

NEWS FROM: DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE
2600 Virginia Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20037
202-333-8750

Release for Tuesday AMs
October 8, 1968

For Further Information:
Ev Munsey, Ext. 201
DG-571

SILENT, EVASIVE, VACATIONING NIXON TAKES AMERICAN PEOPLE
FOR GRANTED, HUMPHREY SAYS

Scranton, Pa., October 7 -- Hubert H. Humphrey today assailed Nixon for his silence on key issues, his feeble statement against George Wallace, his secret messages to special interests, and extensive vacationing in the midst of the campaign.

The confident Republican candidate "has taken the American people for granted," Humphrey said.

The Democratic nominee acknowledged that his ticket is running behind. "But we are moving up fast," he said.

Humphrey pointed up the differing approaches of the two candidates to Wallace and his appeal to hate and fear. "I've gone to the South and said what I thought about Mr. Wallace and his campaign of extremism and fear. Mr. Nixon thought he could tip-toe through this issue, too. He wasn't planning to criticize George Wallace and his frightening campaign of fear and hate. He planned only to tell Southern voters not to throw their votes away on Mr. Wallace.

"But we changed all that. We forced Mr. Nixon finally to say something. And in a rare burst of courage, he finally said he didn't really think a man who would run over people in his car should be President."

"That's Mr. Nixon's profile in courage, and a mighty weak profile it is," Humphrey said.

The Democratic nominee said Nixon's silence is also explained by the fact that "outside of his early Congressional campaigns of smear and distortion, Mr. Nixon has compiled virtually no record at all during 22 years of running for office."

He recalled the 1960 request to President Eisenhower to specify the major decisions in which then Vice President Nixon had participated. 'Just give me a week and I'll think of one,' Eisenhower said.

Humphrey's text is attached.

REMARKS
VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
SCRANTON PENNSYLVANIA
OCTOBER 7, 1968

For Release: Tuesday AMs
October 8, 1968

I've been traveling this country now for weeks, from Florida to Oregon, from New York to California, and it's great to be back in Pennsylvania.

And I think I know as much as the pollsters know about what's on people's minds in this critical election year.

The people know the country is in trouble.

They are deeply concerned.

They know the choice they have to make November 5 is one of the most important of their political lives.

And I know what questions the people are asking themselves.

They are asking: Which candidate and which party can you trust?

They are asking: Which candidate and which party can end the war?

And they are asking: Which candidate and which party can hold this country together?

And the American people are not jumping to conclusions. They are thinking long and hard before making up their minds. And that's just as it should be.

But in the last week, I've noticed something else. The American people are coming to understand that the type of campaign waged by a candidate for the Presidency reveals the kind of President he would make if elected.

And in the last week I've noticed that more and more people are getting fed up with Mr. Nixon and Mr. Wallace and their tactics to win the Presidency.

The third party candidate--George Corley Wallace--has made an organized and deliberate appeal to hate, to fear, to anger, to frustration, to all that's worst in America.

Is that any way to run for President of the United States?

Now he's added to his ticket a bombing general who thinks the nuclear bomb is just another weapon--who once suggested that we bomb North Vietnam back to the Stone Age.

Brute force at home and catastrophic force abroad--between them General LeMay says he would bomb North Vietnam back to the Stone Age and probably start World War III in the process, and George Wallace says he would drive over demonstrators in his car and probably unleash violence and bloodshed here at home.

But General LeMay and George Wallace are not going to get this chance to destroy America.

My Republican opponent--Richard M. Nixon--is more careful. He follows the advice of his highly-paid Madison Avenue advertising executives who are in charge of the Nixon image.

. . . more

In the South Mr. Nixon says he will not use the only effective federal instrument to enforce the Supreme Court school decision--but in the North he says he doesn't really mean it.

In the North he stood silent during the ugly campaign against Mr. Justice Fortas--and in the South he slyly joined it.

He says he is for the treaty to stop the spread of nuclear weapons--but he is against ratifying it now and he will not encourage the Senate to ratify it.

He has stood absolutely silent on Vietnam.

But while Mr. Nixon has been silent, his campaign managers have been mailing secret messages to special interests, such as the stock market traders on Wall Street, assuring them that a Nixon administration will look after their special interests--forget the public interest.

Given his public career, I'm not surprised Mr. Nixon has remained silent.

Outside of his early Congressional campaigns of smear and distortion, Mr. Nixon has compiled virtually no record at all during 22 years of running for office.

While some of us were fighting for Social Security, Medicare, civil rights, housing, jobs and all the other Democratic programs passed in the last few years, Mr. Nixon sat on the sidelines...only coming on the field to attack and oppose our efforts

You remember in 1960 when a reporter asked President Eisenhower to specify the major decisions which Mr. Nixon had participated in as Vice President.

You remember President Eisenhower's answer to that reporter, "Just give me a week and I'll think of one."

And so Mr. Nixon has spent most of this campaign vacationing. But the White House is no place for a vacationer--and the people know it.

The public opinion polls, the Republican newspapers, and all the conventional wisdom have convinced him he is going to win.

