

REMARKS

U.S. - Canadian -
+ Greek Anthems

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

ORDER OF AHEPA CONVENTION

WASHINGTON, D.C.

AUGUST 17, 1966

F- Hah-Ræe-Stō (Thank you)

As an American of Norwegian descent -- and proud of it -- I am delighted to be here with my fellow members of AHEPA.

I am only sorry that I was not here for the presentation of the debutantes yesterday evening. But maybe it was just as well. You might have asked me to judge which of these beauteous young ladies was the most beautiful of all. And, putting discretion before valor, I might have said "Thanks, but no thanks!" -- recalling all the trouble that Paris caused for the Trojans by the choice he made.

↳ The time has long passed when people thought of the United States as a kind of melting pot, taking men and women from many countries and molding them into standardized, homogenized Americans.

↳ We are much wiser nowadays. We have come to understand that the American people are a fabric all the richer for the many different -- and distinguishable -- threads which have been woven into it.

↳ Just as we seek a world of diversity, so we take pride in an America of diversity -- of people equal in rights and esteem, but individual in talents and traditions.

↳ Note that I said "equal."

We Americans have long since learned to judge a man by his own merits, rather than his color or his name. ^{his nationality}

↳ Regrettably, ethnic prejudice persisted in our immigration laws long after most Americans had rejected it. I count it not the least of the great achievements of President Johnson that, under his leadership, the Congress purged our immigration laws of this ugly stain from the past.

↳ Until last year, the Greek quota was disgracefully low -- only 308 a year. According to the latest figures, 6583 immigration visas have already been issued to Greek citizens since the new law went into effect on December 1st of last year.

↳ This is good news for all Americans, ~~for~~ ^{men} and women of Greek descent have contributed to excellence in this country in many fields.

I think of Dimitri Mitropoulos and Maria Callas in music . . . Dr. George Papanicolaou in the fight against cancer . . . the Skouras brothers in motion pictures,

America is the bitter.

and many, many others -- not least my good friend John Brademas, one of the ablest and most dedicated members of Congress, and Constantinos Doxiadis whose higher vision of the city has helped lift our sights and spirits.

∟ This great organization, AHEPA, has exemplified the practice of good citizenship of Americans of Greek descent.

∟ Over your 44 years of existence, you have contributed generously to the relief of victims of misfortune both at home and abroad -- those of floods and hurricanes here in America and of wars and earthquakes in Greece.

∟ But your most outstanding service, I think, is the training you have given new arrivals from Greece in the obligations of American citizenship, and the encouragement you give all your members to take an active and constructive part in civic life.

↳ In matters of good government, all of us are deeply indebted to your ancestors. The idea of democracy -- indeed, the very word itself -- originated in Greece. It was set forth, for example, in the Funeral Oration of Pericles:

"Because in the administration it has respect not to the few but to the multitude, our form of government is called a democracy . . . in election to public offices we consider neither class nor rank, but each man is preferred according to his virtue or the esteem in which he is held for some special excellence . . . "

↳ Not all Greeks favored this. Plato, for example, called democracy "a form of government full of variety and disorder, and dispensing a sort of equality to equals and unequals alike."

↳ Indeed, throughout the intervening centuries, there has been a continuing contention between those who, like Plato, believed in government by an elite, and those who

held, with Aristotle, that "liberty and equality . . . will be best attained when all persons alike share in government to the utmost."

Over the centuries, there have been many kinds of governing elites -- royal, aristocratic, military, or plutocratic.

But all were alike in the firm belief that they knew what was best for the people, rather than the people themselves.

It was against "rule by the few" rather than the ^{government by} ~~many~~ ^{consent} of the ^{of} ~~people~~ ^{the} ~~people~~ ^{governed} that our American Revolution was waged. And, writing of its significance fifty years later, Thomas Jefferson said:

"All eyes are opened, or are opening, to the rights of man . . . the mass of mankind has not been born with saddles on their backs, nor a favored few, booted and spurred, ready to ride them."

Many eyes have opened since then, with consequences felt in every part of the world -- most recently, in the attainment of freedom by over a billion people of ~~freedom~~ from their colonial rules.

But proponents of elite rule persist even in this century -- notably the fascists and the communists.

Fascism and communism have their points of difference, of course. But both are characterized by the rule of a self-chosen, self-perpetuating elite. And it is this elite which arrogates to itself the right not only to govern the people but to tell them what they may do, where they may go, what they may read, and even how they should think.

Both, in fact, are profoundly reactionary.

We pay heartfelt tribute today to the valor with which the Greek people, with timely and effective help from the United States under President Truman, defended their liberty.

It is tragic when any country succumbs to totalitarianism -- but it would have been doubly tragic for this fate to befall the birthplace of democracy.

Now we are engaged in meeting another test from totalitarianism. Vietnam is a long way from Greece -- and from America -- but free men cannot stand apart from what is happening there, as you have recognized in your resolution pledging your "entire support" to our struggle against totalitarianism in Asia.

↳ But it would be dangerous for us to assume that all democracy's troubles arise from attack by fascism or communism. *→ foolhardy*

↳ It is not easy or simple for men to order their affairs democratically. Democracy is a system which makes high demands on a people's maturity and self-discipline. ↳ Indeed, it is based on the belief that there are extraordinary possibilities in ordinary people.

~~↳ As we have seen in recent years, many of the new nations have not been immediately successful in making democracy work. *But* We need not regard these failures as final.~~

I am confident that they will turn to democracy again in good time -- and with a greater degree of public experience, and a longer experience in the responsibilities of self-government, be able to make it work.

↳ Certainly we of the older nations have no right to look down our noses at their shortcomings. We have had our troubles and our problems too.

Finally, I think we would do well to remember this:

Democracy is not an end in itself. ↗

yes It is a means to an end -- the welfare and human dignity of people.

↳ If democracy does not serve the people, the danger exists that they will turn to other means, under the delusion that they will find quicker and surer results.

Jefferson said - "The only legitimate object of Government is the happiness and welfare of the People."

~~Lenin, who cynically described liberty as "so precious that it must be rationed" said that "no amount of political freedom will satisfy the hungry masses." Instead, he offered them bread, peace, and land -- false promises, but effective enough in the short run to put the Bolsheviks in power.~~

Even in this fortunate land of ours, we face real problems in making our democracy work for the benefit of all our people. It is urgent that we accomplish -- fully and quickly -- the unfinished business of assuring to every American, regardless of his color, creed, or ethnic origin, equal rights and opportunities. It is urgent that we wipe out poverty, and the dismal slums in which it festers. For, as Aristotle said: "Men come together in cities in order to live, but they remain together in order to live the good life."

The Greek city ^{Hete} stands in history as the highest form of man's expression -- the place where commerce, the arts, and ideas all came together to form an environment where man might flourish.

↳ And throughout history, cities all over the world have aspired to the Greek ideal.

↳ Anyone who travels America's highways must surely see, as I have seen, the signs outside even the most modest country town: "Welcome to Our City, the Athens of the Plains" or "Welcome to Our City, the Athens of Jones County." How many American cities, in fact, bear the name Athens or Corinth?

↳ Today, in our wealth and power, we have the means to truly create ^{great} cities in no less than the Greek tradition.

But, These cannot be cities divided. These cannot be cities ruled by those who live in glittering towers and comfortable suburbs, and inhabited by those entrapped in ghettoes and

tenements. These cannot be cities built on a foundation of unhappiness, of crowding, ^{of hatred and} pent-up violence.

We must have our vision. Then we must work to make that vision reality.

When the history of our time and civilization is written, our cities ^{should} ~~can~~ be remembered not for ~~their~~ boxlike buildings and concrete cloverleaves, but for ~~their~~ openness of mind and spirit ~~for beauty and comfort~~

and Our cities can be remembered not for their ~~messiness~~ ^{plums} and injustice . . . but for their beauty, happiness, and brotherhood.

I see the American city as a place where men can live together without strife. ~~I see the American city as~~ a place where doors and windows are thrown open to the world . . . to ideas . . . to music . . . to the arts . . . to knowledge and education.

∟ I see the American city as a place where your children and mine, and our grandchildren, may live in safety and in health . . . where they may live in abundance not only of material goods, but in abundance of opportunity and understanding.

∟ I see the American city as a reflection of our whole American society -- a better and freer society than any ever known before to man > . . . an America where each small child can look ahead to a life without fear, without hunger, without midnight knocks at the door.

I see the American city, and our American society, as an environment of free men and women -- each playing his own role, each seeking what he ^{wants} ~~seeks~~ yet without doing harm to his fellow citizen.

^{The Poet}
"I hear America singing," ¹Walt Whitman wrote a century ago, "the varied carols I hear . . . each singing what belongs to him or her and to none else . . . singing with open mouths their strong melodious songs."

This is the America I see -- not an America of discord, but a land where each "strong, melodious song" may be added to the next to form a chorus of free *and* harmonious voices.

↳ But our vision will never be fulfilled unless we take the hard and practical steps that will be required.

→ ↳ As much as we might wish it so, great American cities will not be built through the commitment of our material resources alone. They will be built only if we commit, on a far greater scale than today, our social and political resources.

↳ They will be built only when each American recognizes that the great city *must be* his city.

↳ They will be built only when each American recognizes that the hate, discrimination and poverty to be overcome are the hate, discrimination and poverty in his own community.

↳ They will be built only when each American makes it his personal business to take an honest look at what is happening around him . . . to maintain a healthy skepticism against both the keepers of the status quo and the prophets of disorder . . . to feel a personal stake in decisions affecting his community -- in short, to participate in the democratic process, as you have made it your business to participate.

When I read the other day about Mao Tse-Tung's swim in the Yangtze River, I was reminded of a ^a passage in Herodotus. He related the story of a Greek hero who swam some fantastic distance to warn the Athenian fleet. Then he adds: "If, however, I may offer an opinion, it is that he came in a boat."

So long as there are people such as the men and women of AHEPA who insist on thinking for themselves -- and who are truly dedicated to democracy -- no peddlars of tyranny or of easy solutions will find an easy path. And the future of man may yet be decided on the side of his liberation.

