

The Vice President's Summer Youth Sports and Recreation Program:  
Ceremony, Sports Clinic -- Monday, 10 A.M., 2500 Georgia Avenue, N.W.  
Banneker Playground, Washington, D.C.

*Mr Miles*

*Joe Henderson*

*50 cities*

*Last yr  
10  
open  
champ*

MR. MAYOR, MR. LeBARON, MY FRIENDS ON THE  
ATHLETIC TEAM, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, MY YOUNG  
FRIENDS WHO HAVE COME FROM ALL OVER WASHINGTON  
TO BE HERE THIS MORNING, WELCOME.

TODAY WE WITNESS THE OPENING SESSION FOR THE  
SUMMER YOUTH SPORTS AND RECREATION PROGRAM TEAM.  
ED LeBARON HAS FILLED YOU IN ON WHAT THE YOUTH SPORTS  
AND RECREATION PROGRAM WILL BE DOING OVER THE NEXT  
FEW MONTHS, AND WHERE THIS TEAM NOW BEFORE YOU  
WILL BE TRAVELLING. I WILL NOT REPEAT HIS REMARKS.  
BUT I WILL SAY THAT I VIEW THE SESSION THIS MORNING NOT  
ONLY AS THE KICKOFF TO THE YOUTH SPORTS AND RECREATION  
PROGRAM. ~~IT~~ ALSO ~~VIEWED~~ AS SYMBOLIC OF WHAT IS HAPPENING  
TO MAKE LIFE BETTER FOR YOUTH THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE  
COUNTRY THIS SUMMER.

*10 cities  
clinics*

OUR SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM IN WASHINGTON, D. C. AND  
NATIONALLY IS FAR BETTER THIS YEAR THAN EVER BEFORE.  
DURING THE PERIOD FROM SUMMER 1964 TO SUMMER 1967  
WE INCREASED THE NATIONWIDE EMPLOYMENT OF 16-21 YEAR  
OLD YOUTHS BY 2 MILLION WHILE AT THE SAME TIME REDUCING

THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FROM 14.7% to 12.1%. EARLY INDICATIONS FOR SUMMER 1968 ARE THAT WE ARE DOING EVEN BETTER THIS YEAR.

FOR EXAMPLE, HERE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF BUSINESSMEN HAS PROVIDED OVER 4,000 JOB ORDERS FOR DISADVANTAGED YOUTH. THAT COMPARES WITH ABOUT 300 SUCH JOBS LAST YEAR.

NATIONALLY, FEDERAL AGENCIES THIS SUMMER ARE HIRING 70,000 DISADVANTAGED YOUTH COMPARED TO 43,000 LAST YEAR AND A SUBSTANTIAL PART OF THAT INCREASE IS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

WHILE FAR TOO MANY SCHOOLS ARE STILL CLOSED DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS, OUR INFORMATION INDICATES THAT APPROXIMATELY 20% MORE SCHOOL FACILITIES WILL BE OPEN THIS YEAR THAN IN SUMMER, 1967.

AND YOU ARE SEEING EVIDENCE HERE TODAY OF NEW INNOVATIONS IN RECREATION PROGRAMS -- PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO BROADEN THE HORIZONS OF NEEDY YOUNG PEOPLE.

BUT DESPITE THE FACT THAT OUR SUMMER YOUTH  
PROGRAMS THIS YEAR ARE BETTER PLANNED, BETTER  
ORGANIZED, AND ARE REACHING MORE DISADVANTAGED  
YOUTH, WE ARE NOT SATISFIED.

MUCH NEEDS TO BE DONE. IF WE ARE TO TELL IT LIKE  
IT IS WE CANNOT IGNORE THAT THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE  
FOR NON-WHITE TEENAGERS IS OVER 20%; THAT MANY OF  
OUR SCHOOLS ARE INADEQUATE; THAT LARGE NUMBERS OF  
OUR YOUTH WHO LIVE IN INNER CITY AREAS DO NOT RECEIVE  
PROPER MEDICAL ATTENTION OR LIVE IN DECENT HOUSING.

<sup>now</sup> YES, MUCH NEEDS TO BE DONE, AND THE PARTICIPATION  
AND SUPPORT OF YOUNG PEOPLE IS NEEDED. IF PROGRAMS  
ARE TO SUCCEED, IT WILL REQUIRE THE INVOLVEMENT OF  
THOSE OF YOU HERE TODAY -- FROM THE WASHINGTON  
COLISEUM, FROM THE KENILWORTH COMMUNITY CENTER,  
AND FROM THE BENNING-STODDARD CENTERS -- FROM ALL  
SECTIONS OF THIS CITY. LET US CREATE AN ALLIANCE OF  
YOUTH THROUGHOUT THIS LAND TO CONSTRUCTIVELY BUILD  
THIS COUNTRY. THERE IS MUCH WORK TO BE DONE, AND THE  
TIME TO BEGIN IS NOW.

natl  
alliance  
youth

ON THIS NOTE, AGAIN, LET ME COMPLIMENT THIS FINE  
SUMMER YOUTH SPORTS AND RECREATION PROGRAM THAT  
THE YOUNG ATHLETES HERE TODAY AND ED LeBARON AND  
JOE SCUDERO HAVE HELPED TO DEVELOP. ALSO LET ME  
THANK THE D. C. RECREATION DEPARTMENT FOR ITS  
EXCELLENT COOPERATION IN TODAY'S PROGRAM. AND,  
OF COURSE, LET ME THANK YOU FOR COMING. NOW LET'S  
SEE SOME SPORTS ACTION.



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