

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

WISCONSIN STATE UAW CAP COUNCIL CONVENTION

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

October 29, 1971

I have come to Milwaukee to be with my good friends from the UAW and to talk to you bluntly and frankly about some of the hard realities that this nation faces today.

Governing America is a job that requires the talents and energies of many thousands of men and women.

But one man in our Constitutional system must lead and guide a nation: the President of the United States.

And he must be guided not only by purpose and goals, but by what I call a strategy for leadership.

The creation of this strategy is the President's work. No one else can do it for him.

More than anything else, it is a President's vision that must create the programs and policies to move the nation beyond any four or eight year term of office.

Some of our Presidents have had a strategy for leadership.

-- We will never forget Woodrow Wilson's vision of world peace.

-- Or Franklin Roosevelt's strategy for prosperity and victory against fascist aggression.

-- Or Harry Truman's goal of recovery from war with world security.

-- Or John Kennedy's tragically unrealized vision of a nation he called to action for better tomorrows.

-- Or Lyndon Johnson's vision for better lives and equal opportunity for all Americans.

Now, the present occupant of the White House has developed a strategy of sorts.

But it is not a strategy for the future. It is not a strategy that anticipates the needs of America tomorrow -- in 1975 -- in 1980 -- or in the year 2000.

It is not a strategy of leadership.

It is not a strategy of vision and national hope.

It is, instead, a strategy of dramatic television extravaganza patchwork solutions that fails to look beyond November of 1972.

Let's take a look at some of the ingredients of the President's strategy for November, 1972.

The President said: "Our goal is full employment by the end of 1972."

That's his strategy for 1972. Let's look at the record:

Well over 5 million Americans are out of work today. And many more people fear they may be next to lose their jobs.

When President Nixon took office, unemployment was 3.3 percent. Today it is 6.1 percent.

His Phase I and Phase II economic game plans are devoid of job-creating programs for the millions who need work now. And it does little for the thousands of workers exhausting their unemployment benefits every day.

In the state of Wisconsin, 37 of the 72 counties have been placed on the Federal government's list of areas of persistent and substantial unemployment.

What is the President's answer? In June he vetoed an accelerated public works bill that included a \$2 billion job program that could have helped Wisconsin, that could have helped the nation.

The President said: "1971 will be a good year from the standpoint of the economy and 1972 a very good year."

That's his strategy for 1972. Let's look at the record: Industrial production is now 6.1 percent below its 1969 high.

Inflation is at a record level. The consumer price index rose 13.7 percent during the two and a half years of the Nixon administration.

Since 1970, food costs have gone up 3.5 percent -- home ownership costs increased nearly 5 percent -- and transportation and health costs went up nearly 7 percent.

High interest rates make it nearly impossible for the average man to buy a home.

Last year more than 10,000 small and medium size businesses went out of business.

And the Census Bureau reports that the nation is losing the war on poverty:

Between 1969 and 1970 the number of poor persons living in poverty increased by 1.2 million or 5.1 percent, after a steady decline in the decade of the '60s. The Census Bureau fixed the poverty population of the United States at 25.5 million Americans or 13 percent of our population.

The President said: "The reduction of crime is of paramount importance to this society, and I have pledged and pursued the strongest measures within my power and authority to resolve this problem."

That's his strategy for 1972. Let's take a look at the record:

The FBI reports that the crime rate has increased 12 and 11.3 percent during the 2 years of the Nixon administration.

States and cities do not have the resources to cope with the rising crime rates. The Democratic Congress last year wanted to give the President \$1 billion for local law enforcement agencies. The President tried to cut that figure in half. The final appropriation was \$650 million and the Justice Department spent only \$529 million of this.

This year the Democratic Congress sought to give states \$1.5 billion. But the President's 1972 budget calls for only \$700 million.

We need more resources for crime research. But the Attorney General has asked for only \$19 million for this program when the President himself said the existing level of \$20 million was "paltry."

