



# news release

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NEWS FROM: DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE  
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## NIXON AFRAID TO DEBATE, HUMPHREY CHARGES

Kansas City, Mo., October 15 -- After asserting for eight years that "Presidential candidates owed it to the American people to debate," it turns out that Richard Nixon is afraid to debate in 1968, Vice President Humphrey said today.

The Democratic nominee again accused Nixon of evading the issues and of taking forthright stands on non-controversial items. "I saw the other day where you (Nixon) came out against obscene mail being sent to children. A courageous stand, Mr. Nixon. We are also against the mafia, narcotics traffic and mugging of old ladies," Humphrey said.

Humphrey urged the people to join in smoking Nixon out. "Let's show him who's in charge -- Madison Avenue or Main Street, USA," Humphrey said.

The text of his remarks is attached.

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REMARKS  
VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY  
KANSAS CITY RALLY  
OCTOBER 15, 1968

I've come to do some speaking out... some smoking out.

This is a year for straight talk.

You are going to get it from me... and I am going to do my best to see that you get some straight talk from George the Loud and Dick the Silent.

Do you remember back in 1948 -- when Harry Truman whistle stopped across America telling it like it was? They called it the "one man circus."

Here's what Harry Truman said about this approach:

"I simply told the people in my own language that they had better wake up to the fact that it was their fight."

Harry Truman won in 1948 because he did not take the people for granted -- because he went directly to the people -- because he told the people the truth -- because he spoke out on the issues.

He had the courage to stand before the people as a man... a leader... without any Madison Avenue staged TV shows or bushels of confetti and balloons.

That is the Missouri story, written in the hills and valleys, the farm towns and cities, of the American heartland -- and written into the hearts of the American people.

And with your help, we're going to do it again in 1968.

For eight long years Dick Nixon has been saying around the country that Presidential candidates owed it to the American people to debate.

Now it seems he's having his seventh crisis.

It turns out he's afraid to debate after all.

How about it Mr. Republican? Did you mean it or didn't you mean it?

Will you debate or won't you debate?

I saw the other day where you came out against obscene mail being sent to children. A courageous stand, Mr. Nixon.

(more)

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I think we all agree to that.

We are also against the Mafia, narcotics traffic and mugging of old ladies. And last Saturday I told the American people in a televised address how I mean to make every American neighborhood safe.

Won't you tell us, please, about your secret plan to end the war in Vietnam? What is it?

Spiro Agnew says you really don't have one.

But I guess he really wouldn't be the one to know.

What do you mean when you ask for delay of the treaty to stop the spread of nuclear weapons?

I have told the American people where I stand on Vietnam -- how I will end the bombing ... how I mean to bring our boys home.

Where do you stand on civil rights? When you are up North, you're all for it. But down South you and J. Strom Thurmond whistle Dixie among the magnolias.

Where do you stand, Mr. Republican on medicare... on social security ...on aid to education... on union busting? I know where you used to stand.

What about that statement by your economic advisers about the desirability of higher unemployment... of throwing people out of work? It sounds like more of that same old Republican recession philosophy, and I don't think the American people will put up with it.

The ordinary people of America are getting fed up with this kind of campaign.

Let's smoke him out... and the people of Kansas City can help light the fire under him.

Let's show him who's in charge -- Madison Avenue or Main Street, U.S.A.

Let's win this one for the kind of Democratic prosperity that keeps you on the job... puts your child in college... and moves America forward.

Mr. Nixon charges that I would increase the Poverty Program... that I would invest millions, perhaps billions, of dollars in our cities... in education... in health.

(more)

Mr. Nixon says I would take risks for peace.

I would do all these things.

I would do these things because this country needs help -- and many of its people need help.

I would do these things because I think time is running out now on the arms race.

If we do not act, the time is near when 15 or 20 countries will have their own tidy stockpiles of destructive nuclear explosives.

And -- if we do not act -- I think this country we love could be rocked with human explosion that could change the whole nature of our society and our free institutions.

My Presidency would be an open Presidency... an active Presidency... A Presidency calling forth participation by all Americans -- and especially the young.

This open Presidency would mean not oppression of responsible disagreement, but its encouragement.

The open Presidency would not mean secrecy, but the widest possible discussion and ventilation of this nation's problems and their alternative solutions.

Our journey began more than 200 years ago.

We came to this country burning with the idea that one man was as good as another... that what was wrong could be made right... that people possessed the basic wisdom and goodness to govern themselves without conflict.

Now we come to a new moment of crisis in that journey and we are called:

-- to heal the hatreds and divisions among us;

-- to reaffirm the basic decency of spirit which lies within us as a people:

-- to reassert this nation's moral leadership in a world that desperately seeks that leadership.

--To tell a new generation that what we have is good... that it is worth saving... that the dream of their parents is still a worthy dream.

(more)

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This is work for all of us.

I seek to work through the Presidency of the United States.

And if you will stand with me, we can complete this work.

We need not be lost here in our own country.

We can build into reality the free and open society we all came to find.

That is the choice before us... who can you trust to lead America forward?

It is a choice among men... A choice among parties... a choice about our basic direction as a people.

"Who shall speak for the people?" Carl Sandburg asked.

And I answer: I shall speak and I shall act.

I ask your help.

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STATEMENT OF  
VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY  
STREET RALLY - KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

- - -

Tuesday, October 15, 1968

Thank you, thank you. Thank you very much. You have got me. Thank you very much.

Governor -- thank you very, very much, Governor Hearnes, and thank you for that "Hairbreath Harry" entrance there where he came charging in just at the right time with the right introduction and, Governor, there isn't any doubt in my mind that on November five you will be there way ahead every time with a great majority.

