

REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
NORTH DAKOTA DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA
JUNE 28, 1968

When a native South Dakota Democrat visits with native North Dakota Democrats, he is among friends.

But we Democrats from the Dakotas -- we Democrats from everywhere -- are more than just friends. We are soldiers and allies who have fought the good battle for decency, rights and liberties, prosperity and a fair share, and above all, for life and the liberation of the human spirit.

Do you remember how we had to fight hard to get even the basics for the farm population -- running water . . . electricity . . . better health and child care . . . decent schools . . . support for the all-important fair market price for your produce?

Today, in the 1960's, we require a totally new national agenda for civil justice and civil order.

Today we face problems which we did not foresee years ago.

We expect much more than our grandfathers did. We no longer accept the status quo if it means hunger . . . or war . . . or discrimination . . . or injustice . . . or inferior education . . . or rotten housing . . . or a rise in crime.

The next President must -- and if he is Hubert Humphrey, he will -- marshal the plans and resources needed for building New Cities, not just rebuilding old cities.

We are going to build New Cities . . . outside of central cities . . . in corridors between cities . . . as bridges between rural and urban areas.

The new city of Columbia, Maryland illustrates what the vision and imagination of man can achieve if we have the resources and the will to move forward. In the 1970's and 80's we are going to have to build -- with public support -- Columbias all over the nation.

The next President must probe the future to see what can be done about lifting the quality and attraction of rural life.

We must try to bring back the young people drawn to the cities.

This will not be easy. But I sense a national desire to achieve a real balance between rural and urban life.

And if I am President, I will try to make rural investment more attractive to small and large business and industry.

The next President must extend the benefits of health and medical research as far into rural areas as possible.

We must establish Regional Medical Centers to serve those removed from urban areas.

Those centers should have the newest equipment, and should provide in-patient and out-patient and diagnostic services.

If I am elected President, I shall never rest until the most advanced nation in the world in science and medicine is also the most advanced in caring for the health and lives of its own citizens.

I also pledge, if elected, a new and complete look into the rising costs of hospital service and medical treatment, and the quality of hospital services across this land. I pledge to rural and urban America a total reexamination of our health needs and facilities.

The next President cannot be satisfied until the farmer gets full parity for his products in the market place.

The next President must move hard and fast to help the farmer achieve the bargaining power he needs in today's competitive economy.

The next President must reevaluate every law, every international agreement and every international organization with an eye to getting every last bit of food or fiber to those hungry Americans and starving nations across the seas.

The next President must press on all fronts for extension of the Food and Agriculture Act of 1965 so the farmer like the businessman can plan ahead.

The next President must move full speed ahead to extend the Food Stamp program into every county in every state where there is even one hungry child or one starving family.

The next President must see to it that the total genius, the total productivity, the total know-how of the American farmer is placed at the service of his country and world.

* * *

The next President will find a country infused with tough hope -- yet a country in which many people are a little fearful, a little confused, . . . a little unsure.

The next President must therefore begin immediately to build a new social morality based on: peace in our neighborhoods and lives, peace in our towns and streets, and peace in the world.

For without the security of one's own person and property -- without the security of one's home or neighborhood or nation . . . without the assurance that violence will be controlled and curbed and cured . . . the future will be worth very little.

The first public order of business of the Humphrey Administration will be peace and the reconciliation among our own people . . . the relaxation of tensions at home and abroad . . . and full throttle ahead on human development in the 1970's and 1980's.

Never think for one moment when I say peace, that I mean the peace of silence . . . or the peace of emptiness . . . or the peace of just not doing anything for eight years. We had enough of that in the 1950's.

I mean action, and the achievement of both social order and social justice.

I mean a maximum effort here and abroad to stop building fences and start building bridges . . . a maximum effort to stop stocking weapons and settling arguments through force or terror of threat.

I mean to achieve law and order in America so that the poor have the same protection of life and property as the rich . . . the weak the same safety as the strong.

I mean to build unity among our people -- to build one America -- not an America of one mind, but of one spirit.

I mean to build unity not based on imposed, enforced agreement -- but on a pride in citizenship and oneness of higher purpose.

I mean to lead this country toward the time when every citizen not only will share in, but will contribute to, our national growth and well-being.

I seek the Presidency to make certain that every man is guaranteed a job with a future, with dignity, with a good, decent, livable wage.

I'm not just talking about jobs for the hard-core unemployed. I'm talking about jobs for your sons and daughters when they leave school. I'm talking about jobs for the millions of physically handicapped. I'm talking about jobs for people who need to be retrained.

I'm talking about real full employment

I seek the Presidency to affirm the right of every farm baby and city baby to live beyond birth, because we have the means, the drugs the techniques to help him live.

I seek the Presidency to guarantee the farmer an expanding market for his product at a fair price.

I seek the Presidency to assure the homeowner and landowner that he will not be crushed by higher and higher property and state and national taxes. One of the major projects in a ~~New~~ Humphrey Administration will be a complete study of the nation's tax laws, with the intent of achieving greater equity in the taxes which each citizen pays.

I seek the Presidency to assure the older citizen the right to a long life, a good life and a healthier life . . . free of fear . . . free of paternalism.

I seek the Presidency to help business explore every possible area for its capital investment, consistent with international custom and agreement.

I seek the Presidency to secure the right of every child to get the education his mind needs and wants, from grammar school through college . . . without fear of exclusion because he can't afford it.

I seek the Presidency to assure you the right not to be mangled by an unsafe vehicle . . . or sickened by unsafe food . . . or crippled by unsafe drugs.

I seek the Presidency to guarantee the right of every American man, woman and child enough to eat.

I seek the Presidency to lead America toward the day when the only balance we want is a balance of competition, and not a balance of nuclear terror.

* * *

The next President must look to our future in the world --- after Vietnam.

My objective --- and it is also the President's objective --- is a peaceful political settlement in Vietnam. That is what we are seeking right now in Paris.

I favor --- and the President favors -- an immediate cease-fire in Vietnam so the killing will stop . . . now.

Hanoi won't agree.

So the Paris discussions must go on in the environment of psychological and military pressure which has become so much a standard Communist negotiating pattern.

I hope that the American people will have the patience and tenacity to withstand that pressure and to support Ambassador Averell Harriman and Cyrus Vance in Paris --- no matter how long their efforts may take . . . and it may take a long time.

Now, one day that war will finally end. When it is over, I hope we will have learned some lessons from it -- as I hope other nations will have learned.

The biggest lesson is that, in this nuclear age, war is simply no longer an acceptable means of attaining political ends. I hope all nations may learn that the power of reason and of accommodation will increasingly have to replace the use of force.

Are these goals -- peace . . . the right to a full and secure life for each of us -- too visionary for America? I say no. They can and must be achieved . . . but not by North Dakota Democrats alone . . . and not by Humphrey Democrats alone . . . and not by rural Americans or urban Americans alone.

We must now call forth the Silent America. Yes, there is a vast, silent group of Americans -- a majority of many millions -- who want to make this country work . . . who want safety and equal rights for everyone . . . who bear no ill will against other Americans.

This Silent America can be aroused. I mean to try.

* * *

John Kennedy said this nation was not built by the timid and will not be sustained by the fearful.

I appeal to you in that spirit.

For I do not seek the Presidency to let its powers lie useless.

I do not seek the Presidency to watch my country fall into civil strife.

I do not seek the Presidency to preserve anybody's status quo.

I seek the Presidency because by temperament, maturity and experience, I feel ready to give back to America what it in its majesty has given to me.

I seek the Presidency to put it to work for the people -- and work I will

I ask your help.

###

St. Louis Charles Tigh

Debbie Huey + Sister Hally
(Humphrey Dresses)

Gov Huey + Jean
Sen Burdick (Daughter)
Chr. Larry Erickson

REMARKS

Del. Hocking

Sen Byrdie

19 yr old Vote

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

NORTH DAKOTA DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

JUNE 28, 1968

Roland Redlin
(West Dist)

Guest

Humphrey Super Brigade

Lunch at Gov's Mansion

When a native South Dakota Democrat visits with native North Dakota Democrats, he is among friends.

But we Democrats from the Dakotas--we Democrats from everywhere--are more than just friends. We are soldiers and allies who have fought the good battle for decency, rights and liberties, prosperity and a fair share, and above all, for life and the liberation of the human spirit.

allies fought the good battle

Gov Huey
Sen Burdick

"Touch the Earth"

Do you remember how we had to fight hard to get even the basics for the farm population--running water...electricity...better health and child care...
decent schools...support for the all-important fair market price for your produce? !

But / Today, in the 1960's we require a totally new national agenda for civil justice and civil order.

/ Today we face problems which we did not foresee years ago.