On drug abuse, the President said: "What we need is a national offensive on this problem... What we are going to do, therefore, is to step up our national program on four fronts."

That's his strategy for 1972. Let's look at the record:

Civilian and military drug abuse and addiction are rising alarmingly.

The President promised to create a new super agency to deal with narcotics addiction. But we have no super agency.

Many Vietnam veterans are returning to civilian life as heroin addicts. Yet the President has put into effect a hiring freeze for drug rehabilitation staffs at VA hospitals.

And the Nixon Administration opposes the creation of a National Institute on Drug Abuse and Drug Dependence.

The President sought no increase this year of the \$6 million allocated for drug education and training projects.

And where are the funds to help communities establish drug treatment and rehabilitation facilities?

The President said: "1972 can be a year in which historic events will take place on the international scene, events that could affect the peace of the world in the next generation -- even in the next decade."

That's his strategy for 1972. Let's look at the record:

America is still at war. There are more than 200,000 troops in Vietnam today. American planes still bomb Cambodia, Laos, and the southern part of North Vietnam.

Americans are still killed and wounded each week. We have not reached a settlement. We have not freed American POW's. We have still not disengaged.

My friends, the President's strategy for 1972 is full of rhetoric and promises. But where is the performance? Where are the results?

How can the nation trust and believe in an Administration that proclaims a new prosperity amid economic recession and a generation of peace with a nation at war.

Nearly three years have been lost in the battle to give all Americans adequate health care, decent housing, good jobs, environmental protection, quality education and liveable cities.

Every American is entitled to basic rights, to minimum standards which can bring him social justice and human dignity. Every American must have:

- The right to peace
- The right to employment
- The right to health
- The right to education
- The right to a clean environment
- The right to justice
- The right to public compassion
- The right to a decent home
- The right to a safe neighborhood
- The right to recreation
- The right to equal opportunity
- The right to privacy

The nation needs a strategy for leadership that will secure these fundamental rights for every American.

There can be no leadership without courage.

There can be no leadership without boldness and innovation.

There can be no leadership without action.

And there can be no leadership without commitment to change.

Those are the ingredients of leadership we desperately need if we are to be a prosperous people in a world at peace.

#

- Labor movement - Front line of Progress
- Standard of living -
- Quality of life - Schools, health children elderly

33 months - Hamaker - Youth with

Our goal is full Employment - Record

(X) was - 37 of 42 countries - on list of areas of substantial unemployment.

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

✓ "1971 will be a good year from standpoint of Economy - and 1972 a very

WISCONSIN STATE UAW CAP COUNCIL CONVENTION

1. ✓ Inflation - Interest

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN
OCTOBER 23, 1971
✓ Bankruptcies - 10,000 - Poverty

✓ Structure -

✓ "Reduction of crime is of Paramount importance - I have pledged and pursued the strongest measures within my power & authority to resolve the Problem - up 12% per

✓ Drugs - "we need a National offensive on this problem."

Promised a new Super Agency

now - DETS - VA Clinic

Harvey F. HIZMAN

000256

Legation
Tell it like it is
Harvey

I HAVE COME TO MILWAUKEE TO BE WITH MY GOOD FRIENDS

FROM THE UAW AND TO TALK TO YOU BLUNTLY AND FRANKLY ABOUT

SOME OF THE HARD REALITIES THAT THIS NATION FACES TODAY.

↳ GOVERNING AMERICA IS A JOB THAT REQUIRES THE TALENTS

AND ENERGIES OF MANY THOUSANDS OF MEN AND WOMEN.

↳ BUT ONE MAN IN OUR CONSTITUTIONAL SYSTEM MUST LEAD AND
GUIDE A NATION: THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

↳ AND HE MUST BE GUIDED NOT ONLY BY PURPOSE AND GOALS,
BUT BY WHAT I CALL A STRATEGY FOR LEADERSHIP.

THE CREATION OF THIS STRATEGY IS THE PRESIDENT'S WORK.

