

news release

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE . PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIVISION . 2600 VIRGINIA AVE., N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20037 . 202/333-8750

Release for Wednesday PMs October 16, 1968 For Further Information: Ev Munsey, Ext. 201 DC-644

AMERICAN IS BETTER THAN NIXON OR WALLACE BELIEVES, HUMPHREY SAYS

St. Louis, October 16,--Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey said today that "this country is better than Mr. Nixon and Mr. Wallace say it is" and that "we can build into reality" a free and open society in America.

But, he said, America faces a crisis in which 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 dreams of their parents is still a worthy dream."

The "choice before us (is), who can you trust to lead America forward?" Humphrey said.

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

The text of his remarks is attached:

(30)

For Release: Wednesday PMs October 16, 1968 VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

It's time for straight talk...straight talk from Mr. Wallace...straight talk from Mr. Nixon.

George Wallace is dishing out some mighty tough talk across America about law and order and about his great friendship for the American working man.

If it weren't so serious, it would be ridiculous.

Law and Order: George Wallace didn't have it in Alabama. He had the highest murder rate in the country.

He had the second highest rate of aggravated assault.

Then Mr. Wallace says he's a friend of the working man.

Workers in George Wallace's state make the third lowest wages in the country.

We know about George the Loud.

REMARKS

ST. LOUIS RALLY OCTOBER 16, 1968

What about Richard the Silent?

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 isn't ready to debate -- not if it means debating with me... not if it means facing up to his record...and the Republican record of the past 20 years.

How about it, Mr. Republican?

Did you mean it or didn't you mean it?

Will you debate or won't you debate?

Won't you tell, please, where you stand on the issues?

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.

But 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.

. . . more

PACE TWO

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

Where do you stand on civil rights? When you are up North, you're all for them. 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.

You know, it's bad enough that Mr. Republican's TV blitz keeps telling us that "Nixon's the One."

But it's even worse when you stop to think that "Agnew's the Two."

When I first heard that slogan--Nixon's the One--I thought of a few questions that needed asking...and answering.

You tell me the answers:

Who talks crime control...but refuses to put up the money to support our local police?

Who hasn't been before the public on Meet the Press...on Face the Nation...
or Issues and Answers for two solid years?

Who's hiding out in the election and taking the American people for granted?

Who shot from the hip in 1960 and called the Peace Corps a haven for draft dodgers?

Who has refused time and again to meet me in open debate before the American people in 1968?

And who's going to wake up on November 6th and feel just like Tom Dewey felt in 1948?

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

Let's smoke him out.

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 move America forward.

I say this country is better than Mr. Nixon and Mr. Wallace say it is...

I think America is the greatest country in the world.

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.

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Now we come to a new moment of crisis in that journey.

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.

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

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.

REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPEREY STREET RALLY

8th & Locust St. Louis, Missouri Wednesday, October 16, 1968

Governor Hearnes, Senator to be, Tom Eagleton, my dear friend, Congresswoman Leonor Sullivan -- good to see you.

Our Congressman to be, Bill Clay, and the one and only fussy bush. Let me tell you, folks, it is great to be here in St. Louis. It is great to be on a corner of 8th and Locust. Mu better to be here than on Wall Street, I will tell you that.

(Applause)

YOu know, there is a way the young folks say it, sock it to them, Hubie.

(Applause)

In case any ofyou have had any doubts why you should vote for me, just take a look at Inger Stevens and you will know why she is right.

(Applause)

And Inger, I want to thank you and Chubby Checker and all these wonderful friends of mine from the stage, theater, the entertainment world for coming out here.

Now, let me talk to you a little bit straight talk. I have been talking so much -- you know, I am going up to New York tonight to the Al Smith dinner.

I have finally talked Mr. Nixon into meeting me some place. (Applause)

But it is going to be a pleasant affair. We are not going to get real rough with each other. YOu know, we are going to do just like -- did you ever hear that story aboutAl Smith when he came to a scene like this? As he was coming down the line somebody said, "Al, tell them all you know, it won't take long. And he hauled back and said, "I will tell them all I know and all you know and it won't take any longer."

(Laughter and applause)

Well, I say tonight I am going to tell Mr. Nixon and some of his supporters, all he knows and all they know about his record and it won't take very long.

