



FOR RELEASE
SUNDAY AMs
July 7, 1968
Telephone 202/225-2961

REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
TRUMAN DAY CELEBRATION
POPLAR BLUFF, MISSOURI
JULY 6, 1968

What should we celebrate on Truman Day?

-- A presidency which our history books now list among the greatest?

-- The humility, determination, and proud courage which Harry Truman brought to the highest office in our land?

-- The fact that our dear friend is in good health and fighting the liberal battle as honorary chairman, I am proud to say, of the Humphrey for President Committee?

Yes, all of that.

But we owe it to ourselves in this year of national decision to go further . . . to recall the source of President Truman's enduring greatness -- his vision of a better future.

He was able to see what America could be even in the turmoil of the darkest post-war days. And he planned and built not only for his day but for ours.

We are only now completing the national agenda he inaugurated twenty years ago and more.

Harry Truman established the Marshall Plan -- and we now live in harmony with a Western Europe which is prosperous and free.

He stood up to Stalin in Greece and Turkey, in Berlin and Korea -- and we live in an age when the Communist Bloc is fractured, and the fresh wind of freedom is blowing through every capital and university in Eastern Europe.

He pledged America's support for the United Nations -- and we have it today, whatever its imperfections, as the world's chief forum for peace.

He too, took on the unpopular cause of Civil Rights -- and today we no longer bear the shame of legally sanctioned segregation in America.

He proposed the nation's first national health insurance program in 1948 . . .and had to wait 16 years to see it passed as Medicare in 1964.

Medicare was the first bill I introduced in the Senate in 1949. One of the proudest moments in my career came when I stood beside Presidents Truman and Johnson in Independence, Missouri and saw Medicare finally signed into law.

President Truman declared that every American had a right to a job. Today that goal is clearly in sight.

President Truman led a war-weary nation in 1948 -- tired of its new burden of world leadership . . .reluctant to take on new battles at home or abroad . . .anxious for respite from responsibilities.

He could have settled for stop-gap palliatives for the crises of the hour.

He might have postponed an investment in the hopes of the future to ease the burdens of the moment.

He need not have **called** upon the American people's second wind -- and he would have been a lot more popular in his own time as a result.

But instead he took the hard road of responsible leadership. He took on the third-party Dixiecrats. He took on the fourth-party so-called Progressives. He took on the Republicans.

And America took charge of its future.

* * *

Today an entire nation is deeply grateful to Harry Truman.

Now -- in the election year of 1968 -- it is time once again for America to take charge of its future . . .to chart a new course for a new generation.

It is time, once again, to look ten and twenty years ahead . . . to decide what kind of a world we want to live in then . . .and build it.

It is time to reassess our priorities and make fresh commitments to the world that can be, rather than limiting our sights to the world that is.

Our first priorities, as I see them, must be reduction of tensions . . .reconciliation . . . and peaceful development. That goes for the world. And it goes for our own country.

So-called civilized society has been around for a long time now.

But it will never be truly civilized until nations, and people, stop building fences . . .stop stocking weapons . . .stop settling their disputes by force.

It will never be truly civilized until human rights and human dignity are not only proclaimed, but actively asserted. And the place to begin is right here at home.

Now there are hard, demanding specifics that go with the vision.

In the world at large the next President of the United States must slow down the arms race.

We, the Soviet Union, and other nations have initialed a nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

We will soon begin talks with the Soviet Union about mutual reduction of both offensive and defensive missile systems.

The next President must be prepared to push the careful quest for disarmament even further -- worldwide -- so that our children may, for the first time in their lives, know a world where the balance of nuclear terror and the arms race are not part of daily life . . .and where material and human resources go to the right, and not the wrong, things.

With our allies, we must talk to the Soviet Union and her allies about a mutual thin-out of troops in Central Europe.

The next President must actively build bridges to Communist China -- to do our best to break the Chinese people out of their unhealthy isolation.

Once the war in Vietnam is over -- and if we have the courage to see the discussions in Paris through, I think it can be over -- the nations of Southeast Asia can get down to the world of peaceful development, without regard to ideology. We must be ready to help.

We must put our full commitment behind assistance to the poor nations . . . and to strengthening the United Nations and international peacekeeping machinery.

Those are some of the practical, achievable building blocks of a world which can, in future years, know true peace.

* * *

(con't)

Here in America, we can take the resources being used in Vietnam, and in the arms race, and put them to work for human life -- if we generate the necessary public support...and if we have patience to see these things through at the international negotiating table.

We can bring both security and opportunity to the people of this country -- not one without the other, but both.

The next President must conquer hunger.

There is no reason in America -- with unequalled wealth and agricultural productivity -- for anyone to go hungry.

It is immoral to allow some children to suffer from malnutrition while others in America are concerned about the dangers of overeating.

It is time to make an adequate diet part of the Bill of Rights of every American, and to be sure our farmers get a fair return for their product.

The next President must look to the full meaning of civil rights.

Harry Truman gave this nation an agenda for legal emancipation.

Now it is time to proclaim an agenda of opportunity and participation which can bring about real emancipation.

The next President must assert the right of every American to earn a living -- to work and earn.

I don't believe that anyone wants a welfare check or a hand-out. I believe people want the dignity and the self-respect that comes from an honest job.

And it is now within our power to see that everyone who wants a job has that job. And for those who cannot support themselves because of age, illness, or disability, it is time to provide enough help to permit people to lift their heads in self-respect.

The next President must help assert the right to a full education for every American -- from age four through college -- and the right to grow up in a decent home and neighborhood.

The next President must, once and for all, lead this nation in the re-invigoration and renewal of our urban environment through a new Marshall Plan for the American City.

And at the same time he must lead in the building of a rural America where people can and will be able to earn a decent wage for their labor and live a satisfying life, rather than being driven off the farm into a new and often hostile environment.

The next President must provide full protection of the law...due process of law...and the rule of law in every American neighborhood.

For government of, by and for the people depends on respect for an observance of the law. Violence and lawlessness cannot, and must not be condoned in American.

Those are big goals.

They will require big commitments -- commitments in money; commitments in determination by Federal, State and Local Government...by the free institutions of this country...by every single person.

They will be sustained only by a nation unified behind the clear vision of a better tomorrow.

I am betting my personal future that the American people are ready and willing to sustain the kind of vision in 1968 as they were in 1948.

* * *

There is a vast, silent group of Americans -- a majority of many millions -- who want to make this country work...who want safety and equal rights for everyone...who bear no ill will against other Americans...who are ready to make the sacrifices a lasting peace will require.

They are people -- and the children of those people -- who spoke out for Harry Truman in 1948...becuase he was really one of them. They are the wellspring of progress in America. I believe they are ready to speak out again.

And I am betting my future that they will not listen to those who advocate the easy course of delay and inaction... and will turn their back on those who spend their time on "stop" movements rather than "start" movements...and will reject those who are "against" ideas, policies, programs and people, but offer no alternatives of their own.

I am betting that America will reject cynicism and will reward faith.

I am betting that America believes in majority rule, and in the democratic process, and that it will not fall victim to those who preach that the means of totalitarianism, and tactics of the street, will somehow bring the ends of democracy and the benefits of rule of law.

For it is time now to challenge the people who say this country is sick; to challenge those who chant and jeer and disrupt those with whom they disagree -- whether they disagree with those celebrating the rights of man on July 4th at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, or with Governor George Wallace trying to speak his view in Minneapolis, Minnesota; to challenge those whose minds are so closed they will not listen to the other man's point of view, or even permit its expression; to challenge those who will not accept the fair verdict of the democratic or Democratic processes...who rigidly enforce their will when in the majority, but loudly cry "foul" and walk out when they lose; all of this violates not only the principle of majority rule. It endangers respect for minority rights.

History is strewn with the tangled wreckage left by militant minorities -- each of which thought it had cornered the market in social justice and virtue, and had discovered the true belief to the exclusion of all others.

Every citizen in this nation has the right to be heard -- but not to prevent others from being heard.

