

REMARKS OF WFM

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

US OLYMPIC COMMITTEE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Colorado Springs, Colorado

April 11, 1980

President Kane, members of the USOC House of Delegates:

today

I ~~am speaking to you on behalf~~ speak to you/on behalf
U.S.

of the Honorary President of the ~~United States Olympic Committee~~ Olympic Committee --

the President of the United ~~States~~ States.

Never before has the House of Delegates faced a ~~more~~ decision
~~difficult~~ of this gravity. Many of you -- who have ~~known~~

personally met with President Carter and other government

in recent months

officials -- have said you found those briefings helpful. All

(Today, as you make this difficult decision)

(deeply appreciate)

you give me today

of you deserve to hear our case. I ~~am speaking to~~ the chance to

this morning

/ bring that message to ~~the entire~~ the entire House of Delegates.

As we meet today, history holds its breath. The story of fifty American hostages still lacks a climax. The lesson of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan still waits to be drawn.

History holds its breath -- but
 9 ~~For free people everywhere~~, the suspense cuts ~~far~~ deeper
 ~~deeper than anxiety.~~ For what is ~~the future of~~
 than mere uncertainty. ^{At stake is no less than freedom}
 itself.

If the world cannot stand together ^{to end} ~~in denouncing~~ the terrorism in Teheran, can it ever stand secure at all? If one nation can see its cities ravaged by Soviet aggression, ^{is} ~~can~~ any ^{any nation truly safe from} ~~people escape~~ that fate?

If the spectre of a hundred thousand troops, and
poison gas, and nightly assassinations fails to / alarm us --
unprecedented
what will? If the/Soviet lunge toward the most strategic,
oil-rich spot on earth fails to unite us/ what will?

and our allies fail to
And if we ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ use every single
peaceful means to preserve the peace, what hope is there
peace long
that ~~it~~/will be/preserved at all?

While history holds its breath, while our allies watch
for guidance, America has moved decisively.~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~
~~xxx~~
~~xxxxxxxxbutxxpreventxxxxxnotxxtheixhtkenxxxxkennzioxxybutxtx~~

I stand before you ~~today~~ to emphasize those last two points -- and to make it absolutely clear ^{the question} ~~what~~ you are deciding today.

34

It is no longer a question, whether ~~xxxxxx~~ participation
confers legitimacy on
in the Moscow Olympics ~~xxxxxx~~ the Soviet ~~xxxxxx~~ aggression
~~xxxxxx~~

When ~~the~~ the Communist Party prints a million handbooks ~~for~~ to
tell
/its top activists that the Summer Games mean world respect
for Soviet foreign policy, surely that issue is behind us.

apprais
It is no longer a question, whether ~~or not~~ the Soviets *have infused the Games with their political*
~~political~~
~~attach/importance to the success of their Games~~ When ~~xxx~~
and billions
billions/of rubles are diverted ~~from~~ to the Games from desperate
social needs; when ransoms of Western capital are extorted for
~~xxxxxx~~
the rights to report the Games; when ~~xxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxx~~
Moscow is of scores of dissidents and news from the
~~xxxxxx~~ purged/ thousands of children; ~~and~~ when/West
blacked out;
~~xxxx~~ is ~~xxxxxx~~/when Soviet emissaries roam the globe to bribe
one tr sports
teams to, Moscow; when Soviet/officials outrageously misreport
committed to participating
the number of teams/~~xxxxxx~~ -- surely, the politicization issue,
too, is behind us.

~~Nor is it any longer a ~~xxxx~~ question whether/the Soviets~~
will ~~xxxxxx~~ misread our boycott. When three years
and three years of economic
of relentless internal propaganda ~~and~~/sacrifice by the Russian
people ~~xxxxxx~~ come to nothing, the

~~xxxxxx~~ It is no longer a question of whether ~~or not~~
~~team~~
American ~~xxxxxx~~ will participate in the Games -- for the
President has determined that ~~xxxx~~ will not.

the decision you will make today is
Above all, ~~xx/xxxxxx~~ not a choice
between believing the ~~xxxxxx~~ boycott *to be a sports* issue, of sports, or an
issue of national security *now. For* The President of the United States *has*

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Olympic

~~already~~ made it clear to the world that the ^{boycott} is a
an unambiguous statement
crucial element of our deterrent. It is ~~an unambiguous statement~~
national ^{to allies}
of our/resolve. It is a keystone in our ~~call for~~
solidarity, ~~from our allies~~.

