

REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

APPRECIATION DINNER FOR JACOB KASSAB

HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

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I want you to know how happy I am to be here tonight among my good friends in the state of Pennsylvania. I also am pleased to be able to join in this tribute to an extraordinary man and an outstanding public servant, Jacob Kassab.

It is particularly important in these times that we restore the people's faith in their government; that we show them that the system works when good men and women work in the system.

And that is why the story of Jacob Kassab is important to tell. It is a remarkable story, and an inspiring one.

It begins in the coal country of this great state when a fifteen-year-old boy is forced to leave school because his father is seriously ill. He must work to support his family.

That would be a crippling blow to the future of most young men.

But not for Jacob Kassab.

By working the coal mines, driving a truck, and working on highway construction, that young man not only finished high school, but earned a degree from the La Salle Extension University. He had proven that he was a worker.

And indeed he was. At the age of 21, he already was the assistant superintendent of a \$2 million highway construction project.

Then the war came, and Jacob volunteered for active duty, serving with the U.S. Army Engineers. When peace finally arrived, he joined a general construction firm headquartered in Chicago.

Five years later, he was vice president of the firm. But Pennsylvania never lost its hold on him, and he returned.

While directing the Pittsburgh branch office for the construction firm, Jacob gained broad experience in managing tens of millions of dollars worth of construction projects.

Some years later, he joined the Pittsburgh firm of Noble J. Dick. It was doing about \$10 million worth of business at that time. But when the company made Jacob its president, it took only two years for business to increase to \$70 million.

In the mid-60's, Jacob became a successful private consultant. Among other projects, he was called in to speed up construction of the Westinghouse Atomic Laboratory -- which built the engines for the Nautilus atomic-powered submarine. His efforts there earned him a commendation from the Atomic Energy Commission.

So when Governor Shapp told the people of this state that he was going to bring good management and real efficiency to government -- and that he intended to deliver on that pledge -- he turned to Jacob Kassab.

And Jacob Kassab turned to the job.

As Secretary of Transportation, he brought modern, streamlined techniques to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. He made great gains in traffic safety. And he brought down the cost of the department to taxpayers while actually increasing services. He was largely responsible for this state's commitments to mass transit and airport development.

But while he was doing all of this, he also was taking charge of repair work on your state highway system -- 44,000 miles of it -- longer than all the New England states, New York and New Jersey combined.

It was a tough job. But Jacob Kassab got it done. And more than that. He became, as Governor Shapp has said, the best Transportation Secretary the state ever had.

He will be remembered for a long time after he leaves the Department at the end of this year to return to his business ventures in the western part of the state. He will be remembered as a man who, when he worked for the government, made the government work for the people.

And that is something we desperately need to do. We need to get government, at every level, staffed with public servants who live up to their name -- who actually serve the public.

I get around the country a lot, and I talk to the people. And what I hear is not good.

I hear people say they don't trust their government. They feel that government no longer is their servant, but that it is becoming their master. They feel that when they talk, the government isn't listening.

If we let this trend continue, if we let the American people completely lose faith in their government, we will have permitted a terrible betrayal of our most fundamental goals. We will have betrayed our deepest commitment to a government which is not just "of" and "by," but really "for" the people.

And worse, we will have damaged our social order. Because when people lose their faith in government, they lose their respect for the law. No clearer message is written in the annals of history.

So we have to find a way to restore that faith, especially among our young people.

They have lived their most formative years during a time of serious misconduct and abuse of power at the very highest levels of government.

They have seen the job market disappear and the hopelessness and despair that followed.

They have seen great cities threatened with ruin.

And they have seen a rising incidence of crime as our police and criminal justice systems face major obstacles in fulfilling their responsibilities.

It is understandable that they are losing their faith -- understandable, but not acceptable. We must give the American people the government they deserve -- a system that is humane, compassionate and responsive to their needs. A government that talks to the people and listens to the people.

Thomas Jefferson once said, and all Americans believe, that our government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed. That is not just some fancy phrase -- it is a profound and abiding principle of our national life. The people must consent.

And if they do not, if their consent is threatened by apathy, cynicism or mistrust, then our way of life is shaken to its very foundations.

But we can not allow this to happen. And we will not allow it. Working together, we can give our people the leadership that will bring back their trust.

We can restore the faith we have lost. We can keep alive the spirit of democracy which has guided us through our first two hundred years, and will guide us, undiminished, through countless years to come.

Let me read you something. It is called the "American's Creed." It was written in 1916 by William Tyler Page, but it could have been written any year since the Revolution, because it eloquently sums up the timeless principles which lie at the very heart of this country.

"I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people, whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a Republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect Union, one and inseparable, established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

"I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support the Constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies."

That is the faith that we must restore. And this means not just leadership, but genuine public servants -- men and women whose first and only interest is in "freedom, equality, justice and humanity," whose concern is with the public good, and not with their own vested interests.

No one who lives in a democracy likes to think of himself as a servant. The word has an antique, outdated, unpleasant sound that grates on our ears.

But there is nothing servile about working for social justice, about working for the day-to-day well-being of the American people, and the principles of the Constitution.

When we can do that, when we can convince our citizens that the government is their government, then we can bring back the trust which will carry us proudly into our third century.

Men and women are contributing every day to that trust, and many of them, like Jacob Kassab, are Pennsylvanians who carry on the great heritage of the state where the Nation was born.

We do well to honor them publicly. As Bill Burns, the noted radio commentator from Pittsburgh, said in an editorial he wrote about Jacob Kassab, "There could even be an example here for our young people. You can be successful doing it the hard way."