But today I want to talk toyou about twomen, two candidates, two parties, and I want to talk to you about yourselves and about ourselves. I want to talk toyou about Richard Nixon. I Want to talk to you about George Wallace. I want to talk to you about the Republican nominee and I want to talk to you about the third party candidate and then I want to talk to you about the candidate and the party that is for you, the Democratic Party, and the Humphrey-Muskie ticket.

(Applause)

First of all, let's just have a word about George Wallace. And I think it is time to have one, and I will tell you why. There is a law in this country against peddling counterfeit currency.

(Laughter)

And there is also a law which requires truth in labeling, truth in packaging, and I say the law is being disobeyed because Mr. Wallace is peddling counterfeit currency, the currency, if you please, of false issues, the currency of no program, and the currency of no leadership. Let's see what he says, Sheriff Wallace, standing right up there. And he says he is going to give you law and order. He is the apostle of law and order. Yet, here is the man who was Governor of the state that has the highest murder

rate of any state in the land, and he says he is going to give you law and order.

(Applause)

Here is a man, here is a man who stood in front of a school-house and said to little children, you cannot enter. And he says he is going to give you law and order. Here is the man that obeys the laws that he likes, defies the laws that he doesn't. Here is the man that vilifies the judges that he doesn't like and takes an interest in those that he does. Here is the man, if you please, whose state has the second highest aggravated assault rate of serious crime in the land and he says he is for law and order. I suggest he go home to Alabama.

(Applause)

Now, let me tell you something else. Here is the man who goes around the working people of our land and they tell me he has got some support amongst them. Well, I want to talk to wives of these workers. George Wallace, the friend of the working man. Listen, he made Scrooge look like Santa Clause.

(Applause and laughter)

Here is the man whose state has the second lowest wage rates in the Union. Here is the man whose workmen's compensation laws are the lowest in the Union. Here is the man whose per capita education is the second lowest in the Union. He is against the worker, he is against the kids, he is against the old folks. The only one he is for is George Wallace.

(Applause)
And a lot of people are being sucked in. Ladies and gentlemen, do you want the -- program for Alabama -- Washington, D.C., we need to send Wallace back home.

(Applause)

His Vice Presidential candidate whose program is we'll bomb people back into the stone age. You know what I call them? The Bombsey Twins.

Yee Gods. And somebody says he might even want tobe President. I can't imagine that you would want tolet it happen. What's more is I can't imagine that you are going to let Mr.Wallace -- this election -- House of Representatives. I hope you are going to let the American people elect their President by a majority vote of theelectoral college in this election.

(Applause and whistles)

Sometimes I think he is just like George the Third, he never should have happened.

(Laughter and applause)

I call him George the Loud. That is aboutwhat he is.

Now, let's talk about Richard the Silent.

(Laughter and applause)

Nixon, what did he ever do for Los Angeles?

(Applause)

What did he ever do for the country? Why in the world would we ever want a man like that.

VOICES: No.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Well, let me ask you something. Do you want Wallace?

VOICES: No. No.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Do you want Nixon?

VOICES: No.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: What about Humphrey and Muskie? (Applause and whistles)

I accept the results of the election.

Thank you very much.

REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY AT GRANDEL SQUARE SHOPPING CENTER

St. Louis, Missouri Wednesday, October 16, 1968

Thank you very, very much, Mr. Hurt. Thank you, and I want you to know how very happy I am to be here, first of all, in the presence of these two lovely young ladies. Mostof you cannot see them. But I will testify that they are mighty nice.

And I also want you to know how much I appreciate this share of stock. It says the Center City Foods, Incorporated, authorized capital stock, \$200,000, and I got a \$10 share.

(Applause)

So you take good careof my business, will you? (laughter)

Now, if I can give this to some trusted lieutenant and aide of mine, there is \$10, Davey, don't lose it. And hereis my hat. Now, I am in the presence of -- yes, sir, I am in the presence of Mr. Goldstein here who is the ward leader, 19th ward leader and he not only says it is the 19th ward, he has told me six times it is the best ward. That is what he said.

And I am in the presence also of a man that is bound to be absolutely unqualifiedly bound to be the next Congressman here and that is Bill Clay, and what an asset he will be.

(Applause)

When I drove in here this morning, I was very much impressed by the entire appearance of this area. This is an urban renewal area.