(Applause)

Oh, what a wonderful day, what a wonderful day. And all these grand people from Kansas City, Missouri, and I believe a few that came across the river from Kansas City, Kansas, too.

(Applause)

And let me just say quickly, because I know you have been waiting, how much I want every one of you to give your help and your support to a friend of mine that was a friend when I really needed one, to a gentleman that helped me when I needed help, to a man who stood up and was counted when I needed somebody to stand up, and to the man that has just spoken to you now, as the Governor of this state, Warren Hearnes, and Warren, I want to thank you very, very much.

(Applause)

And across the river to that grand Governor, Governor Doxinger. Send him right back, will you?

(Applause)

And here in the State of Missouri, the next United States Senator, Tom Eagleton.

(Applause)

And over in Kansas we need another Democrat, we need Bill Robinson. So, get him.

(Applause)

And my friend from the Congress, Congressman Bolling, Congressman Randall, Congressman Hull, all of you here, my thanks for your presence and to an old friend of mine, Mayor Davis, that has always been so considerate whenever I have come to this great city. Of course, when you are a Democrat, if you don't come to Kansas City, Missouri, we just plain lose your card, you don't really belong, because Kansas City, Missouri, is the gateway, according to Mr. Truman, to Independence, Missouri.

(Applause)

And I don't know what this makes me or how it puts me down on the calendar but let it be heard and I hope my voice will carry way across these streets, I am proud to be a Truman Democrat, a friend of a great President.

(Applause)

And Judge Curry, can I thank you, too, for your warm welcome once again. It is grand to have you here and to greet me and I wonder -- all of you know that one other great Governor of one of our great states is here with us today. Possibly he has been introduced, but he has been a friend of mine and he has carried on in his state with such great ability and such effectiveness and he is the most loved man in his entire commonwealth, and I want him to stand up again, that is Governor Richard Hughes of New Jersey, who is traveling with us today.

(Applause)

And his wonderful wife, Betty. Betty, stand up there, too, will you?

(Applause)



Well, now, down to the little business of the day. I just thought I would stop by and have a few words about politics with you if it is all right. I thought I would talk to you about George the Loud and Dick the Silent.

(Applause)

I gather you know who I mean. Yessirree, we are going to touch them up for a little while this afternoon.

VOICE: Sock it to them.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: You know, this is the place, this is the place for straight talk. This is the way they tell it like it is. Somebody once accused President Truman of giving them hell. He said, I don't do that at all. All I do is tell them the truth and they just think I am giving them hell, that is all.

(Applause)

And since I am so close in I thought maybe that I could use as sort of a jumping off point here what they used to say about that gallant man, who fought his battle in 1948. You remember that they had a fellow there from New York that was running for President. They have got another one now. These Republicans, they always reach up around there. They had a man up there by the name of Tom Dewey and he thought he was elected. He was cool, oh boy, was he cool. He was confident. Was he ever confident. And he was silent. And he had big crowds and he had big parades and he had lots of balloons and he had lots of confetti. He just ran short of the votes, that is all, on election day.

(Applause)

And you know what? He picked his cabinet. Yes, oh, he had already -- why, he played President so long during the summer of 1948 that when it came November, the people thought it was time for a change and elected Truman again.

(Laughter and applause)

My dear friends, you know what? There is another fellow that is doing the same thing. These Republicans, they pull the same old tricks and it ends up the same old way.

You know, I believe in the two party system. The Democrats as the majority, the Republicans a minority. Let's keep them that way.

(Applause)

But Mr. Nixon, he is so statesmanlike now. They say he is the new Richard Nixon. You know, let me tell you that fellow has had his political face lifted so many times it is rather hard to tell when he is new. They say that -- they said he was new in 1952, that he was brand new in 1956, and they did a reshine job on him in 1960.

How many times can you get renewed? Even Geritol won't do that.

(Applause) (Laughter)

But listen, friends, don't you worry about the new one or the old one. The one you need to worry about is the real one and that is the one I am going to talk about today and I am going to talk to you not only about the Republican nominee. I am going to talk to you about the third party nominee and I am going to talk to you -- and I am going to lay it on the line, and why? For your -- it is too good for him. He -- I want you to know why I am doing this. The American people have a right to know where we stand, not on this platform but on the issues. The American people have no right to be taken for granted. The American people deserve the best that we have in us. None of us are too good. All of us need to be better. And when you run for the highest office in this land, you ought to give the best that is in you and you ought to try to be better every day, and I say to Mr. Nixon and I say to Mr. Wallace that what we need is a discussion of the problems that concern the American people and we need to stand on the same platform at the same time before the same audience.

(Applause & whistles)

And I have some questions I want to ask. After all, Mr. Nixon said he believed in debates. If he does, all I tell him to do is to come out from under the brush, Richard. Come on out. And I ask Mr. Wallace that if he has some questions that he wants to ask, I have some I want to ask, and I am going to ask them here today because, my friends, this isn't my fight. This is your fight. This is your country as well as mine. This is your family as well as mine.

(Applause)

When we talk about peace we are talking about your peace as well as mine, your country as well as mine. When we talk about work and jobs and employment, we are talking about your family as well as mine. When we talk about education we are not only talking about my daughter and sons, we are talking about your children, your sons and your daughters. When we talk about Medicare we are talking about your parents as well as mine. And I submit that because we are talking about these things and should be, that we ought to have some answers.

But I think I know why George the Loud and Richard the Silent are acting the way they are, and believe me I know. I will tell you why. I want to ask some questions. I listed them down here and I am going to not pay too much attention to a lot of notes. I am going to talk to you from the heart, from the mind.

