSARY -- BUT DECENT, HUMANE AND RIGHT.

Tonto  
Senate  
Action

AND THIS COUNTRY HAS ALSO BEEN GENEROUS ABROAD.

WINSTON CHURCHILL WAS RIGHT WHEN HE CALLED THE  
MARSHALL PLAN THE "MOST UNSORDID ACT IN HISTORY."

SINCE WORLD WAR II WE HAVE DISTRIBUTED TO PEOPLE  
IN COUNTRIES ALL OVER THE WORLD MORE THAN <sup>8100</sup> ~~5~~ BILLION  
DOLLARS WORTH OF FOOD, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, GRANTS  
AND LOANS.

BUT MOST FOREIGN AID IS NOT CHARITY. IT IS RELATED  
TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS OF THIS COUNTRY,  
AND MUCH WILL BE REPAID WITH INTEREST.

BUT OUR AID PROGRAMS HAVE NEVERTHELESS BEEN  
ORIENTED TOWARD THE NOBLE MORAL OBJECTIVE OF HUMAN  
BETTERMENT. FOUR AMERICAN PRESIDENTS HAVE IDENTIFIED

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, THE IMPROVEMENT OF EDUCATIONAL  
AND HEALTH FACILITIES, AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE IN ALL COUNTRIES AS A NATIONAL CONCERN  
OF AMERICA.

✓ ADLAI STEVENSON HAD AN ANSWER FOR THOSE CRITICS  
WHO HAVE ESTIMATED THE VALUE OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE  
IN PURELY MATERIALISTIC TERMS:

"THERE ARE CONSTANT COMPLAINTS FROM MEN WHO  
SAY WE ARE PLAYING A SUCKER'S GAME OF GLOBAL  
SANTA CLAUS. ✓ I HAVE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO  
UNDERSTAND THE ATTACK ON SANTA CLAUS. ✓ THE  
ATTACKERS IMPLY THAT HE IS SOFTHEADED AND  
SUBVERSIVE. THAT THERE IS NOTHING WORSE THAN  
PLAYING SANTA CLAUS. ✓ BUT SURELY THIS ~~can't~~ <sup>can't</sup> ~~be~~ <sup>is</sup>  
BE GOOD POLITICS. MOST OF US REMEMBER SANTA  
AS A GOOD FELLOW AND A VERY WELCOME VISITOR....  
I WANT TO SPEAK UP FOR HIM." !!

WE HAVE GIVEN MORE THAN MONEY AND GOODS. WE  
HAVE GIVEN LIVES IN TWO WORLD WARS, IN THE KOREAN  
WAR, AND NOW IN VIETNAM, NOT ONLY BECAUSE IT IS IN  
OUR NATIONAL INTEREST, BUT BECAUSE WE HAVE BELIEVED  
THAT MEN EVERYWHERE SHOULD BE FREE.

WE HAVE GIVEN PRIVATELY AS WELL AS THROUGH GOVERNMENT,  
THE RED CROSS, THE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL, THE CHURCH  
WORLD SERVICES, THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES, CARE AND  
MANY OTHER PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS HAVE IMMEASUREABLY  
STRENGTHENED THE HUMANITARIAN IMPACT OF AMERICA IN  
THE WORLD.

THE OLD TESTAMENT URGES: "EVERY MAN SHALL GIVE  
AS HE IS ABLE, ACCORDING TO THE BLESSING OF THE LORD  
THY GOD, WHICH HE HATH GIVEN THEE." I THINK WE AS A  
NATION HAVE LIVED UP TO THAT PRECEPT AS OUR WEALTH  
HAS INCREASED -- UNTIL NOW.

TODAY, HOWEVER, WE SEEM TO BE IN THE MIDST  
OF WHAT CAN MOST CHARITABLY BE CALLED A PAUSE IN OUR *Public*  
NATIONAL PHILANTHROPY.

THE CONGRESS, WHICH IS SUPPOSED TO SPEAK FOR  
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, HAS JUST SENT TO THE PRESIDENT  
A FOREIGN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZATION WHICH  
AMOUNTS TO SLIGHTLY LESS THAN ONE-THIRD OF ONE PER CENT  
OF OUR GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT. THE ACTUAL APPROPRIATION  
MAY BE EVEN SMALLER.

AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MARSHALL PLAN, WHEN  
THIS COUNTRY ITSELF WAS STILL RECOVERING FROM THE  
WAR, WE GAVE OVER 2 PER CENT -- SIX TIMES AS MUCH  
PROPORTIONALLY. TODAY, THREE COUNTRIES PROVIDE  
PROPORTIONALLY MORE AID THAN THE UNITED  
STATES, AND FIVE OFFER DEVELOPMENT LOANS ON MORE  
LENIENT TERMS THAN THIS, THE RICHEST COUNTRY

IN THE WORLD. THE SMALL NATION OF ISRAEL ALONE  
NOW HAS OVER 500 TECHNICIANS IN 39 DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

WHY ARE WE REDUCING OUR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE?

IS IT BECAUSE IT DOESN'T WORK?

IT WORKED FOR JAPAN AND THE COUNTRIES OF WESTERN  
EUROPE, WHICH ARE THEMSELVES GIVING 4 BILLION DOLLARS  
IN AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

IT WORKED FOR GREECE. IT WORKED FOR TAIWAN,  
WHICH IS TODAY ABLE TO PAY THE FULL COST OF ITS  
CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WITH EXPORT EARNINGS  
AND PRIVATE FOREIGN INVESTMENT.

I HAVE SEEN IT WORKING IN FACTORIES, FIELDS,  
AND HEALTH CLINICS THROUGHOUT ASIA, AFRICA AND  
LATIN AMERICA.

DO WE NOW STINT BECAUSE FOREIGN AID PLACES AN  
UNACCEPTABLE BURDEN ON OUR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS?

↳ In 1961, 41 PER CENT OF OUR FOREIGN AID DOLLARS  
WERE SPENT IN THE UNITED STATES. ↳ Now the figure  
IS APPROACHING 90 PER CENT. ↳ Those dollars are

SPENT FOR AMERICAN MACHINERY AND PRODUCTS *in America.*

↳ THE RESULT IS THAT WE DO NOT LEND OR GIVE AWAY  
*instead* DOLLARS AND GOLD; WE SHARE THE MACHINERY, THE FOOD AND  
THE OTHER MATERIAL GOODS THAT THIS COUNTRY PRODUCES

IN SUCH GREAT AND SELF-REGENERATING ABUNDANCE.

↳ DOES THE WAR IN VIETNAM MEAN THAT WE CAN NO  
LONGER AFFORD AN ADEQUATE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM?

