ORIGINAL

REMARKS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

THIRTY-FIFTH SVENSKARNAS DAG

at

Minneapolis, Minnesota June 23, 1968

(Introduction by the Honorable Donald M. Fraser, United States House of Representatives.)

Thank you very much. Iner Johnson, Governor LeVander, George Peterson and other public officials and distinguished guests, my good friend Hal Greenwood, the Honorary Swede of the Year, and the others being honored, our Queen of the Lakes, Karen Hegener, and our other good friends and associates who join with us, the Consul General from Sweden, and others, I am delighted to be back and to participate in Svenskarnas Dag and I am honored today with a very pleasant task. It is a very simple one because when you introduce two old friends, you don't really have to spend very much time telling one about the other.

As Mayor, as United States Senator, as Vice President of the United States, our next speaker has always remained a true and warm friend of Minneapolis and of all of us. We have known and watched this man as he has built

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his record demonstrating his commitment to equality for all Americans, showing in concrete ways his compassion for the needy; a man who has been a fighter for justice and for opportunity, and so it is always an honor for someone like myself, a Congressman, to introduce a man who holds one of the highest offices in our land, a man who is from our own Minneapolis.

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But I would like to go just a moment further, if I may, today, because these are serious times, and I want to tell you why I happen to feel very deeply and strongly about this man. It is probably no secret to some of you that over the past recent years I have been one of those who have been critical of the past administration policies in Southeastern Asia. I say, "past policies," because I like to think all of us support the Paris Peace Talks that are going on today, but on this account I am asked sometimes where I stand on the race for the presidency, so I want you to know that today I am not up here introducing our next speaker just as an old friend, just as a matter of formality, but because I believe in him and what he is and what he stands for.

This is the man who helped bring about one of the most important changes in world relationships through the limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. He was a pioneer in the efforts to get the United States Senate to concentrate on

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the problems of arms control and arms limitation. He is the man who spoke earliest about the abundance of America and how this should be made available to those people around the world who were suffering from hunger, and those things that flow from hunger, and this is the man who spoke first of the idealism of the youth of America and said we ought to send these young people abroad to tell our friends around the world what America is and to help these people find a way for themselves, and this is characteristic of our next speaker.

It is not an unusual thing that he should be concerned about putting the talents of our youth to the best service of our nation, because he, himself, exemplifies all that we find best in our young people today; vital, enormous energy, and throughout his whole record, demonstrating an enormous capacity for growth and, in fact, he is a man of peace, and so, Mr. Vice President, I apologize for this somewhat lengthy introduction, but I am confident that in January of 1969 we can revert to the old custom of simply saying, "Mr. President." (Applause) But for now, I want to introduce for you the man who has been a friend of mine, one of the greatest public servants America has ever had, the Vice President of the United States, the Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey. (Standing ovation)

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Thank you, Congressman Fraser, thank you for the generous introduction and one that I deeply appreciate and one that I am not quite sure I fully deserve.

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Governor LeVander, how good of you to be here to greet me as I came to this beautiful Minnehaha Park, to this wonderful gathering of our fellow citizens and fellow Americans at Svenskarnas Dag, and the all-time Swede for every year, and any year, past, present or future, Iner Johnson. Oh, what a good Swede that fellow is. (Applause)

I understand he is going to go to Sweden this year, too. That will be good for Sweden and good for Iner and good for us. I want to wish him well.

To the distinguished speaker of the day, Dean Stendahl, I want to pay my respects. I regret that I was not here for your message. And, to the Consul General, Mr. Bengt Odevall, I want to express my greetings and thanks to you, sir.

Now, some of you may have noticed that I had a very, very choice seat on the platform. Very nice. (Applause) I noticed all my men friends down here were looking upon me with envy, but what a special privilege it was, and is, to sit alongside of this beautiful actress, this lovely lady, Ann-Margret, who comes to our country from Sweden, and whose own state in Sweden is celebrated in honor by

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the sign that you see over there, just on the other side, with the Swedish flag and the American flag. I think you ought to know that I have been having a very fine visit in between numbers here. Her husband has been keeping a watchful eye on me, as he should. I remember meeting Ann-Margret when I was being inaugurated as Vice President. She was in Washington at that particular time, and she is even more lovely now than she was then, and she was very lovely then.

