

ADDRESS BY THE HON. HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

AT THE COMMISSIONING CEREMONIES OF THE
U. S. NAVY ATLANTIC UNDERSEA TEST AND EVALUATION CENTER

PALM BEACH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

FEBRUARY 26, 1967

Thank you. Thank you, my warm and good friend, Senator Smathers, Congressman Rogers, and Your Excellency, Sir Ralph Grey and Lady Grey, the members of the cabinet of the Bahamas who have graced our country by their presence today, representatives here of the Royal Navy that once again reminds us of the bonds of friendship that bring us together, the distinguished officers of the United States Navy, and all of the representatives here of the State of Florida, West Palm Beach and especially our young friend and outstanding American who has brought honor to himself, to his country, to the service of which he is an esteemed and honored officer, Commander Scott Carpenter, Dr. Frosch and ladies and gentlemen.

I say first of all to my friend, Senator Smathers, that your introduction was mighty flattering and like our old and beloved friend, Adlai Stevenson, used to say, "flattery is all right as long as you don't inhale it." But Vice Presidents always inhale and I was breathing it in deeply, George, and I know that you have ingratiated yourself with Muriel. Of course, you already stood high in her esteem but you have only fortified all the belief she already had as to why I am Vice President. I want to thank you for your kindness to her.

I am particularly pleased today to be here with John Perry who has been mentioned as a member of the President's Commission on Marine Sciences, Engineering and Development, because we know of Mr. Perry's deep commitment to oceanography and all of its many disciplines and only this past Friday it was my opportunity and privilege to administer the oath of office to Mr. Perry and present him with his Presidential commission. So to come here to his part of Florida and to come here for this particular ceremony and occasion is just an added joy to me and I want to compliment all of the public officials and the citizenry of this great area of America for their leadership in the field of marine sciences. Of course, we are very very proud of our Navy and I surely am truly honored today to be in the presence of these distinguished Admirals and other officers, and particularly Captain Jackson, and may I do for you what you would like to do if you but had the opportunity, to first thank the Honor Guard that welcomed us and to thank this fine band, this United States Navy Band.

Your Excellency, you have heard a great deal about weather in Florida. I just want you to know that Mrs. Humphrey and I consider this weather a heat wave, if you have been reading the temperatures of the Great North Star State, Minnesota. But coming to Florida or the Bahamas at any time is a joy and what a wonderful privilege it is to see these families, so to speak, of these two areas of this great globe, the peoples of the Bahamas and their distinguished representatives, the people of Florida and of the United States here together and how good it is to have our friends from the Bahamas come see us because it helps the balance of payments. We just enjoy it so much. But we look upon them not only in great respect for their own nation, not only in great esteem because of what they have meant

to us throughout our history, but we look to the peoples of the Bahamas, particularly their officers and His Excellency -- we look upon them as friends, as neighbors and may it always be so because in this world of ours today we surely need friends and we need good neighbors. So may I, through his Excellency, extend the greetings of our people to the distinguished Prime Minister, Mr. Pindling, and to the members of his government and to every citizen of the Bahamas, and may I, to the distinguished representative of the British Embassy here, the Embassy of the United Kingdom, once again extend the thanks and appreciation of the people of the United States to our friends in the United Kingdom, to our friends throughout the Commonwealth for their partnership, for their friendship, for their helpfulness in the common cause of human freedom. Because, believe me, we need friends who can stand together.

I am very honored to participate here in the ceremonies commissioning this Atlantic Undersea Test and Evaluation Center and when my friend, Congressman Rogers, asked me to come, I think he would tell you in all candor that I readily accepted and I did so because it means so much that we can work together in common defense and it also was in my thoughts that I should come, if for no other reason than the fact that this fine Congressman who has done so much in cooperation with the other members of the Florida Delegation, who has done so much to emphasize marine sciences, had asked me. I predict, Congressman Rogers, that your work in the field of marine sciences, generally known in the layman's language as oceanography, will give you a place or esteem and honor in the history of our country that will be to your ever-lasting credit.