#####

Thomas Wolfe Quote --

"To every man regardless of his birth, his shining golden opportunity -- to every man the right to live, to work, to be himself and to become whatever thing his manhood and his vision can combine to make him -- This is the promise of America."

Zeta-ee-Akafa

The Care of human
life and happiness
is the first and
only legitimate
object of good
government,

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THE GRAND BANQUET
at the
44th Supreme Convention
of the
Order of AHEPA

Park Ballroom
Sheraton Park Hotel
Washington, D.C.

--X--

Wednesday, August 17, 1966

7:30 P.M.

WASHINGTON OFFICE
1311 G STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON 5, D. C.
METROPOLITAN 8-0889

NEW YORK CITY OFFICE
150 NASSAU STREET
NEW YORK 38, N. Y.
WORTH 4-7889

LONG ISLAND OFFICE
2350 OCEAN CREST BLVD.
FAR ROCKAWAY, L. I.
GRANITE 1-6208



1 ERNEST E. DEMATATIS, CHAIRMAN

2 (Music.)

3 (Invocation -- partly in Greek.)

4 CHAIRMAN DEMATATIS: The photographer is
5 about to take the official banquet photograph. Will the
6 waiters please leave the floor? Will everybody please
7 face the camera and remain still while the bright light
8 is moving towards you. And I'd like to have the guests
9 at the head table please rise while this picture is being
10 taken. Please rise.

11 (Photograph taken.)

12 All right, please be seated.

13 Not since 1952 have the Greeks in con-
14 vention invaded the nation's capital. Neither wind nor
15 storm, neither lightning nor rain, not even the airplane
16 strike has halted the determined archons of the AHEPA
17 to come after 14 years in force and take over the Sheraton
18 Park.

19 From their last year's convention at modern,
20 ancient Athens, where the delegates and their visiting
21 friends vied with the Olympian gods for the control of that
22 ancient cradle of civilization, by diverse means of motion
23 from all corners of the realm, practically from every
24 state of the Union, from Canada, even Australia, from
25

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1 Greece and elsewhere, they have again converged upon
 2 Washington, the Athens of the New World, to affirm and
 3 strengthen their faith in the ideals and purposes of the
 4 American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association, to
 5 bask in the warmth of long-established friendships, to
 6 take stock of their shortcomings and their accomplishments
 7 during the 44 years since the Order was founded in Atlanta,
 8 Georgia, and to delineate the guidelines for continuing
 9 its forward march.

10 To that end, and for such other counselling
 11 as the speakers in their wisdom may pronounce, I take
 12 pleasure in presenting the Toastmaster of the evening, a
 13 prominent attorney from Chicago, a former district gov-
 14 ernor, Brother Nicholas Limparis.

15 (Applause.)

16 BROTHER LIMPARI: Thank you, Brother
 17 Ernie Dematatis, Archbishop Iakovos, Ambassador Matsas,
 18 Members of the Supreme Lodge, Members of the Mother Lodge,
 19 Daughters of the Supreme Lodge, Daughters of Penelope.

20 I feel like the utility man of the Order
 21 of AHEPA. Some phone call hit my room about four o'clock
 22 in the A.M. and said that due to the plane strike, the
 23 selected Chairman or Toastmaster of this Convention could
 24 not get here, so, luckily I was not caucusing. My wife
 25 handed me the phone and said, "I guess you're the Toast-

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1 master for the Banquet."

2 And so, when I have no source to quote, I
3 revert to my parents, and I quote my father. And I guess
4 he'd say at this time that the test of any man is when he
5 rises to the occasion, and I sincerely hope tonight that
6 under the limited and inhibited circumstances, I can rise
7 to the occasion to have you join with me in executing
8 this program, and I hope that the guests at the speaker's
9 table honor your wishes in expediting the program. And I
10 want to thank you for your undivided attention henceforth.

11 (Applause.)

12 To my right we go to our fatherland and
13 present to you the first member at the speaker's table
14 on the far right, General Depiris who is the Greek Repre-
15 sentative to NATO Military Committee here in Washington,
16 D.C. He also is the former head of the Joint General
17 Staff of Defenses of the Kingdom of Greece. Mr. Depiris.

18 (Applause.)

19 And his wife, Mrs. Depiris.

20 (Applause.)

21 Next to the honored general is Mr. and Mrs.
22 Mikrichikous and Mr. Mikrichikous serves the Order of AHEPA
23 as its Supreme Vice President. Mr. Mikrichikous.

24 (Applause.)

25 CHAIRMAN DEMATATIS: Ladies and gentlemen,



1 the Vice President of the United States.

2 (Music. Applause.)

3 TOASTMASTER: Ladies and gentlemen, in line
4 with the duties of a Toastmaster, the shortest distance
5 between two points is a straight line. The great office
6 of the Order of AHEPA in the person of Kimon Doukas, its
7 Supreme President. Mr. Kimon Doukas, the Supreme President
8 of the Order of AHEPA.

9 (Applause.)

10 MR. DOUKAS: Ladies and gentlemen, there
11 has been a misunderstanding. Since the Vice President
12 wants to stay with us for a little while, therefore we
13 shall continue with the program, and then the Vice
14 President will speak later.

15 Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 TOASTMASTER: Just reverting to the speaker's
18 table to my right, we have with us tonight a young star-
19 light in the Hellenic community, who happens to be a
20 Congressman and he hails from Indiana, the wonderful and
21 lovable John Badames, Congressman from Indiana, and his
22 guest, Miss Irene.

23 (Applause.)

24 And to his right his guest, Miss Irene.

25 (Applause.)



1 In the AHEPA family we have with us what we
2 call the feminine side of the family, and because she is
3 youthful and lovely, I will call upon Miss Cleo Lothariis,
4 the President of the Maids of Athena, Miss Cleo Lothariis.

5 (Applause.)

6 MISS LOTHARIIS: Mr. Toastmaster, Mr. Vice
7 President, Your Eminence, distinguished guests, members
8 and friends of our beloved AHEPA family.

9 Our society today contains many paradoxes:
10 where there is great faith, doubt is in abundance; peace
11 in a temporary sense always follows war; man is capable of
12 good and evil in the same breath; universal good will and
13 self interest are evident.

14 Throughout history individuals of vision have
15 reached toward each other and pursued brotherhood in the
16 finest sense of the word -- a brotherhood that serves as a
17 vehicle for one another's potential creativity and noble
18 good.

19 But due to man's spiritual searching and
20 emotion desire for immediate ends, many values of noble
21 birth grew into cancerous existence and fruitless ends.
22 And so in our moment of national keen paradoxes, the words
23 of Plato seem to fill our anguish and bring stark reality
24 closer: "What is honored in a country is cultivated there,"
25 and for this moment in our convention of the national AHEPA

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1 family, what is honored in a fraternity is honored there.

2 So, if we are dissatisfied with many of the
3 values in our society, to whom shall we return, what method
4 shall be taken, what values to be honored and cultivated?

5 One candidate on the threshold of leadership
6 is the Order of AHEPA, for before the fact comes the vision
7 and before the vision comes the dream. Do we dare to dream
8 of a brotherhood so creative, so centered around its youth
9 as to emerge as the worthy heir of our heritage and the
10 Wart of America's Camelot?

11 Let us remember and honor that we have but
12 one gift to give as a privilege of our heritage -- just one,
13 the promise of our youth. Our youth, aware of its respon-
14 sibilities of birth and environment, have taken steps to
15 demonstrate its promise through our many national projects:
16 Mal Corps (?) Vietnam, mental health volunteer work, and
17 our national immigration orientation program.

18 Each of our members have been given the op-
19 portunity to grow within her spirit and formulate her own
20 purpose in our American dream. My experiences serving as
21 Grand President, have been ones filled with the human
22 spirit -- trial, error, failure, conflict, challenge and
23 esthetic beauty.

24 So let us dedicate ourselves to narrow the
25 gap between our promise and performance, and remember,



1 through our accomplishments lead our beloved America to
 2 bring joy to its Mother, so America may rekindle where
 3 its Mother, Greece, so beautifully and yet so tragically,
 4 froze the human spirit.

5 And most important, let us honor our youth
 6 and take our old slogans that have somewhat limited our
 7 scope and let it be. On behalf of the Maids of Athena
 8 and the Sons of Pericles, we give you our hope and our
 9 dream: Youth and AHEPA, first to new horizons.

10 (Applause.)

11 TOASTMASTER: When I assumed one of the
 12 largest obligations in my life, at least I thought it was,
 13 the man that looked to me for the payment of the debt
 14 requested of me that my spouse join with me to waive her
 15 dower rights and her homestead rights in and to the
 16 mortgage. The only woman that had the nerve to jointly
 17 and separately sign the debt, my lovely wife Julie.

18 (Applause.)

19 In my activities in the Midwest as just
 20 an ordinary member of AHEPA, I take pleasure and pride
 21 in assisting what is known as the Junior Order of AHEPA,
 22 the future and the hope of the Hellenic community, the
 23 Order of the Sons of Pericles. I can truthfully say that
 24 since I have been active in the Sons of Pericles as an
 25 adult advisor, having graduated from its ranks and having

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continued to serve the order, I find great pleasure in observing the youth that leads the Order of the Sons of Pericles.

The next young fellow has a father who also serves the Order of the Sons of Pericles. He has a father who has continued to dedicate himself to service to the community, service to the country. He continues to serve the Order of AHEPA and he is a chip of the old block, so to speak.

It's none other than the fine person of Louis Strike, the President of the Order of the Sons of Pericles.

Brother Louis Strike.

(Applause.)

LOUIS STRIKE: Mr. Toastmaster, Vice President Humphrey, Archbishop Iakovos, Supreme President Doukas, members of the AHEPA family, and my fellow Americans.

Today's youth is of no value if when it becomes time for us to accept our responsibility, we are not responsible. Today's youth is of no value if when it becomes time for us to teach, we are uneducated. And most important today's youth is of no value if when it becomes time for us to lead, we are not leaders.

The most important function in an organization open to young men can perform is to provide leaders



1 to the society which supports it.

