

*News Conference  
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WITHIN THE COMING WEEK, THE THREE STANDING COMMITTEES  
OF THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION WILL BEGIN  
PROCEEDINGS HERE IN WASHINGTON.

ALL THREE WILL FACE THE TASK OF RECONCILING WIDELY  
DIVERGENT POINTS OF VIEW. AND THERE IS THE DANGER THAT  
THEIR DELIBERATIONS COULD BE DISRUPTED BY RADICAL ELEMENTS  
WHOSE VIEWS DO NOT REPRESENT THE MAJORITY OF DEMOCRATIC  
VOTERS.

OVERZEALOUS TACTICS BY SUCH SPLINTER GROUPS HAVE ALREADY  
FOISTED ON SOME STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTIES' PLATFORM PROVISIONS  
THAT WILL HURT OUR NATIONAL LOCAL AND STATEWIDE CANDIDATES  
THIS FALL.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN SEVERAL RECENT STATE CONVENTIONS --  
INCLUDING MINNESOTA -- GIVES US A PREVIEW OF WHAT CAN  
HAPPEN AT THE NATIONAL CONVENTION IF FIRM AND VIGOROUS  
STEPS ARE NOT TAKEN IN THE NEXT THREE WEEKS.

I DO NOT INTEND TO STAND BY AND WATCH THE DEMOCRATIC  
CONVENTION DESTROY THE PROSPECTS FOR DEMOCRATIC VICTORY BY  
ENDORGING LEGALIZED MARIJUANA, UNCONDITIONAL AMNESTY FOR  
DRAFT EVADERS, UNILATERAL DISARMAMENT, OR BY ADOPTING A  
PROGRAM WHICH PROPOSES THAT MIDDLE-INCOME TAXPAYERS FOOT  
THE BILL FOR A FANTASTIC SCHEME OF INCOME REDISTRIBUTION.

THESE PROPOSALS ARE ABHORRENT TO THE MASS OF DEMOCRATIC  
VOTERS, AND IF THEY ARE JAMMED INTO OUR PLATFORM WE COULD  
HAVE MASS VOTER DEFECTIONS TO MR. NIXON.

WE MUST HAVE, AND WE CAN HAVE, A PLATFORM THAT DOES REFLECT THE DEEP DESIRE OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FOR CHANGE, THAT DEMANDS MORE OPEN AND RESPONSIVE GOVERNMENT, THAT LOOKS TO THE FUTURE -- BUT WHICH ALSO REPRESENTS THE BASIC COMMON SENSE OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY.

TO THIS POINT, SENATOR MCGOVERN CONTINUES TO EMBRACE A FISCALLY IRRESPONSIBLE AND SOCIALLY QUESTIONABLE PROPOSAL FOR INCOME REDISTRIBUTION, AND HE CONTINUES TO OUTLINE IN HIS APPEARANCE BEFORE THE JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE HIS PROGRAM FOR DEEP, UNILATERAL DEFENSE CUTS THAT WOULD DANGEROUSLY WEAKEN OUR NATIONAL SECURITY.

I SHALL PRESS FOR ADOPTION OF POSITIONS WHICH INCLUDE SUITABLE WORK REQUIREMENTS FOR THOSE ON WELFARE ABLE TO WORK.

AND I SHALL URGE THAT THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY INCLUDE IN ITS  
PLATFORM A COMMITMENT TO NEGOTIATED ARMS AND TROOP REDUCTIONS  
-- SAFEGUARDED AND ENFORCEABLE. I SHALL CONTINUE TO OPPOSE  
MASSIVE UNILATERAL DISARMAMENT.

I ASK ALL THE OTHER CANDIDATES TO JOIN WITH ME IN URGING  
OUR SUPPORTERS TO WORK FOR A PLATFORM BASED ON COMMON SENSE,  
A PLATFORM ON WHICH A LARGE MAJORITY OF GRASSROOTS DEMOCRATS  
CAN UNITE.

WE MUST FOCUS, IN OUR PLATFORM ON OUR CRITICAL DIFFERENCES  
WITH RICHARD NIXON -- HIS FAILURE TO PUT OUR PEOPLE BACK TO  
WORK, HIS FAILURE TO HALT THE RISE IN PRICES, HIS NEGLECT  
OF THE ELDERLY, HIS INDIFFERENCE TO THE BLACK COMMUNITY, HIS  
HOSTILITY TO THE YOUNG, AND HIS RETREAT IN THE AREAS OF  
EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND CHILD CARE.

ABOVE ALL, WE MUST DEMONSTRATE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S COMMITMENT TO THE WORKING PEOPLE OF THIS  
COUNTRY, AND MR. NIXON'S POLICY OF SPECIAL PRIVILEGE FOR THE  
WEALTHY.

RECENTLY THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE TALK AND A NUMBER OF  
THREATS, THAT IN THE EVENT OF THE NOMINATION OF HUMPHREY OR  
MUSKIE, OR JACKSON, THERE MIGHT BE A DEFECTION OF THE LEFT  
TO A FOURTH PARTY.

