



FOR RELEASE
SATURDAY PM'S
AUGUST 10, 1968
Telephone 202/225-2961

NOTES
VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY
DEDICATION OF BRAUNIG LAKE PARK
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
AUGUST 10, 1968

I am honored by your invitation to dedicate Braunig Lake Park. But this is your dedication . . . your dedication to a better living environment for yourselves, your children and the people of the San Antonio area.

And it symbolizes a new American determination to turn the natural resources of our nation to the service of our people . . . to cleanse our rivers, preserve our open spaces and protect our wilderness areas.

Consider the cooperation that has made this lovely park possible -- between the City Public Service Board of San Antonio . . . The San Antonio River Authority . . . the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department . . . and the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation of the Department of Interior.

This park is a priceless asset to the life of this area because of your local initiative . . . backed up by the support of state authorities . . . and the creative participation of your Federal Government.

All over this nation citizens are mobilizing to improve the quality of our environment. There is a new awareness that the same technology that has polluted our cities and our streams can be harnessed to benefit all of us.

Our lakes . . . our forests . . . our skies are vital to our inner sustenance . . . to our spirits . . . and, yes, to our good humor. From the cramped and crowded cities . . . from the choked highways . . . from the tensions of modern living we seek the openness of the countryside, the clear air, the uncluttered vista, the cool waters.

A society is not rich if its people are denied healthful recreation. A society is not free when there is no freedom to enjoy leisure. And a community is not complete when it lacks an outdoor environment for its citizens.

What does the word 'recreation' mean? It is defined as a re-creating, and all of us, whether we live in San Antonio or Houston, New York or Washington (perhaps especially in Washington!) need an occasional re-creating.

My friends, we are increasingly aware of the hazards of air and water pollution -- of the necessity to expand and strengthen national and regional policies to halt this desecration.

But we must also join in another battle . . . to stop the wastage of human resources.

America cannot afford the human waste of poverty -- racial discrimination -- inadequate education . . . waste which has, to a very real extent polluted our social environment with mistrust and hatred.

We must rid America of mistrust and hatred.

We must free those talents which have been imprisoned by discrimination and unequal opportunity. We must . . . all of us . . . city and country, black and white . . . enjoy this lovely land of ours, make it more beautiful for our children.

I believe we have the skill and the vision to do it.

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SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

August 10, 1968

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Consider the cooperation that has made this lovely park possible -- between the city public service board of San Antonio . . . the San Antonio River Authority . . .

✓ Ben Barnes

✓ Keyka de la Harza

✓ Chuck Kazer

✓ Hurry Gonzales

the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department . . . and the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation of the Department of Interior .

*Lake
Browning
Forest!*
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✓ What does the word "recreation" mean? It is defined as a "re-creating", and all of us, whether we live in San Antonio or Houston, New York or Washington (perhaps especially in Washington!) need an occasional re-creating.

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SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

August 10, 1968

THE HONORABLE HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

Vice President of the United States

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

BRAUNIG LAKE PARK DEDICATION CEREMONY

GEORGE JONES COURT REPORTERS

1401 TOWER LIFE BUILDING
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78205

HONORED GUESTS

The Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey
Vice President of the United States

Congressman Abraham Kazen, Jr.
Texas 23rd District

Congressman Henry B. Gonzales
Texas 20th District

SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY - Board of Directors

Leslie R. Neal	Chairman
L. H. Von Dohlen	Vice Chairman
Hugh B. Ruckman, Jr.	Secretary
C. W. Millikin, Jr.	Treasurer

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MANAGEMENT

Fred N. Pfeiffer	Manager
F. B. Warren	Assistant Manager
Ralph Brown	General Counsel

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R. A. Haynes,
Chief, Parks & Recreation Division

Rabbi David Jacobson

Bishop Stephen A. Leven

East Central High School Band

1 CONGRESSMAN KAZEN: Ladies and gentlemen,²
2 before I go into this very pleasant task and, at this time,
3 I would like to present to you another old friend of mine,
4 one of the outstanding men of this area, in the State of
5 Texas and in the United States. This is a man you have all
6 heard about and you will hear much more from him. At this
7 time, I would like to acknowledge the presence of the
8 Lieutenant Governor of the State of Texas, the Honorable
9 Ben Barnes.

