

Do Not Distribute

REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

CONGRESSIONAL DINNER

Washington, D.C.

May 11, 1976

It is a pleasure to be here this evening with my Democratic colleagues from Congress and our friends.

It is a special privilege to be able to participate in paying tribute to our leader, Senator Mike Mansfield. For 15 crucial years in the history of our nation Mike Mansfield has used his unique abilities to help elevate the moral tone of American public policy and establish a record of solid performance by a Democratic majority Congress on behalf of the American people. We who have worked with Mike Mansfield every day know the compassionate, intelligent and progressive leadership that he has so ably provided.

Mike Mansfield has set a standard of Congressional leadership toward which those who will lead our Party in Congress in years to come will strive. He has earned the respect and gratitude of all Americans, but particularly of those fortunate enough to call him our friend and our leader.

Tonight I've been asked to respond to the question, "Why do we need a Democratic victory?"

At the outset, let me confess that this has been the easiest speech of my life. Never before in this century have we had better, more compelling, more obvious answers to this question. But on the chance that someone in America needs to be reminded of the particulars, let me restate the people's indictment of Republican government.

Seven sad years of the Nixon-Ford team have been more than enough.

-- The Nixon-Ford team has devastated the American economy with its 19th century economic ideology.

-- The Nixon-Ford team has undermined confidence in government, bringing it to its lowest point in decades. And I'm not just talking about forced resignations of a President and Vice President. More to the point, I'm talking about the widespread belief among our people that this government isn't functioning, isn't responding to their concerns, isn't doing anything until it is hit by one crisis or another.

-- The only creativity we have seen from the White House has been its ability to say no in 91 different ways.

It is time to take off the gloves and tell it like it is.

The party that has occupied the White House for the last seven years is a minority party -- and for good reason. It has clearly demonstrated that it is incapable of running the country in the interest of all its people. It has succeeded only in running it into the ground.

As we look back on the seven sad years of Republican control of the White House, it is time to demand an accounting. All we are getting is empty rhetoric -- another "cover-up" for disastrous Republican performance.

Let's take a quick look at what it has meant to have Republicans in charge.

From 1961 to 1969, when the Democratic Party was in the White House, we created 13 million new jobs. We reduced unemployment to 3.6 percent in 1968.

In the last three years, the Nixon-Ford team has been able to increase employment by a mere one million jobs. They managed to push the official unemployment rate to an 8.5 percent average in 1975 and the real unemployment rate remains today at a double-digit level.

Since 1972 the Republicans have provided exactly one job for every four new job seekers in our country.

Only one job for every four persons! What an indictment of "go slow" Republican economics.

In the Democratic 60's, with Presidents Kennedy and Johnson in the White House, the weekly take home pay of a working man or woman, after inflation, rose by 12.4 percent.

In the past three years alone that same man or woman has experienced a drop of 5.4 percent in the real value of their take-home pay. Republican economic mismanagement has, in fact, pushed the working families of America back 10 years to their 1965 income level.

In the 60's when Democrats were attempting to make important social and economic changes in our nation in order to improve life for all our citizens, the rate of inflation was a mere 2.3 percent.

In the last several years the Republicans have given us not only high unemployment but the highest levels of inflation since World War II. It takes more than WIN buttons and anti-government demagoguery to keep prices from going through the roof.

The income, production and employment loss to America as a result of Republican bungling of national economic management since 1969 is staggering;

-- Two Republican recessions have thrown 57 million Americans out of work and into the street at one time or another.

-- Two Republican recessions have robbed one trillion dollars from the paychecks of American workers.

-- Two Republican recessions have wiped out the entire income gain made by working families of America during the decade of the 60's.

Even more alarming is the fact that Republican "go slow" policies are convincing many of our citizens that a welfare check is as good as a paycheck. We have an entire generation of young men and women who never have held a full time job.

The policies of these modern day free market buccaneers have torn the fabric of our society in other ways, too.