As I was driving over here leaving Rockhurst College where we had a tremendous reception of young people, tremendous reception -- (Applause)

-- stopping at Central High School where we had hundreds, yay, thousands of people, gave us a tremendous reception.

(Applause)

And as I was coming along I said to myself, why is it, why is it that these candidates, particularly one of them, the Republican candidate, hides out? Why is it that he feels that the way to win this election is to spend three days down at Key Biscayne, Florida?

I like it, too. I like the good life. But we have got business to take care of in this country. We have business to take care of in this country and, Mr. Nixon, I want you to come and talk to me about what you are going to do about Vietnam. I came to the people and talked to them about it.

(Applause)

Mr. Nixon, last year, last spring, you said you had a plan to end the war in Vietnam. Now, Mr. Nixon, if you have got a plan to end the war in Vietnam, then you owe it to the people of the United States that are suffering through this war to tell the people what it is and to bring that war to an end.

(Applause)

Tell our President, he wants this war over, if you have got a plan, but you know, that candidate, Mr. Nixon, the Republican nominee for the Vice Presidency, when he was asked about it, here is what he said. He said, Mr. Nixon doesn't really have a plan, and somebody said, but he said he had one. He said, well, that is just to keep up the suspense. And somebody said you mean that you play with the subject of war and peace? Well, he said, that is the way campaigns are run, aren't they?

Ladies and gentlemen, that isn't the way you run a campaign on the issue of war and peace. The American people have a right to know where we stand on these issues. Where do we stand on the issue of arms control? Where do we stand on the issue of nuclear -- spread of nuclear weapons? Where do we stand on how we get out of this war with honor?

Mr. Nixon, I want you to tell the American people where you stand and quit going down the street in those parades. What we need are not more balloons. We need more ideas and we need some good ones.

(Applause)

Mr. Nixon, where do you stand on civil rights? When you are up



north, you say you are for it. When you are down south, sniffing magnolias with Strom Thurmond, you are not so sure.

(Applause)

Where do you stand? And Mr. Nixon, where do you stand? And I want every person in this audience, every young person, to remember that the greatest blessing that ever came to your parents from this government was the opportunity for hospital and health and medical care under Medicare.

(Applause)

And by the way, don't think it is just for grandpa and grandma. It is for you, too, because when you don't have to worry about your mothers and your fathers' hospital bills, and when you don't have to have them go down and demean themselves pleading poverty, you have more for your family, more for your children, more for your home.

And, Mr. Nixon, where do you stand on Medicare? I know what you said about it. You said it wouldn't work. You said you were against it. Now, I want to know if you have had a change of heart and I want to know if you have had a change of heart only for the election or do you mean it? I want to know and so do the people, so do 26 million senior citizens in America want to know. Where do you stand, Mr. Nixon?

(Applause)

Where do you stand on Federal Aid to Colleges and high schools and Head Start and elementary schools? I want to know because let me tell you, there isn't a state or a city in America today that alone can afford to provide the educational facilities that are needed for this growing population.

Federal Aid to Education increased 300 per cent in the last four years and when Mr. Nixon had his chance, as Vice President, to cast one vote -- and by the way, let me tell you, a Vice President doesn't have much power. He has got a lot of time. He has got a lot of responsibility. But the only time he exercises any decisive power is when there is a tie vote in the Senate. And as the presiding officer of the Senate, when there is a tie vote, he casts a vote to break the tie.

Now, listen mothers and fathers, listen, you college students, when Richard Nixon had the chance to break the tie vote on Federal Aid to Education to help our young people, how did he vote? He voted, no. He voted against you.

(Applause)

He didn't vote against me. I already had my college education. He voted against you. And he voted against young people that will never get a chance. Yet, they listen to his votes and, Mr. Nixon, how is it that you can feel that 4-1/2 million people unemployed in this country is not dangerous and why is it that your chief economic adviser can say this past week that we may even be able to bear a little higher unemployment?

Whose job is he talking about? I tell you somebody that is going to be unemployed after November, Richard M. Nixon.

(Applause)

Yes. Whose job is he talking about? Not his. He has got a big law firm. Not mine.

He is talking about somebody that is on that payroll. He is talking about somebody that was the last hired and will be the first fired.

VOICE: Give them hell, Hubert.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: You bet I am going to.

(Applause)

And I tell you, I am going to do it for you. I am not fighting this battle just for me. I am fighting this battle for you and your families and your kids.

(Applause)

So let me tell you why he doesn't stand up here and debate. He is afraid, afraid. Richard the Lionhearted is Richard the Chickenhearted.

(Applause and laughter)

And I will tell you why he is afraid, because he doesn't want me to put him on the spot and say now tell grandpa and grandma how you wouldn't give them Medicare. Tell them.

He doesn't want me to put him on the spot to tell how he voted against better benefits for unemployment compensation. He doesn't want me to put him on the spot and tell you what he did to your kids on education.

I know why. I listed down here eight reasons why he is afraid. He is afraid because I will say, Mr. Nixon, how about those three recessions that took jobs and left seven per cent of our people unemployed, that took 50 billion dollars a year wasted in this country in production that never was produced. Mr. Nixon, what about your yes and no votes on social security? What about the fact that during the time of high unemployment you never had a job training program for unemployed workers? Are you afraid because you said the Peace Corps, the Peace Corps, the finest program in this country has overseas, and what did you call it, a haven for draft dodgers, and there isn't a draft dodger in the Peace Corps and he knows it.