↳ IT MEANS THAT WE MUST, I SAY,

↳ FOR ~~it~~ IS PRECISELY THE CONDITIONS OF POVERTY,  
IGNORANCE AND DISEASE -- CONDITIONS WHICH FOREIGN AID  
COUNTERACTS -- WHICH LEAD TO DISORDER... WHICH LEAVE  
NATIONS DEFENSELESS AGAINST SUBVERSION AND AGGRESSION.

↳ IT IS PRECISELY THESE CONDITIONS WHICH CAN LEAD TO  
FUTURE VIETNAMS.

↳ TO CRIPPLE OUR FOREIGN AID PROGRAM IS WORSE  
THAN FALSE ECONOMY. IT IS ~~meritless~~ <sup>merciless</sup> WASTE.

↳ THE SAME ~~PARSIVIOUSNESS~~ <sup>false economy</sup> PLAGUES THE WAR ON  
POVERTY HERE AT HOME. ↳ THERE IS A COALITION OF  
RETREAT IN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TODAY WHICH  
IS "PENNY WISE AND PEOPLE FOOLISH," TO QUOTE  
ADLAI STEVENSON AGAIN. —

↳ IS THIS THE YEAR TO CUT MODEL CITIES AND RENT  
SUPPLEMENT REQUESTS? IS THIS THE YEAR TO DISMEMBER  
THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY? ↳ IS THIS THE  
YEAR TO LET COMMUNITY ACTION CENTERS -- WHICH ARE  
A SOURCE OF HOPE IN ALMOST EVERY POOR NEIGHBORHOOD --  
WILT AND DIE FOR LACK OF FUNDS? —

↳ I REFUSE TO RESORT TO THE UGLY ARGUMENT THAT  
SUCH PATENT NEGLECT OF HOPES AROUSED WILL PRODUCE  
MORE VIOLENCE IN ALREADY TENSE CITIES.

*No, indeed - and we  
are fighting to prevent this.*



BUT IS IT TOO MUCH TO SAY THAT THIS CALLOUS  
AND HIGH-HANDED TREATMENT OF THE POOR MINORITY  
IN THIS RICH COUNTRY DOES VIOLENCE TO THE MORAL  
STATUTE OF AMERICA? *As I see it, this is*  
~~TEST~~ WHERE THE DAMAGE IS *done*

FOR TO TURN BACK NOW IN THE WAR ON POVERTY ~~AT~~  
*to slacken our efforts*  
A TIME WHEN WE CAN AFFORD IT AS NEVER BEFORE, IS A  
DISAVOWEL OF AMERICA'S ~~TEST~~ FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES --  
THE BELIEF THAT EVERY MAN HAS AN EQUAL RIGHT TO LIFE,  
LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS.

YOU ALL KNOW THE EXCUSES OFFERED BY THE COALITION  
OF RETREAT. AS PRESIDENT JOHNSON SAID IN NEW YORK  
LAST WEEK, THEY NEVER WANTED TO DO ANYTHING *in the first place* BUT THIS  
YEAR THEY DON'T WANT TO DO IT BECAUSE OF VIETNAM.

~~THE TROUBLE IS -- AND THIS IS NOT A PARTISAN REMARK --~~  
~~THAT THERE ARE MORE OF THEM NOW.~~

THE WAR IS COSTLY. EVERY AMERICAN REGRETS THE

COST NOT ONLY IN TREASURE BUT IN LIVES LOST ON

BOTH SIDES. IT IS A COST, I BELIEVE, THAT THIS NATION

MUST BEAR IF IT EVER MEANS TO ACHIEVE A PEACEFUL,

STABLE WORLD.

— BUT IS THE WAR ON POVERTY -- THE WAR FOR FULL

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE NEGRO, THE SPANISH AMERICAN,

THE MEXICAN-AMERICAN CITIZEN <sup>the poor</sup> -- ANY LESS URGENT THAN

THE WAR IN VIETNAM?

# AMERICA NEEDS TO DO SOME SOUL SEARCHING WE

NEED TO PROBE OUR FUNDAMENTAL INTENTIONS TOWARD THE

WORLD AND TOWARD OUR OWN PEOPLE. FOR THERE ARE SOME

*We think not - We believe  
that we must wage the struggle  
on both fronts*

SIGNS THAT WE ARE ON THE VERGE OF A MORAL BACKSLIDE  
TODAY.

I DO NOT WANT TO SOUND TOO PESSIMISTIC, FOR I  
THINK THOSE SIGNS ARE SUPERFICIAL. THERE IS PLENTY  
OF EVIDENCE THAT THE TRADITIONAL AMERICAN GENEROSITY  
AND FAIR-MINDEDNESS ARE STILL EVERY MUCH ALIVE, EVEN  
IF THEY ARE SOMETIMES MUTED IN THE LOBBIES OF  
WASHINGTON.

FOR EXAMPLE, THE RANKS OF THE PEACE CORPS ARE  
GROWING. THE PEACE CORPS IS NOW THE LARGEST EMPLOYER  
OF COLLEGE GRADUATES IN AMERICA. THOSE YOUNG  
PEOPLE ARE NOT ONLY GOING ABROAD TO SERVE MANKIND,  
THEY ARE COMING HOME IN INCREASING NUMBERS EACH YEAR TO  
ADD THEIR IDEALISM AND PROVEN DEDICATION TO HUMANITY  
TO THE BLOODSTREAM OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY.

THERE ARE COURAGEOUS YOUNG AMERICANS -- I HAVE  
JUST SEEN THEM -- FIGHTING FOR THEIR COUNTRY IN THIS

NATION'S MOST TRYING WAR. THERE IS NO DOUBT ABOUT  
THE DEDICATION OF THOSE YOUNG MEN. THEY TOO, WILL BE  
RETURNING TO ENRICH THE FIBRE OF THIS NATION.

*negu mayn in de.*

↳ THEN THERE IS THE QUESTION OF <sup>the so-called</sup> ~~THE~~ BACKLASH,  
WHICH IS THE GREAT TEST OF THIS NATION'S SENSE OF  
FAIR PLAY TODAY. <sup>yes,</sup> BACKLASH EXISTS, BUT TWO NEGRO  
MAYORS WERE JUST ELECTED IN CITIES WHERE THE MAJORITY  
IS WHITE. <sup>ok</sup> THE MARGINS WERE NARROW, BUT THE HURDLE  
IS PASSED. <sup>ok</sup> YOU WILL REMEMBER THAT THIS COUNTRY  
ELECTED ITS FIRST CATHOLIC PRESIDENT BY ONLY A  
NARROW MARGIN -- AND THEN QUICKLY FORGOT THE  
NOVELTY OF IT ALL.