/ We expect much more than our grandfathers did. We no longer accept the status quo if it means hunger...or war...or discrimination...or injustice...
or inferior education...or rotten housing...or a rise in crime.

~~just~~ / The next President will find a country ~~filled with~~ filled with
~~with~~ ~~hope~~--yet a country in which many people
 are a little fearful, a little confused...a little unsure.

The next President must ~~therefore~~ begin
~~immediately~~ to build a new social morality based on:
peace in our neighborhoods and lives; peace in our
towns and streets; and peace in the world.

Social

For without the security of one's own person
 and property...without the security of one's home or
 neighborhood or nation...without the assurance that
violence will be controlled, and curbed and cured...
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The first public order of business of the Humphrey
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in the 1970's and 1980's.

Never think for one moment when I say peace,
that I mean the peace of silence...or the peace of
emptiness... or the peace of ~~just not doing anything~~ inaction and indifference.
for eight years. ~~We had enough of that in the 1950's~~

↳ I mean action, ~~the~~ the achievement of both
social order and social justice. — the Peace of Harmony!

I mean a maximum effort here and abroad to
stop building fences ^{between Peoples Nations} and start building bridges... a
maximum effort to stop stocking weapons and settling
arguments through force or terror or threat.

↳ I mean to achieve law and order in America so
that the poor have the same protection of life and
property as the rich... the weak the same safety as
the strong.

The first duty of government
is equal protection of the laws
for everyone — This means law
and order with justice.

∟ I mean to build unity among our people--to build one America--not an America of one mind, but of one spirit.

∟ I mean to build unity not based on imposed, enforced agreement--but on a pride in citizenship and oneness of higher purpose.

∟ I mean to lead this country toward the time when every citizen not only will share in, but will contribute to, our national growth and well-being.

∟ I seek the Presidency to make certain that every man is guaranteed a job with a future, with dignity, with a good, decent, livable wage.

∟ I'm not just talking about jobs for the hard-core
unemployed. ∟ I'm talking about jobs for your sons and
daughters when they leave school. I'm talking about
jobs for the millions of physically handicapped. ∟ I'm
talking about jobs for people who need to be retrained.
I'm talking about real full employment.

I seek the Presidency to affirm the right of
every ~~child~~ ^{child} ~~and every baby~~ to live beyond birth,
because we have the means, the drugs and techniques
to help him live.

The infant mortality rate is shamefully high.

∟ ~~I seek the Presidency to guarantee the farmer
an expanding market for his product at a fair price.~~

I seek the Presidency to assure the farmer
and his family not only a fair price for
his product, but a fair share in all the
benefits and opportunities of America.

~~The next President must~~ *I want to* → probe the future to

see what can be done about lifting the quality and
attraction of rural life.

↳ We must try to bring back the young people
drawn to the cities.

This will not be easy.

*We must try to stem the tide of migration from
Rural America
to the Cities*

But I sense a national desire to achieve a

real balance between rural and urban life.

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(next Page)

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for peace - It is worth every
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honorable, genuine Peace.

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*good ideas + put them to
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#

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TRANSCRIPT OF

REMARKS

of

THE HONORABLE HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

OF AMERICA

AT THE NORTH DAKOTA DEMOCRATIC-
NONPARTISAN LEAGUE STATE CONVENTION

AT THE MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES
OF NORTH DAKOTA INDIAN TRIBES

AT THE GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY
FOR THE DEMOCRATIC-NPL KENNEDY
MEMORIAL CENTER

At
Bismarck, North Dakota
Friday, June 28, 1968

ALVIN T. EMINETH
COURT REPORTER
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA
255-4011 EXT. 293

(ORIGINAL)

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ALVIN T. EMINETH, COURT REPORTER, BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

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Amlock
ERASABLE

1 (Whereupon the following proceedings commenced
2 at 2:04 P.M., at the Democratic-NPL State Convention,
3 at Bismarck, North Dakota, June 28, 1968:)

4 CHAIRMAN LARRY ERICKSON: Ladies and gentlemen:
5 To introduce our very honored guest, I give you the
6 Governor of North Dakota, The Honorable William Guy.
7 (Standing applause.)

8 GOVERNOR WILLIAM L. GUY: Thank you, Chairman
9 Erickson.

10 Mr. Vice President, Senator Burdick, Lieutenant
11 Governor Tighe, delegates to this great Democratic-
12 Nonpartisan League Convention, and all of you who are
13 observing this convention here in Convention Hall or
14 over your television or radio sets, and a special
15 greeting to all of the young people who are attending
16 this convention and showing interest. (Applause)

17 We have just come from a wonderful experience,
18 an historic experience for the Governor's residence, a
19 luncheon in which Senator McCarthy and Vice President
20 Humphrey -- (applause) these two presidential aspirants
21 and their supporters sat together for lunch today and I
22 think disucssed the future of this great liberal Demo-
23 cratic Party we're so proud of. Without a doubt, the
24 busiest and most reonsibility-laden Vice President in
25 our history is on the stage now. (Applause) Visiting

1 this Convention today is the man I think who could lay
2 a claim to being the real cutting edge of liberalism
3 for more than twenty years in this Nation. (Applause)
4 We have but to examine the record, because history has
5 a way of projecting itself into the future.

6 We see that in 1949 it was Hubert Humphrey
7 who proposed Medicare. (Applause)

8 In this war torn world, it was Hubert Humphrey
9 who was the father of the Arms Control and Disarmament
10 Agency in this Nation. (Applause)

11 In this age when mankind is able to destroy
12 himself, it was Hubert Humphrey who fostered and brought
13 along the Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. (Applause)

14 In this day and age when one aspect of our
15 American life stands out above all others, and that is
16 the quality and the quantity of our education, it was
17 Hubert Humphrey who sponsored federal aid to higher
18 education and authored the National Defense Education
19 Act. (Applause)

20 In this country, where the spotlight is now
21 turned on equal opportunity, it was Hubert Humphrey
22 who had the foresight and the compassion to propose
23 what later became the Job Corps Program in the United
24 States. (Applause)

25 In this day and age when we live as nations

1 next to one another and try to learn to live with one
2 another, it was Hubert Humphrey who first proposed the
3 Peace Corps, which today sends our young ambassadors
4 to help in every nation of the world. (Applause)

5 I quote Vice President Humphrey. He said,
6 "If I believe in something, I will fight for it, and
7 with all that I have." (Applause) "But," says the
8 Vice President, "I do not demand all or nothing.
9 Professional liberals want the fiery debate. They
10 glory in defeat. The hardest job for a politician
11 today is to have the courage to be moderate." (Applause)

12 Vice President Humphrey has been coming into
13 North Dakota for at least twenty years to encourage us
14 and inspire us, to bring together the liberals, as we
15 have now under the Democratic-Nonpartisan League banner.
16 He has come when we've asked and has never, never shirked
17 an opportunity to give us help at a time when the Demo-
18 cratic Party and the Democratic-Nonpartisan League
19 Party was not really a power to be reckoned with.
20 Northwest agriculture has had no greater friend over the
21 years than Hubert Humphrey in the Senate and again as
22 Vice President. (Applause)

23 Several years ago my wife and I were evening
24 guests in the apartment high over the Potomac River,
25 looking out over the sparkle of lights and the shimmer

1 of the water, and Vice President Humphrey and his wife,
2 Muriel, served us cheese and crackers and coffee, and
3 they wanted to know how things were in North Dakota.
4 (Applause) The Vice President is a man who wants to
5 know. He wants to know what you and I think. He wants
6 to respond to what we feel are the issues. Many people
7 today can outline the problems, but it takes a mind of
8 great creativity to propose solutions and it takes a
9 man of great persuasive and organizational powers to
10 bring about the legislation to correct these grave
11 problems. And so today our Convention is privileged
12 to hear from a man that I think is one of the great
13 liberal, creative minds, that has the power of persuasion
14 and has the ability, I think, to unite this great Nation
15 in new, great national purposes -- ladies and gentlemen,
16 the Vice President of the United States, Hubert Humphrey.

17 (Standing applause.)

18 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Thank you, friends.
19 Thank you very, very much. Thank you.

20 Thank you, Governor Guy. Governor, I hope
21 you won't mind if I seize the gavel here for a moment.
22 As the Presiding Officer of the United States Senate,
23 I have to gavel down Quentin Burdick time after time
24 when he wants to get everything for North Dakota.

25 (Applause)

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ALVIN T. EMINETH. COURT REPORTER. BISMARCK. NORTH DAKOTA

Governor, and Senator Burdick, Chairman Larry Erickson, and your National Committeeman, Dr. Hocking, my good friend, and my charming and very dear and good friend, your National Committeewoman, Liv Bjorlie -- (applause) -- and the able and dedicated Lieutenant Governor Charles Tighe -- (applause) -- and a very special friend that we have here in this audience that I do hope and pray that you will send back to Congress, Rolland Redlin -- Rollie -- (applause).

