

Prepared for Delivery by
Hon Hubert H Humphrey (D.Minn.)
Before March of Dimes Kick-off Rally
St Paul, Minn, Thurs Night, Dec 18, 1958

1 Mayor Dillon - Mayor Ryan
State Ch. Cottland Silver
Billings

Cong. Blatnick

BOLD 'MARSHALL PLAN FOR MEDICINE' PROPOSED BY
SENATOR HUMPHREY TO 'IMMUNIZE WORLD FROM WAR'

↳ Tonight, you start on another great adventure. You are entering into
a new frontier of service to America, as you launch your 1959 March of
Dimes Campaign.

↳ Your frontier is the largely uncharted domain which the National
Foundation has boldly and wisely announced as its great new targets: --

- An all-out drive against
- Arthritis and rheumatism
- Congenital birth defects
- Disorders of the central nervous system

And all ^{of} this, ~~of course~~, is in addition to your continuing effort in

expanding
~~expanding~~ polio research and rehabilitation.

↳ I am here tonight to wish you well in this inspiring undertaking.

Report to you

~~legislator~~ I would like you to know that this legislator --
member
and I believe -- ALL the legislators of the Congress of ~~the United States~~
are with you - heart and soul.

Your success will be America's and the world's ~~success~~. For you will be eliminating or easing an incalculable amount of pain and suffering inherent in these mysterious diseases wherever and whomever they strike.

THE WORLD'S NEED -- VOLUNTARISM

It is not just America, but the world which tonight is watching your efforts with good will and good wishes.

The world needs your example. For yours is by far the greatest single model of voluntary pioneering against disease to be seen anywhere

(X) American private medicine, our pharmaceutical labs, our great colleges, universities, our many foundations represent the true spirit of American democracy and freedom. And I say this, based on my findings in the recent tour of 10 countries

which I made on behalf of better world health: --

The human race desperately needs enlarged voluntary action against disease. It needs private initiative in strengthening teamwork between the medical arts and the layman. It needs enthusiastic voluntarism -- the very concept, the creed, the driving force -- which the National Foundation symbolizes ~~and which is the~~ ~~single idea~~ -- contributions to mankind.

To be sure, there is a role for greater governmental effort, in research

hospitalization, public health services and rehabilitation. ~~I will~~
~~discuss and outline during these remarks, an expanded Federal program~~
~~which I, for one, feel our government should undertake.~~

But more important even than what government - local, State, and
Federal - can do and should do - is what private citizens can ~~do~~ and must
do.

BASIL O'CONNOR -- A SYMBOL OF SERVICE

And if anyone anywhere seeks an example as to what a single enlightened
individual - a layman - can do, he need look no further than your great
National President, Basil O'Connor. He is the living symbol of what a

tireless, dedicated, and inspired lay leader can accomplish. ~~He is~~
Cortland Silver leader works in the same
~~just before I started out on my recent trip, I was present when he~~
Spirit
~~received a coveted Easter Award for his years of achievement.~~

*State
Volunteer
Chairman
of the March
of Dimes*

yes
But all around us tonight, I see other individuals who represent

to Minnesota what Basil O'Connor represents on the National Scene. ~~I refer~~
personal dedication, sacrifice, and unselfish
~~to the qualities of unhesitating devotion, or sacrificing countless weeks~~

I mean

Civic Service
and months out of busy lives, out of active labor, business and professional
careers. *and* Why? In order to lift the yoke of suffering from youngsters and

adults. In order to fulfill the creed which is basic to every church, every

temple, every synagogue ~~represented in this audience tonight~~ - the creed of giving of oneself in order that others "might have life and have it more abundantly."

That is why 70 million generous Americans will contribute to the March of Dimes. It is why one million women will take part in the Mothers' March. It is why over 2 million volunteers will work for the March of Dimes during campaign season. It is why 80,000 dedicated Americans serve National Foundation Chapters on a year-round basis.

~~This is selflessness, and it is common sense. It is enlightened self-interest, for in helping others, we help ourselves and our own loved ones.~~

But The National Foundation's greatest deeds are still ahead.

Your past and present leadership in the conquest of polio represents one of the most stirring chapters in the history of science.

Now, your superb organization, with its tried and tested efficiency and precision - is engaged in an infinitely broader task.

I know you are going to succeed.

