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OPINION IN THE CAPITAL

A METROMEDIA - WTTG TELEVISION PRESENTATION

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EVANS: MR. VICE PRESIDENT, DO YOU THINK WE CAN WIN THE POLITICAL WAR IN VIETNAM?

VICE PRESIDENT: YES, I DO, BUT THE DIFFICULTIES THAT WE WILL ENCOUNTER WILL BE VERY SEVERE AND IT WILL TAKE A GREAT DEAL OF TIME AND MUCH PATIENCE.

EVANS: MR. VICE PRESIDENT, I THINK MOST AMERICANS SHUDDER A LITTLE BIT EVERY TIME THERE IS ADDITIONAL POLITICAL TURMOIL IN VIETNAM. HOW CAN WE EXPECT TO BEAT THE VIETCONG WHEN THERE SEEMS TO BE LITTLE REAL STABILITY AMONG THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE?

THE VICE PRESIDENT: WELL, THIS TIME I FIND MYSELF VERY REPRESENTATIVE OF MOST AMERICANS, BECAUSE I TOO, SHUDDER A BIT WHEN I READ OF THE POLITICAL TURMOIL OR THE POLITICAL INSTABILITY. IT'S INEVITABLE THAT WE SHOULD FEEL THIS WAY BECAUSE WE HAVE SUCH A COMMITMENT IN VIETNAM. ANY INSTABILITY IN A VERY FRAGILE GOVERNMENT AT BEST..YOU CANNOT HELP BUT HAVE DEEP CONCERN. THE ONLY CONSOLATION I CAN OFFER IS THIS; IN OTHER AREAS OF THE WORLD, WHERE THERE HAVE BEEN SIMILAR CONFLICTS OF SIMILAR NATURE, INSTABILITY HAS BEEN THE PATTERN. LET ME GIVE YOU ONE EXAMPLE WHICH MAY GIVE YOU A NOTE OF ENCOURAGEMENT. IN THE GREEK CIVIL WAR, (IT WAS CALLED A CIVIL WAR BUT WAS REALLY COMMUNIST AGGRESSION, INSPIRED AND FINANCED OUT OF STALIN'S SOVIET UNION AT THE TIME), THERE WERE ELEVEN CHANGES OF GOVERNMENT IN 18 MONTHS. THAT'S REAL INSTABILITY. YET, WITH OUR ASSISTANCE, YOU MAY RECALL WE HAD A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF AMERICAN PERSONNEL, BOTH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN IN GREECE, AND WITH VERY GENEROUS ECONOMIC AND MILITARY AID, THE GREEKS WERE ABLE TO OVERCOME THE COMMUNIST AGGRESSION, REGAIN A DEGREE OF STABILITY AND GO ON TO REBUILD ANOTHER STABLE GOVERNMENT.

EVANS: ARE YOU TELLING ME THEY'RE GETTING MORE STABLE ALL THE TIME? EACH TIME A NEW GOVERNMENT COMES IN....NOT THAT THEY ARE GOING TO

FAIL NECESSARILY.

THE VICE PRESIDENT: THIS GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN, BY FAR, THE MOST STABLE OF GOVERNMENTS SINCE THE DEATH OF DIEM IN SOUTH VIETNAM. IT'S GOING INTO NINE MONTHS OF CONTINUITY AND POWER AND I DO NOT THINK WE SHOULD MAKE ANY PREDICTIONS THAT IT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SURVIVE THE PRESENT TURMOIL. THERE MAY BE SOME ADJUSTMENTS IN THE GOV'T, BUT THUS FAR, THE DIFFICULTIES AND BUDDHISTS COMPLAINTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS IN VIETNAM HAVE NOT BEEN DIRECTED PERSONALLY AT GENERAL KY. THEY HAVE BEEN DIRECTED TOWARDS THE CHIEF OF STATE, TOWARDS SOME OF THE APPOINTMENTS ...BUT THERE HAS BEEN A VERY CAREFUL LINE DRAWN HERE. THERE ARE SOME PERSONALITY INVOLVEMENTS, FROM THE I CORPS OR THE FIRST CORPS AREA... GENERAL THI, VERY POPULAR WITH HIS PEOPLE THERE, AN INDIVIDUALIST IN HIS OWN RIGHT...THIS MAN WAS REMOVED BY THE MILITARY DIRECTORATE. BUT I DO THINK YOU OUGHT TO KEEP IN MIND THAT THE MILITARY DIRECTORATE OF TEN WAS UNANIMOUS IN THIS DECISION AND THE COUNSEL, THE NATIONAL UNITY COUNSEL, WHICH IS LIKE THE ASSEMBLY OF THE SOUTHVIETNAMESE REPUBLIC, THIRTY-TWO OF THE THIRTY-SIX, SUPPORTED THE DECISION TO REMOVE GENERAL THI. YOU MAY SAY THAT THAT DOESNT MEAN MUCH BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT REALLY ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES. WELL THERE HAVEN'T BEEN ANY NATIONAL ELECTIONS IN VIETNAM FOR SOME TIME. THERE HAVE BEEN LOCAL ELECTIONS...A NUMBER OF THEM, IN FACT. BUT THE MILITARY DOES PROVIDE THE ONE LINE OF CONTINUITY OF STABILITY. IT IS A VERY IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE LIFE OF SOUTH VIETNAM.