NO ONE ELSE CAN DO IT FOR HIM.

Leadership of Walter Reuther
-1-
✓ Leonard Woodcock

-3-

L -- OR JOHN KENNEDY'S TRAGICALLY UNREALIZED VISION OF A
NATION HE CALLED TO ACTION FOR BETTER TOMORROWS.

-- OR LYNDON JOHNSON'S VISION FOR BETTER LIVES AND EQUAL
OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL AMERICANS.

Now, THE PRESENT OCCUPANT OF THE WHITE HOUSE HAS
DEVELOPED A STRATEGY OF SORTS.

L BUT IT IS NOT A STRATEGY FOR THE FUTURE. IT IS NOT A
STRATEGY THAT ANTICIPATES THE NEEDS OF AMERICA TOMORROW --

IN 1975 -- IN 1980 -- OR IN THE YEAR 2000.

L IT IS NOT A STRATEGY OF LEADERSHIP.

IT IS NOT A STRATEGY OF VISION AND NATIONAL HOPE.

People's Party
L IT IS, INSTEAD, A STRATEGY OF DRAMATIC TELEVISION

EXTRAVAGANZAS AND PATCHWORK SOLUTIONS THAT FAIL TO LOOK BEYOND

NOVEMBER OF 1972.

Everything for Election Day!

L LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT SOME OF THE INGREDIENTS OF THE

PRESIDENT'S STRATEGY FOR NOVEMBER, 1972.

(1) THE PRESIDENT SAID: "OUR GOAL IS FULL EMPLOYMENT BY THE

END OF 1972."

Employment

L THAT'S HIS STRATEGY FOR 1972. LET'S LOOK AT THE RECORD:

WELL OVER 5 MILLION AMERICANS ARE OUT OF WORK TODAY.

AND MANY MORE PEOPLE FEAR THEY MAY BE NEXT TO LOSE THEIR

JOB.

-5-

~~WHEN PRESIDENT NIXON TOOK OFFICE, UNEMPLOYMENT WAS 3.3~~

~~PERCENT. TODAY IT IS 6.1 PERCENT~~

Phase I - II = III *no jobs*
h HIS PHASE I AND PHASE II ECONOMIC GAME PLANS ARE DEVOID

OF JOB-CREATING PROGRAMS FOR THE MILLIONS WHO NEED WORK NOW.

AND IT DOES LITTLE FOR THE THOUSANDS OF WORKERS EXHAUSING

THEIR UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS EVERY DAY.

Wisconsin
IN THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, 37 OF THE 72 COUNTIES HAVE
BEEN PLACED ON THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S LIST OF AREAS OF
PERSISTENT AND SUBSTANTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT.

Jobs -
Knuckle Down

Nixon answer
-6-

L WHAT IS THE PRESIDENT'S ANSWER? IN JUNE HE VETOED AN

ACCELERATED PUBLIC WORKS BILL THAT INCLUDED A \$2 BILLION

JOB PROGRAM THAT COULD HAVE HELPED WISCONSIN, THAT COULD HAVE

HELPED THE NATION. *Public Service Employment*

#2 THE PRESIDENT SAID: "1971 WILL BE A GOOD YEAR FROM THE
STANDPOINT OF THE ECONOMY AND 1972 A VERY GOOD YEAR."

THAT'S HIS STRATEGY FOR 1972. LET'S LOOK AT THE RECORD:

Production

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION IS NOW 6.1 PERCENT BELOW ITS 1969

HIGH.

Inflation

L INFLATION IS AT A RECORD LEVEL THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

ROSE *14* PERCENT DURING THE TWO AND A HALF YEARS OF THE NIXON

ADMINISTRATION.

SINCE 1970, FOOD COSTS HAVE GONE UP 3.5 PERCENT -- HOME
OWNERSHIP COSTS INCREASED NEARLY 5 PERCENT -- AND TRANSPORTATION
AND HEALTH COSTS WENT UP NEARLY 7 PERCENT.