For "no freedom of speech for reactionaries"... "no freedom of speech for warmongers"... "no freedom of speech for peaceniks" soon becomes "no freedom of speech for anyone."

I am disturbed by -- and I do not believe this nation can afford -- the abusive tactics which have reappeared in American politics.

I ask all candidates for the presidency, and for other office, to join me in a clear and open denunciation of these tactics so characteristic of totalitarian politics.

I ask all candidates to join me in repudiating now not only the tactics, but the support of extremists and extremist groups of right or left.

We need neither the people nor the tactics of the black shirt...the red flag...or the white sheet in America, 1968.

Eight years from now this country will celebrate its 200th birthday.

By then, this nation can be torn...divided...withdrawing within itself and from the outside world...doubting itself and others -- a negative America.

Or it can be open. It can be safe. It can be free.

It can be filled with opportunity for every single citizen -- a positive America.

I think we can have a positive America.

We can do it if those of us who are for that positive America will dedicate ourselves to it.

This nation has the resources.

This nation has the money.

This nation has the strength.

This nation has the power to do whatever it needs to do -- if we have the will.

I give you the words of Harry S. Truman:

"It is not our nature to shirk our obligations. We have a heritage that constitutes the greatest resource of this nation. I call it the spirit and character of the American people."

If I am so honored by the American people, I intend to use the power of the Presidency as Mr. Truman did -- actively and openly -- on behalf of the people.

I shall not abdicate responsibility. I shall lead.

And together, we can finally bring to reality the hopes and dreams that Harry S. Truman has had the courage to fight for all his life.

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NEWS FROM

UNITED DEMOCRATS FOR HUMPHREY

1100 17th STREET, N.W. ■ WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

TELEPHONE 202 / 393-6420

Release for Sunday AM's
July 7, 1968

For further information:
Ev Munsey, ext. 208
U-166

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY ASSAILS TACTICS OF TOTALITARIAN POLITICS

POPLAR BLUFF, MO., July 7 -- Assailing "those who chant and jeer and disrupt those with whom they disagree," Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey tonight called upon "all candidates for the Presidency, and for other office" to join him "in a clear and open denunciation of (abusive) tactics so characteristic of totalitarian politics."

"I ask all candidates to join me in repudiating now not only the tactics, but the support of extremists and extremist groups of right or left," the Vice President said. "We need neither the people nor the tactics of the black shirt, the red flag, or the white sheet in America, 1968."

Excerpts from Vice President Humphrey's prepared remarks to the Third Annual Truman Day Rally follow:

"It is time now --

"To challenge the people who say this country is sick;

"To challenge those who chant and jeer and disrupt those with whom they disagree -- whether they disagree with those celebrating the rights of man on July 4th at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, or with Governor George Wallace trying to speak his views in Minneapolis, Minn.;

"To challenge those whose minds are so closed they will not listen to the other man's point of view, or even permit its expression;

(more)

"To challenge those who will not accept the fair verdict of the democratic or Democratic processes, who rigidly enforce their will when in the majority, but loudly cry "foul" and walk out when they lose.

"All of this violates not only the principle of majority rule. It endangers respect for minority rights.

"History is strewn with the tangled wreckage left by militant minorities -- each of which thought it had cornered the market in social justice and virtue, and had discovered the true belief to the exclusion of all others.

"Every citizen in this nation has the right to be heard -- but not to prevent others from being heard.

"For 'no freedom of speech for reactionaries', 'no freedom of speech for warmongers', 'no freedom of speech for peaceniks' soon becomes 'no freedom of speech for anyone.'

"I am disturbed by -- and I do not believe this nation can afford -- the abusive tactics which have reappeared in American politics.

"I ask all candidates for the Presidency, and for other office, to join me in a clear and open denunciation of these tactics so characteristic of totalitarian politics.

"I am betting my future that (Americans) will not listen to those who advocate the easy course of delay and inaction, and will turn their back on those who spend their time on 'stop' movements rather than 'start' movements, and will reject those who are 'against' ideas, policies, programs and people, but offer no alternatives of their own.

"I am betting that America believes in majority rule, and in the democratic process, and that it will not fall victim to those who preach that the means of totalitarianism, and tactics of the street, will somehow bring the ends of democracy and the benefits of the rule of law."

John West
Rev clergy

Gos Kearnes
Mr Speaker Jim Godfrey

REMARKS

S. E. Missouri

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

TRUMAN DAY CELEBRATION

POPLAR BLUFF, MISSOURI

JULY 6, 1968

Called Pres. Truman

Mrs Kearnes

So much to

What should we celebrate on Truman Day?

made to
Gos
Kearnes
Mrs Kirk!

-- A Presidency which our history books now list
among the greatest?

-- The humility, determination, and proud courage
which Harry Truman brought to the highest office in our
land?

-- The fact that our dear friend is in good health
and fighting the liberal battle as Honorary Chairman,
and I'm celebrating that he is

I am proud to say, of the Humphrey for President Committee?

Yes, all of that — and much more

But we owe it to ourselves in this year of national
decision to go further ... to recall the source of President
Truman's enduring greatness -- his vision of a better future.

Dillon
Hatchins

He was able to see what America could ~~be~~ *be and do*

even in the turmoil of the darkest post-war days. And

he planned and built not only for his day but for ours.!

└ We are only now completing the national agenda
he inaugurated 20 years ago, ~~and more.~~

*Look
at the
record.*

└ Harry Truman established the Marshall Plan --
and we now live in harmony with a Western Europe which
is prosperous and free.

└ He stood up to Stalin in Greece and Turkey,
in Berlin and Korea -- and we live in an age when the
Communist Bloc is fractured, and the fresh wind of freedom
is blowing through every capital and university in Eastern
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*Stalin
Greece
Turkey*

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U.N.

Civil Rights

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insurance program in 1948 . . . and had to wait 16 years
to see it passed as Medicare in 1964.

Medicare

~~Medicare was the first bill I introduced in the Senate~~
in 1949. One of the proudest moments in my career came
when I stood beside President ^{Pres} Truman and Johnson in
Independence, Missouri and saw Medicare finally signed
into law.

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FOL

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tired of its new burden of world leadership . . . reluctant to
take on new battles at home or abroad . . . anxious for a
respite from responsibility.

1948

He could have settled for stop-gap palliatives for the crises of the hour.

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He need not have called upon the American people's second wind -- and he would have been a lot more popular in his own time as a result.

But instead ~~he~~ ^{LH} he took the hard road of responsible leadership. He took on the third-party Dixiecrats. He took on the fourth-party so-called Progressives. He took on the Republicans. ~~He took~~ ^{He took} ~~won~~ ^{won}!

Consent
17
1948
+
Election

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* * * * *

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A New
Course
In a
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ahead . . . to decide what kind of a world we want to live in
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To Page 9

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We can bring both security and opportunity to the people of this country -- not one without the other, but both.

The agenda for the Next President

- 9 -

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The next President must conquer hunger.

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It is immoral to allow some children to suffer from malnutrition while others in America are concerned about the dangers of overeating.

It is time to make an adequate diet part of the Bill of Rights of every American, and to be sure our farmers get a fair return for their product.

②

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and participation which can bring about real emancipation.

(3) The next President must assert the right of
every American to earn a living -- to work and earn.

Work

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or a hand-out. I believe people want the dignity and the
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this nation in the re-invigoration and renewal of our urban
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Cities

(7) And at the same time he must lead in the building
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Rural America

The next President must provide full protection of
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Those who
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Those are big goals.

They will require big commitments -- commitments in money; commitments in determination by federal, state and local government ... by the free institutions of this country ... by every single person. !!

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I am betting my personal future that the American people are ready and willing to sustain the kind of vision in 1968 as they were in 1948.

Im Betting

There is a vast, silent group of Americans -- who love this country -- a majority of many millions -- who want to make this country work ... who want safety and equal rights for everyone ... who bear no ill will against other Americans ... who are ready to make the sacrifices a lasting peace will require.

