

TO: RUTH

FROM: JULIE

RE: AHEPA--EDITED--PHOTO-COPIED FOR NEWS
PURPOSES--TEXT



THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

ADDRESS BY HONORABLE HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
BEFORE BIENNIAL NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE
AMERICAN HELLENIC EDUCATIONAL PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 14, 1966

Your Eminence, Your Excellency, Mr. Ambassador
and the Officers of AHEPA, the American Hellenic Educational
Progressive Association, and these lovely ladies of the
Daughters of Penelope: --

My friends in the Congress, I noticed as I came in,
this gallant, attractive, intelligent young man, John
Brademas, who brings joy to all of us. And this very dis-
tinguished United States Senator whose name will be in the
history books of America for years to come for his outstanding
work in the passage of our new Immigration Law, Phil Hart.
And I can't help but take some state-wide, local pride in
noticing that at your Head Table, this evening, you have
one of the most brilliant of our fellow citizens from the
State of Minnesota, a man who has made a great record for
himself in the Congress, a dear personal friend, Congressman
Donald Fraser. Don, it's sure good to see you.

Now, I know that one of the dangers of a man men-
any
tioning/names is that he always leaves somebody out.

But I do want to express, first of all, a very warm greeting to my associates in the Government, members of the Congress of the United States who I know are exceedingly happy to be here on this occasion.

May I just say, Mr President, that, it isn't often that an organization and a group of people have an "inside operator" -- an inside lobbyist, an inside special friend at the White House. But I must say that Americans of Greek extraction have done very, very well. They've penetrated the highest counsels of Government. They have Mike Manatos right over there on the inside.

And how very happy we are that Mr. Manatos is there as a wonderful helper to the President of the United States and the Congress. Mike is a tower of strength for all of us. I saw him a little earlier this evening, and he was able to get away from the White House a little earlier than I was [He has extra influence with the President.] But I thought you would like to know, President Doukos, that when I left the White House, the President of the United States told me just a short time ago, that he remembered the happy evening he had at one of the meetings of AHEPA, here in Washington. And he said, "I just want you to promise me one thing, Hubert. I want you to promise me that you won't stay as late as I did." Now, I don't know what you did to him, and I took the pledge. I said, "I promise."

I'm so very pleased to be here. I noticed that on the Board of Trustees, (as if I had to look to notice, because I'm very familiar with the organizational structure of AHEPA,) I noticed that one of the outstanding members comes from my home state of Minnesota. And I'm so pleased.

I have to tell you just a little story about that. Somebody said to me when I came in. They said, " Well, you don't seem to weigh as much; you've lost a little weight." And I said, "Yes, that's true." I said, "I haven't had a chance to be back home in Minnesota for a long time with my friend, Jimmie Demos, in Minneapolis."

And when I was back there in Minneapolis with Jim -- one of my closest personal friends -- and this is not to enter a political phrase with this audience, this is a very personal, intimate friendship -- when I was there, he always took mighty good care of me. No matter the hour of the night, or the circumstances, I could always look to Jim Demos and know that I had a friend.

And I want Jim to take back to Minneapolis, Minnesota, Demosthenes Chapter #66, my fraternal greetings to my fellow members. I've been a member for 24 years. That is -- before I changed my name from Humpertopolis too Humphrey.

"By court order!" the Supreme President adds.

And then, I do want to just say that the other evening,

I was working late in my office, and I went across the street, about two blocks away, and I stopped by to see some dear friends of mine that have been friends of Mrs. Humphrey and myself for many years in Washington, Connie and Helen Velanos. I don't always pay too much attention to Connie, but Helen I do listen to. And she said to me, "Mr. Vice President, you know we've asked you to come on over to the Banquet of the Order of AHEPA." And I said, "Well, I'd love to, but I just can't." And then, I went on to explain why -- because a little later, in fact an hour ago, I was supposed to have been at a very fine dinner with very close personal friends and members of the Supreme Court of our Nation. But I said, I'll do my best to see if I can't get over." And I had hoped to get here a little earlier, but schedules in Washington are sort of like the weather in the Mid-West -- unpredictable. You never know what's going to happen.