Friends, this is sort of like coming home for me and I'm torn between just visiting with you and getting down to the business of giving you a speech. So for a few minutes, if you'll permit me, I should just like to visit as one neighbor to another or with another.

Governor Bill Guy and his lovely and wonderful wife, Jean -- and she's so wonderful -- (applause) -- have just been host and hostess at the Governor's Mansion to a luncheon that I think typifies that spirit of what North Dakota means in American politics, and I hope that it typifies the spirit of what the Democratic Party can mean in American politics -- the Governor sitting at one end of the table and his lovely Jean at the other, had there the Party officers, had there the supporters of the two contestants in the Democratic Party for this nomination of the office of President, and I think I can

1 tell you that it was a most pleasant, happy, invigorating
2 occasion. I sat alongside of -- or should I say across
3 the table from -- a man that I have stood alongside,
4 been with, worked with, for over twenty years, and while
5 we do seek this nomination and will work hard to get it,
6 let there be no doubt about one thing -- a friendship of
7 twenty years will not be destroyed on the anvil of
8 politics. (applause)

9 It was a happy hour that we had together, and
10 how happy I am, too, that our young friends are here in
11 such numbers. When I -- (applause) -- when I came out
12 of the Governor's Mansion to come to this gathering, a
13 very fine young man came up to me and said, "Mr. Vice
14 President, we'd like to enlist your support for the
15 nineteen-year-old vote." (applause) And he gave me this
16 button. And as I came down the line here, this pretty,
17 attractive young lady over there wanted me to have
18 another button, and I almost regretted that I'd accepted
19 the first one, so that I could have received the second
20 one from her. But I said to the young gentleman, and I
21 want to say to the young lady, that the Vice President
22 -- that I have not only supported the nineteen-year-old
23 vote since I came to North Dakota, but when I was a
24 freshman Senator, in the year 1950, I introduced, along
25 with the then -- your own Senator Bill Langer, the --

(applause) -- yes, I remember -- I remember so well -- introduced the amendment to the Constitution that would have -- that provides for the eighteen-year-old vote, and yesterday the President of the United States sent a message to the Congress of the United States, asking that we lower that voting age. We ask these young men and young women to do everything for our country -- everything from living for it to die for it. I think they're entitled to vote for it, and I support their efforts.

(applause)

Now I must tell you, Governor, that such a dear friend as you are, that feeding me that nice piece of North Dakota steak, New York cut style -- (laughter) -- is no way to get a Democrat ready for a speech. (laughter) Why, it almost makes me feel like a Republican -- (laughter and applause) -- if you know what I mean -- sort of sleepy and tired. (laughter and applause) But when I saw these young ladies in those Humphrey dresses go by here, and knowing that Debbie Guy and her sister, Holly, along with others, are right in the mixst of it, I soon remembered that the steak that I had was a bit raw, which makes me feel like a Democrat -- (laughter and applause) -- rarin' to go, in other words. And I want to talk to you about where we're going to go and why we ought to go there, and I'd

1 like to indicate to you who ought to lead -- lead the
2 march -- and it happens to be the man that's talking to
3 you. (applause)

4 It used to be sort of dangerous for a boy
5 born in South Dakota to come and give any advice to
6 anybody that lived in North Dakota. But we've learned
7 now how to live together and, even though these two
8 states are separate and distinct, and South Dakota being
9 my native state, I was assured of safe passage by Senator
10 Quentin Burdick -- particularly, he said, "If you'll
11 say something nice about me" -- and I could say nothing
12 but something nice about him. I tell you, he's a great
13 Senator for this State. (applause) You never had a
14 truer, a better, a more conscientious, a more hard-
15 working, a more dedicated friend of the people of North
16 Dakota in the United States Senate than you have in
17 Quentin Burdick. (applause) And look what you are
18 going to do in North Dakota this year on this governor-
19 ship! You're going to reelect Bill Guy with a great
20 majority. (applause)

21 Well, all I can tell you is that anybody that's
22 privileged to have a Governor like Bill Guy -- you ought
23 to just keep him and keep him and make him happier and
24 happier, and I don't even mind telling you, you ought
25 to pay him more too. He hasn't asked for it, but --

1 (laughter and applause). Of course he's willing to work
2 for the same pay, just in case you're interested.

3 Now we've fought many good battles together.
4 I appreciated so much Governor Guy's introduction. It
5 is true that I've been here many times. It is true that
6 I've been across the vast expanse of this State -- first
7 as the Mayor of my City of Minneapolis, and then as
8 United States Senator, interested in the development of
9 this, the Democratic Party, the Nonpartisan League, this
10 great liberal, forward, political movement. But we
11 don't need to take about the yesterdays, except to
12 refresh our memories, except to know that we've been
13 allies -- allies against injustice, allies for our
14 rights and our liberties, allies for development of our
15 great resources, the natural resources, the water, the
16 rivers -- yes, the lignite, the power, the farm land,
17 and we've been allies in the liberation of that human
18 spirit. We've also been in the battle together on
19 many things that have come about and happened. We
20 fought hard to get even the basics for our farm popula-
21 tion -- running water. Why, I remember one time I had
22 to remind a member of the United States Senate that
23 running water was not the name of an Indian chief --
24 it was something that you got out of rural electrifica-
25 tion and a good farm well. That's what you have to do

1 occasionally. (applause) Yes, we fought for -- we fought
2 for electricity -- the REA -- and then the power on the
3 Missouri River -- for better health and child care and for
4 decent schools and support for the all-important, yet
5 unfulfilled, fair market price for the production of our
6 farms and of our ranches and our fields. But today is
7 another day. The yesterdays are primarily good for
8 what we learn from them. Sometimes we learn from
9 achievement, sometimes from a defeat that hurt us, and
10 I want to talk to you about that totally new agenda
11 for the young people of this land, for your children
12 and, indeed, for ourselves, because we face problems
13 today that no one could have foreseen ten years ago --
14 some of them that none could have foreseen five years
15 ago. If there's any fact of our time that is crystal
16 clear, it is rapid change -- sometimes change that
17 almost overwhelms us -- the change of science and
18 technology, the change in the shift of population that
19 we were talking about at the luncheon table this noon,
20 the change in production, the change in industry, change
21 in the world. All of this leads us to one thing -- we
22 expect much more now in a shorter period of time than
23 we ever expected before. We no longer accept what was.
24 If it means trouble, hunger, war, discrimination,
25 injustice, inferior education, poor and rotten housing,

1 both urban and rural, a rise in crime and violence, we
2 cannot accept these things, friends, and so we chart a
3 course for tomorrow. This has been my life. When I
4 saw these young people, I couldn't help but remember
5 when I first came into public life what they said. They
6 said, "Look at Humphrey and his diaper brigade." That's
7 what they called my young friends. And as I listened to
8 Bill Guy here today, I think it's fair to say that what
9 he was reciting to you were the efforts, at least of
10 one man, to look ahead, sometimes to look ahead a
11 generation, a decade or a few years. This has been my
12 life -- looking ahead. (applause).

13 I was not born with a rearview mirror. I
14 was born with two eyes that see the vision of this land,
15 the hope of America, the promise of this land, the
16 future yet to be conquered, needs unfulfilled, and I
17 know one thing, if I know anything, that when I come
18 and see people like I see in this audience, when I go
19 back to my own home and see my neighbors, I know one thing
20 above all -- that whatever we need to do, whatever we
21 will to do, we can do it, if we set ourself to the task.
22 (applause)

23 There's a story in Greek mythology of some
24 old Greek mythological god that, when he became weary,
25 he would come back to Earth and touch the earth and he

1 would gain new strength from it. Ladies and gentlemen,
2 after you've been in public life, even for a short time,
3 and if you've been in it for almost a quarter of a
4 century or a generation, you need periodically to come
5 back and refresh your spirit and your mind and your
6 body -- not only by touching the earth, but touching
7 the people, getting with them, listening to them, hearing
8 what they have to say, hearing, as Carl Sandburg put it,
9 "America sing," and hearing her song and then trying to
10 sing with her and with her people.

