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REMARKS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

AQUATENNIAL LUNCHEON

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

JULY 16, 1966

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Today is a day of celebration. It is a day of good

news.

And, in a world where bad news is all too present,

I think it might be well to look at things in more than a
day-to-day perspective.

What is happening around us? Where are we headed?

Here in our American home we are living in the midst of our greatest economic expansion.

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Ø Stars U. P. none } More people are employed today than ever before, and they are getting more money for what they do.

Our Gross National Product has gone up by some 42 per cent in less than five and one-half years and personal income has gone up 40 per cent.

One of the things that has happened during this time is this: No longer do people look upon our prosperity as a pie of fixed size -- a pie where everyone must contend for his share. Instead, it is recognized that an economy of growth leaves opportunity for all to share.

And so, thankfully, some of the old antagonisms in our society are passing away.

All of us have found that men and women working together can achieve more than those pushing in opposite directions .

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But our economic progress has not been just an end in itself. It has been, too, a means of living up to the things we Americans have always stood for.

We have increased the security which properly awaits

We have invested in education -- in the future of our children, so that they might have every chance to get the most from life.

We have committed ourselves to helping provide opportunity, too, to millions of Americans who have, for all practical purposes, been on the outside, looking in, an our society—and it is no coincidence that many of these Americans have not enjoyed the privileges of full citizenship because of the color of their skin.

We have not squandered our prosperity. We have enjoyed its fruits. But we have used a good share of it to invest in our most precious resources: our people.

And we have the chance to do much more.

National Product will be one trillion dollars in 1975, and we will have at our disposal 50 billion dollars a year more than now -- balf again as much as today -- for public programs to help build a better America for all Americans.

The success of our American economy -- and what it has done for people -- is the world's great success story today, and we should not lose sight of it.

But no matter how much reason we have rejoicing, challenges still face us.

Our promises of freedom and equality must be made everyday reality for all our citizens.

The beauty of our countryside must be preserved. And where we have caused it to deteriorate we must restore it.

We must be able to provide meaningful employment for all who want to work of the 400 million citizens we will

have in our country only 34 years from now.

Our cities must be made open, green, and safe --

We have the resources, the imagination, and the perseverance to do these things within our country.

But we do not live alone in the world. We must recognize our responsibilities.

Today our America stands as the most powerful . . . the most prosperous . . . and the freest nation in the history of the earth.

And in our power, wealth and freedom we have the chance -- and responsibility -- to influence the course of events as no nation has before. And, in this nuclear age, I think we have no choice but to meet that responsibility.

We Americans have, I believe, good reason to be proud of our role in the world in these dangerous postwar years.

In the past 20 years we have provided some 120 billion dollars of assistance to others. This has included billions of dollars in food—without which millions of our fellow men would have starved.

And in the past 20 years our armed forces have suffered more than 165 thousand casualties on foreign soil.

We have faced the challenges of the past 20 years with imagination and I believe, with success.

In the past 20 years ever one billion people have been freed from foreign rule. Over 70 new countries have been born -- but none has turned to communism. And the inspiring force behind this great expression of human self-determination has not been Marxism. It has been our own American Revolution.

Let us look at the world today.

Western Europe -- with our help -- stands prosperous and secure, while the nations of Eastern Europe restlessly grope their way to new independence.

The Alianza moves forward in Latin America and the Inter-American system grows and matures. The Dominican Republic -- only a year ago the victim of violent revolution -- is today led by a freely elected President and Congress.

I was in Santo Domingo earlier this month to witness the installation of President Balaguer and to demonstrate the United States' immense satisfaction at the conduct of the Dominican people in carrying through this orderly change in government.

In the Dominican Republic, as throughout this hemisphere, there is increasing understanding of, and determination to initiate and carry through, the fundamental economic and social changes which have made the Republic Mexico, for

example, such a beacon of hope for others.

In this revolutionary effort, we stand with our friends throughout Latin America.

And to the North, across open, unfortified border, stands our neighbor Canada.

In Africa, millions of people -- rejecting the lures of communism -- are reaching out for "Freedom Now." And we are with them.

