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THURSDAY AM's

REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
SEATTLE AREA INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL
September 28, 1966

Before we go any further this evening, I want to thank Governor Evans for his official welcome and for the seafood.

You know, not long ago the Republican Governor of Oklahoma made it known that he did not welcome President Johnson into his state. As it turned out, the President received a warm welcome from the people of Oklahoma and the Governor was embarrassed.

In being so kind tonight, Governor Evans, I hope you're not trying to get the opposite result.

As chairman of the newly-created National Marine Resources and Engineering Development Council, I have been visiting our regional oceanographic institutions and centers.

I am especially encouraged by the imaginative way you in Seattle have brought business, government and universities together to identify the talent and capabilities, draw up the plans and to meet this new challenge in using the ancient seas.

Our new federal Marine Sciences Council looks forward to setting new national goals and policies in the use of the sea:

-- to promote international understanding and cooperation;
-- to expand domestic fisheries and to help acquire fish protein for the undernourished;
-- to supplement continental reserves of fossil fuel and minerals;
-- to use oceanic data to improve weather forecasting;
-- to diminish hazards of pollution of bays and seashore recreation areas;
-- to use the oceans as an immense laboratory for scientific research.

It is fitting that we are launching this great venture here in Seattle. For Seattle is not only a city concerned with oceanography. It is the home of the man who made this broad new effort possible.

If Senator Magnuson were here, he might be embarrassed by my praise. In the 1930's, Senator Magnuson introduced the basic legislation for the National Cancer Institute, which has grown into the National Institutes of Health.

In the late 1940's he was responsible for the National Science Foundation, which has been so successful in stimulating basic scientific research and providing trained manpower that earned scientific leadership for this nation.

Since 1959, he has been the driving force behind the Congressional efforts in oceanography.

In this 89th Congress his leadership was instrumental in the passage of the Marine Resources and Engineering Development Act of 1966 that will give thrust and direction to our growing marine science activities.

The last historic time that western man went down to the sea in ships to "do business in the great waters" was during the Renaissance in the last half of the Fifteenth Century.

Then, the seas were used as broad highways to explore the 29 per cent of the earth's surface that is land.

Now, we stand at the threshold of a period in which we will explore and exploit the seas themselves -- what is, in fact, the underdeveloped 71 per cent of our planet.

The President and the Congress have agreed that as a national policy, we shall "develop a long-range national program in marine science for the benefit of mankind, including the enhancement of commerce, transportation, and national security and rehabilitation of our commercial fisheries."

The time is technologically ripe. New structural materials, miniaturized electronics, computers, nuclear power and underwater vehicles are available. The pioneering work of industries (such as your great Boeing Corporation) in systems management have already begun to be translated to the marine environment.

Internationally, the "resource gap" between the rich and the poor nations, the well-fed and the starving draws attention to the great untapped oceans as a natural arena to increase international cooperation.

The Intellectual Climate is receptive to new and bold challenges of exploring the universe, for man's intellectual curiosity is such that where man can explore - he will.

Economically, there is promise of great wealth in oil, minerals, and fish. Ratification of the Continental Shelf Treaty of 1964 resolved some of the uncertainty concerning resource ownership and stimulated imaginative and advanturesome businessmen and industrialists (in the tradition of old merchant-adventurers) to develop capabilities for deep oceanic operations.

Thus it is apparent that the time is uniquely right to finally open up the oceanic world to Twentieth Century mankind.

This must be a joint task of government, business, and the academic world -- a cooperative and creative partnership.

For none of us has the resources or the manpower to do it alone.

To give you an example of what oceanic research can mean to us, consider the implications of weather forecasting, modification, and control.

Every field of human endeavor -- agriculture, shipping, travel, health, recreation -- is affected by the weather.

In the system of heat energy coming to the earth from the sun, the ocean is the great regulator that significantly influences weather and climate. Virtually all moisture found in the clouds originates through evaporation from the ocean. It is only by understanding the oceans that we can hope to make long-range weather and climate predictions.