11 Let me talk to you then about what we're
12 really here to discuss -- the next President of the
13 United States -- because we're going to make that
14 decision very shortly. First we're going to make a
15 decision as to who will be the nominee of the Democratic
16 Party. The Republicans will make their decision just a
17 few days ahead of us. And then there will be a day of
18 decision in November. When that decision is made, you
19 will be selecting the leader of your country that will
20 have a great deal to do -- yes, an immense amount to
21 do -- with charting the destiny of this land, and indeed
22 of the entire world, for years to come. It's awesome
23 even as you think of it. No man can really feel fully
24 worthy of it. No person, if he's honest with himself,
25 can really say that he has all of the qualities that

1 may be required. All you can do is hope and pray to
2 God Almighty that you will have the judgment and the
3 wisdom, gained through experience, gained through the
4 advice and counsel of friends, gained from the wisdom
5 of the people, that you will have that wisdom to be
6 able to guide this country through troubled years. You
7 and I know they'll be troubled years. John Kennedy once
8 said, "Peace and freedom do not come cheap." And he
9 went on to say that we of this generation shall live
10 for the rest of our lives in times of peril, change and
11 trouble. I think he was right. But this is not too
12 unusual. When hasn't it been a period of change and
13 of trouble and of doubt?

14 As I look across this room and see the mothers
15 and fathers of some of the young that are here -- you
16 were the children of the Depression, the men and women
17 of World War II, of the postwar period. It has always
18 been a challenge. So be not afraid. The one thing
19 that I remember from Franklin Roosevelt more than any-
20 thing else were those words that captivated the American
21 people and literally sent vibrations through their bodies
22 and minds -- and he said, "All we have to fear is fear
23 itself." And, ladies and gentlemen, what he said then
24 is still true -- Americans ought not to be fearful.
25 This is supposed to be the home of the free and the land

1 of the brave. Let's act like it, ladies and gentlemen.

2 (applause)

3 So that next President -- and he will be a
4 President in his own right -- that next President will
5 find a country filled with hope, and yet anxiety; a
6 country in which many people are a little fearful, a
7 little confused and a little unsure. And what's his
8 task then? -- to exemplify confidence, to be the very
9 personification of reason and prudence, to exemplify
10 ideals and to exemplify the strength that comes from
11 understanding what this Nation is all about. That next
12 President must build a new social morality, based on
13 peace in our neighborhoods and our lives and peace in
14 our towns and our streets, and peace in this troubled
15 world. That's the job of the next President of the
16 United States. (applause) For without security of
17 one's own person and property, without the security of
18 one's home or neighborhood or nation, without the
19 assurance that violence will be controlled and stopped,
20 curbed and cured, the future will be worth very little.
21 The first public order of business in the new Humphrey
22 Administration will be peace and a reconciliation among
23 our own people -- (applause) -- and the relaxation of
24 tensions at home and abroad, and then, my friends,
25 full throttle ahead on human development, national

1 development, in the 1970s and the 1980s.

2 When a President takes the oath of office, he
3 promises to help perfect a more perfect Union. When he
4 takes that oath of office, he promises to promote
5 domestic tranquility, to provide for the common defense,
6 to insure justice. These are his solemn obligations,
7 ladies and gentlemen. He dare do no less or he is
8 unworthy of even being considered for this high office.
9 And when I speak of the peace and the tranquility, I
10 speak of a spirit of reconciliation, of healing, of
11 binding up the wounds, at home and abroad, of under-
12 standing the needs of people and trying to respond to
13 those needs -- at least to respond in spirit and,
14 hopefully, with means. Reconciliation must be the
15 hallmark of the new presidency -- reconciliation of
16 differences in this world, reconciliation of our
17 peoples at home, building, building a better America,
18 because the world needs it and we need it, as we've
19 never needed it before. (applause) And I'm not for
20 a single moment talking about the peace of silence, the
21 peace of emptiness, the peace of inaction or indiffer-
22 ence. Peace is not negative -- it is positive. I'm
23 speaking of the peace of action, the peace of harmony,
24 of men and women working together, building, creating,
25 not destroying and burning. I mean a maximum effort,

1 here at home and abroad, to stop building fences that
2 separate our people and our nations, and to start
3 building bridges so we can work together and live
4 together. I mean a maximum effort to stop the stock-
5 piling of weapons of mass destruction and settling
6 these arguments in the world through force and terror
7 or threat. I mean peace in every sense of the word --
8 peace abroad and peace at home. (applause)

9 And if I'm permitted to be your President, I
10 mean to achieve at all cost, with whatever sacrifice
11 may be necessary, law and order in America, so that the
12 poor -- yes, rich and poor alike -- can have the same
13 protection of life and property and that the weak can
14 have the same safety as the strong. This is the
15 minimum requirement of decent democratic government --
16 equal protection of the laws for everyone --and this
17 means law and order with justice, and we can give it
18 to this Nation. (applause)

19 And I mean to build among our people a sense
20 of unity -- we, the people of these United States --
21 not we, the white, and we, the black, we, the urban,
22 and we, the rural -- but we, the people. Not an America
23 of one mind, because we are different, but an America
24 of one spirit. And I mean, if you'll help me, to build
25 unity, not based on imposed enforcement, but on a pride

1 of citizenship and one the oneness of higher purpose.
2 What greater honor is there today, my friends, anyplace
3 in the world than to be known by the title which is
4 unique and which is glorious in itself -- citizen of
5 the United States of America? Let's make that meaningful.
6 (applause)

7 And I mean to lead this country towards the
8 time when every citizen will not only share in but will
9 contribute to our national growth and well-being. I
10 seek this presidency to make certain that every man and
11 woman that is willing to work and able to work shall
12 have a job with a future, with dignity, with good and
13 a decent living wage. (applause)

14 Americans are not asking for a welfare state.
15 They're asking for a state of opportunity. They're
16 not only concerned about Social Security. These young
17 Americans that are here today, and others, want social
18 opportunity, and as their President, I mean to see that
19 they have a chance to get it. Together we can do it.
20 (applause)

21 I seek the presidency, the highest office in
22 the gift of man, to affirm the right of every child to
23 live beyond birth, because we have the means -- the
24 doctors, the medicine, the hospitals, the drugs, the
25 techniques -- to help him live, and yet, my fellow

1 Americans, infant mortality in America is shamefully
2 high. I mean as your President to see that America is
3 first in the love of life and the love of children that
4 are the symbol of life itself. Give us the chance.
5 (applause)

6 And I seek this high office to assure the
7 farmer -- people who are not just a name to me, but are
8 my neighbors, my kinfolk, in my blood, in my very being
9 -- to see that the farmer and his family not only have
10 a fair price for their product, but a fair share in all
11 of the benefits, in all of the opportunities of America.
12 This is what we mean now by parity -- not just income,
13 but living -- the chance to live a full life. I want
14 to probe the future, to see what can be done about
15 lifting the quality and the attraction of rural life.
16 I want to see a halt, or at least a slowdown, to the
17 migration of people from our rural areas into our
18 great cities. (applause)

19 The urban crisis of today is the byproduct
20 of a world crisis of today and yesterday, and you and
21 I know it. People who couldn't make it, who didn't
22 have a chance, thought there was a better chance some-
23 place else, and they went there, and many of them only
24 to find the hostility and a foreign environment. We
25 can't let this happen. We must try to bring back the

1 young people drawn to our cities and we must, above
2 all, try to provide at home here in North Dakota, South
3 Dakota, Minnesota -- this great west -- this great
4 midwest -- we must try to provide here an environment,
5 economic and social, where young people will say, "This
6 is my land. This is where I want to live. Here is my
7 future." And we want it to be a modern, productive,
8 economically prosperous rural America -- and we can
9 do it. (applause)

10 I will -- I will try to make rural investment
11 more attractive to small and large business and industry.
12 I want to extend the benefits of health and medical
13 research into the rural areas as soon as possible. I
14 wish to see the establishment of regional medical
15 centers to achieve and to serve those who have moved
16 from the urban areas. Those centers should have the
17 newest equipment, the finest of doctors, and should
18 provide inpatient and outpatient and diagnostic
19 services. And if I am permitted to be your President,
20 if I am elected, I shall never rest until this, the most
21 advanced nation in the world in science and medicine,
22 is also the most advanced in caring for the health
23 and the lives of its own citizens right here in the
24 United States of America. (applause)

25 And the next President must take a good, hard

EFASABLE

ALVIN T. EMINETH, COURT REPORTER, BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

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look at some of these -- at the rising costs of hospital services and medical treatment and the quality of those hospital services across this land, and I pledge to this audience, I pledge to this Nation, a total re-examination of our health needs and our facilities, so that a man or a woman, a boy or a girl, wherever he or she may live, whatever her background or her family -- his or her family -- that they shall have equal care, equal opportunity to the best that modern science and medicine can provide, because what is the prime purpose of this Nation? -- life -- life with freedom.

