

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY SUMMIT COUNTY YOUNG DEMOCRATS DINNER SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO MAY 3, 1968

Last weekend I announced that we were gathered together on business: "Freedom's business . . . America's business . . . the Democratic Party's business . . . in that order."

I think we can undertake that business with confidence. The challenges before us are great -- yes.

But never before have so many been so willing and able to participate -- to help in meeting those challenges.

I don't think America will be found wanting in this election year -- in courage, in vision, or in common sense.

I believe the American people demand candidates who will talk reality about what they have already accomplished and what still remains to be done.

I think they are prepared to support the candidate and the party that offer real leadership and real answers to the real problems that confront our nation.

And I mean to campaign on that basis.

* * *

What are the realities?

Reality number one:

John Kennedy said it:

"Peace and freedom do not come cheap and we are destined -- all of us here today -- to live out most, if not all of our lives in uncertainty and challenge and peril."

That is exactly the way it is. And to think otherwise is a dangerous illusion.

* * *

Reality number two: The answers to these uncertainties . . . challenges and perils -- and you know them well -- are neither easy . . .nor cheap . . .nor instant.

They are not to be found in criticism for its own sake . . .or in the pitting of people against each other . . .or in dividing a society that desperately needs unity.

They <u>are</u> to be found in the concrete deeds, over the course of <u>years</u>, of people dedicated to the causes of building and of reconciliation.

We should, by now, have reached the end of our Age of Innocence.

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Reality number three: America is a grown-up nation. We must be able to act our age.

Young in spirit, yes. Young in hopes and ideals, yes.

But we shall be measured by our maturity, our judgment, our statesmanship -- by the way we put things together, not by the way we break things up.

* * *

Reality number four: Despite our problems -- and I do not underestimate them -- we have more chance in America today to overcome them than any other nation, at any other time in history.

We have the power, the skills, the resources to do what needs to be done. We must put them to work.

We can build America strong -- if we use what we have.

* * *

We $\underline{\text{have}}$ come a long way in the last four years. Your Democratic Administration has kept its promises.

Just ask the people of America. They know.

Ask the retired couple who get modern medical care -- with dignity -- under Medicare.

Or ask the children of that elderly couple -- who are no longer burdened with their hospital and doctor bills.

Ask the man who only a few years ago had no job, and now has one.

Ask the millions of workers who have gotten training and new skills.

Ask the man covered by a minimum wage for the first time -- and getting not less than a dollar sixty an hour.

Ask the mothers of 9 million American children who now have their first chance for a decent education because of an Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Four Administrations have struggled to get federal help to these youngsters. One Administration did it: Your Administration -- the Johnson-Humphrey Administration.

Twice as much has been invested in education in the last four years as in the previous century.

Three times as much has been invested in health this year as in 1964.

No, there is not much new about America's shortcomings.

What <u>is</u> new is that remedies have come faster in the last four years than ever before in the history of this Republic -- and they are going to keep on coming at that rate and better into the <u>next</u> Administration -- I pledge it.

Those who deny our record distort the truth.

They discredit the very ideals you and I have fought for.

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They cheat Americans out of pride in their progress . . .feed their frustration . . .and shake their confidence in our nation's ability to face the future.

Deception, doubt and despair -- that is the litany of the men who sell America short.

Are we content with our achievements? Of course not.

No one who has read the report of the Commission on Civil Disorders . . . or last fall's report on rural poverty . . . or last week's report on "Hunger USA," -- or who sees and hears the record on our daily life -- can be content.

No one who has heard the statements of the first contingent of the Poor People's March on Washington, as I have through our Cabinet officers, can be content.

But dissatisfaction -- which we all share -- is no free pass for violence or demagoguery by the irresponsible **few**.

It is time in America for a permanent moratorium on violence -- violence in the streets . . .violence in the lives of our people.

It is time for America to protect $\underline{\text{all}}$ of its people -- black and white.

It is time for reconciliation. It is time for healing and unity.

* * *

So here is America in 1968: No longer an adolescent nation . . . but a country ready to affirm its own maturity.

Here is America: No longer able to afford the luxury of escapism, in its own cities or in the wider human community.

Here is America: Rich and comfortable . . .knowing that wealth alone is not justice, and comfort is not peace.

Here is America: With more opportunities than problems . . .with more strength than weakness . . .with more chance of achieving the full meaning of freedom than any other country in history.

We $\underline{\text{can}}$ have an America that pledges itself to full and equal rights for every citizen -- and keeps that pledge.

We can have an America that pledges cities that are safe and clean . . .where neighborhoods are once more filled with neighbors -- and keeps that pledge.

We $\overline{\text{can}}$ have an America that pledges development of the precious human worth in every child -- and keeps that pledge.

We $\underline{\operatorname{can}}$ have an America that pledges itself to peace and progress around the world -- $\underline{\operatorname{and}}$ keeps that pledge.

We $\underline{\operatorname{can}}$ have an America that pledges to keep itself the partner of reason in its debates and its decisions -- and keeps that pledge.