By stationing a network of buoys throughout the oceans and analyzing the data they transmit to computers ashore, we may improve substantially the preparation of long-range forecasts.

A few years ago you had quite a storm here along the Pacific coast and I understand that prior to that storm ocean temperatures had been running seven degrees above normal.

Obviously we need to understand more clearly what happened in order to predict and ultimately control the weather.

To American manufacturers, this means a whole new field of opportunity: To design and manufacture buoys, sensors, electronic data storage and retrieval systems. Many opportunities will be available for small business. I predict ocean jobs will be exciting and plentiful.

There are other national problems that can be aided by oceanic research.

Why should many of our bays and sounds become polluted, destroying recreation and shellfish alike?

Why should waves and storms unnecessarily erode and undermine our seashore property values?

Supplies of fresh water need augmentation, and we are vigorously pushing a saline water conversion program. When Lewis and Clark reached the Pacific coast, they built a salt cairn to get salt from the ocean.

Now we are trying to get fresh water from the briny sea.

Here in Seattle and the Puget Sound area the benefits can be very direct.

There is the chance through new techniques to cleanse polluted waters.

There is the opportunity to develop oyster and shellfish industries based on scientific development and not solely dependent on nature.

And Puget Sound -- if properly employed -- could become a harvest sea far more productive and wealthy than it is today. It could be a unique laboratory for all fields of marine sciences.

Internationally the challenge is perhaps greatest. The seas that separate nations also provide a community of interests to bind all nations together.

The sheer magnitude of the task of understanding an area consisting of 71 per cent of our planet indicates that no one nation can undertake the task itself. Mapping the ocean floor and establishing a world weather watch, must be done internatioanlly or not at all. Cooperation is not merely convenient here, it is indispensible.

Cooperative effort in research and development in the great ocean can be especially valuable to developing nations.

The population explosion is already threatening to exceed the world's food production and the problem is bound to get worse in the years ahead.

Protein malnutrition is one of the most serious problems in the world.

It is a primary source of infant mortality.

It limits the productive capacity of adults.

Half of the world's population is estimated to suffer from some form of protein deficiency.

It is obvious that we cannot wait for theoretical solutions to this problem. This crisis demands immediate and radical improvement of our fisheries technology if we hope to save the millions of people who will sicken and die unnecessarily between now and 1970.

Reliable estimates indicate that ocean fishing in presently known areas, by presently available methods, can increase fish production on a worldwide basis many times. A sharp increase in production of fish protein would be enough to eradicate all protein deficiency among the present world population. The basic problem is how to get this protein from the ocean depths to hungry and starving people at a price they can afford and in a form they will accept.

In these next decades we are planning to use the "Oceans for Peace." And we would like other ocean-minded nations, including the Soviet Union, to join us in this peaceful task.

President Marcos of the Philippines recently said that our nation has become civilization's trustee.

It is true that we have converted dreams of human dignity to practical reality.

Our dreams for the oceans are not those of poets and prophets but those of practical men, convinced by our oceanic tradition that we can develop the bountiful resources of the seas -- as we have those on land -- to solve man's pressing needs for food, water, minerals and energy.

It is a privilege for me to serve as Chairman of the Marine Sciences Council which will lead this effort. I intend to carry out the broad mandate of the President and Congress.

I am sure that, as the explorers of the 15th Century knew little of the riches they would find on new continents, so we today can only dimly know the riches that still lie untapped within the seas. Let us begin.

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REMARKS
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SEATTLE AREA INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 28, 1966

Before we go any further this evening, I want to thank Governor Evans for his official welcome, and for the seafood.

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-- to promote international understanding and cooperation;

-- to expand domestic fisheries and to help acquire fish protein for the undernourished;

-- to supplement continental reserves of fossil fuel and minerals;

-- to use oceanic data to improve weather forecasting;

-- to diminish hazards of pollution of bays and seashore recreation areas;

-- to protect waterfront property; and

-- to use the oceans as an immense laboratory for scientific research.

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