Interest
HIGH INTEREST RATES MAKE IT NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE
AVERAGE MAN TO BUY A HOME.

Homes
LAST YEAR MORE THAN 10,000 SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZE BUSINESSES
Business failures
WENT OUT OF BUSINESS.

Poverty
AND THE CENSUS BUREAU REPORTS THAT THE NATION IS LOSING
THE WAR ON POVERTY:

BETWEEN 1969 AND 1970 THE NUMBER OF POOR PERSONS LIVING
IN POVERTY INCREASED BY 1.2 MILLION OR 5.1 PERCENT, AFTER A
STEADY DECLINE IN THE DECADE OF THE '60s.

+ going up

~~THE CENSUS BUREAU FIXED THE POVERTY POPULATION OF THE UNITED~~

~~STATES AT 25.5 MILLION AMERICANS OR 13 PERCENT OF OUR POPULATION.~~

Crime

#3 L THE PRESIDENT SAID: "THE REDUCTION OF CRIME IS OF PARAMOUNT
IMPORTANCE TO THIS SOCIETY, AND I HAVE PLEDGED AND PURSUED
THE STRONGEST MEASURES WITHIN MY POWER AND AUTHORITY TO RESOLVE
THIS PROBLEM."

THAT'S HIS STRATEGY FOR 1972. LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THE

RECORD:

L THE FBI REPORTS THAT THE CRIME RATE HAS INCREASED 12 AND
11.3 PERCENT DURING THE 2 YEARS OF THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION.

STATES AND CITIES DO NOT HAVE THE RESOURCES TO COPE WITH
THE RISING CRIME RATES. THE DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS LAST YEAR
WANTED TO GIVE THE PRESIDENT \$1 BILLION FOR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
AGENCIES. THE PRESIDENT TRIED TO CUT THAT FIGURE IN HALF. THE
FINAL APPROPRIATION WAS \$650 MILLION AND THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT
SPENT ONLY \$529 MILLION OF THIS.

THIS YEAR THE DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS SOUGHT TO GIVE STATES
\$1.5 BILLION. BUT THE PRESIDENT'S 1972 BUDGET CALLS FOR *less than*

half. \$700 MILLION.

~~WE NEED MORE RESOURCES FOR CRIME RESEARCH. BUT THE ATTORNEY
GENERAL HAS ASKED FOR ONLY \$19 MILLION FOR THIS PROGRAM WHEN THE
PRESIDENT HIMSELF SAID THE EXISTING LEVEL OF \$20 MILLION WAS
"PALTRY."~~

Drug

#4 ON DRUG ABUSE, THE PRESIDENT SAID: "WHAT WE NEED IS A

NATIONAL OFFENSIVE ON THIS PROBLEM... WHAT WE ARE GOING TO DO,

THEREFORE, IS TO STEP UP OUR NATIONAL PROGRAM ON FOUR FRONTS."

L THAT'S HIS STRATEGY FOR 1972. LET'S LOOK AT THE RECORD:

L CIVILIAN AND MILITARY DRUG ABUSE AND ADDICTION ARE RISING

ALARMINGLY.

L THE PRESIDENT PROMISED TO CREATE A NEW SUPER AGENCY TO DEAL

WITH NARCOTICS ADDICTION. BUT WE HAVE NO SUPER AGENCY.