Now, what do we mean by that? We don't mean just new buildings. It is one thing to renew the structures but it is another thing to renew the spirit. And what we are most interested in is not only to rebuild or to renew the buildings, the stores, the houses. But we want to renew the spirit of the people who are going to live in these houses and make them homes.

We are going to be in this area and make it a neighborhood. We are going to live in this city and make it a community. That is what we are most interested in. That is the task of this country.

I have been privileged to become a shareholder now in an enterprise and that enterprise is one that is the product of your investment, but ladies and gentlemen, you are shareholders in an even greater enterprise. You are shareholders and you have made an investment in the greatest, in the greatest institution, in the greatest structure, in the greatest business in the world, and that is the United States of America. And as a citizen, you are a shareholder.

Now, what some of you are asking is when will I get my dividends? Well, many of us have had our dividends. Those of us that have been privileged to have a college education such as I have, I have gotten a rich dividend out of this country. I have had the chance, a good chance, to make something out of my life. That is a rich dividend in my investment and my shareholding in America.

But there are thousands, regrettably, my friends, there are even millions of Americans that have never had a chance to reap a dividend at all from the business of America, the unfinished business of this country. And I will tell you why I want to be President of this American company, this great company of the United States of America. I want to be the President of this great

America so that we can manage the affairs of our business in such a way that every shareholder, black or white, young or old, from city or rural, will have a chance to reap and to have dividends, dividends of an education, dividends of a decent place to live, dividends of a playground for the kids, dividends of health which is so vital, dividends of jobs and training for jobs, and dividends of investment such as here in this supermarket where we have what is called black capitalism, entrepreneurship, the dividends of owning some property and saying that it is mine, and being wi-ling to stand up for it and protect it, the dividends of equal protection of the law, the dividends of justice under the law, the dividends of fair play and the dividends of being treated like a human being, like an American.

(Applause)

Now, my friends and neighbors, and my fellow Americans, and brothers and sisters, that is what we are. We are in this American family together and we have built a great country together and let me say to my white brethren that this country wouldn't be what it is today. The railroads would have never been built, the great buildings would have never been constructed, the canals would have never been made and created had it not been of the labor of many.

I want every boy and girl in the schools of America to study the history of the American Negro, the American black man in this country. I want him to know.--

(Applause)

-- I want everyone to know that he has helped fight our wars, that they have been heroes, they have been decorated for valor and courage in battle.

There have been great doctors and scientists and artists and greate entertainers and athletes, great ministers of the gospel, great people.

At long last, yes, my fellow Americans, at long last we are going to get an appreciation of what we are in this country.

What a pity it is that we were never led to know that one of the patriots at Bunker Hill, one of those that fought in that battle and came away decorated with glory, was a black man --

(Applause)

-- an American Negro.

And what a pity it was that in the days when we were fighting for our independence, that one of the great leaders that stood by George Washington and helped him in the hours of crisis was a black man.

And what a pity it is that so few have remembered Frederick Douglass, who was Lincoln's great personal friend, and understood so much the meaning of emancipation.

Once we learn about each other, we are going to trust each other. It is when we stand aside --

(Applause)

-- it is when we stand aside and listen to the demagogues and the preachers of hate that we begin to have suspicion and doubt, and let's face it, in America today there are blacks who are afraid of whites and there are whites who are afraid of blacks, and that is no way tobuild the American nation.

That isn't what we mean by We the People. The Constitution doesn't say we the black people, we the white people. It says We the People of these United States.

(Applause)

When I am your President, you are going to be judged just one way, not how you look, what the color ofyour skin is, how you spell your last name, what church yougo to, or where you live. You are going to be judged on the basis of what you are, what you can do. You are going to be judged on the basis of merit, whether you are a good man or a bad one, whether you are a productive citizen or not,

whether you love yourcountry or not.

Who cares what your race is, what your background is or your ethnic origin? What is important is what are you and what do you stand for?

(Applause)

So we say today, I am a man, not a black man or a white man. I am a man. I am a woman. Not black or white but a woman. I am a child. I am one of God's children, not black or white but a child, and here are twolittle girls alongside of me and we are going to be tested in the years ahead not by what we adults do to each other but what we adults do for these young people to make their life better.