↳ THERE ARE OTHER HOPEFUL SIGNS. <sup>ok</sup> BUSINESS IS  
CONCERNED WITH POVERTY AS NEVER BEFORE. <sup>ok</sup> LABOR IS  
<sup>last</sup> WRESTLING WITH THE VESTIGES OF DISCRIMINATION.

↳ COMMUNITIES ALL OVER THE NATION ARE FACING UP TO THE

NEED FOR EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR MINORITIES.

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
DESPITE THE HEADLINES, THIS COUNTRY IS  
FUNDAMENTALLY SOUND; AND WHEN THE PEOPLE SPEAK,  
AS THEY WILL IN THE ~~1948~~ ELECTIONS, AND AS THEY DO  
IN P.T.A. MEETINGS, IN THEIR LODGES AND IN THEIR  
BUSINESSES EVERY DAY, THEY WILL CONTINUE TO SPEAK  
WITH THE VOICE OF FAIRNESS, <sup>opportunity</sup> CHARITY AND BROTHERLY LOVE.

WOODROW WILSON SAID IT WAS HIS DREAM "THAT  
AMERICA WILL COME INTO THE FULL LIGHT OF THE DAY WHEN  
ALL SHALL KNOW THAT SHE PUTS HUMAN RIGHTS ABOVE  
ALL OTHER RIGHTS AND THAT HER FLAG IS THE FLAG NOT  
ONLY OF AMERICA BUT OF ALL HUMANITY."

THAT DREAM IS STILL ALIVE. LET US RESOLVE TO  
MAKE IT A REALITY.

# # #

1 FEDERATION OF JEWISH PHILANTHROPIES  
2 50TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER  
3 ROYAL BALLROOM, AMERICANA HOTEL  
4 NEW YORK CITY  
5 NOVEMBER 15, 1967  
6 ADDRESS: MR. HUBERT H. HUMPHREY,  
7 VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

8 Thank you very much my very good friend  
9 and gentlemen whose friendship I truly cherish, Abe  
10 Beane and Rabbi Kreitman, the President and the Chair-  
11 man of the Federation; Mr. Silberman and Mr. Hyman, and  
12 so many of our distinguished fellow Americans that are  
13 here tonight. I was looking up and down the line to  
14 see if my friend Abe Molter is here - I hope he is -  
15 and I did see Abe Stark and Arthur Levitt, and I do  
16 hope that others that I wanted to see, this evening,  
17 I will have a chance to before I leave, and old friend  
18 Charlie Selver, as I came down the line, Charlie, I'm  
19 glad to see you here and many, many others.

20 I'm happy that I can share this evening  
21 tonight with you, I'm happy because I'm in the company  
22 of some very generous and very good people. I'm happy  
23 to celebrate a Birthday Anniversary, even if it's the  
24 50th, that makes me a little younger than I am, and  
25 I'm always happy on that sort of an occasion. But,  
most importantly, I'm happy to be here because the work  
of this Federation represents the kind of work that I  
believe is needed in every community, by every group of



1 people, in our land. And I want to talk to you, a  
2 little bit, tonight about my philosophy of civic  
3 service and social service and to share with you  
4 some thoughts that may be worthy of your interest.

5 First, I want to say to Abe Beane  
6 and Stanley, I'm going to get around to Stanley and  
7 around to Mr. Levanthal, but I want to say that any  
8 Fund Raising Event this early in the year does  
9 intrigue me (LAUGHTER) this is a good place to get  
10 some practice for what we may have to do a little  
11 bit later. But I was sort of taken aback here, just  
12 for a moment, when I came in, somebody said, Teddy  
13 and Bobby, and I wasn't sure just to whom you were  
14 referring. (LAUGHTER) (APPLAUSE) But I can assure  
15 you we'll all be on the same team, don't worry about  
16 that.

17 Of course, this is a non-partisan occasion  
18 and I fully appreciate it and I'll try to direct my  
19 remarks within that framework, with an occasional slip,  
20 but what I have to say tonight, on this non-partisan  
21 occasion, will not seriously limit what I want to say  
22 about one of your guests and a very distinguished guest  
23 of honor. Because one of the most important things  
24 about him is this, and I refer, of course, to the gentle-  
25 man that I interrupted when I came to this room. Stanley

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1 Steingut is an American politician in the very best  
2 sense of that term. I have always been proud of  
3 being called a politician, Stanley, because it is,  
4 indeed, the art of human relations, if one can call  
5 it the art, at least the practice of it. But you  
6 are an American politician in the best sense, a  
7 compassionate and skillful practitioner of the art  
8 of human betterment. And my friend Stanley has  
9 expressed his deep personal instinct for philanthropy  
10 and charity through one of his favorite instruments,  
11 the instrument of the Democratic Party and Democratic  
12 politics and his joy in doing so has been an inspira-  
13 tion to men of all parties, because everybody in  
14 public life admires one that takes his stand and  
15 speaks out for that which he believes. And I must  
16 say how very happy we are tonight and I am, particularly,  
17 to share in honoring Mr. Julius Levanthal who, really,  
18 represents the finest traditions and standards of civic  
19 service. Some, what is it? Better than twenty five  
20 years of outstanding, generous, self-sacrificing civic  
21 service. And that is an honor that few have, but it is  
22 surely, tonight, one that you honor by your presence and  
23 by your presentation.

24 Now we are here to honor, or to celebrate  
25 the 50th Anniversary of the world's greatest charitable



1 organization. I wonder if you really realize that  
2 you're a member of the best and charity, the Federa-  
3 tion of Jewish Philanthropies. (APPLAUSE) No  
4 philanthropic organization stands even close, and  
5 no other private charity in any nation has greater  
6 financial resources at its command, nor does any do  
7 a better job in marshalling those resources. Now  
8 I know that I come to but one segment of this great  
9 Federation, but I wanted to come to this one because  
10 it represents a very important part of this great  
11 metropolitan area, and I had a choice, I get about a  
12 hundred of them a day, and I decided I wanted to come  
13 here because of what you are and what you do and whom  
14 you honor tonight. (APPLAUSE)

15 Equally important, however, is the  
16 creative and enduring impact that the Federation has  
17 had on the lives of the down trodden people of all  
18 faiths. In a world that's still rent and torn by  
19 ideological and racial and religious tension, you here  
20 and those that you represent have given unblemished  
21 expression to the highest Judao Christian ideals of  
22 brotherhood among men. And I hope it won't seem senti-  
23 mental if I say to you that these ideals are sorely  
24 needed in this the last third of the twentieth century?  
25 when violence seems to be so much the pattern of the day,

1 when nations seems to be at each others throats, and  
2 even our fellow citizens find it difficult to work  
3 together in communion and community. And I think  
4 you're successful in no small part because your  
5 compassion has always been efficiently administered,  
6 and there is not a thing wrong with having both  
7 compassion and efficient administration. Therefore,  
8 when you give, you know that you give not only to a  
9 worthy endeavor but that you give to an organization  
10 that knows how to apply the bounty of that gift to  
11 very worthy purposes.

