

ADDRESS OF HUBERT H. HUMPHREY  
VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

at

WATTS MANUFACTURING COMPANY  
1901 West El Segundo Boulevard  
Compton, California

9:30 a.m., Monday, July 29, 1968

MADE IN U.S.A.

REPORTED BY Robert H. Clark, CSR

OUR FILE NO. 16075-B

CLARK, SNYDER & MARTIN  
CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTERS  
1636 WEST EIGHTH ST., SUITE 201  
LOS ANGELES 17, CALIFORNIA

DUNKIRK 8-1476

RECEPTION COMMITTEE  
WATTS MANUFACTURING COMPANY

Congressman Augustus Hawkins

State Senator Ralph C. Dills

Compton City Councilman Lionel B. Cade

Compton City Councilman Douglas Dollarhide

Compton City Clerk Doris Davis

Former Secretary of the Navy Dan Kimball

Reginald McKenzie, President of Aerojet General

James M. Woods, President of Watts Manufacturing Co.

L. Wayne Mullane, Executive Vice President of Aerojet General

Leon O. Woods, General Manager of Watts Manufacturing Co.

## ADDRESS OF VICE-PRESIDENT HUMPHREY

at

## WATTS MANUFACTURING COMPANY

MR. WOODS: We are very honored today to have with us Vice-President Humphrey as a visitor. Many of you already know that Vice-President Humphrey has been very instrumental in helping Watts get going and continue to do the job in this country.

Without further ado, would you step forward and make a few remarks, Mr. Vice-President?

VICE-PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Thank you very much, Mr. Woods, to you and your father, and to the members of this fine manufacturing establishment, the Watts Manufacturing Company, and my old friend, Dan Kimball.

Can I say that this is one of the real happy moments of my visit to California, and I say that because I have had a long-term interest in what is going on in this plant, and what is going on in this community. It is one of the most reassuring, one of the most encouraging developments in our country. I think that Watts Manufacturing has demonstrated what people can do if they can get a chance, and I know that hundreds of employees have gone from this business, from these jobs, onto other jobs, jobs that may be better paying, and I know that this particular company is not only a production facility that has demonstrated great



1 productive capacity, but it is a training facility.

2 I just want to compliment each and every one of  
3 you. Some years ago I came out here to visit with some of  
4 our industrialists, and my message to them was simply this:  
5 "Let's take the jobs to the people instead of having the  
6 people running around looking for the jobs," and that is  
7 what this is all about.

8 It is my view, if we are really going to do what  
9 needs to be done, we have to think in terms of the people  
10 owning this plant. We have to think in terms of really  
11 self-determination, where people in the black community, for  
12 example, have their own representation on the school boards,  
13 in all the institutions of government, on all the opportunity  
14 action committees; where a plant like this, which has good  
15 management here with Mr. Woods, and that this plant may  
16 ultimately be owned by its own employees and the people that  
17 are doing the work here.

18 (Applause.)

19 I believe that this is the way that you make this  
20 a better country. When people have a stake in their country,  
21 when they know that it is their country and not somebody  
22 else's, then they are going to take good care of it, and  
23 that is what we want to have happen.

24 I wouldn't want to conclude my message without  
25 telling you, Dan, that I brought along a young friend of  
26 mine from out in Detroit, and he is sitting back there

1 hiding out, and we have got Walter Reuther here in case we  
2 decide to organize here. Walter?

3 WALTER REUTHER: Thank you, Mr. Vice-President.

4 VICE-PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Finally, to Mr. Kimball, I  
5 want to thank you for your vision, Mr. Kimball, and to  
6 Aerojet General; but I want to primarily thank you for your  
7 faith and confidence in people.

8 When I came to Los Angeles -- what was it, three  
9 years ago? -- and said to a group of industrialists, "Listen,  
10 let's get some plants out in Watts and let's quit talking  
11 about it." Who do you think was the first man that said he  
12 was going to do this? It was Mr. Dan Kimball. He said,  
13 "You don't need to worry about it any longer. I will go out  
14 and start to fix up a plant."

15 Now, things are beginning to change. Things are  
16 changing for the better. I wish this room were filled with  
17 industrialists of California. I want to tell them that they  
18 ought to follow suit in this area. As I said before, once  
19 these people are trained and have job opportunities, let's  
20 let them build their own community.