(Applause)

So, gee, it is good to be out here. I tell you, this is a very happy moment for me because my whole life has been dedicated to the proposition that we can build an American family, an American community, in which we can live as neighbors and not enemies, in which we can trust one another.

You know, I said last night to a group that we read on our currency "In God We Trust". Well, ladies and gentlemen, just remember that if it is in God you trust, then you had better put trust in God's greatest creation, his people. That is what counts.

(Applause)

That is what counts.

An old preacher friend of mine once said, and he taught me most of the religion that I have, he said, the way you treat people -- and listen, you, the way you treat people is the way you treat your God. And if you don't treat people like human beings with kindness and respect and with dignity, then you are a religious man and you arenot any kind of a man. You are not worthy of being called a man.

(Applause)

So, let's turn our -- let's turn our backs on those that preach hate and division, and you know who they are. Let's turn our backs on those that think we are going too fast when we have been late, so slow in doing the things that we should have been doing a hundred years ago.

(Applause)

And let's have the people of America know that things can be better and that things are happening.

I want the people of America to see what you are doing here. I want them to know that we can work together and I want you to stand with me nowin confidence that we can have an open America where people can live in the neighbors of their choice, where they can havejobs without regard to race, color or creed, where they can go go to the best school that we can provide, and where they can have their chance, because that is the promise of America.

Thank you very, very much.

By the way, the election is November 5th. Don't you forget it.

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VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPARE PULL PRICE

ST. LOUIS RALLY

OCTOBER 16, 1968

Bill Clay

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We know about George the Loud.

What about Richard the Silent?

For eight long years, Dick Nixon has been saying

around the country that Presidential candidates owed it to the American people to debate.

New it seems he's having his seventh crisis.

Let turns out he isn't ready to debate--not if it means debating with me... not if it means facing up to his record... and the Republican record of the past 20 years.

How about it, Mr. Republican?

Did you mean it or didn't you mean it?

Will you debate or won't you debate?

Won't you tell, please, where you stand on the issues?

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.

But 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?



Where do you stand on civil rights? When you are up

North, you're all for them 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.

You know, it's bad enough that Mr. Republican's TV blitz keeps telling us that "Nixon's the One."

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Who hasn't been before the public on Meet the Press...

on Face the Nation...or Issues and Answers for two

years?

Who's hiding out in the election and taking the American people for granted?

Who shot from the hip in 1960 and called the

Peace Corps a haven for draft dodgers?

Who has refused time and again to meet me in open debate before the American people in 1968?

And who's going to wake up on November 6th and

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

Let's smoke him out.

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 move America forward.

I say this country is better than Mr. Nixon and Mr. Wallace say it is... I think America is the greatest country in the world.



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. 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;
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 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.

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

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?

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have some straight talk with Mr. Wallace and Mr.

Nixon.

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If it weren't so serious, it would be ridiculous.

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He had the second highest rate of aggravated assault.

couldn't get law and order in Alabama where he had the power. Now he says he'd get law and order in America in the Presidency where he wouldn't have the power -- unless he proposes a national I don't think any of us want George Wallace's police force.

commandos keeping their version of the law anywhere in America. Wallace says he's a friend of the working man.

But when the working man tried unionizing in Alabama, George called in his boys to drive the organizers out.

Workers in George Wallace's state make the third lowest wages in the country.

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

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

Yes. I am going to smoke Dick Nixon out.

I want to get Dick Nixon, George Willace and Hubert Humphrey on the same platform, at the same time, before the same audience -- live or on television.

I want them to stand up, man to man, and tell the American people what they believe.

And I am going to send up smoke signals, get people to sign petitions, send letters, and keep banging away until I get them on that platform.

I am ready to debate Dick Nixon and George Wallace at the headquarters of the NAM...at the Whittier Elks Club...at Dick Nixon's Fifth Avenue Apartment or at the State Capitol in Montgomery.

And Ed Muskie is ready to debate Spiro Agnew and Curtis Le May at the Baltimore County Sheriff's Office...on the Mason-Dixon Line... or at White Sands, New Mexico Atomic Testing Grounds.

Come on out, Mr. Nixon. Tell your story. Let George Wallace tell his story.

And I'll tell mine.

And then let the people decide.

+ + +

I say this country is better than Mr. Nixon and Mr. Wallace say it is. .. I think America is the quality Country in the until.

I say this country can do what it wants to do.

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