How good it is today to meet another dear friend, Karen Hegener, our own Queen of the Lakes, Minneapolis Aquatennial Queen, and I envy these young Marines over here. They are going to be the escorts for all of the candidates for the Mid Summer Festival Queen, the Mid Summer Queen, and I believe these are some of the candidates right down here. In case you fellows want to absent yourselves, I will take care of this duty myself, but the Marines are always on the job; and I see some more over here. Too bad, fellows, you are on the wrong side of the podium.

I came here today not to deliver you any major address. I came here because yesterday a dear friend called me and said, "Mr. Vice President, would you have a little time tomorrow afternoon to stop by once again to Svenskarnas Dag?" And, I said, "My goodness, I had planned on spending

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the day with my wife and my granddaughters, my children, but if you think I should be there, you would like me there, I would be happy to come into Minneapolis for a little while and join in this festive occasion."

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I was told that if I came, I could be here to present the plaques and the citations to the Mother of the Year, the Swede of the Year and the Honorary Swede of the Year, and I figured for a half-buck Norwegian, that was a pretty good honor, and I decided to come. (Applause)

I almost lost out here with Ann-Margaret when she said to me, "Aren't you Swedish?" Now, if I had been the kind of a politician you expected, I would have, at least, ignored the question, or sort of fuzzed up my answer, but I had to admit that my mother was born in Norway, but I did tell her that most of my brothers and sisters married Swedes, showing a lot of good judgment.

I want to join with you in welcoming so many of our young friends that I see here in these blue jackets, and these young ladies in their lovely blue gowns, who are visiting our country from Sweden. I met some of them yesterday. They are here seeing us and watching us, and I hope they are getting a fairly good opinion of us, and then they are going back to their native country, and I know that you would like to do what I want to do, give them a good, warm Minnesota welcome with some good applause, and

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we sure welcome all of them. (Applause)

Four years ago this month, I was in Stockholm and subsequently, a little later, in Hargshamn, the summer home of the Prime Minister of Sweden. I had a wonderful visit there. I often think of the ride back by car from Hargshamn to Stockholm, and I want to say to the Swedish General Consul, don't you ever complain about an American driver. That Swede that drove me down the road in one of those Swedish-built automobiles went 100 miles an hour if he went one. I never did as much praying in such a short period of time in a foreign country as I did on that occasion, but it was a beautiful sight. I comforted myself by looking out over the vast and beautiful fields, going through some of those lovely villages.

Many of us in this audience have had that privilege to visit the native land, the land either of your birth or the land of the birth of your mother or father, grandfather or grandmother, which tells a rich and wonderful story about our country because our country is many countries. The love of America has been enriched by the love of other lands and other people, and when I heard these lovely young ladies with the bells, the Minnesota Mutual bells, playing "God Bless America," I felt it was a special sense of affection here in this audience because it is true that love and affection, like anything else, grows with its use, and when

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you have a profound respect and affection and love for not only one country, but two, how much richer you are in those blessings, and I think I sense that richness here today.

I have travelled, as your Vice President, in every one of our fifty states, Alaska and Hawaii, from California to the Eastern Seabord, and from Texas to Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, and North Dakota and Montana, and Idaho, across the vast expanse, from Washington to Maine. I have visited in over 600 of our greatest cities and villages, and I have been to over 100 of our colleges and universities. What a rich and varied experience it is to see this America, to see its land and its people, because good land and good people go together; to see the people that are as different as you could ever imagine, the Mexican-American, the Puerto Rican, the black American, the Indian-American, the Asian-American, the European-American, the Latin-American, all Americans, and even here, as I look about this audience, I see that magnificent representation. We have drawn our strength from many lifelines, we have drawn our inspiration from many cultures, and we have drawn our purpose from many peoples.

It is a fact that this is a blessed land, and it doesn't hurt a bit to pause for just a few moments to sort of nourish those blessings by our affection, and to pause

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for a few minutes just to take inventory of those blessings. This seems to be a time when most people try to impress America and try to impress you by getting up and speaking of our inadequacies and our limitations and our troubles. There is something abroad in this land, a thought or a philosophy, where you tend to prove that you are a concerned person by exaggerating our inadequacies and our inequities.

As one who has learned a good deal about this country, and as one who visited, as your Vice President, four continents, and almost 50 countries, maybe I am in somewhat of a position to pass objective judgment on where we are, who we are, what we are, and how we compare with others; and what I have to say is not to demean anyone else. Every continent, every people, every country, has its glory. Every continent, every country, every people has something good to offer, and I would not for a single minute diminish that which is theirs in order to tell you that which is ours.