The Republicans promised to get crime off the streets, but since 1969 the crime rate has risen 30 percent. The number of murders has leaped 50 percent. The number of robberies has risen 68 percent. The number of burglaries has soared 84 percent.

Your family has a one in six chance of being victimized by a burglary or theft this year. That's how Republicans deliver on their promises.

Today President Ford and his economic advisers travel around the country with their economic medicine show.

Once again, the Republicans are claiming an "economic miracle" in an election year. There is, indeed, a modest recovery underway but I see few signs that a true "people's recovery" has taken hold.

Let me just remind you of two facts. First, when you are flat on your back the only way to go is up.

Second, the American people should remember that it was a Democratic Congress that argued, prodded and cajoled the Republican President to take every reluctant step that has produced the economic improvement that we see.

Let's not forget that in December of 1974 Gerald Ford was calling for a tax increase, while the worst recession since the Great Depression took an ever firmer strangle hold on the American economy. And remember that at that time the only Administration response was the WIN button and a smile.

But we won't win this election by default.

Democrats will only win if they go to the country with a positive message and convince our citizens that we have a better idea and will do a better job.

We cannot do so as anti-government zealots or as prophets of doom and gloom.

The real issue underlying the anti-government issue is whether and how the interests of people best can be served. The answer is not necessarily less government, but better government -- a government that works to serve the nation's needs.

Democrats should run against Republicans. They should run against the Republicans that gave us Watergate, double-digit inflation, and depression-level unemployment. They should run against the Washington of Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford and William Simon. But not against the Washington of FDR and JFK and LBJ -- the Washington of Social Security and Medicare.

The issue of this election year is not Washington -- but the disastrous policies of the Nixon-Ford Administration -- vetoes, unemployment, recession, inflation, crime, corruption and the neglect of our nation's cities.

Let us get on with the work of running against the Republicans and their economic policies which have brought us to the brink of depression.

Only by this route will we regain the faith and confidence of the American people.

We will win because we care.

We will win because we dare to pioneer.

We will win because our people have learned the painful lesson of Republican government. They know that only a Democratic victory in November can wipe out the losses of the last seven years and restore their families to the high road of decency, opportunity and prosperity once again.

#

"Sen Mansfield" - Tip O'Neal
Speaker Albert
John McCormack
REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
CONGRESSIONAL DINNER

WASHINGTON, D. C.

MAY 11, 1976

Republicans
Have John Warner
& Ronald Reagan
we have
Hubert
& Bob

Selen Redder - Spirit
Energy
Don't use hangover

Rog Weyman, Wayne Hayes, (1)

ACCORDING TO BOB STRAUSS AND BENNETT JOHNSTON, OUR PARTY

NEEDED SOMEONE THIS EVENING WHO COULD DISCUSS ALL OF THE

MAJOR ISSUES, SUMMARIZE OUR PLATFORM, OUTLINE THE PRINCIPAL

ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WHICH WE FACE, AND ANALYZE OUR STRATEGY

FOR VICTORY IN 1976--ALL IN TEN MINUTES. NATURALLY, THEY

ASKED: "WHERE'S HUBERT?"

WELL, HERE I AM. READY TO BEAT THE CLOCK.

(But Don't
Bet on it)

So let's get started with some good news -
There will be a Democrat in the White House Jan 20, 1977

Good News - a Democrat in White House
- 2 - Jan, 1977. (2)

yes, IN JUST EIGHT MONTHS, A DEMOCRAT WILL STAND ON THE STEPS
OF THE CAPITOL TO ASSUME THE LEADERSHIP OF OUR NATION.!

ONCE AGAIN, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL HAVE A FRIEND IN THE
WHITE HOUSE AND MAJORITY GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE BEEN RESTORED.

THIS PREDICTION IS NOT JUST A HOPE OR A DREAM.

I KNOW THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

I HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THEIR JUDGMENT.