And so he has taken the American people for granted

I say you can't trust a candidate like George Wallace whose only appeal is to people's fears. It's time somebody appealed to the best in the American people, not the worst.

And that's what I've tried to do.

And you can't trust a candidate like Richard Nixon who refuses to speak out on vital issues and who says one thing in the North and another thing in the South.

Candidates owe it to the people to speak out clearly on the great issues before this country.

And that's what I've tried to do.

There are forces in this land struggling to divide and embitter our people. They are demagogues who preach hate and fear and division. They are radical extremists of the right and radical extremists of the left.

On the extreme left are those who chant and disrupt meetings and threaten to disrupt the election. They would deny to others the free speech they demand. They have seized upon the legitimate grievances of students and capitalized on the unease over the war to mount an attack on the entire American system.

There is a simple--and totally unacceptable--solution of violent, destructive protest.

I reject their tactics and I will fight them now just as I have done in the past.

Freedom of speech, of assembly, of dissent are among the most sacred liberties we possess--and I will defend them in this year of fear and rage as I have defended them all my life.

On the extreme right are those who preach disrespect for our courts and for some of our laws and who appeal to the darkest fears and deepest suspicions of our people.

They seek the simple solution of violent repression.

I've gone to the South and said what I thought about Mr. Wallace and his campaign of extremism and fear.

Mr. Nixon thought he could tip-toe through this issue too.

He wasn't planning to criticize George Wallace and his frightening campaign of fear and hate. He planned only to tell Southern voters not to throw their votes away on Mr. Wallace.

But we changed all that. We forced Mr. Nixon finally to say something. And in a rare burst of courage he finally said he didn't really think a man who would run over people in his car should be President.

That's Mr. Nixon's profile of courage...and a mighty weak profile it is.

* * *

When John F. Kennedy came to Pennsylvania 8 years ago to usher in a New Frontier and a New Day for your State and our land, he said: "Republican policies have done nothing for you, but they have done a great deal to you...The Republicans have vetoed Pennsylvania."

John Kennedy was absolutely right in 1960.

When the Nixon-Republicans got through ruining the prosperity of this country in the 1950's, the unemployment rate in Scranton hit a modern all-time high of 12 percent...375,000 men and women in Pennsylvania were out of work...farm income fell some \$600 million...and throughout this land men suffered from three job-killing recessions.

But Humphrey-Muskie Democrats believe that every man and every woman has a right to a decent job at good wages.

And the Democrats have delivered. Today unemployment in America stands at a 15 year low.

Ask yourselves why Richard Nixon is against federal money coming in here to help build schools and pay teachers and construct libraries?

Why is he afraid to help your city lower local property taxes with federal help?

I've proposed these things and I know we can do them--with your help in this election.

Richard Nixon talks about "forgotten Americans." He ought to know. He forgets you every chance he gets.

Democrats don't forget. We do things.

Where were the Nixon-Republicans when time came to vote for you?

81 percent of the Republicans in the House of Representatives voted AGAINST the Appalachia Development Act.

92 percent of the Republicans voted to kill the Economic Development Act.

That's what the Nixon Republicans think of your problems in Pennsylvania.

* * *

In this campaign the Democrats are running behind. But we are moving up fast.

John Kennedy once said: "When the going gets tough, the tough get going."

That is why I have taken the issues of his campaign to the people. For I believe that in this troubled year the candidates must speak out.

And I intend to keep on ~~speaking~~ speaking out, whatever happens, right down until November 5, when the people--and not the pollsters nor anybody else--will choose who shall lead them in the difficult dangerous years to come.

I believe the United States is the greatest country in the world.

And I believe there is an essential goodness and a potential greatness in the American people.

I believe that goodness can be aroused.

I believe that greatness can be inspired.

I want to build this nation, not tear it down.

I want to unite this people, not divide them.

I offer you no easy answers. There are none.

But I make my appeal to reason, not to passion.

I appeal to hope, not to fear.

I choose to speak, not stand silent.

And I ask your help in this election.

1

ADDRESS -- UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON, WNEP-TV
Scranton, Pennsylvania
Monday, October 7, 1968
- - -

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Thank you very much. Thank you very much, Bob Landy. Thank you for your generous introduction. May I say that after I heard all the nice things you had to say about me, I could hardly wait to hear what I was going to say myself. (Applause) And I want to thank that Democratic band over here, that orchestra we have over here. They play that music just like Democrats like to counce. And I hope that every one of you will be just as peppy on election day as this little band was tonight. (Applause) And I hope you will have all the energy and the zeal and the vitality between now and election day that the Dunmore band has tonight. (Applause)

Yes, my dear friends, that is what it is going to take -- that kind of zip, enthusiasm, dedication, and if there is a Democrat in the house tonight that says he is a Democrat that doesn't have that much pep, go get yourself a bottle of Geritol.