12 I was reminded a few days ago that  
13 during World War II when bricks and mortar and steel  
14 for hospitals was very scarce that you put your  
15 resources, during those days, into planning for the  
16 future welfare needs of New York during the next two  
17 decades. You didn't waste your time, you got on with  
18 the job, doing what you could do, with what you had  
19 to do with. The efficiency and the scope of your  
20 present services and the effective cooperation that  
21 you have achieved with public agencies in this city  
22 are testimony to the success of that planning effort.  
23 I wish that I had the time tonight to review with you,  
24 because I sometimes feel that those of us that are so  
25 deeply involved in these matters, even forget what

1 happens, I wish I could review with you the unbelievable  
2 spectrum of activities which this great Federation, this  
3 great Federation underwrites. Just be proud of it,  
4 humbly proud, and prayerfully grateful that you can do  
5 it.

6 Now, Federations noble example, I think,  
7 invites reflection on the general state of giving and  
8 caring in America today. Our past record is one that  
9 this nation can be very proud of. There are in the  
10 United States, for example, more voluntary organizations  
11 with more members and more contributions and more diverse  
12 services than in any other nation on the face of the earth.  
13 So, when some people take a dim view of our America, and  
14 speak of it in terms of derogation, I would remind you  
15 that there has never been a society in which there has  
16 been as much generosity, as much giving, willfully,  
17 voluntarily, as in this society. In the past years, as  
18 many as one American in seven has contributed time and  
19 much time and money to charitable causes.

20 Ancient tradition dictates that religious  
21 organizations should provide for the needy, and that  
22 tradition is reflected in the sacred writings of the  
23 Jewish people and in the deeds of their long and glorious  
24 history. Even in times when they themselves were perse-  
25 cuted, they still gave, shared. But we Americans have



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1 added a new dimension to giving by making it a part  
2 of a secular morality. We've actually made it a part  
3 of public business, as well as private choice. Giving  
4 in the United States has become an intricate part of  
5 community life, it is a part of the philosophy of free  
6 enterprise. I submit that all you need to do is to  
7 look at the charitable foundations that are a peculiar  
8 hallmark of American business, of American labor,  
9 Fraternal, Patriotic, Religious and countless other  
10 groups. No nation on this earth has an economic system  
11 that is as generous in its charity and its philanthropy  
12 as ours. So, when I hear people speak of unkindly and  
13 bitterly of about so-called American capitalism, I like  
14 to remind them that it is a capitalism that not only  
15 has a keen mind, in the business sense, but also a warm  
16 heart. This has been demonstrated by fact and not just  
17 word. Our record as a generous people includes, however,  
18 more than care for the needy. It includes steady progress  
19 in human rights and civil rights and in equal opportunity.  
20 Because the real truth of America is, not that we seek to  
21 build a welfare state, but truly a state of opportunity  
22 for every one of the children of this nation. That's  
23 what we're trying to do. This is the ceaseless and ever  
24 searching task of our country, and it includes such well  
25 known developments as a social security system and medicare

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1 which are not only necessary, but are decent and humane  
2 and right. And how appropriate this night is or, how  
3 should I say it? How fortunate it is to be here tonight  
4 because this noon at the cabinet meeting at the White  
5 House I listened to the President's Commission on the  
6 Health Needs of this nation give its report which will  
7 be made public very shortly. Commission of fifteen of  
8 the outstanding citizens of this land. And, tonight as  
9 I left Washington, and one of the reasons for my tardy  
10 departure, the Senate of the United States if voting  
11 upon the expansion and the great improvement of the  
12 Social Security Act, so that those who are the recipients  
13 of social security benefits will be able to have a  
14 decent income, and benefits worthy of American citizen-  
15 ship. (APPLAUSE)

16 And this country has been generous abroad,  
17 too. Winston Churchill was right when he called the  
18 Marshall Plan, for example, the most unsordid act in  
19 history. Churchill had a way of describing things that  
20 give them a kind of - give them a quality of immortality  
21 and eternity. Since World War II, we as a nation, as a  
22 government, have distributed to the people in countries  
23 all over the world more than one hundred billion dollars,  
24 in food, in technical assistance, in grants and loans.  
25 And, might I add that in the giving it has not weakened



1 us. The truth is that as we shared and gave, we've  
2 had more. I said to a group of young people, just  
3 the other day, the only time this country has ever  
4 been in really serious trouble, is when we closed  
5 our gates to trade, closed our hearts to the needy,  
6 closed our minds to new thought and, subsequently,  
7 closed our banks and lost our business and lost our  
8 farms and, practically, went bankrupt. (APPLAUSE)  
9 The giving and the sharing is more like the seeding  
10 than the harvesting.

11 But most foreign aid that I speak of  
12 is not charity, it is related in a very real sense  
13 to the national security interests of this country,  
14 and much will be repaid with interest, and I speak  
15 of foreign trade at a timely moment, too. Because,  
16 only today did the President sign the Foreign Aid  
17 Authorization Act for 1968. So you picked the right  
18 time for this meeting. Either that or you had more  
19 influence with Congress than either the President or  
20 the Vice President has had to get these things worked  
21 out just as you wanted them for this occasion. Our  
22 Aid Programs have, nevertheless, been oriented towards  
23 the noble moral objective of human betterment, and don't  
24 sell yourselves short, my fellow Americans, the Aid  
25 Programs have not only been good economics and good

1 International Politics, they have been good morals,  
2 and we ought to remember all three. The economics,  
3 the diplomacy or the International Relations or  
4 Politics and the morals. Four American Presidents  
5 have identified economic development, the improvement  
6 of educational and health facilities, and the develop-  
7 ment of agriculture in all countries as a National  
8 concern of America.

9 You know, Pope John, XXIII, that Blessed  
10 Man, reminded us in one of his famous encyclicals that  
11 where there is constant want, there is no peace. And  
12 the people that really contribute to peace, in this  
13 world, are the people that contribute to the battle  
14 against the ancient enemies of mankind, poverty and  
15 hunger, and illiteracy and disease, fear and want,  
16 because that's the real continuing battle. And it's  
17 in that battle that this nation has been involved, in  
18 a very real sense, in all of these postwar years and,  
19 of course, at home in all the years of its national  
20 existence.