But I'm so pleased that I was, once again, invited and once again, this great meeting was called to my attention. There's no place I'd rather be, to be very frank with you, than with you. I know that you have a heavy program, I know that your Officers have seen our President. I know that this is your 17th Annual Banquet, and I have attended several of them. I've been the guest of my fellow members of AHEPA on several occasions when you've been here in the Nation's Capitol. When I served in the United States Senate, I had looked forward

last year to being able to get to Greece for your great international meeting. I believe it was in August, if I recollect properly. But Mike Manatos just wouldn't let me go. Everytime we were about ready to go, he'd have another bill that the President told him just had to be passed. And I never could quite understand why they thought I ought to stay here. I guess they just thought that it looked better if they had the Vice President around.

But I wanted very much to go, and I believe, Phil, that you did sneak away, didn't you? Yes, I had to make a pledge to Phil Hart as the Presiding Officer of the Senate that I would not let the Senate vote on a single important measure in which the Senator from Michigan, Phil Hart, was interested, while he was gone. So he carried the greetings of our Nation, he carried the greetings of so many friends to so many of our other friends at that meeting in Athens. And how well I know he performed his duty and fulfilled his opportunity.

Let me just say a very few words, and then I must run along. I hope you will forgive me for being an almost impolite guest.

I'm very proud of this great organization. I've been very pleased and proud of the privilege that was mine when I was Mayor of the City of Minneapolis, to be affiliated with the Order of AHEPA. This is a great fraternal body; and its sister body - the Daughters of Penelope - is an equally fine and distinguished and great sorority. I've attended so many gatherings in the Mid-West which is my part of the country, that I always

feel very much at home in the presence of these, our friends. I know how long you have worked for so many good things in our country.

I know of the deep dedication of the membership of this organization to the highest qualities of American citizenship. I know of your deep concern to improve our Immigration Laws. And May I just say quite frankly, I doubt that those laws would have been improved had it not been for the effective work of organizations like AHEPA. It wasn't just because we had a President who wanted these immigration laws made more humane and more just. I think it fair to say that you can look back over the records of other Presidents and find that they did understand and they did recommend appropriate changes to make laws just and fair, equitable and humane.

How well I remember that when I served in the Senate, I worked alongside men like the late and beloved Senator Herbert Lehman of New York, our late and beloved President John Kennedy when he was Senator. And I recall that it was my privilege to be co-sponsor on those immigration bills, or just a sponsor.

Time after time we tried. I recall that when President Kennedy was Senator, that I was the main sponsor one year, and he, the co-sponsor. And in the next Congress, he'd be the main sponsor and I'd be the co-sponsor.

When he became President, he presented the legislation, but we just didn't have the votes. You simply hadn't convinced enough people, as yet.

And then when President Johnson succeeded President Kennedy after that tragic day, the President of the United States promised that he would, as he said, "continue the efforts that had been initiated by the late and beloved President Kennedy." He said in that famous address when he took over the reins of government, "Let us continue." And he pledged as Mike will recall, that every item on that program would be passed if he could do anything about it.

And in the 88th Congress, tremendous effort was made to complete that program.

Then came the famous 89th Congress. In the 89th Congress, President Lyndon Johnson presented to Congress, the Revised Immigration Act. Phil Hart, introduced it in the Senate.

And I know that John Brademas and Congressman Fraser introduced the same in the House along with many others, Manny Celler of New York - on my goodness - there were so many of them that were involved in it.

And because of the work of dozens of great organizations cutting across the great ethnic base of America, the different religious groups - Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, and Greek Orthodox, the great fraternal groups of our country, finally America was awakened and the Congress responded to Presidential leadership.

And I will never forget that Sunday up at Liberty Island. I'm sure, your Eminence, that you remember that

Sunday so well at Liberty Island, when the President of the United States affixed his signature to the New Immigration Act of 1965. That was the day America cleansed its conscience. That was the day when we started to judge people as people. That was the day when fairness and equity was put back into our laws.

There are men here in your midst tonight, in the Congress of the United States, men whom I have not mentioned, many names I regret to say. But the Congressman at your table tonight are there because they believed with you in fairness and justice. The Senators with you tonight, you can rest assured, helped make America what it is - the land of the free and the home of the brave. That's the kind of a country that this is.

Now Ladies and Gentlemen, I have always thought that we were the most fortunate and blessed people in the world. The Good Lord had given much to this Nation. Because we have received so much and we have so much, much is expected of us. In these trying days when there are less fortunate people at home and abroad, those of us who are most fortunate have a special moral obligation to the less fortunate. And may I say with great candor and frankness that where the forces of tyranny seek to dominate and to conquer, now as in other days, this land of ours and the people of this Nation stand guardian on the ramparts of freedom.