Thank you very much, Mayor Walsh. Thank you for your gracious reception. And may I extend a very special good note of cheer and support and friendship to a long-time personal friend and a very great public servant and an outstanding United States Senator that I hope you are going to reelect, Senator Joseph Clark of Pennsylvania. (Applause)

By the way, you have your hometown boy here, who has made more than good, one of the outstanding bright lights of Democratic politics of the nation, not only in Pennsylvania. He is your own Robert Casey -- (Applause) -- candidate for auditor of the State of Pennsylvania and I predict he will have one of the brightest futures of any man in this state, and I look forward to the day when I can say, Hello, Governor Casey, how are you.

And we welcome tonight this gentleman that has been mentioned to you, candidate for superior court in this state, Bill Cercone, one of the fine men who has been here with us. And we miss our Gracie Sloan, but they are good Democrats.

I have a little message for you tonight. Wouldn't Mr. Nixon be surprised if he saw this crowd tonight? (Applause)

Let me tell you, he is going to get a bigger surprise on November 5, 1968. (Applause)

Oh, my good friends, you know how to do it. If I have ever seen Democrats, I am seeing them tonight. It is a great night in Scranton.

Well, friends, I come to you tonight to talk to you about our common endeavor and I am going to ask you to join me tonight in a program of common thought, serious purpose, and, hopefully, of active campaigning. I have been traveling all over this country in the past few weeks. The last ten days, we have been in California, we have been through Florida, the State of Washington, Oregon, we have been into Colorado and Utah, Tennessee,

Kentucky. We have been around this country, but there is no place for Democracy that can beat the great Keystone State of Pennsylvania. That is the way I feel. (Applause)

And I think I have learned a little bit about what people are thinking, what they are saying. Oh, I know the pollsters are saying some things. They say we are an underdog. But I will tell you, folks, if you are an underdog in this campaign, you have got to be -- well, there is only one thing you can do and that is to look up and take a bite at the one that is above you. That is what we intend to do. (Applause)

But this is not an unusual role for a Democrat. Many a Democrat looks like, according to what they say, that he is not going to win until the people have something to say. And the people had something to say in this state in 1960. The people had something to say in this state in 1964. And I think the people are going to give the same message to the nation in 1968. You are going to vote Democratic.

But we are going to have to do this together. This is no one-man show. My fellow Democrats and my fellow Americans, we have work before us. Our country is in trouble and we know it and we ought not to gloss over it. Our people are deeply concerned. We know it and we must face up to it. And they know that the choice that they make on November 5 is going to be one of the most important decisions of their lives, because they are going to make a decision on November 5 as to what kind of life the people that are going to live in this nation are going to have for years to come, because the next President of the United States will not merely make decisions for the next four years, but the decisions of that next President, like other Presidents before him, will affect the lives of every one of us in this hall, every one of us in this nation, but more importantly, the children yet unborn, because presidents lay down basic policy for a nation, and people know it. And they are asking themselves some questions and they are asking the most serious question of all tonight -- which candidate and which party can we the people trust?

And they are asking which candidate and which party can really lead this nation to peace and end this war? And they are asking which candidate and which party can hold this nation together to keep it as one people, united in common purpose. And the American people are going to do some sober thinking between now and next Tuesday, November 5. They are going to make their judgments. They have been listening, they have been looking, and they are going to take a harder look. And they are going to listen more attentively.

And they should, because they are making the decision of their lives.

Last week, I thought I had noticed something happening in this country. The American people are coming to understand that the type of a campaign waged by a candidate for the presidency reveals the kind of President that he would make if he were elected. And the American people are not only looking at who the candidate for president is, they are looking to see who the candidates for vice president are.

Can you imagine this country, can you imagine this country with a General LeMay as President?

Can you imagine this country with a President Agnew?

(From the audience: No!)

But may I say that in these uncertain times, if this Democratic ticket wins, I think I have offered to the American people in my selection and in my recommendation for Vice President someone that you can love and embrace, because you could imagine this country with a President Muskie, couldn't you? (Applause)

Yes, ladies and gentlemen, the Democratic Party comes to you with a team. We come to you with two men, experienced in government, liberal in persuasion, hopefully mature in judgment, but above all, willing to look to the future -- not to reminisce of the yesterdays but to think of the tomorrows, to reassess every priority of this land, to design new policies for a new day and to be willing to take chances, to be willing to dare, to be willing to adventure to make this a better America and a more peaceful world. That is what the Humphrey-Muskie ticket can do. (Applause)

I think I noticed something, friends, too, that the American people are getting fed up, yes, fed up with Mr. Nixon and Mr. Wallace and their tactics to win this presidency. This is the highest office within the gift of the American people. It deserves respect and it deserves the best that we have to offer from each of us that aspire to it. The Third Party candidate has made an organized and deliberate appeal to hate, to fear, to anger, frustration -- to all that is the worst in America. And I submit to you, my friends and fellow Americans, this is no way to run for the office of President of the United States. We can do better. (Applause)

Now, he has added to his ticket a distinguished general, a militarist, a bombing general, who thinks that the nuclear bomb is just another weapon. The difference is, my fellow Americans, that one nuclear bomb would wipe out Scranton and Wilkes-Barre and all the environs in one flash. It is not just another weapon. It is not, as he said, just a rusty knife. There isn't any knife that dangerous, ladies and gentlemen. Brute force at home and catastrophic force abroad, the program of the Third Party.