WHAT DIMES AND DOLLARS ACHIEVE

we in Minnesota
Every dime, every dollar that ~~you~~ collect ~~at~~ advances by just that much the ultimate day when --

-- Mothers and fathers will be spared the heartbreak of new-born

infants with congenital defects, like ~~"open spine" and "open skull"~~
~~or excessive fluid in the cavities of the brain.~~

when 11 million Americans with arthritis and rheumatism will feel their
 stiff joints, their deformed bones, their aching bodies relieved

of pain.

when Man's smallest enemy - the virus ^{will} ~~succumb~~, just as bacteria have
 fallen, before man's scientific genius.

THE BROADER USE OF SCIENCE

But scientific genius can do even more for America than conquering
 disease. Science, especially medical science, can provide a link which
~~is desperately needed~~
~~is needed today~~ in the world today.

~~I refer to~~ new bonds of understanding between the two
 strongest powers on earth - the two leading protagonists in the Nuclear
 Age - the United States and the ~~Union of Soviet Socialist Republics~~
Soviet Union

These two mighty powers are today divided by a wide gulf of suspicion
 and fear. Across this gulf has been hurled endless insult and vituperation.
 Meanwhile, each fearfully continues to build up ~~guided missiles~~ ^{arms} -- nuclear
capacity not only capable of devastating each other, but capable of

unintentionally pulverizing most of the world into radioactive rubble.

yes - L The ghastly spectre of thermonuclear war hangs heavy over mankind.

And so, every possible action which we can take to eliminate that spectre must be taken.

L Obviously it makes little sense for doctors and laymen to be trying to save thousands of lives from disease and disability, if we do not do

murders, druggists,

everything within the capacity of man to save literally hundreds of millions of lives, such as might be lost if ever ~~the US and USSR were to exchange~~

thermonuclear war

~~thermonuclear punches.~~
were to happen,

L Here is where medical science can fulfill its larger role.

~~of~~ Medicine is a universal profession with a universal creed and a universal appeal.

L Medicine can unite people whom political idealology divides.

L Medicine can bridge the gulf between East and ~~between~~ West, and the people of every race, creed, and nationality.

~~committed and uncommitted.~~

L That is one of the reasons why I went to Europe, not only in my capacity as a Member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, but as

Chairman of a Senate Government Operations Subcommittee,

undertaking an

international health study.

It is why I ~~published~~ ^{published}, prior to my trip, a 117 page ~~Committee Report~~ ^{document}

entitled "International Medical Research." For it documents the indebtedness

of every American to scientists of every nationality in the conquest of

countless scourges. I refer to unforgettable men like Pasteur, Koch,

~~Curie, Semmelweis, Bunting, Jenner, Noguchi, Metchnikoff, Frenchmen, Scandinavians,~~

~~German, Pole, Austrian, Canadian, Englishman, Japanese, Russian -- and~~

~~countless others~~ whose love of their own country and dedication to science

and healing, was paralleled by their devotion to mankind.

I refer to the great Americans, native born or immigrant, ~~such as~~

~~the Mayes, Waxman, Walter Reed, Ross, Goldberger, and men whom you~~

~~particularly know, the three pioneers -- Evans, Robbins, and Weller --~~

who showed how to cultivate poliomyelitis virus in monkey tissues and

flasks; as well as the renowned Jonas Salk.

THE GREATEST VACCINE

But now ^{let me} speak of what this type of man can do in creating the

most important vaccine of the 20th Century - a vaccine to immunize the

yes, men and women

yes, Americans

yes, Americans

(V)

the world - yes,

US and USSR against the "viruses" that could lead to war. I mean the deadly micro-organisms of distrust and fear which can paralyze the intellect and lead to a thermonuclear holocaust.

Dr Charles Mayo - others -
Jonas Salk can help develop such a "vaccine," and so can ~~his~~ ^{their} fellow

scientists here and in the Soviet Union. They can do so and I pray, they will do so - ~~not merely~~ ^{not merely} by talking foreign policy - but rather by deeds of science, by works of peace.

Already, American and Soviet virologists have been working side by side against man's common enemy. They and Polish, Czech, and other ^{so called} Soviet Bloc scientists are working in the World Health Organization, and in the International Union Against Cancer, in Cardio-vascular efforts and in innumerable other medical fields, like your own.

①

So, inch by inch, the "big freeze" of the cold war is starting to thaw. But you who made possible the extension of the Warm Springs Foundation, know that the fight against viruses is a long hard one, that it takes infinite patience and resourcefulness and dedication.

