



Max M. Kampelman Papers

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Comments by Max M. Kampelman

*Center for the Study of the Presidency:
39th Annual Publius Awards Dinner*

*J.W. Marriott
Washington D.C.
April 7, 2005*

Thank you. It is indeed an honor to be receiving your distinguished award, particularly surrounded by so many of my friends and associates. The letters you have read to me and to this audience of leaders, friends and associates were particularly welcome. My family and I are immensely pleased, although I must confess that the thought of receiving this lifetime award so early in my life appears to me a bit premature.

For me, our event this evening is in honor of David Abshire, our cherished friend and leader. Wherever he may serve – soldier, educator, ambassador – his energies have been dedicated to advancing the virtues and strengths of our democracy – grace, civility, dignity, principle, patriotism. David, you are appreciated and respected by all of us and by our country.

I am pleased that David arranged for me to share the platform a few minutes ago with Jeane Kirkpatrick and Zbigniew Brzezinski, both distinguished scholars and respected public servants of distinction – both special friends.

The names Kirkpatrick and Brzezinski have a special significance in my life.

The end of the war (World War II and not the Civil War) found me discharged from National Service at the University of Minnesota. I was invited to join the faculty of Political Science as I pursued my studies for a doctorate in political science. My teacher and faculty advisor who developed and helped make this arrangement was Dr. Evron Kirkpatrick. It was Evron Kirkpatrick who also introduced me to his friend Mayor of Minneapolis Hubert Humphrey, who later brought Maggie and me to Washington and became an integral part of my life.

Some years later, I vividly recall Kirk introducing Maggie and me to his bride, the lovely lady and superb intellect, Jeane. The name Kirkpatrick is a treasured one in

my life. Our lives have inter-twined over the years and Jean remains a part of our family.

The name Brzezinski originally came to my attention as a scholar. It was the name of an international affairs professor on the Columbia University faculty who became an advisor to my friend and boss, Hubert Humphrey. Zbig and I became friends and remain friends and colleagues even after he rose in fame and power as National Security Adviser to President Carter. In late 1979, now in public life as a practicing attorney, I received a phone call from Vice President Walter Mondale, a fellow Minnesotan, informing me that at a breakfast foreign affairs meeting at the White House that morning, my name had been proposed to President Carter to serve as Ambassador and Chairman of the American delegation at a European Conference on Security and Cooperation under the Helsinki Final Act. My name, I later learned, was proposed to the President by Dr. Brzezinski. I was not at all interested in a government position, but since the assignment was to last for only

three months, I accepted the opportunity. My diplomatic life was extended by President Reagan; went beyond the three months and lasted for more than ten exciting and fulfilling years. You can understand why the name Brzezinski is a treasured one in my life.

Now a brief word to the young men and women of scholarship we are here to honor tonight. The challenges facing our nation today are awesome and will depend a great deal on your ability to manage and deal with them. We are today a nation and people exposed to great danger. Our institutions are capable of meeting the challenges, but I question the behavior and responsibility of many we have chosen to govern us. We appear to be blind to the dangers ahead as we concentrate on our traditional political differences at the expense of our capacity to rise above these differences in the face of serious and possibly imminent danger.

This is why your presence here tonight is so crucial. The generations ahead of you appear to be too blind or too weary to rise to the challenge, although David

Abshire and others here tonight will continue to shame some reality and virtue and patriotism into the consciousness of those who govern today. There is strength in unity; there is weakness in division.

I conclude now by saying that whether life brings you to our nation's capital, or to your state capital, or to your city hall, or college campus, or to Main Street or to Wall Street – whether you choose leadership or citizenship or scholarship or commerce as your way of fulfilling your role as a citizen of our great country and of our evolving world – the fundamental virtue of respect and grace and civility are indispensable standards for responsible citizenship in our democracy.

Congratulations and may you all be blessed.

Thank you.



The Center for the Study of the Presidency is pleased to present its *Publius Award* to Ambassador Max M. Kampelman for his long and fruitful public service. The *Publius Award* draws its name from those founders – Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison – who authored the *Federalist Papers*, 1787-1788, under the collective pseudonym, Publius. These leaders came together from different schools of political thought for a higher purpose. Specifically, they sought to ensure ratification of the Constitution by asserting with prescience that a federal republic best preserves the sovereignty of our new nation while safeguarding the civil and political liberties that are the inalienable rights of every human.