Ladies and gentlemen, you are not going to heal the wounds of this country and we are not going to satisfy the yearnings and the needs of the young and the old; we are not going to satisfy the requirements of the working people of this land; we are not going to build a better America by the philosophy of those who say that if you lie down in front of my car, I will run over you and if you get in my way, we will bomb you into the Stone Age. Those are the words of candidates seeking the two highest offices in this land on the Third Party ticket. I call upon the people of Pennsylvania to do what I know you are going to do; I call upon you to reject this extremism, to reject this kind of a message of hate, of anger and of frustration, and of force, and I think you are going to do it on this election day.

Now, the Republican candidate is an old hand at campaigning. I said an hold hand and you may have misunderstood me. And he is more careful. Oh, yes, he is very careful. That is the difference between the old Nixon and the new Nixon. Richard the Careful. (Applause)

No, not Richard the Creative, not Richard the Idealist, not Richard the New, not Richard the Better, but Richard the Careful -- Richard so careful today that he won't say anything about anything on anybody at any time. (Applause)

No, my friends, he waits and he waits for his managers -- managers. Do you remember that Miami convention? May I say that that is the first time we have ever had a national wake before the demise of a political candidate.

Do you remember those words they said, Mr. Nixon and his managers? Now I believe to the present day that Mr. Nixon's managers have had this to say and that to say. Well, ladies and gentlemen, Mr. Nixon may have managers, but we are not electing Mr. Richard Nixon's managers. What you need is a president who can manage, not a manger who can manage the president.

Mr. Nixon reminds me of that fellow that applied for a job teaching school down in the hill country of Kentucky and they had a rather conservative school board. The fellow needed the job pretty badly and they needed a geography teacher. And the school board was split -- half of the board thought the world was round and half of the school board thought the world was flat. So the superintendent of schools was a kind of moderator and he said to this young fellow that was applying for the job, he said, "How do you teach geography? Do you teach it round or do you teach it flat?"

The fellow said, "I can teach it either way. Which way does the job come?"

Mr. Nixon can teach it either way. In the South, Mr. Nixon says that he will not use the only effective federal instrument that we have to enforce a Supreme Court order for school desegregation. He says he thinks that we are going too fast and too far. But when he gets up North, he says he doesn't really mean it. In the North, he stood silent during an ugly campaign against a presidential nomination for Chief Justice of the United States. But in the South, he slyly joined in.

He says he is for the treaty to stop the dangerous spread or the spread of dangerous nuclear weapons across this world, a treaty signed by 80 nations, a treaty initiated by this country, a treaty that is in our national interest, a treaty that doesn't in any way weaken our defense. He says that he is for it but he is against the Senate ratifying it now. And he will not encourage the Senate to ratify it now.

He can teach it either way, either he can be for the treaty or he can be against it. We just have to get a public opinion poll to find out which way he gets the most votes, that is all. (Applause)

But he just stood absolutely silent on the issue of arms control, on the issue of Viet Nam. He says he doesn't want to say anything. Well, may I say that is not unusual. He is an expert in it. He hasn't been saying anything for years. (Applause)

But while he has been quiet and while he has been enjoying fair weather in Key Biscayne, pleasant gatherings on Fifth Avenue, while he has been in the parades with the ticker tape and the confetti, while he has said little or nothing, his campaign managers have been mailing out secret messages to the special interests. Up North, he is for tax reform. Down South, he is for the oil depletion allowance.

And then he gets a little special message into the Wall Street boys and says he is for loosening up on regulations. But when he gets out in the Midwest, where they take a different view of Wall Street, he reminds us that they must be kept honest, that they must be watched carefully. He can teach it either way, ladies and gentlemen. And he is. But the American people have a right to expect something more out of Mr. Nixon than to see whether or not he gets saddle sores from straddling the issues. (Applause)

Now, my friends, somebody may say and rightly so that the Democratic candidate is being pretty hard on Mr. Nixon. And right, I am. And I will tell you why: Because we are campaigning for, we are searching for and seeking the highest office in this land. And I have taken a look at the record, the public record of Mr. Nixon, and I ask his most avid supporter now to listen to me. Outside of his early congressional campaigns of smear and distortion, where he called this party, the Democratic Party, the party of treason, where he abused Harry Truman, where he demeaned Adlai Stevenson, where he attacked John Kennedy -- outside of that, Mr. Nixon has compiled virtually no public record at all during 22 years of running for office. (Applause)

Oh, my friends, I will tell you again, I remind you that it is different now. I read about, I hear that there is a new Nixon. Then somebody says, oh, no, he is still the old Nixon. I am telling you the one to worry about is the real Nixon, and that is the one that I have been talking about.

