REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY JACKSON FOR PRESIDENT FUNDRAISER Washington, D.C. May 13, 1975 You are here this evening because you care about who will be the next President of the United States. All of us are firmly committed to one goal: that a Democrat must occupy the White House after January 20, 1977. You believe, as do I, that the 1976 presidential election will be among the most important in American history. And you are seeking standards by which to judge the many contenders. Too often, it seems, we fall prey to standards chosen for us by our friends in the media. They usually come up with candidate qualifications that are more suitable for show business -- crowd appeal, charisma, and controversy -- than for achieving just and humane government. Yet we passively accept these standards in choosing a person whose Presidency will ultimately succeed or fail for totally different reasons. If I were you, given what has taken place in the White House since 1969, I would look for some other standards this time around. I would want to know a great deal about a candidate's record on protecting personal liberties and human rights. In 1976 I would want to be absolutely certain that our country's most precious possession -- the personal freedoms of each citizen -- is inviolate from any governmental invasion. The long and difficult job of rebuilding public trust in government must begin with this reaffirmation of the principles enshrined in the Bill of Rights. But it is a curious fact of American political life that what often is most important receives the least attention. I suggest to you this evening that much more attention should be directed to the remarkable record of Senator Henry Jackson in advancing and protecting the human freedoms of every American citizen. I know very well that over the course of a long political career, one's perspectives and beliefs about certain issues often change greatly. I've always thought that this can be evidence of a healthy and inquiring mind that refuses to be bound by the beliefs of another time. That's healthy in a public official. But nothing could be more dangerous than vacillation or change when it comes to protecting human freedoms. You have nothing to fear from Scoop Jackson. I know. I was there. I remember that in the late 1940's and early 1950's, long before civil rights was a winning issue, Scoop Jackson was standing in the front ranks of those who were fighting for even the most limited victories: -1-

- -- to abolish the poll tax;
- -- to abolish segregated hospitals built with federal funds;
- -- to create a civil rights division in the Department of Justice;
  - -- to establish a federal civil rights commission.

Scoop Jackson was there when the major victories of the mid-60's finally were achieved:

- -- equal access to public accommodations;
- -- equal opportunity in jobs and housing;
- -- meaningful guarantees, enforced by the federal government, of the right to vote;
- -- and all the other landmark victories that ended legalized discrimination in American life.

Those were the headline victories. But there were others that, from the perspective of recent presidential history, loom large. And, once again, Scoop Jackson was there.

During the early 1950's, for example, Scoop stood among a handful of House members who voted to abolish the Un-American Activities Committee -- a step that finally has been taken by the present Congress.

And how many of you remember that in 1956 Scoop Jackson, then a freshman Senator from Washington, voted to create a special congressional watchdog committee to oversee the Central Intelligence Agency? The proposal lost by better than a two-to-one margin. But suppose Scoop had won that battle? What a difference that might have made.

In 1959, Scoop Jackson was opposing student "loyalty oaths" as a requirement for receiving National Defense Education Act loans.

All of us, today, are much more familiar with Scoop Jackson's courageous stand in behalf of human and religious freedom around the globe -- in countries that flagrantly deny those rights to religious and ethnic minorities. I salute him for his courage and determination in this difficult battle.

This is not a record hastily assembled for the presidential campaign. It is a record compiled over more than three decades of public service. And, it is a record that tells you something about the character of this outstanding American.

It is with the greatest personal pleasure that I present him to you now -- my good and dear friend -- Senator Henry Jackson of Washington.

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