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Page 4

My fellow Americans -- my fellow Democrats -- these are times when the certain answer is rare . . .when the quick answer is suspect . .when the easy answer is unthinkable . . .and when unity and leadership are essential.

I am neither a summer warrior or a sunshine Democrat.

Like you, I want a nation that is proud of its past, that welcomes today and is unafraid of tomorrow.

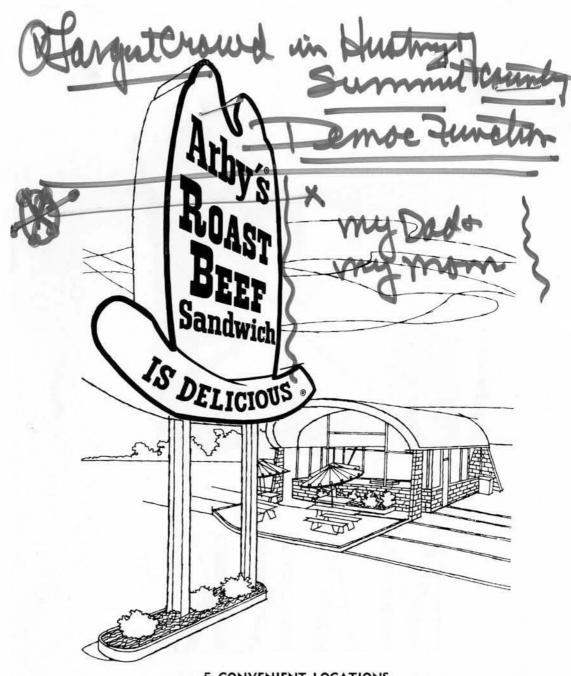
Like you, I seek a society in which every citizen has a full and equal chance to make the most of himself.

Like you, I seek a world in which every child can grow up strong and unafraid.

I believe that society and that world can be ours.

I ask your help.





5 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS

IN KENT

IN CUYAHOGA FALLS

1620 E. Main Street Just East of K. S. U.

1630 State Road Just North of Hi Level Br.

IN AKRON

1636 West Marker Street at Wallhaven

1000 East Waterloo Road at Akron Square Plaza

1231 East Tallmadge Avenue Just West of Brittain Road

Hours — Sunday thru Thursday 11 A.M. to 1 A.M. Friday & Saturday 11 A.M. to 2 A.M.

- Pat Numan (chr) REMARKS VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY SUMMIT COUNTY YOUNG DEMOCRATS DINNER There what we summit county -- OHIO Last weekend I announced that we were gathered together on business: "Freedom's business.. America's business...the Democratic Party's business...in that order." I think we can undertake that business with confidence.

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That is exactly the way it is. And to think otherwise is a dangerous illusion.

Reality number two: The answers to these uncertainties...

challenges and perils -- and you know them well -- are
neither easy...nor cheap...nor instant.

They are not to be found in criticism for its own sake... or in the pitting of people against each other...or in dividing a society that desperately needs unity.

Samuel Ullman:

"Youth is not a time of life; it is a state of mind.

We grow old only by deserting our ideals... You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt; as young as your self-confidence, as old as your fear;

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as young as your hope, as old as your despair."

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9	VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
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13	May 3, 1968
14	10:00 o'clock, p. m.
15	Yankee Clipper Motel
16	Boston Heights, Ohio
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ADDRESS

Bob, I'm very grateful for, first of all, the privilege that I have had today of being with you a great deal of this day; secondly, for your introduction, and I want, very promptly and very quickly, to thank everybody that has been a participant in this program.

When I came in the hall, I heard some-body say in the back of the room, "If they don't get this show on the road pretty quick, I'm about to become a Republican." And that just scared the living daylights out of me, because I could see that was a good man, and I wouldn't want that fellow to fall from grace. It just seemed to me we ought to do something to save that poor soul before he slipped, and we've got the program under way. We may lose him, as I expect, but we have got the program under way.

To Pat Neiman and to Clarice Harris,
we owe a special debt of gratitude tonight for
their co-chairmanship of this dinner, and I want
to express to them my thanks for the efforts that
they have made to make this a very successful
dinner.

I was told just a moment ago by Bob

Otterman, and then I cleared it with Bob Blakemore,
that this was the largest crowd in the history of
Summit County, at least insofar as any Democratic
dinner was concerned. That sounds mighty good to
me.

And you ought to see the folks that are eating outside that haven't gotten in yet. As a matter of fact, I was coming down to my dinner, but I got down as far as the lobby and I just heard some folks saying there's just no hope of getting in there, and I said, "What's going on?"

They said, "Well, we don't know, but there must be some kind of show going on in there, but apparently they have lost the main act."

So I said, "If that's the case, there's no use of my going in there and paying a cover charge if they're not going to have the main act."

And they said, "Well, you're not going to miss much, anyway."

So, if you're disappointed at this moment and the rest of the night, just remember, the fellow who told me that outside has already gone to another dinner and is most likely much happier than you are at this moment.

Father Keller, my fellow Americans,

I first of all want to express to everybody that
has been working with us today our thanks for one
of the most eventful days in my political life.

