THE HONORABLE HUBERT H. HUMPHREY WITED JEWISH APPEAL PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA JANUARY 23, 1969

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REMARKS

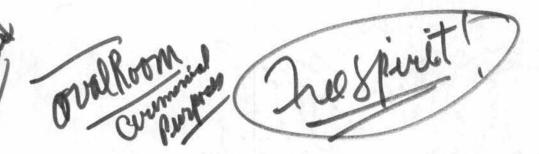
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Monday at 12 noon on the steps of the United States Capitol we concluded the smoothest and most efficient period of Presidential transition in American history. This was no small achievement -- even if <u>we</u> almost took it for granted. In these 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



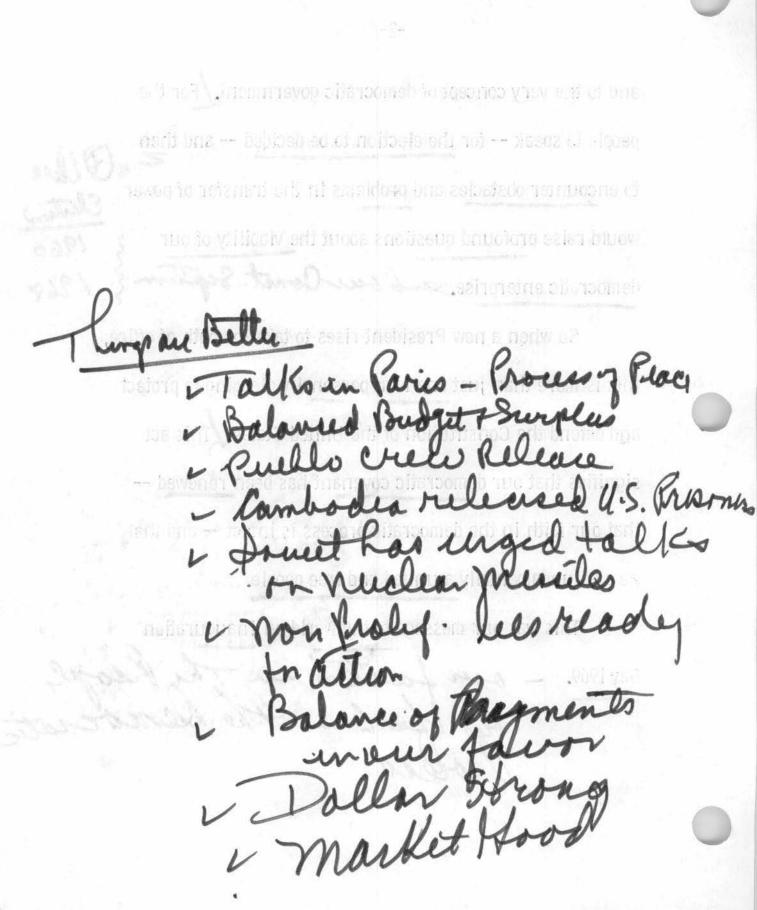
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and to the very concept of democratic government. For the people to speak -- for the election to be decided -- and then to encounter obstacles and problems in the transfer of power would raise profound questions about the viability of our democratic enterprise_and our Oonit. Septim { 1960 1960

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 <u>renewed</u> -that our faith in the democratic process is intact -- and that we are fundamentally a united and free people.

This was our message to the world on Inauguration

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Once again we 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 without due notice.

But in our celebration of the successful transfer of political power, we know that many of our past challenges and problems remain. The Nixon-Agnew administration will need -- and, I am confident, will receive -- the support of American in the coming days. I show a support American in the coming days. I show a support 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 surely ranks at the top of the new administration's agenda.

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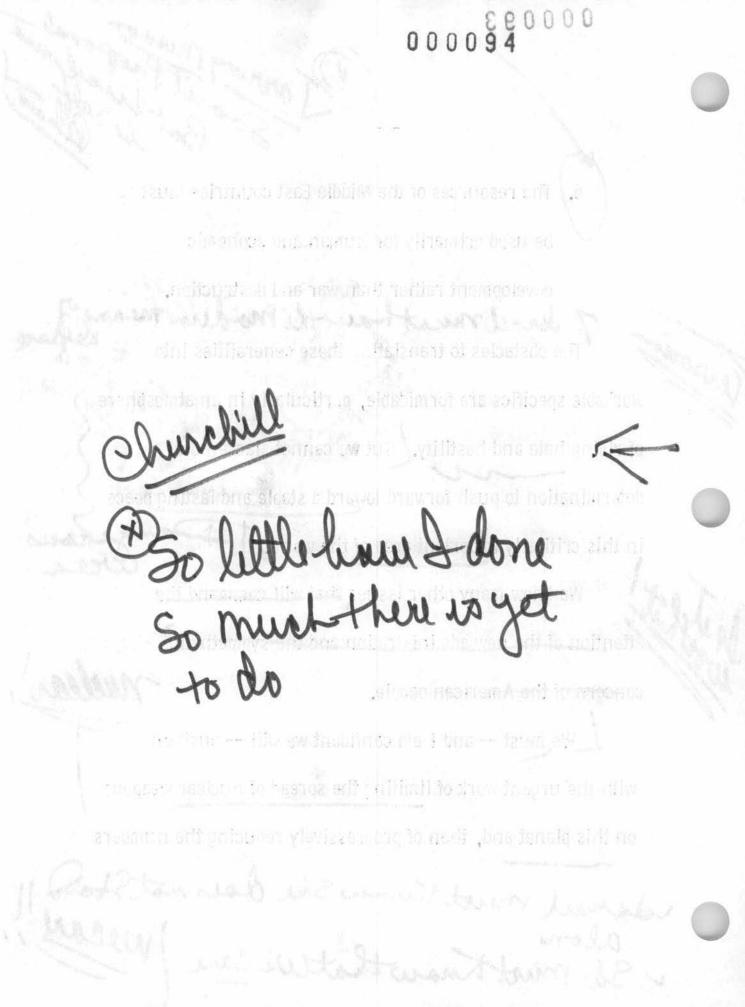
In the Presidential campaign I set forth my views on the necessary elements for a permanent peace in the Middle East. They are, in my opinion, equally applicable today.

- I. The existence of the State of Israel must be state of Israel must be state of Israel must be
- 2. The fragile, often-violated truce lines must be transformed into agreed and secure boundaries.
- 3. The State of Israel must have free navigational rights in all international waters, including the

Suez Canal and the Gulf of Aqaba.

 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.

000093 The resources of the Middle East countries must be used primarily for human and economic development rather, than war and destruction. shall must have the modern m The obstacles to translating these generalities into workable specifics are formidable, particularly in an atmosphere 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 We know many other issues that will command the Attention of the new administration and the sympathetic wellar 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 alon She must know that we care We car



of offensive and defensive nuclear weapons through enforceable arms control agreements.

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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 assault on 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.

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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.

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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.

An incoming administration will necessarily develop its own programs and policies in each of these areas. This is as it should be.

But the 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?

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Monday we began 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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