BLACKBURN: YOU DON'T FEEL THEN, THAT THE RISING TIDE OF DEMONSTRATIONS OVER THE OUSTER OF GENERAL THI, WILL LEAD TO THE DOWNFALL OF KY IN SAIGON?

THE VICE PRESIDENT: ONE SHOULD HESITATE TO MAKE PREDICTIONS ON THESE MATTERS. I WOULD SAY THAT ON BALANCE IT APPEARS THAT THE PRESENT REGIME

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MAY VERY WELL RIDE THIS OUT, BUT HAVING TO MAKE SOME CONCESSIONS TO THE BUDDHISTS. THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS AND ADJUSTMENT I'M SURE IS UNDERWAY NOW.

BLACKBURN: VIEWING THIS IN ITS WORST POSSIBLE LIGHT, IF THE KY REGIME WERE TO COLLAPSE, WHAT WOULD BE THE EFFECT ON OUR COMMITMENT IN SOUTH VIETNAM.?

THE VICE PRESIDENT: IT WOULD NOT CHANGE OUR COMMITMENT . IF THAT REGIME WERE TO BE CHANGED, THEY'D BE SOMEONE ELSE WITHIN THE ESTABLISHMENT, SO TO SPEAK, THAT WOULD COME TO POWER. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF CONTESTING FORCES IN ANY COUNTRY THAT HAS GONE THROUGH THE PAIN AND THE SUFFERING THAT THIS ONE HAS AND WHEN YOU HAVE RELIGIOUS DIVISION,..... YOU'VE NEVER REALLY HAD A SENSE OF NATIONAL UNITY, AND I'VE EXPLAINED THIS SO MANY TIMES, THIS IS A COUNTRY THAT FOR A THOUSAND YEARS WAS GOVERNED BY THE MANDARINS OR DOMINATED BY THE CHINESE, BETTER THAN TWO GENERATIONS BY THE FRENCH, AND FOR 25 YEARS, HAVE BEEN IN CONSTANT WAR, SINCE 1940...THESE ARE NOT THE CONDITIONS THAT PROMOTE SELF-GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL STABILITY. THE PROMOTE DISSENSION AND TENSION AND INSTABILITY AND PERSONAL RIVALRIES. THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A STRONG GOVERNMENT IN SAIGON. WE'RE GOING THROUGH THE PAINFUL PROCESS OF TRYING TO BUILD A POLITICAL MECHANISM THAT WILL GIVE THIS NATION A SENSE OF NATIONAL PURPOSE AND UNITY---THE STRINGS AND THE SINEWS AND THE ARTERIES AND THE VEINS OF POLITICAL LIFE AND THE TENDONS AND THE LIGAMENTS THAT HOLD A COUNTRY TOGETHER AND THIS IS GOING TO TAKE SOME TIME. BUT, EVEN IF THERE WERE A CHANGE OF GOV'T, IT WOULD NOT BE A GOV'T THAT WOULD THROW IN THE SPONGE SO TO SPEAK, OR DECIDE TO QUIT THE WAR. VERY FEW FEEL THAT WAY, IN FACT, MANY OF THEM THINK THE WAR OUGHT TO BE PROSECUTED WITH MORE VIGOR, AND ONE OF THE REASONS FOR SOME OF THE DEMONSTRATIONS IS THAT PARTICULAR ATTITUDE.