While some of us were fighting for Social Security, for Medicare, for civil rights, for housing, for job training, for child health, for food stamps, for aid to the needy and other Democratic programs that have been passed these last few years, Mr. Nixon sat quietly on the sidelines, only coming on the field occasionally to throw in a block, to attack or oppose our efforts.

Who is it that fought against Medicare for the elderly? I will tell you the one. Nixon is the one. Just remember it.

Who is it, who is it that has voted on two sides of Social Security -- sort of for it and sort of against it? Nixon is the one.

Who is it that voted against minimum wage extension for our workers in this country? That sign that they put up tells you --

Nixon is the one.

Who said that the nuclear test ban treaty was a cruel hoax and a fraud? You know it -- repeat it: Nixon is the one.

Who is it, my friends, that refused to help on federal aid to education when there was a need for helping our teachers and our children? You know it. Let me hear you. Nixon is the one.

You bet he is the one. And ladies and gentlemen, it is still the truth, it is still the truth. A man who, by the way, can now stand on a platform that says that they want to help the cities, that they want to help the elderly, that they want to help the young. And not one bit of public record is there to support it.

I remind you that when in 1960, a reporter asked President Eisenhower to specify the major decisions which Mr. Nixon had participated in as Vice President, you may remember President Eisenhower's answer to that reporter. He said, "Just give me a week and I will think of one."

Mr. American and Mrs. American and my young American friends: This isn't just partisan politics. A man who had no concern for the needy, a man who could not see the ravages of illiteracy, the man who could close his eyes to the conditions of the slums, the man who saw no danger in the continued testing of nuclear bombs with radioactive fallout, a man, if you please, who could call the Peace Corps a haven for draft dodgers, a man who could resist unemployment compensation extension -- I submit to you that a man who has no interest in peace by his actions and no interest in the welfare of the less fortunate of America by his actions, and a man who understood not this economy by his actions -- that man is not the man to be President of the United States. (Applause)

But I am well aware that Mr. Nixon is cool, he is confident, he is optimistic. As a matter of fact, he has been already selecting his Cabinet. It has been in the paper. He has the former governor of this state traveling abroad -- I read every day that he has paced himself so beautifully, that he takes two or three days a week for a vacation. Well, let me tell you, my dear friends, the White House is no place for a vacationer. It is a place for a worker and a leader and that is what you need in it.

I remember another Republican candidate who was cool, who was calm, and who had the drapes all measured up in the White House, who had picked his Cabinet, who had already ordered the new airplanes. As a matter of fact, it was well understood and it was even printed in one of the leading newspapers that he had won the election. He had been playing President so long that when the election came in 1948, the American people thought it was time for a change and reelected Harry Truman. (Applause)

Well, Mr. Nixon, be careful how long you play president.

He feels like he has it. He thinks it is in the bag. He comes by down in Washington, looks up Pennsylvania and Constitution

7

Avenues, has decided what he is going to do about the front porch and the back porch. He has been playing president a long time. I think it is time for a change and I am ready to move in. (Applause)

So, my friends, I say you can't trust a candidate like George Wallace, whose only appeal is to people's fears. I think it is time that somebody appealed to the best in the American people and not the worse. And that is what I have tried to do. I know I have been told that is not the popular thing to do. But I happen to believe it is the right thing to do. And I don't think you can trust a candidate like the Republican nominee, who refuses to speak out on vital issues, who says one thing in the North and says another thing in the South.

I don't believe you can trust him.

(From audience: "What about the war?")

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: You might ask Mr. Nixon about the war. He, too, wants to be president. I know what to do about it. You elect me your president and I will bring this war to an end. (Applause)

Yes, my friends, there are forces in this land, dangerous forces, striving to divide and embitter our people. There are demagogues who preach hate and fear and division. And there are radical extremists of the Right and radical extremists of the Left. On the extreme Left, there are those who chant and disrupt meetings and then threaten to disrupt the election. They would deny to others the free speech that they want for themselves. There is the simple and the totally unacceptable solution of the violent and destructive protest. And I want this audience to know tonight that that little handful will not intimidate me. I reject their tactics and I reject it now just as I have in the past. (Applause)

Freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of dissent are among the most sacred liberties that we possess and I will defend them in this year of fear and rage just as I have defended them all my life. Dissent, yes, but disorder, no. (Applause)

And then there is another extreme on the Right, of those who preach disrespect for their fellow citizens, for our courts and our laws and who appeal to the darkest fears and the deepest suspicions of our people. And they seek the simple solution of violent repression.

And I have gone to the southland and said what I thought about Mr. Wallace and his campaign of extremism and fear. And I call upon the American people to reject those extremists just as you reject the extremists of the Left. (Applause)

The Republican candidate thought that he could tiptoe through those magnolia patches and he thought he could tiptoe through that issue. But we smoked him out. We changed all that by a series of addresses before audiences sometimes hostile. I spoke the truth about one who appealed on the basis of race against race, on the basis of fear and hate. And we forced Mr. Nixon finally to say something and in a rare burst of courage,

he finally said he didn't really think that a man who would run over people in his car should be president.

