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Election Eve Statement
May 16, 1972

FIRST OF ALL, ~~I~~ ~~Mrs~~ HUMPHREY AND I JOIN
WITH ALL AMERICANS IN PRAYING FOR THE SPEEDY AND TOTAL RECOVERY
OF GOVERNOR WALLACE. We KNOW HOW TRYING MOMENTS LIKE THESE
ARE. our HEARTS ~~are~~ OUT TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE WALLACE FAMILY.
I now let me
~~I WANT TO~~ CONGRATULATE GOVERNOR WALLACE ON HIS PRIMARY
VICTORIES IN MARYLAND AND MICHIGAN.

BUT THIS ELECTION DAY IS DWARFED IN IMPORTANCE BY THE
TRAGIC VIOLENCE OF YESTERDAY.

I BELIEVE THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE NOT PERMIT AN
ISOLATED ACT OF VIOLENCE TO DISTORT THE TRUE PICTURE OF THE
AMERICAN DEMOCRATIC PROCESS *that process requires open debate and dialogue, and discussion in order to arrive at decision.*
OUR NATION IS TOO STRONG, AMERICANS ARE TOO RESOLUTE TO
ALLOW VIOLENCE TO SILENCE THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT OF any person

~~to seek political office or to speak, State or other views without threat or violent reaction.~~

L AMERICANS MAY DIFFER ON THEIR POLITICAL BELIEFS. BUT WE must NOT LET THESE DIFFERENCES TEAR US APART.

L VIOLENCE OF ANY SORT -- EITHER BY WORD OR BY DEED -- MAKES MORE DIFFICULT THE HEALING OF OUR SPIRIT AND THE RECONCILIATION AMONG ALL AMERICANS THAT WE SO DESPERATELY NEED.

L We AMERICANS PAY A TERRIBLE PRICE WHEN VIOLENCE ENTERS OUR LIVES.

WHETHER IT IS VIOLENCE IN THE STREETS, ON THE CAMPUS, IN OUR

NEIGHBORHOODS OR BY THE USE OF arms. VIOLENCE BEGETS VIOLENCE.

L THE ANSWER TO VIOLENCE IS MATURE LEADERSHIP WITH COMPASSION

AND UNDERSTANDING. L THIS IS WHAT ALL AMERICANS SEEK AT THIS

TIME OF CRISIS.

L AMERICA NEEDS THE SPIRIT OF FELLOWSHIP AND THE GUIDANCE OF LEADERSHIP. This why I seek the Presidency.



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