(Applause)

Are you afraid? Are you afraid because you said the nuclear test ban treaty to prevent the spread of nuclear debris, to prevent radio active fallout, to contaminate the milk and the food and the grass, to take the lives of your babies, are you afraid, Mr. Nixon, because I will remind you that you called it a cruel hoax? That is what he did. He said it is a cruel hoax.

Thank God that John Kennedy didn't listen to that voice. He listened to other voices.

(Applause)

Now, let me just touch up Mr. Wallace for a moment.

VOICE: Sock it to him.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Listen, I look around this grand audience and you have got those signs down there and that is the last two votes he will get in town.

Let me tell you, talk about counterfeit currency, as phony as a \$3 bill. Now, let me

(Applause)

-- tell you. Mr. Wallace says he is the friend of the working man.

VOICE: Boo, boo.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Let me tell you, he makes Scrooge look like a social worker.

(Applause and laughter)

What did he mean, a friend of the working man? In his state, not just for black people, oh no, white people, too, the lowest wages of any state of the Union.

(Applause)

Yes, and what else? What else? Per capita expenditures per child in education, not just for black babies but for white ones, too, the second lowest per capita expenditure in the Union. And he says he is a friend of the people.

And what else? The lowest workmen's compensation, not just for the black man but for the whiteman. Listen, he doesn't have any favorites. You all get the bad end of the stick.

(Applause)

And listen, my dear housewives. The highest sales tax in America, six cents on every dollar that you spend, and he is supposed to be the friend of the working man. Baloney.

(Applause)

Now, let's have a little talk about law and order. Law and

Now, let's have a little talk about law and order. Law and order. Sheriff Wallace. Now, I am not running for sheriff. I am running for President. And let me tell you something. But let's see what kind of law and order we have in this country.

What does he say? He says if they lie down in front of my car I will run over them. Now, isn't that a fine example for a President?

But what about the facts? The highest murder rate in America under his administration in Alabama, and he talks about law and order.

(Applause)

The highest murder rate, and they talk about law and order. And what else? The second highest aggravated assault rate for serious crime in America, and he talks about law and order.

Ladies and gentlemen, what did he ever do for a policeman? Did he increase their wages? No. Know what he did? Put bumper stickers on the cars that said, "Support your Police."

I will tell you how to support your police. Give them better wages, give them better training, get more of them.

(Applause)

And let it be clear, let it be clear that the black man wants legal protection just like the white man and let it be clear --

(Applause)

-- and let it be clear when I am your President, there will not be equal protection of the law, there will be equal enforcement of the law, black or white.

(Applause)

So, let's get over this counterfeit kind of campaigning.

What is their program? Mr. Wallace has his platform. He says nothing about the United Nations. He says if anything about Vietnam, we will make it a bigger war. He has General LeMay that says we will bomb them back into the stone age. The Bombsey Twins, I call them.

(Laughter and applause)

Now, these are the things they have got to be talking about and it isn't my fight. Listen, if I am going to do this alone, we are all going to get licked but if you will help me, we will beat them both--

(Applause)

Now, we started something together in this country, friends, 200 years ago. People came to this country with one burning idea.

VOICE: Freedom.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: And that is that one man was as good as another. And we came to this country with the idea that what was wrong we could make right. And we came to this country and we are in this country with the belief that the people have enough sense if given the facts, to make the right decision. And now, we come to a moment of decision, and I am out here giving all I have got, including my family, to carry this message to the American people, and I want you to stand up with me now and fight like you have never fought before.

(Applause)

VOICE: We want Humphrey.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: I want you. I want you to help me heal the wounds in this country. I want you to help me put down those voices of hatred and bitterness that would divide us. Everyone of you know that we need each other in America. Every one of you know that we may some day have to stand alone. Every one of you know that when a man has a job, whether he is black or white, it makes a better America. Every one of you know that when a boy or girl goes to school, black or white, it makes for a better America. And I say to you, my friends, we have got to

reaffirm in this election for the whole world that there is a sense of decency and fair play in this country. The eyes of the world are on us and they are going to ask themselves now will America stand up as one nation or will it be divided? Will America have liberty and justice for just some people or will it have it for all?

My fellow Americans, my plea to you tonight and today and tomorrow and the days to come is simply this, that we have so much to do. There is so much we can do. There is so much of the unfinished business of this country. There are so many people yet to be heard from, so many resources yet to be developed, so many young people that yet want to make something out of their lives.

Let's not let them down. Let's make up our minds that we can have one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. Let's get on to do the job.

Thank you.

# # #

✓ Rockhurst  
✓ Central Hc

✓ Missouri  
✓ Kansas

REMARKS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

NOON RALLY

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

OCTOBER 15, 1968

✓ Tom Eagleton  
✓ Bill Roman  
Senator

✓ Governor  
✓ Gov Docking  
Bill Morris

I've come to Kansas City to do some speaking out ... some  
smoking out.

This is a year for straight talk.

You are going to get it from me ... and I am going to do my  
best to see that you get some straight talk from George The Loud and

Dick The Silent.

Doug Hughes

Judge Curry  
Mayor Davis

Cong Balling  
Cong Randall  
Cong Hull



Truman

Do you remember back in 1948 -- when Harry Truman  
whistle stopped across America telling it like it was? They  
called it the "one man circus." !!

Here's what Harry Truman said about his approach:

L "I simply told the people in my own language that they  
had better wake up to the fact that it was their fight."


L Harry Truman won in 1948 because he did not take the  
people for granted -- because he went directly to the people --  
because he told the people the truth -- because he spoke out on the  
issues.