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You're a marvelous emcee and I do want to especially pay my respects to Jake Kassab and his lovely wife, to his lovely wife, Helen, the family and all the wonderfully good things that you've done for so many others. Doc Morgan, on the way here tonight, kept reminding me, he said, "You know, Jake's going to live in Washington County, Hubert." I said, "Oh, that's fine." And then he said, "Yeah, you know, he's going to live in Washington County." I don't know what you've got on him, but, he sure is proud of the fact that you're going to live in Washington County and I know that you're going to have a good time there and he's looking forward to the housewarming and expects an engraved invitation. So you make that possible.

Governor Shapp, it's good to see you, Milt. It's good to be in your State and glad to see that you know how to command and to order as you did here tonight, calling the Secretary of Transportation to order immediately even as he was talking to his wife which took courage even beyond that (loud laughter) . . . description and Mike Johnson, I've never heard Mike so diplomatic in all of my life. I don't know if this is the Mike that I know or not. He kept talking about candidates. He didn't single out anybody. Ordinarily Mike is very precise but he gave a nonpartisan speech which will be the first and the last that he ever gives. Are you confirmed yet, Mike? I figured there was something going on here. (more loud laughter) There's so much that has happened, all of this sort of in-house humor that's going on around here. Bob Casey and airplanes and what have you. I am

not familiar with all of this but I know that it must have been a joyful experience. (more loud laughter) I've never been at a party where resigning seemed to be such fun. The resignations we have had in Washington never brought such praises. (clapping and laughter) This is some affair. By the way, I've never seen Republicans with such a sense of humor. Now here comes along this fellow Westerberg, do you know him? Now he's not like Hugh Scott. Hugh Scott nominates me for President all the time. I often wonder what there is behind that, but Westerberg comes up here--He puts me on Milt Shapp's ticket--I don't know whether they've consulted or not--but I did see the two of them out here, I won't say where, but they were talking to each other and as much as I've always trusted Milt, in terms of his partisan loyalties, it seems to me that for him to take advice from a leading Republican in the State of Pennsylvania as to his ticket may have some dangers in it. You ought to be a little careful there. But this is a very bi-partisan meeting. I noticed there is Senator Murray there--a very distinguished leader in your State and a Democrat and Senator Dick Pream, a Republican, he disguises himself as just a minority leader, but we all know that he is the Party boss in the State of Pennsylvania. There hasn't been one like him since George Bloom (loud laughter). And then we have, of course, Representative Englehart and then we have Leroy Erviss, bipartisan, bipartisan Bob Shuster, I should say Bud Shuster coming here presenting a citation that really is one of the finest I've seen. I noticed the seal on the citation that you have. We Senators over there don't have anything like that,

we just sort of write it out on a memo. Doc Morgan, can you imagine, so bipartisan and I got invited. I don't know what's wrong with this whole business. (loud laughter) Well I guess the reason I got invited is explainable. In selecting a speaker sometimes it's a difficult job and you had a committee I understand, you had a speakers committee and there was a big argument and everybody that was a candidate wanted to get a noncandidate. (clapping) They wanted to get somebody that was thoroughly bipartisan and so they looked around and somehow or another they made a mistake. I understand that George Leader was in there arguing for me with Mike Johnson and others and it reminded me of the story, Mike, that they tell about the union and the manager of the company, you know. The old manager was lying in the hospital practically on his deathbed and they were having a great argument, the Executive Committee of Local 160 of the Union, and finally after a bitter argument over what they ought to do about the old man that was lying up there in the hospital, the old boss, the boss received a "get well" card and it said, "By a vote of 8 to 7, Local 160 wishes you a quick recovery." I think that's the way they got me here tonight. And for a while I wasn't sure the trip was going to be worth it, because it was hard to get out of Washington this evening, and I almost gave up, but I thought it would be nice to get back up to the Keystone State of Pennsylvania and I say this with great sincerity. As was mentioned here by Ernie, this is a State that has a very special meaning to me. I have a deep affection for it and it has been kind to me. And I want to express my heartfelt

thanks as a public official, as a citizen for the many courtesies and the many kindnesses that have been extended to me. And tonight there are so many of these favorite public officials that are here-- Grace Sloan, I'm glad she's watching the money, and you have others that are here, I've mentioned most of them I believe. There's Pete Flaherty from over in Pittsburgh who has been such a help to me over the years, Bob Casey and others, George Leader. George and Mary Jane put up with me early, early I remember staying up late at night. George, when we were out to your place when you were Governor here, that's before there were airplanes and reporters, all these other things that went on in the State. Now, this is bipartisan and I'll tell you the kind of bipartisanship that it is. There's a story that they tell about old Pat O'Brien, who was the big honcho Democrat. I don't know whether it was Philadelphia or Pittsburgh or Harrisburg or where it was, but there never was a Democratic function that he didn't attend and there never was an election but what he asked everybody to vote the straight ticket. He never ever looked at their credentials or anything else that they were Democrats after this, and he just went up and down the State, up and down the counties and cities and just said "vote straight, vote Democratic". Well one day, when his old friend, Mike O'Riley was looking over the city records down at the Voter Registration Office, he found that Pat O'Brien had registered as a Republican. Well this shook him up. He couldn't believe it.

And he went and hunted up Pat O'Brien and he said, "Pat, me boy, me old friend," he said, "you've been a Democratic leader here for all these sixty years and now I come down to the courthouse and I'm checking over the voter registration and what do I see? I see Pat O'Brien, Republican." He said, "I simply can't understand it, Pat", he said, "I can't understand it". Pat said, "Now, Mike, me friend, don't be so worried." He said, "I've been to me doctor and the doctor tells me that I have only a few, few weeks to live. And I figured if somebody had to go, it was better it was one of them." (loud laughter) Now I know Dick Pream will take that little bit of humor in good stead, and I want to repeat, Dick, Republican capitalists are dull, in Washington, I want to warn you Democrats around here, these Republicans have a great sense of humor. I just hope that's all it is. I hope it doesn't get out of hand.