I'm very sorry that my very dear and good friend
Mort Neipp could not remain with us. He came up to
express his regrets in having to leave, but I am
happy to see my old friend Burt Porter here has
been of such great help to me, and such great help
to this party. He is a real Democrat, Burt.

And I understand that Ron Logan, your state president of the YD's, likewise had to leave. I must say that these two state chairmen sure got out on time, but both of them had good reasons to go.

There are two national presidents of our Young Democrats here from the State of Ohio.

I hope both of them are here tonight; one, Virgil Musser, I think surely is here; and the other one is Nelson Marcione. These are the kind of young men -- young leaders -- that should make you very proud in Ohio of your young democratic movement and young democratic organization.

I have had the chance of working with them, and I know them intimately, and I think that

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they have given to the Young Democrats and young Americans, some splendid leadership.

I was pleased to see my friend Jack
Gilligan here tonight. Jack is one of the most
attractive men that I have ever known, and one of
the most intelligent and one of the best Democrats,
and I just hope, Jack, that whatever may be the
result of these unpredictable occasions called
elections, that you will never get discouraged,
and if victory should crown your efforts, that
you will carry on with the kind of brilliance and
the kind of fervor that is so characteristic of
you.

I remember being with you in 1964; I remember being with you in 1966, and I'll tell you something: nothing would please me more than to have a chance for all of us to be working together in November of nineteen hundred and sixty-eight.

And I want you to know how I feel about nineteen hundred and sixty-eight. Of course, I can't safely predict what is going to happen to the Vice President, except that I am never going to be Vice President after 1968, that's for sure, but I can tell you this: I'm the kind of a

Democrat that thinks enough of his party to know that the party is bigger than the man, and I'm the kind of a Democrat that believes that this party has been basically good for this country. I'm the kind of an American that doesn't believe we have a monopoly on either virtue or wisdom, but I'm proud to be an active worker and participant in the Democratic party and all that it stands for, and I'm going to be supporting this party. Of course, I could do it a little easier if you would come along with me, but I'm going to be supporting the party no matter what. I just want you to know.

And now, let me just say a word about this wonderful young man, Frazier Reams. And, Frazier -- my, what a good-looking man. You must be awfully proud of him, Mother Frazier; he's a fine man. It's good to see you, too, my dear.

I was working here in the state with

Frazier and his lovely wife and family in 1966,

and I was proud of every minute that I spent in

this state. And let me tell you that I am proud

tonight to have as the chairman of my program,

called United Democrats for Humphrey, the chairman

in this state, none other than Frazier Reams, Jr.

He's one of the finest.

And, by the way, in case any of you don't have much to do from here on out, we gladly accept your active support.

I have been meeting with the delegates today, and, my, what a pleasant experience that is, and I am so happy; I have met today with our friends from labor in the Akron area and around this state. I have met this evening with our friends from the business community. I was, earlier today, meeting with the students over at Kent State University. I was in Elizabeth Park in the afternoon with some of our fellow Americans there who are striving to make a better life for themselves. I have been visiting with your people. I have been visiting with the finest people in the world, the American people, and what a joy it is to do it in Ohio.

Well, I have much on my mind, and I want to get right down to what I want to talk to you about. I want to talk to you about the message that I hope to bring to this country in the weeks and months ahead. I think all of you know that I had no intention of being a candidate for the office of the Presidency in this election. I am sure that

you know that I looked forward, if I had the opportunity once again, of being the candidate for re-election as Vice President of the United States, with my friend and my President, Lyndon Johnson, as the head of our ticket. That is what I had in mind.

I'm sure you know, also, that when the President made his declaration of no longer either seeking nomination or willing to accept it, that it placed before me a very difficult decision, because I am the Vice President and I am very proud to hold that office. I am very, very proud of it, because it is the second-highest office within the gift of the American people.

I feel a very sincere duty and responsibility -- a very serious responsibility, and a real duty to fulfill every duty and obligation of that office, and it is difficult for me to try to find the proper timing in my workday and work week, to do what you expect a person to do that seeks the nomination; namely, to get around and see folks, and at the same time take care of the many things which are now the responsibility of the Vice President.

I shan't say more, particularly about my

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own efforts, except to say this: that I was elected to be the Vice President, I was not elected to be the candidate, and therefore, I'm going to spend -- at least give priority, of my time and attention to the duties of my office, and I'm particularly going to do this because we are now engaged as a nation in two projects -- two efforts -- that are of paramount importance. important, that the leader of our party and the leader of our nation has said that he wanted to place himself above the partisan battle -- he removed himself from the political conflict, and he did so because he felt that on the one hand, that we must make every conceivable effort to unite our own people -- to reconcile our differences -to make this a United States of America, and not just the states of America.

And, secondly -- and I suppose the most paramount of all -- to search relentlessly -- to search sacrificially, if necessary, but with honor and with dignity and with courage, to search for peace; to find that road to peace with its torturous turns and curves and distortions; to find it and to follow it so that we can bring this painful and costly and tragic war in South Vietnam and Southeast

Asia to an honorable conclusion.