10 (Applause.)

11 CONGRESSMAN KAZEN: You know, Braunig Lake
12 stands for the good life most Americans desire. The good
13 life is not just an American dream but it is an American
14 reality. It reflects the spirit which seeks to conserve
15 the natural resources of America for the people of America
16 which gives priority to human fulfillment not only in mean-
17 ingful employment but, also in wholesome pleasure.

18 I am honored to introduce to you a States-
19 man who more than ever seeks America's loftiest goal. He,
20 his program in the past and for the future, indicates dedi-
21 cation to the highest possible purpose.

22 He has for many years championed soil con-
23 servation, protected our natural resources and advanced the
24 wilderness preservation system established by that founda-
25 tion in 1964. He has fought long and hard for the preser-

1 vation of our resources, his legislation to deal with the³
2 growing national program was incorporated in the Water
3 Pollution Act in 1965.

4 He has served for the past four years as
5 Chairman of the President's Counsel on reclamation and
6 national beauty. He has established more than forty multi-
7 conservation project areas.

8 I have the honor at this time in introducing
9 the man who has said, "There is not any single problem which
10 we cannot muster if we set our minds to it", who believes
11 in the quality of our environment as well as the quality of
12 the good we produce; ladies and gentlemen, I have the highest
13 honor of presenting to you, the man most probable to be the
14 next United States President, the Honorable Hubert H.
15 Humphrey.

16 (Applause.)

17 VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Thank you very
18 much, Congressman Kazen and Congressman Gonzales and Con-
19 gressman De La Garza.

20 My good friends and distinguished public
21 servants, the officers of the San Antonio River Authority,
22 the State officials that are here and the reverent-clergy,
23 ladies and gentlemen:

24 You know, this is my kind of morning and my
25 kind of occasion. This time yesterday morning just a little

1 earlier than this, I left Lake Waverly where Mrs. Humphrey⁴
2 and I have our home. We live along side of the lake, a
3 little smaller than Lake Braunig and we love it and you
4 surely picked the right person to come by here and sort of
5 put an extra word in after the splendid dedication by Con-
6 gressman Kazen because this spirit of reclamation, the spirit
7 of the proper use of leisure time and activity, the love of
8 outdoors, the lakes and parks, it is in my blood. It is just
9 something I live with and love as a part of our lives.

10 My wife, Muriel, grew up as a young lady along
11 side of a lake in the Minnesota and Dakota area known as Big
12 Stone Lake. It is very beautiful, a very beautiful recreation
13 area and, her father, in the days of his retirement operated
14 a resort, Hartford Beach. I remember it very well. It was
15 a very romantic spot. I did a little courting around there.

16 (Laughter.)

17 I might say there is no better place to do
18 courting than outside by a lake.

19 (Laughter.)

20 Then, to this occasion, it reminds me of
21 what I think is happening in America where urban life and
22 world life meets. Look here right over to your right and
23 my left, there are corn fields. That is exactly what I see
24 as I look out the window of our home.

25 My next door neighbor, Mr. DeMoors, one of

1 our good farmers in the area, has a good corn field and
2 field of soy beans. Up our way, that is cash. We like it.

3 We look off the left and to my right, there
4 is a lake. If you will just turn yourself and look out
5 there, that is the way the Humphrey's look all of the time
6 while I am at home on Waverly.

7 When you talk about fishing, I think you
8 Texans do occasionally -- well, you always tell the truth,
9 but you put in capital letters.

10 (Laughter.)