We know that we are -- when we talk of the Atlantic Undersea Test and Evaluation Center -- speaking of shore laboratories, tracking stations, underwater instrumentation and many other facilities and a host of personnel. The investment in facilities alone running well over \$100 millions of dollars and when AUTEK is fully developed, it will be able to singularly advance the Navy's capabilities in undersea technology and engineering. Yes, indeed, Divine Providence has blessed this part of the world and this part of America and the Bahamas, because here within just a few miles literally exists a God-made laboratory for the exploration of the seas.

For 169 years, the United States Navy, so ably represented on this platform today, has been charged with the responsibility for our nation's defenses on, over and under water. Now that responsibility has been faithfully fulfilled and it has increasingly involved providing greater capability, both offensively and defensively, under the sea. This AUTEK range that we have heard so much about, that it is so familiar to the people of this area, will add to that capability of defense and it will add to our security, it will add to our power and might. I add that the power that we speak of today jointly shared by those of us present here from our respective countries, is a power not for aggression, not for conquest, but a power for self determination.

and for peace. Now we know that the seas are a potential source of peril, but I think it is fair to say that they are a far greater potential source of wealth and well being for all men.

My grandfather on my maternal side, my mother's side of the family, was a Norwegian sea captain for 20 years and I can remember as a little boy how he would tell me of sailing the high seas and indeed he did with a three mast sail ship and he was a first class sailor. He told me of the perils of the seas and the wonders of them. I doubt that he ever thought that his grandson would one day be Chairman of the Council on Marine Sciences, Engineering and Development, and I doubt that the grandson ever thought he would either. But I am. And as has been said here by my good friend, Senator Smathers, who in his own right has brought so much to this State of Florida both in the fields of marine science and space, I serve as Chairman of the National Aeronautics and Space Council and we have with us this great astronaut who represents the bridge, so to speak, the inter-disciplinary activities of marine science and space and astronautics and aeronautics because we are going to find as we move along in this great era of development of the oceans and research of the seas, that there is much in common between the environment of outer space and the environment of the depths of the sea.

I am fully aware of the astounding progress that we have made in outer space over the past several years and Senator Smathers could have held this audience spellbound by reciting to you the immense dividends of our space program, the great potentiality yet to be realized. If only in one area alone, which I am sure he would want me to mention, in communications satellites where, within a short period of time every classroom in our great universities, will, by the wonder and the technology of the communications satellites, become a world classroom where the great minds of the universities of the many countries on the face of this earth, where those minds can be brought to bear upon the problem of a class or a classroom in any of our great American universities through the wonders of television and world-wide communication satellites. What a day this will be -- when your sons and daughters, and it's true for the younger parents here, a mother here with a child of one to five years of age can look forward to the day that that son or daughter will hear the voice of and see the image of, as if the person were present in the room, the great professors of the universities of Europe and Asia, of Africa and Latin America, Australia -- we'll all be tied together in one big family. So there are amazing things taking place, miracles by the hundreds but today we are just beginning to open up another dimension of our environment and that is inner space, the new world of the ocean which covers 71% of the earth's surface.

Somebody asked me the other day the question "why do you want to spend money on these programs, Mr. Vice President?" "What's all this business about the space program and why all this effort being made about oceanography, what do we care what's at the bottom of the

ocean, what do we care about what's out there in outer space?" Of course, the one answer is that just because it's there we care. Somebody once asked why should you want to climb Mount Everest and the reply came back because it is there and whatever is there man wants to know about. But more significantly, we need to know about the environment in which we live, its entire great solar system that is our home, because what happens within this environment on the land, in the center of the earth which someday I possibly will explore, in the seas and on the bottom of the seas, and in the waters of the seas, and what happens in the atmosphere, the stratosphere and space, and what happens around the planets that make up this solar system, all of that tells us something about the environment of our home because our home is not this hangar and it is not even the dwelling that we call our house. Our home is God's universe and in that universe is the solar system and this is the room, so to speak, in which we live and conditions every bit of our lives so we must know of it. So now we are venturing in the exploration not only of the vastness of outer space with all of its unknowns but the vastness of the earth, 71% of it, water, and we have just begun.