2 Today in my fraternity there are those of
3 us who look past our senior organization and our Hellenic
4 community. Today in my fraternity there are those of us
5 who look to our future as ambitious leaders producing in
6 the fields of education, medicine, science and industry.
7 And today in my fraternity, there are those of us who look
8 past our experience as leaders in the schools and organi-
9 zations, and we look into our community and to the day
10 when we will step up and be counted as the leaders of our
11 country.

12 Today we stand on the eve of a great tech-
13 nological revolution, and my generation stands as a product
14 of this revolution. No other generation in the history
15 of mankind has ever been asked to bear a heavier burden,
16 and the leaders of no other generation in the history of
17 the world have ever risen to the task more confidently or
18 more ably than will mine.

19 Fear not, my fellow Americans, at the
20 steady flux of publicity gained by misled youths repre-
21 senting extreme minorities, for the sporadic instances
22 of the irresponsibility of my generation headline much
23 better than our instances of mature responsibility. The
24 true leaders of my generation look coldly at those who
25 would paint a picture of helplessness and despair. We

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1 waste no sympathy on those who would jeopardize their
 2 well-being for a distorted principle, and we hold openly
 3 in contempt those who would flagrantly abuse their oppor-
 4 tunity.

5 It is true that the membership of my or-
 6 ganization is defined only in terms of young men of Hellenic
 7 descent. It is true that we warmly embrace the heritage
 8 of our ancestors. It is true that we are more than proud
 9 of what our progenitors have given the modern world, and
 10 as I say, for the members and leaders of my fraternity, it
 11 is true that we are of Greek descent.

12 But just as we were born American, so shall
 13 we remain, proud and thankful to be living and working in
 14 the land of opportunity.

15 (Applause.)

16 TOASTMASTER: Now you see why I didn't have
 17 to waste too many words on the introduction of the Presi-
 18 dent of the Order of the Sons of Pericles.

19 At every body or assembly, the first duty
 20 of the delegates assembled in convention is to elect a
 21 chairman who will guide the destinies of the legislation
 22 and the program of the Order of AHEPA. At this 44th
 23 Annual Supreme Convention of the Order of AHEPA, the
 24 delegates assembled here in Washington, D.C., after
 25 due deliberation and after all of the caucusing and

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1 politicking, selected for its chairman at this national
2 conclave a past Supreme President, Brother Gus Vidignis,
3 the Chairman of the 44th Annual Convention.

4 (Applause.)

5 I must withdraw the first name and sub-
6 stitute Peter Vidignis, is that right? Or is it Gus?
7 Which is it, now? Gus -- Constantine? Well, that's
8 number one.

9 And next to the Chairman is Mrs. Sue
10 Viriis, his wife.

11 By virtue of the Office of the Vice
12 President of the United States, I have been directed to
13 make two more mistakes, and then I can go home. I made
14 one. All right -- now.

15 As always, a corporation must have its
16 managers, who will direct the finances, control the assets,
17 make the disbursements, and see that the organization or
18 the fraternity remains solvent.

19 Like the Federal Government, the Greeks have
20 no exclusive on deficit spending. (Laughter.) But, like
21 the Federal Government and like the great sovereignty of
22 the United States of America, the Order of AHEPA, drawing
23 on its heritage and drawing on its assets must admit that
24 in order to make progress, there comes a time where you
25 must deficit-spend, and I hope that the future destiny

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1 of the Order of AHEPA, will, as it has in the past, when
 2 it adopts a project, when it adopts a cause, spend the
 3 money and find a way to pay for it later.

4 This board of managers, this board of trus-
 5 tees, is directed by a nice fellow who has given me lots
 6 of advice in the Order of AHEPA, the lovable, venerable
 7 Gus Hedovis, Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

8 (Applause.)

9 I don't know whether protocol would permit
 10 me, but I think it's about time just to deviate from the
 11 right, hopscotch over to my left and make a few more intro-
 12 ductions until the Vice President enjoys the Melon A La Mode.

13 (Laughter -- applause.)

14 Now, to my left -- I must remind the
 15 assembly and the guests that every national conclave requires
 16 the services of a general chairman, and although I never
 17 blow my virtues, I want to tell you that one of them was
 18 chairmanning the convention in Chicago in the year 1962.

19 Although I didn't make too much noise, I
 20 didn't sleep much, I even had to answer requests for iron-
 21 ing boards and irons and once had to get -- be a beautician
 22 for a woman, answer the call of death and Charos and in
 23 the tradition of (Greek name?) I was really disturbed
 24 because I missed the nomination of my good friend Mick
 25 Charukas who was worried whether he'd ever make Supreme



1 President. Little did he know that it took death to make
2 him Supreme President of the Order of AHEPA, because if
3 I made the nomination, perhaps Nick wouldn't have.

4 Now, at this convention, and I must say
5 that I've observed the internal mechanics, the manifesta-
6 tions of joy and pleasure which all of you are partaking,
7 and it takes a colleague, a very nice lawyer, a very
8 active member in Washington, D.C. and its bar -- I like
9 him, he's a nice fellow -- Peter Charukas, Chairman of
10 this conclave, and I want you to give him a good hand.

11 (Applause.)

12 Next to the Chairman is his lovely wife,
13 Mrs. Peter Charukas.

14 (Applause.)

15 Somehow, they've permeated the roster with
16 women and men, and we now ---I don't know whether I'm making
17 another error, but we now have the national advisors --
18 national advisor, rather -- of the Maids of Athena in the
19 person of Miss Mary Donou.

20 (Applause.)

21 You know, we lawyers -- I guess it's part
22 of our ethics or at least canonical law, with the permission
23 of the Archbishop, that we pay due homage and respect to
24 our colleagues, and I don't want to be unethical, and I
25 don't want to be minused on the canon, so I must recognize



1 the leader-advisor of this great fraternity, another col-
 2 league of mine, William Saveris, the Supreme Counsellor
 3 of the Order of AHEPA.

4 (Applause.)

5 And next to our Supreme Counsellor, Miss
 6 Francis Yaki, the Grand Governor of the Daughters of
 7 Penelope. (Applause.)

8 We do have a checkbook in the Order of
 9 AHEPA, and checks must be signed, pursuant to the mandates
 10 and direction of the Board of Trustees and the President
 11 and the Executive Secretary, and in that office we have
 12 a very personable, active member, Mr. Gus Charivas, the
 13 Supreme Treasurer of the Order of AHEPA.

14 (Applause.)

15 And Mrs. Charivas, his lovely wife.

16 (Applause.)

17 Like any organization, in order to pacify
 18 our egos and substantiate the reason for attending these
 19 conclaves to our wives, and perhaps the Internal Revenue
 20 Service -- I hope the Vice President will delete that
 21 from his memory -- we need additional titles. So we use
 22 what ever corporate entity does, and particularly large
 23 corporations when they don't give raises -- and to which
 24 the Order of AHEPA gives nothing but expects you to spend
 25 money, and this is natural. We have a Supreme Vice

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1 Chairman of the Board of Trustees in the person of Sam
2 Mekous, who has a lot of beer from where he hails. Sam
3 Mekous.

4 (Applause.)

5 Now I'll exercise what they call the better
6 part of discretion -- I hope -- in pausing and re-introduce,
7 re-affirm, re-acknowledge the great leader of this fra-
8 ternity, for the purpose of proceeding with this program.
9 Your Supreme President, Kimon Doukas, President of the
10 Order of AHEPA.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. DOUKAS: Mr. Toastmaster, Mr. Vice
13 President of the United States, Your Eminence, Archbishop
14 Iakovos, Your Excellency Ambassador Matsas, my colleagues
15 of the Supreme Lodge, the Board of Trustees, the Grand
16 Lodge, the Daughters of Penelope and the Maids of Athena,
17 and the Supreme Lodge of the Sons of Pericles, fellow
18 delegates, ladies and gentlemen.

19 I shall not try to compete with the oratory
20 and the deep feeling of your young Supreme Governor Strike
21 and Grand President Lothariis, who from their experience
22 gave us the meaning of life in the eyes and in the hearts
23 and in the minds of our young people.

24 However, I want to exercise the prerogative
25 of your Supreme President and express the thanks of the

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1 fraternity to the fellow delegates and to the many officers
 2 of our chapters and our districts who have been laboring
 3 in the highways, the byways, the innyards of AHEPA and have
 4 been advancing forward in the name of our great fraternity
 5 in behalf of our nation and in behalf of our people.

6 Tonight it has been my and it will be my
 7 extreme pleasure and privilege and honor to introduce to
 8 you a fellow Ahepan who occupies the highest office in
 9 this blessed land, a member of our Demosthenes Chapter in
 10 Minneapolis, Minnesota, the great Democrat, a devoted
 11 patriot and a dedicated servant of the people of the
 12 United States and the world.

13 Ladies and gentlemen, the Vice President
 14 of the United States.

15 (Applause.)

16 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Thank you. Thank
 17 you very much.

18 Thank you, Mr. Supreme President of the
 19 Order of AHEPA, my good friend, Mr. Doukas; Your Eminence,
 20 Archbishop Iakovos; Your Excellency, Mr. Ambassador, and
 21 to the Miss Grand President of the Daughters of Penelope
 22 and to the Supreme President of the Sons of Pericles, and
 23 the Grand President of the Maids of Athena, each and
 24 every one of you a warm and friendly and sincere greeting.

25 I must say ---I must say that after hearing

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1 young Louis Strike speak, I predict a great political
2 career for this man.

3 (Applause.)

4 Now, one of my good Greek friends said,
5 "The first thing that you say, Mr. Vice President, when
6 you appear at that rostrum is -- (Greek words.)" That's
7 not a bad Greek accent for a Norwegian. (Laughter.)

8 It's a joy to be with you this evening,
9 and a particular joy to be in the presence of many of
10 old friends and young friends of the Midwest and parti-
11 cularly my home state of Minnesota. I look down at this
12 table and see a very dear friend that I've mentioned on
13 other occasions -- and I hesitate just to mention one. I
14 have the list of all of them and hope to see them this
15 evening, but I've been at Jimmy's place so many times back
16 on Hennapin Avenue in Minneapolis that I owe him a com-
17 mercial. And I want Jim Lelas to know that I've appre-
18 ciated all of those good lunches that we've had together.

