

Cong Verguetto
Cong Fred Rooney
Gov Leader

Bob Casey
~~Jerry Lawrence~~
Martin Bechtel
Chr Tom Munchart
Judge Conaboy.

Allentown
Bethlehem
Hi School Dedication
Oct 1967
United Fund Junction
Sept 1966

"Trapezoid Prats"
~~Bill Schuster of Allentown~~
Lehigh Univ
Muhlenberg

STENOGRAPHIC TRANSCRIPT

In re: Speech by

HON. HUBERT H. HUMPHREY,
Vice President of the
United States of America

At the Allentown-Bethlehem-
Easton Airport

JOHN J. FICEK, JR.
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
THIRTY-FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
LEHIGH COUNTY COURT HOUSE
ALLENTOWN, PA. 18101

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 In re: Speech by
 HON. HUBERT H. HUMPHREY,
 Vice President of the United States
 A-B-E Airport

The HON. HUBERT H. HUMPHREY, Vice President of the United States of America, arrived at the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton Airport, on Thursday, 15 August 1968, at 7:55 p.m., and before a gathering at the airport gave the following speech:-

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INTRODUCTION BY HON. FRED ROONEY.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Thank you. Thank you very, very much. Thank you very much, Fred Rooney, our distinguished Congressman.

We also have with us Congressman Vigorito, one of the wonderful Pennsylvania Congressmen.

May I first of all thank the Mayor of Allentown, Mayor Bracy, and the Mayor of Bethlehem, Mayor Payrow, for their presence here. This is not my first visit, as you may know, to this particular area. In 1966 I was privileged to come to Allentown to address a United Fund gathering. In

1 1967 I had the opportunity of coming to Bethlehem to dedicate
2 a beautiful new high school complex. So this is like returning
3 home to the beautiful Lehigh Valley, and I don't know of a
4 more beautiful place in America and where there are better
5 people than where you live, and I want to thank you and con-
6 gratulate you.

7 Now, friends, we are going to spend just a little
8 time with you on this podium out here at this microphone.
9 Those Tijuana Brats -- and they are really not brats, they
10 are great -- that is one of my very special musical groups.
11 They were with us up in Newark, New Jersey today. They did a
12 marvelous job there, and I was so surprised and pleased when
13 I heard they were going to be at the airport reception. They
14 give us a sense of lift and make you feel a little bouncy and,
15 by the way, if you are a Democrat you always have a sense of
16 lift and you walk higher and feel better, and the Tijuana Brats
17 make me feel that way.

18 I hope I can have a few moments at the airport with
19 you to shake hands with some of the people here. I am very,
20 very pleased they are out here with us. I want to ask them to
21 do us a favor. I want them to urge in these coming weeks and
22 months, those of voting age, that they themselves get registered
23 so that they can vote and those not of voting age, that you see
24 to it your older brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers and
25 members of your family that are of voting age make their

1 registration meaningful by getting down to register and vote.

2 We have a great country. The only way we can take
3 care of it is through citizen participation, and the only way
4 I know to get citizen participation is for people in these
5 election years to make it their business to be a good citizen,
6 and good citizenship requires responsibility and the performance
7 of duty.

8 It is really strange to talk about voting as a per-
9 formance of duty when really in truth it is a great privilege
10 and one we have enjoyed for many, many years.

11 Now, I want to leave you with just these thoughts. I
12 looked over here and saw some wonderful signs over here. My
13 goodness, the art quality of this community is amazing. There
14 are just budding young artists over there that have put to-
15 gether some of the most interesting pieces of literature. One
16 of them says "Sock it to me, Hubert." Another one says
17 "Humphrey for President." Well, I'm for both of those, as a
18 matter of fact, and I want to congratulate those who have seen
19 fit to come out here and give us this demonstration.

20 Ladies and gentlemen, I am a candidate for the high-
21 est office and a gift of the American people. That is the
22 office of the Presidency. I have one hurdle to gain or to over-
23 come before I can say to you that I am in the sense the
24 nominee of my party. That hurdle will face us within just a
25 very few days in Chicago. I hope out of that Chicago

1 convention I can come back to you as the nominee of the
2 Democratic Party.

3 I can tell you one thing about the convention in
4 Chicago that you ought to be interested in. Some of you may
5 have tuned in -- not for long but you may have tuned in -- on
6 the beach party down in Miami a few days ago. It got a little
7 dry and a little dull. I never thought anything like that
8 would happen at Miami Beach, but it did. But there is one
9 thing you can say for it. It was orderly.

10 There is one thing you are going to be able to say
11 about ours. It will be noisy -- no doubt about it at all --
12 because when we get together at a Democratic convention almost
13 anything can happen and generally does. Democrats have a way
14 of being able to raise a lot of cane and cause a lot of
15 commotion. But I want to warn my Republican friends that
16 are here: After it is all over, we sort of walk out of there
17 together and want to do battle with the loyal opposition.

18 I want to make it perfectly clear to you that neither
19 party has a monopoly on all that is good. We have got to come
20 to you and demonstrate to you our capacities and abilities and
21 our programs. I want to come back to this great community to
22 talk to you about not the sickness of the American society but
23 the strength of our country. I want to come back to you to
24 talk to you about how we can build a better America, how we
25 can

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2 We need to think in this country of our community
3 as a people, as a nation of neighbors, not as contesting
4 opponents but rather as a community working together and
5 building together, and I call upon everyone in this audience to
6 think of themselves not so much as a partisan but rather as a
7 builder, and above all to remember that you have an honor that
8 very few people in this world have but which many would give
9 almost their life to have: You have the highest honor in the
10 world, an honor as great as that of an **emperor** or king or
11 whatever title it may be and I think it is better than any of
12 those titles. The greatest privilege in the world is to be
13 known as a citizen of the United States of America, and every
14 one of us here have that privilege and that honor, and I am
15 going to do everything I can as an individual and hopefully
16 as a President to add extra honor to that high purpose of
17 American citizenship and to make it more meaningful so when we
18 come to our birthday which will be celebrated I am sure in
19 Pennsylvania and Philadelphia -- Independence Hall -- when we
20 come to that birthday in 1976, that we can say to one another
21 that America on its 200th birthday has achieved at least most
22 of its great desire and its great ambition, which is not that
23 of power and conquest but which is that of dignity of human
24 beings and opportunity for every one of us.

25 Thank you very, very much.

(End of speech)



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