They are the people -- ~~and the children of those people~~ --

the same kind of people.

who spoke out for Harry Truman in 1948 . . . ~~because he was~~

~~really one of them.~~ They are the wellspring of progress in

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(X)

It is time now

~~For it is time~~ to challenge the people who say this

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To challenge those who chant and jeer and disrupt ~~the meeting~~

of those with whom they disagree -- whether they disagree with
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Hall, Philadelphia, or with Governor George Wallace trying to
speak his views in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

It is time To challenge those whose minds are so closed they will
not listen to the other man's point of view, or even permit its
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It is time To challenge those who will not accept the fair verdict
of the democratic (small "d") or Democratic (big "D") processes.
who rigidly enforce their will when in the majority, but loudly
cry "foul" and walk out when they lose;

↳ All of this violates not only the principle of majority rule. It endangers respect for minority rights.

↳ History is strewn with the tangled wreckage left by *self righteous* militant minorities -- each of which thought it had cornered the market in social justice and virtue, and had discovered the True Belief to the exclusion of all others.

↳ Every citizen in this nation has the right to be heard -- *But he has no right* ~~but not~~ to prevent others from being heard.

For "No freedom of speech for reactionaries" . . .
"No freedom of speech for socialists" . . . "No freedom of speech for warmongers" . . . "No freedom of speech for peaceniks" soon becomes "No freedom of speech for anyone."

I am disturbed by -- and I do not believe this nation can afford -- the abusive tactics which have reappeared in American politics.

The Spectacle of Police Students - Police Protesters in Combat at public meetings has no place in America.

So Toronto - 15a -

I ask all _____ _____ for the Presidency, and for other _____ office, to join me in a clear and open denunciation of these tactics so characteristic of totalitarian politics.!

I ask all candidates to join me in repudiating now not only the tactics, but the support of extremists and extremist groups of Right or Left.

We ~~do not need~~ _____ the people on the tactics of the Black Shirt. . . the Red Flag . . . or the White Sheet in America, 1968.

Eight years from now this country will celebrate its 200th birthday.

By then, this nation can be torn . . . divided . . . withdrawing within itself and from the outside world . . . doubting itself and others -- a negative America.

! It ends!

Or it can be open. It can be safe. It can be free.

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I think we can have a positive America.

We can do it if those of us who are for that positive America will dedicate ourselves to it.

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This nation has the money.

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I give you the words of Harry S. Truman:

"It is not our nature to shirk our obligations. We have a heritage that constitutes the greatest resource of this nation. I call it the spirit and character of the American people."

If I am so honored by the American people,
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∟ I shall not abdicate responsibility. I shall lead.

And together, we can finally bring to reality the

hopes and dreams that Harry S. Truman has had the
courage to fight for all his life.

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1 REMARKS OF GOVERNOR WARREN E. HEARNES
2 REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
3 TRUMAN DAY CELEBRATION
4 POPLAR BLUFF, MISSOURI
5 JULY 6, 1968

6 GOVERNOR HEARNES: Is anybody here tonight for
7 Hubert Humphrey for President?

8 (Applause)

9 I just wanted to be sure that I was at the right
10 dinner. Mr. Chairman and Mr. Speaker, distinguished State
11 officials and ladies and gentlemen:

12 I suppose that I have heard in my short time in
13 politics a great number of introductions. All of them seem
14 to follow the same routine of how many clubs a person belongs
15 to, how many offices that he has held and so on and so forth
16 and all good about the speaker and nothing bad. I would like
17 to depart from that tonight and talk about first, the only
18 quarrel that I have ever had with our guest tonight. I told
19 this story once before and I tell it the second time and
20 perhaps the last. This came about at the White House at a
21 dinner. At the White House when you have a dinner they seat
22 you in groups of six or seven at a table and you usually have
23 as your host a member of the Cabinet or someone from the
24 Federal Government. Well, perhaps to introduce this story
25 I ought to go back a year prior to that time. I was seated
there at the table with the lovely First Lady of the State of

1 Florida. Now you can say a lot about Governor Kerr but I will
2 say one thing about Governor Kerr, he does have an eye for a
3 nice looking wife. In fact, seated at that same table was
4 the Governor at that time of Alabama, Governor Wallace, and
5 the only time I have seen George Wallace for thirty seconds,
6 so I was observant. I went back to my hotel room and told
7 them what a lovely First Lady of Florida they had and I was
8 doing all right until they asked me to describe her dress
9 and I was able to do that in detail and in fact I did pretty
10 well until they asked me to state what Betty had on that
11 night and I couldn't remember.

12 (Applause)

13 One year later again I was invited and seated at
14 the same table and here again was the First Lady of Florida.
15 That is the first time I knew that President Johnson wasn't
16 really mad at me. I decided then that perhaps I would try,
17 if anything was possible, to turn on a little Missouri charm
18 and everytime I started out to say something all I would hear
19 out of the First Lady of Florida was "yes Mr. Vice President,
20 no Mr. Vice President, yes Mr. Vice President", and I didn't
21 get a word in edgewise the whole night. Later when I talked
22 to him about it, I said, it seems suspicious to me that when
23 you come to Missouri and you call me up and you want to know
24 this and you want to know that and he said, Warren, I didn't
25 even know you ate with me that night.

1 (Applause)

2 Seriously, the year 1968 has been a year of sur-
3 prises and sorrows. And as I speak to perhaps ninety percent
4 of the crowd from my section of the State in which I was
5 reared and I speak to you of the very important task that we
6 as Democrats and we as citizens of Missouri and of the United
7 States have in 1968, I am proud to say that our party has
8 two very fine people running for the Democratic nomination
9 for President of the United States. The man we have here
10 tonight is one of those candidates as we all know. I suppose
11 I have spoken to him and with him for now almost four years.
12 Prior to that time I knew him as you know him as a name, as
13 a Mayor and as a Senator and now as Vice President.

14 I have had the opportunity, and this is the good
15 thing I suppose about being the Governor of the State, to
16 have the opportunity to talk to these people, to talk to
17 them about what you believe in, listen to what they believe
18 in, and try to find that common ground. I am sorry that it
19 is not possible for everybody in this section of the State
20 and this State to have the opportunity that I have had to be
21 able to sit down for five or ten or fifteen or thirty minutes
22 or an hour and talk to him as I have. I don't care what you
23 read in the newspapers, I don't care what you read in the
24 magazines, I don't care what you see and you hear on radio
25 and television, this is a man that if he is elected I am sure

1 will not satisfy you on every issue, no more than I can
2 satisfy you on every issue as Governor of the State. But
3 there is a man in the language of this State and this section
4 of the State that you can talk to. This man is not a pri-
5 madonna. This man is a person that will go out among the
6 people and he will tell them what he believes in, what he is
7 wanting to do and what he will do, this man will not - this
8 is a very ticklish thing for me to say, this man will be his
9 own man and those who do not believe this just do not know
10 him. He will have his own platform and he will be his own
11 man. He will call the signals and whether you agree or dis-
12 agree you will never become mad with him. I cannot say any-
13 more if I haven't convinced you as of now, but I would like
14 to present to you the man for whom I shall vote for at the
15 Democratic Convention in August in Chicago, the man whom
16 I think is the best qualified to be and will be the next
17 President of the United States, the Honorable Hubert H.
18 Humphrey.

19 (Applause)

20 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Thank you very much.
21 Thank you very much. Thank you very much. Thank you very
22 much. My good friend Governor Hearnes, with the head start
23 that you have given me tonight the most that I can hope to
24 do is just hold my ground.

25 (Applause)

1 You may have noticed that I was whispering a friend-
2 ly word to Governor Hearnese. I said, Mr. Governor, that was
3 a marvelous and generous introduction and I said, gee, I
4 hope I just don't louse it up now because things have gone
5 along so well.

6 (Applause)

7 May I pay a special tribute on behalf of all of
8 this audience and on behalf of this great State to the very
9 lovely Mrs. Hearnese for her presence here this evening and
10 for her wonderful and splendid singing of the Star Spangled
11 Banner.