BLACKBURN: YOU SAID THAT THE MILITARY SEEMS TO PROVIDE A THREAD OF

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CONTINUITY HERE...DOES THIS MEAN THAT A MILITARY GOV'T IS BETTER THAN A CIVILIAN GOV'T AT THE PRESENT TIME IN SAIGON?

THE VICE PRESIDENT: WELL, I CAN'T HELP BUT RECALL WHAT PRIME MINISTER KY TOLD ME ABOUT THAT SITUATION THAT YOU DESCRIBE. I'M TRYING TO REMEMBER EXACTLY HOW HE PUT IT...HE SAID TO ME, "MR. VICE PRESIDENT, YOU AMERICANS SEEM TO FEEL WE OUGHT TO HAVE A CIVILIAN GOV'T - I DO TOO, BUT A CIVILIAN GOV'T THAT JUST COMES TO POWER, WITHOUT ELECTIONS, IS NO DIFFERENT THAT MILITARY OFFICERS THAT COME TO POWER WITHOUT ELECTIONS. TO ME, MR. VICE PRESIDENT, A CIVILIAN IS AN ELECTED OFFICIAL, WHETHER HE WAS ONCE A GENERAL OR NOT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE, ONCE HE IS ELECTED, HE BECOMES A CIVILIAN. YOUR GENERAL EISENHOWER WAS ONE OF THE GREAT GENERALS OF YOUR COUNTRY, BUT WHEN HE WAS ELECTED HE WAS THE CIVILIAN PRESIDENT OF THE U.S...HE WAS PRESIDENT EISENHOWER, NOT GENERAL EISENHOWER." HE (KY) ALLUDED TO OTHER CHAPTERS OF AMERICAN HISTORY LIKE GEORGE WASHINGTON, ANDREW JACKSON, GENERAL GRANT AND SO FORTH, ALL OF WHOM HAD MILITARY BACKGROUNDS BUT WERE ELECTED. I THINK HE MAKES A POINT. I MUST SAY, JUST BECAUSE A PERSON HAPPENS TO WEAR CIVILIAN CLOTHES, STREET CLOTHES, INSTEAD OF A MILITARY UNIFORM, DOESN'T MAKE HIM INTO WHAT WE WOULD CALL A CIVILIAN POLITICAL LEADER. A CIVILIAN POLITICAL LEADER IS ONE WHO IS TRULY AN ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PEOPLE. ACTUALLY, IN THIS INSTANCE OF SOUTH VIETNAM, IT MAY BE ENTIRELY POSSIBLE THAT SOME OF THE MILITARY MAY BE BETTER. TAKE FOR EXAMPLE IN INDONESIA AT THE PRESENT TIME, GENERAL SUHARTO, WHO, I'M SURE HAS THE INTERESTS OF HIS COUNTRY AT HEART AND WHO WOULD PROBABLY NOT CLAIM TO BE A CIVILIAN LEADER, IS A GENERAL. WHAT MAKES A CIVILIAN LEADER IS THE FACT THAT HE PUTS HIMSELF UP FOR THE POLITICAL TEST OF ELECTIVE OFFICE.

EVANS: MR. VICE PRESIDENT, AREN'T WE KIDDING OURSELVES SOMEWHAT ON THE IMMEDIACY OF AN ELECTION? EVEN IF THE WAR WERE TO END TOMORROW? I'M TOLD THAT PEOPLE 25 MILES FROM SAIGON CAN'T TELL YOU THE NAME OF

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ANY POLITICAL LEADER OTHER THAN HO CHI MINH, BECAUSE THEY'VE KNOWN HIS NAME SO LONG. DEMOCRACY AS WE KNOW IT, IS ALMOST UNREALISTIC AT THIS POINT IN SAIGON, IS IT NOT?

