

Elected 4 terms
3 terms
uncontrolled

Prime Minister
Prime Minister
Prime Minister

Toast by Vice President Humphrey
at luncheon for President Asgeir Asgeirsson
President of Iceland

The Museum of History and Technology

Smithsonian Institution

Washington, D.C.

July 19, 1967

Minnesota
Johnson

Ambassador
Thomas Steyn - Son

Relvaag

President Asgeir Asgeirsson

to Iceland a distinguished former Governor of Minnesota and a personal friend, Ambassador Karl Rolvaag.'

We welcome you as the first citizen of a free and democratic society, the President of a country which was a founding member of NATO, a country which both culture and geography have linked closely to the North American continent. We understand that the first Europeans to sight the North American continent came from your country. We know that Iceland, which today has the highest literacy rate in the world, has for centuries preserved and transmitted Nordic culture, partly through the medium of the Icelandic saga.

NATO

Mr. President, Mr. Foreign Minister, Distinguished Guests, Friends:

Ambassador Thomas Steyn - Son

It is a singular pleasure for me to welcome to Washington the distinguished President of the Republic of Iceland, His Excellency Asgeir Asgeirsson. As a citizen from the Midwest, I have been acquainted since childhood with the people and culture of Iceland, through the many people of Icelandic origin who settled in Minnesota, and in North and South Dakota.

During the past year I have had an extraordinary opportunity to learn about your country, because the United States is fortunate to have as its Ambassador

Our special guest today has a record of public service rarely equalled in any free country. He served for thirty years in the legislature (the Althing). He served as Education Minister, Finance Minister and Prime Minister before being elected President. It is a great honor, Mr. President, to have you with us today.

4 Terms as President
uncontrolled

I should like to propose a toast to the President of Iceland.

Surtsey (Surt. See) Dr Bauer
Dr Keller



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