12 (Applause)

13 Governor, I don't know about the wife of the
14 Governor of Florida but let me sit along side of your Betty
15 anytime, that is good enough for me.

16 (Applause)

17 That story that he told is relatively true.

18 To all of the party officers here tonight and my
19 friends and to the elected officials of this State, to the
20 Chairman and Co-chairman of this dinner and the Reverend
21 Clergy, I am sure you know that my heart is full of gratitude
22 tonight for the wonderful reception that I have been privi-
23 leged to receive here in Southeast Missouri. Every place we
24 have been from the time that our plane touched down at Malden,
25 to Bernie, to Dexter and over here to Poplar Bluff - and I

1 was told today that it is not "Popular Bluffs" but Poplar
2 Bluff. I know what it is.

3 (Applause)

4 Ed cornered me today and he said, you have got to
5 get it right. I just want you to know it has been nothing
6 short of a day of complete fulfillment for me and very great
7 happiness. I left my granddaughters this morning at Minneso-
8 ta, well I should say this afternoon about 1:00 o'clock.
9 And that was a happy morning - as a matter of fact, one of
10 my granddaughters told me today, she said, "Poppa, you are
11 even nicer than my daddy or my mamma". I thought that was
12 quite a compliment. This has been some day for me.

13 (Applause)

14 It did take two popsicles and a box of cookies and
15 some Crackerjacks, but it did work. We Democrats seem to
16 enjoy days like this.

17 I want to get right down to my message tonight and
18 I want to talk to you as a friend and as a neighbor; I want
19 to talk to you not only as your Vice President but also as
20 one who has the opportunity to work with you in the years
21 ahead. This is, as our program has billed it, a Truman Day
22 celebration. And anyone who could have such a splendid
23 message come in his behalf as I did tonight from the former
24 President, can't help but feel singularly honored and yet
25 they are humble. You will be happy to know that earlier

1 this evening I was on the telephone with President Truman and
2 Mrs. Truman and I called them at Independence and I had a
3 wonderful talk. I must say that the beloved Bess Truman,
4 what a lovely, wonderful First Lady she is.

5 (Applause)

6 And since you are celebrating Truman Day, let me
7 celebrate too in a big way because I am the luckiest man
8 that ever ran for the office of the Presidency, I am the
9 first candidate for this office that has ever been privileged
10 to have a former President of the United States to be his
11 Honorary Chairman of his National Committee and what a dis-
12 tinct honor that is.

13 (Applause)

14 So we have so much to celebrate, I do, and I think
15 I can show you that you do on this Truman Day. We celebrate
16 his Presidency, which our history books now list among the
17 greatest. The humility, the determination, and the proud
18 courage which Harry Truman brought to the highest office in
19 our land, we can continue to celebrate.

20 And the fact that this dear friend is in reasonably
21 good health and is still carrying on fighting for his country
22 and for liberal democracy, yes, we celebrate every bit of
23 this and much more.

24 But I think we owe it to ourselves, since we have
25 a program tonight of commemoration to a great President, that

1 we owe it to ourselves in this year of national decision to
2 go a little bit further and to recall as best we can the
3 source of President Truman's enduring greatness and that
4 source I believe was his vision of a better future for
5 Americans - a man that didn't settle on the yesterday but
6 was willing and was his own man and a man that had separate
7 and inherited a great program from his predecessor but one
8 who staked out a course of action for Americans and with
9 his mark upon it.

10 Oh, he was able to see what America could do even
11 in the turmoil of the darkest days of those post-war years
12 and he planned and he built not only for his day but for ours.

13 And we are only now completing the national agenda
14 that he inaugurated some twenty years ago. Yes, Harry Truman
15 listed out a course of action for a whole generation. He
16 established the Marshall Plan and we now live in harmony
17 with neighbors in Western Europe, which is prosperous and
18 free. He stood up when others were afraid to Stalin in
19 Greece and in Turkey and in Berlin and in Korea. And we now
20 live in an age when the Communist Bloc is fractured, a mighty
21 rock has been shattered and fractured, and the fresh winds of
22 freedom are blowing through every Capitol and in every uni-
23 versity in Eastern Europe.

24 And he went ahead and pledged America's support to
25 a just a beginning United Nations and today with all of its

1 imperfection is the chief form, the principle form for rec-
2 onciliation and for peace.

3 And he took on that unpopular cause, and it was so
4 unpopular, of Civil Rights. And he brought America to a new
5 day of human dignity and equal opportunity and vanished once
6 and for all in this land, the shame of legally sanctioned
7 segregation in America. I think it is a marvelous record.

8 (Applause)

9 And yes, this typical American, this proud American,
10 he proposed the nation's first health insurance plan and we
11 had to wait sixteen years to grasp his vision and to make it
12 go. And I had the privilege of being in Independence,
13 Missouri when the President of the United States signed the
14 Medicare Bill in the presence of President Truman, to make it
15 the law of the land so never again the elderly of this land
16 have to beg for care.

17 (Applause)

18 And he said that every man, American, every person
19 had a right to a job. That was his goal. Some people said
20 it was radical. Others said it was revolutionary. Today
21 we know it is a necessity.

22 He led a war-weary nation, tired of its new burden
23 of world responsibility, reluctant to take on new battles at
24 home and abroad and anxious for a rest, anxious to withdraw,
25 but President Truman said no, America is in the front line

1 and he took the hard road, my friends, when few were with
2 him, when he almost stood alone, and he had to take on the
3 third party Dixiecrats and he had to take on even a fourth
4 party so called Progressives and he took on the Republican
5 Party and he give them all a licking, what a man!

6 (Applause)

7 Yes, they say he won but I say America won,
8 Americans took charge of its own future. Well friends, that
9 is the past, but I think it is well to remind ourselves of
10 it. Today the entire nation is deeply grateful to this man.

11 But now in this election year of 1968, I think it
12 is time once again for our America to take charge of its
13 course and to chart a new course, a new journey for a new
14 generation for the next twenty years or the next ten or the
15 last third of this Twentieth Century. It is time once again
16 to look ahead and to decide what kind of an America we want
17 for our children and what kind of a world we want for our
18 people and then to get on out and do what has been done be-
19 fore - build it. That is what I have come here tonight to
20 ask you to do is to help me to build that.

21 (Applause)

22 Our first priority we need, all need to reassess
23 and see what we need to do first. I think the first priority
24 for a new President in a new time must be above all to set a
25 course for this nation that will reduce the tension, reduce

1 the pressures here at home and abroad. The next President
2 must seek, above all, to promote reconciliation and he must
3 encourage peaceful development here at home and abroad. You
4 know, this will never be truly a civilized world, it will
5 never be truly a civilized America until people stop building
6 fences between themselves, stop stocking weapons to destroy
7 themselves, and stop settling their disputes by force and
8 violence and vulgarity. This America that we seek to build
9 must be at the top priority of whoever seeks to be your
10 leader. And you have a right to know what he has in mind
11 and I put down tonight the agenda as I see it, at least
12 part of the agenda - the bill of particulars for the next
13 President of the United States. Let's start out as I said
14 first with this subject of seeking to reduce the animosity,
15 the anxiety, the tensions that are among us and among the
16 nations of the world and to seek to do it in every conceiv-
17 able way in arms control and do it through building of peace
18 keeping machinery of the United States - the United Nations.

19 (Applause)

20 And quickly bring an honorable and genuine and
21 lasting peace in Vietnam and in Southeast Asia.

22 (Applause)

23 That agenda for the next President must include
24 such a basic thing here at home and the next President must
25 conquer hunger in this land. There isn't any reason in

1 America for anyone to go hungry. I say that it is down-
2 right immoral to allow some children to suffer from malnu-
3 trition while others in America are concerned about the
4 danger of overeating and I submit to you that it is time to
5 make an adequate diet for every boy and girl, for every man
6 and woman and a part of the new Bill of Rights for every
7 American and to be sure, in the meantime, that our farm pro-
8 ducers get a fair return on their products, their production.