THE VICE PRESIDENT: IT'S NOT QUITE THAT BAD, MARK. AS A MATTER OF FACT, I THINK THERE ARE MANY REASONS TO BE ENCOURAGED. LET ME JUST EXPLAIN TO YOU WHAT I MEAN. LAST MAY, THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE DID HAVE VILLAGE AND PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS. THIS IS THE IMPORTANT BASE OF DEMOCRACY AND THE IMPORTANT BASE OF REPRESENTATIVE GOV'T, AND THEY DO ELECT, EVEN NOW, IN THEIR VILLAGES, THEIR VILLAGE LEADER, THEIR VILLAGE COUNSEL, THEIR DISTRICT GOVERNORS, AND THEIR PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS. THERE HAVE BEEN PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS, SO THE ELECTION PROCESS IS NOT UNKNOWN TO THEM. THERE ARE CONTESTS IN THESE ELECTIONS. IT'S MORE OR LESS LIKE THE EARLY DAYS OF OUR REPUBLIC... IF YOU MAY RECALL, OUR ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION, WE DID NOT ELECT THE PRESIDENT OF THE U.S. UNDER THE ARTICLES, HE WAS SELECTED FROM THE PERSONS THAT WERE ELECTED AT THE STATE AND LOCAL LEVEL. EVEN THE MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION WERE NOT ELECTED AS SUCH...THEY WERE SELECTED BY THE LEGISLATURES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, SO WHILE THE COMPARISON IS NOT A PERFECT ONE, THERE IS SOME BASE OF REFERENCE HERE. I WOULD ALSO CALL TO YOUR ATTENTION THAT A COUNCIL HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED OF ABOUT A HUNDRED OF THE LEADING CITIZENS, COMING ACROSS EVERY GROUP IN VIETNAM, TO WRITE A CONSTITUTION. THIS COUNCIL HAS ITS OWN SECRETARIAT. IT WILL BE VERY SIMILAR TO OUR CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. THEY WILL WRITE A NEW CONSTITUTION FOR THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM. THAT CONSTITUTION WILL BE VOTED ON THIS COMING FALL. NOW, THEY ARE GOING TO HAVE A NATIONAL PLEBESCITE, AND THEY ALSO HAVE PROVIDED FOR A BODY OF LAWYERS AND COMPETENT PEOPLE TO SET UP THE BY-LAWS AND THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF A NATIONAL ELECTION. THEY HAVE

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PLEGGED THE ELECTION IN 1957. SO, I THINK YOU WILL HAVE SOME ELECTIONS.

BLACKBURN: THIS SUBJECT OF ELECTED VILLAGE LEADERS BRINGS TO MIND AN ARTICLE IN A CURRENT ISSUE OF A NATIONAL MAGAZINE WHICH TELLS AN APPALLING STORY OF THE CORRUPTION OF THESE VILLAGE LEADERS - IT CITES THE CASE OF ONE, A VILLAGE CHIEF WHO ALSO HAPPENS TO BE AN OFFICER IN THE VIETNAMESE ARMY, WHO CAME INTO A VILLAGE WHERE A.I.D. HAD SUPPLIED GOODS AND MATERIALS, CONFISCATED ALL THESE SUPPLIES, TURNED AROUND AND SOLD THEM ON THE BLACK MARKET. DOESN'T THIS CUT THE VERY GROUND FROM UNDER THE FEET OF DEMOCRACY?

THE VICE PRESIDENT: WELL, MY GOOD FRIEND, IF YOU'RE SPEAKING OF DEMOCRACY IN SOUTH VIETNAM AS WE KNOW IT HERE, THEN WE OUGHT TO STOP THE DISCUSSION. BECAUSE, THERE AREN'T TEN COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD TODAY, OR TWENTY COUNTRIES, THAT EXPERIENCE THE SAME DEGREE OF DEMOCRATIC GOV'T OR THE SAME TYPE, THAT WE DO. YOU CAN GO THROUGH THE NATIONS OF AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA AND YOU'LL FIND MANY REASONS TO BE DISCOURAGED, AND I MIGHT SAY THAT WE'RE NOT WITHOUT SIN OURSELVES. WE'VE HAD SOME MOMENTS IN AMERICAN LIFE, PUBLIC LIFE, LOCAL AND STATE GOVERNMENT, THAT ARE SHOCKING. I WOULDN'T DENY FOR A SINGLE MINUTE THAT YOU MAY FIND A VILLAGE LEADER THAT WOULD MAKE A BURGLAR LOOK LIKE A SOCIAL WORKER. I WOULDN'T DOUBT THAT - PARTICULARLY IN A WAR SITUATION WHERE THERE ARE SUPPLIES AVAILABLE AND YOU CAN HI-JACK THOSE SUPPLIES, WHERE THE BLACK MARKET RUNS RAMPANT WHICH IS NOTHING UNIQUE HERE, IT HAPPENED IN KOREA, IN HAPPENED IN GREECE, TURKEY, IT HAPPENED IN FRANCE IN WORLD WAR TWO - IT HAPPENS EVERY PLACE YOU HAVE A WAR. WARS DO NOT PROMOTE MORALITY - I THINK WE OUGHT TO KNOW THAT. THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS, THIS IS A COUNTRY THAT HAS AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT CODE OF POLITICAL STANDARDS - IT CAME FROM COLONIALISM AND FRENCH COLONIALISM DID NOT PROMOTE WHAT I CALL ANGLO-SAXON-NORDIC STANDARDS OF POLITICAL MORALITY FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS, BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T HAVE

