

NEWS FROM

UNITED DEMOCRATS FOR HUMPHREY

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U-194

MAJORITY FAVOR CHANGE WITHOUT VIOLENCE, VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY SAYS

Washington, D.C., July 24 -- Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey said tonight that the "great, non-violent majority" of Americans favor orderly change within the democratic process.

"They want change, but they want it without violence. They don't want it clubbed into people. They don't want it bulldozed through by a handful who shout down all opposition," the Vice President said.

He spoke at 10:55 p.m. EDT on ABC-TV in the first of a series of brief televised talks.

The text of Vice President Humphrey's remarks follows:

There's a vast group of Americans today -- a majority of many, many millions who want to make this country work and who love this country. They are the non-violent majority. And they come from all segments of America -- black and white, rich and poor, young and old.

They want safety, and they want equal rights for everyone. They bear no ill will against other Americans. They want change, but

(more)

they want it without violence. They don't want it clubbed into people. They don't want it bulldozed through by a handful who shout down all opposition.

That handful has occupied center stage lately in American politics. I've seen what they represent, and I do not like it. It is opposed to the true American spirit. I saw it in Minneapolis when George Wallace was interrupted by demonstrations and fist-fighting. I firmly reject Mr. Wallace's point of view, but we must all defend his right to talk without fear or intimidation.

I saw it at the Republican convention in 1964, when Nelson Rockefeller was shouted down by a small, hostile group. And I saw it on the Fourth of July when a loud, rude clique tried to drown me out with chants and jeers as I spoke for free speech at Philadelphia's Independence Hall.

And we've all seen it in the disruptions of great universities and city streets by a violent few who exploited needed reform. Now, they claim to represent the spirit of change in America, but I believe that the true wellspring of change is in the great, non-violent majority.

I believe they are ready to speak out again, so on their behalf I challenge those whose minds are so closed they will not listen to any point of view but their own. The great, non-violent majority of Americans believe in the right of the minority to be heard, so why won't the few give the majority the same right?

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The unique success of the United States is grounded in the fact that this is one country in which a man does not need to riot in order to reach the platform. And when he gets there, he does not need to shout in order to be heard.

I know this is true because I have been heard. I've tried to speak for the majority who want orderly change within the democratic process, and I've done so for more than twenty years, and I've helped make things change without violence.

I introduced the first fair employment practices in this country. I proposed Medicare, the Job Corps, the Peace Corps, Food for Peace, federal aid to education, and more civil rights legislation than I have time to tell you about.

And now, as we look ahead, I have new ideas -- ideas to bring needed change without violence. A Marshall Plan to rebuild our cities. A guaranteed education plan from pre-school through college. A plan to spread the burden of military service more fairly. And a plan to stop the dangerous arms race. A program for civil order and civil justice.

These are proposals to do jobs that need doing. And if I'm elected President, I will act on them. I will act on them because I believe them to be the desires of the majority of Americans, the majority who believe in their country and love it, who obey its laws, who pay its taxes, who hope and work for better things, for needed change without violence.

Now, if you count yourself amongst these Americans, I would like to speak for you.

-HHH-

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VP - TV SPOT

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They want safety, and they want equal rights for everyone. They bear no ill will against other Americans. They want change, but they want it without violence. They don't want it clubbed into people. They don't want it bulldozed through by a handful who shout down all opposition.

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