



CBS Television Network Press Information, 51 West 52 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019

February 21, 1968

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY TO INTRODUCE
RED SKELTON'S SPECIAL PROGRAM FEB. 27

"Laughter - The Universal Language," Skelton's Pantomime Concert,
Performed Before International U.N. Diplomatic Audience in New York

Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey introduces Red Skelton and welcomes his distinguished audience of United Nations diplomats to "Laughter - The Universal Language," Skelton's pantomime concert to be broadcast on "The Red Skelton Hour" Tuesday, Feb. 27 (8:30-9:30 PM, EST) in color on the CBS Television Network.

The Vice President taped his introductory remarks in Washington on Wednesday, Feb. 21 as a preface for the pantomime concert. The concert itself was taped the previous night in New York before a black-tie audience representing 73 missions at the United Nations. Mr. Humphrey was unable to attend the New York performance because of Washington commitments.

"Laughter - The Universal Language" is performed by Skelton without dialogue, except for the announcer's spoken introductions, which are in English and French.

Following the taping of the broadcast, Skelton and Mrs. Skelton greeted the diplomatic audience at a formal reception tendered by the

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CBS Television Network and the United Nations Association - U.S.A. at the Plaza Hotel in New York.

In the receiving line with the Skeltons were Thomas H. Dawson, President of the CBS Television Network, and Mrs. Dawson; Oscar A. deLima, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the United Nations Association, and Mrs. deLima; and William B. Buffum, United States Deputy Ambassador to the United Nations, and Mrs. Buffum.

Missions represented at the taping and the reception included: Afghanistan, Argentina, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Cambodia, Ceylon, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Holy See, Honduras, Iceland, India, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Kuwait, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Dahomey, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela, Vietnam, Yemen, and Zambia.

The special program is Skelton's second pantomime performance for a United Nations audience. He first appeared before an audience of U.N. representatives on Sept. 27, 1960, in a show that saluted the 15th anniversary of the United Nations. That performance resulted in his winning the Award for Distinguished Service, highest honor of the United States Information Agency.

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Text of Vice President Humphrey's remarks follows:

"Good evening ladies and gentlemen of the United Nations, and that means all of us. We will share tonight the pleasure of seeing a great comedian. Laughter is his gift. Laughter is the music of the soul, a gift the world needs.

"There is another gift we can give to our fellow men -- our commitment to world peace.

"This is the mission of the United Nations. It is dedicated to ending the tragedy of war, the pain of want, and injustice.

"The diplomats in the audience tonight have tremendous responsibilities. They work with complex problems.

"This old world of ours has millions of square miles and billions of people, and almost anywhere you look tension and trouble. To meet these problems requires goodwill, patience and understanding. Communication is the key, clear and calm words and dialogue.

"But there is another means of communication, the oldest form known to man, silent -- through gestures and expressions -- pantomime.

"Tonight, we're going to witness a remarkable exhibition of this skill. We'll see the universal language of pantomime, bringing the universal gift of laughter. In this world of conflict and noise pantomime brings a welcome relief. We'll be reminded that human beings the world over, despite many differences, do feel common emotions and needs. And the greatest of man's needs is peace -- the goal of the United Nations.

"And now, ladies and gentlemen, I am delighted to present a master of pantomime, Red Skelton."

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, D.C.

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To: JOHN KELLY

From: Julie

Re: CBS-TV 2-27

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