②

That is what I appeal for tonight. I appeal for unremitting mobilization of the peaceful resources of humanity to find ~~and~~ utilize and perfect a "vaccine" of peace.

There will be no "one shot" cure. It will take lots of "booster shots."

But each "innoculation" against distrust and fear is 100% safe. We have nothing to fear from medical scientists cooperating to conquer disease and thereby innoculating the body politic with friendship and mutual respect.

So far, we have not even begun to realize the larger potentialities of this effort.

That is why I ~~discussed~~ ^{discussed} for the first two hours of my 8-1/2 hours meeting with the ~~Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Nikita S. Khrushchev,~~ ^{Soviet Premier} medical cooperation exclusively. It is why I discussed

this general subject - personally in detail and in a subsequent memorandum - with ^{U.S.} President Dwight D Eisenhower, immediately upon my return.

And it is why, I am particularly gratified to report, ^{that} both Heads of State responded, not only warmly, but enthusiastically to specific Health for Peace proposals which I submitted. *my mission to carry out Pres. Eisenhower's state of union message*

SIX PROPOSALS TO KREMLIN

What are these proposals, ^{"Health for Peace"} as outlined first to ~~Premier Khrushchev,~~ ^{Khrushchev, De Zhdanov} as well as to the ~~Deputy Minister of Health, Dr. V. M. Edanov?~~ ^{etc}

They are six in number:

① - Further implementation and broadening of the very fruitful
 medical exchange provisions under the ^{so called} Lacy-Zarubin Agreement -- between
 1 ←
 USA and USSR.

② - Additional progress in increasing the two way flow of medical
 data, including fuller and prompter exchange of publications and abstracts.

③ - ^{an increase in the} ~~A much wider increase in a phase which is indispensable~~ --
 personal contacts between medical scientists in the two blocs -- through
freer correspondence and ^{more} visits.

④ - "Full speed ahead" on plans for an International Health and
 Medical Research Year, possibly in 1961.

⑤ - Joint Soviet-US collaboration, ^{and with others} commencing as soon as possible,
 in one particular new project of universal interest -- a campaign for
 intensified peri-natal research, so as to facilitate healthier babies for
 mankind.

⑥ - Expanded physical rehabilitation efforts, at home and abroad.

⑦ - You of the National Foundation are especially interested in both the
 latter two points.

Study / You realize that birth defects constitute the most important unmet

medical problem of childhood today. An estimated 250,000 infants are born each year with some significant defect.

What heartbreak, what socio-economic loss - that stark statistic represents.

~~Some of you may recall the famous observation that men's first nine months of life within his mother's womb are undoubtedly the most important nine months of his entire life.~~ Scientists now believe that what is termed

the peri-natal period, commencing the 20th week of pregnancy and extending through the first month after birth, represents a field for study and

medical action ^{the} ~~whose~~ ^{of which} results are almost incalculable in terms of health

of the human family.

Let me give you an example.

Every 6 seconds a baby is born in the USSR. Every 7-1/2 seconds, a baby is born in the US. These babies are the future of our two countries.

Surely US-Soviet differences must not be allowed to diminish by one iota

what Soviet and American medical scientists may be able to do for the unborn.

Still another joint Soviet-US effort would be in a field dear to the hearts of you who have been laboring "in the Lord's vineyard of health" -- the area of rehabilitation. This, too, is a frontier to which the Foundation

has magnificently responded, and where, as you so well know, infinitely more needs still be done. (Pause)

These, then, are but the beginnings. You have my assurance that in the 86th Congress, commencing January 7th, I, for one, will do everything possible to help advance these and other objectives.

THREE OTHER CONGRESSIONAL OBJECTIVES

I should like to list now three other Congressional targets as I see them:

First and foremost ~~is a proposal~~ ^{is a proposal} of ~~the most far visioned~~ ^{bill} ~~to create a new~~ ^{to refer to the legislation to create a new} National Institute for International Medical Research, ~~authored by the~~ ^{This bill will be} universally acknowledged "Dean" of Congressional health legislation, the gifted and ~~able~~ ^{able} Senator Lister Hill of Alabama ~~and myself~~ ^{and myself} ~~Under the Hill-Burphay bill,~~ ^{Under the Hill-Hemphrey bill,} which I ~~have been~~ ^{am} ~~the~~ ^{co} ~~operator,~~ ^{operator,} the United States would grant ~~up to~~ ^{up to} 50 million dollars annually ~~under the supervision of the Secretary of Health,~~ ^{and expand research} ~~Education and welfare~~ ^{to strengthen the universal battle} against disease and disability.