L He had the courage to stand before the people as a man ... a  
leader ... without any Madison Avenue staged TV shows or bushels  
of confetti and balloons.



L That is the Missouri story, written in the hills and valleys,  
the farm towns and cities, of the american heartland -- and written  
into the hearts of the American people.

T And with your help, we're going to do it again in 1968.

L For eight long years Dick Nixon has been saying around the  
country that Presidential candidates owed it to the American people  
to debate. 

L ~~Now it seems he's having his seventh crisis.~~

L It turns out he's afraid to debate after all.

How about it Mr. Republican? Did you mean it or didn't you  
mean it?

T Will you debate or won't you debate?

L I saw the other day where you came out against obscene mail  
being sent to children. A courageous stand, Mr. Nixon.

I think we all agree with that.

We are also against the Mafia, narcotics traffic and mugging of old ladies. And last Saturday, I told the American people in a televised address how I mean to make every American neighborhood safe.

└ Won't you tell us, please, about your secret plan to end the War in Vietnam? What is it?

└ Spiro Agnew says you really don't have one.

└ But I guess he really wouldn't be the one to know. !

└ What do you mean when you ask for delay of the treaty to stop the spread of nuclear weapons?

└ I have told the American people where I stand on Vietnam -- how I will end the bombing ... how I mean to bring our boys home.

└ Where do you stand on civil rights, Mr. Republican? When you are up North, you're all for it. └ But down South, you and J. Strom Thurmond whistle Dixie among the magnolias.

L Where do you stand, Mr. Republican on Medicare ... on Social Security ... on aid to education ... on union busting? I know where you used to stand.

L What about that statement by your economic advisers about the desirability of higher unemployment ... of throwing people out of work? L It sounds like more of that same old Republican recession philosophy, and I don't think the American people will put up with it.

L The ordinary people of America are getting fed up with this kind of campaign.

L Let's smoke him out ... and the people of Kansas City can help light the fire under him.

L Let's show him who's in charge -- Madison Avenue or Main Street, U.S.A.

\* \*

L Let's win this one for the kind of Democratic prosperity that keeps you on the job ... puts your child in college ... and moves America forward.

L Mr. Nixon charges that I would ~~invest millions in the poverty program~~ ... that I would invest millions, perhaps billions, of dollars in our cities ... in education ... in health.

L Mr. Nixon says I would take risks for peace.

I Let's Right

L I would do all these things.

L I would do these things because this country needs peace and many of its people need help.

L I would do these things because I think time is running out now on the arms race.

If we do not act, the time is near when 15 or 20 countries will have their own tidy stockpiles of destructive nuclear explosives.

And -- if we do not act -- I think this country we love could be rocked with human explosion that would change the whole nature of our society and our free institutions.

My Presidency would be an open Presidency ... an active Presidency ... a Presidency calling forth participation by all Americans -- and especially the young.

This open Presidency would mean not oppression of responsible disagreement, but its encouragement.

This Open Presidency would mean not secrecy, but the widest possible discussion and ventilation of this nation's problems and their alternative solutions.

Our journey began more than 200 years ago.

We came to this country burning with the idea that one man was as good as another ... that what was wrong could be made right ... that people possessed the basic wisdom and goodness to govern themselves without conflict.

Now we come to a new moment of crisis in that journey and we are called:

-- To heal the hatreds and divisions among us;

-- To reaffirm the basic decency of spirit which lies within  
us as a people;

-- To reassert this nation's moral leadership in a world  
that desperately seeks that leadership.

-- To tell a new generation that what we have is good ... that it  
is worth saving ... that the dream of their parents is still a worthy  
dream.

This is work for all of us.

I seek to work through the Presidency of the United States.

And if you will stand with me, we can complete that work.

↳ We need not be lost here in our own country.

↳ We can build into reality the free and open society we all came  
to find.

That is the choice before us ... who can you trust to lead  
America forward?

Trust



It is a choice among men ... a choice among parties ... a  
choice about our basic direction as a people.

"Who shall speak for the people?" Carl Sandburg asked.

And I answer: I shall speak and I shall act.

I ask your help.

# # #

For release ~~Tuesday~~ PM 5:  
Wed am

10-12-68

Baluss

CR

TWxed 10-14

## SPECIAL STATEMENT TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS CITY

America's cities are the key to America's future. They must be places in which people can live and work without fear-- places of promise, not deadend traps for the poor.

In Kansas City, this ideal is becoming a reality. Your urban renewal program is an outstanding example of local initiative-- one which other areas would do well to follow. I am particularly impressed by the priority you have placed on urban living--on the rebuilding rather than the demolition of homes, on developing sites for schools, for hospitals, for parks and recreation areas.

But you know, and I know, that in Kansas and across the nation, there is much more than needs to be done.

As the former Mayor of a great city, as the President's liason with American cities over the past four years, I am familiar with the problems and promises of urban society.

I know what is needed.

We need local governments strong enough to face the challenge.

We need national leadership imaginative enough to support, not stifle local initiative.

We need private enterprise involved enough to accept its own responsibility for urban development, to play a cooperative role in providing new opportunities for the inner city.

I am offering a four-part formula of federal support to enable Kansas City--and other ~~xxxxxxx~~ urban areas---~~xxxx~~ better to meet the needs of their citizens.

*Second*  
First, a national urban development bank which would sell stocks and federally guaranteed bonds to private investors. Those funds would then be re-lent at federally subsidized rates to local governments, school districts, housing authorities, ~~and~~ urban renewal agencies and private undertakings designed to serve public needs. Such a bank could convert a relatively low federal investment into a high rate of urban development.