9 (Applause)

10 The next President of the United States must look
11 to the full meaning of what we call Civil Rights or human
12 rights. Harry Truman gave this nation an agenda for legal
13 emancipation. Now it is time to program an agenda of oppor-
14 tunity and participation on the part of every American who
15 wants to be an active citizen in this country, which is the
16 only way that you can bring real emancipation and real free-
17 dom to the American people.

18 The next President must assert the right, the right
19 of Americans to earn a living, to work and to earn, that is
20 what Americans want.

21 (Applause)

22 I have found that there are very few that want a
23 welfare check or a handout. I believe people want the
24 dignity and the self-respect that comes from an honest job.
25 And it is now within our power, my friends, to see that

everyone who wants a job has that job. There is work to be done in America. And for those who cannot support themselves because of age, illness or disability, being handicapped, I say it is time to provide them with enough so that they can be permitted to live a life of dignity rather than to live a life of shame.

(Applause)

And that the next President, with all that he will face, must help once again to assert the right to a full education from preschool to high school up into college for every American, because as Thomas Jefferson said, "you cannot be both ignorant and free", and education ought to be the minimum Bill of Rights, the minimum basic rights of every boy and girl in this land to the maximum of his capacity.

(Applause)

And then, my friends, the right to grow up in a decent neighborhood and a clean neighborhood and a safe neighborhood and in a decent home. These are but essential and that next President must once and for all lead this nation into the revitalization, yes, the rebuilding and the renewal of our cities, our urban environments, through a massive program that we can finance privately and publicly in what I have called America's domestic Marshall Plan for the American city. Most of our people will be living in cities but let them live in a decent city. Let the American

1 city be the finest exemplification of our science, our
2 technology and our culture rather than an American city
3 today being torn apart from within by decay -

4 (Applause)

5 I think we can change it, my friends, and I ask
6 your help in getting it done.

7 (Applause)

8 And at the same time you must not forget that
9 America is all America, urban and rural and, therefore, as I
10 have indicated earlier, he must lead in building up a rural
11 America for young people where there is a chance to earn a
12 profit from your production and your investment and where
13 communities can thrive where there are new hospitals as I
14 saw today in Dexter and where there are new businesses and
15 new industries as there are here. The next President must
16 see to it that America is developed not only on the east
17 coast and the west coast but in this great land in between
18 the Appalachian and the Rockies so that all America may
19 thrive.

20 (Applause)

21 And that next President must do something that you
22 and I know is basic to our life, it is, he must provide in
23 cooperation with Governors and Mayors, with state and local
24 governments, full protection of the law, due process of law,
25 and above all, the rule of law in every American neighborhood.

1 The American people are fed up with violence and looting and
2 burning, they want a law-abiding community.

3 (Applause)

4 Let me spell this out as I think this is at the
5 heart of what we are talking about. Just as we cannot build
6 a better world with aggression and violence abroad, we cannot
7 build a better America with burning and looting and violence
8 and crime at home. These are basic rules of government.
9 I know that is a big order that I have spelled out, but
10 America is a big country. We don't do things in a little
11 way here. We are making big commitments everyday. Our
12 founding fathers pledged their lives, their fortunes and
13 their sacred honor to this independence for us and to do
14 less is to lose what we have inherited, but I submit that
15 all of this will only be possible by a nation unified behind
16 the clear vision of a better tomorrow. And I am here tonight
17 to bet my future, my personal future, that the American
18 people are ready, anxious and willing to sustain that kind
19 of vision in 1968 just as they were ready to back Mr. Truman
20 in 1948.

21 (Applause)

22 Yes, there is a vast, sometimes almost unknown
23 and all too often uncounted silent group of Americans and it
24 is a vast majority who love this country, who are not
25 ashamed to be patriot, who know that this country is the

1 last best hope on earth and they want to make this country
2 work, they want to get on with the job, they want safety
3 and they want equal rights, not just for themselves but for
4 everyone. These are the people who bear no ill will against
5 other Americans and these are the people who are ready to
6 make genuine sacrifices for a lasting peace at home and
7 abroad. And they are the people, the same kind of people
8 who spoke out in 1948 when all the polsters couldn't find
9 them, when all the pundits couldn't sense them and when all
10 the wise men of politics didn't know that there was such a
11 majority. Let me tell you that these people are here in
12 Southeast Missouri. I am looking at them. I am looking at
13 people who are the wellspring of progress in America, who
14 love their country and who on election day will speak up in
15 a very impressive way with their ballot for a better America
16 and a better American future and I am going to ask you to
17 cast that ballot for me in November, 1968.

18 (Applause)

19 And my friends, I am betting my future that these
20 people of which I speak, these of whom I talk, will not
21 listen to those who advocate the easy course of delay and
22 inaction. And I am betting that they will turn their backs
23 on those who spend their time on these "stop" movements
24 rather than the "start" movements. The Republican Party is
25 in charge of the "stop" movements and we are in charge of

1 the "start" movements. To so demonstrate, let's start things
2 and leave the Republicans with the stopping. Yes, I am here
3 tonight betting my future that America will reject the poli-
4 tics of fear and despair and that it will endorse the politics
5 that your Governor and that I stand for and I ask your help
6 in that.

7 Now let me speak to you in these final moments of
8 something that concerns me greatly and I hope it concerns
9 you. I am betting that Americans believe in the majority
10 rule and in the democratic process and that it will not follow
11 those who preach and practice the tactics of totalitarianism
12 and tactics of the street, will somehow bring the ends of
13 democracy and the benefits of the rule of law. I say to you
14 that the time is now to challenge those people who keep saying
15 that the country is sick and to set them right and to let
16 them know that America is not sick, America is just growing
17 up and facing up to its responsibilities.

18 (Applause)

19 The time is now to challenge those who chant and
20 jeer and disrupt those with whom they disagree - whether
21 they disagree with those celebrating the rights of man on
22 the July Fourth Independence Celebration at Philadelphia,
23 or whether they disagree with Governor Wallace trying to
24 speak his views in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

25 (Applause)

1 The time has come to challenge those whose minds
2 are so closed that they won't even listen to another man's
3 point of view or even permit his expression. These people
4 are not the Apostles of freedom. They are intellectual
5 bigots and we ought to so brand them.

6 (Applause)

7 It is time to challenge those who will not accept
8 the fair verdict of the democratic or democratic processes,
9 who rigidly enforce their will when in the majority but
10 loudly cry "foul" and walk out when they lose. All of this
11 violates not only the principle of majority rule. Let me
12 say to you, it endangers respect for minority rights.
13 History is strewn with the tangled wreckage left by militant
14 minorities, each of which thought it had cornered the market
15 in social justice and virtue, and had discovered the true
16 belief to the exclusion of all others.

17 Every citizen in this nation has a right to be
18 heard but no one has a right to prevent others from being
19 heard. That is what we mean by freedom.

20 (Applause)

21 And I am disturbed too and I do not believe that
22 this nation can afford abusive tactics which have reappeared
23 in American politics. Police and student wrestling at a
24 university, police and protestors in combat at public meet-
25 ings has no place in modern, progressive, democratic America

1 and we should call a halt to it.

2 (Applause)

3 So tonight, ladies and gentlemen, from this plat-
4 form I ask all the candidates for the office of the Presi-
5 dency in any party and for any other office to join me in
6 a clear, unmistakable and open denunciation of these tactics
7 so characteristic of totalitarian politics. I ask all candi-
8 dates to join me in repudiating now, not only the tactics,
9 but the support of extremists and extremist groups of
10 right or left.