Now, those are the high priorities of your President: national unity and an honorable peace.

He was willing, literally, to sacrifice his political life for it, and I hope you won't think me unkind if I say that there were some people who were very, very cruel to our President, and I think misrepresented many of the things that he was seeking to do, and this, in turn, obviously had its effect upon the Chief Executive of this land.

It is not easy to be President of these United States, and to be called every vicious name that the English language can provide, nor is it easy, after you have worked your heart out for equal rights for a full opportunity for every American, for a better life for the disadvantaged, to have people say that you didn't mean it; that it was all a hoax; that it didn't work, and that you weren't sincere.

But men in public office must grow to expect to be misunderstood. History is the judge of greatness; seldom are contemporaries. I happen to think that the man who is President of the

United States now will become, in days ahead,
the same kind of President that Harry Truman has
become to us, a brave President.

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Yes, the truth is, that it does sometimes take the mellowing of time to bring the maturity of judgment and wisdom. It sometimes takes the breezes of reason and objectivity to clean away the fog and the smoke of partisanship and ambition, and I think that as time goes on, that we will look back upon this period as one of the great periods of American life; a period in which our country stood firm and strong when the forces of violence -- when the forces of brutality -- when the forces of aggression thought they could move at ease, willy-nilly, wherever they wanted to, without any regard to the rights of men. And the American nation, once again, at great cost and great sacrifice stood up and said, "This shall not happen." We'll remember these days, mark my words, and they'll be great days.

And, then, I think we'll also remember this period of time for that era in American life when more Americans -- more of our fellow citizens -- were given a chance to become full citizens, participating citizens, first-class citizens in a

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first-class country, than any time before in American history. I really believe that is what this period is all about; and the President has been the leader in this effort, is no longer the man that stands for office, he just stands for America. And I'm proud of him.

Now, last week I talked to you -- last weekend, I should say -- I made my announcement as to my future plans, and in that announcement I tried to tell you that I would try to conduct myself in such a way in these months ahead that no word of mine, no action of mine, no deed of mine, would in any way harrass or impair the efforts of this President to bring about a more united country and to bring about peace. I said these words, and I want to repeat them to you. I announced that we were gathered together on important business, and we are tonight on that important business, and here are my words, and I shall repeat them time after time: we are gathered together on business, freedom's business, America's business, the Democratic party's business, and in that order. That is what it means to be a citizen in this country, and I happen to be one that believes that we can undertake this business -- this freedom's

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business, this America's business, and this Democratic party's business with great confidence.

I haven't any doubt but what the challenges are very great. I know those challenges. I have been mighty close to them, but never before -- never before have so many -- so many of our fellow citizens been willing to participate, to help meet those challenges. Why, my friends, when I think of what is happening in the national alliance of businessmen alone -thousands of our corporate executives across this country that are today thinking about and acting upon those thoughts of how to open the doors of opportunity to the deprived, and to the needy, and to permit them to become citizens -- trained citizens, educated citizens, job-holding citizens -- this is indeed a social revolution in America, and a peaceful one, and that effort of the national alliance of businessmen is also the national alliance of labor, because in fifty of the great cities across this land there is a labor man and businessman working side by side to do what: to find jobs for the hard-core unemployed, not just to pass out relief checks, which has been what

government has done, but to find meaningful jobs so that people can be self-sustaining, productive, self-respecting, earning citizens.

Ladies and gentlemen, this has never happened before in the history of this country.

I think this is a wonderful thing. It is a moral thing -- it is sound economics, it is good morals and it is good politics, and it is working.

Government, business and labor, not as enemies, not calling each other names, but working side by side. And why? Because every challenge that we have today is too big for any one of us. No matter what that challenge is, it requires the best of all of us.

And, then, what is the duty of a leader of our country, whoever that leader may be? The duty and the privilege is to bring together these great resources of America, the great resources of our economy, of our government, the great resources of our churches, of our schools, of our people, and to match those resources with the challenge and the problem -- we are beginning to learn how to do it -- we are beginning. We haven't found all the answers.

The easy problems have been solved. The

skilled workers have been hired. The semiskilled workers have a job, and yet there are
jobs unfilled, and there are people unemployed.

The problem is, the jobs don't fit the people, and
the people don't fit the jobs, and our task is to
see that jobs and people get together, and we are
going to do it. We are going to get it done.

And I tell you, we are going to do something else. It isn't good enough for a black man just to work for a white man. We should not have in this country of ours that kind of social status. We want people -- people to be entrepeneurs, proprietors, managers, supervisors, workers -- regardless of their race, color or creed.

You can't have integrated housing in a bunker in Vietnam and not have open housing in the State of Ohio. You cannot deny a man who has been a Colonel in charge of a Division of the finest troops that ever went into battle, or a General or a Brigadier General -- a One-Star, Two-Star, Three-Star, whatever it may be -- who may be an American of color -- you cannot say to him that he is good enough to lead the finest men that this nation has in battle, but he is not good enough to run your factory or to run your department store

or to teach in your university.