xxxxxxx

~~There is no question that the link between~~

^{was spoken} No ~~rhotoric~~ today can ^{break} ~~not break~~ the link ~~age~~ between
America's power to check aggression, and America's call for
Your vote
an Olympic boycott. ~~xxx~~/is a test of our will, our confidence,
and
our values, ~~and~~ our ~~xxxxxxx~~ power to keep the peace through
peaceful means.

issue

It is not a partisan ~~question~~ -- for both political
parties resoundingly supported the President's action in
issue
Congress. It is not an election-year ~~question~~ -- for all
major presidential candidates support the boycott. It is
issue
not a parochial ~~question~~ -- for the American people overwhelmingly
agree that we must not go to Moscow.

excluded

for today citizens and governments throughout the

And it ~~is~~ is not a national issue -- ^{when} ~~the whole~~
to this House of Delegates virtually every industrial
world looks ~~for~~ for direction. Today ~~the whole~~ nation on earth is ~~shockingly~~
~~dependent on Persian Gulf oil.~~ How can we convince the Soviets not to
~~threaten the Gulf, if you deal a blow to our~~
~~deterrent?~~ our President convince to
How can we ~~impose~~ impose sanctions
on Iran, if you turn your back on our ~~President?~~

How can the government ^{to Moscow} ~~that they have given a miscalculated~~
~~reports that you have repudiated it?~~

freedom --for
 Your decision is a referendum on ~~democracy~~ /the same
 nation that gave us

It is fitting that the same nation that gave us the
 Olympics also gave us democracy --for your decision here
 that
 is ~~xxx~~ a referendum on/freedom.

But it is also a referendum on decency. The athletes
 you represent ~~xxxxxx~~ were born a full generation after the
 Holocaust scarred ^{humanity} the face of humanity. ~~xxx~~ The story of
 Hitler's rise ~~xxxxxx~~ is more than an
~~xxxxxx~~ unspeakable tragedy, more than a study in tyranny,
~~more than a society gone berserk.~~ It is ^{also} a chronicle of
~~xxxxxx~~ the free world's failure ~~xx~~ -- of opportunities unseized,
 and
 aggression unopposed,/appeasement uncondemned.

Nazis had passed the notorious
 By the fall of 1935, the/Nuremberg Laws reducing Jews
 to the status of non-persons. American opinion was galvanized --
 and editorials across the country urged a boycott of the
 Berlin Olympics. An American member of the International Olympic
^{Eugen Tschacke,}
 Committee made this plea to the President of the IOC:

" To hold the games in Nazi Germany will be to deal
 a severe blow to the Olympic idea....It will take many
 years to re-establish the prestige of the games and the
 confidence of the peoples of the world. Sport will lose
 its beauty and its nobility and become, as it has
 already become in Nazi Germany, an ugly, ignoble affair."

bone- -- even

The answers they received are ~~chilling~~ ^{across} all these years.

Jahncke's appeal ~~was~~ for a boycott was rejected, as were ~~the~~ similar calls from Amateur Athletic Unions all over the country. ~~The reasons offered~~ ^{offered for going to Berlin} ~~are~~ ^{are} chilling -- ~~both in light of~~ ^{politics,} ~~Don't drag sports into the arena of~~ ^{they were told.} ~~It will destroy~~ ^{the Olympic movement,} ~~they said~~ ^{It will only penalize our American athletes,} ~~they were told.~~ ^{Solutions to political problems are not the responsibility of sporting bodies, they were told.} ^{beat} Let us bring our Jews and blacks to Berlin and ~~win~~ ^{beat} the Nazis, they were told. If America refuses to go, we will ~~be~~ ^{be the only ones left out in the cold,} ~~stand alone in our boycott,~~ they were told.

American

Their arguments prevailed. Only weeks after ~~the~~ attendance was assured, ^{even as} ~~while~~ Nazi troops moved into the Rhineland, Hitler readied Germany ^{then} ~~for~~ the Games. ~~His~~ His preparations/cast uncanny foreshadows ~~now~~ now. For he expelled foreign journalists who wrote the truth ~~about Jewish persecution.~~ He ordered anti-Semitic propaganda concealed from foreign visitors. Goebbels, his propaganda minister, ~~confided~~ ^{boasted} that the Reich expected the Games "to ~~achieve nothing less than a complete~~ ^{turn the trick and create a friendly attitude} ~~about-face in the world's attitude~~ ^{to turn the} ~~trick and create the friendly attitude toward the~~ ^{Nazi political, economic, and racial} ~~aims.~~"

It looked distinct
 reports on the Fuhrer's mood as the happy
 Albert Speer ^{Berlin:} spectators left the Games. "Hitler was exulting over the

harmonious atmosphere that prevailed.... International animosity toward Nazi Germany was plainly a thing of the past, he thought." Before long, the concentration camps were operating briskly -- and soon the night closed in.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Some day~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~times, the story of two Olympic Games will be told together. If ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ line up the words of

--

We are far from that time/ but not from that script.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Like you, and like every ~~American~~ American, I know the exhilaration of Olympic victory. Few moments in my life match the electricity I felt at Lake Placid. I know, too, the years of sacrifice, pain, yearning, and exertion that our athletes have invested in this summer.