It has always been so in our history. I know of no Nation that has given so much and expected so little as the United States of America, my fellow Americans.

You and I know that many a country has been put to the test. Greece, not long ago, less than 20 years ago, was faced with terrible problems -- warfare, terror, misery.

But the Greek Government and the Greek people -- the overwhelming majority -- stood firm, stood firm in their conviction and their dedication to their country and their commitment to their religious faith, the commitment to their history. And with the aid of the United States of America, Greek freedom, Greek democracy was preserved. It was being attacked then as others are now, by those who would destroy freedom. Only in this instance, that I speak of, it was in Europe.

And because free people stood united, and because they were people who had confidence and faith and determination and will, freedom and independence in Greece were preserved. They were mighty close to being destroyed.

When the foe of Communist force was stopped on the border, (you and I know the record of that history), when no longer could the supplies, material and men come through the border from Yugoslavia into Greece, the Greeks were able to maintain their position and maintain their freedom.

What was called a "civil war" was put down. It wasn't really a civil war, it was an attack upon the independence and the freedom of a nation. My fellow Americans let me tell you from this rostrum tonight, that all your Government speaks of now, and all this Nation asks now, is that the aggressor in South Viet Nam, the aggressor from the North, cease his aggression. And we say to him as we have said to

others that aggression shall not be the pattern of international conduct. The aggressor shall not be rewarded. And we say to Communism in Asia as we had to say to it in Europe, that you shall not achieve your political objectives by the use of brute force. If you wish political powers, see how many elections you win. No nation has gone Communist through the ballot box, my dear friends. Communism has only gained its objectives through sheer force -- just sheer, brute force. I have no worries about what a free election will mean in any country. I know that if there are free elections permitted to people, they will not choose the path of totalitarianism. They will not choose the path of despotism. They will choose the path of freedom and independence. You know it, and I know it. And we ought never to be concerned about it.

I've heard people say many times: - What is our objective in South East Asia? I'll tell you what it is. We seek to prevent the success of aggression. Why? Because aggression unleashed is aggression unchecked. Aggression that is permitted to move forward without restraint or check will consume all in its path.

The United States of America is not in South Viet Nam, tonight, just because of a piece of geography. Nor is it there simply because of a regime or a government in Saigon, even though that would be enough. Nor is it there simply because of what may happen to a village or a hamlet, even though that

would be enough. We are there because of a principle.

We happen to believe that international relations should be conducted on the basis of reason and not force. We happen to believe in the rule of law amongst nations, not the rule of the jungle. We have learned our lessons, and we've learned them well. We've learned that appeasement does not bring peace. And we've learned that when the totalitarian uses force, there's only one thing you can do: you must stand up against it. And defeat it.

We seek to conquer no one. We seek no territory. We seek no bases. We seek no benefits. And you know it. And the American people should know it.

What we do seek is peace. And what we seek is a chance to help other people build a better life. What we seek is more justice for mankind. What we seek is an opportunity for children. What we seek is compassion for the elderly and the sick. What we seek is real peace. The peace of education, the peace of a man's ownership of his own property, the peace of a person being able to live out his life in tranquility and justice. We do not seek to dominate anyone, nor conquer anyone. We seek to overthrow no regime. But we do seek to have a world in which people can build their own lives.

And when I hear people say:--we want peace, may I say that there is no nation on the face of this earth that has given more in the cause of peace than the United States of American

There can be peace, tomorrow morning, my fellow Americans. There can be peace tonight if someone will come from the capitol of North Viet Nam and Hanoi and say "Let us sit down at the conference table and negotiate peace." It can be had.

But let the word be understood clearly: there is no power on the face of this earth or any combination of powers that can defeat the United States of America. The surest way that I know to shorten this pain and to deliver us from this difficulty is for the American people to make it clear that we have the will and the determination and the resources to do whatever needs to be done to restore peace in South East Asia.

So I leave you with what our children often recite. My children are now going into the second generation, grandchildren, than goodness. You know when our little ones go to school, they repeat the Pledge of Allegiance. That Pledge of Allegiance is often repeated by so many of us by rote. You know we just memorize it and say it. We forget what the words mean. But those children stand up in school and say, "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands." And then comes these words. "One nation, indivisible, under God, with liberty, and justice for all."

Not two nations, not a divided nation, but a nation that is one in its unity of purpose - indivisible. Not divided on basis of group or section, but undivided, united.