But I can stand before this audience and have my heart filled with gratitude and appreciation for what this land is and what it stands for. I do think that we ought to say, in all reverence, "God Bless America," and then with a heart full of appreciation and gratitude, express our sincere and personal thanks for what it has offered to us

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and what it means to us.

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Lincoln once said that it is the last best hope of earth. A great American poet said, "Every man his chance." This is America. It has been described many ways, as the land of the free, and the home of the brave, but I would like to describe it in the way that Congressman Fraser mentioned it, the land of opportunity. The land of opportunity with an everlasting and relentless search for justice and expanding justice that includes more and more people within its scope, and expanding opportunity that includes more and more people within its reach.

This land was not built easily or overnight. The men and the women that I see here have struggled hard. If I know any part of America, I know this part; the plain people of the world made America the great land that it is, and the plain, hard-working immigrant made Minnesota what it is, and the sons and daughters of those immigrants. Few people came here with wealth; few, if any, with prestige or with special privilege. Most came here with but themselves, their will, their purpose, their loved ones and their determination.

This is a land of the rich that was inhabited by the poor. This is a land of the strong that was reared up from people who came here tired, some of them, and even weak. This is a land of opportunity made possible by people

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who sought greater and more opportunity for themselves and their loved ones and their children. It is almost a land of contrasts. What we are was not given to us. What we are was earned by us.

And, may I say that I think that is a lesson that needs to be remembered today. There is no way that you can give a nation greatness. There is no way that you can give a people pride. There is no way that you can give a people character. But there is a way that it can be earned. You earn greatness. You earn through your own selfsacrifice and your own deed. You earn the honor of pride, and you earn the riches that we have, the justice that is ours and the opportunity that has come to us.

But, my fellow Americans, my plea to you today is this: let us extend to others over and beyond ourselves that same chance. Let us remove every roadblock that may deny any person that chance to be a first-class citizen. Let us have it clear in our mind and our hearts that the family of man is not all of one color or of one creed, that God Almighty created many people, different people; and each, in his own way and in his own right, is worthy of the respect of his fellow man, and, above all, he should have it in his own heart to have self respect. Self respect, which is the way that he honors his Maker and honors himself.

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My fellow citizens, I am happy to come home to the Twin Cities and know that you can walk in the parks and feel safe. Happy, yes, indeed, to come home to a safe community where people can live together. (Applause)

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In some of our cities today it is not safe to walk the streets, nor is it safe to walk the parks.

My fellow Americans, the least that we should expect from ourselves is respect for the law (applause), respect for the law and I want this state of ours, I want these two great Cities, and their neighboring cities, this great metropolitan area of well over a million people, to set an example for America. I want us to show the way, where people of different races, creeds and nationalities, different colors and background, where we can live together as God's children in safety and in justice and in opportunity. (Applause)

We know that it is an imperative for social progress that there be law and order. You cannot build a better America on the ashes of destruction. You cannot build a better America by violence or lawlessness or crime. We will only destroy that which we have.

So, therefore, the first order of business is to see to it that we teach our young respect for their country, respect for their state, respect for their city, respect for the law of the land, and ask them to set an

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example as Americans, a country that believes in government of the people, by the people, and for the people, but it will mean nothing if the people do not respect their country and their law. (Applause)

And, my friends, law and order has a companion. It is not enough to preach the power of law and order. It is not enough merely to add more police, which are needed, and they should be respected and supported. It is not enough to merely talk about enforcing the law, even though that is a minimum essential requirement of good government, we must also talk about building a society in which everyone has his chance, where everyone has a stake in that society so that there will be a respect for the law that brings observance of the law; a society of social justice and opportunity like we have created right here in our own midst in this great vast area of Minnesota (applause), so I come home for one purpose above all, to thank you for what you are, to ask you to do even better, to show us the way, to show America that we can settle our problems peacefully.

We do not look like we are the instruments of peace at home or abroad if our doctrine is force and violence, and what this world needs today more than it needs anything else, is the blessing of peace abroad and law and order and justice at home. That is what the people are crying out for

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now, and we must help them find it.

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This is not something that government can do alone. Government is but an instrument of the people and sometimes but an inadequate reflection. What is needed now is the commitment, the personal involvement and commitment of the people to live a life of justice, to live a life of opportunity, to live a life of law, observance and law respect, and to help people peacefully, to redress our grievances.