What a profile of courage, Mr. Nixon. What a profile.
(Applause)

No, my fellow Americans, we deserve better. That is why I have said wherever I have been and I want to say it to you that I appeal to the Republican nominee and to the Third Party nominee, all three of us to stand on the same platform before the same audiences at the same time and in the same place, hopefully to have nationwide television, to speak to the 200 million Americans so they can hear what we have to say, so that we can face each other man to man, so that we can place the issues before the American jury, so that we can have our chance of rebuttal and refutation, so that we can search for the truth. But Mr. Nixon has refused to accept that invitation.

I have told him I would buy half the time. In fact, I have said that if he would come, we would get somebody to buy all the time. He has a little more money than we have. But we will scrape it up. I ask Mr. Nixon to have respect for the American people and respect for the American people means that in the spirit of the Lincoln-Douglas debate of an earlier time, a century ago, let us have the courage as men seeking this great office to speak to the American people thoughtfully, respectfully, vigorously, intelligently. Let's lay our case before the American jury and I am prepared to accept his decision. But I want him here. (Applause)

I think I know why he won't come. I think I know why. Because if Mr. Nixon comes here, I am going to have to ask him, Mr. Nixon, why is it that you feel that the federal government ought to do less for cities who are in dire trouble? Why is it, Mr. Nixon, that you think we ought to do less for the poor? Why is it, Mr. Nixon, that you talk of law and order but have proposed no help to a city mayor or to a county commission or a state? Why is it that you talk of aid to the elderly, but you say that Medicare won't work? Why is it that you talk of peace and reconciliation, yet you won't help us on arms control and to even stop the spread of nuclear weapons?

I know why Mr. Nixon won't debate, because he hasn't got anything to say. And if you have, Mr. Nixon, come clean. (Applause)

Yes, the Republican nominee talks about the "Forgotten Americans." Well, he ought to know. He forgets you every time he gets a chance. And he has forgotten more than anybody that I can think of.

Where were the Nixon Republicans when the time came to vote to help Pennsylvania? Let me remind you of what John Kennedy once said. President Kennedy, speaking here as a candidate in 1960, eight years ago, said these words: "Republican policies have done nothing for you, but they have done a great deal to you. The Republicans have vetoed Pennsylvania."

I suggest, then, that you veto the Republicans in this election.
(Applause)

Now, I ask you, my fellow Americans, to help, to help bind up the wounds of this country, because we are wounded; to help bring about better understanding in this land because there is misunderstanding. I ask you to help, each and every one of us, to try to make this American community of ours an American family, not of enemies but of friends and neighbors. I ask you to help us make come true the dream of this being one nation with many peoples, but with a common purpose. I ask you to understand tonight that there is no liberty for anyone unless there is liberty for everyone.

I ask you to understand tonight that there is no justice for the rich unless there is justice for the poor. There is no justice for the white man unless there is justice for the black man. There is no opportunity for your son and daughter in the long run unless there is opportunity for every son and daughter in this land.

I ask you to help me to bring out the best that is in America.

Everybody looks to us. Sometimes we may have to stand alone in this troubled world. We are going to need each other. We are going to need every American operating at his best. We are going to need every American, every young man and woman educated to the utmost. We are going to need this economy of ours operating at top speed. Never did we need each other so much.

And yet never did we have such dangerous divisions amongst us and such preachers of hate and doubt and suspicion.

I must call upon Americans to put away that which is wrong and I call upon you to realize the goodness that is in us. Because there is a basic goodness in America.

This country is not sick. This country is troubled. This country is not lost, it is only seeking a better way.

This country is not through, it is just beginning.

This country can have a new day and I come to you to ask you to help bring it about -- a new day of education, a new day of compassion for the needy. A new day of jobs for those that can work. A new day of opportunity for those that have been denied; a new day of first class citizenship for every person, regardless of his race, color or creed.

I ask you tonight for a new day of respect for our elders, a new day of hope for the young, a new day of a chance for every American.

I do not appeal to you for yesterday, I ask you for tomorrow.
(Applause)

I know with all that is in my heart and mind that this country is what Lincoln said it was, the last best hope of earth, and I don't intend to make myself look bigger by making America look smaller. I do not intend to base my campaign upon derision and upon abuse of this land so that I can look a little better. I happen to think that America is capable of doing anything that

wants to if we have but the will. We have the resources, we have the means, we have the people. What we need tonight, my fellow Americans, is the resolve. And I am not going to ask you to take the easy way.

I know that it is easier to appeal to your fears, to your doubts, to your concerns. Every one of us has it. Every one of us has some prejudice. Every one of us has some fear. Every one of us has some uncertainty. And a man for public office can always come and appeal to that.

But ladies and gentlemen, I made up my mind 25 years ago that this America of ours could be the greatest dream that ever came true. I made up my mind that we could have a unity of our people. I made up my mind that there could be a goodness that could be aroused in the people. I made up my mind that there was a greatness here yet to be touched. And I call upon young and old, I call upon black and white, I call upon everyone that likes to call himself an American, I call upon you to stand with me this year to make this America of ours the greatest hope that this world has ever known. I ask your help in this election.

