

President
Maurice Johnson

- Ollie Atkins

Shaw

V.P. of White House Photographers

NOTES

- Charles Shutt

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

President Johnson:

WHITE HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHERS DINNER

WASHINGTON, D.C.

MAY 19, 1966

Last year - the
Rocking Chair -
at Waverly!
only place I get to
use it.

I am honored to be here again this evening with
the White House News Photographers. You know the
Chinese have often said that one picture is worth 10,000
words. Imagine what you could have saved if you'd taken
more pictures of Hubert Humphrey!

Seriously, though, I want to thank each one of
you here this evening for what you have done for me.

For instance, there was a picture after the 1964
election when I was on vacation down in the Virgin Islands.

One of your colleagues did me the favor of taking
my picture as I was flexing my muscles aboard a fishing
boat.

- President spoke on need of
U.S. Physical Fitness!

Pat 7
10/14

him!
Horse at
LBJ Ranch
Established
me as a
great Horseman

Riding
the horse
at Ranch

Then there was another picture taken down there where I was exploring some deserted caves while wearing shorts and tennis shoes. Both of those did a great deal for me. *Womens Wear Daily - captioned this photo - "Say it isn't so - Short of Harry Truman!"*

Then, more recently, there was a picture taken in Bangkok as I was riding a barge down a river there.

It happened that that was my one moment of relaxation in several weeks overseas.

I especially want to thank the photographer who showed my straw hat, flowered shirt and brownie camera to best advantage. Nothing on the trip did more to reinforce my statesmanlike image.

But a few weeks ago a picture was taken which I was sure would be very helpful. That was when I threw out the ball on opening day at DC Stadium. However, I got all kinds of letters telling me that my form was bad . . . that

I was gripping the ball against the seams instead of with the seams . . . *Seemed to me, I was lucky to be Pitching - at least once on my own!*

✓ I think that McNamara & Joe Foweraker - Watusi!
Confidence in the Dollar! - 3 -

Saved him from
Baptist Convention

Bill Moyers couldn't be here this evening, but

you saved him from
himself

he asked me to put in a special word on his behalf too

His image has changed immensely ever since that photo was taken at that party at the Smithsonian. I see that a couple of days later Bill was so unnerved that he fell down the stairs at the White House and had to be taken to the hospital.

Now, something in the way of a progress report:

Last year at your annual dinner, I proposed that there be created a National Photographic Gallery.

I suggested that it compile and exhibit America's greatest news photos -- as well as newsreel footage -- on an all-year round basis.

I am happy to report that this idea is moving forward.

McNamara
Fullbright
Rose to
Rose!
Smarter than
Bill
Bill been
apologues
for his speeches
& McNamara
- coming
- like a dove
Photographic
Gallery

L. I have
~~My office~~ has discussed the proposal in detail with
officers and members of your Association, with representatives
of other leading photographic groups, of major newspapers
and magazines, and with the federal agencies most directly
concerned.

L We have studied the existing federal photo collections
-- those of the Library of Congress, the National Archives
and the Smithsonian Institution.

L I have welcomed the views of executives and working
photographers across the country, representing wire services,
commercial photographers, television sources and others.

L Tonight I would like to move a step further. I
would like to propose that you take the lead in submitting
an application to the National Council of the Arts and the
National Council on the Humanities for money for planning
studies for a National Photographic Gallery.

< I can't guarantee their response -- but I know of
at least one member of the ~~Administration~~ who will give
you some help.

I hope you will do it.

Finally, may I say this: I know of no people who
have been kinder to the Humphreys than you have.

And I can say that without being too subjective.

I know of no group of people that have done more
to tell the story of what is truly going on in our country
and in the world than you have. < The lens and the shutter
help. The lens and the shutter tell us the story -- but
not the lens and the shutter alone. For the lens and the
shutter require the hands of the professional.

#

Great Entertainment

Entertainment
Conventions
Waverly Men

SAMMY DAVIS, JR.

yes, I can!

~~*am wonderful!*~~ 14

EYDIE GORME

clear statement of our Policy in Vietnam
~~*Useful Policy*~~

NORM CROSBY

~~*this is going*~~

dinner music by

UNITED STATES MARINE BAND

Capt. Dale Harpham directing

*How would you like to follow
this Act?*

Entertainment Director, Joel Margolis

Woe is the Life of the NR

Officers

Maurice Johnson

President

Charles E. Shutt

Vice President

C. Ed Alley

Secretary

Byron H. Rollins

Treasurer

Executive Board

Ollie Atkins

Murray Alvey

Henry Burroughs

Arthur Lodovichetti

George Tames

Dinner Committee

Charles E. Shutt
Chairman

George R. Gaylin

George Tames

Henry Griffin

Harry Goodman

Arnold Sachs

Guy J. DeLort

Andrew J. May
Deputy Chairman

Thomas J. O'Halloran

Norman Driscoll

Ollie Atkins

Maurice Johnson

William J. Forsythe

John Hofen

Maurice B. Sorrell

President Maurice Johnson
Chr - Charlie Shutt

Alles Atkins

NOTES -- WHITE HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHERS DINNER -- MAY 19, 1966

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For instance, there was a picture after the 1964 election when I was on vacation down in the Virgin Islands.