19 (Applause.)

20 And that goes for Connie Valemos, too, right
21 here in Washington, D.C. as well.

22 I know that tonight our friend Nick Barras
23 has been filling in for John Mitchell of Nebraska, but
24 Chicago is always willing to take over for Nebraska on
25 any occasion. (Laughter.) And I want to compliment you,



1 Nick, on two things: the manner in which you conduct this
 2 meeting and the time that you gave me to have my only food
 3 since breakfast. You are a generous and compassionate
 4 man.

5 And I look down the table here and see
 6 one of the finest men in the Government of the United
 7 States, the gentleman that does such a magnificent job
 8 in the Congress that you can't help but just sort of
 9 stand up a little taller and be filled with genuine
 10 pride. And of course I refer to none other than this
 11 good-looking, fine young man who always has with him
 12 a lovely, charming young lady, John Vlademis.

13 (Applause.)

14 Now, I promised His Eminence, and I promised
 15 the Supreme President that I would not bring any politics
 16 into this meeting tonight, but can you imagine a member
 17 of the Government of the United States, an elected member,
 18 who's served sixteen years in the Senate, being at a meet-
 19 ing with Americans of Greek descent and not having a little
 20 politics? (Laughter.) We learned it from you folks.

21 (Applause.)

22 So, it's my hope and expectation that when
 23 that 90th Congress convenes, that the Congressional Dis-
 24 tricts and Hellenic America will be represented not only
 25 by this good man, John Vlademis that sits here with us



1 tonight, but by Peter Kerous of Maine and Nick Galaphenicus
2 of North Carolina.

3 (Applause.)

4 And I am pleased that Nick's mother is
5 here tonight -- at least I was so told -- and I want to
6 salute her tonight. And I have another good friend by
7 the name of Nick -- that seems to be a rather good Greek
8 name, and he's been worried what I'm going to say here
9 this evening. His reputation is sort of on the line. But
10 Nick Costapoulis and his dear wife Madeline have been
11 very dear friends to Muriel Humphrey and the Vice President,
12 and they have those endearing attributes of Greek character
13 and one of those attributes, and I think the finest, is
14 loyalty and devotion. They say that when a Greek is with
15 you, he's with you all the way, and you don't have to
16 worry.

17 (Applause.)

18 And by the way, incidentally, I'm being well
19 guarded tonight, I want you to know, by one of my good
20 friends of the Secret Service, who is of Greek descent,
21 Ken Genous. So, we are covered all the way tonight.

22 (Applause.)

23 And I think you do know that the American
24 Greek community has infiltrated the highest offices of
25 the land, because the President of the United States

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1 depends upon his strong right arm that works with the
2 Congress of the United States, none other than Mike
3 Manatos.

4 (Applause.)

5 Mike has served two presidents faithfully
6 and ably, and I salute him. It's been my privilege to
7 work with him very closely.

8 And then just to top it off, one of my
9 secretaries, and a beautiful young lady she is -- I just
10 don't have enough time to see her as often as I would
11 like, Miss Zoe Grazias is here with us tonight, too, from
12 my office.

13 (Applause.)

14 And I've just been informed by this young
15 -- who was that chap that ran to warn them at the pass
16 at Thermopylae? -- anyway, John Vlademis just came up
17 and said, "Don't you forget John Plemedes, too, who is from
18 North Carolina."

19 (Applause.)

20 I was trying to figure out why my friend,
21 Mr. Doukas, would invite to come here tonight to be your
22 speaker. I was asked by Nick Costapoulis last year if
23 I wouldn't like to go to Athens. And he said, "Oh, you
24 ought to go there. It'll be the greatest time of your
25 life. There'll be 25,000 Greeks there, and just look at



1 the votes that that'll mean. (Laughter.) And I said,
 2 "Nick, are you trying to get me there or get you there?"
 3 (Laughter.)

4 Well, I want to let him know that I haven't
 5 let him down. It isn't Athens, but it's the best that we
 6 could do under these circumstances. But I really looked
 7 forward to that visit last year. It wasn't possible be-
 8 cause of the work in Congress to get away.

9 But the Office of Vice President, these
 10 days, seems to have many varied responsibilities, and
 11 some of these responsibilities are of Greek origin, either
 12 of classical Greece or of modern Greece. For example,
 13 Greece gave to mankind some of the world's greatest scien-
 14 tists, and the Vice President is chairman of the Space
 15 Council and chairman now of the Council on Marine Resources
 16 and Engineering and Development. And I've always been
 17 interested in medicine, as a pharmacist, of course, and
 18 the Greeks are really the founders and the fathers of medi-
 19 cine.

20 And in sports, I've been interested of late
 21 in trying to settle some disputes between two of our great
 22 sports organizations as to participation in the Olympics,
 23 and the Olympics of course have their origin in Greece, so
 24 that when it came to a problem of the Olympics, they imme-
 25 diately got hold of the Vice President.



1 And the President appointed me as chairman
2 of his Youth Opportunity Committee, and Greek youth, as
3 you heard tonight, occupies a special place in your hearts
4 as was indicated by the presence of so many fine young men
5 and women in this convention. And I salute them. And I
6 salute, in particular, the message that came to us tonight
7 from this fine young man, the Supreme President of the Sons
8 of Pericles. That was a stirring message.

9 (Applause.)

10 I can tell you in all sincerity that I am
11 so proud of the privilege that has been mine to be asso-
12 ciated with members of our own chapter, the Demosthenes
13 Chapter, out in the Twin City area of Minnesota. Some of
14 my dearest friends of that order, of that particular chapter
15 and they're here with me tonight and with you.

16 I'm awfully sorry, though, that I haven't
17 been able to be present for many of the events that have
18 taken place. Some of the charming young ladies called on
19 me in the Vice President's Office. We had a splendid
20 visit. But I know that you had the presentation of the
21 debutantes here yesterday evening, if I'm not mistaken.

22 But maybe it's just as well that I wasn't
23 here because you might have asked me to be judge, and
24 that would have been a very, very difficult assignment,
25 to have been made -- to have been called upon to judge

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1 these beautiful young ladies. And putting discretion before
 2 valor, I might have had to say "Thanks but no thanks," re-
 3 calling the trouble of an ancient Greek. You remember the
 4 trouble that Paris caused with the Trojans by the choice
 5 that he made? (Laughter.) And I wouldn't want anything
 6 like that to happen to this Order or this country.

7 Now, the time has long passed, my dear
 8 friends, when we look upon America as a melting pot. You
 9 remember there was a time that we talked about our nation
 10 as sort of a melting pot for the races of mankind and the
 11 national origins, taking men and women from many countries
 12 and molding them, some people thought, into a sort of
 13 standardized, homogenized, synchronized American.

14 Sometimes people thought that was the way
 15 it ought to be, but we're wiser nowadays. We've come to
 16 understand that the American people, and indeed the American
 17 nation, are a fabric all the richer from the many different
 18 and distinguishable threads which have been woven into it.

19 So, we have one nation from many, but the
 20 many with their own individual heritage and culture and
 21 faith and traditions.

22 And just as we seek, as President Kennedy
 23 put it, "a world safe for diversity," so we take pride in
 24 an America in which there can be differences, diversity.

25 Yes, diversity of people equal in right, esteemed but

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1 individual. Precious individuality and talents and tra-
2 ditions.

3 Now, note that I used that word "equal."
4 You know, we Americans have long since learned that to
5 judge a man by his own merits rather than by his national
6 origin or his color or his religion or how he spells his
7 name.

8 Regrettably, ethnic prejudice persisted,
9 however, in our immigration laws as you know, long after
10 most Americans had rejected that prejudice. I counted not
11 the least of the great achievements of President Johnson
12 that under his leadership and under his direction -- and
13 once again I'm referring to my friend, Mike Manatos, with
14 his able, effective work in the Congress -- the Congress
15 purged our immigration laws of this ugly stain of national
16 prejudice or ethnic prejudice from the past.

17 I had the privilege as a member of the Senate
18 of sponsoring legislation, before I became Vice President,
19 to improve and indeed make decent and humane our immigra-
20 tion laws. I was a co-sponsor for years with the late
21 President Kennedy when he was in the Senate, and then with
22 Senator Hart of Michigan, and I presided in the Senate as
23 the Vice President and presiding officer to see Ted Kennedy
24 and Phil Hart, amongst others, lead a fight to make our
25 immigration laws decent, humane and just. And I know that

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Braden
 1 John Viadens down here and Manny Celler, just to mention
 2 a few, and there were many others, that took a noble and
 3 courageous stand to make this a better and a more just
 4 country by law.

5 (Applause.)

6 Until last year, as you know, the Greek
 7 quota was disgracefully low, I think only 308 a year, and
 8 according to the latest figures, Mr. Ambassador and my
 9 fellow Americans, 6,583 immigration visas have already been
 10 issued to Greek citizens since the new law went into effect
 11 on December 1 of last year. We made some progress.

12 (Applause.)

13 Now, isn't that good news? I think it's
 14 good news for all Americans. America is all the richer
 15 and all the better for the influx of these wonderful, good
 16 people; men and women of Greek descent have contributed
 17 immeasurably to the strength of this nation, and to excel-
 18 lence in this country in a host of fields, and I could
 19 spend my time tonight reciting the names of great Greeks,
 20 Americans of Greek descent who have made a name for them-
 21 selves and their people in this nation that will live
 22 forever.

23 I remember the director of our own symphony
 24 orchestra back in Minneapolis, and later on he went to
 25 New York, Dimitri Mitropoulis. (Applause.) Maria Callas --



1 Maria Callas in music, and Dr. George Papaniklou in his
 2 fight against cancer, and the Skouras Brothers in motion
 3 pictures. And many, many others. I've already mentioned
 4 our friend, the Congressman, one of our ablest and most
 5 dedicated members.

6 Constantinos Doxiados, whose higher vision
 7 of the city has helped lift our sights and our spirits.

8 (Applause.)

