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"THE RIGHT TO PUBLIC COMPASSION"

REMARKS OF THE HONORABLE HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

FIRST LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA

WASHINGTON, D. C.

APRIL 21, 1971

*Joe Burns
Mr. Blankenship
Yes*

7-916-28

not used

BUT WE HAVE TO ACT NOW TO HELP OUR PEOPLE WHO ARE
OUT OF WORK. I DO NOT INTEND TO STAND BY AND WATCH OUR
ECONOMY COOLED DOWN TO MAKE THIS AN ECONOMIC ICE AGE
FREEZING THE HOMES AND HOPES OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.
I DO INTEND TO WARM THINGS UP -- ECONOMICALLY AND POLITICALLY.

I HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH SENATE COLLEAGUES TO PUT
TOGETHER A LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM THAT CAN HELP ESTABLISH
NEW LABOR MARKETS AND PROVIDE INTERIM ASSISTANCE WITHOUT
DELAY. WE STARTED WITH THE SIMPLE FACT THAT WHILE THERE
IS A POOL OF UNEMPLOYED PROFESSIONAL AND SKILLED WORKERS
~~ACROSS THE COUNTRY~~, OUR STATES, CITIES, AND PUBLIC AND NON-
PROFIT AGENCIES RENDERING VITAL SERVICES TO OUR PEOPLE HAVE
HAD TO CUT BACK THESE PROGRAMS IN THE FACE OF RISING COSTS
OUTSTRIPPING REVENUES AND LIMITED RESOURCES.

Professionals 261429
- 17 -

WHY SHOULD NOT THESE PEOPLE FIND USEFUL AND

IMPORTANT EMPLOYMENT IN CITY PLANNING, IN ACCELERATED

PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS, IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ESSENTIAL

MASS TRANSIT SYSTEMS, AND IN THE HUNDREDS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

JOB THAT GO BEGGING BECAUSE OF ~~RECENT~~ STATE AND CITY

BUDGET CUTBACKS? ? WHY CANNOT THEY BE PLACED ON THE FRONTIER

OF RAPIDLY DEVELOPING EDUCATIONAL PROCESSES FOR OUR

CHILDREN AND YOUTH, AND OF EXPANDED AND COMPREHENSIVE

HEALTH CARE DELIVERY SYSTEMS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE TO

ALL OUR PEOPLE? ? WHY SHOULD THEY NOT BE HELPED

BY ASSISTANCE FOR JOB RETRAINING AND FOR MEETING ESSENTIAL

COSTS OF LIVING, SUCH AS MORTGAGE PAYMENTS, UNTIL THEY

ARE REEMPLOYED?

~~I CALL UPON CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT TO ANSWER~~

Program -
~~THESE QUESTIONS WITHOUT DELAY.~~
Jobs for Professional + Technical People

-- I CALL FOR THE FINAL PASSAGE AND SIGNING OF THE
EMERGENCY EMPLOYMENT ACT, TO ENABLE SOME 150,000 UNEMPLOYED
PERSONS TO WORK IN IMPORTANT PUBLIC SERVICE JOBS OF
IMMEDIATE BENEFIT TO SOCIETY.

-- I CALL FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS IN THE SOCIAL
SECURITY SYSTEM, BEYOND THE 10 PER CENT INCREASE IN
BENEFITS RECENTLY SIGNED INTO LAW, TO ASSURE RETIRED WORKERS
AND THOSE LIVING ON FIXED INCOMES THE SECURITY OF BEING
ABLE TO MEET THE CURRENT COST OF LIVING.

Health care

-- I CALL FOR THE SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT AND EXPANSION
Doctors, Nurses, Para medicals,
OF OUR HEALTH CARE DELIVERY SYSTEM AND FOR NATIONWIDE
HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR ALL AMERICANS.

