



STEVENSON-KEFAUVER CAMPAIGN

General Headquarters: Dyckman Hotel

27 South Sixth Street, Minneapolis 2

Federal 8-8796

77

For Release: Wednesday p.m.
October 24, 1956

SENATOR HUMPHREY DEPLORES GOP MAKING PEACE PARTISAN CAMPAIGN ISSUE

If Republicans persist in making "peace" a partisan campaign issue, they will "face public exposure of four years of confusion in our foreign policy which has frightened our friends abroad and worried all objective observers at home," Senator Hubert H. Humphrey declared at a luncheon address in Montevideo today.

"Apparently, the Republicans insist on making 'peace' a partisan issue in this campaign," Senator Humphrey said. "I regret this development as an American, because it is sheer hypocrisy.

"They prove it by their own words. Perhaps it would be well to remind the public--and the GOP--of Secretary Dulles' statement last November 29, when he said: 'I never knew that peace was a controversial or partisan subject with the American people.

"Moreover, we have every right to be astonished that Republican campaigners are making such extravagant pretensions now in view of other statements by Mr. Dulles like those of last April 30, when he said:

"'In Korea there is an armistice, but there is no peace...
In Vietnam there is an armistice, but there is no peace.'

"Of course this conflict between slogans and facts has beset the Eisenhower Administration ever since it took office. It partially explains four years of confusion in our foreign policy which have taken such a toll in our relations abroad.

"Since 1952 we have experienced a repeated lack of candor in presenting the realities of the international situation. Often our official words have not squared with the facts. Equally often they have not squared with our deeds.

"Unable to resist its proclivity for publicity gimmicks, the Administration has extended these devices from the political hustings into the previously bi-partisan area of foreign affairs.

"Examples range from the fraudulent 'unleashing' of Chiang Kai-Shek in President Eisenhower's first State of the Union message; to the bluff and bluster of the misconceived 'massive retaliation' doctrine so hastily abandoned on its first test in Indo-China; to the notorious newsstand diplomacy and self-serving inaccuracies of Secretary Dulles' 'brink of war' disclosures in LIFE magazine; to the fallacious assertions before Congressional committees that the Soviet economy is on the verge of collapse and that the Soviet 'new look' is a confession of weakness; all the way to the recent merry-go-round of Administration views on 'neutralism' with Mr. Eisenhower defending it, Mr. Nixon taking both sides, and Mr. Dulles castigating neutralism as 'immoral' -- but finding himself unable to identify any present-day neutrals of the immoral kind.

"In domestic affairs this Administration has systematically sacrificed leadership for popularity, and achieved some success in doing so. In foreign affairs, the effort to do the same thing has resulted in a loss of both leadership and popularity. We should not forget this even during a campaign season when all the reasons for Mr. Dulles' 'agonizing reappraisals' are forgotten in the election-year chorus of 'peace and prosperity'," Senator Humphrey declared.

From: Stevenson Kefauver Campaign
204 Dyckman Hotel
Minneapolis 2, Minnesota

For Release: Thursday A.M.
October 25

GOP "PEACE AND PROSPERITY" ONLY FANTASY, SENATOR HUMPHREY SAYS

An administration "so lacking in vision and leadership that it can not find a way to wisely use our abundance for the benefit of humanity" can hardly be trusted to find a sound way out of a thermonuclear arms race "frightening even our scientists and medical experts with its threat of civilization's destruction", Senator Hubert H. Humphrey declared last night in a campaign address at Alexandria.

Senator Humphrey called for a "revival of America's role as a symbol of liberty and freedom in the world" by electing a Democratic administration "concerned about the well-being of people everywhere, instead of just about material values".

"A few days back, Vice President Nixon came here to talk about the GOP's favorite campaign slogans of 'peace' and 'prosperity'. "Senator Humphrey said.

"The fact that Republican spokesmen repeat these phrases so often suggests that they themselves may need reassurance. The fact that we have to put both terms in quotation marks when we write them suggests that few non-Republicans really believe that 'peace' today is soundly based or that 'prosperity' is widely shared.

"Farmers who heard Nixon talk --if any did-- know what a hollow ring his claim of 'prosperity' had, when they sold chickens in Alexandria that day for 8 cents a pound. What they should also know is that his talk of 'peace' was just as unfounded and insincere".

"Nixon did not tell you that there is as little peace in the middle east as there is prosperity on Douglas County farms. Nixon did not tell you that our Republican foreign policy has been just as much bumbling improvisation and hesitant vacillation as our Republican farm policy has been. He told only what he wanted you to hear --- and hoped you would believe; not what you had a right to hear, for your own protection and security.

"Nixon talked about peace and prosperity -- but he did not even mention Benson and he did not even mention Dulles. He could not risk mentioning the man who has undermined farm prosperity, or the man still threatening to undermine peace in the world".

"He talked only of General Ike, on whose coat tails he hopes to ride into control of the Republican party, and most likely slip into the White House by the back door if the people let themselves be fooled by GOP propaganda during this campaign.

"Nixon talked about mobilizing moral and spiritual leadership -- then assailed Adlai Stevenson for answering the call of the world's spiritual leaders for someone to assert leadership toward finding a way to end civilization's mad race toward nuclear destruction".

"Can you risk your future, your children's future, in the hands of leaders who would mislead you with such double-talk?"

"Can you risk a promise of peace no more secure than the claim of prosperity your own pocketbook shows to be false?"

"Can you rely on the integrity of a man who publicly here praises your Republican Congressman as a 'farm expert', after having vigorously opposed in Washington the Democratic farm policies your GOP congressman belatedly agrees are right?", senator Humphrey asked.



Minnesota Historical Society

Copyright in this digital version belongs to the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, link to, or email content, however, for individual use.

To request permission for commercial or educational use, please contact the Minnesota Historical Society.



www.mnhs.org