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ANY ELECTED OFFICIALS. THIS IS GOING TO BE A DIFFICULT TASK, THIS
MATTER OF POLITICAL REFORM. ON YOUR INITIAL QUESTION, 'CAN THE POLITICAL
WAR BE WON?' I SAID, YES, IF YOU HAVE PATIENCE. IT WILL BE DIFFICULT -
IT WILL TAKE A LONG TIME.

BREAK

DAN BLACKBURN: Mr. Vice President, if corruption such as this case we were discussing exists throughout Vietnam, or even in small instances, doesn't this undercut the popularity of the government? How do you stop this thing? How do you fight such a thing to keep a government stable?

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Well, it surely is of no help. But I would remind you that there are many hundreds, in fact thousands, of villages and the instance that you give is not characteristic. There are the extremes, and I think that this is one of the extremes, that you can point to. You can point to some very selfless, dedicated leadership on the part of village leaders, too, that would make tears come to your eyes as to the dedication and the sacrifice that these leaders make for their people. But I want to put this in proper perspective - I repeat, it will be a long difficult ordeal for the people of Vietnam and the United States and other allies to help build what they call "the new nation"; to get this great social revolution that is needed; changes of attitudes, of practices; and in a period of war such as this where there are vast influxes of people and material, it's tailor-made for all kinds of shammigans and all kinds of black marketing and profiteering. We had the same things happen to us in the war between the states. If you read Carl Sandburg's "War Years" and the years of Lincoln's service, poor Abraham Lincoln was constantly faced with atrocious, outrageous corruption, desertions by the thousands from the Union armies - which, by the way, desertions take place by the Vietnamese armies - people buying their way in and out

of the military service, supplies being hijacked and blackmarketed. The same thing happened in the Spanish-American War. And I must be very frank with you, we even have it happen a little bit even now overseas when sometimes some of our people get into some trouble. So let's put it in perspective. It doesn't help the government, but the present government is taking stern measures, may I say, to try to do something about it. (the present government in South Vietnam). My goodness, only recently we witnessed this pathetic picture of a merchant in Saigon being shot, with the family weeping and sobing. Now, why did that happen. I'm not approving the shooting of the merchant as a form of punishment for his blackmarketing, but blackmarketing is a problem. And it is a problem of serious proportions and the present government made up its mind that it had to take severe measures to try to check it. I talked to Prime Minister Ky about this. He is trying to do something about it, but it is a hard uphill battle, and some of the people there do not cooperate too much. I don't want to get into nationalities or purposes, I mean or countries, but some of the old merchants, Chinese and French, in particular, are not too cooperative on these matters and a few Vietnamese have learned some of the tricks too.

EVANS: Mr. Vice President, the Indonesian situation is a little fluent at the moment, but there is a ray of hope, and I think it is an acknowledged fact that the Red Chinese have taken a pretty severe licking in many corners of the globe in the past month or so. Are we ready to step in and help this fledgling republic of Indonesia, or do we stand back and wait and see what happens?

The Vice President: Well, our policy has been one of respecting the decisions that are being made in Indonesia by the Indonesians. It is my considered judgment, Mark, that were there to be any American interference, that the processes which are underway there might very well be sidetracked and derailed. The forces at work in Indonesia have been accumulating their strength for a long time. This is one instance where the people of a country and the leaders of the country have decided their own changes in their own way. Sometimes it rather mysterious to us how these changes are made and the pace that they follow. They are not quite in as big a hurry as some Americans would be in making changes. To simply put it to you, I think the best thing for our government to do, which we have followed, is to keep hands off; these people seem to know what they are doing.

EVANS: You are pleased with the development, aren't you?

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: I would suggest that this is something that we ought to look to the Indonesians to take care of their own job.

DAN BLACKBURN: Mr. Vice President, if we could move perhaps from East to West and the question of our current relations with France, how would you describe our relations with France at this moment?