But yet, a Nation that understands with all of its power and all of its wealth that it is but nothing unless it is a Nation of spirit and soul, of purpose under God, recognizing our place in the great scheme of things, as designed by Divine Providence.

"One Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Every one of us. And I can tell you, my friends, that that doctrine, those phrases, those words mean something more than just for America. All over the world those are precious words. "Liberty and Justice for all." And its to those words that AHEPA has given its resources, its manpower, and its dedication.

And I come here tonight as your Vice President to salute you, as patriots, as great people, and as great Americans dedicated to everything good in this land.

Thank you for all that you've done.

Thank you.

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Double - letter

Original + 1

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as I came in, this gallant attractive ^{intelligent} ~~intelligent~~ young
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local pride in noticing that at your Head Table this evening
you have one of the most brilliant of our fellow citizens

from the state of Minnesota, a man who has made a great record for himself in the Congress, a dear personal friend of mine, Congressman Donald Frasier. ~~And~~ Don, it's sure good to see you.

Now I know that one of the dangers of a man mentioning any names is that he always leaves somebody out, but I do want to express first of all, a very warm ^{greeting} ~~greeting~~ to my associates in the Government, members of the Congress of the United States who I know are exceedingly happy to be here on this occasion. May I just say, Mr. President, that, it isn't often that an organization and a group of people have an inside operator ~~and~~ an inside lobbyist, an inside special friend in the White House. But I must say that the Americans of Greek extraction have done very, very well. They've penetrated the ^{highest} ~~king~~ counsels of Government. They have Mike Manatos right over there on the ^{side} ~~side~~.

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you to promise me one thing, Hubert. I want you to promise me that you won't stay as late as I did. Now I don't know what you did to him, ^{and} and I took the pledge. I said, "I promise."

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And then, I do want to just say that the other evening, I was working late in my office, and I went across the street, ~~at~~ about two blocks away, and I stopped by to see some dear friends of mine that have been friends of Mrs. Humphrey and myself for many years in Washington, Connie and Helen Velanos. I don't always pay too much attention to Connie, but Helen I do listen to. And she said to me, "Mr. Vice President, you know we've asked you to come on over to the Banquet of the Order of AHEPA." And I said, "Well, I'd love to, but I just can't." And then, I went ^{on} to explain why because a little later, in fact an hour ago, I was supposed to have been at a very fine dinner with very close personal friends ~~and~~ members of the *Supreme* Court of our Nation. *B* But I said, "I'll do my best to see if I can't get over." And I had hoped to get here a little earlier, but schedules in Washington are sort of like the weather in the Mid West, unpredictable. You never know what's going to happen.

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Let me just say a very few words, and then I must run along, and I hope that you will forgive me for being almost an *J* impolite guest. *It* I'm very proud of this great organization. I've been very pleased and proud of the privilege that ~~was~~ mine when I was Mayor of the City of

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I know of the deep dedication of the membership of this organization to the highest qualities of American Citizenship. I know of your deep concern to improve our Immigration Laws. And may I just say quite frankly, I doubt that those laws would have been improved had it not have been for the effective work of organizations like AHEPA. It wasn't ^{just} because we had ^a President who ~~did not~~ want these ~~laws~~ ^{immigration laws} made more humane ^{and} more just. ~~Because~~ I think it fair to say that you can look back over the records of ^{other} Presidents and find that they did understand and they did recommend appropriate changes to make our laws just and fair ^{and} equitable and humane.

How well I remember that when I served in the Senate I worked along side ^{of} men like the late and beloved Senator Herbert Lehman of New York, our late and beloved President John Kennedy when he was Senator. ~~member~~. And I recall that it was my privilege to be co-sponsor on those immigration bills, or ~~name sponsor~~, or just a sponsor.

Time after time we tried. I recall that when President Kennedy was Senator, that I was the main sponsor ~~of~~ one year, and he, the co-sponsor. And in the next Congress, he'd be the main sponsor and I'd be the co-sponsor.

~~Or, however it worked out. And when he~~ became President, he presented the legislation ~~that~~ but we just didn't have the votes. You simply hadn't convinced enough people, as yet.

And then, when President Johnson succeeded President Kennedy after that tragic day, the President of the United States promised that he would, as he said, "Continue the efforts that had been initiated and beloved by the late President Kennedy." He said in that famous address when he took over the reins of government, "Let us continue." And he pledged as Mike will recall, that every item on that program would be passed if he could do anything about it.