Sammy Davis

One of your colleagues did me the favor of taking my picture as I was flexing my muscles aboard a fishing boat.

Then there was another picture taken down there where I was exploring some deserted caves while wearing shorts and tennis shoes. Both of those did a great deal for me.

Then, more recently, there was a picture taken in Bangkok as I was riding a barge down a river there.

It happened that that was my one moment of relaxation in several weeks overseas.

I especially want to thank the photographer who showed my straw hat, flowered shirt and brownie camera to best advantage. Nothing on the trip did more to reinforce my statesmanlike image.

But a few weeks ago a picture was taken which I was sure would be very helpful. That was when I threw out the ball on opening day at D. C. Stadium. However, I got all kinds of letters telling me that my form was bad . . . that I was gripping the ball against the seams instead of with the seams . . .

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His image has changed immensely ever since that photo was taken at that party at the Smithsonian. I see that a couple of days later Bill was so unnerved that he fell down the stairs at the White House and had to be taken to the hospital.

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[Transcript]

edit & file

S.P.C.

SPEECH TO THE
WHITE HOUSE NEWS PHOTOGRAPHERS
MAY 19, 1966

Thank you very much, Charlie, members of the White House Photographers Association, and all of your many friends and guests, President Johnson. Wherever I go, it's always the same. President Johnson, it's mighty nice to see you. I want to assure this audience that the convention site for 1972 has been selected -- Waverly, Minnesota.

We'll give the boys an honest count -- out. I wonder why this cruel and inhuman punishment for the Vice President. It's a difficult job, even under the best of circumstances; and then, to have to follow an act like this and even to pretend that you appreciate the gift, is almost too much.

I did look at my watch. It's just a nervous habit. It has nothing to do with what's going to happen. But, I do want you to know that I am somewhat conscious of

time. I'm always on my own after 11:00 o'clock.

The gift tonight is deeply appreciated, and you can see that I've had all my remarks well written out ahead of time, because I didn't know what the gift was. But last year, when they were wondering what was happening to the Vice President, they gave me a rocking chair. Now they know where they want me to go, so they give me the chair for the day. And I want you to know that I am deeply appreciative. ~~Tonight,~~ thank you very much.

One thing has happened tonight beyond this tremendous entertainment -- and believe me, we are all indebted to Sammy Davis, the "Yes, I Can" man, that remarkable performer, and to Eydie Gorme and to Norm Cosby. They were simply a marvelous group to come out here and give us a show. But, I am particularly grateful to Norm Cosby, because we needed somebody in the State Department who could give a clear statement on Viet Nam policy. And I am happy that next time I meet with our President, I

can tell him I found just the man. This will improve the content of commentaries and editorials. No one any longer will have any doubt as to the unclarity of where we stand.

Well, tonight I want to make an observation, too, about photography. I wish to say that in case any of you travel to South Dakota or Minnesota, Humphrey's Drugstore has fine equipment. There is nothing in the Code of Ethics that prevents me from saying that, I want you to know.

I am very honored, truly, to be here. I am with good friends, people who have been very kind to me and wonderful professionals. As you know, of course, the Chinese have often said that one picture is worth a thousand words. I keep thinking how much you could have done for this country, if you could have taken more pictures of me. And may I say you might as well start, anytime. But, seriously, I want to thank each and every

one of the photographers here this evening for what you've done for me. For example, that picture you took of me down at the ranch, right after the Atlantic City Convention, that one on the horse. The Humane Society has been overly active ever since then, for both the horse and the rider. And then there was that picture right after I'd visited the ranch when Mrs. Humphrey and I went down to the Virgin Islands. And you may recall -- and if you don't I'd like to refresh your memory -- the picture you took of me flexing my muscles aboard a fishing boat. It was then that the President appointed Stan Musial to head up the Physical Fitness Committee. Those fine pictures! You ought to have seen the letters I got!

And then there was that other picture taken down there at the Virgin Islands, when I was exploring some deserted cave while wearing shorts and tennis shoes. Both of these did a great deal for me, I want you to know. The Women's Wear Daily captioned their photo saying: "Say it isn't so -- shades of Harry Truman."

And then more recently there was the picture on our trip to the Far East, taken in Bangkok, when I was riding a barge down the river there. It happened that that was one of the more pleasant moments of relaxation in several days of travel overseas. And I especially want to thank the photographers who showed me with straw hat, flowered shirt and a brownie camera, to the best advantage. Nothing on that trip did more to reinforce my statesman-like image than that one picture.