9 And this great architect has been honored
 10 only recently for his eminence and for his excellence.

11 Now, this great organization of AHEPA has
 12 exemplified the practice of good citizenship of Americans
 13 of Greek descent; over your 44 years of existence, you've
 14 contributed generously to the relief of victims of mis-
 15 fortune both at home and abroad. But I think your most
 16 outstanding service is not just the aid and the comfort
 17 and the charity that you've extended to those that were
 18 less fortunate, but I think it's the citizenship training
 19 that you have afforded and given the new arrivals from
 20 Greece in the obligations and the privileges and responsi-
 21 bilities of American citizenship.

22 And then the encouragement that you give
 23 to every one of your members to take an active and con-
 24 structive part in civic life. After all, this word "Poli-
 25 tics" is a Greek derivation. If I'm not mistaken, it comes

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1 from the Greek word "polis" and it relates to community
 2 life and to civic action. In matters of good government,
 3 all of us are indebted to your ancestors, and you do not
 4 need a lesson in ancient history.

5 But the idea of democracy is a precious
 6 idea, and it took a great people to conceive that idea,
 7 and it originated in Greece. It was set forth, for example,
 8 in beautiful terminology in that memorable funeral oration
 9 of Pericles; and you're really not an educated man until
 10 you've read the funeral oration of Pericles.

11 You remember his words when he said, "because
 12 in the administration" -- speaking of the government of
 13 his city -- "it has respect not to the few but to the
 14 multitude, our form of government is called a democracy.
 15 In election to public offices, we consider neither class
 16 nor rank, but each man is preferred according to his virtue
 17 or the esteem in which he is held for some special excellence."
 18 If you are ever asked for a definition of democracy, remember
 19 what Pericles said --- you will never improve upon it.

20 It was the words that inspired Lincoln to
 21 speak of "government of the people and by the people and
 22 for the people." Now, of course, not all Greeks favored
 23 Pericles or even his concept of government. Greeks are an
 24 argumentative group (Laughter) delightfully so. I guess
 25 that's why they let me into the Demosthenes Chapter.

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(Laughter and applause.)

We've heard mention tonight of that great philosopher Plato, but he called democracy a form of government full of variety and disorder. Sometimes you almost begin to think he had a very accurate definition. And dispensing a sort of equality to equals and unequals alike. Indeed, throughout the intervening centuries, there has been a continuing contention between those, who, like Plato, truly believed in government by an elite, and those who held with Aristotle that liberty and equality will be best attained when all persons alike share in government to the utmost.

It was Aristotle who gave our Founding Fathers the inspiration to speak of government by the consent of the governed.

Now, over the centuries there have been many kinds of governing elites. There has been royalty, aristocratic, military and plutocratic elites. But they were all alike in one fond belief that they knew what was best for the people rather than the people knowing what was best for themselves, and it was against this rule of the few rather than the rule of the majority, government by the consent of the governed, the Aristotelian theory, that our American Revolution was waged. And writing of its significance 50 years after the Revolution, Thomas Jefferson,

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1 our great Democrat said, "All eyes are opened or are open-
2 ing to the rights of men. The mass of mankind has not
3 been born with shackles on their backs nor a favored few
4 booted and spurred, ready to ride them."

5 What powerful words. And wouldn't it be
6 good if the whole world knew that? And wouldn't it be
7 good if some of those today who try to ride on the backs
8 of the people with boots and spurs would take a little
9 lesson from Thomas Jefferson and get off of those backs
10 and let people be people and live as people?

11 (Applause.)

12 But, you see, Pericles and Aristotle and
13 Jefferson represent the future. They are eternal in the
14 truth of their message, because freedom is on the march.
15 Over one billion people have gained their freedom since
16 the end of World War II. Over 70 new nations have come
17 into being, and not one has gone communist. I think that's
18 a remarkable record.

19 (Applause.)

20 But the proponents of this rule of the few
21 and even of the one persist even into this, the 20th
22 century, notably the Fascists and the Communists. Fascism
23 and Communism have their points of difference, of course,
24 but both are characterized by the rule of the self-chosen,
25 self-appointed governing, perpetuating elite, and it is

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1 elite which arrogates to itself the right not only to gov-
2 ern the people, but to tell them what they may do, where
3 they may go, what they may read and even to deny them the
4 right to worship and how they should think.

5 Why, I think I know why the Greek people
6 are a great people above all other reasons: because of
7 their deep and abiding faith, their religious commitment and
8 their love of family. And people that love their God and
9 love their family are indestructible, make no mistake about
10 it.

11 (Applause.)

12 The Fascists and the Communists are not
13 revolutionists. They are, in fact, reactionaries. We
14 pay a heartfelt tribute today to the valor which the Greek
15 people, with timely and effective help from the United
16 States under President Truman, defended their liberty.
17 What a great day for freedom.

18 (Applause.)

19 Sometimes we almost forget, don't we, that
20 it happened or almost happened. It is tragic when any
21 country falls to totalitarianism, but it would have been
22 doubly tragic if the cradle of democracy had fallen to
23 the despot, to the tyrant, to the communist. That would
24 have been a cruel hoax and a cruel blow to the history
25 of mankind.

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1 Now, my fellow Americans we are engaged
2 today in meeting another test from totalitarianism, and
3 I can remember as plainly as I see you tonight, when there
4 were those that said that the Communists would triumph
5 in Greece; when there were those that said that it couldn't
6 be defended.

7 And I can remember, if I may just take your
8 minds, for a moment, that there was a change of government
9 11 times in 189 months in Greece as Greece fought for her
10 right to live as a free nation. And she was the victim
11 of attack within and without, guerrilla warfare and the
12 supplies and the manpower of the Communist neighbor. But
13 she stood and stood firm, even when over three-fourths of
14 her territory was in the hands of the Communists, even
15 when many areas of Athens itself were occupied by the
16 guerrilla Communist forces.

17 And today Greece stands as a proud, growing,
18 progressive country. And I know that Vietnam is a long
19 ways away from Greece and a long ways away from America.
20 But the same struggle takes place. Free men cannot stand
21 apart from what is happening there, and just as it fell
22 to the lot of America to come to the aid of the beleaguered
23 Greece after World War II to help the Greek people sustain
24 their freedom, and few others helped; so it has fallen
25 to the lot of your beloved America to once again stand

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1 guardian and come to the help of a beleaguered people in
2 South Vietnam who want their freedom and their right to
3 live.

4 (Applause.)

5 And I want to thank you on behalf of your
6 President and on behalf of a grateful nation, pledging
7 your entire support to the struggle against totalitarianism
8 in Asia. Make no mistake about it: totalitarianism is a
9 contagious virus if left unchecked. It's a violation of
10 our faith, our religious faith, our political faith, and
11 of our heritage.

12 And we have received inspiration, we of
13 this generation, from brave men who stood up against it
14 in little Greece, when a partnership was molded between
15 Greece and America for freedom, and from that experience
16 we have gained inspiration for another partnership between
17 the freedom-loving people of Asia and America to stand up
18 against Communism.

19 (Applause.)

20 But I'm not here to tell you that all of
21 our troubles here or elsewhere are due to the Fascists
22 or the Communists. It's not that easy, and you and I
23 know better. It's not easy or simple for them to build
24 democracies or to order their lives democratically.

25 Winston Churchill once said that "democracy



1 is the worst form of all governments, except any other."

2 It's the best form of all governments with all of its
3 problems.

4 Democracy is a system which makes very high
5 demands on people's maturity and responsibility, as your
6 young man spoke tonight. And self-discipline. Indeed, it
7 is based on the belief that there are extraordinary quali-
8 ties and possibilities in ordinary people, great faith in
9 the people, and democracy offers the reasonable, legal,
10 orderly way to change.

11 Violence, disorder, riots have no place
12 in a democratic system. There is no need and no place
13 for it. (Applause.) But I want us to remember that
14 democracy is not an end in itself.

15 Jefferson said that "the only legitimate
16 objective of government is the happiness and the welfare
17 of the people." What a philosopher, this man Jefferson, and
18 yet a practical man in the field of politics and government.
19 Democracy must, in other words, serve the welfare and the
20 human dignity of people. And it is this concept and this
21 belief of human dignity that separates free men and free
22 nations from the totalitarian. We believe with a spiritual
23 conviction that there is something precious about man, his
24 soul and his spirit, and that it shall not be defiled by
25 another man or a despot or a tyrant. This is the moral

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1 commitment of freedom.

2 Now, if democracy does not serve the people,
3 however, a danger exists that the people may turn to other
4 means under the illusion or the false promise that they
5 will find quicker and surer results. Why, even in this
6 fortunate and blessed land of ours, and my, how fortunate
7 we are, we face real problems in making our democracy work,
8 and work for the benefit of all the people.

9 It is urgent, and I underscore the word
10 urgent, that we accomplish fully and quickly the unfinished
11 business of assuring every American, whatever his station
12 in life, whatever his background, whatever his race, whatever
13 his origin, his faith, his color -- equal rights and
14 opportunities-- and then ask that same man to take on the
15 responsibilities of American citizenship.

16 It's urgent that we wage war on poverty
17 and wipe it out and the dismal slums in which it festers,
18 for as Aristotle said -- and he is my favorite Greek
19 philosopher -- "Men come together in cities in order to
20 live, but they remain together in cities in order to live
21 the good life."

22 The word "city" should symbolize the good
23 life, not merely the coming together of people, but the
24 good, wholesome life. And the Greek city-state stands in
25 history as the highest form of man's expression, the place

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1 where commerce and the arts and ideas all came together to
2 form an environment where man could flourish and live the
3 life of the pursuit of happiness.

4 And throughout history, cities all over the
5 world have aspired to this Greek ideal, and few have ever
6 attained it. Why, anyone of you that has ever travelled
7 along our highways, you're always coming into some town
8 that's "Athens" or it's "Corinth." Why, in Wisconsin,
9 they even have Sparta. And there is one Greek name after
10 another. And why? Because these great Greek city-states
11 represented the best that civilization was able to produce
12 in terms of a city environment.

13 Today, now, in our own wealth and power,
14 which far exceeds anything that history has ever known,
15 I think we have the means to create truly great cities in
16 no less than this great Greek tradition, and I can't think
17 of a better place to talk about a city than amongst Greeks,
18 whose heritage is the city.

