

MINNESOTA RADIO TAPE OF DECEMBER 3, 1963

FOR BROADCAST WEEK BEGINNING DECEMBER 8

Ladies and gentlemen---

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

Today I speak positively about the present---and the future.

There is still sorrow in the Nation, for the death of John
Fitzgerald Kennedy. But there is no fear, and there is no confusion.

During the past two weeks, we have seen and heard the leaders
and the people of this country express many emotions, and many
thoughts.

Above all else, I was impressed and encouraged by the capacity
of our government and our people to continue their work despite the
shock and grief over the assassination of their President.

Rarely did I hear anyone say: "I am afraid. The country is going to fall apart now."

Instead, our people expressed---in one way or another---the basic theme of President Johnson's magnificent message to Congress: "Let us continue."

We owe this sense of confidence to the basic strength of our democratic institutions, to the principle of continuing, representative government, and to the intrinsic fortitude in the character of the people.

But we can also thank our new President, Lyndon B. Johnson, for the absence of fear and the presence of national confidence now.

President Johnson---I can report from personal knowledge---deeply mourned the death of President Kennedy. But in the midst of his sorrow, he took firm grasp of the authority of the Presidency. In his first days and weeks as President, Lyndon Johnson has shown no fear, no hesitancy, no timidity.

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Instead, he spoke boldly and confidently about the programs, policies and goals established during the Presidency of John F. Kennedy.

He pledged himself to the commitments of this Nation, and he expressed his determination ^{TO} win victories for the legislative program pending in Congress.

There can be no doubt ^{NOW} ~~is~~ about President Johnson's position on civil rights. He said to Congress, and I quote:

"I urge you again...to enact a civil rights law so that we can move forward to eliminate from this nation every trace of discrimination and oppression based upon race or color."

And President Johnson set high priority for the tax bill, a bill designed to bring more power, prosperity and jobs to our economy.

There were other firm pledges by President Johnson: for the Youth Employment Opportunities Bill, for the aid to education legislation, for unswerving support for the United Nations, for our Alliance for Progress programs in Latin America, for military strength second

to none.....and he added:

"We will be unceasing in our search for peace.....We will carry on the fight against poverty and misery, ignorance and disease---in other lands and in our own."

With such leadership from President Johnson, with the enduring strength of our Nation, there can be no doubts and no fear about the future.

Thank you.

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