*First*  
Second, a ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ new policy of tax sharing to give state and local governments access to rising federal revenues and limit or reduce local property taxes. Where local tax bases have not expanded, revenue has come from drastically increased tax rates---a serious burden on local residents. These new federal funds would contribute greatly to meeting the local priorities of education, welfare, health and housing at the local level.

Third, increased and expanded programs of federal support for our local police forces, to enable them to do the job we ask them to do, with higher salaries, increased recruitment, and improved training and community relations.

Fourth, a strong new program of public and private cooperation to provide jobs and job training for everyone who is able to work. We must also expand our support for small businesses--enabling people to become employers as well as employees.

With the cooperation of federal, state and local governments and the commitment of your private sector, Kansas City has already done a great deal. I have

This is what our cities must <sup>provide</sup> mean-- order, ~~opportunity~~, initiative, opportunity -- for every resident.

VP KC

DEM FOR HHH DC

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF V.P. REMARKS FOR KANSAS CITY RALLY 10/15 NOON

ATTENTION: PATTI SCOTT

THIS IS HELENE -- KANSAS CITY RALLY TEXT FOLLOWS. SPEECH WILL  
BE MADE ON 10/15 AT 12:00 NOON

I'VE COME TO KANSAS CITY TO DO SOME SPEAKING OUT ... SOME  
SMOKING OUT.

THIS IS A YEAR FOR STRAIGHT TALK.

YOU ARE GOING TO GET IT FROM ME ... AND I AM GOING TO DO MY  
BEST TO SEE THAT YOU GET SOME STRAIGHT TALK FROM GEORGE THE LOUD  
AND DICK THE SILENT.

DO YOU REMEMBER BACK IN 1948 -- WHEN HARRY TRUMAN WHISTLE STOPPED  
ACROSS AMERICA TELLING IT LIKE IT WAS? THEY CALLED IT THE "ONE MAN  
CIRCUS."

HERE'S WHAT HARRY TRUMAN SAID ABOUT HIS APPROACH:

"I SIMPLY TOLD THE PEOPLE IN MY OWN LANGUGXXX LANGUAGE THAT  
THEY HAD BETTER WAKE UP TO THE FACT THAT IT WAS THEIR FIGHT."

HARRY TRUMAN WON IN 1948 BECAUSE HE DDXXX DID NOT TAKE THE  
PEOPLE FOR GRANTED -- BECAUSE HE WENT DIRECTLY TO THE PEOPLE --  
BECAUSE HE TOLD THE PEOPLE THE TRUTH -- BECAUSE HE SPOKE OUT ON THE  
ISSUES.

HE HAD THE COURAGE TO STAND BEFORE THE PEOPLE AS A MAN ... A  
LEADER ... WITHOUT ANY MADISON AVENUE STAGED TV SHOWS OR BUSHELS OF  
CONFETTI AND BALOONS.

THAT IS THE MISSOURI STORY, WRITTEN IN THE HILLS AND VALLEYS,  
THE FARM TOWNS AND CITIES, OF THE AMERICAN HEARTLAND -- AND WRITTEN  
INTO THE HEARTS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

AND WITH YOUR HELP, WE'RE GOING TO DO IT AGAIN IN 1968.

FOR EITHXXX EIGHT LONG YEARS DICK NIXON HAS BEEN SAYING AROUND  
THE COUNTRY THAT PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES OWED IT TO THE AMERICAN  
PEOPLE TO DEBATE.

NOW IT SEEMS HE'S HAVING HIS SEVENTH CRISIS.

IT TURNS OUT HE'S AFRAID TO DEBATE AFTER ALL.

HOW ABOUT IT MR. REPUBLICAN? DID YOU MEAN IT OR DIDN'T YOU  
MEAN IT?

WILL YOU DEBATE OR WON'T YOU DEBATE?

I SAW THE OTHER DAY WHERE YOU CAME OUT AGAINST OBSCENE MAIL  
BEING SENT TO CHILDREN. A COURAGEOUS STAND, MR. NIXON.

I THINK W E ALL AGREE TO THAT.

(ABOVE LINE IS I THINK WE ALL AGREW XXX AGREE WITH THAT.)  
WE ARE ALSO AGAINST THE MAFIA, NARCOTICS TRAFFIC AND MUGGING  
OF OLD LADIES. AND LAST SATURDAY ITXXX I TOLD THE AMERICAN PEOPLE  
IN A TELEVISED ADDRESS HOW I MANXXX MEAN TO MAKE EVERY AMERICAN  
NEIGHBORHOOD SAFE.

WON'T YOU TELL US, PLEASE, ABOUT YOUR SECRET PLAN TO END THE  
WAR IN VIETNAM? WHAT IS IT?

SPIRO AGNEW SAYS YOU REALLY DON'T HAVE ONE.

BUT I GUESS HE REALLY WOULDN'T BE THE ONE TO KNOW.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN WHEN YOU ASK FOR DELAY OF THE TREATY TO STOP  
THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS?



I HAVE TOLD THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WHERE I STAND ON VIETNAM -- HOW  
I WILL END THE BOMBING ... HOW I MEAN TO BRING OUR BOYS HOME.

WHERE DO YOU STAND ON CIVIL RIGHTS? WHEN YOU ARE UP NORTH,  
YOU'RE ALL FOR IT. BUT DOWN SOUTH YOU AND J. STROM THURMOND  
WHISTLE DIXIE AMONG THE MAGNOLIAS.