But I also know, ~~that~~ as you know, that some goals surpass even personal achievement. Ask the farmers of the midlands if they ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ have sacrificed -- and they will tell you not ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ how the price of wheat has fallen, but how their faith in America has risen.

Insert (A) from next page

all
2/2

XX

I respect and honor the sacrifice which we ask you to ask
our athletes to make. ^{But} ~~And I ask even more~~ the far ~~greater~~
~~xxxxxxx~~ that
~~xxxxxxx~~ distance/~~xxxxxxx~~ sacrifice will take
us ~~away from the~~ from the final madness
of nuclear extinction.

We recognize what we are asking of our athletes. We recognize the toll this will take on you. But if this House of Delegates accepts the ^{undeniable} national consensus that our Country does not wish to ~~xxxxxxMxxxxx~~ send its ^{athletes} ~~team~~ to Moscow, then

I assure you (on behalf of the President of the United States
that our nation will do everything within its power to
recognize the heroism of those athletes.

I am convinced that
I ~~believe~~/this year's Olympic team will be honored by
Americans ~~as much~~ with as much love and enthusiasm as any
past Olympic team or medal winner. I am confident that
all sectors of our nation, public and private, will help the
Olympic Committee restore its finances and provide even greater
assistance to the development of amateur sport.

And I believe that the ~~future of the~~ Olympic movement
will be forever strengthened by your courage today . For

Forty-five years ago, plea
When Ernest Jahncke made his appeal to ~~the~~
~~make~~ keep American athletes from going to Berlin, he concluded
by recalling the ideals of the founder of the modern Olympic
movement. "Let me beseech you," he said,

tell on deaf ears once -- but today they decades.
His words reach out to us across the xexxxy / xhxpxhxhxhxhxhxhx

~~They fell on deaf ears once.~~ History rarely offers a
second chance. If we fail to seize ~~this one~~ there will
be no third ~~one~~ *have on the
being to
rescue us.*
of the
History itself may fail. *W. H. H.*

Marty (14)

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT'S PRESS SECRETARY

FOR RELEASE SAT., APRIL 12 AT 9:45 AM MST
(Please check text against delivery.)

April 1980

ADDRESS BY VICE PRESIDENT WALTER F. MONDALE
U.S. OLYMPIC COMMITTEE HOUSE OF DELEGATES
Colorado Springs, Colorado

COLORADO SPRINGS, April 12--Following is the text of a speech prepared for delivery by Vice President Walter F. Mondale to the U.S. Olympic Committee House of Delegates at Antlers Hotel here.

President Kane, members of the House of Delegates, *and friends:*

I appreciate the opportunity to speak to you on behalf of the Honorary President of the U.S. Olympic Committee -- the President of the United States. *And I am delighted to be in the lovely community of Colorado Springs -- the home of the U.S. Olympic Committee.*

I speak to you as leaders dedicated to amateur sport, and as citizens dedicated to America's best interests. I know that everyone in this room loves our country. And I want to express the nation's gratitude for your efforts at Lake Placid to persuade the International Olympic Committee to move or postpone the Moscow Games. I thank your leaders as well for stating that the Committee would be guided by the President's decision on the best interests of the nation.

As we meet today, the lesson of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan still waits to be drawn. History holds its breath -- for what is at stake is no less than the future security of the civilized world.

If one nation can be subjugated by Soviet aggression, is any sovereign nation truly safe from that fate? If a hundred thousand Russian troops, and the barbaric use of lethal gas, and the spectre of nightly assassinations -- if these fail to alarm us, what will? If the Soviet lunge toward the most strategic oil-rich spot on earth fails to unite us, what will?

and friends.
And if we and our allies fail to use every single peaceful means available to preserve the peace, what hope is there that peace will long be preserved?

