

From the Office of
Senator Hubert H. Humphrey
Dyckman Hotel
Minneapolis, Minnesota

COPY

For Release
Tuesday a.m.'s, Nov. 12

"DON'T NEGLECT ADVANTAGES WE HOLD OVER SOVIET," SENATOR HUMPHREY WARNS

While the United States has failed to keep pace with Soviet Russia in conquest of space, "we've far exceeded them in conquest of man's ancient enemies of hunger, disease, and poverty", Senator Hubert H. Humphrey declared last night in an address before a joint Jackson-Cottonwood County DFL Jefferson-Jackson Dinner at Windom, Minnesota.

"As necessary as it is for all of us to be concerned ^{over Soviet advances} by our failures on the scientific front, we shouldn't let it cause us to lose sight of the advantages we still hold in the struggle for freedom's survival," Senator Humphrey declared. "And we can't let it result in neglect of the areas where we top them.

"Russia may have its Sputniks--but we have one thing for sure that they desperately lack--an abundance of food.

"In many parts of the world today, availability of food to combat hunger and human suffering means more to millions of people than any mysterious satellites soaring in outer space."

Senator Humphrey warned that ^{Khrushchev} ~~Kruschev~~ was "thoroughly aware" of the Soviet deficiency on food supply, and was embarking on a concerted effort to try and outproduce us "because he realizes the importance such abundance can play in the cold war struggle".

"One of the glaring weaknesses of the present Administration has been its complete failure to grasp the full significance, the full potential, of the advantage we hold on the world scene through our abundance of food and fiber.

"From the President on down, no one seems to realize what a force for freedom we have in the very thing some complain about--our food abundance.

COPY

Page 2

"Every move to make greater use of food to bolster our ties with underdeveloped areas of the world practically has to be forced upon this Administration. They are too timid, and too unimaginative. They are hesitant when they should be bold. They cannot seem to look over the horizon into the future.

"They do not seem to understand that food can be more powerful than weapons in winning this ideological struggle. It's time for someone to jar them into action.

"Just as some have belittled the contribution of basic research and failed to recognize the importance of science in building our military defenses, too many in high places have also failed to grasp the potential uses we could make of our great food abundance and have treated it, instead, as a hopeless problem.

"If we lack the wisdom and the leadership to make wiser use of our food abundance for all humanity, we are certainly sadly lacking in the wisdom and leadership that will be necessary to compete with the Soviets in sending Sputniks into space," Senator Humphrey declared.



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