

NEWS RELEASE HUMPHREY HEADQUARTERS

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PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENTS
SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
MIAMI, FLORIDA, FEBRUARY 8, 1972

The people of this nation are demanding a total effort on all levels of government to clean up our environment - our land, our air, and our waters.

But the policies of this administration have fallen far short of what is needed. We need committed leadership for the environment at the national level, and we need a commitment of both money and policy.

Only one percent of the President's proposed new budget is allotted for pollution control. And the President proposes cutting most environmental programs across the board. The budget calls for:

- A reduction of \$1.2 million in programs for operation, research, and facilities under the Environmental Protection Agency.
- A reduction of \$5.4 million for waste water treatment and control.
- A reduction of \$15.4 million for solid waste management.

In addition, the Nixon Administration has requested only \$171.5 million for implementing the 1970 Clean Air Act -- \$300 million less than Congress authorized. And the Administration is planning no increase whatsoever in assisting local communities in sewage treatment.

Local communities in Florida and across the nation are demanding much more. But this Administration doesn't listen, and it doesn't see.

-More-

-- Here in Florida, the Escambia Bay area has just been called the "most devastated" estuary in Florida because of municipal and industrial pollution.

-- The Apalachicola Bay oyster fisheries are now threatened by pesticide pollution.

-- The water quality of Big Bend region is steadily deteriorating.

-- Hillsborough and Tampa Bays are becoming victims of municipal and industrial wastes.

-- The St. Johns River is heavily polluted by oil and other chemical wastes.

-- Biscayne Bay continues to receive tremendous volumes of municipal effluent.

If the people of Florida and this Nation are to have a fighting chance to clean up the environment, then we must have a commitment of policy and resources equal to the task.

As an interim measure, I call upon the Nixon Administration to immediately increase its budget proposals for water and sewage management. The urgency is great. Only 70 percent of our people are served by sewage systems and only 40 percent of the treatment plants are adequate.

I also call upon the Administration to support legislation I have proposed to create River Basin Waste Treatment Authorities.

My bill will establish agencies with responsibility for the water quality of entire river basin areas. They would plan, build, operate, and maintain adequate treatment facilities. The necessary funding would come from bonds backed and paid for by user charges with the Federal Government insuring 40 percent of the debt service cost.

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Only a total effort of funds and resources from the national to the local level will give us a chance to clean up America. We cannot and must not cut back our programs. We can and must give our communities the assistance they need and demand.

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February 8, 1972

Some thoughts re: 11:30 Press Conference

I hope there isn't a person in this room who expected a withdrawal this morning (smiling). For those of you who have any serious doubts in that regard the very able and competent Mayor of Miami and Florida state campaign chairman, Mayor David Kennedy, may have a few words for you (after Kennedy zeroes in and employs the forward thrust on the campaign in Florida you may want to consider remarks along this line:

Gentlemen: I hope you will permit me to wax philosophical

for a few moments because I do think it is not only possible in the heat of a campaign for the candidates and the press to at times that you of the press and we candidates become so

immersed in day to day campaign activities that we lose sight of some of the more precious principles that underpin our system of government - freedom of expression.

You know, unless we pause from time to time and really focus on some of the values that are meaningful to our way of life, we can lose them. I don't wish to make a cause celebre out of what I consider an unfortunate incident but I wouldn't be the man I ^{have} aspired to be all these years in public life were I to allow this to pass without comment of what I consider to be

the abuse of a very precious institution within our society -- freedom of expression -- in all its forms. ~~My~~ record is without peer as one who has fought vigorously for years to preserve the right of freedom of expression and particularly by the news media. ~~I~~ shall continue to do so, Off time, the price paid is exorbitant and a very painful one. Last night ~~my candidacy was virtually~~ ~~put to an end by a statement on TV by one who never showed~~ ~~me the courtesy of checking before uttering the following~~ words: "The Humphrey Campaign has come to a virtual standstill." Millions of people heard that report and believed it. ~~It is absolutely untrue as I think David Kennedy has made crystal clear. The campaign is really on the move.!~~ People are coming together over all the state -- all over this country. .. in an effort to advance my candidacyin an effort to further my nomination for President. I hope you will believe me when I tell you I have been in public life for all too long to begin now to make irresponsible statements simply to secure a transitory headline or a favorable television comment. ~~I must be responsible in what I say and do but you~~ ~~my friends of the media,~~ *and you* also have a responsibility to be fair and to be accurate for the damage you can do to anyone who seeks office can be irreparable if either of us make a mockery of the system we both believe in.

Gentlemen, what is really important about this campaign is the issues -- what I believe in. ..not the fact that there might, on occasion, be some ~~appearance~~ ^{change of schedule,} of a little ~~disorganization~~ ^{or redrafting a speech.}. In 30 years of campaigns, I have never seen one that ran perfectly.. I want to concentrate on ~~the cosmetics of a campaign~~ ^{It's not} ~~what I stand for and the response from the people to~~ ^{what I am saying.} ~~what I am saying.~~ ^{the substance -- what} ~~the candidates are saying~~ ^{the response to} -- and the response to That's what I have to say. I'll take any questions.

recess,

36 ~~Ann~~
In Report
Govt -
Municipal

Govt - Federal
Spl

Govt + People
Partnership

Street Level
Govt

Revenue Sharing
Welfare
Educator

White House
ambassadors

Budget Preparation
Planning

(College Program)
- Recycling

Vicki Garcia

Maya Kennedy

Year 2000

Where } to find
How }

Challenges

- Energy
- Educ
- Health
- Transportation
- Communication
- Environment



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