

From the Office of
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Washington, D. C.
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FOR RELEASE: ~~9:00~~ ^{Tues} A.M.'s
March 17, 1959

SENATOR HUMPHREY CALLS FOR "EDUCATION FOR PEACE" AS A KEY AMERICAN POLICY

Senator Hubert H. Humphrey (D., Minn.) called last night for a bold new "Education for Peace" program of world educational development and an expanded East-West exchange program -- largely financed out of the several billion dollars of "soft currencies" or "counterpart funds" being accumulated by the United States in exchange for American food shipments or due the U. S. as repayment for loans.

Senator Humphrey told a ^{Niagara} University audience that he is drafting legislation -- to establish an international Educational Development Foundation, designed to:

1. Accelerate the development of adequate systems of schools and colleges in the underdeveloped countries of the non-communist world;
2. Expand and invigorate academic and research institutions in the developed countries;
3. Widen the educational opportunities within their own country for talented young people from poorer families in the free nations;
4. Stimulate scientific research and encourage the training of scientists and technicians in every free country;
5. Expand the East-West scientific and educational exchange program, possibly beginning with a Polish-American Foundation.

"We must broaden and intensify the existing programs for the wise use and distribution of our vast food abundance," Senator Humphrey declared. "This Food for Peace program can be the underpinning for a more vigorous and affirmative foreign policy based on Health for Peace, Science for Peace, and Education for Peace."

"Education," he said, "is a powerful personal ideal to people in the underdeveloped countries. It is also indispensable to their economic progress and national independence."

"The one resource most of the needy countries have in ample quantity is manpower -- but it is untrained, unskilled manpower," he said. "In fact, unless the have-not countries can develop the men needed to make effective use of the funds and knowledge provided by the more developed countries, much of the aid will inevitably be wasted."

Senator Humphrey, while applauding present efforts toward international education, both in Government and out, said, "They together fall far short of the need and the opportunity." He pointed out that they are too small in scale, that they are focused on only narrow details of the total problem of free world educational development, "and they have not yet been undertaken in a sufficiently cohesive, dramatic, impact-producing manner."

"In particular," he said, "the help to foreign educational institutions is especially limited; the emphasis is heavily on technical and vocational training; and responsibility is widely scattered among the Executive Departments."

"An international Educational Development Foundation could give leadership and focus to our international educational efforts," he said. "Such an agency

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should stand on its own feet -- not as a subordinate part of a propoganda program, nor of a military program, nor even of an economic development program."

Senator Humphrey said he is "immensely encouraged" by the recent official endorsement to his proposal for an international Educational Development Foundation by the Association for Higher Education -- a branch of the National Education Association.

Senator Humphrey suggested that such a Foundation might operate partly through the creation of a series of bi-national foundations. He pointed out that it is not only the new nations of the non-communist world that need massive assistance; some of the older nations of the Free World, he said, "are burdened with educational systems so traditionalist and stagnant as to be of little utility in the twentieth century."

"In the newly independent countries, the problem is different," he pointed out. "There, without a highly developed educational system and lacking in a scientific and academic tradition, they are often building from scratch. Where they do have universities, they are in too many cases poor imitations of the most antiquated models from Western Europe."

"There graduates are frequently mistrained in terms of the needs of the country -- the result being large numbers of unemployed and unemployable university graduates forming a core of disgruntled, resentful intellectuals."

Senator Humphrey noted that the Communist leadership has recognized the interrelationship between education and technological development. "Indeed," he said, "the achievements of Soviet science have a prodigious educational effort behind them."

One does not have to look at the tremendous educational developments in the Soviet Union to see what is happening in the Communist world, he said. "Greece, with some seven million people has a government program of some 350 scholarships a year for university work, but across the border in Yugoslavia, with roughly double the Greek population, the Tito government offers more than 30,000 scholarships each year."

"In both old and new free world countries, when it comes time to divide up the budget, the Ministry of Education is too frequently put at the end of the line," Senator Humphrey noted.

Senator Humphrey suggested the creation of a bi-national Polish-American Foundation, to supplement the program of non-Communist binational foundations, as a "hopeful means of lessening tensions and suspicions" and because "Poland is a country which is an ideal bridge between the Eastern and Western worlds."

He pointed out that as a result of the two economic agreements with Poland in 1957 and 1958, the United States is accumulating more than \$150 million in Polish zlotys in exchange for American agricultural products and export-import bank aid. "This money is useless unless it is put to work," Senator Humphrey said. "Certainly among other constructive uses, such as the construction of hospitals and clinics, these funds could be used to stimulate an exchange program with Polish intellectuals far in excess of the approximately 250 which have travelled each way between the U. S. and Poland under the East-West Program in 1959."



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