While history holds its breath, America has moved decisively. To show the Soviet Union that it cannot invade another nation and still conduct business as usual with the United States, our country has embargoed 17 million tons of grain; tightened controls on high technology trade; limited Soviet fishing in our waters; raised our defense budget to upgrade all aspects of our forces; strengthened our naval presence in the Indian Ocean; intensified development of our Rapid Deployment Forces; and offered to help other sovereign states in the region to maintain their security.

In the UN General Assembly, the United States joined more than a hundred other nations in an unprecedented majority -- calling for the immediate, unconditional, and total withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. But the President, the Congress, and the American people understand that a world which travels to the Moscow Games devalues its condemnation and offers its complicity to Soviet propaganda.

I am convinced that the American people do not want their athletes cast as pawns in that tawdry propaganda charade. And I urge you to respect that undeniable consensus.

Your decision today is not a question of denying our Olympic team the honor they deserve -- for the American people deeply respect the sacrifice we are asking our athletes to make. *Everyone knows.*

It is no longer a question of whether participation in the Moscow Olympics confers legitimacy on Soviet aggression. When the Communist Party prints a million handbooks to tell its top activists that the Summer Games mean world respect for Soviet foreign policy, surely that issue is behind us.

Nor is it a question of drawing a line between sports and politics. That line the Soviets long ago erased. When billions of rubles are diverted to the Games from Soviet domestic needs; when Moscow and other Olympic cities are purged of dissidents who might speak out; when Soviet children who might meet Western people and ideas on the streets are packed off to internal exile; when Soviet emissaries roam the globe offering athletes expense-paid trips to Moscow; when Soviet sports officials distort the number of teams committed to participating -- surely the issue of Soviet politics in Soviet sports is also behind us.

(More)

Above all, the decision you will make today is not a choice between a sports issue and a national security issue. For the President and Congress have made it clear that the Olympic boycott is a genuine element of America's response to the invasion of Afghanistan. It is an unambiguous statement of our national resolve. It is a keystone in our call to our allies for solidarity.

We must not -- and cannot -- break that link between America's power to check aggression, and America's call for an Olympic boycott. Your vote is a test of our will, our confidence, our values, and our power to keep the peace through peaceful means.

It is not a partisan issue -- for both political parties resoundingly supported the President's action in Congress. It is not a parochial issue -- for the American people overwhelmingly agree that we must not go to Moscow.

And it is not just a national issue -- for citizens and governments throughout the world share our judgment.

the unrelenting voice of human rights, and

From his exile in Gorky, Andrei Sakharov -- the father of the Russian H-bomb -- calls on America, saying that "a united position on the Moscow Olympic Games must obviously be a basic part" of the world's response. This morning, as many as fifty nations -- leading political and sports powers -- await your signal to join us.

Athletes and sports organizations and national bodies around the world await your lead to mobilize their commitment. They do so for good reason. Today virtually every industrial nation on earth is dangerously dependent on Persian Gulf oil. How could we convince the Soviets not to threaten the Gulf, if a blow was dealt to our deterrent? How could our government send a message to Moscow, if tomorrow's Pravda brags that our policies have been repudiated?

It is fitting that the same ancient nation that gave us the Olympics also gave us democracy -- for your decision here is truly a referendum on freedom.

And thus it is also a referendum on America's character and fundamental values. The athletes here, and the athletes you represent, may have been born a full generation after the Berlin Olympics. But as their advisors and trustees, you bear the responsibility of linking that history to their duty. For the story of Hitler's rise is more than an unspeakable tragedy, more than a study in tyranny. It is also a chronicle of the free world's failure -- of opportunities not seized, aggression not opposed, appeasement not condemned.

By the fall of 1935, the Nazis had passed the notorious Nuremberg Laws reducing the Jews to non-persons, and were flexing their military muscle. For a hopeful moment, American opinion was galvanized -- and editorials and Amateur Athletic Unions across the country urged a boycott of the Berlin Olympics.

An American member of the International Olympic Committee, Ernest Jahncke, made the plea most eloquently when he wrote the President of the IOC:

If our committee permits the Games to be held in...Germany, ...there will be nothing left to distinguish [the Olympic idea] from the Nazi ideal....It will take...years to re-establish the prestige of the games and the confidence of the peoples of the world. Sport will lose its beauty and its nobility and become, as it has already become in Nazi Germany, an ugly, ignoble affair.

The call for a boycott was rejected. And the reasons for rejection are bone-chilling -- even across all these decades.

Do not drag sports into the arena of politics, they were told. It will destroy the Olympic movement, they were told. It will only penalize our American athletes, they were told. Solutions to political problems are not the responsibility of sporting bodies, they were told. Let us take our Jews and blacks to Berlin and beat the Nazis, they were told. If America refuses to go, we will be the only ones left out in the cold, they were told.

