

From the Office of
Senator Hubert H. Humphrey
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GREATER EMPHASIS NEEDED ON 'WORKS OF PEACE', SENATOR HUMPHREY SAYS

The world of tomorrow will be shaped in large measure "by what we do-- or fail to do-- now to give the underdeveloped countries assurance that we want to help them achieve social and economic progress with human dignity", Senator Hubert H. Humphrey (DFL, Minn.) told the 57th annual convention of the National Association of Supervisors of State Banks at the Leamington Hotel today.

"We have permitted military policy to dominate or even to substitute for foreign policy," Senator Humphrey warned. "Instead, we need more constructive 'Works of Peace'.

"If we are going to prevent a global Armageddon, if we are going to prevent a Communist-run world, if we are going to succeed in making ours a freer world, a happier world, a better world, a more peaceful world, then we need to be thinking about a different kind of 'guided missiles'", he declared.

"Just what are these 'missiles of peace'?

"They are both ancient and modern devices, which have been used in part for centuries--the weapons against mankind's real enemies. They are the weapons' used by Moses and the Prophets - by the Teacher of Gallilee and His Disciples to 'clothe the naked, feed the hungry, heal the sick' -- and, I might add in this modern world, to 'teach the illiterate'. They are the 'weapons' of great ideas, the weapons of love and devotion and self-sacrifice which can span vast space and time. They are 'weapons' which must be aimed, primarily, to the third of the world which is under-developed -- but not limited to that area. They are the weapons against pain and suffering, against ignorance, superstition, idolatry and illiteracy, against hunger and malnutrition, against disease and disability."

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Senator Humphrey outlined a four-point "works of Peace" program embracing "Food for Peace", "Health for Peace", "Loans for Peace", and "Disarmament for Peace".

"Let us fire our peaceful 'weapons' from the only kind of 'launching pads' we really desire-- the peaceful launching pads of our farms and our factories, our schools, our laboratories, our industries, our colleges and our universities.

"The moon is 230,000 miles away, and we'd like to reach it with a missile. But I believe it's even more important that we reach the hearts of the people in Latin America, in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and in Europe itself. To do it, we must overcome misunderstanding, fear, envy and want.

"Suffering and privation are vast. The average life expectancy in South Asia is still only 33 years. Infant mortality is 50% and higher in much of the under-developed world. Per capita income is only \$50 per year in many areas. To help relieve this enormous need is the challenge we face.

"We Americans have the wherewithal to fulfill mankind's needs. We have the spirit and desire to help. We are the ones to lead-- and to act. But to move into such a constructive role of peaceful leadership for a better world will require the voice of the American people making itself felt. We need new, aggressive leadership geared to today's problems. We need a mandate for action. We need men of vision and men of courage in public life to take the lead. We need them in our churches, in our schools-- and in business and industry and commerce too.

"For it isn't just a gigantic give-away or public charity program we need;

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it's an awareness of the need for mobilizing all our resources, public and private, toward meeting the challenge of aspirations for something better among people all over the world.

"There's a tremendous role for American industry and business to occupy in meeting this challenge, for much of it is an economic challenge.

"It is the Soviet economic challenge that requires greater attention and concern if we are to understand and try to win a peaceful competition, which even now may be of more significance than the arms race.

"We have a profound interest in keeping underdeveloped countries from falling under the control of the Sino-Soviet bloc. We also want to insure that frustration and misery in those areas are not ignored to the point where they might explode in violence which could provoke general war.

"But after recognizing these self-serving motives, we must awake to the realization that our obligation goes yet deeper. Above all, we have a moral obligation to help -- not to compel -- our underprivileged fellow men to fulfill their aspirations for political and economic self-determination.

"Unless we concentrate on expressing the American ideals of individual freedom and worth, we will risk forfeiting our moral and physical influence by tying strings to our aid and demanding short-term recompense.

"We should not be concentrating national and world attention on our development of new and more frightful weapons of destruction. Rather, we should be laboring mightily and vigorously in the peaceful fields of international economic development, cultural exchange, and education, while working very quietly but strenuously to stay abreast of the U.S.S.R. in military preparedness.

"We need a shield of military strength, but it resolves nothing. It merely buys us time. From behind that shield we must reach out with our 'Works of Peace' to show the real America to the rest of the world. But to accomplish this great and urgent task will require the reversal of many of our present habits and practices which contradict the very things we really stand for," Senator Humphrey warned.



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