

HHH 15-MINUTE WASHINGTON TV REPORT
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SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY REPORTS ON THE FINAL WEEKS
OF THE 87TH CONGRESS

This is Washington. And this is Senator Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota. Today the Assistant Majority Leader of the Senate reports on the final weeks of the Congressional session and reviews the record of the 87th Congress.

Now here is your Senator, Hubert Humphrey.

SENATOR HUMPHREY: Ladies and Gentlemen, this has been one of the longest and hardest working sessions of Congress in which I have ever participated. I can remember when I arrived in Washington in 1949 for the 81st Congress. That was a long one. But this one has exceeded anything that we have ever experienced before.

We passed over 1,000 bills in this Congress, and some very important legislation. To give you some idea of what it means to pass over a thousand bills and have them signed into law by your President, compare this record with the 83rd Congress. In 1953-1954, the President was then Dwight Eisenhower. The Congress was a Republican controlled Congress. There were approximately 500 bills adopted in that Congress and made into law. Today we have doubled that number. This gives you some indication of the volume of work. But I think the best thing to talk about is not the statistical evidence about the Congress, but what have we really

done. Because just to pass a number of bills is not really to give you a very accurate report as to the meaning of the Congress or its worthwhileness.

I sincerely believe that this Congress, if you take both sessions, the First and the Second Session, has produced some of the most important legislation of recent years. Time does not permit for me to go through all the First Session because I reported to you on that on another occasion. But you recall the Minimum Wage Bill, the Expansion of the Social Security -- this great Housing program that included college dormitory housing, middle income, cooperative housing, public housing, the Federal Housing Administration, that is the guaranteed mortgage type of housing for the middle income group -- the greatest Housing program in our Nation's history. The Highway program, the establishment of the Peace Corps, the U.S. Disarmament Agency, the complete reorganization of Foreign Aid program, the Emergency Feed Grain and Wheat program -- this was all in the First Session of the 87th Congress. But what about this session starting last January? It seems like a long time. I haven't had much chance to be home in Minnesota. Summer has gone by and I had an opportunity occasionally on a Saturday and a Sunday to visit back in Minnesota at my home at Lake Waverly, but other than that I have been right down here in Washington

tending to the store, as they say, tending to business. My job as the Assistant Majority Leader and the Majority Whip keeps me in the Senate and in the Senate Committees on which I serve almost continuously day and night, many times six days and atleast five days a week all the time.

Well, the most important act of Congress as I look over the session was the President's proposal for an expanded and brand new Foreign Trade program. One that was geared to the times in which we live; one that was geared to the stiff competition we are getting from the Western European nations and the Common Market and from Japan; and one that would come to grips with this Soviet Communist economic offensive that we see upon us in many parts of the world. This is called the Expanded Foreign Trade program, and I believe that editorial writers and commentators have called it the most important act or important piece of legislation of the 87th Congress. I think it is historic in its meaning and will equip this country to really get out and do business around the world and to protect our own interests as well as to cooperate with friendly countries.

And speaking of that, let me dwell for just a moment on that because the real answer to solve our problems on the economic front is to be found in the expansion of Foreign Trade. This is a growing world. There are new markets. Per capita income is moving up in country after country. New nations are coming into their own independence and nationalism. There are new markets available and with the Foreign Aid program, with the World Bank, with the International Monetary Fund, and with the International Development Association, with all of these many great financial

institutions helping other people and other countries, I want you to know that there are vast new markets for goods and for the raw materials that we produce. Of course, those markets are there for our friends in Western Europe, and they are pretty clever people, very able, highly industrialized society, and that European Common Market has made the whole Western European complex a much more competitive institution. But we are going out and get some of these markets ourselves, and that means expanding our export trade, and that means something to Minnesota. We export from Minnesota some \$175 million dollars a year in manufactured goods and approximately \$175 million dollars a year in agricultural goods. We ought to double that in the next five years. And if we do, our unemployment will vanish from our midst. And we will have a highly prosperous state. We exported as a nation last year over \$20 billion dollars and of that \$20 billion approximately \$5 billion was in agricultural commodities alone. Now we need to increase those exports every year from here on out approximately \$2 to 3 billion, and what does that mean? It means using this Foreign Trade program that we now have adopted; but it also means getting out and competing. That means for business and labor and agriculture in this country to compete, and despite our so called high wages, we can compete because we are more efficient. We produce at less cost per unit and our agriculture is the most competitive agriculture in the world. It's a miracle. Marvelous. You know I am so proud to come from a Midwestern state that has such a fine, up-to-date, modern, and efficient productive mechanism in agriculture. We really are the wonder of the world when it comes to this kind of

activity. Well, I didn't intend to get stalled on that trade program, but let me just cite a few other things we have done.