Revenue sharing

-- I CALL FOR THE ENACTMENT OF AN EFFECTIVE PROGRAM OF
GENERAL REVENUE SHARING, ~~IN LINE WITH LEGISLATION I~~
~~HAVE INTRODUCED,~~ TO SEE THAT OUR STATES AND LOCALITIES
RECEIVE CRITICALLY NEEDED FUNDS, ~~SO CONTINUE PROVIDING~~
~~PUBLIC SERVICES AND TO MODERNIZE THEIR OPERATIONS.~~ ~~I~~
MAINTAIN THAT THIS ASSISTANCE MUST SUPPLEMENT CURRENT
FEDERAL CATEGORICAL AID PROGRAMS TO OUR STATES AND CITIES,
AND SHOULD BE COUPLED WITH THE EQUITABLE FEDERALIZATION

OF WELFARE FUNDING ACROSS THE NATION.

I call for Federalization of welfare

~~along~~
~~with~~ THE EMERGENCY EMPLOYMENT ACT, ~~an~~ ^a ~~effective~~

FEDERALIZED WELFARE PROGRAM WITH ~~RE~~ C WORK INCENTIVES

~~can~~ CREATE 350,000 NEW ~~WORKING~~ JOB OPPORTUNITIES,

-- I CALL UPON THE PRESIDENT TO ~~Give us~~ HIS POLICY

Vietnam
AND PLANS ON AMERICA'S TRANSITION TO A PEACETIME ECONOMY

We know this war must be ended.
I HAVE PUBLICLY STATED MY ABSOLUTE CONVICTION THAT THE

I believe that the
UNITED STATES ~~should~~ WITHDRAW ITS FORCES FROM VIETNAM BY

THE END OF THIS YEAR. I believe THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT

OF A FIRM DEADLINE IS ESSENTIAL. BUT WE MUST BEGIN NOW

TO PLAN FOR THE CONVERSION OF OUR ECONOMY TO ASSURE ITS

STABILITY AND GROWTH.

Peace must be more than
end of Hostilities!

(X) } P.O.W's - Mayor Dumas

"Help our POW's" week April 18-24

1600 families w. the Prisoners of war

Plans & Action

We can & must redirect

~~WE MUST REDIRECT EXTENSIVE DEFENSE-ORIENTED~~

~~MANPOWER AND TECHNOLOGY INTO URBAN AND RURAL~~

~~AND DEVELOPMENT, THE RESTORATION OF A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT,~~

~~THE DEVELOPMENT OF MODERN TRANSPORTATION NETWORKS,~~

~~AND THE ^{the} EXPANSION OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH CARE~~

~~FACILITIES.~~

work to do!

Reorganization

~~REORGANIZATION AND MORE ACTION BY OUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT~~

~~LET US MAKE WHAT WE HAVE WORK. REORGANIZATION IS NO~~

~~SUBSTITUTE FOR POLICY AND PROGRAM. RESHUFFLING PROGRAMS~~

~~IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR MONEY AND CLEARLY ESTABLISHED NATIONAL~~

goals & priorities

THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSALS FOR WHAT HAS BEEN TERMED
"SPECIAL" REVENUE-SHARING SHOULD BE CALLED ON THE CARPET
WHEN WHAT THEY REALLY AMOUNT TO IS THE RETRENCHMENT OR
DISMANTLING OF ESSENTIAL AND EFFECTIVE FEDERAL PROGRAMS
OF ASSISTANCE TO OUR STATES, OUR CITIES, AND OUR PEOPLE.

Future

~~But~~ WE MUST NOT LIMIT OUR EFFORTS TO TRYING TO CATCH
UP WITH THE PROBLEMS CONFRONTING AMERICA TODAY. WE MUST
RAISE OUR VISION TO THE HORIZON OF THE ENTIRE DECADE OF
THE 1970's. TO THAT END, WE SHOULD DRAFT A NEW BILL OF

RIGHTS FOR ALL AMERICANS AND MAKE THIS OUR AGENDA

for the 1970s

~~WASHINGTON AT ONCE.~~

Bill of Rights

Bill of Rights

I AM TALKING ABOUT A BILL OF RIGHTS THAT RECOGNIZES
THE PROFOUND SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC NEEDS OF AMERICA'S CITIZENS.