21 Now, Adlai Stevenson who had an answer  
22 for those critics who have estimated the value of  
23 foreign assistance in purely materialistic terms -  
24 oh, how I miss my friend Adlai - he always had a way  
25 of saying things that gave it quality and meaning,

1 and the touch of a nobleman. He said, there are constant  
2 complaints from men who say we're playing a succors game  
3 of global Santa Claus, now you've heard that. I've  
4 never been able to understand the attack on Santa Claus,  
5 said Adlai, the attackers imply that he is soft headed  
6 and subversive, that there's nothing worse than playing  
7 Santa Claus. But, surely, this can't be good politics,  
8 most of remember Santa Claus as a good fellow, and a  
9 very welcome visitor. So, I want to speak up for him.  
10 I think I'll adopt that as one of our campaign planks  
11 this coming year, Stanley, speaking up for Santa Claus.

12 Well, however you want to describe it,  
13 let's put it this way, we've given more than money and  
14 goods, that's just a little of what we've given. We've  
15 given lives, in two World Wars, in the Korean War and  
16 now in Vietnam. Not only because it is in our national  
17 interest, and all of it has been and is, but because  
18 we believe that men everywhere should have the right to  
19 be free, to make their choices, to determine their own  
20 course. And we've given privately as well as through  
21 government. The Red Cross, the United Jewish Appeal,  
22 the Church World Services, the Catholic Relief Services,  
23 CARE, and many other private organizations have immeasurably  
24 strengthened the humanitarian impact of America in the world.  
25 I've seen the work of these agencies, all over this world.



1                   You know, I've traveled a bit, both as  
2   Senator and Vice President. As Vice President, I've  
3   been in four continents and thirty countries, traveled  
4   literally hundreds of thousands of miles and I've seen  
5   at work everyone of these agencies and instrumentalities,  
6   and they do good work, and you're contributing to that  
7   good work. The Old Testament urges that every man shall  
8   give as he is able, according to the Blessing of The  
9   Lord, Thy God, which He hat given thee. I'm sure that  
10   Rabbi Kreitman won't mind if I just sort of move in, a  
11   little bit, on rabbinical work here this evening. I  
12   think that we as a nation have lived up to the precept,  
13   as our wealth has increased, at least most of the time,  
14   and I'm going to say, quite frankly, until now.

15                   Today, however, we seem to be in the midst  
16   of what can most charitably be called a pause in our  
17   public national philanthropy. The Congress has just  
18   sent to the President a Foreign Economic Assistance  
19   Authorization which amounts to slightly less than one-  
20   third of one per cent of our gross national product.

21   You can't measure these acts by the total figure, they're  
22   relative. The percentage of our gross national product,  
23   one-third of one percent, and the actual appropriation  
24   according to what we hear may be even smaller. At the  
25   beginning of the Marshall Plan which all of us point to

1 with pride, when this country itself was still recovering  
2 from World War II, we gave over two percent of our gross  
3 national product, to foreign aid. That's six times as  
4 much as we now extend. Today, three countries in the  
5 world provide proportionately more aid than the United  
6 States and five offer developments loans on more lenient  
7 terms than we. The small nation of Israel alone has over  
8 500 technicians right now in 39 developing countries and,  
9 my, what burdens that nation bears. And yet with all of  
10 its burdens, with all of its problems, it hasn't cut back  
11 one bit on its commitments to help others. On the contrary,  
12 it is expanding those commitments.

13 Now, why are we reducing our foreign  
14 assistance? Is it because it doesn't work? If that were  
15 the case then we ought to cut back. Well, it worked for  
16 Japan, the Prime Minister of Japan was into see us here  
17 just yesterday, and Japan today is the third - reaching  
18 to be the third richest nation on the face of the earth.  
19 And it worked for the countries of Western Europe which  
20 are, themselves, now giving \$4. billion in aid to develop-  
21 ing countries which is about, well, almost 50% more than  
22 we extend. It worked for Greece, and it's worked for  
23 Taiwan which is, today, able to pay the full cost of its  
24 continuing development program, with export earnings and  
25 private foreign investment. I've seen all of this, I am

1 not speaking in theory. I've seen it working in  
2 factories, fields and health clinics throughout Asia,  
3 Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and, of course,  
4 in Europe.

5 Do we now stint and cut back because  
6 Foreign Aid places an unacceptable burden on our  
7 Balance of Payments? And we have a right to be con-  
8 cerned about our Balance of Payments, our national  
9 solvency, the value of the dollar. Well, in 1961  
10 40% or 41% of all of our Foreign Aid dollars were  
11 spent in the United States. So, we lost about 60%  
12 into foreign countries that we couldn't reclaim.  
13 Now the figure is approaching 90% being spent here,  
14 at home, so that as the aid goes out to help others,  
15 it really goes out in terms of purchases of services  
16 and materials in the United States to improve our own  
17 economy, to help other people improve theirs. These  
18 dollars are spent for American machinery and products  
19 in America. The result is that we do not lend or give  
20 away any dollars or gold, instead what we do is share  
21 machinery, the food and the other material goods that  
22 this country produces in great and self regenerating  
23 abundance.

24 Then comes the inevitable question. Does  
25 the war in Vietnam mean that we can no longer afford an



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1 adequate foreign assistance program? I say that it  
2 means that we must be able to afford an adequate  
3 assistance program. I just came back from a nation  
4 called Indonesia, the fifth largest nation on the face  
5 of the earth, over a hundred million people. That  
6 nation has just purged itself of Communist control, of  
7 mismanagement, of self-indulgence and exploitation. I  
8 saw the ruins of an economy, as I came to its capital  
9 city of Jarkata. I also saw good people. I met with  
10 the government leaders, I found men today leading  
11 their government that are honest men that are trying  
12 desperately, but I found an economy that had been  
13 sucked dry, so to speak, through false ideology,  
14 wreckless economic projects, or non-economic projects  
15 and self indulgence by leaders. I can tell you, right  
16 now, that a little Foreign Aid in Indonesia may be  
17 more significant than anything else that we can do in  
18 all of Southeast Asia. That may be the difference as  
19 to whether or not that part of the world will be free  
20 or, whether or not, it will fall prey to subversion,  
21 to violence, to aggression and, ultimately, fall into  
22 the hands of totalitarian power.