In Vietnam man's independence is under attack, yet the great nations of the sub-continent, India and Pakistan, remain at peace; and other nations of Asia and the Pacific -- with our help-- come together in the cause of hope and progress.

There is good news in the world and, in our concern with crisis, we should not overlook it.

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D'utt-gaming on all fronts

Lit is good to know history. It is better to make it.

And this is our opportunity.

We have the opportunity, with others, to help build a world, where, in time, men may learn to put aside their quarrels as irrelevant obstacles to great and overriding goals of all mankind -- a better life, a fuller human dignity, and above all peace. That means, among other things:

- -- Making sure that every child everywhere in the world is sufficiently well-nourished to attain full stature in body, mind, and spirit;
- -- Making education so widely available that every human being has the opportunity to realize his full potentialities;
- -- Making the UN Declaration on Human Rights as effective in fact as it is eloquent in words;
- -- Making the atom the servant rather than the master of mankind;

- -- Making science and technology not monopolies of nation states, but rather tools for improving the state of man;
- -- Making peace not only in our time, but for all time.

It is to these causes that we must rally all the nations of the world -- developed and developing, strong and weak alike -- in a spirit of both self-help and mutual benefit.

Here is the long-term significance of our great wealth, our great industrial and agricultural systems, our great scientific community and -- yes -- our great social inventions which have created a nation devoted to the opportunity and welfare of all citizens while retaining a free economic system.

These incomparable material and political assets -- along with our deep spiritual and cultural tradition -- represent our true power, our ultimate ability to influence the world in the direction of peace and order and tolerance and prosperity.

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Finally, on this day of celebration, let us take heart in the special knowledge all of us share as Americans:

It is our blessing in this land, that each generation of Americans has called its own cadence, and written its own music -- and our greatest songs are still unsung.

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[Transcript]

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July 20, 1966

Mr. Julius Cahn Office of The Vice President Washington, D. C.

Dear Julius:

PATRICK J. O'CONNOR KENNETH W. GREEN FREDERICK W. THOMAS JOE A. WALTERS WILLIAM C. KELLY L.T. MERRIGAN HAROLD J. SODERBERG THOMAS A. KELLER III. KENNETH B. JONES, JR. THOMAS C. HUINT ROBERT J. CHRISTIANSON, JR. JEAN J. CHAPUT

Enclosed herewith is a transcript of the remarks of The Vice President at the Editors' Day Luncheon in Minneapolis on July 16th. Also enclosed is a tape of the speech.

We are awaiting the tape and transcript of his remarks at the Legislators' Day Dinner and I will forward these to you as soon as they are received.

Yours very truly,

Harold J. Soderberg

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Encl.

TRANSCRIPTION OF REMARKS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

AQUATENNIAL EDITORS' DAY LUNCHEON

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

JULY 16, 1966

Thank you very much.

Thank you, Mr. Cowles, and the officers of the Minneapolis Aquatennial, our distinguished governor —— Governor Rolvaag, Senator McCarthy, Senator Mondale, Congressman MacGregor, Congressman Fraser, Mayor Naftalin and the Queen of the Lakes, Miss Kleinert, and the queens that are here and Admiral.

I want to say to Admiral Fowler that not only are you a great naval officer but you have the touch of greatness in many other ways. Anyone that can come up with what you did when you referred to Mrs. Humphrey will go a long ways -- there's no doubt about that.

I've been sort of analysing the situation here. This is such a gay and festive occasion that the man in public life hesitates to even say a thing, but I've noticed how the whole scenario has been arranged to make me feel humble and contrite.

First of all, Al Heimbach gets up here with five stars on his lapel, the Admiral gets up here with two and starts to make nice noises to my wife.

I have come here with no stars -- this is the way it is with the Vice President of the United States.

I don't know whether you have paid special attention to the Presidential Seal and the Seal for the Vice President. I imagine they have it there -- yes. The Presidential Seal shows the American Eagle with his wings out and claws of the one filled with arrows and the other with olive branches, and the eagle is looking spritely and strong. Of course his eye is cast to the olive branches because of our love of peace.

But what about that poor Vice Presidential Eagle? Take a look at him. His wings are down. He has only one little old olive branch and he has only one arrow, and I want you to know I'm saving it. I'm not going to use it here.

