REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

FAIRMOUNT HOTEL
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1972

FOR FIVE MONTHS DURING THIS CAMPAIGN, I HAVE

TRAVELLED THROUGHOUT AMERICA, LISTENING AND TALKING WITH

PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE. TONIGHT I WANT TO SHARE WITH

YOU SOME OF MY THOUGHTS AND INSIGHTS ABOUT WHERE OUR NATION

AND THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY ARE HEADED.

AS WE PREPARE FOR ANOTHER PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION,

IT'S GOOD TO REFLECT ON WHAT THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS BEEN

ABLE TO ACHIEVE.

- --IT HAS DRAMATICALLY REDUCED POVERTY AND OTHER FORMS OF HUMAN DEPRIVATION.
- --IT HAS FORGED A COALITION OF AMERICANS -- BLACK
 AND WHITE, RICH AND POOR, RURAL AND URBAN, YOUNG AND OLD.
- --IT HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS
 OF AUTO WORKERS AND TRUCK DRIVERS TO GO TO COLLEGE.

--IT HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR ELDERLY AMERICANS
TO LIVE IN DIGNITY AND DECENCY.

--IT HAS REDUCED BARRIERS WHICH COMPEL MINORITY

AMERICANS TO LIVE AS SECOND CLASS CITIZENS.

IN THE FACE OF THESE ACHIEVEMENTS, THE REPUBLICAN PARTY REMAINS, AS ALWAYS, INSENSITIVE TO THE NEEDS OF ALL AMERICANS, WHILE PURSUING POLICIES THAT CLEARLY FAVOR A PRIVILEGED FEW.

RICHARD NIXON IS THE REPUBLICAN PARTY. AND FOR THIS COMPELLING REASON, HE MUST BE DEFEATED IN NOVEMBER.

CALIFORNIANS WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO SELECT A MAN
WHO CAN DEFEAT RICHARD NIXON ON JUNE 6. I'M ASKING YOUR
HELP TO MAKE IT CLEAR TO THE PEOPLE OF CALIFORNIA THAT I AM

THE MAN WHO CAN REMOVE HIM FROM THE WHITE HOUSE,

THERE'S A DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY ON, IN THIS STATE,

AND I THINK DEMOCRATS THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA OUGHT TO KNOW

THAT THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE CANDIDATES.

I'M GOING TO TELL IT LIKE IT IS -- I'M GOING TO STICK TO THE FACTS:

--I HAVE A RECORD OF 30 YEARS OF SOLID ACHIEVEMENT
AS MAYOR OF A MAJOR CITY, AS SENATOR, AS VICE PRESIDENT,
AND AS A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE.

I AM THE CANDIDATE WHO HAS WALKED THROUGH THE SHOPS,
THE FACTORIES. I AM THE CANDIDATE WHO HAS WALKED THE STREETS
OF HUNTERS POINT, WATTS, HARLEM, EAST LOS ANGELES. I AM THE
CANDIDATE WHO KNOWS THE PROBLEMS OF URBAN AND SUBURBAN AMERICA.

GEORGE McGOVERN CANNOT MAKE THIS CLAIM.

SENATOR McGOVERN SAYS THAT HE'S CAMPAIGNING ON
THE ISSUES. BUT HIS ISSUES ARE REAMS OF POSITION PAPERS
WRITTEN IN WASHINGTON ON THE EVE OF THE PRIMARY, BY PEOPLE
SITTING IN IVORY TOWERS, PUBLICIZED BY A MEDIA BLITZ,
DESIGNED TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF SUBSTANCE, WHEN IN FACT
THEY ARE OFTEN UNREALISTIC AND IN SOME CASES, BLATANTLY
IRRESPONSIBLE.

THESE POSITION PAPERS ARE OFTEN CLUTTERED WITH LINE AFTER LINE OF "MAYBES", "MIGHTS", "POSSIBLIES".

I'VE PROPOSED PROGRAM AFTER PROGRAM TO RESPONSIBLY
RETURN THIS NATION TO PROSPERITY AND TO KEEP IT STRONG.