Well, Jake, I want to join in the tribute to you. I just want you to know that no matter how many enhomiums you receive tonight, no matter how much praise, and no matter how much anybody may tell you that this is the way it is when a man resigns his office that a person who feels he served faithfully and well that this in no way impresses me. I'd have no intention of resigning at all and if this was some kind of a plot it isn't going to work. Somebody said that there'd most likely be someone make some announcement and I think I should announce that it is my plan--well it's as good a place as any when you get the cameras all

set here now, Milt you can lean back. It's as good a place as any to say that after having given it due thought and consideration, and knowing that 1976 is the banner year, I hereby proclaim in the State of Pennsylvania that I will announce here what I've announced home in Minnesota--I am a candidate for reelection to the United States Senate. Now you can all lean back and relax. I just wanted to test that, Dick, I appreciate that very very much.

Tonight we honor a citizen as well as a public official, and that's the way it ought to be in this Democracy of ours. Citizen Jake Kassab, Public Official Jake Kassab, Distinguished Public Servant Jake Kassab, but always Citizen. If there's a Horatio Alger story in public life and private life, Jake, I think you have it. I don't really believe from what I've learned that it is going to be necessary for us to pass a special bill to increase your social security benefits. I understand that you'll make it without it. But your record of business and in business is remarkable. But it started out so humbly. Everybody in this State knows about it but I received information that told me a story about you that really touched my heart and in a sense intrigued my mind. Because yours is a remarkable, truly remarkable and inspiring story and it needs to be told, not only about Jake Kassab but about others who are somewhat like him again and again particularly in this day when everybody is going around sort of hang-dog, when too many of our fellow Americans are talking as if

it's all over, that the best days of the Republic have been lived and that you can't trust anybody and there's no hope. We've got a whole special breed now of the philosophers of doom and gloom. I don't happen to belong to that fraternity and the reason I don't is because occasionally I meet a Jake Kassab. And he restores your faith because while Jake Kassab is being honored here tonight, he will be the first to say that there are many others in America, in private and public life, at the community level, in local government, state government, federal government, in church and business and labor and many other groups there are many like Jake Kassab who have helped build this country, who came from very humble beginnings. I can see how Milt was upset when he found out you were from Lebanon and all that, but imagine if you had told him that this year! Instead of five years ago! But don't let that bother you, he can take care of everything, even Bethlehem was in this State. But isn't it true that the story here of this distinguished fellow citizen is one that is the American story. A country that we want to keep without class, without the class struggle. A country in which we'd like to believe that people will be judged, as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., put it, "Not on their color, or their race, or their creed, but on the quality of their character". And that's exactly what Jake Kassab represents here tonight. The quality of his character, the ability that he has, the keenness of his mind, the values of loyalty and decency and fair play that I think are the real virtues and real credentials of any person. Too often today when we look to hire somebody or

ask somebody to come aboard, and this is particularly true in government, we take a look to see of what university did they graduate? Now I'm not here to downgrade university education because it is important, but more important than that university education is what kind of a person is this man or woman? What is their character? What is their quality? Because we've seen people who have been highly educated in universities that became dictators, corrupt, inhumane, terrorists, and insensitive. But not Jake Kassab. He is none of those things. He's just good people. Started out there in that coal country, boy helping to support a family, served his country in peace and war, came back to Pennsylvania after being far away in the mid-west--I recollect you were away in Chicago for a while, weren't you--and found his way back here to this great State which he loved. In the contracting business, demonstrated remarkable business acumen, he understood how to make a dollar and how to make it go a long way. And then he came here and I think you, Governor Shapp, one of the finest tributes that a man can pay a chief executive is that he knows how to surround himself with good people. And when you told the people of this State that you were going to try to bring good management to government, I think that the best testimonial of you having kept that pledge is the fact that you appointed and asked to serve as the Secretary of Transportation none other than Jake Kassab. Once Jake was on that job, he moved ahead full speed. He didn't stand around there

and say well what am I going to do? He know there were things to do. He knew that the transportation system of a State is at the heart of its economy. And by the way, the transportation system of America is at the heart of its economy and our heart's in bad shape. Make no mistake about it. A nation that can perfect vehicles of such accuracy as the missiles that we have--a nation that can perfect mechanisms that control direction, such as the great rockets that put man on the moon--you'd think they could keep a roadbed of a railroad, wouldn't you, so it was safe? You would think they could keep a railroad system operating. You would think that they could tie in buses and airports and trucks and automobiles and all of the mass transit systems that we have into an integrated transportation system. But the United States of America, while it may be ahead in many things, is far behind western Europe, far behind Japan, far behind many other countries in a modern transportation system. And if I were you businessmen out here and I want to say to my Republican friends who always champion what they call fiscal government and fiscal responsibility and who believe in the free enterprise system. I want to know why they don't literally rock this country with literally pounding on the table for an integrated, modern, up to date transportation system. And if Milt Shapp gets elected President and doesn't appoint you Secretary of Transportation I'm going to denounce him. Well we got a good start there Milt. I don't know whether they're applauding for you or for Jake. Like Mike Johnson I mixed it up so you couldn't tell.