(FIRST SENTENCE IN PARA ABOVE SHOULD BE : WHRXXX WHERE DO YOU  
STAND ON CIVIL RIGHTS, MR. REPUBLICAN? )

WHERE DO YOU STAND , MR. REPUBLICAN ON MEDICARE ... ON SOCIAL  
SECURITY ... ON AID TO EDUCATION ... ON UNIO N BUSTING? I KNOW  
WHERE YOU USED TO STAND.

WHAT ABOUT THAT STATEMENT BY YOUR ECONOMIC ADVIEXXX ADVISERS  
ABOUT THE DESIRABILITY OF HIGHER UNEMPLOYMENT ... OF THROWING PEOPLE  
OUT OF WORK? IT SOUNDS LIKE MORE OF THAT SAME OLD REPUBLICAN  
RECESSION PHILOSOPHY, AND I DON'T THINK THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL PUT  
UP WITH IT.

THE ORDINARY PEOPLE OF AMERICA ARE GETTING FED UP WITH THIS  
KIND OF CAMPAIGN.

LET'S SMOKE HIM OUT ... AND THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS CITY CAN HELP  
LIGHT THE FIRE UNDER HIM.

(MORE ----- MANUALLY , BUT NOT MUCH)



LET'S SHOW HIM WHO'S IN CHARGE -- MADISON AVENUE OR MAIN STREET,  
U.S.A.

LET'S WIN THIS ONE FOR THE KIND OF DEMOCRATIC PROSPERITY THAT  
KEEPS YOU ON THE JOB ... PUTS YOUR DXXX CHILD IN COLLEGE ... AND  
MOVES AMERICA FORWARD.

MR. NIXON CHARGES THAT I WOULD INCREASE THE POVERTY PROGRAM  
.... THAT I WOULD INVEST MILLIONS, PERHAPS BILLIONS, OF DOLLARS  
IN OUR CITIES ... IN EDUCATION ... IN HEALTH.

MR. NIXON SAYS I WOULD TAKE THE RISKS FOR PEACE.

I WOULD DO ALL THESE THINGS.

I WOULD DO THESE THINGS BECAUSE THIS COUNTRY NEEDS HELP AND  
MANY OF ITS PEOPLE NEED HELP.

I WOULD DO THESE THINGS BECAUSE I THINK TIME IS RUNNING OUT NOW  
ON THE ARMS RACE.

IF WE DO NOT ACT, THE TIME IS NEAR WHEN 15 OR 20 COUNTRIES WILL  
HAVE THEIR OWN TIDY STOCKPILES OF DESTRUCTIVE NUCLEAR WEAPONSXXX  
EXPLOSIVES. (NOT WEAPONS)

AND -- IF WE DO NOT ACT -- I THINK THIS COUNTRY WE LOVE COULD  
BE OXXX ROCKED WITH HUMAN (UNDERLINE HUMAN) EXPLOSION THAT WOULD  
CHANGE THE WHOLE NATURE OF OR XXX OUR SOCIETY AND OUR FREE INSTITU-  
TIONS.

MY PRESIDENCY WOULD BE AN OPEN PRESIDENCY ... AN ACTIVE  
PRESIDENCY ... A PRESIDENCY CALLING FORTH PARTICIPATION BY ALL  
AMERICANS -- AND ESPECIALLY THE YOUNG.

THIS OPEN PRESIDENCY WOULD MEAN NOT OPPRESSION OF RESPONSIBLE  
DISAGREEMENT, BUT ITS ENCOURAGEMENT

THE OEXXX OPEN PRESIDENCY WOULD MEAN NOT SECRECY, BUT THE WIDEST  
POSSIBLE DISCUSSION AND VENTILATION OF THIS NATION'S PROBLEMS AND  
THEIR ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS.

OUR JOURNEY BEGAN MORE THAN 200 YEARS AGO.

WE CAME TO THIS COUNTRY BURNING WITH THE IDEA THAT ONE MAN WAS  
AS GOOD AS ANOTHER ... THAT WHAT WAS WRONG COULD BE MADE RIGHT ...  
THAT PEOPLE POSSESSED THE BASIC WISDOM AND GOODNESS TO GOVERN THEM-  
SELVES WITHOUT CONFLICT.

NOW WE COME TO A NEW MOMENT OF CRISIS IN THAT JOURNEY AND WE  
ARE CALLED:

-- TO HEAL THE HATREDS AND DIVISIONS AMONG US;

-- TO REAFFIRM THE BASIC DECENCY OF SPIRIT WHICH LIES WITHIN  
US AS A PEOPLE;

-- TO REASSERT THIS NATION'S MORAL LEADERSHIP IN A WORLD  
DESPERATELY SEEKING THAT LEADERSHIP.

-- TO TELL A NEW GENERATION THAT WHAT WE HAVE IS GOOD ... THAT  
IT IS WORTH SAVING ... THAT THE DREAM OF THEIR PARENTS IS STILL  
A WORTHY DREAM.

THIS IS WORK FOR ALL OF US.

I SEEK TO WORK THROUGH THE PRESIDENCY OF THE UNITED STATES.

AND IF YOU WILL STAND WITH ME, WE CAN COMPLETE THAT WORK.

WE NEED NOT BE LOST HERE IN OUR OWN COUNTRY.

WE CAN BUILD INTO REALITY THE FREE AND OPEN SOCIETY WE ALL  
CAME TO FIND.

THAT IS THE CHOICE BEFORE US ... WHO CAN YOU TRUST TO LEAD  
AMERICA FORWARD?

IT IS A CHOICE AMONG MEN ... A CHOICE AMONG PARTIES ... A CHOICE  
ABOUT OUR BASIC DIRECTION AS A PEOPLE.