19 Now, these cities that I speak of, though,
20 cannot be divided. You can't have two cities in one.
21 These cannot be cities ruled by those who live in the
22 glittering towers and the comfortable suburbs and inhabited
23 by those that are entrapped in ghettos and tenements and
24 slums. It can't be.

25 These cities cannot be built on a foundation

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1 of unhappiness, of overcrowding, of bitterness and hatred
2 and pent-up violence that explodes.

3 When the history of our time is written, I
4 hope that our cities can be remembered, not for their box-
5 like, rectangular buildings and their concrete cloverleaves
6 that lead us into these areas called cities, but for the
7 openness of mind and spirit, for comfort and an environment
8 in which man can flourish.

9 Our cities can be remembered, my fellow
10 Americans, as the great Greek cities, not for their slums
11 and their injustice, but for their beauty and for their
12 creativity and even for their brotherhood.

13 You see, I see the American city as a place
14 where men can live together without strife, a place where
15 the doors and the windows are thrown open to the world, to
16 ideas and to music, to commerce and to the arts, and to
17 knowledge and to education -- that's what a city should
18 be; that's what the great Greek cities symbolized.

19 I see the American city as a place where your children
20 and mine and our grandchildren live in safety and in
21 health, and where they may live in abundance, and not
22 only of material goods, but the abundance of opportunity
23 and understanding.

24 Above all, I see the American city as a
25 reflection of our whole American society, a better and a



1 freer society than has ever been known before by name.

2 I see the American city and our American
3 society as an environment of free men and women, different
4 each, but each playing his own role, each seeking what
5 he wants, yet without doing harm to his fellow man. Ideals
6 and idealism, yes, but a nation without vision shall
7 perish, and a people without ideals are spiritually dead.

8 You see, "I hear America singing," said
9 Walt Whitman, the great poet, a century ago, and I like
10 to think of those words, "America singing," because that
11 we're in unison and harmony and in joy.

12 "I hear America singing, the varied carols
13 I hear, each singing what belongs to him or to her, or
14 to no one and to no one else, singing with open mouths
15 their strong melodious songs." This is the America that
16 I see, not an America of discord and noise, but a land
17 where each strong, melodious song may be added to the next,
18 to form a chorus of free and harmonious voices.

19 But our vision will never be fulfilled unless
20 we take hard and practical steps required. As much as we
21 might wish it so, these great American cities will not be
22 built merely by money or by the commitment of our material
23 resources. They will be built only if we commit on a far
24 greater scale than today our social and political resources.
25 They will be built only when each American recognizes



1 that the great city that he dreams of must be his city, his
 2 home town. They will be built only when each American
 3 recognizes that the bitterness or the hate or the poverty
 4 to be overcome is the bitterness and the hate and the
 5 poverty in his own community, not someone else's. And
 6 they will be built only when each American makes it his own
 7 personal business to take an honest look at what's hap-
 8 pening around him, to maintain a health skepticism against
 9 both the keepers of the status quo and the pockets of
 10 disorder and violence, to feel a personal stake in the
 11 decisions affecting his community, in short to participate
 12 as Greeks of old in the democratic process, and as you've
 13 made it your business to participate.

14 My lesson for tonight can be summarized
 15 in the words of the poet, Thomas Wolf, and it is like
 16 secular scripture to me. Thomas Wolf said, "To every
 17 man his, regardless of his birth, his shining, golden
 18 opportunity, to every man the right to live and to work
 19 and to be himself and to become whatever thing his manhood
 20 and his vision can combine to make him." This is the promise
 21 of America. What a beautiful promise, and how fortunate
 22 we are to live in this republic that is truly one nation
 23 under God with liberty and justice for all as our dream,
 24 as our hope. Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

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1 MR. DOUKAS: Mr. Vice President, I know I
 2 express the deep appreciation and the sincere thanks of
 3 your fellow Americans, of your fellow Ahepans and of the
 4 people everywhere for your message you delivered tonight.
 5 I believe tonight the Vice President gave the reason of
 6 the existence of the Order of AHEPA. He pointed out
 7 the background, the challenge that we carry as Americans
 8 of Hellenic origin, the loyalty and the duty we must
 9 discharge as members of this great nation.

10 And tonight I have the privilege to express
 11 to the Vice President and read to him the first resolution
 12 passed by the 44th Supreme Convention of the Order of AHEPA
 13 in the city of Washington, D.C., on August 17, 1966:

14 "WHEREAS, the Vice President of the United
 15 States has dedicated himself, throughout a lifetime of public
 16 service, to promulgating the rights of the individual, to
 17 fostering the ideals of a true democratic government by
 18 deeds and example, and

19 "WHEREAS, the Vice President has twice in
 20 the course of this year publicly expressed his regard for
 21 the Order of AHEPA by personally addressing its representa-
 22 tives and guests,

23 "NOW, THEREFORE, on this 17th day of August,
 24 1966, we the Delegates of the 44th Supreme Convention of
 25 AHEPA, convening in Washington, the nation's capital,

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1 in token of our deep affection for Hubert Horatio Humphrey,
 2 Vice President of the United States, do hereby unanimously
 3 express to him our heart-felt appreciation, our affection
 4 and our love and our faith.

5 "Passed by the Resolutions Committee of the
 6 Order of AHEPA."

7 (Applause.)

8 And I trust that the Vice President will
 9 allow us to proceed with the program, and in the course of
 10 this special convocation, try to express to him and to
 11 you, to our people, that we are devoted and dedicated to
 12 the ideals for which George Washington and Thomas Jefferson
 13 and Lincoln and Kennedy and Johnson and Humphrey have
 14 dedicated their lives.

15 (Applause.)

16 TOASTMASTER: I feel a sense of sobriety in
 17 the Assembly, and I'll digress for a moment, and I must
 18 remind the dining room that the Toastmaster generally has
 19 no express powers, much less implied powers, and a fortiori,
 20 as they say in the law, he has no apparent powers.

21 But, Mr. Vice President, with your kind
 22 permission, if I could demonstrate to the delegates that
 23 are out there how to exceed your authority after mani-
 24 festing and announcing Greek names in the name of the
 25 Presidential Cabinet, if I were a political director of



1 the Order of AHEPA, I would grant you forthwith a charter
2 labelled, "The American Hellenic Presidential Cabinet
3 Charter No. 1, in Washington D.C."

4 (Applause.)

5 And I daresay -- I don't want to use a Greek
6 word that says (Greek word), because the President and the
7 Vice President may be out of jobs. And that means, with
8 all the spirit at our command, we wish that they go higher.
9 And this I must strike from the record.

10 Now, I must revert to the program and, with
11 your kind indulgence, step up the tempo.

12 Somewhere along the line, I skipped around
13 so much I forgot to introduce Peter Cardetis, a member
14 of the Board of Governors, and his lovely wife. Mr. and
15 Mrs. Cardetis. Center -- I'm sorry.

16 (Applause.)

17 And while I'm making introductions, I must
18 introduce members of the Board of Trustees who are not at
19 the rostrum table here, or dais. There's Tom Hios and
20 Mrs. Hios (Applause) and Brother James Mazarakhos.(Applause.)

21 On occasion, when I have to come to Wash-
22 ington for the good of the order and for the business of
23 the fraternity, these Washingtonians have a place they
24 call the Hill. I never knew what it meant, because in
25 my territory, the Hill was something we tried to avoid.



1 But there is a Greek who happens to be a
2 Presidential Assistant, and although he doesn't know me,
3 as it should be, I know him, and I must at this time per-
4 haps acknowledge the debt of the Order of AHEPA to this
5 fine young man, who has greater heights to achieve, not
6 so much in the Hellenic community, because that he has
7 done. He has greater heights to achieve in the civic
8 community in the state to which he belongs. I want to
9 thank him publicly for all of the assistance he has
10 given to the Order of AHEPA and particularly to me in
11 appearing before the Senate, Number One on the Hit Parade
12 -- I don't know how AHEPA got there, but perhaps because
13 of the infiltration into the Cabinet, AHEPA was a lime-
14 light at the Senate and Congressional hearings on immi-
15 gration. And for this I want to publicly thank Mike
16 Manatos, the Presidential Assistant.

17 (Applause.)

18 And I'm sure that behind any Greek who has
19 a nice appearance, you'll find what we call common know-
20 ledge, and what the courts take judicial notice of, when
21 they have nothing else to hang their hat on: you'll find
22 a lovely wife in the person of Mrs. Dorothy Manatos, the
23 wife of Mike Manatos.

24 (Applause.)

25 And while we're with the ladies, I want you



1 to know, Mr. Vice President, that the Order of AHEPA has
 2 extraterritorial jurisdiction, meaning that we go beyond
 3 the territorial limits of the United States of America,
 4 and we cross over into a friendly nation or sovereignty,
 5 the Dominion of Canada, and for all our representatives
 6 and the ladies, we have Miss Fran Nanos, the Grand Vice
 7 President of the Dominion of Canada.

8 (Applause.)

9 So that there may be a fusion between male
 10 and female, and that there may be cooperation for the com-
 11 munity in the Dominion of Canada, we assigned to her, and
 12 elected, Chris Zekos, the Supreme Vice President of the
 13 Dominion of Canada.

14 (Applause.)

15 At all these conventions, there was a time
 16 when I was a young lawyer and I used to have bushy hair,
 17 and I wished I had a few gray hairs. Now I'm not so sure
 18 I want to accelerate that process. But the first National
 19 Convention I attended, there was a venerable gray-haired
 20 gentleman who commanded the respect of every delegate in
 21 convention assembled, who to this present day reflects and
 22 typifies the reason for the formation of this great Order
 23 of AHEPA, which is one of the better pressure groups, so
 24 to speak -- now that we're in the city of Washington, and
 25 there are such things as good pressure groups, and the

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1 Order of AHEPA is one -- from the Mother Lodge, the person
2 of George Poulis, the venerable gray-haired gentleman and
3 Mother Lodge Member.

4 (Applause.)

