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- Bill McCahill
- Norton Clapp
Eagle Scout Tom Clark

Clyde Clark
Bob Devendorf

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
Lucien Rice - Director for Handicapped

SCOUTING FOR THE HANDICAPPED BREAKFAST

Dick Wilson - DAV

RADISSON HOTEL

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

MAY 25, 1973

Nut in Pass
Edwards

Alden Barber
Larry Binger

Troop 480
My old Scout
Art Anderson

IT IS A DISTINCT PRIVILEGE FOR ME TO MEET WITH YOU

THIS MORNING AT THE ANNUAL SCOUTING FOR THE HANDICAPPED

BREAKFAST, SPONSORED IN COOPERATION WITH THE DISABLED

AMERICAN VETERANS AND THE MINNESOTA GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION

ON EMPLOYMENT OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS. ~~I WOULD LIKE TO PAUSE~~

TO ~~RECOGNIZE THE MANY DISTINGUISHED PERSONS HERE TODAY. BUT~~

TO ~~HONOR THE SPECIFIC FOCUS OF THIS OCCASION~~ I WANT TO

ACKNOWLEDGE WITH PLEASURE THE PRESENCE OF MR. ALDEN G. BARBER,

CHIEF SCOUT EXECUTIVE OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA, AND MR.

W. E. CORDER, NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF BOYPOWER '76, ABOUT WHICH

I WILL BE COMMENTING IN MY REMARKS.

WHAT IS SCOUTING?

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AFTER ATTEMPTS TO DESCRIBE WHAT SCOUTS DO, OR
RECITATIONS OF THE SCOUT OATH AND THE SCOUT LAW, THERE IS
ONE SIMPLE EXPLANATION, ~~I BELIEVE~~, OF WHAT SCOUTING IS ALL
ABOUT. SCOUTING OFFERS A BOY THE CHANCE TO HAVE A BETTER
UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT IT MEANS TO BE RESPONSIBLE TO HIMSELF,
AND TO BE RESPONSIBLE TO OTHERS. -

Responsibility

"RESPONSIBILITY" IS THE KEY WORD. ~~A~~ A SENSE OF
RESPONSIBILITY IS PERHAPS THE MOST VITALLY NEEDED THREAD

TODAY TO RESTORE THE MORAL FABRIC OF AMERICAN SOCIETY.

RESPONSIBILITY KNOWS NO FAVORITES; IT IS NOT THE
POSSESSION OF THE PRIVILEGED FEW. IT SHOULD BE UNIVERSAL.

*Shelton
minutes**This*
~~And that~~

TIES IN WITH A PRIME INGREDIENT OF SCOUTING

ITSELF -- FOR SCOUTING IS FOR ALL BOYS, *It firmly practices**what it teaches about every boy having an equal opportunity*
WHAT IT TEACHES ABOUT EVERY BOY HAVING AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY*The* TROOP IN THE CITY GHETTO IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THETROOP IN THE HIGH-INCOME SUBURB; *A* BOY, WHETHER WHITE, BLACK,YELLOW, OR BROWN, WEARS THE SAME COLOR UNIFORM. *And he is*

EXPECTED TO HONOR THAT UNIFORM AND THE IDEALS IT REPRESENTS.

But SCOUTING ALSO EMPHASIZES THAT EACH BOY ISDIFFERENT -- HE IS AN INDIVIDUAL PERSON DESERVING RESPECTFOR HIS HUMAN DIGNITY AND INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION IN HISDEVELOPMENT.

camp courage
camp friendship
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Islands of
Peace

AND THAT IS WHY I AM ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT SCOUTING FOR
THE HANDICAPPED. HERE IS WHERE A DECENT RESPECT FOR THE
RIGHTS AND HOPES OF AN INDIVIDUAL FACES ITS TRUE TEST.