- 3 - (3)

I HAVE FAITH IN THEIR BASIC COMMON SENSE AND DECENCY.

and I KNOW THAT WHEN THE PEOPLE HAVE TO MAKE A CHOICE

BETWEEN THE POLITICS OF Democrats COMPASSION AND THE POLITICS OF Republican
INDIFFERENCE, THEY WILL MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE - A Democratic Victory

THIS YEAR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE FILLED WITH THE
BICENTENNIAL SPIRIT.

(4)

✓ ^{american} IN 1776, THE PEOPLE PROCLAIMED THEIR INDEPENDENCE AND
THREW OUT THE BRITISH TORIES.

✓ ^{The American people will} IN 1976, ~~WE~~ ¹ WILL ONCE AGAIN AFFIRM OUR INDEPENDENCE
AND KICK OUT THE REPUBLICAN TORIES.

That's the
Bicentennial spirit that
assures a good beginning for
the next 100 years. Let's get
the Party of Jefferson back in Power!

ⓧ ~~we have~~ In the last 24 years, we've
had ~~the~~ Republicans in the White House (5)
~~16 years - and that's not seven~~
SEVEN SAD YEARS OF THE NIXON-FORD ADMINISTRATION HAVE

Read CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED THAT REPUBLICANS ARE INCAPABLE OF RUNNING
THE COUNTRY IN THE INTEREST OF ALL THE PEOPLE.

✓ OUR DUTY AS PATRIOTIC AMERICANS AND AS DEMOCRATS IS TO
SEE TO IT THAT ~~A~~ ^{the} REPUBLICANS ARE REQUIRED TO RUN ON AND
NOT AWAY FROM THEIR RECORD.

✓ If there is a mess in Washington - it's ~~from~~ ^{plain} Mess.
If there are too many Regulations, they curtail them.

Recd
Now, if you were a Republican, wouldn't you
run against ~~the~~ Washington - but ~~Democrat~~
Kerry and has been there since 1949 (6)

WE ARE NOT GOING TO LET REPUBLICANS COVER-UP THE FACT THAT

57 MILLION AMERICANS WERE THROWN OUT OF WORK AND ONTO THE

STREETS BY TWO RECESSIONS AND HERBERT HOOVER ECONOMICS.

* WE ARE NOT GOING TO LET REPUBLICANS RUN AWAY FROM ^{defect that} AMERICA'S

WORKING FAMILIES WHO HAVE SEEN THEIR ENTIRE INCOME GAIN OF THE

1960s WIPED OUT BY THE POLICIES OF THE WALL STREET BOYS THAT

OCCUPY THE WHITE HOUSE CORRIDORS.

⊗ Farmer - Export Embargo

- 7 -

91

(7)

Vetoes
L REPUBLICANS CAN'T RUN AWAY FROM NINETY-ONE VETOES WHICH SAY

NO! NO! NO! TO THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

and L THE REPUBLICANS CANNOT RUN AWAY FROM THEIR PROMISE MADE IN

THE HEATED DAYS OF 1968 THAT THEY WOULD BRING LAW AND ORDER TO

THE REPUBLIC. ~~WE WILL NEVER LET THEM FORGET THIS PROMISE BECAUSE~~ *Instead*

Law and order
THEY BROUGHT LAWLESSNESS TO THE SACRED PRECINCTS OF THE NATION'S

HIGHEST OFFICE AND ~~PERMITTED~~ *corruption* CRIME IN THE STREETS ~~at unprecedented~~

UNPRECEDENTED LEVELS!

~~They didn't ask~~
~~Remember~~

- 8 -

(8)

AND THE REPUBLICANS CANNOT HIDE THE FACT THAT THEY HAVE OCCUPIED THE WHITE HOUSE FOR 16 OUT OF THE LAST 24 YEARS.

~~If there is a messier wastage, it's their mess~~

THE ELECTION OF 1976 WILL MARK ONE OF THOSE HISTORIC

MOMENTS IN THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN POLITICS WHEN THE PEOPLE ~~will~~

DEMAND AN ACCOUNTING AND SAY, "ENOUGH."