How would this money be utilized? It would be expended by our great National Institute of Health in direct financial grants abroad for specific

research projects and experiments in hospitals, ~~laboratories~~, and institutes.

It would be used to encourage and support the rapid international interchange of knowledge and information concerning disease and disability, including the holding of international ^{medical} conferences. It would be used ~~generally~~ to step up the program of training scientists throughout the world, meaning an increase in exchanges and fellowships.

On ~~the~~ ^{this} point, no one need remind you of the National Foundation - (with your own admirable Health Scholarship Plan on the home front) - how important is the task of training of additional health personnel.

FOOD FOR HEALTH

Secondly, we must use food to feed the hungry and malnourished of foreign lands.

Scientist after scientist has told me, "Senator, how will it avail mankind if medical science continues to reduce infant mortality, but if the very children whom we are saving from birth injury and infectious diseases are to fall prey later on to malnutrition and starvation?"

Obviously, as the population of the earth increases, there must be more food for the additional millions of mouths and stomachs. That's where America's bountiful food must be constructively used.

Fortunately, we have begun to use this great ^{resource,} ~~supply,~~ but all too often only with reluctance and halting steps, ~~in some quarters.~~

Now, by virtue of new amendments to the Agriculture Trade Development and Assistance Act, (popularly known as Public Law 480) ~~of the 83rd Congress,~~

we are beginning to use so-called "surplus food" constructively in the

^{new nations - less fortunate}
~~underdeveloped,~~ regions of the globe. We are selling more of our food,

at reasonable prices, and then using the foreign currency earned thereby

to help strengthen local economies.

4 And included in such local uses must be an increased effort directly in the field of medical research, ~~such as is now provided through an amendment which had previously been enacted.~~

EXPAND REHABILITATION

① L Thirdly, we must greatly expand our national effort in the field, ~~which I have already mentioned~~ ^{of} rehabilitation.

We must reduce to a minimum the enormous backlog of handicapped millions of individuals who have been "sitting on the shelf" year after year. Thus far our Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, has unfortunately been denied sufficient resources not only to help many of each year's

~~unfortunate level~~ ^{newly} of disabled, but to cope with the accumulation of cases from past years of neglect and disinterest.

Had it not been for the National Foundation and other organizations together with dedicated individuals, like Dr. Howard Rusk, and our own ^{and many others} Doctors Frank Krusen and Frederic Kottke, we couldn't have made as much progress as we have to date.

But much needs still to be done. I, for one, would like to see a National Institute of Physical Rehabilitation, as a spearhead for research in this developing field.

INTERIM SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

On January 31, 1959 the Subcommittee on Reorganization and International Organizations which has been ^{conducting} ~~performing~~ the international health study, will file ^{to} ~~a~~ report, ~~in accordance with the resolution under which we were created~~. It is still too early to state what we will attempt to set forth in that report, for that awaits the decision of the full 7 members of the Subcommittee. It is up to my colleagues, for example, to decide on extension ~~of the scope~~ ^{should} of our study; but I do believe we ~~will~~ continue for another year.

Should Commit

out

The amount

~~For myself, I can tell you that naturally~~ [↑] there will be included an account of my observations in the course of my ^{recent study} trip. There will be set forth a list of all the hospitals and research centers which I visited together with members of the Subcommittee staff. I can recall now, for example, the children's hospitals which I visited in Paris, in Stockholm, and in Helsinki where I saw, incidentally, ~~in the course of~~ a great many youngsters afflicted with congenital defects. I will tell of my visit to a Moscow Cancer Institute where I recall seeing among others, numerous children afflicted with cancer, and I will tell of other experiences in the course of the trip.

Let me mention, now, specifically some of the institutions which I personally visited:

In Paris - The Radium Institute and Hospital, The Pasteur Institute, The Maternity Hospital and the Hospital for Sick Children.

In Geneva - The headquarters of the World Health Organization where I consulted with Dr. N. G. Candau, Director General, and WHO experts on virology, malaria, genetics, and many other specialties. In Geneva, too,

Could come out!