How fortunate we are. Not a single injustice or inequity confronts us today but what can be remedied by the peaceful processes of democracy. Democracy is a precious flower that belongs to us, that needs our constant attention and nourishment. Never take it for granted. Always accept it as a very fortunate blessing. This is my plea to you today.

I must say that my heart is heavy and weary many times when I see violence in our streets, when I see people fighting one another at home, when I see people who ought to be working together, standing in opposite ends of the street, cursing each other. This is no way to live. I ask that we find a better way, and a better way is, as Lincoln said at one time to a mother, "Preach, teach respect for the law."

Then, also remember that the purpose of this

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society, of this America, is what our founding fathers called for, those inalienable God-given rights; not the rights given by government, not the rights given by business or labor, not the rights given by any other power except Divine Power, God Almighty.

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What rights? What rights? The right to life, to live, and not merely to exist, but to live a meaningful life. The right to liberty, to be a free man with all of the responsibilities that come with freedom; liberty not being licensed, and freedom not being privilege, but liberty and freedom carrying duties and responsibilities, and, finally, that precious right that means so much, which is exemplified here today in this great gathering in Minnehaha Park, that right of the pursuit of happiness. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, the three great challenges in rights that were bequeathed onto us by the fact of our birth, by the fact that we are human beings, created in the image of our Maker. Those are the most precious rights in the world and let no one take them away from us.

Every right to be nourished, every right to be guarded, every right to be used, the right to life which denies violence and crime, the right to a meaningful life which denies poverty and degradation and discrimination, the right to liberty which means that you can be a free spirit as long as you do not abuse the rights of others, and

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1 the pursuit of happiness which means the fulfillment of 2 life. We were placed here on this earth not to be morose 3 and morbid souls. We were placed here to be good people, 4 people who enrich the culture that we inherited, people to 5 add something onto that which has been given onto us. We 6 were placed here to lift our voices in praise and thanks-7 giving, as was said here today, "God Bless America." 8 I take my stand for this country. It means so much 9 today. Guard it. Protect it. Strengthen it. Give it 10 your faith and when you have doubts, resolve that doubt in 11 behalf of what this nation stands for, for its own people 12 and for people abroad. 13 Thank you very, very much. (Standing ovation) 14 15 16 By JOHN R. BRENNAN CHRISTOPHER L. COLUMBUS & ASSOCIATES 17 COURT REPORTERS 18 720 COMMERCE BUILDING ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55101 19 224.5415 20 21 22 23 24 25 Christopher L. Columbus & Associates MINNEAPOLIS SAINT PAUL COURT REPORTERS 815 Midland Bank Building 720 Commerce Building CA pital 4-5415

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35th Annual Svenskarnas Dag Minneapolis, Minnesota June 23, 1968

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GREETINGS

CHORAL SINGING Soluppgång

Fiolen Min

Iner J. Johnson Chairman of SVENSKARNAS DAG

Pracht by J. E. Öst

Song of the Jolly Roger FIVE MARCHES: Stouthearted Men Engelbrekts Marsch Marching On Sångarmarsch

Studentsång

by S. Romberg Old Swedish Melody Old Welsh Melody by B. Lindsjö by Prins Gustaf

by C. Candish

American-Swedish Institute Male Chorus Sant Paul Swedish Male Chorus Director, Edward Nyborg

GREETINGS

The Honorable Arthur Naftalin, Mayor of Minneapolis The Honorable Thomas R. Byrne, Mayor of St. Paul Mr. Ben R. Eggan, Vice-Chairman, Norway Day Mr. Alfred Mohr, Past President and Founder, Volksfest Mr. Hans P. Larsen, Chairman Danish Day Mr. Harry G. Carlson, 1st Vice President American Swedish Institute Alderman Byron F. Nelson, Twelfth Ward Mr. Bertil Winstrom, Grand Master Vasa Order of America And other distinguished visitors

JUNIOR FOLK DANCERS

Sånglekar Accordionist, Jeff Eliason Twin Cities Junior Departments of the Vasa Order of America and International Order of Good Templars Linnea Osman Swanson, Leader - JoAnn Thoreen, Assistant