Our founding fathers said that we have those inalienable rights, those God-given rights, those inalienable rights of life and of liberty and of the pursuit of happiness. And the man that speaks to you today says that this is the theme of his life, will be the purpose of his administration, to see first of all that life is protected, secondly, that life is made meaningful, thirdly, that life shall be with freedom and, finally, that free men and women may pursue the good life in a spirit of happiness, for themselves, their country and this world. We can do this. We must do it. (applause)

And the next President cannot be satisfied until the farmers get full parity for his products.

1 And the next President must move hard and fast to
2 achieve that goal -- to help the farmer achieve the
3 bargaining power that he needs, so he can stand free
4 and equal in today's competitive economy. (applause)
5 And he must have the courage to stand up and say that
6 the beginnings of REA are only the beginnings -- that
7 we seek to make REA's into rural electrical develop-
8 ment programs for every county, every rural county
9 and area in the United States of America, and we can
10 get it done. And that next President must press on,
11 with Senator Burdick and others, for the extension of
12 the Food and Agricultural Act, so that farmer, like
13 businessman, can plan ahead. And he must move full
14 speed ahead to extend that food stamp program into
15 every county, into every state where's there's even
16 one hungry child or one starving family. America can
17 afford to feed its hungry, and we know it. (applause)

18 Yes, that next President must see to it that
19 the total genius, productivity and know-how of the
20 American farmer, which is the wonder of this world, is
21 placed at the service of this country and the world.
22 This is what we mean by the new social morality.

23 Oh, there are so many reasons, dear friends,
24 that we must work together, to assure the homeowner
25 and the landowner that he will not be crushed by higher

1 and higher property and state and national taxes. And
2 one of the major projects in the new Humphrey Adminis-
3 tration will be a complete study of the Nation's tax
4 laws, with the intent of achieving greater equity in
5 the taxes which each citizen pays and with a -- with a
6 purpose in mind, Governor, of being able to share more
7 equitably with state and local government, so that
8 government will have the wherewithal to do its job.
9 (applause)

10 Yes, for young and old, we must work; for
11 the elderly, that they may live a life in dignity and
12 decency, rather than despair and fear. And I seek the
13 presidency to secure the right of every child to get
14 all the education that he or she is capable of absorbing,
15 from age four through grammar school, through high
16 school, to college, to the technical schools. This,
17 the richest nation on the face of the earth, can afford
18 it. Jefferson was right -- you cannot be both ignorant
19 and free. You have to make your choice, and I go with
20 Jefferson -- education and freedom -- the wisest
21 investments that any people ever made. We're going to
22 do it. (applause)

23 And now, finally, my friends, the next
24 President -- many things more that he must do -- many
25 things -- but, above all, he needs to look to the future,

1 as to the kind of world that we're going to live in --
2 not the world of 1948, not the world of 1958, but a
3 world vastly changed, and he must be prepared to live
4 with that world, understand it and, hopefully, to
5 improve it. We must look to our future in the world
6 after this cruel, costly and difficult war in Viet Nam,
7 and my objective, as is the President's -- and it has
8 always been, is a peaceful, honorable, political
9 settlement of this war in Viet Nam, and that's what
10 we're now seeking and that's what we're hoping and
11 praying that we will find in the conferences taking
12 place this very day in Paris, France. Oh, how we need
13 your help. (applause)

14 Peace does not come to the timid. It is a
15 lonely struggle. The Scriptures say, "Blessed are the
16 peacemakers." Peace, like a family, takes time and
17 sacrifice. Peace does not come because you parade for
18 it. It does not come because you shout for it. It
19 comes sometimes even when you die for it. Many an
20 American has died -- not for conquest, but for peace.
21 (applause) But Americans know that just as there can
22 be no hope at home if there's violence as the order of
23 the day in our streets, in our cities, there can be no
24 hope in the world -- if there's violence and aggression
25 and the rule of the jungle as the method of achieving

1 objectives.

2 I favor, and I've called for, and the President
3 favors, an immediate cease fire -- stop the killing in
4 Viet Nam so that we can get on with the talks and the
5 negotiations in Paris. I think that's what you want
6 too. (applause) And I shall say nothing, do nothing,
7 that will in any way complicate that delicate negotia-
8 tion. We have two of the best men that this country
9 can send -- two of the finest diplomats that we've
10 ever reared from our midst -- Governor-Ambassador
11 Averill Harriman -- tested, experienced, wise counselor
12 and ambassador -- and his younger partner, who saved
13 the peace in Cyprus, who went to Korea to give stability
14 there, who has gone into our troubled cities to help
15 put down the riots -- I speak of Cyrus Vance. Harriman
16 and Vance -- two ambassadors who are there today seeking
17 relentlessly, patiently, perseveringly, to find the
18 path to an honorable peace. Ladies and gentlemen, our
19 prayers should go out to them and our support for them
20 should be unequivocal, and I call upon the good people
21 of North Dakota, when this chance now is here, when
22 the objective that we've sought is so close at hand --
23 the objective of an honorable peace -- I ask for your
24 voices to be raised in praise and in hope that this
25 peace might be achieved quickly and promptly. (applause)

1 Thus far Hanoi has not agreed. But we shall
2 persevere, and I ask that you do not fall prey to those
3 who would say, "Break off the talks." I ask you to
4 have the same patience at the conference table that
5 your men have had courage on the battlefield. I ask
6 you to stick with it and to give the chance for the
7 peacemakers to gain their objective, because I am con-
8 vinced in my own heart and soul that with perseverance
9 and patience and tenacity, we are on the road, and
10 that peace, the great victory of peace, will crown our
11 efforts in Paris at the negotiations. What a happy day
12 that will be. (applause)

13 And now we've learned a lesson, and I leave
14 you with this: The biggest lesson is that in this
15 nuclear age war is simply no longer an acceptable means
16 of obtaining or attaining political goals. (applause)
17 And how good it was to read yesterday that the Soviet
18 Union, at long last, had replied to President Johnson's
19 appeal to start the talks that can, and hopefully and
20 prayerfully will, lead to a scaling down of the offen-
21 sive and defensive weaponry which is such a burden and
22 threat to all of mankind. That was a great day yester-
23 day, friends -- one for you -- (applause)

24 Now we want these things, but there are others
25 that do too, and that's that great silent majority in

1 America. This is a noisy time in which we live. The
2 militants seem to get most of the attention. Those
3 who break the law seem to get most of the copy. Those
4 who defy reason seem to have the better of it in terms
5 of what people hear, see, read. But, ladies and gentle-
6 men, let me tell you that there is a vast, overwhelming
7 majority of Americans -- that silent group -- who want
8 to make this country work, who do not think that America
9 is sick, who feel that America is finding its direction,
10 who know that America is changing, who want America to
11 change for the better, and I make my appeal to them --
12 this vast, almost silent majority of Americans, who
13 believe that this country of ours has such promise,
14 who are willing to walk the extra mile for social
15 justice, who believe that in reason and democratic
16 procedures we can make a better country. I submit that
17 that silent America can be aroused. I submit that it
18 can be called to action, and I intend to arouse it and I
19 intend to call them to action for a better day in
20 America. (applause)

21 "This Nation was not built," said the beloved
22 President Kennedy, "by the timid, and it will not be
23 sustained by the fearful." I appeal to you in that
24 spirit today. I've been close to this office. I've
25 been your Vice President. I know of its demands, at

1 least in part. I know of its frustrations and its
2 almost-appalling responsibilities. But I also know
3 that it offers the greatest opportunity that any man could
4 ever have for good -- and there's so much good in this
5 country. I do not seek the presidency to let its powers
6 erode in indifference and in uselessness. I do not
7 seek the presidency to watch my country torn apart in
8 civil strife, in vulgarity and in lawlessness. I do
9 not seek the presidency to preserve the status quo.
10 I seek the presidency to put good ideas that are yours
11 and mine -- to put good ideas into action. I seek the
12 presidency because by temperament, and I believe,
13 maturity and experience, I feel now ready to give back
14 to America what in its generosity and its majesty it
15 has given to me. I seek the presidency to put it to
16 work for the people -- and work I will. I ask this
17 Convention to give me that chance, so that together we
18 can work for America.

19 Thank you.

20 (Standing applause.)

21 -----

22
23 (The above address being concluded at 3:05 P.M.,
24 C.D.S.T., the following proceedings were had commencing
25 at 3:10 P.M., the same day, in the Auxiliary Room of the

1 World War Memorial Building, Bismarck, North Dakota:)

2 REV. AUSTIN G. ENGEL, JR.: Will the Indian
3 representatives please be seated and we'll get going
4 with this program?

5 Mr. Vice President, you are meeting here with
6 the delegates from five different Indian tribes, coming
7 from four different Reservations. I'd like to call
8 upon -- first of all, upon Lewis Goodhouse, who is the
9 Chairman of the United Tribes of North Dakota. (applause)

10 MR. LEWIS GOODHOUSE: Thank you. My name is
11 Lewis Goodhouse, Tribal Chairman of the Fort Totten
12 Indian Reservation and also Chairman of the United
13 Tribes of North Dakota, which are the Chippewa, Standing
14 Rock Sioux, Fort Berthold, which consists of the Three
15 Affiliated Tribes, and my Reservation at Fort Totten,
16 the Fort Totten Indian Reservation.

