

The 1960s - Decade of Transition & Tragedy (001189)
(1) Tragedy - JFK, Martin Luther King, Robert K. Kennedy
(2) Transition - Urban, Race, Youth, Poverty.
REMARKS 001189

THE HONORABLE HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

NATIONAL RETAIL FURNITURE ASSOCIATION

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

JANUARY 4, 1970

President Martin S. Ries of South Bend
Vietnam
Prop. McG. Dargatzis
Underdeveloped
John Brademas

Education
Health
Physical
Environment
Last month our government, and that of the Soviet Union, completed the first stage of the most important negotiations of the nuclear age. The Strategic Arms

Limitation (SALT) Talks, conducted in unprecedented amity in Helsinki, promise a new area of common effort to end the tyranny of nuclear weapons.

I have great hopes for the success of these talks, not as a "one shot conference with a finite life and a single agreement, but rather as the beginning of a continuing cooperative effort to solve each new problem of nuclear development as it arises.

Space Program as its effect on USSR
Russia Chinese Situation

Take Inventory
our 300 years
of Tradition

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Caution

⌞ I do not suggest that we should abandon caution, that we should blindly extend our trust of the Soviets beyond the arena of this conference table and into political areas where there is not yet a record of Soviet good intentions.

Halt Deployment

⌞ But I do believe we should demonstrate our good faith by halting the deployment of all nuclear weapons, both offensive and defensive, while the SALT talks are in progress...and we should insist that the Soviets do the same.

⌞ The United Nations General Assembly has called upon both countries to freeze production of weapons and delivery systems. I endorse this call.

And I urge once again that the United States halt further testing of the new and frightening MIRV warhead, in order to encourage the Soviet Union to halt its development of the weapon, which can make all our calculations about deterrence obsolete.

For these Gases and Germs can become
the "Poor Man's Atom Bomb"



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It will be difficult -- if not impossible -- to maintain the harmonious political atmosphere of the SALT talks if the United States continues to develop the MIRV.

↳ We can undertake this moratorium without in any way jeopardizing our own security for -- if we fail in this effort at nuclear control -- our existing supply of weapons is more than adequate for national security.

*Biological
Chemical* ↳ But nuclear arms are not the only weapons threatening the human race with devastation and destruction. The plague of poisons and diseases spread by chemical and biological weapons present a threat of equal gravity to mankind. ~~(see next page)~~

↳ The gases that maim or kill, and the germs that spread diseases that medical science has long worked to control, are equally hideous arms in the national arsenal.

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↳ Last November President Nixon took a giant step toward peace when he renounced "the lethal biological agents and weapons, and all of the methods of biological warfare", and submitted to the Senate for ratification the Geneva Protocol of 1925 which prohibits the first use in war of asphyxiating, poisonous or other gases and bacteriological methods of warfare.

↳ National and international leaders -- who had long urged the United States to join the major nations in ratification -- applauded the action.

↳ ~~Today we have reason to believe our applause came too soon.~~ More than the honor of the United States is at stake.

↳ ~~For these gases and germs can become the "poor man's atom bomb".~~

~~But~~

Ⓢ ~~Vietnam~~

But something has happened
that dampens the enthusiastic
applause for the President's Action.

Nations which are prevented by technological poverty
from acquiring nuclear arms will have added incentive to
acquire chemical and biological weapons so long as the United
States does not, by example and moral suasion, reject these
fearsome weapons.

What has happened to cause concern since the President's
heralded announcement?

First:

The President announced that his interpretation
of the Geneva Protocol does not prohibit the
use of tear gas or of chemicals that destroy
plant life. (The United Nations General
Assembly voted to the contrary - 80 to 3.)

Our armed forces have been using both in
Vietnam.

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Second:

The Secretary of Defense has announced that the Army will continue to produce disease-bearing toxins for military use -- toxins that cause plague, diphtheria and typhoid. The Army, in a semantic evasion, is contending that the toxins are chemicals -- unlike the germs that produce them -- and are, therefore, exempt from the ban announced by the President.