11 When it comes to fishing, we Minnesotians
12 tell the truth, too, in capital letters. The other day,
13 my boy landed a ten-pound Northern out of Lake Waverly.
14 That is not bad -- wait a minute, he did not land it. I
15 said he was about to land it. It broke loose.

16 (Laughter.)

17 Some of the best fishing we ever had is
18 what you are about to get in the boat. They just slip
19 away. It is just wonderful.

20 You know, whenever we join together for an
21 occasion like this, we lift our sights, so to speak, and
22 our standards. We cannot help to feel a little better and
23 cleaner, just a little more fit for living by the very fact
24 we join together for such an occasion and in such surround-
25 ings. I know what you have done here indicates a better

1 life and greater environment for yourself and your children,⁶
2 for the people here in the greater San Antonio area.

3 How wonderful it is and how good it is that
4 we can think about this morning, not only how we can enjoy
5 our days on this earth that God provided for us and, also a
6 better standard of living as well as a period of time of re-
7 creation. We visited about this in the car as we drove out
8 here. How important it is to have a flourishing economy
9 where factory owners and employees can have good profits and
10 wages; how important it is to have good economy where the
11 farm producers can have a good price for a product; where the
12 Government can join him in marketing the products so he can
13 really benefit from his labor and investment. How good it
14 is and how well it is that those that work the fields can
15 also have a suitable standard of living and living wage.

16 My fellow Americans, we do not have to bene-
17 fit ourselves by the exploitation of others. We benefit our-
18 selves by the employment of everyone. When somebody else
19 is a little better off, he helps you be a little better off,
20 provided you did not gain that extra benefit by exploiting
21 someone else. I come from a rural area, yet I was the mayor
22 of a great city, Minneapolis, a city of over a half a million
23 people. It is a little better than eight hundred thousand
24 in Greater Minneapolis. I have some appreciation of the
25 problems that confront a city such as San Antonio. Yet, I

1 grewup in a very small town and my people were farm people.
2 So, I have some appreciation of the relation between the
3 urban centers and the rural communities, between the farmer
4 and the factory worker, between the industrial situation and
5 of rural America.

6 What I am trying to tell you is we can work
7 together. There is really no reason at all that we should
8 fail to accomodate each other. That is what we are talking
9 about in proving the guality of our goods and also in our
10 lives.

11 In recent years, because we know this
12 country of ours is growing, by how it is going to grow,
13 there will be a hundred more million people in this blessed
14 land in another thirty years. In the next thirty years, we
15 are going to have to double the size of our universities. In
16 the next thirty years, we are going to have to double our
17 reclamation and soil conservation programs. So, we have a
18 big job to do but, we have the means to do it. That is what
19 Congressman Kazen was saying here just a minute ago, we have
20 the means to do it if we set ourselves to the task.

21 Then, we have to ask ourselves, has living
22 conditions improved? That is, have workers got a better
23 wage, have urban conditions improved, what are we going to
24 do to refresh our spirits, where are we going to go to make
25 our lives a little more meaningful. I believe Americans

1 have made up their minds as to what we are going to do,
2 citizens are mobilized to improve the quality of our environ-
3 ment, the Congress, the President and his government, every-
4 one in America, there is a new awareness that the same tech-
5 nology that has in a very real sense polluted our society
6 and our dreams can now be directed to benefit all of us.
7 In other words, that same technology that has made this the
8 greatest productive nation in the world, can made it the
9 most beautiful nation in the world. All of the many things
10 Mrs. Johnson has done and, I am very fond of Mrs. Johnson,
11 I think she is one of the most wonderful women in this
12 country. Someday I believe she will be recognized for her
13 great contributions. She has gone all over America talking
14 to people about beautifying our land, asking people to be a
15 little more proud about how this country is, how we can make
16 it look better with shrubbery and flowers and parks. How
17 good it is and how wonderful it is to have a First Lady
18 that cares this much about the quality of our environment.