Now, dear friends, I think that after Jake has left this job and he'll be doing that very shortly, he'll be remembered for all the things that's been said here tonight. But I think that he'll be remembered most of all as a man who, when he worked for the people of Pennsylvania, made the government work for the people. And ladies and gentlemen, this is at the heart of our problem today. It's something that we desperately need to have happen. We need to get government and it is big government and it isn't going to get smaller and all the people that tell you so are lying and they know it. Everybody that runs for office promises that the government is going to be smaller. Every President that I can recall since 1932 including Hoover and Roosevelt -- all made the promise that the government is going to be smaller at Washington and they all say it at the state level and at the local level but the real truth is it isn't going to be because there's more need. Because we're no longer a nation of a hundred million people like we were at the turn of the century. We're 215 million people with ever growing demands. With consumer awareness. With an insistence of not only private gain but public good. And I believe that it's terribly important therefore that government be accountable and that it be sensitive to the people and that those of us that are in government understand that we're public servants like Jake has understood. People who literally and actually serve the public. I travel a good deal around this country and I know a lot of people and a lot of people know me and maybe that's the reason I don't always get elected when I want to run. But the people I know best are out in Minnesota and I've

always felt that a good politician ought to know his own people. That's his base and I take great pride in knowing much about my State and generally tell those in the federal government that start to tell me about it, that they don't know what they're talking about. Because I feel too often we have experts that give expert advice about things that they've never seen, never experienced, never touched, never tasted. And I am a down to earth, grass roots politician with no apology. I have been a teacher of politics, too and I feel I owe all my students a refund. After what I taught them as compared to what really happened. Well I say I got around a good deal and here's what I hear. I hear people say they don't trust their government. And every opinion poll that's been taken and we just recently had before the Joint Economic Committee and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee every major polling firm and organization in the United States. Every one of them, Gallup, Harris, Cadell, Hart, Roper, The Michigan Public Opinion Survey, all of them. And every single survey showed that people do not trust government. And that ladies and gentlemen is a very sad comment. In a country that says it is a government of the people. They feel that government is no longer really their servant, but that it seeks to be their master, and they feel that when they talk, we the people, the government isn't listening. And I must say that all too often I find people that have forgotten the Preamble to the Constitution. And all we really need to know about government is in the Preamble to the Constitution. Just a few lines. We the People. That's the difference between the United States and a

dictatorship or authoritarian regime or one of these banana republics or one of these tinhorn dictators. We the People, In order to form a more perfect union and the desire of the people to do better, to establish justice, which is the first duty of government. To assure domestic tranquility, to provide for the common defense, to promote the general welfare and to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do hereby establish and ordain this Constitution. That is the whole story of American government. It's based upon we the people and for a specific purpose and the interesting thing is that the forefathers that met here in your State at Philadelphia, they didn't say that government was going to be perfect or was society to be perfect; they said they sought to make a more perfect union, hope to do better, and from that preamble to the Constitution everything relates that is important to our system. And I might emphasize again it was written in the present tense. The forefathers didn't say that we on this day did this. No they wrote it for us and it's here tonight as if this was the Constitutional convention. And every word in the preamble is an action word, not neglect, benign or malignant. It isn't something that is soft and indifferent, it's action. To form a more perfect union. To establish justice. To assure domestic tranquility. To provide for the common defense. To promote the general welfare, and to secure the blessings of liberty. Every part of that preamble is an action word. It means

that government has responsibility. The men who formed the government viewed the government was to have a role, a big and important role in the lives of the nation and the life of the people. But if people feel that nobody is listening, if they feel that they have been tuned out, it's bad news. If we let this trend continue, if we let the American people lose faith in their government, we will have permitted a terrible betrayal of our most fundamental goals. And we will have betrayed our deepest commitments to a government that is not just of the people and by the people but really for the people. And we will have damaged almost beyond repair our social order because when people lose faith and trust in their government they lose respect for laws. No clearer message is written in the annals of history and people are fishing around wondering why the crime wave is bigger. I'll tell you why it's big. Because people have lost faith. Too many of them have lost faith, in what the country is supposed to stand for. They haven't lost faith in our ideals, in our performance. The American people are still an idealistic people. The American people are still a young people. The American people are still a humane and compassionate people, and all they ask is fair play. That's all, all they ask is Jake Kassab. His kind, that's all. That's what you hear about him tonight, that's the whole story, and that's why I wanted to come here, because essentially I'd like to be a teacher. And I think what this country needs today is to take a look at its very soul. Not only at the things we do, but what we are.

And what we think. We are constantly measuring ourselves by our things, by our material goods, when we ought to be measuring ourselves by what our capabilities are and what is in our hearts and souls and minds. So we have to find a way to restore that faith and especially among our young people where the crime rate is high. For the sense of despair really is unbelievable and all the drugs and all this other stuff is all related to it really. Why don't we admit it? It isn't just because they're different, it's because times are different. It's because what we're doing is different or what we're not doing is different. These young people have lived most of their formative years during a period of tragic war, a time of mysterious conduct and abuse of power at the very highest levels of government. Watergate, CIA, FBI, they've seen their job market disappear and the hopelessness and despair settle upon them. Let me assure you that the young people of America represent 25 percent of the work force, age 16 to 25. They have 43 percent of the unemployment and among young blacks in our inner cities, 40 percent unemployment. Among young whites, over 20 percent unemployed. No work, no experience, none of the therapy of work and I'll never forget what that great English philosopher John Stuart Mills said and I remember as I used to quote to my students "Let a person have nothing to do for his country and he shall have no love for it." Patriotism is work, not just standing and saluting the flag or singing God Bless America. It's being involved, it's being told you're needed. And it's being told there is a place for you. And that's why today I say to the politicians and I'm one of them and I say to the business and labor leaders, we've got to put things

back together so that the gates of opportunity are wide open and that there are things for people to do. We've got to find things that are worthwhile. And you don't have far to look around.

Very much. A whole nation is waiting for the drum beat of constructive work. The whole nation is waiting to get on with the job of rebuilding cities, extending our parks and playgrounds, cleaning up our rivers, training young people to do a better job. Oh, there's so much to do. So much to do. We talk about welfare, crime, and yet you and I know, desperately, we know so well the need of day care centers. We know so well of remedial education. We know so well of what ought to be done. If somehow or another it was a foreign enemy that was causing us these troubles, we would overcome it almost overnight. We would rally as one great people. If someone would just attack. We don't seem to understand have people have been telling us for years. Its the danger to America is not from without nearly so much as it's from within. And we have been unwilling to moralize this country as if we were in a war for our very life. And I'm not asking mobilization that denies human rights. I am asking mobilization that guarantees human rights. Because what good does it do to have the right to sit at a lunch counter because your black alongside your white brother if neither the black or the white has the money to pay for the lunch. What good does it do to talk about equal opportunity in housing in open neighborhoods? If you can't afford the mortgage? If you can't pay the interest rates? If you haven't got a job?