In Foreign Aid, now that's a highly controversial matter, Foreign Aid is kicked around and kicked around by commentators and political writers. Loans are repayable in dollars with interest, and those loans are ten year, fifteen year, twenty year, and some forty year loans. All are approved by financial institutions such as the World Bank or the International Development Association. They are not give-aways. There good. Seventy-eight cents-seventy-eight cents out of every dollar that we loan or spend abroad for Foreign Aid to help other people -seventy-eight cents of that is spent right back here in the United States for goods and services from our own people. So the Foreign Aid program is good not only for other people, it is good for us. We in Minnesota do a good deal under it too. Millions of dollars of the Foreign Aid appropriation are spent back in the state of Minnesota. I had a report on that the other day, and I was really surprised.

We also adopted the United Nations' bond issue to make possible the peace keeping operations of the United Nations - particularly in the Middle East and the Congo. The Russians of course don't like this. The Russians fight it. The Soviets have fought the United Nations. Trying to destroy the United Nations, they refused to pay their dues to the U. N. and in the meantime, we back the United Nations, and I am happy to say that we have yet to lose an important vote in the United Nations despite all of the talk, all of the criticism that we don't get all of the support we ought to have. The fact is that we have

never lost an important vote in the United Nations. The fact is that the United Nations is man's best - at least institutional - legal hope for peace. And we keep it alive, and we strengthen it to our benefit and to the benefit of the peaceful world.

Then we passed the Public Works program. A huge program to attack these pockets of unemployment. And again this means something for Minnesota. It will mean community halls. It will mean water pollution control. It can mean roads and streets and housing. This program was just authorized this year, and the appropriations just made for it this past week. A \$900 million dollar program that will be utilized to help America and to help needy communities.

We passed a new drug control bill after the tragedy of the deformed babies. After we found out how poor the regulations were and how little control there was over these new miracle drugs and the testing of these drugs, we adopted a whole program of new drug control legislation to protect the public health.

We adopted a new farm program. Now I have talked to you about that before, and I shan't spend anymore time on that except to say that this new farm program for the first time completely revitalizes and reorganizes agricultural legislation in the light of modern farm technology and production. We have had a revolution in agriculture so to speak - at least a scientific and technological revolution, an explosion of production. We are fantastic in our production, and we are trying to bring that production into better balance with consumption, and this new farm program does that. It will raise farm income. It will cut back on the

cost to the tax payer, and it will not increase the price to the consumer, so it ought to be in the public interest.

We have had a tax revision program to give incentive to American business to expand and modernize and improve its capital plant. And tied in with that, we have plugged some loopholes in the tax law for people who are avoiding their proper payment of tax.

We have adopted through the encouragement of the Administration a new depreciation schedule to permit business and agriculture to more rapidly write off the cost of new equipment.

We adopted the communication satellite bill. Did you know that Telstar broadcast throughout the whole world this fantastic new achievement of Commander Schirra as he orbited the globe six times. It was broadcast right back behind the Iron Curtin. This was something they couldn't keep out. Telstar - this means the communications satellite program. I worked for that program.

We reorganized our legislation in the field of Public Welfare. We Adopted a manpower training program to retrain workers who have been displaced and who need to find new work and new skills.

We expanded the operation of the Small Business Administration. We doubled that program in Minnesota - as we did the Farmers Home Administration. We have increased our program for housing for our senior citizens right in Minnesota. We are opening up these new projects right now.

New Projects - Housing for the elderly, one of the finest programs we have. We have expanded and improved our veterans compensation program for our disabled veterans. We are moving ahead on our highway construction.

This is a vast new highway construction, and when you read in the paper announcements of the new highway program, remember that ninety cents out of every dollar of the Interstate Highway program was appropriated by your Congress and fifty cents out of every dollar of the so called combination Federal-State highway comes from appropriations from the congress, and these monies are collected from every citizen throughout the United States.

We have done a few other things. We moved in the field of space development. With a high program we have made this advance. And we have made spectacular accomplishments and achievements. Don't forget Commander Shepherd and Captain Grissom, and don't forget Colonel Glenn and Commander Carpenter, and don't forget this new astronaut, of this new hero that brought fame to his country and himself and a new spirit of confidence - Commander Walter Schirra. Oh ~~what~~ a wonderful experience that has been.

Now let me just conclude by saying to you that we have strengthened our defenses so that today the United States is the most powerful nation on the face of the earth. We have improved its mobility. The mobility of our defense establishments we improved and strengthened our alliances around the world with our friends. And we have sent to many countries of the world the finest examples of America, the finest we have, our young people in the Peace Corps; and they are making friends for America, and besides that, they are helping people help themselves build a new, free, wholesome, healthy society. What a remarkable program is the Peace Corps. And you'll pardon me if I just say this is one of the programs I sponsored in the Congress, and I feel

almost like a parent about it. I love this program, and I watch it carefully, and our own University of Minnesota has a peace corps training effort.

Well, we didn't succeed in everything. We have work to do in the 88th Congress coming up next January. We'll have to get right back to work on aid to higher education, urban affairs department, Medicare - that is hospital and medical home care for our elderly - and many other programs.

Now I want to thank every station for carrying this public service broadcast, and I hope it has been helpful to you. It surely has been a pleasure for me. Thank you.



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