19 We have over ten thousand lakes, they say,
20 in Minnesota. We have twenty million acres in forest land
21 in our state. Our skies, we all have lots of that. Your's
22 are mighty blue and the sun, well, it is very warm.

23 (Laughter.)

24 All of these things are vital to what I call
25 our intersubstance, to our spirit and even to our good humor.

1 You know how you feel when you drive the car home from
2 work. It is bumper to bumper and you are breathing all of
3 those gas fumes. That is the time you ought to get a fish-
4 ing pole and go out to Lake Braunig.

5 I want to say this to the wives here, you
6 should see that every one of your men, sons, husbands, you
7 ought to see that they are equipped with fishing poles and
8 before they come home, they can do a little fishing and get
9 the meanness out of them. They have been working all day,
10 fighting traffic, they are tense. It is true, they are.
11 They need the outdoors, the recreation, the lakes, the
12 streams, the wilderness areas.

13 Ladies and gentlemen, if we do not, we will
14 crackup. The pressure and the tensions are incredible in
15 our kind of society. We seek the openness. We need the
16 openness of our land. We need the openness of the heart of
17 our fellowman. The openness of spirit that absorbs what is
18 here that is good, the openness of mind so we are not intol-
19 erant in failing to understand the other man's point of view.
20 The society is not rich if its people are denied healthful
21 recreation. The society is not free where there is no free-
22 dom to enjoy leisure. You are not free if you have two cars
23 in every garage or three. You are free when you can get in
24 that car and come out to Lake Braunig. You are free when
25 you can put that line in that stream, walk the fields, go

1 to a forest, go out to the park and go camping with the
2 family. Then, you are free.

3 What does this word "recreation" mean?
4 Well, it is defined as "recreating". All of us, whether we
5 live in San Antonio or Houston or Minneapolis or New York or
6 Washington, perhaps people in Washington need an occasional
7 shot of recreating. I did not mean that to refer to your
8 congressmen. They are of always good spirits. They need
9 that little something extra.

10 We are increasingly aware, are we not, of
11 the hazards of air and water pollution and is it not fan-
12 tastic that this great blessing of fresh water and air we
13 have been able in such a short period of time to pollute
14 so much of. We can do something about it. We are going to
15 join in a common battle. Every generation has the respon-
16 sibility of stewardship for that which they have in heart
17 and that stewardship also includes improving our air and
18 water resources.

19 A better America for every generation,
20 no American has the right to spoil that which he received.
21 Every American has the obligation to add on that which has
22 been given unto us. That is what you have been doing here
23 today. Let us join in this great battle against waste, not
24 only the waste of our physical resources, the waste of
25 human resources.

1 That is where I want to conclude my
2 message.

3 America cannot afford to waste. We almost
4 have wasted most of our beautiful lakes, believe it or not,
5 in Minnesota. The most beautiful lake now is almost a
6 polluted lake. Three hundred miles of shoreline and people,
7 for a long time, did not care. Local government did not
8 act. It will take a quarter of a century, twenty-five years,
9 to cleanse that lake if ever. Look at what happened to
10 Lake Erie and Lake Ontario. It is beginning to happen to
11 Lake Michigan. The great Great Lakes, the biggest body of
12 fresh water lakes in all of the world, for that purpose, we
13 have been able to almost ruin the whole thing. It is going
14 to cost the American people hundreds of millions or billions
15 of dollars to reclaim what we have just about lost. We must
16 do it.

17 The little lake we have at our home was al-
18 most polluted and, finally the village put in a sewer dis-
19 posal place. Twenty years ago, they drank from that lake
20 clean, pure water. It was crystal clear. In twenty years,
21 it was almost destroyed. I remind you of this, if you get
22 a lake polluted, it will take you a quarter or a half a
23 century to cleanse it once again. Let us not let that
24 happen. Do not let your lands be destroyed.