We revere Jesse in death as in life -- for he was an exemplary American, an inspiration to millions everywhere and a personal friend loved by many of you here today. But neither Jesse's achievements in Berlin, nor any words spoken at the Games, prevented the Reich from exploiting the Olympics toward their own brutal ends.

Such reasons prevailed. Only weeks after American attendance was assured, Nazi troops took the Rhineland -- and Hitler readied Germany for the Games. His preparations cast uncanny foreshadows. For he expelled foreign journalists who told the truth about persecution. He ordered his vicious propaganda concealed from foreign visitors. And he too looked forward to legitimacy. As Joseph Goebbels boasted on the eve of the Olympics, the Reich expected the Games "to turn the trick and create a friendly world attitude toward Nazi political, economic, and racial aims."

It worked. Not even Jesse Owens' magnificent personal triumph diminished Hitler's international propaganda success -- a coup he linked directly to his master race doctrine. Listen to Nazi War Minister Albert Speer's report on the Fuhrer's mood as the happy spectators left Berlin: "Hitler was exulting over the harmonious atmosphere that prevailed. . . International animosity toward Nazi Germany was plainly a thing of the past, he thought." Before long, the Nazi war machine scarred the face of Europe -- and soon the night closed in.

We are far from that time -- but not from that script.

Like you, I understand the ideals of sport -- for sportsmanship is synonymous with fair play. Like you, I am in awe of the Olympic tradition -- stretching over centuries, reaching out across cultures.

And like every American, I know the exhilaration of Olympic victory. Few moments in my life match the electricity I felt at Lake Placid. And few human experiences can compare to the years of sacrifice, pain and yearning that you and our athletes have invested in this summer.

But I also know, as you know, that some goals surpass even personal achievement. To any young athletes who feel singled out for suffering, I say, It is war that singles out our young for suffering. And it is war that our peaceful resolve can prevent.

Everyone across the board is being asked to sacrifice. We need only

Ask the farmers of the midlands if they have sacrificed. Ask the workers in our export industries if they have sacrificed. Ask the computer companies whose products have been embargoed. Ask the businesses whose years of planning have come undone. Ask the young sailors in the Indian Ocean task force. Ask the American families whose taxes support our defense budget. Ask the Afghan athlete who faces the Soviets not on a field in Moscow, but as a resistance fighter in Kabul.

A heavy burden lies upon shoulders.

We recognize the enormous price we are asking our athletes to pay. We recognize the tremendous sacrifice we are asking of sports officials. But on behalf of the President of the United States I assure you that our nation will do everything within its power to ensure the success of the Los Angeles Games; to help the Olympic Committee restore its finances; to provide even greater assistance to the development of amateur sport; and above all, to recognize the true heroism of our athletes who do not go to Moscow.

I believe all Americans will thank you -- both for the contribution you make to our national security, and to the further integrity you confer on amateur sport.

For I believe that the Olympic movement will be forever strengthened by your courage. You will have restored to the modern Olympics the ancient "truce of the gods." No nation may serve as the Olympic host while invading and subjugating another: That was the rule for the Greek city-states, and that must be the rule again today.

Forty-five years ago, when an American official took his stand against Berlin, he said this:

Place your great talents and influence in the service of the spirit of fair play and chivalry -- instead of the service of brutality, force, and power....Take your rightful place in the history of the Olympics....The Olympic idea [has been rescued] from the remote past. You have the opportunity to rescue it from the immediate present -- and to safeguard it for posterity.

His words reach out to us across the decades. History rarely offers us a second chance. If we fail to seize this one, history itself may fail us.

Thank you, Mr. President

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Insert for Vice President's Speech on Olympics:

We recognize that in asking this body to vote against sending a team to Moscow, we are asking our fine athletes to make an extraordinary sacrifice. We also recognize that for the Olympic Committee the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and its aftermath are as much a disaster as any hurricane, earthquake or flood.

Under Olympic principles, athletes represent their nations. If the Committee accepts the national consensus that this country does not wish to be represented at the Moscow Olympics, I am also sure that the nation will do everything in its power to recognize the heroism of the athletes who do not go to Moscow.

I believe this year's Olympic team will be honored and recognized by our fellow citizens as fully as any past Olympic team or medal winner. I believe the nation will assist the Olympic Committee to restore its finances and, in the future, to provide even greater assistance to the development of amateur sport.

Finally, I believe the Olympic movement will be strengthened by establishing a principle that no nation may serve as the Olympic host while it is invading and subjugating another nation.



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