11 We do not need the people nor the tactics of the
12 black shirt or the red flag or the white sheet in America.

13 (Applause)

14 Eight years from now, almost to the day, just two
15 days past, this country will celebrate its two hundredth
16 birthday. What kind of a country will it be then? By then
17 it could be torn and divided. It could be withdrawn. It
18 could be isolated. It could be a nation of doubt and of
19 fear and it could be a negative America. Or it could be
20 very different if you believe in the politics of hope, the
21 politics of faith, the politics of confidence and the politics
22 of inspiration. It can be an open America, open to all of us.
23 It can be a safe America, safe in our streets and in our
24 cities and in our neighborhoods and it can be a truly free
25 America for freedom is practiced with responsibility. It can

1 be an America filled with opportunity for every single citi-
2 zen. It can be a positive America. You see, I think we can
3 make it that way and that is why I stand for this office,
4 we can do it. Yes, my fellow Americans, we can do it if
5 those of us who are for that kind of open, safe, free,
6 positive America will dedicate ourselves to it. This nation
7 has what it takes. Oh, it is time to stand up for this
8 country, my fellow Americans, and speak up for your country
9 and stand up for it.

10 (Applause)

11 This nation has the resources. This nation has
12 the know-how, it has strength, it has the people and it has
13 the power to do whatever it needs to do if we have the will,
14 if we have the will.

15 (Applause)

16 I come to this platform tonight to talk with people
17 that I believe have that will but we must manifest it in
18 every word and deed. We must do it unmistakably. The word
19 must go from this land to every part of the world that
20 America is a great nation made of great people; that we can
21 do the impossible if it need to be done; that we are capable
22 of chartering a new course for America to a brighter day
23 so that on our two hundredth birthday we will remember
24 the words of Harry Truman and we will draw strength from
25 what he said was our greatest resource and listen to these

1 words, "It is not our nature to shirk our obligations. We
2 have a heritage that constitutes the greatest resource
3 of this nation. I call it the spirit and the character of
4 the American people".

5 Ladies and gentlemen, if I am honored by the
6 American people to lead this nation, I intend to use the
7 powers of the Presidency as Mr. Truman did, actively, openly
8 on behalf of all of the American people. I shall not abdi-
9 cate responsibility. I shall not withdraw. I shall not
10 run away. I shall lead and shall take my stand and I ask
11 you to take your stand with me so that America can have a
12 better day. Thank you very much.

13 (A standing ovation and applause)
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Remarks of the Vice President
Truman Day Rally
Poplar Bluff, Missouri July 6, 1968
Transcript

My good friend, Gov. Hearnese, with the head start you have given me tonight, the most that I can hope to do is hold my ground. I said as some of you may have noticed as I was whispering a friendly word to the Governor, I said, "Mr. Governor, that was a marvelous, generous and kind introduction, I said gee, I just hope I don't louse it up now, because things are going so well."

And may I pay a special tribute on behalf of all of this audience, and indeed on behalf of all of this great state, to the very lovely Mrs. Hearnese, for her presence here and for her wonderful rendition of the "Star Spangled Banner."

Governor, I don't know the wife of the governor of Florida, but just let me sit here alongside of Betty anytime. That's good enough for me.

But that story he told is relatively true.

To all of the party officers here tonight, my friend Delton, to the elected officials of this state, to the chairman and co-chairman of this dinner, and to the reverend clergy, I'm sure that you know that ~~I have been privileged to receive here in southeast Missouri~~ my heart is full of gratitude tonight for the wonderful reception that I have been privileged to receive here in southeast Missouri. Every place we've been, from the time that our plane touched down at Malden, to Burney to Dexter, over here to Poplar Bluff and I was told today that it is not Popular Bluffs, I know what it is. Isn't that right, Ed?

He scolded me here today, the Senator did, and said, "gotta get it right".

Well, I just want you to know that it's been nothing short of a day of complete fulfillment for me and of very great happiness. I left my granddaughters this morning at Minnesota, I should say this afternoon at about one o'clock and that was a happy morning. As a matter of fact, one of my granddaughters told me today, she said; "Boppa, you're even nicer than my momma or my daddy". And I thought that was quite a compliment, this has been quite a day for me. Of course, it did take two popsicles, a box of cookies, and some crackerjack. But it did work, we democrats seem to enjoy days like this.

I want to get right down to my message tonight. I want to talk to you as a friend and as a neighbor. I want to talk to you not only as your vice-president, but also as one who asks for the opportunity to work with you in the years ahead. This is, as your program has billed it, a Truman Day celebration, and anyone who could have such a splendid message come in his behalf as I did tonight from the former president, can't help but feel singularly honored, and yet very humble.

You would be happy to know that earlier this evening I was on the telephone with President Truman and Mrs. Truman. I called them at Independence, and I had a wonderful talk. I must say that dear, beloved, wonderful woman, what a lovely wonderful first lady she is.

And since you're celebrating Truman Day, let me celebrate too, in a big way, because I am the luckiest man that ever ran for the office of

the presidency, I am the first candidate for this office that has ever been privileged to have a former president of the United States to be his honorary chairman of his national committee, and what great honor that is. So we have so much to celebrate. I do and I think I can show you that you do on this Truman Day.

We celebrate a presidency which our history books now list among the greatest. The humility, the determination, the proud courage which Harry Truman brought to the highest office in our land we continue to celebrate. And the fact that this dear friend is in reasonably good health, and is still carrying on fighting for his country and for liberal democracy. Yes, we celebrate every bit of this and much more.

We owe it to ourselves since we have a program tonight, of commemoration to a great president, that we owe it to ourselves in this year of national decision, to go a little but further, and to recall as best we can the source of President Truman's enduring greatness. And that source, I believe, was his vision of a better future for America. A man that didn't settle for the yesterdays, that was willing and was his own man. A man who had accepted and inherited a great program from his predecessor, but one who staked out a course of action for America, his way and with his mark upon it. Oh, he was able to see what America could do, even in the turmoil of the darkest days of those post war years, and he planned and he built not only for his days, but for ours. And we're now completing the national agenda that he inaugurated some twenty years ago. Yes, Harry Truman listed out a course of action for a whole generation and we've been at it.

He established the Marshall Plan and we now live in harmony with strong neighbors in Western Europe. He stood up, when others were afraid, to Stalin. In Greece, in Turkey, in Berlin and in Korea and we now live in an age in which the Communist block; one which stood before us as a mighty rock has now been shattered and fractured and the fresh winds of freedom are blowing through every Communist capital and in every university in eastern Europe. And he went ahead and pledged American support to a fledgling, just a beginning United Nations. And today we see it with all of its imperfections, as the chief forum, the principal forum for reconciliation and for peace. And he took that unpopular cause, and it was so unpopular, of civil rights, and he brought Americans to a new day of human dignity and equal opportunity and banished once and for all from this land, the shame of discrimination. I think its a marvelous record.

Yes, and this typical American, this proud American, he proposed the nation's first health insurance plan. And we had to wait sixteen years to grasp his vision and to make it law and I had the privilege to be in Independence, Missouri when the president of the United States signed the medical bill in the presence of President Truman to make it law so that never again shall the elderly in this land have to beg for care.

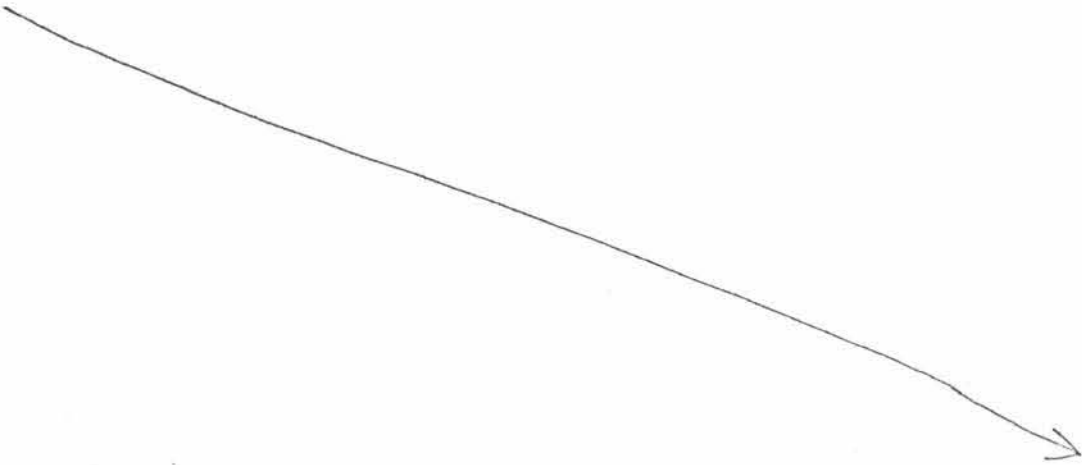
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And he said that every man, that every American had a right to a job, that was his goal. Some people said it was radical. Others said it was revolutionary. Today, we know it was a necessity.

