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FILE

WHY I WANT TO BE PRESIDENT

I have served the people of America for three decades. I have seen America in peace and prosperity, but also in war and recession. And I have seen, throughout, the true strength of America--its people.

The foundation of this great country is built on the common man--in his ~~factory~~^{FACTORY}, on the farm, in his home, on his street. With the trust and confidence of the people, I know that everything is possible in our society.

That is why I want to become your President--to bring government back to the ~~people~~^{people}, so that once again the people can trust and participate in their government.

America is not sick, my friends.

What we lack is leadership and vision.

The failure of the present Administration is a failure of leadership and vision. And "without vision," the Bible tells us, "the people perish."

Our ~~times~~ times require vision and the capacity to solve problems. I learned early in my public career that concern is not enough, outrage is not enough. Even a good idea is not enough. And certainly rhetoric is not enough.

As Mayor of Minneapolis, as Senator from Minnesota, and as Vice President of the United States, I have learned to translate ideas and ideals into action.

It was not enough to speak against crime when I served as Mayor of a major American city. It was necessary to take action, and I proved that a big city's crime could be cleaned up.

It was perhaps easy to talk about Medicare for the elderly, a Youth Conservation Corps for the young and a Peace Corps, but my initiative and action were required to bring about the legislation which did, in fact, create Medicare, a Youth Conservation Corps, and a Peace Corps.

It is all very fine to speak of peace. But I early decided that talk would be wasted if we could not get concrete action, and I am proud of my role as an architect of the first treaty to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons.

Those who would lead the American people must demonstrate the capacity for achievement. That should be the essential criterion, and it is that judgment that I ask from you, the American people.

We must all ask ourselves if we as a nation can face our problems and realize our great potential.

Will we be a country at peace with others?

Will we be a country at peace with ourselves?

Will we heal the wounds of war, violence, bitterness?

Will our system of government be sensitive and responsive to the pressures of change that flood in upon us?

Will we stir America to a higher standard of living and a better quality of life?

During the decade of the 1970's will Americans be at work--building, creating, developing? These are the great issues of this election. The man who occupies the Presidency has the obligation and the opportunity to revive that feeling of common purpose which once inspired this nation--that mutual respect among the generations, among the races and ^{AMONG} the many groups in this country.

Our next President must truly lead us--to a reconciliation of our differences, a rebuilding of our society, and a rebirth of our spirit.

These tasks are not easy, but they must be done. It is for that purpose that I seek the Presidency.

"The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today," wrote Franklin Delano Roosevelt in his last, undelivered address.

With your trust and confidence we, the American people, shall indeed move forward to greater tomorrows of promise and achievement.

Thank you.



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