21 I say if you give a man a good job and good pay,  
22 he will take care of his community. You won't need to worry  
23 about the rubble.

24 Now, Mrs. Humphrey is with me, and I know that she  
25 is as happy as I am this morning to have this chance to say  
26 hello to you, and if she would just step up here, I would

1 like for you to see the best part of the Humphrey family.  
2 This is Mrs. Humphrey.

3 Then I have a son and a very beautiful daughter-in-  
4 law, Robert and Donna Humphrey. Would you step up here,  
5 please?

6 I have a very close and personal and wonderful  
7 friend who is a state senator in the legislature of Maryland,  
8 and his father is one of my closest friends, and when he  
9 decided he wanted to run for office, I said, "Well, if you  
10 run, I will make a contribution." It wasn't much. I did  
11 make a little one, but since then he has been making a  
12 contribution to the United States that none of us will be  
13 able to repay. Clarence Mitchell III. Clarence Mitchell,  
14 step up here.

15 Now, that is about all I want to say except.  
16 "Thanks." Thank you very much.

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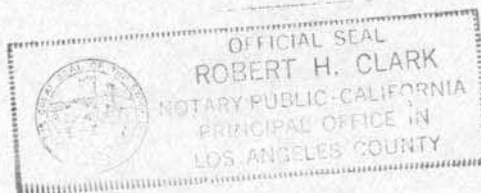
1  
2 STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
3 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ) SS.  
4

5 I, Robert H. Clark, CSR, a Notary Public in and  
6 for the State of California, do hereby certify:

7 That the foregoing, consisting of 6 pages, is a  
8 full, true and correct transcript of proceedings taken before  
9 me at the time and place therein set forth, and was taken down  
10 by me in shorthand and thereafter reduced to typewriting  
11 under my direction.

12 WITNESS my hand and seal this 5<sup>th</sup> day of August,  
13 1968.  
14

15 *Robert H. Clark*  
16 Notary Public in and for the County  
17 of Los Angeles, State of California  
18



ADDRESS OF HUBERT H. HUMPHREY  
VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES  
AT BUS DEPARTURE AREA  
104th STREET & CENTRAL,  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
TO SEE CHILDREN OFF TO  
WATTS LABOR ACTION COUNCIL CAMP  
IN SAUGUS

10:00 A.M., July 29, 1968

REPORTED BY ROBERT H. CLARK, CSR  
OUR FILE NO. 16075-F

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1 ADDRESS OF HUBERT H. HUMPHREY  
2 VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES  
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4 MR. WATKINS: We are about to get this show on the road,  
5 and we also are about to get buses, I understand, on the  
6 road.

7 I think one of the things that you need to know  
8 is that yesterday they filled up that pool up there at  
9 Saugus with water, so you can go in swimming there.

10 We have a lot of dignitaries here, and I won't  
11 try to introduce all of them, but there are two that have  
12 been very close to us and helpful in this operation that  
13 we are carrying on here, and one of them is my boss,  
14 Brother Walter Reuther, and the other one is the Mayor of  
15 the City of Los Angeles, Mayor Sam Yorty.

16 I think at this time without any further adieu,  
17 I would like to introduce to you the next President of the  
18 United States of America, Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey.

19 (Applause)

20 VICE-PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Thank you very much, Ted  
21 Watkins, and thank you, Mayor Yorty, for coming here today  
22 to see this happy occasion when young people will be going  
23 out to Camp Saugus.

24 And may I also express my deep appreciation for  
25 the presence of a great American, and one who has taken a  
26 very great interest in every endeavor in Watts, and that is

1 my friend, Walter Reuther.

2 I want you to stand up here, Walter. I want you  
3 folks to take a good look at the President of the United  
4 Automobile Workers of America.

5 I am so pleased that the Supervisor of this area,  
6 Kenneth Hahn, is with us today, and Congressman Chet Holifield.

7 Now, this is an occasion that all of us are going  
8 to remember. It is an occasion where we have people here  
9 that are going out to enjoy a wonderful experience in the  
10 out-of-doors, and I just want to compliment the Watts Labor  
11 Community Action Committee for all that they are doing,  
12 and I want to thank Mr. Watkins in particular for his leader-  
13 ship, and what he is doing here for these fine young people.

