PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY COMBINED JEWISH APPEAL MIAMI, FLORIDA JANUARY 16, 1969 Next Monday at 12 noon on the steps of the United States Capitol we will conclude the smoothest and most efficient period of Presidential transition in American history, This is no small achievement -- even if we almost take it for granted. In these revolutionary times it is noteworthy and significant that once again the immense power of the American Presidency has been transferred without difficulty or challenge. This process necessarily tests - however implicitly the nature of our commitment to our constitutional system

and to the very concept of democratic government. For the people to speak -- for the election to be decided -- and then to encounter obstacles and problems in the transfer of power would raise profound questions about the viability of our democratic enterprise.

So when a new President rises to take the oath of office, this is more than just one man personally pledging to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States. This act signifies that our democratic covenant has been renewed -- that our faith in the democratic process is intact -- and that we are fundamentally a united and free people.

The inauguration of a President should, therefore, be a celebration for every American There is, of course, an extra measure of happiness for those who were chosen by the people.

There is, in all candor, considerable sadness and pain for those who were not chosen. But for all Americans -- regardless of their political party affiliation or their views on the issues of the campaign -- there is reason to celebrate.

Once again we have achieved what all mankind truly seeks -- the chance to decide our destiny through free and open choice of the people. And in a world full of tragedy and abandoned dreams, we cannot afford to let these moments of celebration slip by unnoticed.

In this spirit, then, I look forward to Monday next.

But as we celebrate the successful transfer of political power, we recognize that many of the challenges and problems of the past remain. Having known these problems intimately, I know the incoming administration will need the support of every American in the coming days.

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The problems of war and peace remain, particularly in Vietnam and in the Middle East. The challenge of bringing these conflicts to a peaceful conclusion must surely rank at the top of the new administration's agenda.

In the Presidential campaign I set forth my views on the necessary elements for a permanent peace in the Middle East. They are, in my opinion, equally applicable today.

- The existence of the State of Israel must be accepted by all of its neighbors.
- The fragile, often-violated truce lines must be transformed into agreed and secure boundaries.
- The State of Israel must have free navigational rights in all International waters, including the Suez Canal and the Gulf of Aqaba.



- 4. The arms race, which breeds insecurity as it feeds on hostility, must be finally terminated.
- The international community must assist the countries immediately concerned in solving the human tragedy posed by the Arab refugees.
- 6. The resources of the Middle East countries must be used primarily for human and economic

development rather than war and destruction.

7. Asraels Defence ment be as The obstacles to translating these generalities into

of rising hate and hostility. But we cannot slacken our determination to push forward toward a stable and lasting peace in this critically important area of the world.

Jerael neederfour help- Jam Confidence your trust Most as never refore I brack must not stand alone. (I nack my Voice) We know many other issues that will command the attention of the new administration and the sympathetic concern of the American people

We must -- and I am confident we will -- push on with the urgent work of limiting the spread of nuclear weapons on this planet and, then, of progressively reducing the numbers of offensive and defensive nuclear weapons through enforceable arms control agreements.

The spectre of nuclear catastrophe hangs over mankind -we cannot rest until this awesome destructive force has been
shackled and the survival of the human race assured.

At home we know the agenda is long indeed.

We have begun a serious station the complex, interrelated problems which grip our cities. Programs such

as Model Cities are just beginning to have a measureable impact.

But we must push forward -- with an open mind, understanding that failures and disappointments are inevitable, but committed to a rebirth of our metropolitan areas.

We know that our nation will know no peace until racial justice is finally secured in this land, The easy victories are behind us. Our attention is constantly diverted by the cries and threats of militant extremists.

Now is indeed the time for those persons who believe in an open, integrated, multi-racial society to stand up and speak out. For if we remain silent -- if we abandon the field to those who would destroy this country -- our nation will know nothing but torment and trouble in the days ahead.

We must frankly recognize the need for vastly increased resources to help our national, state and local law enforcement officials fight the rising tide of crime and lawlessness.

We must continue to expand our investments in education, health care, and job training programs. These are life-saving expenditures in the fullest meaning of that word.

A child is exposed to the wonders of education and the thrill of learning -- and truly a life is saved.

An expectant mother receives the proper pre-natal care and her child is born healthy -- and truly a life is saved.

A hard-core unemployed worker finds a steady job with good pay and the chance for further training and advancement -- and truly a life is saved.

incoming administration will necessarily develop
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he long-term goals remain the same, even as the Presidency changes hands -- the goals of peace and security abroad, justice and opportunity at home.

And the American people have the obligation, regardless of party, to work with and support the new administration in the quest of these goals -- for who does not yearn for their realization?

On Monday we begin a new Presidency and a new administration.

Every American wishes them success as they continue the difficult task of making democracy work in these challenging times.

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