17 As Chairman of the United Tribes of North
18 Dakota, we are supporting you for the next President
19 of the United States.

20 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Well, I sure want to
21 thank you. Thank you very much. (applause)

22 REV. ENGEL: Next I would like to call on
23 Mrs. Betty Laverdure, Tribal Judge from the Turtle
24 Mountain Chippewa. (applause)

25 MRS. BETTY LAVERDURE: Well, naturally my main

1 concern is the Tribal Courts. The April 19th issue of
2 TIME was pretty derogatory to the Tribal Courts, and I
3 believe we know our limitations and believe that we
4 need more training, especially in view of the new civil
5 rights legislation, and one thing that we are interested
6 in is our juveniles, and we have Mrs. Alma Wilkie here
7 today -- our NYC Director, and she has informed me that
8 the dropout rate is 60 per cent, and I believe that we
9 need to take care of this youth. We have various pro-
10 grams, but we have -- we're lacking in one area --
11 where the youth are too old for this program and too
12 old for -- or too young for other programs. I believe
13 we need a trade school and vocational and academic
14 training program for our youth, and of course we are
15 always concerned about housing, and I think both in
16 our Reservation -- we have a very good program, but
17 we still are not too concerned about our aged. We
18 have no housing program for our aged people. They
19 have no sanitation and no water. Of course they are
20 on State aid, and I believe that would be about it.
21 And I have something written up here that I'd like
22 you to have.

23 THE VICE PRESIDENT: And I thank you very
24 much. Thank you, Betty. Thank you so very much.
25 (applause)

1 REV. ENGEL: Next I'd like to call upon
2 August Little Soldier, Chairman of the Three Affiliated
3 Tribes from Fort Berthold. August. (applause)

4 MR. AUGUST LITTLE SOLDIER: Mr. Vice President,
5 ladies and gentlemen:

6 We met with the Vice President here a few
7 months ago and told him of our needs, and I would like
8 to repeat again that we have a large body of water
9 which is undeveloped, and we would like to have some
10 of the recreation development on the Reservation --
11 or our Reservation, which will develop the whole State
12 and will be affected by the whole State for tourism,
13 and that which we strongly recommend, and we have the
14 Four Bear Development complex, which will be presented
15 to you in Washington. We have two delegates up there
16 right now and they will be waiting for you to come back
17 and present this to you, and along with this, Mr. Vice
18 President, I would like to recommend a broadening out
19 of the welfare program. There should be a change in
20 this here program to where people can get some experi-
21 ence, instead of giving them welfare just by handouts.
22 We are a proud people and we don't like to or never
23 did accept handouts, and this is one thing we would
24 like to have you recommend. We have mentioned this
25 many times. We have tribal work there which has given

1 some of the people incentive to get jobs, to get some
2 training through this program, and adult education is
3 needed on the Reservations. This is one thing which
4 we'd like to recommend to you, Mr. Vice President.
5 Thank you very much.

6 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Thank you, August.

7 REV. ENGEL: Mr. Lewis Goodhouse has already
8 made a brief statement. I'd like to call on Peter
9 Belgarde, who is Vice Chairman of the Devils Lake Sioux,
10 Fort Totten. Peter.

11 MR. PETER BELGARDE: Ladies and gentlemen,
12 Mr. Vice President, distinguished guests:

13 It was quite a shock to me this morning. I
14 don't know if I can come out with this, but I'm going
15 to ask the President -- the Vice President of the
16 United States to rush our claim -- Indian award claims
17 through as soon as possible, so -- and then we want
18 about two hundred houses for the poor. There's an
19 awful poor housing situation on the Devils Lake Sioux
20 Indian Reservation. If the award is made, we can put
21 furniture in our buildings, where we have them there
22 now.

23 Another thing, very important on the Reserva-
24 tion, is your graduates out of high school -- no jobs,
25 no work for them, no money for going to college. I

1 would like to ask your help, Mr. Vice President. Thank
2 you, Sir.

3 REV. ENGEL: Our last spokesman I would like
4 to present is Mr. Ted Jamerson, Tribal Council member
5 from the Standing Rock Sioux.

6 MR. TED JAMERSON: Mr. Vice President, Fellow
7 Tribal Members, distinguished guests and friends:

8 Today it is indeed a happy day for the Indian
9 people to have this wonderful opportunity to visit with
10 you. First of all, the prime importance of our group
11 coming here is to try to develop this Lewis and Clark
12 Job Corps Center that has been vacant for several
13 months, and the United Tribes of North Dakota have
14 been following this up and they have asked the Bureau
15 of Indian Affairs and have asked several agencies to
16 assist in setting up a training program for Indian
17 families, involving all the parents -- the mothers,
18 fathers, children, students -- and everybody, and an
19 all-around training program, which will be beneficial,
20 and which has proven successful in the centers in
21 Madera, California and Roswell, New Mexico. This is
22 an ideal spot and we sincerely hope that the Vice
23 President of the United States will look into this,
24 along with our housing needs and claims, better educa-
25 tion programs and more poverty programs for our Indian

1 people.

2 Mr. Vice President, I leave with you this
3 brochure, to give you an idea of what we are trying to
4 do on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation.

5 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Thank you very, very
6 much, Mr. Jamerson. Thank you.

7 REV. ENGEL: And now, Mr. Vice President,
8 we'd like to hear from you.

9 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much.
10 (Standing applause)

11 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Reverend
12 Engel, and my good friend Lewis Goodhouse and the
13 members that here represent the several tribes --
14 Indian tribes in North Dakota.

15 Many of you have been to see me and I've
16 been to see you in the past. I of course had a chance
17 to see Lewis Goodhouse from time to time and I was so
18 pleased to hear from the -- you are the Chief Judge,
19 aren't you?

20 MRS. LAVERDURE: Yes.

21 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Well, I tell you,
22 Chief Justices are getting better looking all the time.
23 But, Mrs. Laverdure, I'm very pleased to have the
24 privilege of seeing you today, and of course I know --
25 I've known August Little Soldier. We've talked on

1 other occasions, as has Mr. Belgarde and Mr. Jamerson.
2 So it's not a new experience for me.

3 I want to be very brief and very much to the
4 point with you. Maybe some of you know that within
5 the last few months I was appointed Chairman by the
6 President of a new council to coordinate Indian affairs
7 in the government, known as the Indian Opportunity
8 Council. We were going to have our first meeting on
9 the fifth day of June. That meeting was to take place
10 in New Mexico, but on the night of the fourth of June,
11 the late Robert Kennedy was assassinated and we had to
12 cancel our meeting out of respect for him and out of
13 the sadness of that tragic event. I have another
14 meeting now scheduled, and it brings in representatives
15 of the Indian tribes throughout the country, as well as
16 people in government, including our departments of
17 government -- the Bureau of Indian Affairs, of course --
18 but the departments of Health, Education and Welfare,
19 and Housing, Labor.

20 When I received this assignment, I -- first
21 of all, I was consulted by the President as to whether
22 I would take it and whether I wanted it, and I said
23 yes, because I can say to you what I've said outside of
24 this room many times. There's no group of people in
25 America that are more deserving of a real opportunity

1 in this country than our first citizens, the Indian --
 2 the American Indian -- and there is no group, in my
 3 mind, that is suffering more today from lack of that
 4 opportunity, and we have to reverse it. I can only
 5 tell you out of the fullness of the heart -- of my
 6 heart, that I want to help you and I need your help in
 7 getting this job done. You will be hearing from me
 8 in terms of my present capacity as the Chairman of the
 9 Indian Opportunity Council. All these papers that you
 10 have given to me today will be made a part of the
 11 testimony of that -- of that record.

12 Now just a word or two about a couple of
 13 things here. I've been working on the claims, as you
 14 know, August and Mr. Jamerson and Mr. Belgarde. We
 15 have been trying to move those along. This is always
 16 a slow process, regrettably, but we are working with
 17 your people on that. I've given it personal attention
 18 as your Vice President.

19 On the matter of the Job Corps Center, this
 20 Lewis and Clark Job Corps Center, it indeed ought to
 21 be converted for an Indian opportunity center for
 22 adult education, for juvenile education, for the younger
 23 ones and for those that are coming into adolescence.
 24 The rate of unemployment among our Negro -- among our
 25 American Indian is catastrophic. It's just tragic.