Well ladies and gentlemen, let's quit kidding each other. We can do what needs to be done in this country if we but resolve ourselves to do it. I see great cities threatened with ruin. And here's our city, New York City, 8 million Americans. And forget about who was mayor and who was governor, because there's plenty of brain to go around. But there are 8 million Americans up there. And the way we're answering unemployment in this country, apparently, is to lay off people. Why we've got the most ridiculous circumstances. They're going to lay off some 75,000 people in New York City and then the federal government comes in and has a reemployment program for 16. You'd think we weren't talking to each other. The other day I'm handling legislation in Washington that kept me busy for \$4,800,000,000 in military and economic assistance. Only last week \$1,600,000,000. Outright grants and loans in assistance and none of this business about high interest. Oh no, 2 percent. And you don't pay anything for the first five years. And if it's food assistance you don't pay anything for the first 10 years. Now don't misunderstand me. I realize our responsibility as a nation. I know that the world needs our help and I know that we must lead. But ladies and gentlemen let me lay it on the line. Do you think the people overseas are going to believe we really care about them? Do you really think that they will believe that we're sharing in our foreign aid and all this because we care about them? If we let 8 million Americans go down the drain, if we have a President that says go bankrupt, if we permit default, if we say

we don't care, I don't think so. I think they'll think we're trying to buy them. And I say this coming from the midwest where this kind of talk supposedly isn't popular. Who needs to be popular? You need to be right. When I go home to my state, and talk to the people that I represent, I say there are things that need to be done and young Americans know it. We had 6,000 of these young people from New York down to Washington today. And they weren't asking for much. They were asking for a lot less than people that abuse us and vote against us in the United Nations. The trouble now is a lot of young people are getting turned off and don't vote at all and that's a danger to our democracy. I think it's understandable when people lose their faith. I think it's understandable when things happen that shake them and compel them to lose their faith. I think what is needed is a system that is humane, compassionate and responsive. A government that talks to the people and listens to the people. You see I have to declare my vintage. I grew up at a time when my hero was Franklin Roosevelt. Yes I married the daughter of a Republican county chairman. So I'm plenty bipartisan. But I want to tell you something. I also remember when that President talked to my mother and father. By radio as if he was in our home, when we were going to lose our home. And I want the same kind of faith and trust again. Oh we're going to make lots of mistakes in progress. It's like a marriage. You make a lot of mistakes, but if there's love and trust, it lasts.

And government needs love and trust. At least it needs trust. As Thomas Jefferson put it, our government derives its just powers from the consent of the government and I want to say that's no simple easy phrase. It's a profound and abiding principle of our national life. The people must consent if they are to obey because you're not going to get obedience just by brute force. And if they do not consent and if their consent is threatened by apathy, cynicism or mistrust, then our way of life is shaken to its very foundations. This why I repeat my original message that I came here tonight to have this privilege of sitting alongside this honored man of your citizenry because he restored my faith and he has restored the faith of thousands of people. Working together I happen to think that we can pull this nation together and give it the leadership to bring back their trust. I think we can restore the faith that we've lost and that we can keep alive the spirit of democracy which has guided us through the first two hundred years and can and will guide us undiminished through countless years to come. You know there are some lessons out of the 200 years and there are three simple ones that characterize America the best. The first is that we are a pioneering people. We conquered a continent. We pioneered in self-government and it was a revolutionary doctrine at the time of divine right of gain without ever sending a man overseas every soul in Europe was threatened by the Declaration of Independence of Thomas Jefferson and those who signed it. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. God-given inalienable rights. A powerful idea that no wall could keep out,

and no army could defeat. And it spread all over the western European area. That's the American contribution to the world. These Russians, they think they're revolutionaries--they're the worst reactionaries in the world. Totalitarianism, authoritarianism, dictatorship--it's the oldest kind of reactionary government that man ever knew. They got no revolution. But we're afraid to even mention the word revolution. I'm here to tell you that people all over the world are crying out for liberty. They're crying out for life--they're crying out for the chance to pursue happiness, and they know they're not going to get it in a collective society; they know they're not going to get it in the one party system; they know they're not going to get it in a dictatorship. People are not stupid. They are sometimes caught and oppressed and enslaved but the story of history from the days of Moses to this very day is that a people that were enslaved seek emancipation. The promised land. That's what America has got to remember. The second thing about our great history of 200 years is optimism. Optimism. Somebody said it couldn't be done. You can't get across the plains and across the mountains in covered wagons. They said, "Who said so?" Well its never been done. They said, "We're the first, we'll do it." And we did it. We did it. It was not easy, with sacrifice, with scorn, with loss of life and all of that, but it was done. People said, you can't connect the Pacific and the Atlantic but they did. We dug a canal. They said you can't put two streams of steel across the whole continent from the Atlantic to

the Pacific, over mountains and across deserts and plains. We did it. They call them railroads. They said you can't split the atom, it's impossible, but Einstein said it could be done and he did it. And John Kennedy said in this decade we shall put a man on the moon and he shall put his feet on that moon and he shall return to earth safely. And people laughed and people said I don't believe it. But we did it. And Franklin Roosevelt before him said We will fill the skies with planes, 50,000 a year and people said it proves he's crazy. We put 90,000 a year from our plants. We did it. Whatever we wanted to do we could do with optimism. Now we got a lot of people going around saying you can't do that. We're always going to have to have unemployed: we can't do anything about the debts we can't do anything about this, I got no time for these no sayers. These nay sayers. I wish they'd get out of the way. Let some of us who want to get something done get out there and get it done. Get the rocks out of the road. Course it can be done, because it has to be done. What needs to be done can be done where it is God's will. We need to know it. And the other point of our great history is accommodation. We've always left room for people to have a little of their own freedom. You don't have to march to my drum beat. Like Walt Whitman said, "March to thine own", but march, walk. And we've always left room for compromise. And today we begin to see a few instances where there are people over there and others over there that say, "We're right, and there's no compromise." That's dangerous and that is not what democracy needs.