Ambassador Kampelman has played a role in the negotiations and events that contributed to an increase in human freedom at the end of the 20th century. During the Cold War, he helped shape the diplomacy required to contain totalitarianism, and, with his work on human rights, stood with those who fought for freedom. In foreign and domestic service for Democratic and Republican Presidents, Max Kampelman has demonstrated the breadth of vision, civility, and inclusive leadership that our Founding Fathers hoped would grace our country.

Presented in the City of Washington
on the seventh of April in the year two thousand and five

Dr. David M. Ashire
President, CSP

Leo A. Daly III
Chairman of the Board

Senator Joseph I. Lieberman

Amb. Jeane J. Kirkpatrick

Senator Richard G. Lugar

Dean Anne Marie Slaughter
Princeton University



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 5, 2005

The Honorable Max M. Kampelman
Washington, D.C.

Dear Max:

Congratulations as you receive the 2005 Publius Award from the Center for the Study of the Presidency.

Throughout your distinguished career as a lawyer, diplomat, and educator, you have helped advance liberty and democracy. Your service contributed to the effort to bring freedom to former communist countries, and has helped make America and the world more secure and more peaceful. Your leadership and commitment to service reflect the true strength and character of our Nation.

Laura and I send our best wishes to you and Marjorie on this special occasion.

Sincerely,



George W. Bush



WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON

April 5, 2005

Warm greetings to everyone gathered in our nation's capital for the annual awards dinner of the Center for the Study of the Presidency. I am delighted to extend my congratulations to your 80 Presidential Fellows and to my good friend Max Kampelman as he receives the Publius Award.

I was pleased to be able to recognize Max's outstanding record of public service by presenting him with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, our nation's highest civilian honor, during my Presidency. It is no surprise to anyone who knows Max that he and the president of your organization, Dave Abshire, have formed a national committee to promote civility and inclusive leadership in Washington and across America. Throughout his life, Max has acted on his conviction that our common humanity is more important than any differences that divide us. This conviction can be seen through his steadfast championship of human rights, in his service to both Democratic and Republican administrations, and in the respect and affection he has earned from fellow public servants and citizens alike.

America is at its best when we debate and struggle, when we argue about whose ideas are wrong and whose are right, rather than who's good and who's bad. It is reassuring to know that individuals like Max Kampelman and organizations like the Center for the Study of the Presidency remain on the frontlines in the endeavor to ensure that America's best days, and the world's finest hours, lie ahead.

Best wishes to all for a wonderful event.

Bill Clinton

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

April 5, 2005

Dear Max:

I am delighted that the Center for the Study of the Presidency is honoring you with its Publius Award for your many years of bipartisan public service.

The nation is in your debt for the key role you played during the Cold War in establishing the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and your service as the United States' strategic arms negotiator.

I applaud the National Committee to Unite a Divided America that you and Dave Abshire are co-hosting in an effort to promote civility and inclusiveness in America. It is a timely initiative as the United States seeks to help the peoples of Iraq, Afghanistan and other Middle East countries establish democratic governments.

Since your earliest years, you have always been a shining example for promoting freedom and democracy around the world. It is with deep respect and admiration that I join your many friends in saluting your accomplishments.

My heartfelt congratulations!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Rice", with a stylized, flowing script.

Condoleezza Rice

The Honorable
Max Kampelman,
Publius Award Honoree,
Center for the Study of the Presidency,
1020 19 Street, NW Suite 250,
Washington, DC 20036.



THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

MAR 28 2005

Ambassador Max Kampelman
3154 Highland Place, NW
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Max,

I was so pleased to see that the Center for the Study of the Presidency is presenting the 39th Annual Awards Dinner in your honor. It is well deserved.

Joyce and I are disappointed we will not be able to join you for the evening, but please know we will be thinking of you with great respect, friendship and admiration.

Warm regards,

A large, stylized handwritten signature, likely of the Secretary of Defense, written in black ink.