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1 And I hope that those who are with me today receive the
2 same impression that I did -- that the welfare check
3 is not what the Indian is asking for; he is asking
4 for a chance to learn and to earn. He's asking for a
5 chance to get some experience so that they can be self-
6 sustaining, self-respecting, self-sufficient people --
7 a very proud people. I want to help you in that. I
8 will look into the matter. I'm familiar, by the way,
9 through Senator Quentin Burdick and through others,
10 with the Lewis and Clark Job Corps Center. We tried to
11 keep it open in the first place. We had to consolidate
12 some of those Job Corps centers because of the action
13 of Congress in reducing some of the funds for Job Corps
14 training. But I have the feeling that we might be able
15 to pool several programs -- if you know what I mean --
16 bring in several programs -- adult education programs,
17 the work-study programs, programs of national -- of the
18 Neighborhood Youth Corps-type programs -- some of these
19 OEO programs. That's what your Vice President tries to
20 do. I meet with all the different Cabinet officials
21 and try to draw a little from each of them until we
22 get a big enough accumulated sum to do the job that
23 needs to be done. And I will follow up on this.

24 I understand that I did receive a little
25 paper here today about the Job Corps Center. That

1 Center is established. The facilities are there and the
2 cost of setting it up has already been paid for. So
3 what it really amounts to now is bringing in the training,
4 and we generally try to bring in that training, as you
5 know, through a combination of government service and
6 a private corporation, that comes in and sets up the
7 training so that the individuals that are trained be
8 really made ready for private employment, as much as
9 humanly possible.

10 On the housing, we have, as you may have
11 noted just yesterday in -- oh, about two weeks ago,
12 in the housing bill, a special section in that bill for
13 housing funds for Indian families. We have not done as
14 good a job in this as we ought to. Maybe some of you
15 are familiar with what we tried to do over in the --
16 with our Chippewa brothers over in Minnesota. Senator
17 Mondale of Minnesota has been very active in sponsoring
18 the housing projects there in the -- with our Chippewas
19 -- (pause) -- I'm trying to -- up in the Red Lake area
20 -- and is doing very, very well with it. I've forgotten
21 how many units are up there now, but better than a
22 hundred, and it's proven that we can do it. They are
23 low cost, adequate, sanitary. I was out recently at
24 Window Rock, Arizona, with our Navajo Indians, and
25 some of you may know Mr. Nockai, who is the Chief out

1 there, and I visited some of the housing units that are
2 being put up there -- and very good -- and, by the way,
3 another experience that we had out there was where we
4 got a large industrial plant. In this instance it was
5 General Dynamics that came in and provided hundreds
6 and hundreds of jobs and had on-the-job training of
7 the Indian boy and girl -- the boy that was from 17,
8 18, 19, 20 years of age -- on-the-job training, hired
9 and trained on the job, and I was told that you'd be
10 interested that the training period for the Indian
11 boy was half what it was for other unemployed. That's
12 an interesting figure -- one-half -- and productivity
13 was considerably higher. Now that proves that they
14 found that it was a very, very good investment.

15 Now, Governor Guy has talked to me a little
16 bit about this. I'll meet with him some more. I'll
17 be with him today. I'll try to follow up as best I
18 can, and I want to assure you of one thing. You know
19 that -- you have honored me here today by Mr. Good-
20 house's statement of your support. I'm very grateful.
21 I will not forget it. I am in public life, my dear
22 friends, for one reason -- to see how the Government
23 of the United States, working with the people of this
24 country, can make a better life for our people, and
25 the national shame is the fact that we haven't done

1 better by our Indian people. Now we've got to find a
2 way to do a better job, and I am looking at the kind
3 of responsible leaders here that can help us find that
4 way and, if I have the chance of serving as your
5 President, I think that my friend, August, here, knows
6 -- and Lewis knows and others around here know -- that
7 you have a chance to come and walk in the front door.
8 You won't have to come in the side door. You can
9 come on in there and we can work out a program and
10 we will. To show good faith, I'll be back in touch
11 with you from our Indian Opportunity Council, upon
12 which representatives of the Indian tribes serve.
13 They can't have tribes on it -- we can't have a
14 council that big -- but just like you have the United
15 Tribes here -- try to select -- over in Minnesota, by
16 the way -- you expect me to have a little prejudice --
17 my old friend Roger Jordain is over there now -- any
18 of you that have a little influence with Roger, you
19 can talk to him -- and Mr. Nockai of the Navajos is
20 on, and I think there's some others, and we have young
21 and old -- we will try to come back to you on this
22 program that you have outlined.

23 Oh, I wanted to mention this other one before
24 I quit. One of you mentioned the housing for the
25 elderly as well. Betty, I think you brought that up.

1 It's very important that we get at it. I don't know
2 whether you have an application -- whether anybody
3 has looked at the application for senior citizen
4 housing.

5 MRS. LAVERDURE: No, I don't believe they
6 have. I think they prefer them to rent or something
7 like that.

8 THE VICE PRESIDENT: I tell you what I think
9 I'll do. I'll ask the Executive Director of the Indian
10 Opportunity Council, Mr. Carmack, who is a very fine
11 man -- some of you may know him -- I think I'll ask
12 him to come out here and meet with you, if you don't
13 mind, so we follow up in these things in more detail.
14 He is an expert. He's really going to -- he may bring
15 a consultant or two with him, so that we can get at
16 it.

17 The other matter that you brought to my
18 attention, and I just noted on the card here, was this
19 -- was your Four Bears Development. You have a loan
20 application in on that. Yes, you have that, August,
21 don't you?

22 MR. AUGUST LITTLE SOLDIER: Yes. That will
23 be presented to you when you get back.

24 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Yes. That's the one
25 we were working on then. That's for this recreation

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area. Have you heard anything on this EDA on that at all -- the Economic Development Administration?

MR. LITTLE SOLDIER: No. I went -- it's in Washington now.

THE VICE PRESIDENT: Yes. I asked you to process that and get that in as soon as you could, and I'll look into this and ask Mr. Carmack to follow up on that for you.

Thank you very, very much, and thank you for your help here.

(Standing applause.)

(Meeting concluded at 3:30 P.M., the same day.)

(The following is a portion of remarks made by The Vice President, in the basement hallway of the World War Memorial Building, Bismarck, North Dakota, immediately following his meeting with representatives of the North Dakota Indian Tribes:)

THE VICE PRESIDENT: . . . fighting for the liberal and progressive cause for a long, long time. We have taken some defeats. We have suffered some difficulties, and then we've come into our own, just like when you elected your Governor as your great leader here in this State, when you elected Senator

1 Burdick and others that you have given, and liberal
2 leaders, many in your State government. I put a
3 lifetime, so to speak -- at least a good part of my
4 life -- into this work of liberal and progressive
5 government, of trying to make the government a little
6 more responsive to the people. The President is the
7 only lobbyist that the people have for the whole
8 Nation. He is the people's lobbyist. Everybody else
9 has got their own special lobby. But the President
10 is the one national elected official. The President
11 is the voice of the people, and I think that when
12 that's the case, you ought to know a little bit what's
13 behind that voice.

14 Now I want you to help me get these delegates.
15 I want to have North Dakota when that roll call is made.
16 I want to hear that voice come out about North Dakota
17 and hear delegates for Hubert Humphrey. I've been
18 with you a long time and I want to be with you at the
19 right time. (applause)

20 I do not speak ill of my opposition or my
21 competitor or any other contestant. Why should I?
22 I never have. I don't intend to start now. I don't
23 think in order for Hubert Humphrey to stand tall and
24 big, I have to tear somebody else down. That's my
25 view, and I don't think that in order to get this

1 nomination I've got to cast doubt upon the Democratic
 2 Party, upon the President of the United States, upon
 3 our record and upon my colleague from Minnesota. I
 4 want you to be for me. That's what I want you to do.
 5 I'm not asking you to be against somebody else. I'm
 6 asking you to be for me, and I'll tell you something:
 7 If you concentrate on being for somebody, we'll be
 8 ready to go to bat and ready to win the election,
 9 because let me tell you, the Convention is late --
 10 the Convention is the last part of August, and we've
 11 got to be ready to go. We've got to be going full
 12 steam. That's why I've got to be getting out and
 13 getting warmed up. We've got to be going full steam
 14 and I think I know who the Republican nominee is
 15 going to be. I think I know who he's going to be and
 16 I think I can take him too, with your help. (applause)

17 So start saving up your money. Get ready
 18 to buy your wife a pretty dress for the inaugural ball.
 19 I plan on sending you an invitation. (applause)

20 Now go up there and do your best to get those
 21 delegates. I don't want you to be unkind, ill-mannered
 22 or ill-tempered. The best way to win is to win it with
 23 -- in good humor, in good faith, with good manners,
 24 and you can win a good fight under the Marquis of
 25 Queensberry rules, you know. You don't have to be

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hit below the belt and you don't have to hit somebody below the belt.