~~NOW, ALL OF YOU KNOW THAT~~ I HAVE BEEN DEEPLY INTERESTED
IN SCOUTING BOTH AS A SCOUTMASTER AND AS A NATIONAL OFFICE
VISITOR. MANY OF YOU MAY ~~ALSO~~ BE AWARE OF MY CONTINUING
COMMITMENT TO GUARANTEEING THE RIGHTS OF THE MENTALLY AND
PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED. ✓

THESE TWO COMMITMENTS WERE BROUGHT TOGETHER FOR ME
LAST YEAR WHEN A SCOUT TROOP FROM OHIO CAME TO VISIT ME IN THE
RECEPTION CHAMBER JUST OFF THE FLOOR OF THE UNITED STATES
SENATE.

WHAT WAS UNIQUE ABOUT THIS TROOP WAS THAT THE BOYS

WERE IN WHEELCHAIRS OR ON CRUTCHES, WITH VARIOUS FORMS OF

MENTAL OR PHYSICAL DISABILITIES. BUT THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER

WAS THAT THEY WERE THE SAME AS ANY OTHER BOYS -- THEY WERE

EXCITED; THEY ASKED SHARP QUESTIONS ABOUT MY JOB; ~~AND THEY~~ ^{about the}

Government etc about my state, my family.
~~GRASPED HOLD OF THE FEW SOUVENIRS I HAPPENED TO HAVE IN MY~~

POCKET.

but it raised
 WE HAD A GOOD VISIT ~~TOGETHER, FROM WHICH I BENEFITED~~
a basic question:
~~MORE THAN THE BOYS THEMSELVES.~~

~~AND THE QUESTION THAT I WAS LEFT WITH THEN, AND THAT~~

~~EXPLAINS WHY I WELCOMED THE INVITATION TO BE AT THIS BREAK~~

~~FAST~~ IS:

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namely
WHY SHOULD ~~not~~ EVERY BOY IN AMERICA, WHATEVER HIS

PHYSICAL OR MENTAL HANDICAP, HAVE ^{his} ~~his~~ CHANCE IN SCOUTING --

THE CHANCE TO TRAVEL, TO LEARN MORE OF HIS WORLD, TO DO THE

THINGS OTHER BOYS DO TO THE BEST OF ^{their} ~~his~~ ABILITY, AND ESPECIALLY

THE CHANCE TO UNDERGO AN INVALUABLE HABILITATIVE PROGRAM WITH

OTHER BOYS HAVING THE SAME PROBLEMS AND HOPE.

WITH HELP FROM COMMUNITIES THAT CARE, WITH INDIVIDUAL
ATTENTION PROVIDED BY WELL PREPARED LEADERS, THESE BOYS CAN

HAVE THIS CHANCE,

indeed
L YES, SCOUTING FOR THE HANDICAPPED PRESENTS A CHALLENGE,

BUT THE TIME HAS COME TO LOOK UPON THIS CHALLENGE AS AN

UNPARALLELED OPPORTUNITY TO REACH MANY BOYS WHO MIGHT OTHER-

WISE REMAIN ALONE, SHUT OFF FROM THE WORLD.

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It is an opportunity to give them hope where there was only
despair; to offer them the promise of challenge where there
 may only have been simple existence.

It will take hard work. There will be much trial and
 error and anxiety over whether you are getting through to
~~these~~ those boys. But it can be done! It must be done. For they are
 also God's children - creatures. They also can make a ~~contribution~~
contribution to our society.

There is so much being done today in medical and
psychological research on mental and physical handicaps. There is
so much being done in the development of new rehabilitation techniques, ~~that the~~
barriers of ignorance and prejudice are being overcome at an
accelerating pace that is truly inspiring.

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L THE HANDICAPPED BOY HAS A RIGHT TO BELONG, TO BE
ACCEPTED, TO WORK LIKE OTHER BOYS TO ACHIEVE SKILLS AND
DEVELOP AMBITION. HE HAS A RIGHT TO BE PROUD OF HIS
ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AND MOST OF ALL, TO EXPERIENCE THE DEEP
SATISFACTION AND NEW SENSE OF SELF-WORTH, IN PERFORMING
SERVICES FOR OTHER PEOPLE.