L This reasoning -- already rejected by the British government (which is sponsoring a new treaty on biological weapons -- a treaty Mr. Nixon claims to support) will:

---raise serious questions about the credibility of the United States in opposing this appalling and indiscriminate form of warfare;

(2) In Economy - Tullian
 Doth
Great gains - In Race Relations
 In Educ
 In Health
 In arms

Best -
 1970's. Decade of Development
 (Inflation)
Open Society
 - Develop Human Resources
 - Develop. Natural Resources.
 - Decade of Development of Cities
 - Protection our Physical Environment
 Pollution
 - arms control

Change within order

- 7 -

--reflect upon our good intentions about arms control
in general and, in this way, may even interfere with
the progress of the SALT talks.

--undermine world efforts to prevent a race in chemical
and biological weapons.

This is more than a question of America's image, or of
the probity of our acts.

It is a question of basic moral commitment and --
ultimately -- of the very survival of mankind.

#

Vikings - chiefs
National Retail Furniture Assoc

001197

See
next
moment

50th ann

① Presid. Milton Reese

500th Bond Ind

② Robert Gruenberg

Exec Secretary

③ Pres Chas. "Red" Weatherly - mod. (former V.P.)

④ Don Donovan - Past Pres. Hop Kim

Aaron Swett - Bartells

⑤ Aaron Swett - Past Pres last yr. (Ch 7 Bd)

The Past as Prologue - the Future Unlimited -

1960's our constitution being challenged + Attacked
alienation, disenchantment of young

1960's - Decade of Division, Debate, Descent
& Decision

Ignorance - Decade of Tragedy - JFK - Martin Luther King Jr
RFK - War

1960's - Decade of Science Technology - (Space)

1960's - Urban Crisis Educ Crisis
Racial Crisis

Yet Breakthroughs
Restless

Yet -
great gains
Elderly
Educ
Economy
Health

Civil RTS
Educ
Voting RTS
Poverty

NATIONAL



Spence - Retail Firm

RETAIL FURNITURE ASSOCIATION

1150 MERCHANDISE MART • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60654 • AREA 312/527-3070

BRANCHES: WASHINGTON • NEW YORK • HIGH POINT • LOS ANGELES • TORONTO

November 17, 1969

Sp. + H Jan. 4, 1970

Mrs. Culver, Secretary to
Hubert H. Humphrey
1510 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Culver:

The National Retail Furniture Association's Fiftieth Anniversary Banquet, at which Mr. Humphrey has agreed to speak on January 4 is the opening event in a year-long program NRFA has planned to mark its 50 years of service to the home furnishings industry.

The overall theme for the anniversary year will be oriented toward looking ahead and preparing our industry for the changes it will face. NRFA is calling it "Project 2020" ... indicative of a look ahead to the year 2020, 50 years from now.

Each banquet guest will receive a gold-bound copy of NRFA's Fiftieth Anniversary Golden Book ... titled Project 2020 ... as a souvenir. Editorially, Project 2020 will briefly recap the past 50 years of industry and NRFA history, and will concentrate on examining the industry's future. All major trends ... economic, social and political ... which will affect our future as an industry will be explored. (A complete editorial outline is attached for your information.)

A second step in NRFA's anniversary year preparations for the future will include the institution of a major Research and Development Fund to underwrite programs aimed at helping the industry prepare for future changes. The fund is being financed by the contributions of individual NRFA members and by contributions of industry firms to Project 2020.

In keeping with the anniversary theme, it is our hope that Mr. Humphrey would select as the topic of his address his own view of some phase of the future which he feels would be appropriate to his audience of industry leaders who serve as the home furnishings purchasing agents for the homemakers of America.

NRFA looks forward to welcoming Mr. Humphrey to Chicago and would appreciate an indication of the subject of his address when he has made a decision.

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bob", written over the typed name Robert P. Gruenberg.

Robert P. Gruenberg

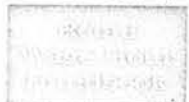
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... More ...

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION: NRFA REPORTS to the home furnishings industry

AFFILIATES: SOUTHERN RETAIL FURNITURE ASSOCIATION • CANADIAN RETAIL FURNITURE ASSOCIATION

PUBLISHERS OF



AN EXCLUSIVE
MEMBER SERVICE

Guide for the Future??