25 By the way, the Soil Conservation has done

1 such a fine job. Let us not let human waste grip our
2 country. We can go and search and run all over the world
3 but, do you know where the greatest untapped market is,
4 right here at home in the United States of America.

5 (Applause.)

6 Let me tell you something else, there is
7 such a talent here to be found, such talent. I do not know
8 what kind of blue blood background these distinguished of-
9 ficials have here. I came from rather poor folks and I am
10 proud of it. My folks were never really poor. They were
11 just broke on occasions but, never really poor.

12 (Applause.)

13 What is most important and what is most
14 tragic is the spirit of the people. Most of our great
15 champions today came out of the slums, the poor people,
16 rural America, poor rural Americans. Do you realize that
17 most of the champions that carry the banners of the United
18 States that will be at Mexico City, most of them came out
19 of the rural poverty sustained areas of America. I am not
20 saying the way to be a champion is to be poor. I am simply
21 telling you that there is talent there, unbelievable talent.
22 The human wastage of today, just all over, all we have to
23 do is reach out and give them a chance without any regard
24 to race, color or creed.

25 I want to say to you as we are, the greatest

1 honor in the world and the greatest title in the world
2 is to be a citizen of the United States of America.

3 (Applause.)

4 So, we are going to an area now, we are
5 launching a tremendous effort in this country, public and
6 private, to do away with human waste. We cannot do it with
7 mistrust and hatred. Not only the air we breathe can be
8 polluted, not only the water in our lakes and streams can
9 be polluted but, you can pollute your thoughts, your habits.
10 We need not only to have cleansing of these streams and
11 rivers but, we need clean attitudes about each other. We
12 need to rid America of the pollution of mistrust and hatred
13 and to demonstrate or make the alternative, have faith in
14 one another and respect and love one another which adds up
15 to dignity for each and every one of us. That is the pro-
16 gram we need.

17 (Applause.)

18 This is why it is so wonderful to be able
19 to travel around this country. People have said to me,
20 "Why do you seek to be president of this country?" I will
21 tell you why: There is such a great, great resource of
22 talent in America, a great resource of human talent in this
23 country. America has just started to live. America's best
24 days are yet to come. We are just in our infancy. What a
25 wonderful privilege it is to have a chance, to be given the

1 chance in calling upon the American people in doing
2 their best, hopefully to inspire them of, to sense what is
3 their's, the goodness that is their's, the basic strength
4 and vitality, yes it is great to live in this country and
5 it is great to be in the San Antonio area.

6 I want to thank you very much.

7 (Applause.)

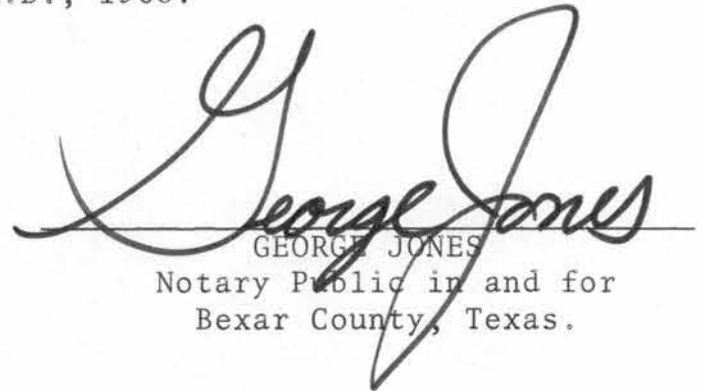
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1 STATE OF TEXAS)
2)
COUNTY OF BEXAR)

3 I, GEORGE JONES, Notary Public and Court
4 Reporter in and for the County of Bexar, State of Texas, do
5 hereby certify that the above constitutes a true and correct
6 transcription of my stenograph notes taken on the 10th
7 day of August, A.D., 1968.

8 WITNESS MY HAND and seal of office this
9 the 12th day of August, A.D., 1968.

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GEORGE JONES
Notary Public in and for
Bexar County, Texas.



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