

NEWS

Hubert H Humphrey

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HUMPHREY SAYS ADMINISTRATION IN RETREAT ON URGENT DOMESTIC AGENDA

HOT SPRINGS, ARK., November 19--Senator Hubert H. Humphrey said today that at a time "when the Nation should be well underway with a decade of dynamic domestic development, the Nixon Administration has ordered retreat on nearly every front."

Senator Humphrey told the Young Democratic Clubs of America convention here:

"On nearly every front, at almost every decisive point where we could have effected real change and could have created new beginnings, we have retreated from the challenges of the future."

He cited the Administration's failure to pursue relicies to create needed jobs, its efforts to "torpedo anti-pellution legislation," the fact that "the number of Americans living in poverty is increasing after a steady decline in the 1960s," postponement of welfare reform, failures in civil rights and civil liberties, and the continuing American involvement in Southeast Asia.

"The President still refuses to set a final date for the withdrawal of all American troops from Indochina," he said, "despite the urgings of the Senate and the conviction of the great majority of the American people that we must withdraw completely."

Senator Humphrey pointed out that the President last week indicated he would run in 1972 on an "agenda for America seeking peace and prosperity."

"But after nearly four years in office, the peace
he promised us and the prosperity he sought are still not
realities. And now the unmet promises of his Administration
have become the platform planks of an attempt to gain a
second term.

"But we Democrats can afford neither the cynicism nor the complacency of an administration mired in the past. We must have an agenda, an agenda for action that looks to the future. And these are some of the elements:

"--The formation of comprehensive national policies with realistic goals and timetables in such areas as housing, health care, crime control, pollution abatement, and transportation.

"--The eradication of hunger in America and the establishment of minimum income levels to lift every American above the poverty line.

"--The establishment of national growth policies which will begin to influence and define how and where this nation should grow.

"--A re-examination of foreign and defense commitments and the resources needed to meet them.

"--The beginning of a new era of public and private accountability to the people -- by government and by the corporate world.

"--The elimination of illiteracy in America and the provision of a quality education for all Americans.

"--A decentralized Federal Government with regional representatives of the President working directly with state and local representatives where they are.

"We must pledge ourselves to replace the neglect and retreat from the problems of today with a forward-looking concern for improving the quality of life of all Americans in an America at peace."

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Phase Asks by Senator Hubert H. Humphrey

YOUNG DEMOCRATS' CONVENTION

Hot Springs, Arkansas November 19, 1971

Gov Burgers & Sing Meller Doug mills Authorited And Alexander of Markets Dours Pry Dours Pry - Yorks - Harris - Days - Yorks - Days - Yorks - Days - Yorks - Days - Joseph - Days - Day I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU TODAY ABOUT OUR COUNTRY, WHAT HASN'T BEEN DONE AND WHAT WE MUST DO AS DEMOCRATS AND AS CITIZENS WORKING FOR CHANGE.

IF I WERE ASKED TODAY, "WHERE IS THIS COUNTRY GOING?" I WOULD HAVE TO SAY: "WE ARE GOING BACKWARDS." WE ARE IN RETREAT.

NOT IN CONFUSION AND HASTE.

BUT WE ARE BEING LED BACKWARDS IN A RETREAT FROM THE REAL AND URGENT CHALLENGES OF TODAY AND TOMORROW -- A RETREAT FROM CHANGE BY MEN WHO PROMISED TO LEAD US FORWARD.

ON EVERY FRONT -- AT ALMOST EVERY DECISIVE POINT WHERE WE COULD HAVE AFFECTED REAL CHANGE AND COULD HAVE CREATED NEW BEGINNINGS -- WE HAVE RETREATED INTO THE PAST AND AWAY FROM THE FUTURE.

WHAT MAKES THESE RETREATS SO TRAGIC IS THAT THEY ARE BECOMING IRREVERSIBLE. THEY ARE HAPPENING AT A TIME WHEN AMERICA SIMPLY CANNOT AFFORD TO RETREAT FROM THE PROBLEMS OF UNPRECEDENTED GROWTH.

AND OUR BACKWARD MOVEMENT IS BEING DISGUISED BY PRESS AGENTRY,
BY SLOGANEERING, BY DRAMATIC TELEVISION BROADCASTS.

IF THIS NATION IS MOVING FORWARD, IF WE ARE CONFRONTING THE FUTURE, IT IS ONLY WITH WORDS AND PROMISES -- NOT WITH ACTION.

Where is this nation going in its efforts to provide Jobs For all Americans?

