

DEPARTURE STATEMENT

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

ANDREWS AF BASE

Washington, D. C.

December 29, 1967

Mrs. Humphrey and I are honored to depart this morning on a mission with a party of distinguished Americans, to the continent of Africa.

In the next two weeks we shall visit the Ivory Coast, Liberia, Ghana, Congo, Zambia, Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya and Tunisia.

We are especially honored that, in Liberia, we shall have the opportunity to attend -- along with Justice Thurgood Marshall and Mr. Edgar Bronfman of New York -- the inaugural ceremonies of America's good friend, President William Tubman.

We intend to make clear America's commitment -- in Africa as in our own country -- to peaceful development and to human opportunity. We intend to renew President Johnson's commitment to the ultimate defeat -- in Africa as in our own country -- of poverty, ignorance, malnutrition and disease.

We go to Africa to listen and to learn. We look forward to renewing old friendships and to making new ones. Mrs. Humphrey and I know that we shall carry with us to the people of Africa, the good wishes and friendship of the people of the United States.

We expect to return with a much better understanding of the problems and the promise of a vast and important continent. I hope that, at the same time, we shall have left in Africa a better understanding of America.

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