Let me leave you tonight with something that I found in the Congressional Record, dated 1916. A gentlemen Senator, I don't

know what his name was, but it came in the mail just before I came here, actually about a week ago, Mike, just after we talked on the phone. And it sounds a little corny, I suppose. Some sophisticates will say, "Well, it doesn't mean much", because you've really got to say words that nobody can understand for some people to think you know what you're talking about. But I want to let you know all the great messages of history have been written in simple language; the Sermon on the Mount, the Lord's Prayer, the Emancipation Proclamation, the Declaration of Independence, everything that was worthwhile. Read the Constitution, it's not that intricate, simple. And the good and great philosopher is the man who takes profound thought and makes it in simple language. Well, there's a fellow by the name of William Tiger Page, I don't even hardly know who he is and can't recall. But there was a contest about the American Creed, could somebody write up what America stood for - this was way back in 1916. I suppose if you did it now they'd say. "Oh. you're just trying to be a super patriot." Well, I'm a patriot, make no mistake about it. I look at the flag and I love it. I look at this country and I love it. Sure I complain about it, Mike, that's my life. That's one of the reasons you're a free person. But there is a creed and that creed was written in 1916 and it lies at the very heart of this country and listen to it.

"I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people and for the people whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed. A democracy and a republic, a sovereign nation of many sovereign states, a perfect union, one and inseparable, established upon those principles of freedom, equality and justice and humanity for which American patriots have sacrificed

their lives and fortunes. I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its Constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag and to defend it against all enemies." End of quote. That's pretty good. Written in 1916. It's good enough for 2016. It's the kind of philosophy that we need to have. That's the faith that we need to restore. This means not just leadership but genuine public service in service. Men and women whose first and only interest is freedom, equality, justice and humanity. Whose concern is with the public good and not with their own selfish vested interests. We do honor tonight to a man I believe that symbolizes in his life work and in his work and vocation much of what's in that creed and I hope all. You'll be the best judge of that. But I'll tell you this. I see where a fellow over in Pittsburgh, a radio commentator by the name of Bill Burns, had something to say in an editorial about Jake Kassab and I think it fits this occasion well. He said, "There could be an example here for our young people. You can be successful doing it the hard way." Ladies and gentlemen, you can't be successful any other way. There are no short cuts. There is no soft way. There is no magic. There are no miracles, at least in our hands. All the American people want to know is that we care, those of us that are public officials. They want to know that we're concerned. They want to know that we reach out and not withdraw. They want to know that we really believe that it is a government for the people. And you've given me your time tonight and I want to thank you. This isn't much of a

partisan message because frankly I think that each of us in our political party vote, independent, whatever you may be, needs to think and move. The times are different, change has wrought unbelievable things and as Lincoln said, we must disinvolve ourselves with the past, we must think anew. Thank you very much.

Jacob Kass-äb + Helen (Washington County)

H.H. V.P.

Gov Shapp (Clearfield County)
Rep Westenberg
Mike Johnson (Non-Partisan)

Gov Rep Leader
+ Mary Jane

Leo Blum
"Mr. Republican"

REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

~~Doc Morgan~~ (Rep. Wash. Co.)

APPRECIATION DINNER FOR JACOB KASSAB

① Lt. Gov ^{Ensign} Kainer + Joseph
Pete Flaherty -
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

Sen. ^{Martin} Murray

Bi Partisan

Sen. ^{Dick} Frame

NOVEMBER 19, 1975

Rep Chairman

Rep. ^{Englehart} Funkhouser (Herd)

Speaker

Rep Loy Lewis (Dem)

Bi Partisan

Rep. Westenberg (Rep)

{ Cong. ^{Bud} Shuster (Rep)

Bi Partisan

{ Cong. Doc Morgan (Dem)

Washington County }

L I WANT YOU TO KNOW HOW HAPPY I AM TO BE HERE TONIGHT
AMONG MY GOOD FRIENDS IN THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA. L I ALSO
AM PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO JOIN IN THIS TRIBUTE TO AN
EXTRAORDINARY MAN AND AN OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVANT, JACOB (Jake)
KASSAB.

L IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN THESE TIMES THAT WE
RESTORE THE PEOPLE'S FAITH IN THEIR GOVERNMENT, THAT WE SHOW
THEM THAT THE SYSTEM WORKS WHEN GOOD MEN AND WOMEN WORK IN THE
SYSTEM.

L AND THAT IS WHY THE STORY OF JACOB KASSAB IS IMPORTANT
TO TELL. L IT IS A REMARKABLE STORY, AND AN INSPIRING ONE!

L IT BEGINS IN THE COAL COUNTRY OF THIS GREAT STATE WHEN
A FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLD BOY IS FORCED TO LEAVE SCHOOL BECAUSE HIS
FATHER IS SERIOUSLY ILL. L HE MUST WORK TO SUPPORT HIS FAMILY.

THAT WOULD BE A CRIPPLING BLOW TO THE FUTURE OF MOST
YOUNG MEN,

BUT NOT FOR ~~JACOB~~ ^{Jake} KASSAB.