And in the 88th Congress, tremendous effort was made to complete that program. Then came the famous 89th Congress. In the 89th Congress, President Lyndon Johnson presented ~~that~~ ^{that} Congress, the Revised Immigration Act. ~~Bill~~ ^{Mike} Hart introduced it ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ the Senate.

And I know that John Brademas, and
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And I will never forget that Sunday up at
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Now Ladies and Gentleman, I have always thought that we were the most fortunate and blessed people in the world. The Good Lord had given much to this Nation. Because we have received so much and we have ^{so} much ~~is~~ ^{much} expected of us. In these trying days when there are less fortunate people at home and abroad, those of us who are most fortunate have a special moral obligation to the less fortunate. And may I say with great candor and frankness that where the forces of tyranny seek to dominate and to conquer, now as in other days, this land of ours and the people of this Nation stand guardian on the ramparts of Freedom.

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I've heard many times. People say what is our objective in South East Asia? I'll tell you what it is. We seek to prevent the success of aggression. Why? Because aggression unleashed is aggression unchecked. Aggression that is permitted to move forward without restraint or check will consume all in its path. The United States of America is not in South Viet Nam tonight just because of a piece of geography. Nor is it there simply because of a regime or a government in Saigon, even though that would be enough. Nor is it there simply because of what may happen to a village or a hamlet, even though that would be enough. We are there because of a principle. We happen to believe that

international relations should be conducted on the basis of reason and not force. We happen to believe in the rule of law amongst nations, not the rule of jungle. We have learned our lessons, and we've learned them well. We've learned that appeasement does not bring peace. And we've learned that when the totalitarian uses force, there's only one thing you can do: you must stand up against it. And defeat it.

We seek to conquer no one. We seek no territory. We seek no bases. We seek no benefits. And you know it. And the American people should know it. ~~What~~ What we do seek is peace. And what we seek is a chance to help other people build a better life. What we seek is more justice for mankind. What we seek is an opportunity for children. What we seek is compassion for the elderly and the sick. What we seek is real peace. The peace of education, the peace of a man's ownership of his own property, the peace of a person being ~~able~~ able to live out his life in tranquility and justice. We do not seek to dominate anyone, or conquer anyone. We seek ~~to~~ to overthrow no regime. But we do seek to have a world in which people can build their own lives.

And when I hear people say we want peace, may I say ~~this~~ that there is no nation on the face of this earth that has given more in the cause of peace than the United States of America.

~~and~~ there can be peace, tomorrow morning, my fellow Americans. ~~There~~ can be peace tonight if someone will come from the capitol of North Viet Nam and Hanoi and say "Let us sit down at the conference table and negotiate ~~the~~ peace." It can be had.

But let the word be understood clearly: there is no power on the face of this earth that can defeat the United States of America or any combination of powers, ~~and~~ the surest way that I know to shorten ~~up~~ this pain and to deliver us from this difficulty is for the American people to make it clear ~~that~~ we have the will and the determination and the resources to do what needs to be done to restore peace in South East Asia.

So I leave you with what our children often recite. My children are now going into the second generation, grand children, thank goodness, ~~but~~ you know when our little ones go to school, they repeat the pledge of Allegiance. That pledge of Allegiance is often repeated by so many of us ~~just as a sort of a~~ ^{by rote} you know we just memorize it and say ~~that~~ we forget what the words mean, but those children stand up ~~in~~ in school and ~~they~~ say, "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, ^{and} to this Republic for which it stands." And then comes these words. "One nation, indivisible, under God, with liberty, and justice for all." Not two nations, not a ~~divided~~ nation, but a nation that is one in its

unity of purpose - indivisible. Not divided on basis of group or section, but undivided, united. But yet, a Nation that understands with all of its power and all of its wealth that it is but nothing unless it is a Nation of spirit and soul, of purpose under God, recognizing our place in the great scheme of things as designed by Divine Providence.

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

"One Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Everyone of us. And I can tell you, my friends, that that doctrine, that phrase, those words mean something more than just for America. All over the world those are precious words. "Liberty and Justice for all." And its to those words that AHEPA has given its resources, its manpower, and its dedication.

And I come here tonight as your Vice President to salute you, as patriots, as great people, and as great Americans dedicated to everything good in this land.

Thank you for all that you've done.

Thank you.

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