Thank you very much. (Applause)

- - -

Father Galvin
U of Scranton

✓ Mayor Walsh
✓ Joe Clark
✓ Bob Landry - Cong
✓ Bob Casey - Home Town
✓ Bill Curcone

REMARKS

Sumner Hi Band

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

OCTOBER 7, 1968

~~Pat Cummings~~
~~Pat Melody~~

Mayor Tom
Mayor Barr Cong Queen

I've been traveling this country now for weeks, from Florida to Oregon, from New York to California, and it's great to be back in Pennsylvania.

And I think I know as much as the pollsters know about what's on people's minds in this critical election year.

↳ The people know the country is in trouble.

↳ They are deeply concerned.

They know the choice they have to make November 5 is one of the most important of their political lives.

Dennis

And I know what questions the people are asking themselves.

They are asking: Which candidate and which party can you trust?

↳ They are asking: Which candidate and which party can end the war?

↳ And they are asking: Which candidate and which party can hold this country together?

↳ And the American people are not jumping to conclusions. !

They are thinking long and hard before making up their minds. And

that's just as it should be. ! and on NOV 5 - Democr. Ticket

↳ But in the last week, I've noticed something else. ! The American people are coming to understand that the type of campaign waged by a candidate for the Presidency reveals the kind of President he would make if elected. #

↳ And in the last week I've noticed that more and more people are getting fed up with Mr. Nixon and Mr. Wallace and their tactics to win the Presidency. !

Wallace

↳ The Third Party candidate -- George Corley Wallace -- has made an organized and deliberate appeal to hate, to fear, to anger, to frustration, to all that's worst in America. |

↳ Is that any way to run for President of the United States?

↳ Now he's added to his ticket a bombing general who thinks the nuclear bomb is just another weapon -- who once suggested that we bomb North Viet Nam back to the Stone Age. |

↳ Brute force at home and catastrophic force abroad -- between them General LeMay says he would bomb North Viet Nam back to the Stone Age and probably start World War III in the process, and George Wallace says he would drive over demonstrators in his car and probably unleash violence and bloodshed here at home.

↳ But General LeMay and George Wallace are not going to get this chance to destroy America. |

↳ My Republican opponent -- Richard M. Nixon -- is more careful.

↳ He follows the advice of his highly-paid Madison Avenue advertising executives who are in charge of the Nixon image.

L In the South, Mr. Nixon says he will not use the only effective federal instrument to enforce the Supreme Court school decision -- but in the North he says he doesn't really mean it.

~~4 In the North he stood silent during the ugly campaign against Mr. Justice Fortas -- and in the South he slyly joined it~~

L He says he is for the treaty to stop the spread of nuclear weapons -- but he is against ratifying it now and he will not encourage the Senate to ratify it.

L He has stood absolutely silent on Viet Nam.

L But while Mr. Nixon has been silent, his campaign managers have been mailing secret messages to special interests, such as the stock market traders on Wall Street, assuring them that a Nixon Administration will look after their special interests -- forget the public interest.

L Given his public career, I'm not surprised Mr. Nixon has remained silent.

Nixon No Record

Outside of his early Congressional campaigns of smear and distortion, Mr. Nixon has compiled virtually no record at all during 22 years of running for office.

While some of us were fighting for social security, Medicare, civil rights, housing jobs and all the other Democratic programs passed in the last few years, Mr. Nixon sat on the sidelines ... only coming on the field to attack and oppose our efforts.

You remember in 1960 when a reporter asked President Eisenhower to specify the major decisions which Mr. Nixon had participated in as Vice President.

You remember President Eisenhower's answer to that reporter, "Just give me a week and I'll think of one."

And so Mr. Nixon has spent most of his campaign vacationing.

But the White House is no place for a vacationer -- and the people know it.

need worker-leader

file

↳ The public opinion polls, ~~the Republican newspapers~~, and all the conventional wisdom have convinced him he is going to win — Time for a Change!! *Felle Deucey*
— 1948

And so he has taken the American people for granted.

↳ I say you can't trust a candidate like George Wallace whose only appeal is to people's fears. ↳ It's time somebody appealed to the best in the American people, not the worst.

↳ And that's what I've tried to do.

↳ And you can't trust a candidate like Richard Nixon who refuses to speak out on vital issues and who says one thing in the North and another thing in the South.

↳ Candidates owe it to the people to speak out clearly on the great issues before this country.

And that's what I've tried to do.

There are forces in this land striving to divide and embitter our people. They are demagogues who preach hate and fear and division. They are radical extremists of the right and radical extremists of the left.

On the extreme left are those who chant and disrupt meetings and threaten to disrupt the election. They would deny to others the free speech they demand. They have seized upon the legitimate grievances of students and capitalized on the unease over the war to mount an attack on the entire American system.

Theirs is the simple -- and totally unacceptable -- solution of violent destructive protest.

I reject their tactics and will fight them now just as I have in the past.