WE ARE IN RETREAT.

-- WHEN PRESIDENT NIXON TOOK OFFICE, UNEMPLOYMENT WAS 3.3

PERCENT. IT NOW STANDS AT 5.8 PERCENT -- MORE THAN FIVE MILLION

AMERICANS ARE WITHOUT A JOB.

WHERE IS THIS NATION GOING IN ITS EFFORTS TO CLEAN ITS AIR AND WATER?

WE ARE IN RETREAT.

TO OUR HEALTH. THE PRESIDENT HAS ASKED CONGRESS THIS YEAR FOR ONLY
\$129 MILLION FOR AIR POLLUTION CONTROL. AND HE IS TRYING TO TORPEDO
IN THE HOUSE AN EFFECTIVE WATER POLLUTION BILL PASSED UNANIMOUSLY
BY THE SENATE.

WHERE IS THIS NATION GOING IN ITS EFFORTS TO ERADICATE POVERTY
AND HUNGER?

WE ARE IN RETREAT.

-- FOR THE FIRST TIME IN NEARLY A DECADE, THE NUMBER OF POOR AMERICANS IS INCREASING. IT WENT UP IN 1970 BY 1.2 MILLION.

-- THE PRESIDENT ALSO TRIED TO RETREAT ON SCHOOL LUNCH REGULATIONS, WHICH WOULD HAVE DEPRIVED TWO MILLION CHILDREN OF A HOT LUNCH. FORTUNATELY, CONGRESS SAID, "No, Mr. PRESIDENT."

WHERE IS THIS NATION GOING IN ITS EFFORTS TO HELP THOSE IN NEED?

WE ARE IN RETREAT.

-- President Nixon asked Congress in August to postpone his number one legislative priority -- welfare reform. Meanwhile, the welfare crisis grows. States, counties and cities are being bankrupted by rising welfare costs. Those who cannot help themselves are not being helped by the Nixon Administration.



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WHERE IS THIS NATION GOING IN ITS EFFORTS TO SECURE BASIC CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS FOR ALL AMERICANS.

WE ARE IN RETREAT.

Rehnquist -- one of the President's nominees to the Supreme Court.

Mr. Rehnquist told the Senate's Constitutional Rights Subcommittee

That the Justice Department would "vigorously oppose any legislation"

That would restrain the ability of the government to gather

Information about American citizens -- whether or not under



AND WHERE IS THIS NATION GOING IN ITS EFFORTS TO END FINALLY TOTAL AMERICAN PARTICIPATION IN THE TRAGIC WAR IN SOUTHEAST ASIA?

NOT FAR ENOUGH, NOT FAST ENOUGH.

THE PRESIDENT STILL REFUSES TO SET A FINAL DATE FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF ALL AMERICAN TROOPS FROM INDOCHINA, DESPITE THE URGINGS OF THE SENATE AND THE CONVICTION OF THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THAT WE MUST WITHDRAW COMPLETELY.

IT IS DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND THE BLITHE OPTIMISM OF AN ADMINISTRATION THAT HAS FAILED IN SO MANY AREAS AND WHICH HAS RETREATED ON SO MANY FRONTS.

PERHAPS THE EXPLANATION LIES IN THE NATURE OF THE NIXON PRESIDENCY IN A SHELTERED WORLD AWAY FROM THE REAL AMERICA.



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WHEN IS THE LAST TIME PRESIDENT NIXON VISITED THE INNER CITY?

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME HE LOOKED AT AN UNEMPLOYMENT LINE?

WHEN IS THE LAST TIME THE PRESIDENT VISITED A COLLEGE CAMPUS

AND TALKED FRANKLY WITH STUDENTS?

WHEN IS THE LAST TIME HE TALKED TO A WELFARE RECIPIENT OR AN ELDERLY PERSON TRYING TO SURVIVE RUNAWAY INFLATION ON A FIXED INCOME?

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME HE VISITED A DRUG REHABILITATION CLINIC?

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME HE VISITED A FAMILY FARM?

PRESIDENT NIXON AVOIDS GOING WHERE HE WILL HEAR THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE. HE AVOIDS THOSE WHO DO NOT BELONG TO HIS SPECIAL CONSTITUENCY OF BIG BUSINESS, BIG FINANCIAL HOUSES, CORPORATE



FARMS AND GIANT BANKS.



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AND WHEN THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE IS SHUT OUT, WHEN THEIR HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS ARE IGNORED, THE NATION IS IN PERIL. FOR THE NATION IS THE PEOPLE.