He led a war-weary nation, tired of its new burden of world responsibility, reluctant to take on new battles at home or abroad, anxious for a rest, anxious to withdraw, but President Truman said "No, America is in the front line." And he took the hard road, my friends, when few were with him, when he stood alone. He had to take on the third party, Dixiecrats. He had to take on even a fourth party, the so-called progressives. He took on the Republican party, and he gave them all a licking. What a man!

Yes, they say he won. And I say America won. America took charge of its own future.

Well, friends, that's the past. But I think it's well to remind ourselves of it. Today an entire nation is deeply grateful to this man, ~~xxx~~ now in the election year of 1968. I think it's time once again, for our America to take charge of its course and to chart a new course, a new journey, for a ~~g~~ new generation for the next twenty years. Or the next ten. Or the last third of this twentieth century,



It's time once again to look ahead and to decide what kind of an America we want for our children, and what kind of a world we want for our people and then to get on out and do what's been done before. To build it, to create it, and that's what I come here tonight to ask you to help me do, build that new America.

Our first priorities, we need always reassess what we need to do first, I think the first priority, for a new president in a new time, must be, above all, to set a course for this nation, that will reduce the tensions, reduce the pressures, here at home, and here abroad, The new and the next president must seek, above all, ~~xxx~~ to promote reconciliation. He must encourage peaceful development, here at home and abroad. You know this will never be truly a civilized world. It will never be truly a civilized America, until people stop building fences between themselves, stop stocking weapons to destroy themselves, and stop settling their disputes by force and violence and vulgarity.

This America we seek to build, must be the top priority of whoever seeks to be your leader. And you have a right to know what he has in mind. And I have put down tonight the agenda, as I see it, at least part of the agenda. The bill of particulars for the next president of the United States. Let's start out, as I said, with this whole subject, seeking to reduce the ~~enormous xxxxxxxxxx~~,
the enormous xxxxxxxxxx,

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animosity, the anxieties, the tensions that are amongst us and amongst the nations of the world. To seek to do it in every conceivable way in arms control. To seek to do it through building the peacekeeping machinery of the United Nations. To seek as quickly as it is humanly possible and honorably possible to bring a genuine and lasting peace in Vietnam and in Southeast Asia.

That agenda for the next president must include such a basic thing here at home as the next president must conquer hunger in this land. There isn't any reason in America for anyone to go hungry. I say that it is downright immoral to allow some children to suffer from malnutrition while others in America are concerned about the dangers of overeating. And I submit to you that it's time to make an adequate diet for every boy and girl, for every man and woman, a part of the new bill of rights for every American and to be sure that in the meantime that our farm producers get a fair return on their product and their production.

And the next president of the United States must understand that democracy is the everlasting ~~and~~ unfinished business of a free people. He ~~must~~ must look to the full meaning of what we call civil rights or what we call human f rights. Harry Truman gave this ~~nation~~ nation an agenda for legal emancipation. Now it is time to proclaim an agenda of opportunity and participation on the part of every American who wants ~~to~~ to be an active citizen in this country which is the only way which you can bring realemanci-

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real emancipation and real freedom to the American people.

The next president must assert the right, the right of every American, to earn a living, to work and to earn. That's what Americans want. I doubt that there are very many that really long for the relief check. I believe that people want the dignity and the self-respect that comes from an honest job and its now within our power, my friends, to see that everyone who wants a job, has that job. There's work that needs to be done in America.

And for those that cannot support themselves, because of age or illness, mental illness, or handicaps, or disability, I say its time to provide them with enough so that they can be permitted to live a life of dignity rather than a life of shame.

And that next president, with all that he will face, must help once again to assert the right to a full education from pre-school, through high school up into college, for every American. Because as Thomas Jefferson said, "You cannot be both ignorant and free." And an education ought to be the minimum bill of right, the minimum basic right of every boy and girl in this land to the maximum of his capacity.

And then, my friends, the right to grow up in a decent neighborhood, a clean neighborhood, a safe neighborhood, and in a decent home. These are but the essentials. And that next President must once and for all lead this nation into the revitalization, yes, the rebuilding

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and the renewal of our cities - our urban environment to a massive program that we can finance privately and publicly in what I have called America's Marshall Plan for the American City. Most of our people will be living in cities - let them live in a decent city. Let the American city be the finest exemplification of our Science, our Technology and our Culture; rather than to have the American city today being torn apart from within and a victim of a malicious cancer of slumism and decay. I think we can change it my friends, and I ask your help in getting it done. And at the same time we must not forget that America is all-America, urban and rural. And therefore, as I indicated earlier, he must lead in building of a rural America, where young people have a real choice, where there is a chance to earn a profit, from your production and your investment; and where communities can thrive; where there are new hospitals as I saw today in Dexter, and where there are new businesses and new industries as there are now. That next President must see to it that America is developed, not only on the East Coast and the West Coast but in the great hinterland between the Appalachians and the Rockies, so that all of America may thrive. And that next President must do something that you and I know is basic to our life itself, he must provide cooperation with governors and mayors, for state and local government, full protection of the law, due process of the law and above all the rule of law in every American neighborhood. The American people are fed up with

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violence and looting and burning. They want a law-abiding community.

Let me spell this out because this is at the heart of what we're talking about. Just as we cannot build a better world with aggression and violence abroad, we cannot build a better America with burning and looting and violence and crime at home. This are basic truths. Government of the people, by the people and for the people. It depends on respect for, and observance of the law. Violence and lawlessness cannot and must not be condoned in America and those who engage in these illegal acts must be stopped and told that they will be stopped now and once^{and}/for all. I know this is a big order - all that I've spelled out. But America's a big country. We don't do things in a little way here. We're making big commitments every day. Our founding fathers pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor to their independence; for us to do less is to lose what we have inherited. But I submit that all of this will only be possible if we can build a spirit of unity in this country in common purpose; and have a clear vision of that better tomorrow. And I am here tonite tonight to bet my future, my personal future that the American people are ready, anxious and willing to sustain that kind of vision in 1968 just as they were ready to back Mr. Truman in 1948.

Yes, there's a vast - sometimes almost unknown and all too often

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uncounted silent group of Americans - and its the vast majority who love this country, who are not ashamed to be patriots, who know that this kountry is the last best hope of earth and they want to make this country work. They want to get on with the job. They want safety and they want equal rights. Not just for themselves but for everyone. These are the people who bear no ill will against other Americans. And these are the people who are ready to make genuine sacrifices for a lasting peace at home and abroad and they are the people, the same kind of people who spoke out in 1948; when all the pollsters couldn't find them. When all the pundits couldn't sense them, when all the wise men of politics didn't know that there was such a majority. Let me tell you that those people are here in Southeast Missouri. I'm looking at them. I'm looking at people who are the well spring of progress in America, who love this country and who are willing on that day of election to speak up in a very impressive way with their ballots for a better America, for a future America and I'm going to ask you to cast that ballot for me in November of 1968.

And my friends, I'm betting my future that these people of whom I speak, these of whom I talk will not listen to those who advocate the inaction easy course of delay and ~~xxxxxx~~ And I'm betting that they will turn their back on those who spend their time on these stop movements, rather than the start movements. The Republican Party is in charge of stop movements; we're in charge of start movements, so Democrats lets start things and leave the ~~Demoxakx~~ Republicans with the stopping. And I'm

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betting that this great silent majority will reject those who are against forward-looking ideas in policies, and programs and offer no alternatives of their own. Yes, I'm here tonite betting my future that America will reject the politics of fear and despair and that it will endorse the politics that ^{your} ~~you~~ Governor and that I stand for ~~xxx~~ on this platform tonite -- the politics of hope and faith in America and I ask your help in that. And now let me speak to you in these final moments of something that concerns me greatly and I hope it concerns you. I'm betting that America believes in majority rule and in the Democratic process and that it will not follow those who preach and practice the tactics of totali tarianism and the crude, violent tactics of the street. I say to you the time is now, to challenge those people who keep saying that this country is sick and to set them right and to let them know that America is not sick. America is just growing up and facing up to its responsibilities.