Eight months ago, new legislation sponsored by Congressman Paul Rogers and others, but he was one of the main movers, legislation which owes so much to the leadership of this Congressman and Congressman Dante Fascell and others, declared it to be the policy of the United States and I quote now "to develop, encourage and maintain a coordinated, comprehensive, long-range national program in marine science for the benefit of mankind...to assist in the protection of health and property, enhancement of commerce, transportation, and national security, rehabilitation of our commercial fisheries, and increased utilization of these and other resources." This is the mandate, the charter laid down by the Congress to the Government of the United States and to all associated with it, indeed to the people of the United States. This same legislation established a new Marine Resources Council which, as has been said here today, I have the honor to chair. Which leads me to make one observation about the Congress and the Vice President. You will note that every time the Congress gives the Vice President anything to do by statute, the Space Council or the Marine Council, it is either out of this world or down under the seas. I don't know if they have anything in mind by that kind of reference but I do find it exciting. This new Council includes five members of the President's cabinet, as well as the Secretary of the Navy, represented here today by Dr. Frosch, the Director of Research. Also, the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and the Director of the National Science Foundation. The membership of this Marine Council gives you some idea of the importance that your Congress attaches to this effort of oceanography. In these past eight months, and that's all we've had, we have identified already for our country nine priority areas of activity and shortly the President of the United States will present to the Congress his proposals and recommendations for marching ahead in the field of marine sciences, engineering and development for the coming

year. This will be a very important report, much the same sort of report that was given years ago, almost a decade ago, looking to outer space. I wonder if the people of Florida are aware today of what this new adventure can mean to them tomorrow. My, what great possibilities! I know that our friends in the Bahamas understand because they are present here today. Florida, relative to its area, has more sea coast than any other main line state in America and you have two great bodies of water -- the Gulf and the Atlantic. Each with its own special characteristics and resources literally on your doorstep. And that great Gulf Stream which is the wonder of the world literally flows by the doorstep of this city and county. At Miami, with the University of Miami and the laboratories of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, you already have one of the leading complexes of oceanic knowledge and research in the world.

This center, the AUTEK center, has been established, of course, primarily for the purposes of national security but the knowledge that we will gain here will help us in many other ways. The topography of the sea bed, the hills and the valleys, the mountains and the plains of the ocean, the topography of the sea bed in this area makes it an unmatched laboratory and in years to come, as has been so well stated here by Congressman Rogers and Senator Smathers, it can and I predict that it will assume the same importance in oceanography that Cape Kennedy has in space.

Florida literally has a hammerlock on the future, the future of space with unbelievable opportunities for investment in educational progress, the future of oceanography, a future that is as uncharted as the very bed of the seas of which we speak. The people of Florida have already shown, of course, a great deal of initiative on their own as has been indicated by the introductions here today. Industry has gone ahead in proceeding with, for example, the Aluminaut, deep diving research submarines -- I crawled into that Aluminaut and it was mighty cozy. In fact, I looked at the Cubmarine out here, I believe we call it today, and I said to astronaut-aquonaut Scott Carpenter, "say, that looks kind of tight in there, there isn't much room." He said, "there's a lot more room in there than there was in the Gemini capsule." So I guess he's used to being in tight places. He should try politics or maybe we in politics should try space -- some folks think so. The Aluminaut, the deep diving research submarine, the man in the sea experiments, all of this you've done without waiting for Government funds to help. And I particularly want today to congratulate Reynolds on Aluminaut, Ed Link's Man-in-the-Sea program and the Perry Cubmarine which is instrumental and has been as you know in finding the U. S. H bomb that was lost off the coast of Spain early in 1966. This kind of private initiative stands us well and it has been a creative partnership of Government, industry and our universities, not to mention the support of the Palm Beach County association, which has been instrumental in getting these efforts underway. The Florida Atlantic University, its Ocean Engineering staff and the hydro-lab, the world's first underwater classroom, are all yours. You are indeed pioneers.