L MANY VIETNAM VETERANS ARE RETURNING TO CIVILIAN LIFE AS

drug ~~HEROIN~~ ADDICTS. L YET THE PRESIDENT HAS PUT INTO EFFECT A HIRING

FREEZE FOR DRUG REHABILITATION STAFFS AT VA HOSPITALS.

va clinics

000277

my Bill -
-11-

FBI
CIA
overseas

L AND THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION OPPOSES THE CREATION OF A
NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE AND DRUG DEPENDENCE

THE PRESIDENT SOUGHT NO INCREASE THIS YEAR OF THE \$6 MILLION
ALLOCATED FOR DRUG EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROJECTS,

AND WHERE ARE THE FUNDS TO HELP COMMUNITIES ESTABLISH
DRUG TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION FACILITIES? — *He asked for none*

#5 THE PRESIDENT SAID: "1972 CAN BE A YEAR IN WHICH HISTORIC
EVENTS WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE, EVENTS
THAT COULD AFFECT THE PEACE OF THE WORLD IN THE NEXT GENERATION --
EVEN IN THE NEXT DECADE."

L THAT'S HIS STRATEGY FOR 1972. LET'S LOOK AT THE RECORD:

-12-

AMERICA IS STILL AT WAR! THERE ARE MORE THAN 200,000 TROOPS
IN VIETNAM TODAY. AMERICAN PLANES STILL BOMB CAMBODIA, LAOS, S. Viet,
AND THE SOUTHERN PART OF NORTH VIETNAM.

~~AMERICANS ARE STILL KILLED AND WOUNDED EACH WEEK.~~ WE HAVE
NOT REACHED A SETTLEMENT. WE HAVE NOT FREED AMERICAN POW'S.

*we are still there - we should
+ must get out*
~~WE HAVE STILL NOT DISENGAGED.~~

MY FRIENDS, THE PRESIDENT'S STRATEGY FOR 1972 IS FULL OF
RHETORIC AND PROMISES. BUT WHERE IS THE PERFORMANCE? WHERE ARE
THE RESULTS?

How CAN THE NATION TRUST AND BELIEVE IN AN ADMINISTRATION
THAT PROCLAIMS A NEW PROSPERITY AMID ECONOMIC RECESSION AND
A GENERATION OF PEACE WITH A NATION AT WAR.

⑧ Labour movement - conscience, Progress -
Humanitarian - Standard of living
Quality of life
000266

Keep it up¹³⁻

NEARLY THREE YEARS HAVE BEEN LOST IN THE BATTLE TO GIVE

ALL AMERICANS ADEQUATE HEALTH CARE, DECENT HOUSING, GOOD JOBS,

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, QUALITY EDUCATION AND LIVEABLE CITIES,

EVERY AMERICAN IS ENTITLED TO BASIC RIGHTS, TO MINIMUM

STANDARDS WHICH CAN BRING HIM SOCIAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN DIGNITY.

EVERY AMERICAN MUST HAVE:

-- THE RIGHT TO PEACE

-- THE RIGHT TO EMPLOYMENT

-- THE RIGHT TO HEALTH - Health Insurance

-- THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION

-- THE RIGHT TO A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

-- THE RIGHT TO JUSTICE

- THE RIGHT TO PUBLIC COMPASSION
- THE RIGHT TO A DECENT HOME
- THE RIGHT TO A SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD
- THE RIGHT TO RECREATION
- THE RIGHT TO EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
- THE RIGHT TO PRIVACY

h THE NATION NEEDS A STRATEGY FOR LEADERSHIP THAT WILL SECURE
THESE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS FOR EVERY AMERICAN.

h THERE CAN BE NO LEADERSHIP WITHOUT COURAGE.

h THERE CAN BE NO LEADERSHIP WITHOUT BOLDNESS AND INNOVATION.

h THERE CAN BE NO LEADERSHIP WITHOUT ACTION.

L AND THERE CAN BE NO LEADERSHIP WITHOUT COMMITMENT TO CHANGE.

L THOSE ARE THE INGREDIENTS OF LEADERSHIP WE DESPERATELY NEED

IF WE ARE TO BE A PROSPEROUS PEOPLE IN A WORLD AT PEACE.

#



Minnesota Historical Society

Copyright in this digital version belongs to the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, link to, or email content, however, for individual use.

To request permission for commercial or educational use, please contact the Minnesota Historical Society.



www.mnhs.org