I visited the International Labor Organization in connection with occupational health and other problems.

Caroline
 In Stockholm - The Calolinska Institute's Centers of Bacteriology and Immunology, Children's Hospital and Institute of Cell Research.

In Helsinki - The Brain-Damage Institute, The Institute for Occupational Diseases, Tumor Center, The Children's Hospital, and others.

In Moscow - The Institute of Experimental Therapy and Pathology of Cancer, The Institute for Experimental Physiology. *The Soviet Academy of Med Sciences.*

In Oslo - The Radium Hospital, the Institute for Internal Medicine.

In London - The United Kingdom Medical Research Council

I spoke with MD's and PHD's, with Nobel Prize winners and young, up-coming scientists. I discussed health with many Cabinet Ministers of Health and with diplomats and political leaders - with the President of Finland, The Prime Minister of Sweden, the Acting Foreign Minister of Norway, and others. *70 months of U.K. - Ministry of Health in France etc*
 I discussed it with representatives of the World Council of Churches, and of the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

A MARSHALL PLAN FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

~~One of the suggestions which I, for one, will make is that~~ -- the goal of America, so far as international medical research is concerned,

*domestic and**should not and*

should be to help strengthen the "base" for foreign discovery. We definitely

do not seek to deprive Western Europe of its leading scientific talent by encouraging, for example, mass emigration of scientists to the States.

Indeed, we should help and encourage foreign countries to expand their own facilities "in their own backyards", so that they themselves are more

capable of helping to unlock the mysteries of disease. But the basic fact **bold**

is that European scientists can use a carefully worked out "Marshall Plan"

of medical research. Why? Because European scientists have still not

fully recovered from the 6 lost years of World War II and from the anemic

budgets allocated to health ministries in the immediate post war era.

which should include, of course, other regions of the world, as well-

This "Marshall Plan" would not cost in dollars but the tiniest fraction of

what our overall economic aid has cost. ~~It would be infinitely less than~~

~~what our military aid has cost.~~ *and* It should not be undertaken at the expense

of our own domestic needs and it should not be conceived as a one-way

street.

L ~~Instead~~ Europe, yes, Latin America, Asia, and Africa, have a great deal to give us in new directions of discovery. ~~in the field of viruses, for example~~

~~in~~ Europe and ~~and~~ each

other area must do far more for itself -- it must raise the budgets of

of its own medical research ~~instead of over-relying upon the US for aid.~~

It must quit penny-pinching on medical research necessities. What I am suggesting therefore parallels ^{Sen} the suggestions of Lister Hill. But I am recommending that each region of Europe and of the world reassess its own medical budget and see if it can "break through" to a higher level of support for research. Present national budgets in most countries are

pitifully small in relation to other far less significant uses of ~~money~~ ^{them} resources ~~nations~~. I am not in favor of the United States doing for any country

what that country can do and should do for itself. But I am in favor of

a helping hand in medical research wherever it is justified, as it is

indeed in many countries. One of the goals of the International Health

and Medical Research Year should be an increase in the level of effort

and expenditures by the various nations for medical research. The United States through the International Cooperation Administration

can and will play its role unilaterally, bilaterally/and

multilaterally through WHO, UNICEF and other agencies.

CONCLUSION

Great vistas lie before us - inspiring ^{opportunities} ~~vistas~~, calling on us to do

our very best.

A Jonas Salk can help change the course of medical history, working in collaboration with other selfless scientists.

↳ But, as I have indicated, ^{A Doctor} ~~Salk~~ visiting in the Soviet Union and working with his counterparts there can evoke friendship and warmth which are indispensable if the larger challenge of peace is to be fulfilled.

↳ I can assure you that I would far rather see the peaceful news of Dr Salk and the news of the National Foundation's wonderful plans fill the Nation's and foreign newspapers, ^{than} ~~that I would like~~ to see the oft-quoted belligerent statements of ~~some of our~~ Generals and Admirals, talking about destruction which they say they are capable of unleashing ~~against the~~ ~~country.~~

One type of news - medical research - arouses universal hope and faith; the other - military threats - excites ugly fear and vengeful recrimination from behind the Iron Curtain.

↳ To immunize against such fear - that is our task.

↳ A "vaccine for peace" -- to this, you of the Foundation will contribute in the drive which you undertake tonight. For news of your success will circle around the world and will inspire the hearts of men everywhere.



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