

July 30, 1968  
San Francisco, California

REMARKS AT COMMODORE STOCKTON SCHOOL

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MAYOR ALIOTO: Ladies and Gentlemen. If we can have your attention for just a while, I want to introduce first of all the very, very lovely Mrs. Humphrey, and have you all look at her.

(Applause)

Let me introduce her very lovely daughter-in-law and her fine son Bob. (Applause)

Now, ladies and gentlemen, I have told the Vice President that there is no community in San Francisco that we are prouder of than our Chinese-American community, and I told the Vice President that the Chinese came here a long, long time ago when they worked the gold fields in California. That the Chinese, starting on their own drive, have taken care of almost every social problem that has arisen here in their own community, and they have given an example to the entire United States of what can be done when the whole community gets involved in its own problems.

You have the greatest champion of our times of social justice and equal opportunity, and I am pleased to present the Vice President of the United States, Hubert Humphrey. (Applause)

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Thank you very much, Mr. Mayor, and my Fellow Americans.

Thank you very much for the opportunity that we have of being here at the Commodore Stockton School.

Mrs. Humphrey and myself and Bob and Donna will long

1 remember this occasion. I wish that every one of you that are out  
2 there could see these beautiful, lovely children that we're able  
3 to see here. If America is not the luckiest country in the world  
4 then I don't know how you can be lucky to have such wonderful,  
5 wonderful young people as we have right down here in front of us.

6 Mr. Mayor, San Francisco is not only a beautiful city, in  
7 terms of its buildings and its topography. The beauty of this  
8 city is to be found in its peoples, and here today in this  
9 American-Chinese community, Chinese-American community, we find a  
10 great and rich culture, and a wonderful and magnificent people.  
11 I want to pay tribute to the mothers and the fathers of these  
12 youngsters, of these young people, for the guidance that you give  
13 to them. For the sense of citizenship that you instill in them.  
14 For pride of country, which is so evident in their actions, and  
15 yet at the same time that they can preserve their culture, that  
16 they can preserve their faith, that they can preserve their  
17 individual identity.

18 I look forward to the time when we can have these bilingual  
19 schools, so that the native tongue may be preserved as a part of  
20 our heritage and, of course, all the art and the literature and  
21 the culture that comes with a great civilization, and I know that  
22 this particular school today is not only teaching the young, the  
23 youngsters, but it is teaching the immigrant that comes here and  
24 has problems of language in this society of ours.

25 I hope that we will always welcome these new people, the

1 new immigrants. Thank goodness for the amendments to the Immi-  
2 gration Laws that permit families to be reunited. Some 8,000, as  
3 I was told, new immigrants of Chinese extraction come to San  
4 Francisco every year -- 8,000 a year. This is a blessing as well  
5 as a challenge, because these 8,000 represent wonderful people,  
6 great talents and great strengths, but they also present a  
7 challenge to our schools and to our civic institutions. They  
8 present a challenge in housing and in jobs and thank goodness that  
9 this community has demonstrated that you can come up as a victim  
10 of social justice and even prejudice and you can overcome it.

11 I submit to you that the Chinese community has demonstrated  
12 to one and all that no matter what the adversities are, no matter  
13 what the prejudices may be, that they can overcome those preju-  
14 dices, and this should be a great hope for those who are in  
15 America today and elsewhere that still suffer the stigma of dis-  
16 crimination and bigotry and intolerance.

17 I call upon the citizens of San Francisco and, indeed, the  
18 citizens of this Nation to really practice the concept of human  
19 brotherhood, to banish from our hearts any toxin or poison of  
20 hate, to recognize that we must learn to live together. That we  
21 are on this earth, and it is ours, and that this world must be  
22 preserved as a place for decency and for life, and for opportunity.  
23 We can set the example right here in our own America.

24 It is in this society of many different cultures, of many  
25 different races, that we can demonstrate that a world can live at

1 peace and that we can have social justice.

2 I want to compliment this community and its leaders. I  
3 compliment the authorities of the city on the manner in which you  
4 have all worked together to build a great City in a great State  
5 in a great Nation.

6 America is all the better tomorrow because these youngsters  
7 are here today. I put my faith in them and in those who counsel  
8 them, who guide them, and who direct them.

9 Thank you very much. (Applause)

10 MAYOR ALIOTO: Thank you all for coming and congratulations  
11 to the School Department for the great work it is doing here in  
12 this language center, which, as you know, is sponsored in part by  
13 the Federal Government. (Applause)

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