Freedom of speech, of assembly, of dissent are among the most sacred liberties we possess -- and I will defend them in this year of fear and rage as I have defended them all my life.

↳ On the extreme right are those who preach disrespect for our courts and for some of our laws and who appeal to the darkest fears and deepest suspicions of our people.

↳ They seek the simple solution of violent repression.

I've gone to the South and said what I thought about Mr. Wallace and his campaign of extremism and fear.

↳ Mr. Nixon thought he could tip-toe through this issue too!

↳ He wasn't planning to criticize George Wallace and his frightening campaign of fear and hate. He planned only to tell Southern voters not to throw their votes away on Mr. Wallace.

↳ But we changed all that. We forced Mr. Nixon finally to say something. And in a rare burst of courage he finally said he didn't really think a man who would run over people in his car should be President.

↳ That's Mr. Nixon's profile of courage ... and a mighty weak profile it is.

↳ When John F. Kennedy came to Pennsylvania 8 years ago to usher in a New Frontier and a New Day for your state and our land, he said:

"Republican policies have done nothing for you, but they have done a great deal to you ... The Republicans have vetoed Pennsylvania. "

↳ John Kennedy was absolutely right in 1960. |

When the Nixon-Republicans got through ruining the prosperity of this country in the 1950's, the unemployment rate in Scranton hit a modern all-time high of 12% ... 375,000 men and women in Pennsylvania were out of work ... farm income fell some \$600 million ... and through-out this land men suffered from three job-killing recessions.

↳ But Humphrey-Muskie Democrats believe that every man and every woman has a right to a decent job at good wages. |

↳ And the Democrats have delivered. Today unemployment in America stands at a 15 year low.

Ask yourselves why Richard Nixon is against federal money coming in here to help build schools and pay teachers and construct libraries?

Why is he afraid to help your city lower local property taxes with federal help? ~~help~~

I've proposed these things and I know we can do them -- with your help in this election.

Richard Nixon talks about "forgotten Americans." He ought to know. He forgets you ever chance he gets. ^{well}

Democrats don't forget. We do things.

Where were the Nixon-Republicans when the time came to vote for you?

80% of the Republicans in the House of Representatives voted AGAINST the Appalachia Development Act.

92% of the Republicans voted to kill the Economic Development Act.

That's what the Nixon Republicans think of your problems here in Pennsylvania.

~~In this campaign the Democrats are running behind.~~
~~But we are moving up fast.~~

John Kennedy once said: "When the going gets tough, the tough get going."

That is why I have taken the issues of this campaign to the people. For I believe that in this troubled year the candidates must speak out.

Debate

And I intend to keep on speaking out, whatever happens, right down until November 5, when the people -- and not the pollsters nor anybody else -- will choose who shall lead them in the difficult dangerous years to come.

I believe the United States is the greatest country in the world.

And I believe there is an essential goodness and a potential greatness in the American people.

I believe that goodness can be aroused.

I believe that greatness can be inspired.

Educ Cities
Safety Countryside
Health

Dare to try - to do better

I want to build this nation, not tear it down.

I want to unite this people, not divide them.

I offer you no easy answers. There are none.

But I make my appeal to reason, not to passion.

I appeal to hope, not to fear.

I choose to speak, not stand silent.

And I ask your help in this election.

#

Anthracite Coal Region
Electronics Mining
Apparel
Stals

Waves of Immigrants
Luzerne County
All-American
Luzerne County
Luzerne County

All-American
PLATFORM GUESTS
Rally

Republican years Depression
Unemployment up to 16%
Now 3%

Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania
Monday, October 7, 1968

Luzerne County

Congressman Daniel J. Flood
State Senator Martin Murray

Sen Flood - 11th Dist
~~Sen Murray~~

Sen Murray
Comm. Wideman

E. C. Wideman, Jr., County Commissioner, Luzerne County

Frank Crossin, County Commissioner, Luzerne County

Paul Strongin, District Manager, ILGWU

William T. Backman, State Representative

Stanley Meholchick, State Representative

James Musto, State Representative

Richard Adams, State Representative

Bernard F. O'Brien, State Representative

Henry DePolø, Business Rep., Construction and General Laborers Union, Loc. 215

Harold Koslitt, Business Agent, Engineers Union

Al Stucabage, Business Rep., Brotherhood of Painters Union

Frank Costelino, Recorder of Deeds, Luzerne County

Joseph Walsh, Editor, Pennsylvania AFL-CIO News

Attorney Thomas Gill, Solicitor, Luzerne County

- Educ
- Medicare
Jobs

Labor
SOC SEC

~~Star~~ GOP - Truth Squad!

~~Full the~~
~~Drugs~~

Sever College - A/C

Youth - Elderly

Humphrey - Muskie

Peace
Progress
Unity

510-6702

[Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

[Faint, illegible text]



Minnesota Historical Society

Copyright in this digital version belongs to the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, link to, or email content, however, for individual use.

To request permission for commercial or educational use, please contact the Minnesota Historical Society.



www.mnhs.org