Then, as I was sitting here and listening to Admiral Fowler introduce his officers, his fellow navy men, I couldn't help but think what an old colonel in the United States Army once said about Franklin Roosevelt.

He said, "You know, I'm worried. I worry about that President." He said, "Every time he talks about anybody in the navy he speaks of them as 'us', and when he speaks about the army he speaks about them as 'them'".

Now you may recall that Mr. Roosevelt was quite a navy man, so the Navy has really taken over here today, and I guess I'm the last of the civilians, so the rest of you stand with me.

In these moments that I have I want to compliment everyone here that has made possible this wonderful festival. I'm sure you know that to Mrs. Humphrey and I this is a very, very wonderful occasion. When I served here as Mayor -- of course, Mayor Naftalin now has taken over and is trying to erase my record, I realize that -- but when I served here as Mayor we had great times with the Aquatennial.

I remember it so well. I remember Neil Messick, and I remember Tom
Hastings. I remember a lot of others that were all deeply involved in it.

This is a period of good fun, and we owe a great deal to the Minnesota newspapers all around our state for the promotion of this great event and particularly to the Minneapolis Star and Tribune.

When Timothy was introduced here he gave me an inspiration as to why we ought to have freedom of choice in this country. You may have noted when he was first asked, "What do you want to be?", why John Cowles leveled the heavy hand of oppression upon him and said with sheer coercion, "Say Vice President," but when the boy had his chance, his right of self-determination, his right of freedom of choice, he said, "A Priest." So you can see why we believe in right of free choice in this country and the right of self-determination.

I don't know whether Joyce Swan feels as I do, but it seems to me like these queen candidates get younger every year. I can't imagine why that is, and they do get prettier every year, and I want to talk in the few moments that are mine about the happiness of this occasion and the beauty of this occasion and what it may mean in the larger perspective, because I think it's fair to say that most of the time — and this is no reflection upon our members of the media, particularly of the press, the TV, the radio — most of the time what news we have is the bad news because if man bites dog, that's news. If dog bites man they say that's not much news.

The good news all too often is what we'd hope for and expect. Therefore, it doesn't get much attention, but I think today there is some good news.

This is a day of good news, and it's a happy day. Let me just cite some of it.

I think we can ask ourselves a question or two.

What is happening around us that makes one feel that there's some good news, but more importantly, where are we as a people and as a nation headed?

Well, here in our wonderful American home, this great land of ours, we're living in the midst of the greatest economic expansion that any free nation, any nation, has ever known in the history of the world. Never has there been such abundance, such prosperity. Never have so many people enjoyed so much of the good earth and the fruits of this earth.

We can look forward in a very few years to a trillion-dollar economy -- to a trillion-dollar economy -- and that's within the next eight to ten years.

But our economic progress hasn't been an end just in itself. We're not materialists despite what people say. There is no nation or group of people in a nation more idealistic than the American nation and the American people. Sometimes naively idealistic, but most of the time idealistic.

We believe in brotherhood.

We believe in freedom of conscience.

We believe in the good life -- life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

We're a very idealistic people.

I think, therefore, it's fair to say that our economic progress has been a means of living up to the things that we Americans have always stood for. It gives a chance to do what we want to do.

We've increased, for example, the security that's available to our parents, our elderly.

We've invested vast sums of local and private and federal levels and education in the future of our children so that they might have the chance to make the most our of their lives.

And we've committed ourselves to an ever broadening spectrum of opportunity for every American, whatever his origin, his race, his creed, his background, his economic status.

And we have not, in other words, squandered our prosperity. We've enjoyed it's fruits, and we have used a good share of it to invest in our most precious resource, which is, of course, the people.

The success of this economy of ours -- ponder it a moment -- and what it's done for the people of this country and the world is the world's greatest success story. There is nothing like it, and I look here today upon people that are the spokesmen for a free-enterprise system, and whatever may be its limitations -- and it has some.

Let the record be clear that it has produced more good for more people, more jobs, more wealth, more opportunity than any economic or social system every designed by the hand of man.

And this is a remarkable achievement.

But we still have challenges, and if we didn't have them we'd be a very apathetic people. I'm not one that likes to talk about problems and difficulties. I prefer to talk about challenges and opportunities. It's a matter of one's mental attitude.