I want to repeat that it is this same kind of creative public and private partnerships which has been so successful in our space program. Not just Government, not just industry, but a team working together, and I hope that that partnership will be used in all of our endeavors as we seek to solve many of the complex problems that face our nation today.

Now, what are some of the prospects that lie ahead in the field of marine sciences? Well, let's just look at a few, and some of the problems too. There are marinas on the Florida coast which must be dredged every year at a cost sometimes equal to what it cost to build them in the first place. We need to find out why and what to do about it. There are harbors, man-made harbors, whose breakwaters actually increase rather than diminish wave action within them. We have to learn more about tides and currents and waves so that these things will no longer be true and we hope to find many more basic things too through studies of marine organisms. We may find basic knowledge about the metabolic processes which characterize all forms of life. For instance, some marine organisms reach old age within a few hours, others which are self-reproducing, are virtually immortal. Let's find out what this is all about. Just what is this process of aging -- where some things become old within a few hours and other forms of life seem to have immortality? There are untapped mineral resources, fuels and oils, under the sea, some of the richest known to man, and, by the way, one of the largest deposits of manganese known in this world is just off the coast of Florida, as are there deposits of copper, gold to be found off the coastlines, under the sea to be mined, to be explored, to be developed and just as surely as we're in this hangar today, by the times those little boys are my age, we will be mining the oceans like we mine the land. We will be taking out these valuable resources of minerals because we already know how to do it. It is only the matter of applying the technology.

We may learn how to divert and even prevent hurricanes by the study of the seas. Won't that be something? -- both for the Bahamas and for Florida. But perhaps the greatest promise of all lies in food from the seas. One and one half billion people of the world's population live in the tropical or sub-tropical areas and they live on a diet that is generally short of protein and yet the sea is filled with protein. Protein deficiency accounts for half of the deaths of children under the age of five and those children who do survive in these areas often suffer permanent physical and mental impairments, never to be repaired, because a child that is the victim of protein deficiency has no way of reclaiming that impairment. I wonder if we knew, for example, that only ten grams a day, just a little speck, of processed fish protein concentrate, odorless, tasteless, pure, nutritious, can give a child all of the protein that he needs for normal physical and mental development and fish protein concentrate, as you now know, has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration as palatable, nutritious, safe, odorless, tasteless and this protein has the necessity for healthy growth, can be provided for the children of this earth, for God's children, for

less than one penny a day. We can literally change the whole pattern of living on the face of this globe by food from the sea. The sea has always nourished man and now it has a chance not only to nourish men but to save children.

Now, for a boy that was born and raised in South Dakota, where the lakes were few and far between, and the dust storms were prevalent, and a little later on who moved into Minnesota, where the land is flat and endless, this business of oceanography and space is pretty exciting for me and I find it a constant challenge. The Congress, I think gentlemen, found the right man to lead us out to sea. I am ready to take on the Admirals' stars and the Captains' stripes because I can't think of anything more exciting than going out to sea and really seeing what's in the sea. Not merely to skim its surface, not merely to probe its depths for a few hundred feet, but to find out what God Almighty put in that sea -- what is there, what is there for our security and our prosperity -- what is there for our health and our well-being and we will find it. I remember reading as a school boy what Joseph Conrad had to say, "The sea and its works, for all the talk of men, are wrapped in mystery."