The time is now to challenge those who chant and jeer and disrupt those with whom they disagree - whether they disagree with those celebrating the rights of man on the July 4 Independence Hall Celebration at Philadelphia or whether they disagree with Governor George Wallace trying to speak his views in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The time has come to challenge those whose minds are so closed that they won't even listen to another man's point of view or even permit its expression

These people are not the apostles of freedom. They are intellectual bigots and we ought to so brand them. It is time to challenge those who will not accept the fair verdict of the democratic with a small d and the democratic with a big D processes who rigidly enforce their will when they're in the majority but loudly cry 'foul' and walk out not only when they lose. All of this violates/the principle of majority rule let me say to you it endangers respect for majority rights. History is strewn with the tangled wreckage left by self-righteous militant minorities, each of which thought it had cornered the market in social justice and virtue and had discovered the true belief to the exclusion of all others. Every citizen in this nation has a right to be heard but no one has the right to prevent others from being heard. That's what we mean by freedom. And I am disturbed too and I do not believe that this nation can afford the abusive tactics which have reappeared in American politics, the spectacle of police and students, wrestling at a university. Police and protesters in combat at public meetings has no place in modern, progressive, democratic America and we should call a halt to it.

So, tonight, ladies and gentlemen, from this platform I ask all the candidates for the office of Presidency in any party and for any other office to join me in a clear, unmistakable and open denunciation of these tactics, storm-trooper tactics, so characteristic of totalitarian

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politics -- I ask all candidates to join me in repudiating now, not only the tactics, but the support of extremists and extremist groups of the right or the left, we do not need the people or the tactics of the black church, or the red flag or the white sheet in America.

Eight years from now almost to the day, just two days past; this country will celebrate its 200th birthday. What kind of a country will it be then? By now or by then it could be torn and divided, it could be withdrawn, it could be isolated, it could be a nation of doubt and of fear, it could be a negative America -- or it could be very different if you believe in the politics of hope, ~~in~~ the politics of faith, the politics of confidence, and the politics of inspiration. It can be an open America - open to all of us. It can be a safe America, safe in our streets, in our cities, in our neighborhoods. And it can be a truly free America, where freedom is practiced with responsibility and not with license. It can be an America filled with new opportunity, an age of social opportunity not just social security for every citizen. It can be a positive America. You see I think we can make it that way and that's why I stand for this office. We can do, yes, my fellow Americans, we can do it, if those of us who are for that kind of open, safe, free, positive America will dedicate ourselves to it. This nation has what it takes. Oh, its time to stand up for this

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country, my fellow Americans. Speak up for your country, stand up for it. This nation has the resources. This nation has the know-how. It has the strength, it has the people and it has the power to do whatever it needs to do, if we have the will -- if we have the will.

I come to this platform tonite to talk to people I believe~~xxx~~ have that will. But we must manifest it in every word and deed. We must do it unmistakably. The word must go from this land to every part of the world that America is a great nation made of great people. That we can do the impossible, if it needs to be that done ~~and~~ we are capable of charting a new course for America for a brighter day; that on our 200th birthday, we will remember the words of Harry Truman and we will draw strength from what he said was our greatest resource. Listen to these words: It is not our nature to shirk our obligations, we have a heritage that constitutes the greatest resource of this nation. I call it the spirit and the character of the American people. Ladies and gentlemen, if I am honored by the American people to lead this nation; I intend to use the powers of the Presidency as Mr. Truman did actively, openly abdicate on behalf of all the American people. I shall not ~~abdicate~~ responsibility. I shall not withdraw, I shall not run away. I shall lead and I shall take my stand and I ask you to take your stand with me so that America can have a better day. Thank you very, very much

Address of Governor Warren E. Hearnes
Second Annual Truman Day Rally -- Banquet
Poplar Bluff Junior High School Gymnasium
Poplar Bluff, Missouri
Saturday, 23 September 1967, 7:00 P.M.

For Release:
6:00 p. m., Sat.
23 Sept.

HARRY TRUMAN -- SYMBOL OF FREEDOM

To be asked to speak at a dinner honoring Harry S Truman is an honor in itself.

President Truman became this nation's chief executive 83 days after President Roosevelt began his fourth term -- and no man ever faced a more awesome task than the man from Independence. He inherited affairs and events which would make any man wonder whether he could understand them -- much less handle them.

Our country's greatest war was still to be won. A decision whether we should use the most terrible weapon this world had ever known had to be made. We were already working on the formation of an international organization of nations, and the prospect of a post-war depression was a genuine factor in our thinking.

President Harry S Truman met, solved and surmounted these problems and I believe the history books to be written in the future will list him among the greats who have occupied the Presidential office.

Harry Truman never left anyone in doubt as to his stand on any subject. I have been accused at times of being too frank as to my position on certain matters -- and, it is for this reason that I feel an affinity for President Truman.

When the day comes that I do not make my position clear, then I do not deserve to be Governor of this state -- in fact, I would say that I do not deserve to hold public office. I assure you that I will continue to voice my opinions, and I hope I keep you informed as to my thinking on matters that affect all of you.

Someone recently has written that only three lights glow between us and the jungle -- the light of learning, the light of law, and the light of religion.

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This basically comes to the conclusion that education, order and faith stand between our civilization and a return to the stone age. These are the only barriers that really separate us and the abject darkness of ignorance, violence and doubt.

I submit to all of you here tonight that Harry Truman used those lights which pushed back the darkness -- I know that you agree with me that he did more for all Americans than any of his political opponents would admit.

I also think that one of the greatest stories in American history -- not just in politics -- is the story of his re-election in 1948. The experts said it could not be done -- but, of course, the experts also predicted the election of Alf Landon in 1936.

I will never forget seeing President Truman holding up a copy of the Chicago Tribune -- the headline read: "Dewey Wins." I admit that I am politically prejudiced, but I can just imagine President Truman's satisfaction.

I have been an underdog in a political campaign -- and I assure you that it is a very pleasant experience to win -- not just to the winner, but also to those who work so hard for you.

But, the important thing we should remember about Harry S Truman is not that he was a politician and an office-seeker. He was both, and I have always said that there is nothing we should apologize for when we seek office. I also have always maintained that we should consider politics within the confines of its classic definition -- that politics is the "art of governing".

President Truman was a master politician in this sense -- and no one ever could find an excuse to say that he was not completely honest.

Harry Truman always will make me be proud to be a Missourian. I admire sincerely Harry Truman's unbending honesty and his integrity. I admire his courage in

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making decisions which should frighten any normal man.

There are others who admire -- and there will be more as the years go by. Just let me read a few words from the Springfield Leader Press -- words written in May last year as part of their editorial:

"We fought him in the past -- as hard as we knew how -- but passing years and cooling passions have opened our ears to the beginning whispers of history telling us we were wrong: Harry Truman was a good President.

"We thought we were right, as did 80 percent of the nation's dailies representing 90 percent of all daily circulation. Yet the people told us we were wrong, and history upholds the people. After nearly 20 years, a thread of small truth found here, another there, have woven into a larger tapestry of truth. Integrity and conscience demand we confess our sin, apologize for our arrogance and honor our fellow Missourian."

This editorial written last year in the Springfield paper concluded:

"The whispers of history are reminders of courage we once failed to see -- courage seldom seen in politics or statecraft."

And it ended with a quote from Winston Churchill:

"You, more than any man, saved Western Civilization."

Harry Truman makes me proud to be a Missourian, and I also firmly believe that he has a part in my status today as a free American.



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