23 So, you see, it's part of our security,  
24 not just part of our good morals and our charity. It  
25 is precisely the conditions of poverty, ignorance and

1 disease which this Federation fights and has been a  
2 steady soldier in the front line. It's these con-  
3 ditions which Foreign Aid also counteracts and it's  
4 these conditions which lead to disorder, which leave  
5 nations defenseless against aggression and subversion.  
6 And it is precisely these conditions which can and  
7 will lead to future Vietnams. So, I come here tonight  
8 to appeal to my fellow Americans in this environment  
9 where there is such an understanding of the importance  
10 of helping and sharing, to appeal for what I call  
11 preventive medicine. How much less costly it is. To  
12 cripple our Foreign Aid program is not only - not only  
13 violates our national security interest but it's false  
14 economy and it's inexcusable criminal waste. Now, that  
15 same false economy plagues the war on poverty here, at  
16 home, and there is a coalition of retreat in this  
17 country, it's to be found in certain representatives  
18 in the Congress, too, which is "penny-wise and people  
19 foolish," to quote Adlai Stevenson again.

20 The real wealth of this country is in  
21 its people, everyone of its people, and when anyone of  
22 our people is incapable of carrying his fair share of  
23 the load, either through lack of education or lack of  
24 skill or lack of motivation or through hate or bitter-  
25 ness, or whatever it may be, America is weakened just

1 that much, and you have to carry just that much more.  
2 In a very real sense, you have a self interest in  
3 the extension of equal opportunity to every citizen,  
4 because it lessens the load that you may carry and  
5 it helps others to stand strong and tall themselves,  
6 and be self-reliant.

7 So, I ask the question. Is this the  
8 year to cut model cities? I'm in the city of New  
9 York and I'm talking to representatives and citizens  
10 of Brooklyn, an area of the United States that needs  
11 desperately, help from its government, to help rebuild  
12 cities, to rehabilitate whole neighborhoods, to help  
13 rehabilitate people in those cities. Is this the year  
14 to cut rent supplement projects, when so many of our  
15 people live in housing that is unworthy of human kind?  
16 Is this the year to dismember the office of economic  
17 opportunity, as some are trying? I can report to you  
18 tonight, not successfully. We have met the enemy and  
19 they are defeated, thank goodness. (APPLAUSE) And I  
20 wouldn't want you to think that it was easy. Is this  
21 the year to let the community action centers, those  
22 health centers and community centers which are a source  
23 of hope in almost every poor neighborhood to wilt and  
24 die for the lack of funds? Can you in good conscience  
25 permit this to happen, at a time when this nation



1 approaches an \$800. billion economy? Can we fellow  
2 Americans say that we cannot afford to help people  
3 help themselves? I don't think so. It's one thing  
4 to have to tolerate poverty and the effects of  
5 poverty when the nation is so poor it can't do any-  
6 thing but face poverty, but this nation is not poor.  
7 This nation is incredibly wealthy, and what it needs  
8 to do is to allocate it's resources, not in a matter  
9 of handout, but to allocate it's resources so that  
10 people can stand on their own feet in self respect  
11 through training, through education, through motiva-  
12 tion to take care of themselves. That's what we're  
13 trying to do.

14 I refuse to resort to the ugly argu-  
15 ment that some do, that this patent neglect of hopes  
16 aroused will produce more violence in already tense  
17 cities. Some people say if you don't do these things  
18 you're going to have trouble. I don't think we ought  
19 to have to frighten people into doing what we ought  
20 to do anyway. But is it too much to say that this  
21 callous and high-handed treatment of the poor minority,  
22 in this rich country, does violence to the moral  
23 stature of America. And to those Americans today that  
24 are concerned about the moral position of this country,  
25 I ask them to become aroused about what is happening to

1 our own fellow Americans, in America. That's the sure  
2 way to build a peaceful and just society. As I see it,  
3 this is where the damage is done, in the moral stature  
4 of our country. For to turn back now on this war on  
5 poverty, to slacken our efforts, is a disavowal of  
6 America's fundamental principles. The belief that  
7 every man has an equal right to life, liberty and the  
8 pursuit of happiness.

9 Now, you all know the excuses that are  
10 offered by this coalition of retreat, and that's what  
11 I call it, the men of little faith, the doubters, the  
12 pausers, the ones that want to stand pat and in so  
13 doing the world rushes by him. There are all kinds of  
14 excuses made. President Johnson said here, in New York  
15 City, last week, that these people never wanted to do  
16 anything in the first place, but this year they don't  
17 want to do it because of Vietnam, they had to find an  
18 excuse.

19 Well, I know the war is costly and I  
20 know it's ugly, I don't think there's ever been a war  
21 that wasn't costly and I don't know of any that hasn't  
22 been, in a very real sense, tragic. Every American  
23 regrets, and ought to regret, the cost not only in  
24 treasurer but in lives lost on both sides. It is a  
25 cost I believe, however, that this nation must bear if



1 it ever means to achieve a peaceful and stable world.

2 But is this war at home, this war on  
3 poverty, this war for full opportunity, for the poor,  
4 for the disadvantaged, for the Negro, for the Spanish  
5 American, for the Mexican American, for any of the  
6 poor minority, Urban or World, is it any less urgent  
7 than the war in Vietnam? We think not, we believe  
8 that we must be able to wage and be willing to wage  
9 the struggle on both fronts, and that's what we're  
10 asking. And some people say, we're asking too much.  
11 I say that to ask less is to be unworthy of the  
12 Blessings that come to us as a people and a nation.  
13 America needs to do some soul searching. You've been  
14 doing it here tonight in a very practical way, I know,  
15 I missed that part of it. But I've been at many a  
16 meeting like this, as some of you know, where they've  
17 called the cards and I've been right there. And I  
18 want you to know that in case you're moved anytime  
19 during anything that I have to say, and you want to  
20 make any readjustments, don't you hesitate to talk.

21 (APPLAUSE)

22 I think we need to probe our fundamental  
23 intentions towards the world and towards our own people,  
24 for there are some signs that we're on the verge of a  
25 moral backslide today. I don't want to sound too

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1 pessimistic, I'm not a pessimist as you know, I'm  
2 generally accused of being somewhat over optimistic.  
3 I say, in good spirit, down in Washington that there's  
4 so many professional pessimists that I thought the  
5 place was getting crowded over in those precincts,  
6 so I moved on over on the other side and decided to  
7 join in with the few optimists that are still left,  
8 there aren't many of us, but we're a happy lot. So,  
9 when I speak about a little pessimism, I want you to  
10 know that I've given it some serious thought. There  
11 is plenty of evidence that the traditional American  
12 generosity and fair mindedness are still very much  
13 alive in our country, even if they're sometimes muted  
14 in the lobbies, in Washington and State Capitals. For  
15 example, let me tell you, the ranks of the Peace Corps  
16 I'm Chairman of the Peace Corps Advisory Council and  
17 the author of that legislation, I consider it part of  
18 my life (APPLAUSE) those ranks are growing in our  
19 country, the Peace Corps is now the largest employer of  
20 college graduates in America. And some of our great  
21 Universities last year had as many as 25% of their  
22 college graduates that volunteered for the Peace Corps.  
23 Now, they don't get paid much, I'll tell you that, and  
24 they surely don't get nice assignments, It's hard and  
25 difficult work. Now those young people are not only

1 going abroad to serve mankind, which they're doing  
2 well, they are coming home, too, in increasing  
3 numbers each year to add their idealism, their  
4 experience, their maturity and their proven dedica-  
5 tion to humanity, and to the bloodstream of American  
6 democracy. We're getting more than we gave, these  
7 young people that come back from the Peace Corps are  
8 truly gifted leaders, they have been tested in the  
9 refiners fire of the experience and travail.