Now, these are the simple lessons that we have learned. They are profound, and yet they are simple. And, so, you see, I think we have what it takes. I am the kind of a guy that is not going to sell America short, and I'm not going to down-grade this country, and I don't think that America will be found wanting in this election year.

We have good people that are seeking office -- good people, frankly, in both parties.

I don't think that America will be found wanting in courage or in vision or in common sense -- and, by the way, that is not out of style, and a little good dose of it will help a lot.

I believe that the American people want, and I think they are going to demand, candidates — all candidates, not just for President, but right down the line — candidates who will talk reality, talk the facts of our life, and talk about what they have already accomplished and what still remains to be done.

There is nothing to be ashamed of in your heritage, providing that you don't just spend it. You need to add onto it. I think that the

American people are prepared to support the candidate and the party that offer real leader—ship and real answers to the real problems that confront our nation, and you don't have to look around to know what the problems are. They are every man's; and you don't have to look around, my dear friends, too long, to find out who the real leaders are, either. There is no real pie in the sky. You're lucky if you've got it on the table, and there are no instant answers. There is some instant coffee and instant tea, but that is about where it stops.

And I want to talk to you a little bit about it. Now, what are the realities? I use the word "reality," and, boy, I can just hear somebody say, "There is that Humphrey, he's using that word, and that covers over a lot of things."

What are realities? I'm going to tell you what I have told a dozen audiences, because there is nothing wrong in repeating what are some of the truths.

Reality Number One: It isn't a new one

-- it's been with us a long time. John Kennedy put

it this way: "Peace and freedom do not come cheap,

and we are destined, all of us here today, to live

out most, if not all of our lives, in uncertainty, challenge and peril."

Now, that is exactly the way it is, my fellow Americans, and you know it. And to think otherwise is a dangerous illusion. It is one thing to deceive yourself; that is maybe forgivable. But you ought not to deceive other people; that is unforgivable.

And I think it is about time that we faced up to the message that that young President gave to us, the kind of a world we live in. But let us not be frightened, because the fact that the world is filled with challenge and peril and uncertainty doesn't mean that we are whipped or we should retreat. What it means is, we prove our greatness.

I heard a man say only yesterday that in the worst of times, we must do the best of things. Surely, these are difficult times, but we are called upon to do the best of things, and what is more, we have the means to do it.

Now, Reality Number Two: I have already touched on it, and the answer to these uncertainties, challenges and perils -- and you know them well -- are neither easy nor cheap, nor instant, and they

are not to be found in criticism for its own sake, or in pitting people against people, or in dividing this society that desperately needs unity.

I know most of the political tricks; I have been at this game of public life a long time. The easiest thing to do is to indulge yourself in the emotional binge of demagoguery. Sometimes it gets you a laugh; sometimes it gets you a cheer; most of the time it gets everybody in trouble, and we are not going to do it. This is too important a business.

The answers to our problems are to be found in concrete deeds, and sometimes deeds, over the course of years, of people dedicated to the cause of building and of reconciliation -- I put it this way: we ought to know by now that we have reached the end of our age of innocence, and I think we have.

I found a little quotation that I'd like to read to an audience that is a mixed and -- audience like this -- of age and persuasion, and groups and religion and ancestory -- a quotation that somebody sent to me in a letter. There has been an awful lot of talk about young people these

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days, and I think what I find in most young people is very good. I have found a lot of it over at Kent State University today -- wonderful young people -- but youth -- this is my quote for you: "Youth is not a time of life; it's a state of mind. We grow old only by deserting our ideals. You are as young as your faith and as old as your doubt; as young as your self-confidence and as old as your fear; as young as your hope, as old as your despair."

Now, that's the definition of youth.

So, Reality Number Three: America is a grown-up nation and we must act our age; young in spirit, like I have spoken to you -- we are young in hope and confidence and faith and ideals; young in all of that, but we will be measured by our maturity, our judgment, our statesmanship, by the way we put things together, not by the way we break things up and tear them apart.

Reality Number Four: Despite our problems -- and I don't under-estimate them because I hear about them every day, and I see a lot of them -- I have been in fifty states of this union as your Vice President -- that's all we have -and I have been in all the territories, the Canal

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Zone, and Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands -- I have been there, I have seen the people, I have been with the richest of the rich and the poorest of the poor; I have been in the penthouses of New York and I have been in the filthy, rotten slums of some of our great cities. I have seen the finest ranches and the finest, great farms, and I have seen the poorest hovel in rural America. I have eaten the best of the food and I have tasted the worst. I think I have seen this country, but I can tell you this: knowing these problems, I can also tell you that we have more chance here in America today and tomorrow to overcome these problems than any other nation at any other time in history, and we'll be judged by what we do with our resources.

An Englishman once said, "Don't tell me of the size of your nation, it's population or even its geography; tell me not of its wealth, but tell me, what will you do with these things?"

That's what it's all about; what are we going to do with what we have?

