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MESSAGE BY  
HONORABLE HUBERT H. HUMPHREY  
VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES  
TO 10TH ANNUAL HOUSING INTERN CONFERENCE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 13, 1966

My warmest greetings to participants in this outstanding 10th Annual Housing Intern Conference.

I had hoped so very much to have the opportunity to be with you tonight. Regrettably, other commitments prevent my visiting with you.

May I take this means to convey to you my deep interest and gratification in the broad and intensive training you have received. Your skills, your dedication represent a tremendous new asset to America.

Our Country has, as you know, entered a whole new era -- to make our cities more livable, more attractive, more fulfilling for our citizens in every income bracket. To achieve our goals, we will need new inter-disciplinary competence such as you so well represent. We will need all your imagination, your resourcefulness, your dedication .

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Our new Department of Housing and Urban Development confronts some of the most formidable, urgent, and, yes, exciting challenges in our history. Secretary Robert Weaver is going to fulfill the mandate which President Johnson and the Congress have given him. He, Under-Secretary Wood and the Department's entire staff are going to make the concept of Creative Federalism work in fullest measure.

That's where you come in. The Federal Civil Service will benefit immeasurably from what you have learned and from your future careers. Similarly, our great urban centers will be able to meet their responsibilities -- with your type of ability and talent.

During this past year, at President Johnson's request, it has been my privilege to meet with many of the nation's Mayors, as well as with City Managers, County Officials, other elective and appointive officers. They have told me about their problems and needs. Together with Secretary Weaver and other Cabinet Officers, we have held -- what I believe, is a very fruitful series of dialogues with local officials. We have, I believe, developed the type of Federal-State-local partnership -- frank, friendly, meaningful -- which President Johnson has sought.

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What a wonderful opportunity is ours -- to serve so many of our people, to pioneer in dynamic new programs.

My thanks to Secretary Weaver and to Under Secretary Wood for the opportunity of this message.

You have my best wishes.

May this be a most memorable evening, for you and may our paths cross many times in the promising years ahead.

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