There's always something that draws you to the sea, that draws you to the oceans -- is it any wonder, therefore, that is now a great laboratory for scientists who have the ever inquiring mind. We mean, therefore, to use these oceans, the 71% of the mass of this earth, to generate new wealth, new industries, better health, better environment and new jobs and with the secrets we find, and we will find many secrets, and with the knowledge that surely lies ahead, we mean to build a safer, a kinder, and a more peaceful world. Walt Whitman put it in words almost 100 years ago, in the words of the immortal poet and he said it this way, "Joyous we....launch out on trackless seas, Fearless for unknown shores." And joyous we are launching today a great international effort in the field of security and defense but also a great international effort in science and research, in probing the depths of the seas and the oceans and as we venture out on this great voyage of tomorrow, I think it is only well that we should do as the women of the fishing village used to do when their men put out to sea -- to stand and look out on the horizon and not wave goodbye but just await the return. So let us wish all of ourselves good luck in this adventure and not only good luck but great success as we open the chest of the unknown and the miracles of the oceans and with that good luck and success I am sure that I can predict today that we'll have continuing prosperity and I can say to the peoples of Florida a word of thanks for your initiative and I can say to the people of Florida, you're mighty lucky, God has been good to you. The oceans are no longer your menace -- they are your greatest asset and the wealth of the sea shall enrich you just as it shall help all of mankind.

I want to thank you for this day and I especially want to thank our friends from the Bahamas and all of the good citizens who have come here to make this occasion a memorable one. Good day.

Astronaut Scott Carpenter }
Commander

REMARKS

Sen. Smathers
Cong. Rogers

of Maine
Senior Captain

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY
ATLANTIC UNDERSEA TEST AND EVALUATION CENTER

PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

FEBRUARY 26, 1967

Friends & Neighbors
from the Bahamas

Mr. John Perry

Dr. Frosch
You & Kelly
Sir Ralph
- U.S. Commission
on Marine
Sciences.

I am honored to join with you today in
commissioning this Atlantic Undersea Test and Evaluation
Center.

And I am particularly pleased that we have
with us our guests ^{neighbors} from the Bahamas, whose cooperation
made this underwater test range possible.

(And may I say, as chairman of the President's Discover America program, that your coming here -- rather than our going there -- helps us with our balance of payments deficit). So we owe you double thanks.

Shore Laboratories
Tracking Stations
Underwater instrumentation
represent an investment of over \$100 Million
AUTEC whom fully developed
will be able to advance
Navy capabilities in Undersea Technology Engineering.

For 169 years the United States Navy has been charged with the primary responsibility for our nation's defenses on, over, and under water.

That responsibility has increasingly involved providing greater capability, both offensively and defensively, under the sea. This AUTEC range will add to that capability, and to our security.

↳ The seas are a potential source of peril. But they are a far greater potential source of wealth and well-being for all men.

↳ As chairman of the National Aeronautics and Space Council, I am aware of the astounding progress we have made in outer space over the past several years.

↳ But today we are just beginning to open up "inner space" -- the new world of the oceans which cover 71 per cent of the earth's surface.

Yes, We have just now begun! Eight months ago new legislation -- legislation which owes a great deal to the leadership of Congressmen Paul Rogers and Dante Fascell --

Our Charter

declared it to be the policy of the United States, and I quote, "to develop, encourage, and maintain a coordinated, comprehensive, and long-range national program in marine science for the benefit of mankind ... to assist in the protection of health and property, enhancement of commerce, transportation, and national security; rehabilitation of our commercial fisheries, and increased utilization of these and other resources."

↳ That same legislation established a new Marine Resources Council, which I have the honor to chair. (Which leads some people to conclude that the Vice President, as the man in charge of the skies and oceans, is the man in charge of everything out of this world.)

↳ This new Council includes five members of the President's Cabinet, as well as the Secretary of the Navy, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, and the Director of the National Science Foundation.

~~I think~~ the membership of the Council gives you some idea of the importance attached to this new effort.