A VOICE: But you've got to hit hard.

THE VICE PRESIDENT: But you've got to hit hard. That's a boy! I tell you, it couldn't have worked out better if I'd have said it. You gave the right message and I sure thank God you're on my side. That's it. Thank you very, very much. Bye now.

(Whereupon the following proceedings were had, commencing at or about 7:00 P.M., the same day, at the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Kennedy Memorial Center, 19th and Divide, Bismarck, North Dakota:)

MR. BRUCE HAGEN: Ladies and gentlemen, we are a bit late, so we'll begin immediately.

The Honorable Vice President, Hubert Humphrey, Governor William Guy, distinguished platform guests, ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the groundbreaking ceremony for the John F. Kennedy Memorial Center. We will now have Father Edward Korte, from St. Anne's Parish, Bismarck, North Dakota, give the invocation. Father Korte.

(Invocation given.)

MR. HAGEN: Since we are behind schedule, we'll

1 have next Governor William L. Guy introducing our next
2 guest and later speakers. Governor Guy.

3 GOVERNOR GUY: Thank you, Bruce.

4 Mr. Vice President, honored guests and ladies
5 and gentlemen.

6 In this great land of America, we are very
7 proud of our democratic representative government, but
8 it's really the political parties that give the
9 vitality and the color and the innovation and the
10 initiative to this great system of government.

11 President John Kennedy and his brother, Senator
12 Robert Kennedy, were a part of that great political
13 system and they brought a sense of elegant style to
14 politics, and so on this site we will break ground for
15 a memorial building, dedicated as a living memorial to
16 the memory of these two men that brought so much to
17 politics.

18 One of the men who knew President John Kennedy
19 and Senator Robert Kennedy well is the Vice President.
20 He was an opponent in the political arena with President
21 John Kennedy, and yet a few months after President John
22 Kennedy was elected, it was the then Senator Hubert
23 Humphrey who was the whip, who worked closely with
24 the President to get the President's program through
25 Congress, and then the Vice President was a colleague

1 in Washington with Senator Robert Kennedy, and it's a
2 rare -- it's a rare honor for us to have a friend of
3 the Kennedys to speak here. It's an even more rare
4 privilege to have the Vice President, a friend of the
5 Kennedys, speak for a moment at this occasion.

6 Ladies and gentlemen, the Vice President of
7 the United States, Hubert Humphrey.

8 (applause)

9 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much,
10 Governor. Reverend clergy and ladies and gentlemen:

11 I'm very happy that I have had this day in
12 North Dakota. I'm very happy to be here in Bismarck
13 and to have visited with so many of you and to have
14 been over -- down to your sister city of Mandan, to
15 have gone out in the countryside to see a wonderful
16 farm family, and now to be with you on this occasion
17 for the dedication of the Memorial Center -- the
18 Kennedy Memorial Center -- by the Democratic-Nonpartisan
19 League Party, an organization here in North Dakota. I
20 think this is rather unique. I am not at all sure,
21 Governor, that any other state through its political
22 party has done what you are now doing in breaking ground
23 for this memorial to two great -- yes, two great
24 Senators -- one a great President -- to two fine men
25 from a truly great American family. But I know that

1 both of them would be very proud to know that a political
2 party was taking this great interest and was doing this
3 act of tribute and of honor.

4 John Kennedy was a man of action and Robert
5 Kennedy was a man of action. Both of them were patriots,
6 loving their country, giving their lives for their
7 country. Both of them looked to the future and both of
8 them called upon the American people to do their best.

9 Governor Guy has been kind to make note that
10 it was my privilege to work with both of these dis-
11 tinguished Americans. It is well known that in the
12 primaries of 1960 I contested briefly with the then
13 Senator John Kennedy. I will always be happy that in
14 that election of 1960, one of the two midwestern
15 states that cast its vote, a majority vote, for John
16 Kennedy, was Minnesota. I was running that year for
17 the United States Senate and John Kennedy got the
18 Minnesota electoral votes and I was reelected to the
19 Senate, and we went back there to Washington. It was
20 my privilege to serve as one of his leaders -- one of
21 the very happiest moments of my public life.

22 I can honestly say that I never asked the
23 President for one thing, but what he was willing to
24 help and to see that it came true.

25 Robert Kennedy campaigned in 1964 and I

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campaigned alongside of him up in New York. How well I remember the tremendous enthusiasm of the people -- an enthusiasm which he carried with him throughout all of his life. He was a forward-looking Senator, a controversial man, but a leader and a truly dedicated man.

Now all this adds up to one thing -- that most of us who are here to carry on have an extra responsibility -- not a responsibility of quiet and repose, but a responsibility of action and progress.

John Kennedy once said: "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country." I think that's still the great challenge to this Nation. People need to ask themselves every day individually what they can do to make this a better community, a better county, a better state, a better nation. I know no way to solve the problems of our country, unless we take on individual responsibility. It cannot be done from on top alone. It must be done from the people and the men that you honor today led the people, inspired the people and called upon the people to lift themselves, and at the same time to help others lift themselves. I'm pleased to share in this dedication. I only hope that I can live a life, privately and publicly, that will be worthy of the high

1 standards of the two men that we honor today -- the
2 standards that they set for all of us. If I can do
3 that, if you can do that, then this country will be
4 a better country and you will be able to answer the
5 question -- "Ask not what your country can do for you;
6 ask what you can do for your country."

7 Governor, I want to thank you very much for
8 letting me share in this moment. It's a rare privilege
9 and a high honor and one that touches my heart deeply.
10 Thank you very much. (applause)

11 MR. HAGEN: Thank you very much, Mr. Vice
12 President. We're running somewhat behind schedule and
13 the Vice President has to leave, so we'll begin now
14 with the actual groundbreaking ceremony. When that's
15 finished, the gentlemen who remain after the Vice
16 President goes will come back on the platform and we'll
17 continue with the ceremony.

18 To conduct the actual groundbreaking ceremony,
19 I'd like to introduce next a gentleman who has had a
20 very significant part in the Memorial Center, the
21 Honorable Walter Christensen, State Treasurer of North
22 Dakota. Walt.

23 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Thank you, Bruce.

24 Having on this day come to the actual ground-
25 breaking ceremony, I'm going to name those who are to

1 be honored here with doing the actual breaking of the
2 sod -- of the ground for this memorial building in
3 honor of these two great statesmen of our United
4 States of America, and as I call your names, will you
5 proceed over there to where Mr. Earl Paris and Father
6 Sinner have the shovels for you to conduct this ground-
7 breaking ceremony.

8 First of all, Mrs. William L. Guy and The
9 Honorable Vice President, Hubert Humphrey. Will you
10 please go down? And Rolland Redlin and Governor
11 William L. Guy -- Larry Erickson -- is Larry here, by
12 the way, or didn't he make it? He is not here. Albert
13 Wolf and Lloyd Omdahl. Walter Hjelle and Representative
14 Arthur Link.

15 Gentlemen, if you'll proceed over to where
16 the actual groundbreaking ceremony is to take place.

17 The first team then will be Mrs. William L.
18 Guy, who has played a significant part in this, and
19 Vice President Hubert Humphrey.

20 You may proceed to the actual groundbreaking
21 ceremony, as soon as they take their places where
22 Father Sinner and Mr. Earl Paris are standing.

23 This building will be a wonderful thing --
24 not only for North Dakota and the North Dakota Democratic-
25 Nonpartisan League Party, but for the whole community,

1 and we've worked hard for it. It's a day that we've
2 longed for a long time.

3 (Whereupon The Vice President and Mrs. Guy
4 proceeded with the groundbreaking.)

5 THE VICE PRESIDENT: I hope you fellows are
6 as good in your aim as I am.

7 MR. CHRISTENSEN: They show a lot of experience
8 -- some of these people -- with a shovel.

9 We want to especially thank you, Vice
10 President Hubert Humphrey, for your part in this
11 this afternoon. Thank you very much. (applause)

12 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much.

13 MR. CHRISTENSEN: This formally concludes the
14 actual groundbreaking. You may now proceed and come
15 back up to the platform -- those of you who are up here
16 -- please come back to the platform. I'll now turn the
17 mike over to Bruce Hagen.

18 (Whereupon the Vice President departed from
19 the ceremonies at or about 7:15 P.M. and proceeded to
20 the Bismarck Municipal Airport, where he departed from
21 Bismarck at 7:40 P.M., the same day.)

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