

MINNESOTA RADIO TAPE OF FEBRUARY 12, 1963

FOR BROADCAST WEEK BEGINNING FEB. 18, 1963

Ladies and gentlemen and fellow-Minnesotans---

This is your Senator, Hubert Humphrey, reporting to you
from my office on Capitol Hill in Washington, D. C.

A few days ago, I was asked to write an article on foreign aid
for an important Eastern newspaper. The editor said that he was
asking another member of Congress to write a second article oppos-
ing foreign aid. He explained that he wanted me to write the
article supporting foreign aid because---and these are his words---
"you give total and unqualified support to foreign aid programs,
Senator Humphrey."

I finally agreed to the assignment, but only after emphasizing
to the editor that no responsible Member of Congress gives blind,
"unqualified" support for any program, foreign or domestic.

I explained that Humphrey is a strong supporter and advocate of foreign aid---and always has been.

But I added that Humphrey is also one Senator who believes in asking many, detailed, tough questions every year about the type of foreign aid programs we have, and how effective they are.

Today I just want to take a few moments to report that many Members of Congress who are the strongest supporters of foreign aid are---in reality---the toughest and most practical critics of foreign aid proposals and the hardest taskmakers of the officials who administer our foreign aid programs.

As a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the Appropriations Committee, I have long fought for what I believed were urgently needed programs of assistance to help other nations to help themselves to strength, to freedom, and to progress and opportunity for their people.

But I have also spent thousands of hours studying, debating, questioning and urging in an effort to see that the billions of

dollars this country spends in foreign aid was spent efficiently, wisely, and to bring the best possible results.

There are people in this country who feel that all Congress should do each year is to double the size and cost of the previous year's foreign aid program. They do not realize that often this country has made mistakes in its foreign aid programs---that we have occasionally given or loaned funds to dictators who used our dollars and equipment to bully their own people, that we have poured out our funds to nations which did not know how to use it effectively, that we have wasted funds by failing to plan and to follow-up our specific foreign aid projects.

I am not one of them, and as we in Congress approach the need again this year to make decisions on our foreign aid programs, I am again determined to fight for the right kind of foreign aid programs, and to satisfy myself that those programs will be administered as economically and efficiently as possible.

You will hear me say more, specifically, on this year's foreign aid programs as the year progresses. I believe that the United

States must give new priority in its foreign aid programs to agricultural development in other nations. We need a greater emphasis on programs to train local citizens with new skills and talents in other countries. The day is over when the United States can simply pour money into whatever governments happen to be in particular countries and remain indifferent to how responsible and responsive those governments are to the will and the needs of their people.

But for now, let me just leave you with the statement that your Senator believes in the wisdom of foreign aid efficiently planned and administered, that foreign aid is a tool we have to build the foundations of a strong freedom and a just peace throughout the world, and that the Congress and the people will not tolerate any foreign aid programs of careless planning, sloppy administration, or indifferent follow-through. It's my job to see that our foreign aid programs are consistent with our humanitarian instincts and serve the National interest---and that your funds are used prudently.

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