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Troubled, but not insoluble; difficult, but manageable. There's a body of friendship between the American people and the French that no political leader can for long disrupt or put into disarray. The President of the French Republic, General DeGaulle, has his own way of doing things. We do not agree with his rather nationalistic approach, but we're going to again speak softly, work with our allies, try to reason with our partners in NATO, and,

hopefully, to bring the French to a realization that a united Europe, a Europe built around the principles of NATO, is a stronger Europe - not only militarily, but economically and politically. We may have a temporary setback here, but nothing of long duration.

DAN BLACKBURN: In his speech this week, President Johnson warned that France may be endangering her own security by its position on NATO. Does this mean that the United States may consider withdrawing, in a sense, its umbrella of protection over France?

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: No, I do not think that we will act impetuously, or that we will act out of anger, out of emotion. Collective security in western Europe is to our national interest, and to the interest of western Europe and the interest of the cause of freedom. What we regret in the present development is that France seems to be returning to a kind of nationalistic stance, a nationalistic posture, at a time when there is a necessity for interdependence, when the facts of political life literally call for interdependence and a closer cooperation in international relationships. France wants her bi-lateral treaty with us. The French are not breaking the relations with us. President deGaulle says he wants a treaty of mutual assistance with the United States. He just doesn't want French armies, and France itself, as he thinks of it, to be swallowed up by NATO, which is an international instrumentality. President deGaulle has very serious doubts about these international institutions. However, I would call to your attention that his doubts have not always been reconciled in his favor. Sometime ago, he decided he was going to make some drastic changes in the six in the common market.

He didn't get by with it. The other five stood there ground and while there were some concessions made to French intransigents, today the common market is a reality. The principle of interdependence and of collective economic action is a reality. I think this will be pretty much the thing on NATO. Don't misunderstand me, NATO will be changed because of French policy, if France pursues it, but there will be a NATO. And it will not be to France's advantage to have a NATO that is weakened, and I am sure that, in the days to come, ^{if} we maintain our sense of balance and our sense of political judgment, that France will find her way back into the family of nations of western Europe as a leader again. Remember that NATO and the common market and the whole idea of a European defense community were, in a large measure, of French creation. The French have been a very creative people in political instruments and institutions, particularly since World War II. So I look upon the French as a source of strength, not a source of weakness. We have some temporary problems, just as we occasionally have at home.

MARK EVANS: Mr. Vice President, I was wondering, do you see any hope on the part of our so-called allies in giving us more help in Vietnam? The U.S. News & World Report recently listed some of the minuscule assistance given by close friends. It was a disturbing thing, I think, to most people. Do you see any real hope of their getting into this thing, which involves them as well as us?

THE VICE PRESIDENT: Some of our friends and allies are becoming more involved. Of course, the Koreans are doing a masterful job.

They are giving great help.

EVANS: Well, I'm thinking of Canada, with one professor and 130 scholars, and the United Kingdom with eleven police instructors.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Let me say about the United Kingdom. The United Kingdom has a very substantial fleet and a large body of men in the Malayasia area and that's all a part of the general struggle that's going on in Southeast Asia. We ought not to be critical of the United Kingdom. She's been extremely helpful both in terms of diplomacy and in terms of the common defense against Communist aggression in Southeast Asia.

EVANS: She has a commercial fleet that's feeding Hanoi, too.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Well, very little; very little. That's way over ~~exaggerated~~. The amount of supplies that come in through the port of Haiphong and through British transport is minimal, and it's being reduced all the time, but these are maritime nations. I can only say this, that the price of leadership, gentlemen, is that you bear most of the burden. I wish it weren't the case, but it is.

EVANS: On the international scene, he's the nation's number one roving Ambassador for peace. On the domestic scene, he's the President's number one salesman for controversial policies. In a recent speech, Hubert Humphrey recalled that John Adams said that "America is blessed by the spirit of public happiness." Adams, of course, was referring to the joys and blessings of self-government, but America's public happiness today, is a man named Hubert Humphrey. Recent polls show his popularity at an all-time high with increasing appreciation and

approval of the way in which he is handling the second highest job in the nation. Much obliged Mr. Vice President for being with us on "Opinion in the Capital". It's always an honor and a memorable experience to have you with us.

Thanks to you, Dan Blackburn, Metromedia News, for your help.



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