L WHETHER IN A SPECIAL UNIT OR A REGULAR SCOUT TROOP,
THAT BOY DESERVES TO BE CHALLENGED, HE HAS A RIGHT TO HAVE
DEMANDS PLACED UPON HIM TO DO BETTER, TO EXPERIENCE WHAT IT
MEANS TO "BE PREPARED," TO LEARN ABOUT HONORING GOD AND
LOVING HIS COUNTRY, AND TO ACTUALLY PERFORM A GOOD ^{deed} ~~TURN~~ EVERY
DAY.

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FOR THOSE OF US HEARING THESE WORDS SO OFTEN THAT WE
ALMOST TAKE THEM FOR GRANTED, WHAT AN EXPERIENCE IT CAN BE TO
SEE THEM GIVEN NEW MEANING BY BOYS WHO ARE MASTERING THEM
AND THEIR SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE FIRST TIME. AND WHAT A DEEP
SATISFACTION IT CAN BE TO WATCH A BOY LOOK UPON A FOREST AND
LEARN THE SKILLS OF CAMPING -- OPPORTUNITIES THAT HE MIGHT
OTHERWISE NEVER HAVE HAD.

IN RECENT YEARS, THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA HAS ACCEPTED
THIS CHALLENGE AND HAS REACHED OUT TO SERVE MORE OF THE THREE
MILLION HANDICAPPED YOUTH OF SCOUT AGE -- INCLUDING AN
ESTIMATED 53,000 BOYS IN MINNESOTA ALONE.

all this!

RECOGNIZING THAT LESS THAN FIVE PERCENT OF THESE YOUTH ARE

SCOUTS, ~~HOWEVER COMMENDABLE THE FACT THAT THE SUBSTANTIAL~~

~~MAJORITY ARE IN REGULAR SCOUT TROOPS~~ THE B.S.A. HAS LAUNCHED

A NEW PROGRAM CALLED BOYPOWER '76. THE GOAL OF THIS PROGRAM

IS TO REACH SOME 825,000 MORE "DISADVANTAGED" BOYS BY 1976,

THE BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF OUR NATION.

I CAN THINK OF NO BETTER WAY TO TRULY CELEBRATE

AMERICA'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY. BUT IT MUST BE RECOGNIZED THAT

THIS PROGRAM DEMANDS ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL STAFF, MORE

SPECIALLY TRAINED TROOP LEADERS, NEW PROGRAM DESIGNS, AND

SUSTAINED COMMUNITY RECRUITMENT EFFORTS. ~~AND~~ THESE REQUIREMENTS

TRANSLATE INTO A SERIOUS NEED FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS IF THIS

MAJOR INITIATIVE IS TO SUCCEED.

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✓ BUT BOYPOWER '76 IS A PROGRAM THAT MUST SUCCEED, ~~FOR~~

✓ IT REPRESENTS THE KIND OF SERVICES THAT SHOULD BE PROVIDED BY
OUR SOCIETY TO MAKE US ALL COMPETITIVELY EQUAL -- A FUNDAMENTAL
RIGHT OF EVERY AMERICAN THAT MUST NOW BE FIRMLY ESTABLISHED.

AT THE OUTSET OF MY REMARKS I SPOKE ABOUT RESPONSIBILITY.

EACH OF US BEARS A HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY -- THE RESPONSIBILITY

OF COMPASSION AND OF RESPECT FOR HUMAN DIGNITY THAT

RESPONSIBILITY DEMANDS THAT WE RECOGNIZE AND ANSWER THE NEED

OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS FOR HELP TO HELP THEMSELVES THEY ASK

NO MORE THAN THIS THEY CERTAINLY DESERVE NO LESS LET US

RESOLVE, HERE AND NOW, TO ACCEPT THIS RESPONSIBILITY TO CARE,

AND TO HELP.

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