BY WORKING THE COAL MINES, DRIVING A TRUCK, AND WORKING
ON HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION, THAT YOUNG MAN NOT ONLY FINISHED HIGH
SCHOOL, BUT EARNED A DEGREE FROM THE LA SALLE EXTENSION UNIVERSITY.

HE HAD PROVEN THAT HE WAS A WORKER.

AND INDEED HE WAS. AT THE AGE OF 21, HE ALREADY WAS THE
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF A \$2 MILLION HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION
PROJECT.

THEN THE WAR CAME, AND JACOB VOLUNTEERED FOR ACTIVE DUTY,
SERVING WITH THE U.S. ARMY ENGINEERS. WHEN PEACE FINALLY
ARRIVED, HE JOINED A GENERAL CONSTRUCTION FIRM HEADQUARTERED IN
CHICAGO.

L FIVE YEARS LATER, HE WAS VICE PRESIDENT OF THE FIRM. BUT


PENNSYLVANIA NEVER LOST ITS HOLD ON HIM, AND HE RETURNED ~~to the~~ Keystone State

L WHILE DIRECTING THE PITTSBURGH BRANCH OFFICE FOR THE
CONSTRUCTION FIRM, JACOB GAINED BROAD EXPERIENCE IN MANAGING
TENS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WORTH OF CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.

L SOME YEARS LATER, HE JOINED THE PITTSBURGH FIRM OF NOBLE
J. DICK. IT WAS DOING ABOUT \$10 MILLION WORTH OF BUSINESS AT
THAT TIME. BUT WHEN THE COMPANY MADE JACOB ITS PRESIDENT, IT
TOOK ONLY TWO YEARS FOR BUSINESS TO INCREASE TO \$70 MILLION.

L IN THE MID-60'S, JACOB BECAME A SUCCESSFUL PRIVATE
CONSULTANT. AMONG OTHER PROJECTS, HE WAS CALLED IN TO SPEED
UP CONSTRUCTION OF THE WESTINGHOUSE ATOMIC LABORATORY -- WHICH
BUILT THE ENGINES FOR THE NAUTILUS ATOMIC-POWERED SUBMARINE.

HIS EFFORTS THERE EARNED HIM A COMMENDATION FROM THE ATOMIC
ENERGY COMMISSION.

 SO WHEN GOVERNOR SHAPP TOLD THE PEOPLE OF THIS STATE THAT HE WAS GOING TO BRING GOOD MANAGEMENT AND REAL EFFICIENCY TO GOVERNMENT -- AND THAT HE INTENDED TO DELIVER ON THAT PLEDGE -- HE TURNED TO ~~JACOB~~ ^{JOE} KASSAB.

L AND ~~JACOB~~ ^{JOE} KASSAB TURNED TO THE JOB! - *Full Steam ahead!*

L AS SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION, HE BROUGHT MODERN, STREAMLINED TECHNIQUES TO THE BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES. L HE MADE GREAT GAINS IN TRAFFIC SAFETY L AND HE BROUGHT DOWN THE COST OF THE DEPARTMENT TO TAXPAYERS WHILE ACTUALLY INCREASING SERVICES. L HE WAS LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS STATE'S COMMITMENTS TO MASS TRANSIT AND AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT.

BUT WHILE HE WAS DOING ALL OF THIS, HE ALSO WAS TAKING CHARGE OF REPAIR WORK ON YOUR STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM -- 44,000 MILES OF IT -- LONGER THAN ALL THE NEW ENGLAND STATES, NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY COMBINED.

L IT WAS A TOUGH JOB BUT Jack KASSAB GOT IT DONE. AND

MORE THAN THAT. HE BECAME, AS GOVERNOR SHAPP HAS SAID, THE BEST
TRANSPORTATION SECRETARY THE STATE EVER HAD.!!

L HE WILL BE REMEMBERED FOR A LONG TIME AFTER HE LEAVES THE
DEPARTMENT AT THE END OF THIS YEAR TO RETURN TO HIS BUSINESS
VENTURES IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE STATE. HE WILL BE REMEMBERED
AS A MAN WHO, WHEN HE WORKED FOR THE GOVERNMENT, MADE THE
GOVERNMENT WORK FOR THE PEOPLE.

(X) L AND THAT IS SOMETHING WE DESPERATELY NEED TO DO. WE NEED
TO GET GOVERNMENT, AT EVERY LEVEL, STAFFED WITH PUBLIC SERVANTS
WHO LIVE UP TO THEIR NAME -- WHO ACTUALLY SERVE THE PUBLIC.!

L I GET AROUND THE COUNTRY A LOT, AND I TALK TO THE PEOPLE!
AND WHAT I HEAR IS NOT always good!

L I HEAR PEOPLE SAY THEY DON'T TRUST THEIR GOVERNMENT.

THEY FEEL THAT GOVERNMENT NO LONGER IS THEIR SERVANT, BUT THAT

IT IS BECOMING THEIR MASTER. THEY FEEL THAT WHEN THEY TALK,

THE GOVERNMENT ISN'T LISTENING.

and IF WE LET THIS TREND CONTINUE, IF WE LET THE AMERICAN

PEOPLE ~~COMPLETELY~~ LOSE FAITH IN THEIR GOVERNMENT, WE WILL HAVE

PERMITTED A TERRIBLE BETRAYAL OF OUR MOST FUNDAMENTAL GOALS.

WE WILL HAVE BETRAYED OUR DEEPEST COMMITMENT TO A GOVERNMENT

WHICH IS NOT JUST "OF" AND "BY," BUT REALLY "FOR" THE PEOPLE!

AND WORSE, WE WILL HAVE DAMAGED OUR SOCIAL ORDER BECAUSE

WHEN PEOPLE LOSE THEIR FAITH IN GOVERNMENT, THEY LOSE THEIR

RESPECT FOR THE LAW. NO CLEARER MESSAGE IS WRITTEN IN THE ANNALS

OF HISTORY.