And then a few weeks ago, you may recall, that they were all out to the D. C. Stadium. That picture was mighty helpful, too. I threw out the ball on the opening day there at the D. C. Stadium. Ever since then, I've been doing just about as well as the Senators. I got all kinds of letters telling me that my form was bad. That I was gripping the ball against the seam, instead of with the seam. It seemed to me that I was even lucky to be out there pitching, at least alone and on my own. Frankly, I wasn't sure but what I'd lose the

ball any minute there, you know. The number one pitcher might come up and decide to pitch on his own.

But, speaking of photographs, I've been authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Fowler, to thank you for that fine photo you had of him doing the Frug. It gave new confidence to the dollar. Bill Moyers couldn't be here this evening, but he asked me to put in a special word for him, on his behalf. You saved him a trip to the Baptist Convention.

I've had a little problem with image, and I'm happy to tell you that Bill's image changed immensely ever since that photo was taken at the party at the Smithsonian. That was the liveliest thing that ever happened in the Smithsonian, that "peek-a-boo" occasion there. I noticed that a couple of days later Bill was so unnerved that he fell down the stairs in the White House. I trust you folks will take notice of that, and at the proper occasion extend your regrets and sympathies to Bill.

But the picture that I really want to tell you about is one that changed the whole picture of American foreign relations and the exposition of it. It's the picture of not eye-ball-to-eyeball, but nose-to-nose of McNamara and Fulbright. Since that time, why, Bill Fulbright has been apologizing for his speeches and McNamara has been cooing like a dove.

It only proves that you men can do great things and you ladies, too, with that camera.

But, now something in a more serious vein. It was about a year ago, as I recollect, that I made a proposal at your dinner. And I made it in all seriousness, and I am happy to tell you that it is making progress. I proposed that we create a National Photographic Gallery, because I truly believe that the art of photography in America is at its zenith, and we ought to record it for ourselves and for posterity. I suggested that we compile an exhibit of America's greatest new photos, as

well as newsreels and footage on an all-year-round basis, and keep it current as well as historical.

May I say to you tonight that it is my intention without any authority but with great enthusiasm -- that's the definition of a live Vice President, I might add -- it is my intention to encourage the Director of the United States Information Agency, Leonard Marks, to see to it that these prize-winning photographs, the prize-winning photography that we have honored here tonight, be made an international exhibit in terms of our information program around the world. I think we can do more that way than many other ways.

Now, speaking of our National Photographic Gallery, I said the idea is moving. Now, don't expect it to go too fast, because this is involved with government, and we have to take a good look at it. I have discussed this proposal in detail with the officers of this association, with the representatives of other leading photographic

groups, major newspapers and magazines, and with Federal agencies. We have studied the existing federal photo collections -- those in the Library of Congress, the National Archives and the Smithsonian Institute. We've received many excellent views and observations, and I have welcomed the views of executives and the working photographers across the country, representing wire services, commercial photography, television sources, and others.

Tonight I would like to take just one step further on this in what I think can be a very constructive endeavor. I'd like to propose, Mr. President -- I've never talked that loud to President Johnson before -- I'd like to propose that we submit an application to the National Council of the Arts and the Council on the Humanities, for at least a modest sum of money for planning studies for a National Photographic Gallery. I can't guarantee what their requirements will be, but I can

assure you that at least one member of this Administration will give you all the help that he possibly can. So, I hope that you'll do it.

Finally, my friends -- being very subjective for a moment, as I said earlier -- no one has been kinder to the Humphrey's than you have. You have been very kind to Mrs. Humphrey, to myself, to our children, to our grandchildren, and to my 1931 Ford. I want to alert you that I am going to have a 1922 La France fire engine next week. Any of you that want to come out and take a look at it and take a picture, there will only be a small fee. It's very difficult to know how to finance campaigns these days.

You're a great group of friends, but you're also great Americans and serious citizens. Our Nation needs more than an image, it needs a mind and heart, and it has both. It needs solid substance, and it has that. And I suppose there is no instrument that man ever created that was more revealing of soul and character, of purpose and spirit, than the camera, because it really tells what's

in front of the lens and shutter. I urge upon you to reveal not only that which is unusual or extraordinary about our country, not only that which is the bad news, but to reveal that in your professional competence which tells the real story of an America that is the land of promise and of hope, of a nation that has given more to more people than any nation on the face of the earth; and of a government and of a social and economic structure that has been more truly concerned about human dignity and human welfare than any government or any social and economic structure. You can help convey the message of a better America, a kinder America, a more just America, an America that seeks to lead and not to dominate, an America that seeks to give and not to take. I want to thank you tonight for giving me a wonderful evening.

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REMARKS OF THE MASTER OF CEREMONIES:

(Immediately following the Vice President's speech.)

Thank you very much, Mr. Vice President. We appreciate it deeply, and thank you all for attending this evening. With this, the festivities are at a close, and may I ask you to please stay where you are until the Vice President leaves the room. Good-night, all.



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