14 Last year, efforts were made --

15 Look. Who do we have here? Who is your friend?

16 Do you want to hear from James Brown? I want to  
17 hear from James Brown, and I think all of you want to hear  
18 from James Brown.

19 Okay, James, go to it.

20 JAMES BROWN: Thank you very much. I just want to say  
21 that all the black people that have come out this morning,  
22 no one was asked to come out. I am a black man, and I  
23 believe in saying it like it is.

24 Now, I ain't going to tell you something I don't  
25 believe in, Mr. Vice-President, because I ain't going to  
26 do that. I ain't going to sell you down the river at no

1 time.

2 I want to say this: We would like to know what is  
3 going to be done for black people. So I am going to start  
4 now by making a new offer to the gentleman standing on my  
5 right, and I want to see how you respond to that.

6 First, I would like to say, the black man wants  
7 ownership. He wants to be able to own his own bank, and  
8 make up his own mind. That is No. 1 in the black community.

9 In the low-income areas, we need housing, so we  
10 don't have to stay in the dumps, like I stayed in when I was  
11 a kid.

12 We need hospitals, so we don't have to stand around  
13 and bleed to death while some other kid gets worked on.

14 This is the way it is. I don't know of no better  
15 world. I will just tell you like I feel.

16 No. 3, we need all the facts, so we can get some  
17 money for ourselves. We don't want nobody to do this work.  
18 We want to do it. We want a bank to be available in black  
19 community. We don't want to go downtown. Now, the candidate  
20 that gives me those things, that is the man I endorse. I  
21 don't endorse the party. I endorse the man. That is No. 1.

22 No. 2, I would like to say again, I want to see  
23 that all the black people as candidates. We need black  
24 people for the power structure to speak for us, as well as  
25 white.

26 Now, if the gentleman over on the right is going



1 to look out for black people better than we have been  
2 looked out for in the past, and commit himself to these  
3 things, then I will endorse him.

4 VICE-PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Thank you very much. Thank  
5 you very much, James Brown.

6 Let me just say, in the presence of a man that  
7 I have grown to respect and admire, and a gentleman that  
8 I look to as a friend, that what he has said to this  
9 audience here today is what I have tried to say, but not  
10 so well.

11 A few moments ago when we were in another part  
12 of this community, I said what we mean by self-determination  
13 is when the black man can have his own business and own it;  
14 and when he can have his own bank and run it, and when he  
15 can have his own filling station and own it, when he can  
16 have his own department store and run it and own it, and  
17 when he not only has his own job and makes a living, and  
18 makes his own life, but where he can have his own piece of  
19 property, and feel that he has a stake in his community.  
20 That is the kind of an American that I want. If it is good  
21 for you, it is good for me; and if it is good for me, it  
22 is good for you. That is what it boils down to. That is  
23 what James Brown has said, and this is what Hubert Humphrey,  
24 candidate for the office of President, has said, and I will  
25 tell this audience that if I get a chance to be your  
26 President, I want to work for you, and you can be assured



1 of it.

2 I want to thank James Brown. I want to thank him  
3 for what he is, for what he stands for, for the people.

4 I want to thank Ted Watkins, for what he is, for  
5 what he stands for, for the people.

6 And I want to thank the young people here today  
7 that are making this a better community. If we can have the  
8 young people working together with James Brown and Ted  
9 Watkins and people like that, then this will be the best  
10 part of Los Angeles, the best part of California, and the  
11 best part of America, and I want to work with you.

12 Thank you very much.

13 JAMES BROWN: I can say one thing, Mr. Vice-President.  
14 I think I have got that feeling. I have got that feeling.

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA }  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES } ss.

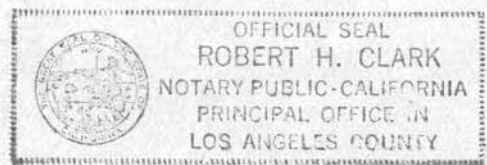
I, Robert H. Clark, CSR and Notary Public within  
and for the State of California, do hereby certify:

That the foregoing, consisting of 6 pages, is a  
full, true and correct transcript of proceedings taken  
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down by me in shorthand and thereafter reduced to typewriting  
under my direction.

WITNESS my hand and seal this 7<sup>th</sup> day of August,  
1968.

*Robert H. Clark*

Notary Public in and for the County  
of Los Angeles, State of California  
ROBERT H. CLARK







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