TO PROPOSE A UNILATERAL 40% REDUCTION IN DEFENSE
SPENDING IS DANGEROUS AND IRRESPONSIBLE. IT WEAKENS OUR
STRATEGIC DETERRENT. I WOULD NEVER CALL FOR SUCH MASSIVE
REDUCTIONS WITHOUT IMMEDIATELY PROTECTING JOBS AND
COMMUNITIES IN CALIFORNIA AND ELSEWHERE, WHICH WOULD BE
SEVERELY HARD HIT BY THE McGOVERN DEFENSE BUDGET.

IT IS IMPRACTICAL, DRASTIC AND CONTRARY TO THE

KIND OF SOCIETY WE WANT IN AMERICA, TO DEVELOP A WELFARE

PROGRAM WHOSE IMMENSE COSTS OF PERHAPS \$73 BILLION, WOULD

HAVE TO BE BORNE BY INCREASING THE TAXES OF MIDDLE INCOME

TAXPAYERS AND PLACING A CRUSHING TAX BURDEN ON MILLIONS OF

AMERICAN FAMILIES.

THE McGOVERN PROPOSAL WOULD GIVE A HANDOUT WITHOUT

ANY SUITABLE WORK REQUIREMENT TO EVERY PERSON, REGARDLESS

OF HIS MEANS.

I WANT AMERICANS TO WORK AND TO ENJOY THE ESTEEM AND DIGNITY THAT COMES WITH A GOOD JOB.

NOW, WHAT ABOUT THE McGOVERN TAX PROGRAM? I THINK
YOU SHOULD HEAR WHAT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT ECONOMIC
COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS, SENATOR WILLIAM PROXMIRE, SAID ABOUT
SENATOR McGOVERN'S TAX PROPOSALS:

IN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE MILWAUKEE JOURNAL,

PUBLISHED LAST SUNDAY, PROXMIRE DENOUNCED THE TAX REFORM

PROPOSALS OF SENATOR McGOVERN. LET ME QUOTE YOU A LINE FROM

THE ARTICLE: "PROXMIRE CONTENDED THAT McGOVERN'S PROPOSALS

TO RAISE THE CORPORATE INCOME TAX FROM 48 TO 52 PERCENT

AND ELIMINATE THE INVESTMENT TAX CREDITS, WOULD HINDER EX
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IN THE INTERVIEW, SENATOR PROXMIRE LABELLED

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SAID: "BECAUSE OF MY DISAGREEMENT WITH HIM, IT WOULD BE

DIFFICULT TO GO OUT AND CAMPAIGN FOR HIM. IF I WERE ASKED

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IS ABSOLUTELY WRONG. THAT COULD BE TOUGH ON GEORGE".

I'M FOR TAX REFORM, I HAVE A PROGRAM WHICH IS

SPECIFIC, EQUITABLE AND RESPONSIBLE. IT HELPS RELIEVE THE BURDEN OF THE PROPERTY TAX AND PROVIDES FOR THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF MORE JOBS FOR AMERICAN WORKERS.

LET'S FACE THE FACTS. BY THE TIME THE GENERAL ELECTION BEGINS, THE REPUBLICAN PARTY WILL HAVE AMASSED IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF MORE THAN \$30 MILLION TO PUBLICLY SCRUTINIZE AND ATTACK THE POSITION OF THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE.

ON THE BASIS OF MY RECORD, I STAND READY TO FACE

SUCH CLOSE SCRUTINY. AND I AM CONFIDENT MY AGENDA FOR CHANGE

AND MY RECORD OF BRINGING ABOUT CHANGE, WILL BE ENDORSED BY

THE PEOPLE WHEN THEY HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO EVALUATE IT

DURING THE CAMPAIGN. I AM CONFIDENT OF THIS BECAUSE IT IS

BASED ON REALISTIC CALCULATIONS AND NOT ON ILLUSORY PROMISES.

I THINK THE QUESTION ALL CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATS SHOULD ASK THEMSELVES IS THIS: WILL YOU BE VOTING FOR A MAN WHOSE RECORD AND PROGRAMS CAN WITHSTAND A BLISTERING REPUBLICAN ONSLAUGHT IN THE GENERAL ELECTION?

CALIFORNIANS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE DEFEAT OF RICHARD NIXON, THEIR JOBS, THE HEALTH OF THIS ECONOMY, RISING WELFARE COSTS AND SKYROCKETING PRICES, MUST ASK THEMSELVES THIS QUESTION ON JUNE 6.

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