"WHO SHALL SPEAK FOR THE PEOPLE?" CARL SANDBURG ASKED.

AND I ANSWER: I SHALL SPEAK AND I SHALL ACT.

I ASK YOUR HELP.

END OF TEXT.

VP KC

DEM FOR HHH DC

ATTENTION: TIM T COLCORD MEDIA ADVANCE

ARE U READY TO RECEIVE? YES KC

THE FOLLOWING IN IS THE SPECIAL STATEMENT TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS CITY

FOR WEDNESDAY AM RELEASE -- TO THE LOCAL PRESS ONLY AFTER THE VICE PRESIDENT AND PARTY HASXX HAVE LEFT KANSAS CITY

SPECIAL STATEMENT TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS CITY

AMERICA'S CITIES ARE THE KEY TO AMERICA'S FUTURE. THEY MUST BE PLACES IN WHICH PEOPLE CAN LIVE AND WORK WITHOUT FEAR -- PLACES OF PROMISE, NOT DEADENED (STRIKE THAT) DEAD-END TRAPS FOR THE POOR.

IN KANSAS CITY, THIS IDEAL IS BECOMING A REALITY. YOUR URBAN RENEWAL PROGRAM IS AN OUTSTANDING EXAMPLE OF LOCAL INITIATIVE -- ONE WHICH OTHER AREAS WOULD DO WELL TO FOLLOW. I AM PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED BY THE PRIORITY TXX YOU HAVE PLACED ON URBAN LIVING -- ON THE REBUILDING RATHER THAN THE DEMOLITION OF HOMES, ON DEVELOPING SITES FOR SCHOOLS, FOR HOSPITALS, FOR PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS.

BUT YOU KNOW, AND I KNOW, THAT IN KANSAS AND ACROSS THE NATION, THERE IS MUCH MORE THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE.

AS THE FORMER MAYOR OF A GREAT CITY, AS THE PRESIDENT'S LIAISON WITH AMERICAN CITIES OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS, IA MA (I AM) FAMILIAR WITH THE PROBLEMS AND PROMISES OF URBAN SOCIETY.

I KNOW WHAT IS NEEDED.

WE NEED LOCAL GOVERNMENTS STRONG ENOUGH TO FACE THE CHALLENGE.

WE NEED NATIONAL LEADERSHIP IMAGINATIVE ENOUGH TO SUPPORT, NOT SITXX STIFLE LOCAL INITIATIVE.

WE NEED PRIVATE ENTERPRISE INVOLVED ENOUGH TO ACCEPT ITS OWN RESPONSIBILITY FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT, TO PLAY A COOPERATIVE ROLE IN PROVIDING NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE INNER CITY.

I AM OFFERING A FOUR-PART FORMULA OF FEDERAL SUPPORT TO ENABLE KANSAS CITY -- AND OTHER URBAN AREAS -- BETTER TXX (STRIKE BETTER) TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THEIR CITIZENS.

FIRST, A NEW POLICY OF TAX SHARING TO GIVE STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ACCESS TO RISING FEDERAL REVENUES AND LIMIT OR REDUCE LOCAL PROPERTY TAXES. (UNDERLINE ENTIRE SENTENCE) WHERE LOCAL TAX BASES HAVE NOT EXPANDED, REVENUE HAS COME FROM DRASTICALLY INCREASED TAX RATES -- A SERIOUS BURDEN ON LOCAL RESIDENTS. THESE NEW FEDERAL FUNDS WOULD CONTRIBUTE GREATLY TO MEETING THE LOCAL PRIORITIES OF EDUCATION, WELFARE, HEALTH AND HOUSING AT THE LOCAL LEVEL.

SECOND, A NATIONAL URBAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (UNDERLINE PHRASE) WHICH WOULD SELL STOCKS AND FEDERALLY GUARANTEED BONDS TO PRIVATE INVESTORS. THOSE FUNDS WOULD THEN BE RE-LENT AT FEDERALLY SUBSIDIZED RATES TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, SCHOOL DISTRICTS, HOUSING AUTHORITIES, URBAN RENEWAL AGENCIES AND PRIVATE UNDERTAKINGS DESIGNED TO SERVE PUBLIC NEEDS. SUCH A BANK COULD ONXX CONVERT A RELATIVELY LOW FEDERAL INVESTMENT INTO A HIGH RATE OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT.

THIRD, INCREASED AND EXPANDED PROGRAMS OF FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR OUR LOCAL POLICE FORCES, (UNDERLINE PHRASE) TO ENABLE THEM TO DO THE JOB WE ASK THEM TO DO, WITH HIGHER SALARIES, INCREASED RECRUITMENT, AND IMPROVED TRAINING AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS.

FOURTH, A STRONG NEW PROGRAM OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE COOPERATION (COOPERATION) TO PROVIDE JOBS AND JOB TRAINING FOR EVERYONE WHO IS ABLE TO WORK. (UNDERLINE ENTIRE SENTENCE.) WE MUST ALSO EXPAND OUR SUPPORT FOR SMALL BUSINESSES -- ENABLING PEOPLE TO BECOME EMPLOYERS AS WELL AS EMPLOYEES.

THIS IS WHAT OUR CITIES MUST PROVIDE -- ORDER, INITIATIVE, OPPORTUNITY -- FOR EVERY RESIDENT.

# # #

END OF TEXT OF SPECIAL MESSAGE TO THE KANSAS CITY RESIDENTS -- FOR WED AM RELEASE TO LOCAL -- NOT NATIONAL TRAVELING PRESS -- WXX PRESS AFTER THE VP HAS LEFT.



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