You and I know that there has been more food wasted here tonight than a comparable number of people have ever had a chance to eat. There is

yet hunger in America, and yet we know what do do about it, and I'm not here to deplore just the hunger; I'm here to say, let's set our house in order so we can get something done about it, and we'll do it. But what I'm telling you is, we can build America strong and stronger, and we can build it better.

Somebody said to me, "What are you trying to do, Mr. Vice President? What is your effort all about?"

I said, "Just to build a better America."

And right away, the retort comes, "Don't you

think it's a good one?"

And I said, "Of course I think it's a good one. I think I have a nice home; I have a lovely family. Do you mind if I encourage my sons to go on and improve their education? Do you mind if I say I'd like to have a little better home?

Do you mind if I say I'd like to improve myself?

I want a better family; I want a better community;
I want a better Hubert Humphrey. I want a better America."

We have come a long ways now, boy; we have done a lot these last seven years -- these last four years I have been a part of both of these

administrations. I was the majority whip for John Kennedy in 1961 through 1963. Now, that title tells you what my job was -- the majority whip -- I had to round them up, to get those votes -- and as somebody has served in the Congress knows what I mean, I was proud to be a part of the leadership team of that administration. I thought we did some good things, and then I served for awhile as majority whip for President Lyndon Johnson when he came in after the tragic death of our beloved President, and now I have had the chance for three and a half years to be Vice President of the United States, and President of the Senate. I have served two of the greatest administrations in responsible roles of leadership.

I think that we have done many good things, and we have come a long way, and I'm happy to say tonight to anyone in this room, Republican or Democrat, labor or business, young or old, or black or white -- that what I am proud of most of all is that we have tried to keep, and in the main, have kept, our promises to the American people.

What is the evidence? Well, just ask

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some of the folks. Ask the old folks who are getting a little Medicare now. They'll tell you. They know we kept the promises. I know how long it took to get that promise fulfilled. I introduced the first Medicare bill in the Congress of the United States May 17th -- that is Norway Independence Day in Minnesota -- it's a very important day, Norway Independence Day, May 17, nineteen hundred forty-nine, I introduced that It became law in nineteen hundred and sixtyfour. It took 15 years, and we fought for it every year, and last year, my dear friends, four and one-half million Americans, senior citizens, were treated as decent human beings and not as supplicants and relief clients. They were able to get the best of hospital care, the best of medical care, the best of convalescent care under the terms of pre-paid Social Security insurance known as Medicare. I am proud of it.

Listen, if we haven't done anything else, we ought to get a couple of stars in our crown for that one. A promise was kept. Ask the man who didn't have a job. I have been in Akron, Toledo and Youngstown, and Ohio -- I was out here eight and nine years ago -- I remember the

events from '54 to '61 -- remember John Kennedy had to tell them, "Let's get the country moving," and I remember the rate of unemployment in the cities in 1961 -- ask the man today who has a job with a better pay envelope than he ever had in his life, with better fringe benefits than he ever had in his life because of management, because of unions, because of a growing economy in this country. We kept our promise, as far as the government is concerned, and the people went to work and got things done. That's what we mean by action.

Ask the workers. Tonight there are a million four hundred thousand unskilled, untrained workers in training tonight at schools. Six years ago there weren't ten thousand. Three years ago — four years ago, there were thirty thousand.

We have actually trained for new jobs in America over nine million of our people. That was a promise we made, and the greatest victory in the war on poverty has been the free enterprise system itself that has provided these jobs — good jobs, not relief jobs, not make—work jobs — but real jobs in real factories in real mines and real shops and real stores — jobs that produced the

pay envelope and the pay check so you can live like a decent human being.

We have tried to keep our part of the bargain, and I have been a part of that administration.

Well, there are many other things.

Ask that person on minumum wage. We added nine million people to the minimum wage last year.

Nine million -- you get a minimum of \$1.60 an hour. That's quite a promise to keep. It wasn't easy.

Ask that child -- there are nine million children in America today -- deprived children -- that never had a break. Children who were in poor schools, terrible schools with inadequate facilities and poor teachers, who today are receiving special aid under the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Nine million of them.

I remember when I first came to Congress,

I used to fight for Federal Aid to Education. We
either killed it on the basis of race or religion;
take your choice. One time you'd pass it in the
Senate and they'd kill it in the House, and the
other time they'd pass it in the House and then
kill it in the Senate. We were always knocking it

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off for some reason. It might do something about the Negro or it might do something about the Catholic, or something else. There was always some miserable reason. And, finally, we got a President who came from Texas who attended many churches, and whether you know it or not, you have a couple of old school teachers in the White House in the executive office building; one who taught in a little country school down in southwestern Texas, and one who taught in a small college out in the midwest, and we put together a Federal Aid to Education Program, and it works. We are spending, and we have spent in the last four years, twice as much on education -- invested twice as much on education out of the Federal treasury as had been invested in the previous one hundred. Not bad for just a couple of beginners.

And might I say to you, my friends who are here from the business community, you know that is the wisest investment this country made.