VOCAL SELECTIONS Carol Stuart Accompanist, Audry Landquist

GREETINGS FROM THE STATE OF MINNESOTA The Honorable Harold LeVander

Swedish Folk Singer LEN FORSBERG City Sales Manager, Scandinavian Airline, Portland, Oregon

GREETINGS Bengt Odevall Honorable Consul General of Sweden

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

Dean Krister Stendahl Dean of the Divinity School, Harvard University

VASA ORDER CLUB AMERICANA FROM SWEDEN

Dance-Minuet and Old Polka From the Year 1700

Director, Mrs. Ulla Liljeros Assistant Director, Arne Liljeros

- University Students:

Percy Westerlund, Chairman Bernt Westerlund, Ingrid Westerlund, Håkan Asklund, Lars Erik Ericson Per Liljreos, Gun-Britt Eriksson, Christina Eklund, Lizz Nahlin

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Marilyn Shandorf, Director and Pianist - Barbara Jentick, Organist

VOCAL SELECTIONS - - - - - Edgar Eklof

Accompanist, Audrey Landquist

Duet by Carol Stuart and Edgar Eklof Accompanist Audrey Landquist

THE RUNESTONE STORY - Harvey Hammergren, Executive Secretary Alexandria, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce

TWIN CITIES SWEDISH FOLK DANCERS

Schottish and vingåkerdsrans - daldans

Directed by Linnea Osman Swanson, assisted by Ragnar Johnson Music by Andrew Holmquist, Accordionist

Ragnar Johnson Floyd Fredine Irvin Johnson Gene Johnson Roy Lind Phillip Nordin James Leedham Ronald Johnson Torkil Ravnholt Linnea Osman Swanson Kersti Josefsson Grey Heid Stephanie Heid Ruth Fredine JoAnn Thoreen Sandra Peterson Sylvia Hagen Ruth Lind Tari Johnson Jacquiline (Moore) Johnson D'Anne Meyers Debbie Pehrson Velia Ravnholt

SWEDISH YOUTH CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA

Director, Nels Gronquist Accompanist, Audrey Landquist

PRESENTATION OF THE SVENSKARNAS DAG'S "MOTHER OF THE YEAR" AWARD

PRESENTATION OF THE "SWEDE OF THE YEAR" AWARD

PRESENTATION OF THE "HONORARY SWEDE OF THE YEAR" AWARD

PRESENTATION OF VASA SCHOLARSHIP By Roy Nelson, Vice Grand Master

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Commodore, Milton S. Boyce

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INTRODUCTION OF GUEST OF HONOR - - Ann-Margret, Swedish born Motion Picture Star, accompanied by her husband Roger Smith

CORONATION OF THE MIDSUMMER QUEEN Mrs. Delores Meyers, Chairman, Midsummer Queen Committee

JUDGES

Consul General Bengt Odevall

(Honorary Judge)

Judge Melvin Peterson Hennepin County Probate Court Chairman of Judging Committee

Kenn Barry Director of TV Production KSTP - TV

John M. Connelly Assistant Picture Editor St. Paul Pioneer Press and Dispatch

Roger Erickson WCCO Radio Personality

Herb Germar Picture Editor Minneapolis Star

Mary Grossman Womans Department Editor St. Paul Pioneer Press

Brooks Henderson KSTP Radio and T.V.

Gary Hiebert The "Oliver Town" Columnist St. Paul Dispatch

Brad Johnson Program Promotion Director WLOL - Radio Stuart A. Lindman WTCN-TV Newscaster CORONATION Master of Ceremonies

Chuck Lilligren WCCO - Radio Personality

Dean Montgomery Newscaster WCCO - TV

Margaret Morris Columnist Minneapolis Tribune

Robert C. Pettes Artist and Home Designer

Jerry Smith Newscaster KMSP - TV

Perry St. John Announcer WDGY - Radio

Cork Williams Womans Editor Sun Newspapers

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QUEEN ESCORTS

Staff Sgt. Ole Jessen-Klixbull Sgt. John A. Kemper Sgt. Roger D. Kolo Staff Sgt. D. L. Haynes Sgt. W. D. DeBoer

DANCING AROUND THE MAY POLE . NORDEN SPELMAN — Mr. and Mrs. Roy A. Lind, Edwin Johnson Accompanist, Andrew Holmquist

Russell Nyberg's Professional Accordion Center School of National Champions 2119 Emerson Avenue North, Minneapolis, Minn. Piano is furnished through the courtesy of the Wylie Piano Co.

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