10 Now, there are other courageous young  
11 Americans that I have seen too, and I've seen many of  
12 the Peace Corps people, I saw them just this past  
13 month in my journey, I've seen them fighting for their  
14 country in this nation's most trying war. I was within  
15 two miles of the DMZ in Vietnam, I was in Da Nang and  
16 Chu Lai, I was with our troops, I heard the bombs burst  
17 and heard the cannon fire and I saw the bombardment.  
18 And I saw these young men, and I saw how lonesome many  
19 of them were, too, and how happy they were to see some-  
20 body from home. But I saw them courageous and brave  
21 and uncomplaining. Now, there's no doubt about the  
22 dedication of these young people. They too will be  
23 returning to enrich the fiber of this nation. And  
24 let me say this to this audience, that everyone of  
25 them that returns deserves the best break that this



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1 country can offer. (APPLAUSE) Many of these young  
2 men that will be returning are in command positions  
3 in the military of your country, many of them are  
4 Negro Americans. And I've said to an audience of  
5 the biggest corporation executives in the United  
6 States, that I addressed here a month ago, that if  
7 a Colonel in charge of one<sup>of</sup> our divisions or regi-  
8 ments or brigades with all of the logistics that's  
9 required for the modern military machine, if that  
10 man is good enough to be a colonel in charge of the  
11 lives of men and the supplies that this government  
12 provides, he's good enough to run a production line  
13 in your factory. Or good enough to manage a depart-  
14 ment in your store. He's good enough to be a part  
15 of this system.(APPLAUSE) So, let's not forget here  
16 tonight that we have a special obligation to see to  
17 it that the same equal opportunity is available in  
18 civilian life that has been provided in military life.  
19 The same chance for advancement, the same chance to  
20 be judged on merit. Because when you're out there in  
21 that battle field, it isn't good enough just to be the  
22 boss' nephew, and be in charge, you have to be a man  
23 of ability and quality and courage and experience and  
24 judgment or you use your life and the lives of others,  
25 more so in this struggle than any other.

1                   Then there is that question of the  
2                   so-called backlash which I think is the greatest test  
3                   of this nations sense of fair play today. I know that  
4                   backlash exists, I've not been around in public life  
5                   this long to pretend or to fail to understand that  
6                   some of the hard facts, and some of them are pretty  
7                   difficult to take, but I want to tell you that the  
8                   President of the United States appointed a man as  
9                   mayor of the City of Washington, D.C. by the name of  
10                  Walter Washington, the first Negro Mayor of a major  
11                  American city, and he's doing a magnificent job.  
12                  That was an appointment, but confirmed by the Congress,  
13                  by the Senate, and given great support but two Negro  
14                  Mayors were just elected in cities where the majority  
15                  of the population is white, and I'm happy to say, Abe,  
16                  my dear friend, just as I was for you, and I admire  
17                  you much, and I say this publicly, anyplace, I was  
18                  for Dick Hatcher out in Gary, and I was for Carl Stokes  
19                  in Cleveland, too, and I'm proud of it. (APPLAUSE) I  
20                  had some people say, you ought to be careful, Mr. Vice  
21                  President, you keep laying your prestige on the line.  
22                  I said, "thank you for the compliment" about the prestige.  
23                  But I'll tell you what I was laying on the line. I think  
24                  that if you are for Civil Rights, if you're for equal  
25                  opportunity, if you really believe that people ought to

1 be judged on merit, then you ought to act that way,  
2 and you ought to stand up and be counted in the most  
3 difficult hour. And even where I saw a political  
4 party of which I am a member fail to support a  
5 candidate, some of us said, we'll support him, and  
6 he was good enough to get elected despite our support.  
7 In all candor, I'm very proud of Americans, very proud.  
8 I know the margins in those elections were narrow, but  
9 the hurdle is passed, a new day has come, and you'll  
10 remember that this country elected its first President  
11 of Catholic Faith by a very narrow margin, but that  
12 hurdle was overcome, too. And never again will it be  
13 said in this country that a man cannot aspire to the  
14 Presidency of the United States because of his religion,  
15 or be denied that opportunity because of his religion,  
16 or his race, or his creed, or his national origin. We're  
17 truly becoming a democratic people, and beginning to live  
18 by democratic ideals.

19 You know, the results of that election,  
20 of our f i r s t President of Catholic Faith will be a  
21 milestone in American history, and then, of course, it  
22 was quickly forgot, the novelty of it all just passed  
23 away and nobody now even thinks about it. Well now,  
24 these are the hopeful signs, this is why I'm an opti-  
25 mist, I tell you there's more good news in this country



1 | than is printed, by far. (APPLAUSE) And I see it  
2 | all across this land. I have been in every state  
3 | in the United States, say one, and I'll be in that  
4 | one before the end of this year. I've been in over  
5 | 500 of the cities and the communities of this  
6 | country, since I've been your Vice President. And  
7 | let me tell you it's hard work but it's also inspir-  
8 | ing work and I have seen so much good that's going  
9 | on. I've seen cities being rebuilt, I've seen whole  
10 | community lives being changed for the good. Oh, I  
11 | know, there are a few things that get out of hand,  
12 | it's just like a family, it isn't always smooth sailing.  
13 | But there is so much that's happening in America, today,  
14 | that's good.

15 |                   And don't sell out your young people,  
16 | either. Don't sell them down the river. I know a lot  
17 | is written about them. But let me tell you my dear  
18 | fellow Americans, that this is the finest crowd of  
19 | young people this nation's ever had. Their healthier,  
20 | they're better educated, they've had more experience,  
21 | they have a better sense of maturity than any other  
22 | generation of young people. Now, this is the testimony  
23 | of men who have to direct them in battle, this is the  
24 | testimony of men in industry, this is the testimony of  
25 | men in the Universities, and this is the observation of

1 a man that has worked with young people all of his  
2 life. I like 'em! And If I can be around them  
3 enough, I'll stay young. (APPLAUSE)

4 And let me just say the rest of the  
5 hopeful signs that I see. Business, for example,  
6 that's supposed to be just profit making to some  
7 people, there's nothing wrong in that, by the way,  
8 if you're going to be in business, that's really  
9 what you ought to be trying to do. Business is  
10 concerned, though, with social welfare, it's con-  
11 cerned with poverty as never before. Some of the  
12 greatest programs today in the whole field of our  
13 endeavor to - in our endeavor to bring about equal  
14 opportunity, some of the best programs are being  
15 conducted by business firms. And labor is wrestling  
16 with the last vestiges of discrimination in its ranks  
17 and contributing immeasurably to freedom in democracy  
18 throughout the world. And communities all over this  
19 nation are facing up to the need for equal educational  
20 opportunities for minorities, as never before.