I saw a survey of the top 500 corporations published in the Wall Street Journal five years ago. They asked the top 500 corporations in America, "Where would you put a new plant if you had your option and your choice; what would be the

number one factor that would convince you where to put it?"

You know what they said? "Good schools." Good schools. Secondly, available labor supply. But good schools, and good schools means an available labor supply that is able to do the job that modern industry calls for. There has never been a nation, a state or a county that has become bankrupt or insolvent because it invested in education. It is the best investment this country or any other ever made.

Now, these are just a few of the things.

Now, I'm not content with all of this. I said

the other day, I'm going to run on the record of

my two predecessors. I'm going to run on the

record of President Kennedy and President Johnson,

but I'm not going to rest on it. I'm proud of

what my father left me; his good name. Humphrey's

Drug Store. By the way, if you're ever out there,

stop in. We need the business.

I'm proud of all of this. I'm very proud of the little inheritance that we have, but no one -- no one irritates me more than the person who gets an inheritance and then spoils it -- erodes it -- eats it up. I'm not willing to stand

on the record of my President or the man that preceded him. I would do a disservice to President Kennedy and President Johnson as a candidate for office if I said that all I am going to do is defend what you have done. don't defend what they have done; I'm proud of it, and all I want to do is do more. I want to see our country do more. I want to see all of us do just a little better. I'm sure we can't do it in a hurry. You don't build a cathedral overnight. Some of us who have traveled a bit have seen these magnificant cathedrals and churches, and they stand there as a living testimonial to man's faith to his religion, and my, how you have said, "Oh, how wonderful; how wonderful." Any of you have visited in the Basilica in St. Peters, you said, "How beautiful." How long did it take? Hundreds of years to build it.

The cathedral of democracy and the cathedral of peace are not the product of instant work, nor of just the application instantly of an idea. As somebody once put it, "Peace, like a mighty cathedral, requires the master plan of an architect; the labors of many for decades, and maybe generations." That is what peace means.

That is what we are talking about right now.

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We want peace in Southeast Asia, and
I think we are going to get it, but it's not
going to come overnight, and it's not going to
come because somebody carried a sign, and it's
not going to come because somebody cussed out
Lyndon Johnson, and it's not going to come because
somebody says everything we have done is wrong.
It's going to come through patience, perserverance
and faith, staying with it, frustration, time
after time being disappointed, but finally, as
I stand before you tonight, it will come if we
perservere and stay with it.

You see, I do not believe that we should indulge in deception or doubt or dispair, and those who do, sell this country short and they engage in a dangerous litany.

Just a few other words. I know that there is some dissatisfaction and, indeed, there is in our country -- there is ferment, there is change. My goodness me; change. Take a look what happens every place. It is only a few years ago that America was essentially a rural America. It is totally urban now; almost 90 per cent of our people -- 85 to 90 per cent live in big cities.

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Think of what the impact of science and technology has accomplished. Think even what the automobile has meant to America -radio and television -- is it any wonder that there is a restlessness? Every bit of the restlessness in the nation -- anybody can get a lens on which is portrayed right into your homes -this is the first time you have ever seen a real war fought on the screen -- not John Wayne -- oh, no, not one of the movie actors -- but your son is in this war, and I have had letters from mothers who have seen their own boys shot down in battle -- at least, they thought they saw him -- or I have seen a tank come out of a certain area in Vietnam on that screen, and the bodies of the dead are there, and somebody says to me in a letter, "I think I saw my boy."

This is a different world; the reality of this world is here. The most powerful instrument of education and revolution that the world has ever known, both for good or evil, is the lens -- the television camera. I don't criticize it. It is free speech; it is needed. I have said, and I repeat, if every nation in the world can see -- if there can be total freedom of

discussion, freedom of debate, freedom to report
as our reporters report them, to see as our
observers see -- if they could have it in China
and Russia, if they can have it in North Korea,
in east Europe, in North Vietnam -- if they can
see all the ugliness of war as we see it, there
would be peace. And boy, would it come quick.

And now, we see for the first time -some of our people see how the rest of us live.

The little boy that has never had anything, the
teenager that has wanted much and had little, the
adult that has been unemployed, that has never
known what it was to really enjoy the good things
of life, suddenly he sees it. Maybe it's in the
bar, maybe it's in the tavern, but the screen is
there, and he sees the ads. He sees what America
is like -- the other America -- he sees what you
and I are having. He sees what we have, and he
says, "I want it." It's not unnatural, not at
all unnatural.

Now, that within itself can be good, providing that we get him to understand, and that we ourselves understand that working together, working with others who don't have, bringing them in as part of the American community, that we can

see to it that they can earn and learn, that they can have it, that it is there for them, not to be denied but to be shared. You see, it can be good.

At least, this is the way I see it. So there is some dissatisfaction; there is some ferment. Now, if we channel these forces in the right direction, it will add up to good. But let me make it quite clear; dissatisfaction is no free pass for violence or for demagoguery by the irresponsible few.

This country cannot afford hatred; the hatred of the black militant or the hatred of the white supremacy extremist. We cannot afford the hate in America, because hatred destroys freedom.