We have, for example, the challenge of seeing to it, as I said a moment ago, that freedom and opportunity are made real, and not just theoretical, for everyone.

The challenge that the beauty of our countryside be preserved. We Americans have a way of occasionally wanting to desecrate the beauty of nature, and we ought to make up our minds that where we have in any way desecrated it that we will restore it.

We have the resources and the imagination and the perseverance as well as the ability to do these things within our country -- to improve the life of our people.

I have said so many times, and I repeat it here, that any nation that feels that it can put a man on the moon -- and we will before the end of this decade -- and feels that it can even expend up to 25, 30 billions of dollars to achieve that singularly important objective of putting a man on the moon, that nation ought to be willing to help make wise investments to help put a man on his feet right here on earth because most of us are going to be here -- right here on earth.

So I've said that we have a job ahead of us but a great opportunity to help man stand a little taller, to be a little better.

Today our nation stands as the most powerful, the most prosperous and the freest nation in the history of the world.

And in that power and wealth and freedom we have a chance, and I think a responsibility, to influence the course of history, to influence the course of nations as no other nation ever has.

And I want to cite for the brief moment that is mine our record, because sometimes I become a little discouraged when I hear people talking about our nation. You'd think that all we did was make mistakes.

There are those who indulge themselves in the compilation of the mistakes of judgment of leaders and citizens and nations and industries.

I happen to believe that the United States of America, its economy, its social structure, is not the result of mistakes. I think it's the result of vision, of confidence, of faith and of hard work and planning and sacrifice.

So let me cite what I think is some of the good record. Just take in the area of the post-war period.

I mentioned the economic growth of our nation, but let's talk about what we've done to help other people, and that surely is one of the great spiritual obligations of a fortunate people -- to help other people help themselves.

I think that in this past 20 years we have reason to be somewhat humbly proud.

We've provided over 120 billion dollars of assistance to other people, out of our bounty and our wealth, and yet we still are strong and wealthy.

We fed millions of people from our granaries from our fantastic agriculture.

Our armed forces, Admiral, have suffered over 165 thousand casualties since World War II in foreign lands, not for conquest, not for domination,

but in the cause of freedom and peace.

Over one billion people since World War II have been freed from foreign rule, and they stand independent. Over 70 new nations have come into being, and not one has turned to Communism -- not one. It seems to me that we ought to understand that the inspiring force behind this great expression of human self-determination of 70 new nations has not been Marxism or Communism but rather the ideals of the American Revolution -- government by the consent of the government, life and liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Look at the world today.

Oh yes, there are difficult spots -- Viet Nam, to be sure; other places -- but Western Europe, 20 years ago devastated, with our help unbelievably properous and strong.

The Alianza, the alliance for progress working in Latin America, not perfectly but improvement.

The Dominican Republic, that I visited less than two weeks ago, a year ago in violent revolution, anarchy; today a freely elected President and Congress standing on its own feet.

And to the north across the border, a great country, Canada, coming into its own, strong and prosperous and independent.

In Africa millions of people, literally millions, rejecting the false promises of Communism and are reaching out now for freedom. Not a single country in Africa gone Communist -- not one. Even though the Communists have tried again and again in six countries, they have bodily rejected and thrown out the Chinese Communists' representatives in the past year.

The great nations of the sub-continent of Asia, India and Pakistan, only a year ago at war devouring their limited resources, destroying one another, now working together once again in peace, trying to build something better for their peoples.

Nine Asian nations gathered at Seoul, Korea, less than a month ago to create a new Asia and organized what they call the Asian and Pacific Council.

The Philippines with new dynamic leadership, Ferdinand Marcos, on the march.

India still a democracy.

Ceylon, that only a year ago was turning to Peking, China, today a friend of the West.

And above all, Indonesia, the richest of them all, the strongest and the biggest -- I should say the biggest and richest -- nation of Southeast Asia, one year ago, my fellow Americans, in the hands of Communism, one year ago literally a satellite of Peking, China, today has purged itself and is purging itself from those evil influences. And this rich diamond of the Southeast Asian Pacific stands ready once again to be a member of the family of nations, stopping her confrontation with Malaysia.