5 And always, the Ahepans have been thankful
6 although perhaps not as much as the ladies would like to
7 have been thanked, this occasion is one reason why we
8 assemble. Our wives, our families lose us during the
9 convention week, so in order to avoid complaints, we formed
10 the Daughters of Penelope, and from time to time we've had
11 grand ladies assume the role of President, and this year
12 we have another colleague of mine, who heads the great
13 Order of the Daughters of Penelope and is my good friend
14 and colleague and sister, Miss Betty Athanasakos, your
15 Grand President.

16 (Applause.)

17 MISS ATHANASAKOS: Mr. Chairman, Vice
18 President Humphrey, Your Eminence, Supreme President
19 Doukas, Your Excellency, Mr. Ambassador, Supreme President
20 Strike, Grand Notarides, distinguished guests, ladies
21 and gentlemen.

22 Yes, the Order of AHEPA helped organize
23 the Daughters of Penelope, and tonight I stand before you
24 as its Grand President, and I might say that although the
25 Miss stands in front of my name, I stand here as the proud



1 mother of our junior auxiliaries and the two representa-
 2 tives that spoke to you tonight, and I know that their par-
 3 ents are just as proud or even possibly more so than I
 4 am tonight.

5 From dreams come great things. From enthu-
 6 siasm, culture is created. From that effort, the result
 7 of those dreams, becomes reality.

8 No one person can create any reality alone.
 9 It requires you and all of us. The dreams of our Mother
 10 Lodge, lodge members became such a reality. How grateful
 11 we are for the wonderful Order that has been entrusted to
 12 us, an international order of over 12,500 women, dedicated
 13 to the betterment of humanity, and today a happy and
 14 financially healthy organization.

15 Let us applaud these women. Let us con-
 16 tinue to further, as well as we can, in whatever way we
 17 can, the causes of education, civic and charitable endea-
 18 vors, youth, good citizenship and our Hellenic heritage.

19 Efforts in these behalf by your Grand
 20 President during the past year have been a labor of love
 21 and one of deep satisfaction of being able to serve you.

22 To Supreme President, Komon A. Doukas, and
 23 our Supreme President, Louis Strike, and to Grand President
 24 Cleo Notarides; to the Grand Lodge and to each of you, may
 25 I just say thank you.

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1 (Applause.)

2 TOASTMASTER: Now your Toastmaster has been
3 instructed to proceed into second gear, and with that ad-
4 monishment, he so does. At the front of the rostrum we
5 have with us Eros Angulopoulis from Chicago Order of the
6 Greek Star.

7 (Applause.)

8 To his right a Supreme Governor of the
9 Order of AHEPA, Dikeo.

10 (Applause.)

11 Next we have Gus Kolnis, Supreme Governor
12 of the Order of AHEPA.

13 (Applause.)

14 And Mrs. Kolnis.

15 (Applause.)

16 From my home town, a good friend, Peter
17 Chimous, Governor of the Order of AHEPA, and Mrs. Peter
18 Chimous.

19 (Applause.)

20 Mr. Chris Conomou, Supreme Governor of
21 the Order of AHEPA.

22 (Applause.)

23 Another Supreme Governor, Mr. Charles
24 Alexander. And Mrs. Alexander.

25 (Applause.)

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1 The Grand Vice President of the Daughters
2 of Penelope, another young lady from my home town, Mrs.
3 Zoe Ramo.

4 (Applause.)

5 And her husband, William Ramo.

6 (Applause.)

7 Mrs. Vivian Polis, Grand Secretary of the
8 Daughters of Penelope. Miss Vivian Polis.

9 (Applause.)

10 Miss Alice Damascus, Grand Treasurer of the
11 Daughters of Penelope, and her husband, William Damascus.

12 (Applause.)

13 Miss Evangeline Pios, Grand Governor of
14 Zone No. 3 and her husband, Mr. James Pios.

15 (Applause.)

16 At the tail end of the front rostrum, an
17 Ahepan who's known by the athletes in this Order, and there
18 are many of them, John Paulus, National Athletic Director.

19 (Applause.)

20 Staying with the front rostrum, another
21 Chicagoan and member of the Board of Trustees of the
22 Supreme Lodge, Mr. Peter D. Genukis, and Mrs. Peter D.
23 Genukis.

24 (Applause.)

25 A past Supreme President of the -- or rather



1 Grand President of the Daughters of Penelope, Mrs. Kay
2 Bretos, and her husband, George Bretos.

3 (Applause.)

4 A member of the Board of Trustees, Mr.
5 Michael Kolyis, and Mrs. Kolyis.

6 (Applause.)

7 Miss Georgia Chakanes.

8 (Applause.)

9 And now a Secretary of the Board of Trustees,
10 Mr. Peter Krichelakos.

11 (Applause.)

12 A Grand Governor of the Daughters of
13 Penelope, Mrs. John Simiti.

14 (Applause.)

15 Member of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Basil
16 Milanias; Mrs. Milanias.

17 (Applause.)

18 Member of the Grand Lodge of the Daughters
19 of Penelope, Mrs. Peter Plans. Mr. Peter Plans and Mrs.
20 Rennie Plans, I'm sorry, a Grand Governor.

21 Member of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Peter
22 Tingus. Another member of the Board of Trustees, Mr.
23 James Demus. And Mrs. Demus as well.

24 (Applause for all three respectively.)

25 Another venerable member of the Mother Lodge,



1 Mr. Harry Agrepolis.

2 (Applause.)

3 And Mrs. Harry Agrepolis.

4 (Applause.)

5 The extreme left of the front table is
6 represented by Mrs. Piro Zapato and Mr. Spiro Zapato, who
7 is a member of the Board of Trustees.

8 (Applause.)

9 A Supreme Governor, who has been talking to
10 my lovely wife that I forgot to introduce in the first
11 instance while I was handling the top dais, Mr. Andrew
12 Panos, Supreme Governor.

13 (Applause.)

14 Just bear with me till I get these important
15 messages. (Handling papers.) That's what you call
16 Toastmaster prerogative.

17 As always we must pay due respect to the
18 Supreme President's wife, not because she happens to be
19 the Supreme President's wife, but just for all the heart-
20 aches, for all the absences, for all the lonely nights she
21 spends and the faithful respect and patience she shows to
22 her lovely husband, Mrs. Kimon Doukas, the wife of the
23 President.

24 (Applause.)

25 We're coming down the home stretch.

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1 The next person I have had occasion to ob-
 2 serve at many national conventions. In addition to the
 3 personal observation at nationalconventions, I have had
 4 his name and his person cross my life's experience by
 5 virtue of the fact that he represents my faith here in
 6 the United States of America.

7 I am proud of him for his active and dy-
 8 namic role in dedication to the problems not only of
 9 the local community in New York where he happens to have
 10 his headquarters, but for the dedication to the problems
 11 that confront our nation with respect to civil rights,
 12 with respect to local problems, with respect to the high
 13 honor that the World Council of Churches has bestowed
 14 upon him, its President, and also -- and lastly -- as
 15 particular head of the Church for North and South America,
 16 the Archbishop of North and South America, Archbishop
 17 Iakovos.

18 (Applause.)

19 ARCHBISHOP IAKOVOS: Mr. Vice President;
 20 Mr. Toastmaster; Your Excellency, Ambassador, and Mrs.
 21 Matsas; Members of the (Greek word); Supreme President,
 22 Dr. Doukas; Members of the Supreme Lodge; Grand President
 23 Elizabeth Athanasakos; Supreme President of the Sons of
 24 Pericles, Louis Strike; Grand President of the Maids of
 25 Athena, Miss Cleopatra Notarides, honored guests, fellow



1 Ahepans, ladies and gentlemen.

2 This grand banquet, through its whole spirit
3 and atmosphere seems to serve one of the noble goals of your
4 worthy Order as set forth some 44 years ago for its members
5 to attain. I am referring to the noble goal of fraternity
6 and solidarity that your Order has demonstrated in most of
7 its many undertakings and endeavors.

8 There are many accomplishments registered
9 in the records of AHEPA, such as scholarships and school
10 buildings, charities and hospitals, patriotic deeds, as
11 well as actions of religious faith, in which you can
12 rightfully take great and justified pride.

13 Nothing, however, in my opinion, can equal
14 the valuable service AHEPA has rendered in the field of
15 uniting, organizing and uplifting the moral, educational
16 and social level of our people in America, who, in the
17 1920's had to struggle against all kinds of difficulties
18 from within and without in order to survive and gain a
19 respectable status for themselves.

20 AHEPA, judged from this certain point of
21 view, stands out and high above all other Greek-American
22 organizations, for it conceived the idea and policy by
23 which Greeks of America would become one of the forces
24 that are at work in building and molding our national
25 character.

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1 This, by all means, is the greatest en-
2 deavor AHEPA has ever undertaken, and I am sure that your
3 order will continue to consider it as its unfinished task,
4 for our place in modern American society is not yet at-
5 tained, and cannot be attained unless we set forth new
6 aims and purposes.

7 We need such aspirations as will inspire
8 and enable us to play a better role in the shaping of the
9 economic, social, educational and cultural patterns of
10 life in this nation of ours.

11 There is no doubt a great number of Greek
12 Americans that have distinguished themselves in many ways
13 and in many fields of civic and civil activities. Yet we
14 need more of them. Our country needs them.

15 We are still far away from the position we
16 should occupy as defendant of Hellenes in the American
17 scene of life.

18 Ours cannot be a compromise or a good-hearted
19 acceptance by our fellow citizens. It must be based upon
20 and justified by the value and importance of our contribu-
21 tion, and we must prepare ourselves for such a contribution.
22 To this end it is necessary that we encourage our young men
23 and women to excel in arts as well as in sciences, and
24 politics as well as in athletics, in industry as well as
25 ingenuity.

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1 For ours is a heritage of culture, and a
2 legacy of education.

3 If we all agree that there is no limit to
4 Greek ambition or day-dreaming, then let us agree also
5 that there is no limit to what the demands of our times
6 are in terms of scientific research, knowledge and accom-
7 plishment.

8 AHEPA can definitely reactive this sense
9 of responsibility in the hearts of its members as well as
10 in the hearts of the (Greek word). Nonetheless, it is
11 imperative that each one of us does his part in projecting
12 and promoting every effort that AHEPA undertakes in this
13 respect, for AHEPA is and must continue to be an order of
14 cultural interests and the whole organized and official
15 expression and declaration of our political and social
16 philosophy and creed.