BUT THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE THINKING AS TO WHAT WOULD HAPPEN  
IF A CANDIDATE AND PLATFORM ARE CHOSEN WHICH ARE UNACCEPTABLE  
TO THE MODERATES -- LET ALONE THE CONSERVATIVES -- AMONG THE  
DEMOCRATIC VOTERS.

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SEVERAL RECENT POLLS INDICATE THAT THERE COULD BE A DEFECTION OF MODERATE DEMOCRATS TO NIXON -- A DEFECTION OF ASTONISHING SIZE, AND ONE WHICH COULD CREATE AN ELECTORAL DISASTER THREATENING THE LOSS OF ONE AND POSSIBLY BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS.

CERTAINLY, WITHOUT THE MODERATE AND CONSERVATIVE DEMOCRATS IT WILL BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO DEFEAT MR. NIXON.

I BELIEVE THAT THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION CAN FASHION A LARGE MAJORITY FOR A STRONG, PROGRESSIVE, AND YET SENSIBLE PLATFORM, AND CAN NOMINATE A CANDIDATE WHO REPRESENTS BOTH ORDERLY CHANGE AND RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT.

THAT IS THE MESSAGE THAT I SHALL TAKE TO THE DELEGATES OF EACH STATE DURING THE COMING THREE WEEKS -- THAT WE MUST HAVE A TICKET AND A PLATFORM THAT CAN ENLIST THE BROADEST BASE OF SUPPORT AT THE GRASSROOTS LEVEL.

IN ADDITION TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF FORMAL ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK OF THE THREE PRINCIPAL CONVENTION COMMITTEES, WE SHALL SEE TOMORROW IN NEW YORK AN INTERESTING PRIMARY IN WHICH NO CANDIDATE HAS HIS NAME ON THE BALLOT -- BUT WHICH IS IN MANY WAYS LIKE THAT FIRST PRIMARY IN NEW HAMPSHIRE. ONE CANDIDATE HAS ALREADY BEEN AWARDED THE NOMINATION BY THE NEWSPAPERS AND TELEVISION, AND ALL OTHERS HAVE BEEN DISMISSED.

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INDEED, SENATOR MCGOVERN SAID THIS PAST WEEK THAT ANYTHING  
LESS THAN 200 DELEGATES PLEDGED TO HIM WOULD BE A DEFEAT,

IS IT POSSIBLE THAT IN NEW YORK TOMORROW A SIGNIFICANT  
NUMBER OF NEW YORK DEMOCRATS WILL CHOOSE TO VOTE "UNCOMMITTED" *OR*  
FOR SENATOR MUSKIE'S DELEGATES SIMPLY TO EXPRESS THEIR DESIRE  
FOR AN OPEN CONVENTION? THE FACT IS THAT THEY HAVE THE POWER  
TO MAKE IT A VERY WIDE OPEN CONVENTION INDEED.

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ON HUMPHREY'S CHANCES TO BE NOMINATED

OBVIOUSLY WE ARE DEFENDING OUR OWN GOALS.

BUT ANYONE FAMILIAR WITH FOOTBALL KNOWS THAT SOME TEAMS  
GET MIGHTY TOUGH INSIDE THE 20-YARD LINE.

I HAVE SEEN MANY A TEAM GO EIGHTY YARDS FROM THEIR OWN  
GOAL LINE -- ONLY TO BE STOPPED SHORT OF A TOUCHDOWN.

AND I HAVE SEEN MANY A GAME TURNED AROUND IN THE LAST TWO  
MINUTES.

I WOULD SAY THAT THE TWO-MINUTE WHISTLE HAS BLOWN. AND  
WE HAVE OUR TWO-MINUTE DRILL READY TO GO.

WE WILL GO INTO THE CONVENTION WITH ABOUT 700 DELEGATES  
ON THE FIRST BALLOT. SENATOR MCGOVERN WILL, APPARENTLY, HAVE  
SOMETHING OVER 1300. SENATOR MUSKIE WILL HAVE BETWEEN 250 AND  
300 DELEGATES.

AND THERE ARE OTHERS WHO WILL HAVE BLOCKS OF DELEGATES.

THIS NOMINATION WILL NOT BE DECIDED ON THE FIRST BALLOT.

I DOUBT THAT IT WILL BE DECIDED BEFORE THE THIRD BALLOT, AND  
PROBABLY NOT BEFORE THE FOURTH.

IT IS MY CONVICTION THAT THERE WILL BE A MAJORITY ON  
ONE OF THE BALLOTS AT MIAMI WHICH WILL DECIDE TO NOMINATE  
EITHER SENATOR HUMPHREY OR SENATOR MUSKIE -- BECAUSE IT IS  
NECESSARY IN ORDER TO DEFEAT MR. NIXON TO NOMINATE A CANDIDATE  
WHO IS SUPPORTED BY THE BROAD MASS OF THE DEMOCRATIC VOTERS,  
AND WHOSE POSITIONS AND RECORD CAN STAND UP UNDER THE MASSIVE  
AND HEAVILY FINANCED ATTACK OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

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