THE PRESIDENT DOES TALK TO US, BUT, IT IS A ONE-WAY ELECTRONIC CONVERSATION. IN TWO AND A HALF YEARS IN OFFICE, HE HAS BEEN ON TELEVISION 46 TIMES -- 20 TIMES MORE THAN PRESIDENT JOHNSON IN FIVE YEARS IN OFFICE, AND 35 MORE TIMES THAN PRESIDENT KENNEDY DURING THE TWO YEARS AND TEN MONTHS OF HIS ADMINISTRATION.

AN INSULATED AND ISOLATED PRESIDENT HAS SET THE TONE FOR A GOVERNMENT THAT IS UNRESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF ALL THE PEOPLE.

LAST WEEK, PRESIDENT NIXON INDICATED HE WOULD RUN IN 1972 ON AN "AGENDA FOR AMERICA SEEKING PEACE AND PROSPERITY."





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BUT AFTER NEARLY FOUR YEARS IN OFFICE THE PEACE THAT HE PROMISED US AND THE PROSPERITY HE PLANNED ARE STILL NOT REALITIES.

AND NOW THE UNMET PROMISES OF HIS ADMINISTRATION HAVE BECOME THE PLATFORM PLANKS OF AN ATTEMPT TO GAIN A SECOND TERM.

WE DEMOCRATS CANNOT AFFORD THE CYNICISM AND THE COMPLACENCY
OF AN ADMINISTRATION MIRED IN THE PAST.

WE MUST HAVE AN AGENDA -- AN AGENDA FOR THE FUTURE -- AN AGENDA

FOR A DECADE OF DYNAMIC DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENT.

LET ME GIVE YOU SOME OF THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THIS AGENDA:

-- THE FORMATION OF COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL POLICIES WITH

REALISTIC GOALS AND TIMETABLES IN SUCH AREAS AS HOUSING, HEALTH CARE,

CRIME CONTROL, POLLUTION ABATEMENT, AND TRANSPORTATION.





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- -- THE ERADICATION OF HUNGER IN AMERICAN AND THE ESTABLISHMENT
 OF MINIMUM INCOME LEVELS TO LIFT EVERY AMERICAN ABOVE THE POVERTY
 LINE.
- -- THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL GROWTH POLICIES WHICH WILL
 BEGIN TO INFLUENCE AND DEFINE HOW AND WHERE THIS NATION SHOULD
 GROW.
 - -- GREATER ACCESS BY ALL AMERICANS TO THE POLITICAL PROCESS

 THROUGH A SYSTEM OF NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION, WITH THE ABOLITION

 OF RIGID RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE AND FEDERAL ELECTIONS.
 - -- A RE-EXAMINATION OF FOREIGN AND DEFENSE COMMITMENTS AND
 THE RESOURCES NEEDED TO MEET THEM.

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-- THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE

ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE PEOPLE -- BY GOVERNMENT AND BY THE CORPORATE WORLD.

THE ELIMINATION OF ILLITERACY AND THE PROVISION OF

A QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL AMERICANS.

___ A DECENTRALIZED FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WITH REGIONAL

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRESIDENT WORKING DIRECTLY WITH STATE AND LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES WHERE THEY ARE.

THESE ARE A FEW OF THE ITEMS WHICH YOU MUST INSIST BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY IN EVERY STATE.

IF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY IS TO WIN IN 1972 -- AND I KNOW THAT IT CAN -- DEMOCRATS YOUNG AND OLD MUST BEGIN TO ASK:



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WHY ARE WE DEMOCRATS? WHAT DO WE OFFER THE NATION?

OUR ANSWER IS THAT WE ARE DEMOCRATS BECAUSE WE FEEL AS WOODROW WILSON FELT:

"HERE MUSTER NOT THE FORCES OF PARTY, BUT THE FORCES OF HUMANITY."

WE ARE DEMOCRATS BECAUSE WE DEEPLY BELIEVE THAT OUR PARTY IS

NOT AN INSTRUMENT FOR POLITICAL POWER FOR ITS OWN SAKE -- BUT AN

INSTRUMENT OF HUMAN PROGRESS.

WE MUST PLEDGE OURSELVES TO REPLACE THE NEGLECT AND RETREAT FROM THE PROBLEMS OF TODAY WITH A FORWARD-LOOKING CONCERN FOR IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF ALL AMERICANS IN AN AMERICA AT PEACE.

In that pledge lies the key to victory in 1972 and years beyond.

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