17 May, my good friends and fellow AHEPANS,
18 this banquet nurture our minds and souls in such a way
19 as to fortify and make more resolute our will, to marshall
20 our scattered forces, to unite and discipline then and
21 thus march them forward in obedience to God's Will and
22 to the calling of our nation and to the history of our
23 race.

24 And to end with a Greek slogan, I think I
25 must have the permission of the Vice President to use some

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1 ancient words but so much appropriate, so much timely.

2 In response to what Miss Notarides and Mr.
3 Strike said tonight, (Greek phrase.) "Sons of Greece, march
4 forward." (Greek phrase.) "Because tomorrow, with young
5 leaders like you, is going to be much better and more
6 glorious."

7 (Applause.)

8 TOASTMASTER: I now want to introduce to
9 you Brother Chotas, a member of the Mother Lodge.

10 (Applause.)

11 This next young fellow was a young tyke
12 when the first convention here -- first National Convention
13 was held here in Washington. In fact, his father tells
14 me that he had difficulty getting a sitter that night that
15 the banquet was held in the capital, Washington, D.C.

16 The son of the Chairman of this Banquet,
17 Chris Dematitis.

18 (Applause.)

19 Mrs. Helen Matsas, wife of the Ambassador.

20 (Applause.)

21 The Kingdom of Greece has, in the time past,
22 sent many of its representatives to the country of the
23 United States. In the person of Alexander Matsas, the
24 entire Hellenic community in the United States is grateful
25 to the Kingdom of Greece for such an exemplary repre-



1 sentative.

2 Your Ambassador to the United States from
3 the Kingdom of Greece, Alexander Matsas.

4 (Applause.)

5 AMBASSADOR MATSAS: Mr. Vice President;
6 Mr. Toastmaster; Your Eminence; Supreme President Doukas,
7 Madame Grand President; distinguished members, distinguished
8 leaders of the Order of AHEPA; Supreme President of the
9 Order of the Sons of Pericles; and Grand President of the
10 Daughters of Penelope.

11 I thank you for your kind welcome, and I
12 feel proud and happy to bring to you tonight, to this
13 44th Supreme Convention of your illustrious Order, the
14 warm salute of His Majesty, the King of the Hellenes and
15 of the Government and people of Greece.

16 The AHEPA is entering its 45th year. It is
17 an age of vigor and maturity. It is an age when one has
18 already a past and one has a future. It is an age which
19 combines the impetus of youth with the experience and the
20 wisdom of years.

21 In these changing times, the 45th year of
22 the AHEPA is also marking a turning point. New questions
23 have arisen with new generations. The Greek-American
24 communities are facing a diversity of problems. The right
25 approach to these problems will, to a great degree, depend



1 -- determine the future of your career as a great American
 2 element in this great nation, and to the right and con-
 3 structive approach of these problems, AHEPA is going to play
 4 a decisive part.

5 AHEPA is pledged to a dual devotion. It is
 6 American, and it is Hellenic. It also has a dual vocation:
 7 it is progressive and it is educational.

8 On these four capital points, your great
 9 organization has assumed a heavy and noble responsibility,
 10 both towards the United States of America and throughout
 11 the land of your forefathers. I would like to recall some
 12 of the great works which AHEPA has achieved in these 44
 13 years.

14 A part of the many local activities of the
 15 Order's chapters, I should like to report here with grati-
 16 tude and respect, the following great works of AHEPA:
 17 relief to the earthquake victims of Corinth; relief to the
 18 war orphans of Greece; relief to the Dodecanese earthquake
 19 victims; relief to Greece during World War II; relief to
 20 the earthquake victims of the Ionian Islands; various
 21 such cultural activities as scholarships to students,
 22 contributions to the Patriarchate of Jerusalem and to the
 23 Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople; foundations
 24 like the AHEPA Hospitals in Greece, health centers in
 25 Greece, the AHEPA Agricultural Center in Salonika, the

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1 prefectorium in Volos, the Truman Library and the "Papa-
2 nicalaeu" Research Institute in Miami.

3 More recently the AHEPA, by an appropriate
4 and imposing monument in Athens, the Truman Doctrine and
5 its great initiator, Harry Truman.

6 These are only some of the noble achieve-
7 ments of which the Order of AHEPA can be justly proud.

8 The Order of AHEPA has been close to Greece
9 in all her tribulations, plights and aspirations of the
10 last forty years. It could not remain unperturbed by the
11 question of Cyprus because the question of Cyprus is not
12 only an international dispute, but primarily a moral issue
13 involving the very principles of democracy and justice
14 which are fundamental to the common culture of the American
15 and the Greek nation.

16 The courageous voice raised by AHEPA has
17 been an inspiration to our people of Cyprus struggling for
18 their natural and indisputable rights.

19 For all these past and present, I bring to
20 you the thanks of the Greek nation. However, the new
21 problems of the Greek-American community will demand your
22 initiative, they will demand imagination, courage and faith.
23 They will demand new methods and new approaches. AHEPA
24 will have to marshall all its moral and material resources
25 to meet this challenge.

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1 One problem point seems to me to be the
2 relationship of the new and future generations of Greek-
3 Americans with the land of their forefathers and with its
4 ancient tradition. The unparalleled glory of the American
5 nation is that it is large enough in heart and in stature
6 to house other nations.

7 As we have just heard from the authoritative
8 voice of the Vice President of the United States, the
9 United States accepts and strives to "venerize" all the
10 traditions of the ethnic groups represented in this great
11 land. The United States thus proves itself to be a nation
12 of nations and a roof of many peoples.

13 It is the double duty of the Greek American
14 to carry on in this great land the tradition of our ancient
15 civilization. It seems easy at first sight, because the
16 United States of America is based on the very principles
17 which we have borne, bred and defended for centuries on
18 the ancient soil of Greece.

19 However, it is your duty both towards the
20 United States and towards Greece to take this as one of
21 the main missions of the AHEPA. It presents certain spe-
22 cific problems and certain specific duties.

23 I regard as fundamental the maintenance of
24 the Greek language amongst the coming generation of Greek-
25 Americans. Let us not forget that Greek is the most

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1 ancient of all European languages. It has never become a
 2 dead language like Latin. Modern Greek is merely the out-
 3 come of the evolution of ancient and medieval Greek. Our
 4 nation has preserved this august speech which has been
 5 the chosen instrument for the finest expressions of liter-
 6 ature that has ever been and of the highest philosophical
 7 and scientific concepts.

8 This language has been the vehicle of divine
 9 revelation through the Holy Gospels. It was used by the
 10 Fathers of the Church for the exploration and the inter-
 11 pretation of the mysteries of the faith.

12 To this day, the most novel and daring
 13 technological and scientific discoveries are borrowing
 14 their names from the treasury of the Greek vocabulary,
 15 and this is what makes our language so important and so
 16 useful in a practical sense because the students who do
 17 not know Greek have to learn by heart as an entirely new
 18 term practically every word in medicine, biology, elec-
 19 tronics or even atomic research. For anyone who knows
 20 Greek, these terms are self-explanatory.

21 So, to take a simple example, "astronaut",
 22 as we all know, appears to be a linguistic neologism applied
 23 to the travelers of space. But even an illiterate Greek
 24 will understand that it simply means "the sailors of the
 25 stars" and "cosmonaut" -- "the sailors of the universe."

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1 This makes it evident that any person of
2 Greek descent who will learn Greek in their homes or in
3 their communities will find it of invaluable help in any
4 further studies in any scientific or technical field.

5 And now, having spoken to you about Greece,
6 I think I will turn to Greek. (Speaks Greek.)

7 (Applause.)

8 TOASTMASTER: Seated out in the dining
9 room is the Chairman of the National Advisory Board, Brother
10 Charles Drogaso.

11 (Applause.)

12 At this time I would like to call, to
13 speak to us up here, the Vice President, Brother Microutsi-
14 cos, to make a presentation.

15 MR. MICROUTSICOS: Mr. Toastmaster, Mr.
16 Supreme President, Your Eminence, Your Excellency, Supreme
17 President Doukas, distinguished guests, fellow Ahepans,
18 ladies and gentlemen.

19 I have the distinct pleasure to present a
20 set of book-ends to the Outstanding Ahepan of 1965-66, the
21 man who has devoted 363 days of his life for the good and
22 welfare of all the people, which reflects the type of
23 community, the American community which we are all happy
24 to live in.

25 Supreme President Doukas, there's a little

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1 statement here on these book-ends, which are being pre-
 2 sented to you by your colleagues of the Supreme Lodge,
 3 which says, "To Kimon A. Doukas, Supreme President,
 4 1965-66, from your colleagues in the Supreme Lodge."

5 (Applause.)

6 Also, on behalf of all the Ahepans, I would
 7 like to present this plaque, with this statement inscribed
 8 on it: "The Order of AHEPA, presented to Kimon A. Doukas,
 9 Supreme President, in honor and with our appreciation of
 10 the distinguished and meritorious service given to the
 11 fraternity while serving with outstanding leadership,
 12 vision and ability." It is my pleasure to make this pre-
 13 sentation on behalf of all the members of the Order of
 14 AHEPA.

15 (Applause.)

16 TOASTMASTER: Is the Chairman of the Banquet
 17 present? When you see that smile appear upon my face,
 18 Brother Dematatis, you'd better come up here quick.

19 Brother Dematatis, your orders have been
 20 obeyed. I have concluded my job as Toastmaster for the
 21 evening. I want to thank you for the pleasure. (Applause.)

22 CHAIRMAN DEMATITIS: Well, we hope you've
 23 had a wonderful time, and we'd like to get on with a part
 24 of it. Good night, everybody. (Applause.)

25 Oh, excuse me. The benediction will be



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CLERGYMAN: "Thou hast refreshed us in Thy Creations, Lord, and in the work of Thine Hands we have delighted. We have been satisfied with the earthly gifts of food and drink Thou has vouchsafed unto us. Guide us in peace to retire now, for Thou hast made in us a dwelling place of hope."

(Speaks Greek.)

"The Grace of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all now and evermore."

(Whereupon the Official Banquet closed.)

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