I could go on.

Korea with her economic expansion of over eight per cent a year for three successive years.

Taiwan, one of the great success stories in the field of foreign aid.

So don't despair. It isn't all bad.

And in Viet Nam once again we have to meet the same old pest, and we've met it before in Berlin, in Cuba, in Iran, in Greece and Turkey.

It's not new. It's just in a different place, and our objectives clear as can be if you don't want to muddy them up: To halt the aggression, to permit the people of South Viet Nam to make their own way, self-determination -- even in a turbulent, restless, confused way.

I will say here what I have said before: Better the confusion and the disorder in South Viet Nam than the icy-cold silence of the police state in North Viet Nam -- any day, any day. Freedom is not always tidy and orderly, but it far surpasses even in those untidy moments the cold, oppressive hand of the police state of the Communist Empire.

Well, that's the way I look at it.

In Viet Nam we're gaining on four fronts.

The economic. Time doesn't permit me to go into detail it as I have, but we're gaining, and they're gaining.

On the political front there will be free elections this September, and I hear many people say, well, they won't amount to much. But they're better than any election ever held in the Soviet Union, or China, or North Viet Nam, or North Korea. They will be reasonably free elections, and the base of government will be broadened.

Diplomatically we still pursue peace even as we are rebuked, even as the morning newspapers told you that Viet Nam said -- North Viet Nam said -- they will fight and fight and fight. They want no peace. But we will pursue the peace because we're strong. Only the weak are arrogant, only the weak are bellicose, only the uncertain shout. The United States of America is strong enough to walk as an apostle of peace, to seek it honorably, relentlessly, perseveringly.

And on the military front we're gaining every day.

I say here that never in the history of this country has the United States of America put finer men into the field. Never has it had finer men carrying the flag of the United States, wearing the uniform of the United States than those men who are there today in Viet Nam representing this nation in the cause of human freedom.

It's a wonderful, wonderful thing to behold. There is good news, and the men in Hanoi better be doing some thinking, and I imagine they are.

So let me just conclude to say that we have a great opportunity. It isn't all sad even though there is grief and pain. There can be, if you have a long-term perspective of history and not be merely a student of current events, a vision of a better world.

And we can build that better world, and in time men may learn to put aside their old quarrels as irrelevant obstacles to the great and over-riding goals of all mankind. And those over-riding goals are your goals and mine:

A better life, a life of dignity and, above all, peace.

Now what does that mean?

It means making sure that every child, God's constant expression of faith in mankind, that every child, everywhere in this world has a chance to be well nourished, to attain full stature in body, mind and spirit.

It means making education so widely available that every human being has the opportunity to realize his full potentialities. Jefferson was right. You cannot be both free and ignorant. You have to make a choice, and to be free you must be educated.

It means making the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights effective and not merely eloquent in words;

Making the atom the servant rather than the master of mankind;

And making science and technology, which blesses us today with its miracles, not the monopolies of governments, but rather the tools for improving the state of man;

And making peace not only in our time but in all time.

And it's to these causes that I think we Americans have an opportunity to rally peoples all over the world.

So here's then the long-term significance of our wealth, of our great industrial and agricultural systems, of our great scientific community, of our great social inventions which have created a nation devoted to the opportunity and the welfare of all citizens while retaining a free economic system.

These incomparable material and political assets, along with our deep spiritual and cultural traditions, represent our true power.

Power is not only in the armed forces of this nation. I'll never forget what Dwight Eisenhower once said, when he reminded us that the military was but the sharp cutting-edge of the strong blade of a heritage, of an economy, of a faith, of a set of principles.

So our true power is represented in both material and political assets along with spiritual and cultural tradition. And this is the power that we must use to ultimately influence the world in the direction of peace and order, of tolerance and prosperity.

Finally, on this day of celebration, let us take heart in the special knowledge all of us share as Americans:

It is our blessing in this land that each generation of Americans has called its own cadence. I like the emphasis here on the youth because every generation must call its own cadence and write its own music, and I'm of the opinion that our greatest songs are still to be written and are still unsung.

Thank you for letting me join you today as a part of this great festival.

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