Mrs. Culver

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November 17, 1969

p.s. The banquet program will be opened by NRFA President Milton S. Ries (Ries Furniture Company, South Bend, Indiana) whom Mr. Humphrey may recall meeting in South Bend at a small gathering in Congressman John Brademas' house after Mr. Humphrey made an appearance at Notre Dame University.

cc: Milton S. Ries

50TH ANNIVERSARY GOLDEN BOOK
PROJECT 2020
CONTENTS OUTLINE

FRONTISPIECE: Brief description of the concept of the book

PROLOGUE TO THE FUTURE:

NRFA Founding
Milestones in NRFA History
NRFA Leaders

GOVERNMENT:

Government and the Consumer (the future of consumerism)
Government and Business

THE CHANGING CONSUMER:

Population Trends
 The Youth Market
 The "Old Age" Market
The Coming Affluence
Education Trends
The Mobility of the American Consumer
The Implications of Leisure

THE CHANGING ENVIRONMENT:

Urbanization
Communication Trends
Transportation
Science and Technology
 The Computer
The Home and Housing
The Changing Labor Force

THE CHANGING INDUSTRY:

Conglomerates
Manufacturing
 Design
 Materials
Retailing

JOHNSON
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS



PC (Walker)
RETAIL FURNITURE ASSOCIATION

1150 MERCHANDISE MART • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60654 • AREA 312/527-3070

BRANCHES: WASHINGTON • NEW YORK • HIGH POINT • LOS ANGELES • TORONTO

NATIONAL RETAIL FURNITURE ASSOCIATION
MONTAGUE AVENUE, N. W. / WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005

Mr. Hubert H. Humphrey
1510 H St., N.W.
Seventh Floor
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Humphrey:

The National Retail Furniture Association will mark its fiftieth year of service to the nation's retail home furnishings industry in 1970. The year-long celebration will be launched with a gala all-industry banquet on January 4, 1970 in the Grand and State Ballrooms of Chicago's Palmer House.

The officers and board of directors of the National Retail Furniture Association would be honored if you would make the major address at this banquet.

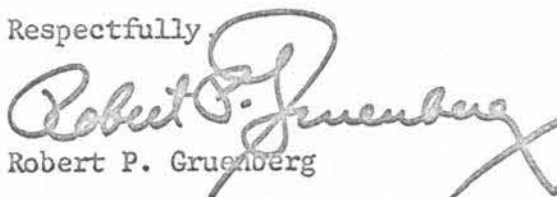
NRFA's theme for the entire anniversary year will be one of looking ahead to and preparing for the future. Should you accept this invitation, we would hope that your address would share with our industry your view of the political and social conditions which will exist as we near the end of the century.

NRFA anticipates a banquet attendance of 1,000 to 1,500 leaders from all segments of the home furnishings industry. The program will be the highlight of the International Home Furnishings Market which attracts 40,000 buyers in January.

The remainder of the program will be brief -- consisting of the presentation of a limited number of awards by NRFA to other industry associations.

An early decision on this invitation by you will be deeply appreciated.

Respectfully,


Robert P. Gruenberg

RPG:rt

cc Mr. Harry Walker



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION: NRFA REPORTS to the home furnishings industry

AFFILIATES: SOUTHERN RETAIL FURNITURE ASSOCIATION • CANADIAN RETAIL FURNITURE ASSOCIATION

WALKER



HARRY WALKER, INC.

EMPIRE STATE BUILDING • 350 FIFTH AVENUE • NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10001
(212) 563-0700 CABLE: WALKTALK

July 18, 1969

Mr. Hubert H. Humphrey
Federal Office Building #7
Room 6202
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Hubert:

I have a firm and definite date for you on Sunday, January 4, 1970 for the 50th anniversary celebration of the National Retail Furniture Association to be held in Chicago, Illinois. I spoke with Mr. Gartner and he indicated to me that the date might be difficult but that I should put it in writing for your return on August 7 for a final decision. I have been told by Robert P. Gruenberg, Executive Vice President, to give you the following background.

The National Retail Furniture Association will celebrate its 50th anniversary on January 4, 1970 in an all industry banquet which will be staged in the Palmer House at which 1200 to 1500 industry leaders will assemble to pay a salute to home furnishing retailers for a half century of service to America's homemakers. The theme selected is "Project 2020" - e.g. covering a span of time from 1970 to 2020. It is our hope that the feature speaker will look ahead over this half century and discuss the dynamics of the social, political and economic forces for change which may be anticipated in the years ahead. In addition to the identification of these changes, it is our hope that the speaker will bridge the gap between the forces and the world in which we live, the manner in which our political, social and economic environments may change as it relates to businessmen and home furnishing retailing in particular.

I look forward to your prompt reply.

Cordially,

Harry Walker

HW:LS

John Watson



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