SO WE HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO RESTORE THAT FAITH, ESPECIALLY

AMONG OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.

↳ THEY HAVE LIVED THEIR MOST FORMATIVE YEARS DURING A TIME OF
SERIOUS MISCONDUCT AND ABUSE OF POWER AT THE VERY HIGHEST LEVELS
OF GOVERNMENT. (~~Washington~~, CIA, FBI)

↳ THEY HAVE SEEN THE JOB MARKET DISAPPEAR AND THE HOPELESSNESS
AND DESPAIR THAT FOLLOWED. (youth unemployment)

↳ THEY HAVE SEEN GREAT CITIES THREATENED WITH RUIN. (N.Y.C.
& others)

↳ AND THEY HAVE SEEN A RISING INCIDENCE OF CRIME AS OUR POLICE
AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS FACE MAJOR OBSTACLES IN FULFILLING
THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES. (Recent FBI Reports)

↳ IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE THAT THEY ^{others} ARE LOSING THEIR FAITH --
UNDERSTANDABLE, BUT NOT ACCEPTABLE. ↳ WE MUST GIVE THE AMERICAN

PEOPLE THE GOVERNMENT THEY DESERVE -- A SYSTEM THAT IS HUMANE,
COMPASSIONATE AND RESPONSIVE TO THEIR NEEDS. ↳ A GOVERNMENT THAT
TALKS TO THE PEOPLE AND LISTENS TO THE PEOPLE.

L THOMAS JEFFERSON ONCE SAID, AND ALL AMERICANS BELIEVE, THAT OUR
GOVERNMENT DERIVES ITS JUST POWERS FROM THE CONSENT OF THE GOVERNED.

L THAT IS NOT JUST SOME FANCY PHRASE -- IT IS A PROFOUND AND ABIDING
PRINCIPLE OF OUR NATIONAL LIFE. THE PEOPLE MUST CONSENT *if they*
are to obey

L AND IF THEY DO NOT, IF THEIR CONSENT IS THREATENED BY APATHY,
CYNICISM OR MISTRUST, THEN OUR WAY OF LIFE IS SHAKEN TO ITS VERY
FOUNDATIONS. *This the danger today!*

L BUT WE CAN NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN. ~~AND WE WILL NOT ALLOW~~
~~IT.~~ WORKING TOGETHER, WE CAN GIVE OUR PEOPLE THE LEADERSHIP THAT
WILL BRING BACK THEIR TRUST.

L WE CAN RESTORE THE FAITH WE HAVE LOST. L WE CAN KEEP ALIVE
THE SPIRIT OF DEMOCRACY WHICH HAS GUIDED US THROUGH OUR FIRST TWO
HUNDRED YEARS, AND WILL GUIDE US, UNDIMINISHED, THROUGH COUNTLESS
YEARS TO COME. *(Pioneering, Optimism, accommodation.)*

LET ME READ YOU SOMETHING, IT IS CALLED THE "AMERICAN'S CREED."

IT WAS WRITTEN IN 1916 BY WILLIAM TYLER PAGE, BUT IT COULD HAVE
BEEN WRITTEN ANY YEAR SINCE THE REVOLUTION, BECAUSE IT ELOQUENTLY
SUMS UP THE TIMELESS PRINCIPLES WHICH LIE AT THE VERY HEART OF THIS
COUNTRY.

I BELIEVE IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AS A GOVERNMENT
OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE, WHOSE JUST
POWERS ARE DERIVED FROM THE CONSENT OF THE GOVERNED, A
DEMOCRACY IN A REPUBLIC, A SOVEREIGN NATION OF MANY
SOVEREIGN STATES, A PERFECT UNION, ONE AND INSEPARABLE,
ESTABLISHED UPON THOSE PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM, EQUALITY, JUSTICE,
AND HUMANITY FOR WHICH AMERICAN PATRIOTS SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES
AND FORTUNES.

L "I THEREFORE BELIEVE IT IS MY DUTY TO MY COUNTRY TO LOVE IT,
TO SUPPORT THE CONSTITUTION, TO OBEY ITS LAWS, TO RESPECT
ITS FLAG, AND TO DEFEND IT AGAINST ALL ENEMIES,"

L THAT IS THE FAITH THAT WE MUST RESTORE. L AND THIS MEANS NOT
JUST LEADERSHIP, BUT GENUINE PUBLIC SERVANTS -- MEN AND WOMEN WHOSE
FIRST AND ONLY INTEREST IS IN "FREEDOM, EQUALITY, JUSTICE AND
HUMANITY," WHOSE CONCERN IS WITH THE PUBLIC GOOD, AND NOT WITH
THEIR OWN VESTED INTERESTS.

NO ONE WHO LIVES IN A DEMOCRACY LIKES TO THINK OF HIMSELF
AS A SERVANT. THE WORD HAS AN ANTIQUE, OUTDATED, UNPLEASANT
SOUND THAT GRATES ON OUR EARS.

BUT THERE IS NOTHING SERVILE ABOUT WORKING FOR SOCIAL
JUSTICE, ABOUT WORKING FOR THE DAY-TO-DAY WELL-BEING OF THE
AMERICAN PEOPLE, AND THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CONSTITUTION about.

When we can do that, when we can convince our citizens that
the government is their government, then we can bring back the
trust which will carry us proudly into our third century.

Men and women are contributing every day to that trust, and
many of them, like Jacob Kassab, are Pennsylvanians who carry on
the great heritage of the state where the nation was born.

We do well to honor them publicly. As Bill Burns, the noted
radio commentator from Pittsburgh, said in an editorial he wrote
about Jacob Kassab, "There could even be an example here for
our young people. You can be successful doing it the hard way."

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