ENOUGH OF THOSE WHO CLAIM ~~ECONOMIC MIRACLES~~ AFTER BRINGING

US TO THE PRECIPICE OF ECONOMIC RUIN.

~~the longest + worst recession since the Great Depression~~
Enough of Inflation - Enough of the Interest Rates -

- 9 -

ENOUGH OF THOSE WHO ~~proclaim~~ ~~EXPLORE~~ THE WORK ETHIC AND EXPAND

THE WELFARE ROLLS.

ENOUGH OF THOSE WHO ~~denounce~~ ~~REPRODUCE~~ DEFICITS AND THEN CAUSE ~~deficits~~

TO GROW EVEN LARGER.

ENOUGH OF THOSE WHO WORSHIP AT THE SHRINE OF FREE ENTERPRISE AND LET MONOPOLIES FLOURISH.

I SAY ENOUGH OF REPUBLICANS.

~~no more than enough. It's time to clean house - throw the rascals out!~~

We had

ENOUGH OF THOSE WHO WANT TO COVER-UP A RECORD OF DOUBT,
DEFEAT AND DESPAIR. *That's not good enough for America*

WE ARE A PARTY UNITED IN PURPOSE, STRIVING TOWARDS THE
DEFEAT OF THOSE WHO DENY AMERICA ITS ~~VERY GREATNESS~~ *opportunity for greatness.*

BUT THE PEOPLE HAVE A RIGHT TO ASK: WHAT DO WE STAND FOR?

What we're for
~~WHAT DO WE BELIEVE IN AS A PARTY?~~

WHAT DO WE WANT FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE?

well let me give you some idea -

IF WE BELIEVE IN WORK AND A PRODUCTIVE AMERICA, *then our*
GOVERNMENT MUST BE COMMITTED TO FULL EMPLOYMENT THAT ASSURES
DECENT JOBS AT DECENT WAGES

IF WE BELIEVE IN THE RIGHT OF EVERY AMERICAN TO A FULL
LIFE, THEN WE NEED A NATIONAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM THAT PROVIDES
QUALITY HEALTH CARE TO ALL.

Believe in our family farms - Nat Food Policy
- 12 -

IF WE BELIEVE IN OUR CITIES, WE MUST HAVE A HOUSING
PROGRAM THAT REPLACES SLUMS WITH DECENT HOMES AND WE MUST
MAKE HOME OWNERSHIP A REALITY FOR WORKING PEOPLE ONCE AGAIN.

IF WE BELIEVE IN ENDING RACISM AND PREJUDICE, THEN WE MUST
SEE THAT EQUAL OPPORTUNITY REACHES INTO EVERY ASPECT OF
AMERICAN LIFE.

*if we believe in our young people, then
let us champion the cause of education
if we honor respect our minor citizens,*

*then let us assure them of ~~that~~ generas
and decent care -*

AND IF WE BELIEVE IN LEADERSHIP, WE MUST OFFER THE ^{nation} ~~people~~
MEN AND WOMEN WHO BELIEVE THAT ~~our~~ GOVERNMENT GUIDED BY A
SENSE OF VISION AND FAIRNESS IS WORTHY OF OUR NATION.

THESE ARE SOME OF OUR GOALS,

OUR HOPES FOR VICTORY IN NOVEMBER CAN BE REALIZED IF WE
WORK TOGETHER IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

UNITY WILL BRING US MORE THAN VICTORY.

*Be Painters
Democrat*

h IT WILL BRING US OPPORTUNITY, OPPORTUNITY TO GOVERN A
NATION WITH COMPASSION AND JUSTICE, OPPORTUNITY TO GET THIS
NATION MOVING ONCE AGAIN IN THE SPIRIT OF ROOSEVELT, TRUMAN,
KENNEDY AND JOHNSON. - opportunity for America
our men to be ^{*}Confident and ~~Strong~~
happy - This is our promise
to the American People!



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