21 Despite war, despite all the problems,  
22 we're spending more today, investing more in education  
23 than this nation ever dreamed possible, a half a dozen  
24 years ago. The Federal Government's contribution alone  
25 has gone from less than \$4. billion in 1963 to almost



1 \$12½. billion in 1967. We're doing things. So, be  
2 of good faith.

3 I say this, despite the headlines,  
4 this country is fundamentally sound. And you know,  
5 when I make that statement I like to marshal the  
6 evidence. There are so many people that would have  
7 you believe that everything we do is a mistake, and  
8 that your leaders are, if not fools, at least are  
9 misguided. Well, my fellow Americans, I don't believe  
10 that what we have today is the sum total or the result  
11 of the sum total of failures. I don't think that this  
12 great America, the richest, the most powerful and the  
13 most generous nation on the face of the earth came  
14 about because everyone knew not what he was doing. I  
15 know it's the mistakes that get the attention. I  
16 know it's the accident on the highway that gets the  
17 attention, I know it is the excesses of the young  
18 people that get the attention. I know it is the man  
19 that occasionally gets in trouble in politics that  
20 gets the attention. But I submit to you that those  
21 are far in the minority, that there is so much that's  
22 happening that's constructive, that's good.

23 Take a look at the work of this Federa-  
24 tion, and what it means to the lives of hundreds of  
25 thousands of people. And when the people speak, as

1 they will in the elections, as they do in PTA  
2 meetings, in their lodges, in their fraternities,  
3 in their businesses every day, I think they will  
4 continue to speak the voice of fairness, of oppor-  
5 tunity, of charity and of brotherhood, if we give  
6 them a chance and if we offer that kind of leader-  
7 ship and precept and example.

8 I conclude with the words of Woodrow  
9 Wilson. One of the men that was an inspiration to  
10 me as a young man. He said that it was his dream  
11 that America will come into the full light of day  
12 when all shall know that she puts human rights above  
13 all other rights and that her flag is the flag not  
14 only of America, but of all humanity.

15 Ladies and Gentlemen, I have seen people  
16 throughout this world that look upon our flag as the  
17 symbol not of a nation, but the symbol of hope. And  
18 believe me, they do. For every person that you hear  
19 that says people overseas do not appreciate us or do  
20 not like us, let me tell you that I can produce a  
21 million that do.

22 I went down the dusty roads of Central  
23 Java, two weeks ago tonight, in the area that was the  
24 hotbed of Communist control and Communist organization,  
25 less than two years ago. I was there at Da Moc and I

1 was told before I came that you could expect, possibly,  
2 some anti-American outbursts, demonstrations as they  
3 call them. In fact, I'll share this little intimate  
4 detail with you. Those that were with me that were  
5 responsible for my security said that they couldn't  
6 let anybody know what my travel route would be. I  
7 was going out to dedicate some projects that American  
8 food had helped pay for, where people work and are  
9 paid in cornmeal, that was their pay. American food  
10 for work. I saw that day 20,000 young men in one  
11 project with nothing but a hoe and a shovel building  
12 irrigation ditches, and they were away ahead of  
13 schedule. They were so far ahead of schedule that the  
14 major dams that were to fill those ditches with water  
15 were not anywhere near prepared. Ambitious young men,  
16 paid on the incentive system, the more earth that they  
17 removed, the more cornmeal they got. That's all they  
18 got was cornmeal. And my fellow Americans, when I  
19 came into that area there was no government organized  
20 parades, there were no big signs, there was no one  
21 that said, hoorah, here comes the Vice President of  
22 the United States. There had been only a few hours  
23 notice, ahead of time, that the Vice President of the  
24 United States - they didn't know who he was, particularly,  
25 just the title - that he was going to be coming to the

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1 city of Da Moc and as I went down those dusty roads,  
2 and it was 118 in the shade, and it was hot, and  
3 there wasn't any shade, and there was no water that  
4 you could drink. And as I went down those roads  
5 people began to gather, they saw the American Flag  
6 and the Flag of Indonesia, just a little flag, not  
7 as big as that tray that's here on this table,  
8 fluttering from the fenders of our car. No other  
9 markings, people started to gather, that was early  
10 in the morning. When I came back that same route,  
11 that night at 4 o'clock, to go back to Jakarta,  
12 Ladies and Gentlemen, there were more than a million  
13 people on those roads. They had been standing there  
14 since 9 o'clock in the morning, in the heat, and they  
15 were shouting Merdecca! America! Freedom! America!  
16 Thank you, America. And they weren't organized,  
17 nobody paid them, there wasn't any clack that was  
18 sent out to get them aroused, they were just there  
19 and they were applauding and they were cheering and  
20 they were thanking the American people for what, a  
21 little cornmeal, but for what else? For hope. The  
22 children stood there and they sang out the words,  
23 Merdecca! Freedom! Freedom! Freedom! America! America!  
24 America! I'll never forget it. Over a million of  
25 them.

1                   So my fellow Americans, compassion  
2                   does pay. What pays more importantly is to do  
3                   what's right. And I think Woodrow Wilson was right  
4                   that the Flag of America must be more than the Flag  
5                   of this nation, it must be more than just a symbol  
6                   of the 50 states of this Republic, it must be, as he  
7                   put it, the Flag of humanity, it must represent hope  
8                   and justice and opportunity and decency and brother-  
9                   hood. And that's what these gatherings are all about,  
10                  that's what your contributions are all about. And I  
11                  think that dream of Wilson's is still alive and I  
12                  happen to believe that if we'll buckle down to the  
13                  tasks that we have before us that it can become a  
14                  reality in our time.

15                  I want to thank you, very much, for  
16                  letting me participate in this evening and share in  
17                  this time with you. It's been a special joy to be  
18                  here and to salute old friends, to be in the presence  
19                  of dear friends, and people that I honor and hold in  
20                  honor, I should say, and respect so very much.

21                  Thank you, very much.

22                  (APPLAUSE)

23  
24  
25





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