↳ In these past eight months we have identified priority areas of activity. And, in ~~about ten days~~ ^{shortly} time,

the President will present to the Congress his proposals ~~+~~ ^{recommendations} for the coming year *in all fields of oceanography!*

↳ I wonder if the people of Florida are aware today what of this new adventure can mean to them tomorrow? *- I think so!*

↳ Florida, relative to its area, has more seacoast than any other mainland state in America. You have two great bodies of water ^{*The Gulf & the Atlantic -*} -- each with its own special characteristics and resources -- literally on your doorstep.

↳ At Miami -- with the University of Miami and the laboratories of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries -- you already have one of the leading complexes of oceanic knowledge and research in the world.

↳ This Center has been established primarily for purposes of national security. But the knowledge we gain here will help us in other ways.

↳ The topography of the sea-bed in this area makes it an unmatched laboratory -- and in years to come it can assume the same importance in oceanography that Cape Kennedy has in space. ~~Florida~~

↳ The people of Florida have already shown a great deal of initiative on their own. Industry has gone ahead in proceeding with the "Aluminaut deep-diving research submarine" and "man in the sea" experiments, without waiting for government funds to help. I particularly wish to congratulate Reynolds,

Link and Perry for what they have done. - Ed Lake's "man in the sea" program (columnist)

↳ It has been a creative partnership of government, industry, and our universities -- not to mention the support of the Palm Beach County Association -- which has gotten

these efforts started. It is the same kind of creative public-

Florida Atlantic University - its ocean engineering staff
The Hydro-Lab - the world's first underwater classroom

The Perry submarine instrumental in finding the U.S. hydrogen bomb lost off Spain early in 1966

private partnership, I might add, which has been so successful in our space program and which I hope may become more involved in meeting many of the problems of our cities.

∠ What are some of the prospects that lie ahead?

∠ There are marinas on the Florida coast which must be dredged every year at a cost sometimes equal to what it cost to build them in the first place.

∠ There are harbors whose breakwaters actually increase, rather than diminish, wave action within them.

∠ We have to learn more about tides, currents and waves so that these things will no longer be true.

∠ We hope to find more basic things too. Through studies of marine organisms, we may find basic knowledge about the metabolic processes which characterize all life.

↳ For instance, some marine organisms reach old age within a few hours; other, which are self-reproducing, are virtually immortal. Just what is the process of aging?

↳ There are untapped mineral resources ^{of fuel resources} under the sea -- some of the richest known to man.

↳ We may learn how to divert and even prevent hurricanes.

↳ But perhaps the greatest promise of all lies in food from the sea.

↳ One and one-half billion of the world's people live in tropical and sub-tropical areas, on a diet that is generally short of protein.

↳ Protein deficiency accounts for half the deaths of children under five. And those who survive often suffer permanent physical -- and mental -- impairment.

↳ Did you know that only ¹⁰ grams a day of processed fish protein concentrate -- odorless and tasteless --

can give a child all the protein he needs for normal physical and mental development, if it is combined with other foods? And this protein --the necessity for healthy growth -- can be provided for less than one cent a day.

These are some of the things that lie ahead -- and not too far ahead at that.

↳ For a boy born and raised in South Dakota ^{and Minnesota} on land flat and endless -- that is pretty exciting business. The Congress found the right man to lead us out to sea.

↳ I remember reading, as a schoolboy, Joseph Conrad:
"The sea ... and its work, for all the talk of men, are wrapped in mystery."

↳ Today we mean to unravel that mystery.

We mean to use the oceans to generate new wealth, new industries, new jobs. And with the secrets we find ... with the knowledge that surely lies ahead, we mean to build a safer and more peaceful world.

Walt Whitman put it into words almost a hundred
years ago:

"Joyous, we ... launch out on trackless seas,

Fearless for unknown shores."

Let us wish ourselves luck, prosperity, and success. ◊

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