America for a permanent moratorium on violence; violence in the streets and violence in the lives of our people. Look what happened to us lately, in the last few years. A President killed; a leader of non-violence, Dr. Martin Leuther King, killed -- violence, crime.

Now, how do you answer that one? By just more laws, by just more police? You know better. The answer is -- we have the answer. In every community with opportunity, with a chance,

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with kids having for the first time their chance to amount to something, to be a part of this country, to be participants in it; not to be left out, but to be brought in. And I think we can get it done.

See, that's the difference. Some

people don't think we can. I think we can do

anything we want to do. I believe that the

impossible dream is possible; I think that America

can do anything it sets it mind to, and can do it

peacefully. I know if it indulges itself in

bitterness and hate and violence, it will destroy

every hope of doing anything we want to do.

So, what we have to have is not just a President or presidential candidate that calls for law and order and social justice -- and they go hand in hand, by the way -- you cannot only apply restraint; you must also have opportunity. But what we must also have is an individual commitment on the part of the American people every place, to abolish from their thinking and their actions bigotry, prejudice, intolerance that is in their makeup, and let me tell you, that takes a lot of work, because every one of us has got a little of it and, well, we'd better examine it before it's

too late.

So, here is our America, 1968, no longer an adolescent nation; indeed not. But a country that is ready to affirm its own maturity. Here is America, no longer able to afford the luxuries of escapism.

Now, you know there are those who like to sing that song, "Stop the World, I Want to Get Off," there's a few who are going to make it.

The astronauts who are going to the moon -- and I'm not going to volunteer -- here's an America, my America, your America; rich and comfortable, knowing that wealth alone is not justice, and comfort is not peace. And here is America with many more opportunities than problems; with much more strength than weaknesses; with a great deal more faith than doubt; and with more chance of achieving the full meaning of freedom than any country in the history of the world.

What a wonderful time to be alive. I don't agree with these people who say, "Oh, these are terrible times." I think it's a fascinating time. I only hope and pray that I can live to be a hundred, and, oh, boy, I think I may -- and I tell you, lots of things are going to happen.

Start taking your Geritol early, right now.

Just think of what is going to happen in the next thirty years. Just think of it. Why, my friends, I get excited about this -- when I think of universities in ten years that will receive lectures via Satellite, of instantaneous lectures from all the great libraries and universities of the world -- the Satellite is going to revolutionize communication.

We are beginning to discover life itself and how it comes about. Oh, so much is going to happen.

Well, let me tell you, my friends, any country that can learn how to split an atom -- and we have -- and release all that fantastic energy -- there it was. There was the atom, and we learned how to break it and split it, and it released vast energy -- power -- for good or evil.

Well, if you can learn how to split the atom, can't you learn how to split the difference?

Well, what I wanted to say to you, I have already said. These are rare and wonderful times, when the easy answer is unthinkable; when the quick answer is suspect -- watch out for the fellow that has got that patent medicine -- just

watch out. Most of it doesn't work. I shouldn't say that, as an old pharmacist, but watch out.

It's better to take care of your health than to try to find a miracle cure; and these are the kind of times that are so rare, when unity is so vital and so essential.

I hope that some of us can help provide that rare high standard for leadership and unity in this country. I am neither a summer warrior nor a sunshine Democrat. Like you, I want a nation that is proud of its past, that welcomes today and is unafraid of tomorrow — not much you can do about yesterday, it is gone — like you, I seek a society in which every citizen has his full and equal chance to make the most of himself. I think there is such great potential in our people, wow!

When I think of what we can do -- when I think of the young people today that can tell us the answers to so many things as they grow just a little older and wiser, and they will -- a much better generation -- every mother knows this in her heart -- we'll learn so much.

I don't think it's old-fashioned, and
I think it is very necessary to remember what is

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our purpose.

Democracy's work is never done. requires constant effort. It is a tree that requires constant nourishment, and it will outlive all of its gardeners; every one.

If I were to be asked tonight, "State for me, Mr. Vice President, what is it that we What is the purpose of this nation? What is it that we seek?" Well, it's been said, and your children say it, and I think most of the time you go to meetings -- particularly if you are in a Veterans' organization, fraternal organization -- and you say it, and it is in the pledge of allegiance, and what we say is that, "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands."

That is the opening statement to get your attention. And then we say, "One nation, under God, indivisable, with liberty and justice for all." And what does that add up to? That adds up to what is our dream. That adds up to what is our determination, and I hope that in some little way, I might be able to contribute in my time, to making it possible for this to be one

nation -- not north and south, black and white, not separate and unequal -- but one nation, and recognizing that it is a meaningless enterprise if it does not have at least a spirit and a recognition of its humility before God Almighty, and it must be indivisable -- not a forced unity, but one that comes from understanding and tolerance -- and it must have that great blessing of liberty, and not just liberty for you or for me, but liberty and justice for all, or there is not any for any of us.

In this effort, we need each other, and may I say, in the months ahead, in the effort that I shall try to make, I need you. I ask for your help. Thank you very much.

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