THESE RIGHTS MUST BE FULFILLED IN THIS DECADE FOR ALL

OUR PEOPLE. LET US THEREFORE ESTABLISH:

--THE RIGHT OF OUR PEOPLE TO

QUALITY HEALTH CARE AND TO THE PREVENTION AS WELL

AS THE CURE OF MAJOR ILLNESS;

-- THE RIGHT TO BE FREE OF POVERTY AND DEPRIVATION;

-- THE RIGHT TO THE FULLEST EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

FOR ALL, TO THE FULL EXTENT OF ABILITY AND NEED;

-- THE RIGHT TO A DECENT HOME IN A ~~SUBSTANTIAL~~ ^{wholesome} LIVING

ENVIRONMENT;

-- THE RIGHT TO ~~PRIVACY~~ ^{HURT} TO SAFETY IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS,

AND TO EFFECTIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT THAT ~~ASS~~ ASSURES THE

FULL AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAWS TO EVERYONE;

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The Right to

-- AND THE RIGHT TO A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT, ~~TO ACCESSIBLE~~

The Right

~~PARKLAND~~ AND RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, ~~AND~~ TO THE

PROTECTION OF THE BEAUTY AND VALUE OF OUR NATURAL

RESOURCES.

~~LET US, HOWEVER, RIGHT NOW ENLIST THE TOTAL RESOURCES~~

Rt to Jobs

~~OF AMERICA TO ESTABLISH~~ THE RIGHT OF ALL OUR PEOPLE TO

A GOOD JOB AT A FAIR WAGE. HUMAN DIGNITY AND SOCIAL CONSCIENCE

DEMAND THIS! THE NATION'S WELL BEING -- ITS ECONOMIC

GROWTH AND URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT -- IS ABSOLUTELY

DEPENDENT UPON THE FULFILLMENT OF A FIRM COMMITMENT

TO THIS RIGHT.

OVER 15 MILLION MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN FACING WEEKS AND MONTHS OF ECONOMIC AND EMOTIONAL TRAUMA ARE DEPENDING UPON OUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO MOBILIZE OUR NATION'S ECONOMY NOW TO HELP OUR PEOPLE HELP THEMSELVES. THEY ARE ASKING NOTHING MORE THAN THE CHANCE TO AGAIN EXPERIENCE THE DIGNITY OF WORKING FOR THEMSELVES AND THOSE THEY LOVE, AND THE SECURITY OF A DECENT INCOME.

WE HAVE SIMPLY GOT TO GET AMERICA'S POWERFUL BUT CRIPPLED INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS SECTOR ON ITS FEET AGAIN, RESTORING OUR ECONOMY TO ITS FULL POTENTIAL. AND, GOVERNMENT MUST BE A FULL PARTNER IN ASSURING USEFUL EMPLOYMENT FOR ALL WHO WANT AND NEED TO WORK.

THAT WAS THE FUNDAMENTAL MANDATE OF THE EMPLOYMENT
 ACT OF 1946. I SAY THE REPUBLICAN ADMINISTRATION IS
 VIOLATING THIS LAW, FOR IT HAS, IN FACT, CREATED UNEMPLOYMENT
 WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY FAILING TO HALT INFLATION. AND I
 SAY THE JURY OF THE AMERICAN ELECTORATE WILL RENDER ITS
 VERDICT IN NOVEMBER, 1972.

WE ARE A STRONG, INTELLIGENT, AND RESOLUTE PEOPLE. WITH
 ADEQUATE GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE WE WILL GET THIS COUNTRY
 MOVING AGAIN. AMERICA CAN GET HOLD OF ITSELF. OUR GOVERNMENT
 DOES HAVE THE CAPACITY TO RESPOND AND DELIVER ON THE
 EMERGENCY ORDERS PLACED BY THE CITIZENRY TODAY. YOU CAN BE
 SURE THAT I WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO SEE THAT THIS
 IS DONE. FOR WE ARE TALKING ABOUT PEOPLE -- PEOPLE WHO
 DESERVE A LIFE OF DECENCY AND DIGNITY.



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