

NORWAY



UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE

AMERICAN EMBASSY

DRAMMENSVEIEN 18, OSLO

TELEPHONE 56 68 80

ADVANCE: FOR RELEASE AT 7:20 P.M. TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1963

ARRIVAL STATEMENT AT FORNEBU AIRPORT, OSLO,

BY

LYNDON B. JOHNSON, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

We have just come from a marvelous reception in Bodö and our flight over your striking scenery of the fjord country has been one of the most memorable experiences we have had anywhere in the world.

It is a pleasure and a high privilege to come today to Oslo for we come as old friends to visit with people whom all Americans respect, admire, and are proud to count as allies in the cause of freedom today.

I come on this mission as the personal representative of the President of the United States, John F. Kennedy. It is a measure of the respect and importance which the United States feels for the friendly and free nations of Scandinavia that this is the first occasion for a Vice President of our country to undertake such a mission here. We have visited two of your

neighbors already. Our experiences are convincing reminders of the important role which the North European nations fill -- and must continue to fill -- in the preservation of freedom and the building of a better world. Your concern for developing here an orderly and stable society with friendly relations among neighbors is an example and inspiration to all nations.

It is a special privilege to have the opportunity to see Oslo, the ancient city of Norway. Long before there was a United States, Oslo flourished as a center of culture and commerce. We look forward to meeting with your leaders and having the opportunity to become more closely acquainted with your good people. We are confident this mission will be both successful and constructive in drawing closer the bonds of common purpose between Norway and America.

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Prime Minister John Lyng.
Akershus 11.9.1963

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NOT FOR RELEASE BEFORE
Spillet *CG* kl. 21:00

Mr. Vice President,
Ladies and Gentleman,

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Lyng will make
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It is a pleasure for me, on behalf of the Norwegian Government, to greet as our guests here tonight the Vice President of the United States, Mrs. Johnson, Miss Johnson and our other American visitors.

We first knew the Honourable Lyndon B. Johnson as a distinguished parliamentarian and one of the chief makers of American politics. By the statemanship he showed as Democratic Floor Leader in the Senate his name became well known all over the world. As Vice President he has travelled extensively and so far visited 17 different countries as the personal representative of the President of the United States. Today we welcome him as a messenger of goodwill and friendship from our great ally on the other shore of the Atlantic.

It is the first time that an American Vice President has visited Norway. But this fact does not imply that contacts between our two countries are scarce. During the last century hundreds of thousands of Norwegians made the United States their new homeland, and there are few people in this country who have not relatives in America. Norwegian ships make nearly ten thousand calls in American ports each year. Thousands of young Norwegians have studied at American schools and universities. On the other hand, we are happy to receive each year a considerable number of American visitors in this country. Such people-to-people contacts is a most important element when it comes to maintain and develop the friendship - or, may I say, the kinship - between our nations.

We also share a common heritage of ideals. Both our nations cherish political freedom, respect for the individual and the rule of Law. The men who drafted the Norwegian Constitution about one hundred and fifty years ago were inspired by the American Constitution and Declaration of Independence.

But never, Mr. Vice President, have our two countries been so close to each other as in our own time. During the last World War, we were allies in the fight against tyranny. We all know, that, but for the power and the efforts of the United States, our liberty would have been at stake. We all know that also after the war, the United States has taken up the responsibility which fell to her as one of the leading Nations of the Free World. This leadership has been exercised in a spirit of generosity and friendly cooperation, true to the ideals of democracy. This was proved by the Marshall Plan and by the Atlantic Alliance. The American aid under the Marshall Plan mightily contributed to Western Europe raising from the ruins of war. The Atlantic Alliance created a mighty shield, behind which democracy, freedom and peace could develop. Both proved how free nations, big and small, could cooperate towards common goals.

Perhaps we can now have some hope that we are reaching a turning-point in international relations. The Test Ban Treaty might bring about a change in the political climate, and even without dramatic developments, we might, step by step, work our way towards true peace and understanding.

Mr Vice President,
it is an honour for me to extend, through you, our friendly greetings to the American people and our warm thanks for the aid and assistance we have received over the years.

Ladies and Gentlemen - I ask you to join me in a toast for the Vice President of the United States of America, for the American people and for the friendship between Norway and the United States.

36

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37

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AMERICAN EMBASSY

DRAMMENSVEIEN 18, OSLO

TELEPHONE 56 68 80

September 11, 1963.

REMARKS BY VICE PRESIDENT AT GOVERNMENT DINNER, SEPT. 11, OSLO

Mr. Prime Minister, Friends of Norway:

At the end of this first day in your country and among your people, there is a warm flame of good friendship and closeness in our hearts.

At Bodø (Boo-deh) yesterday, in Oslo last night, and again today in our talks and travels about your city we have felt the strength of the resolute Norwegian people in every friendly contact. The high point of these hours was, of course, our privilege in being the guest and enjoying the inspiring exchange with His Majesty at noon.

Through many years and many seasons the people of the United States have admired the character and courage of the people of Norway. We have been drawn close by the ties of kinship established by those natives of Norway who have honored us by coming to live on our shores.

Today -- at this season in world affairs -- it is a matter of great pride for us to be able to stand with Norway as allies in NATO and as allies in the greater and broader work of preserving both freedom and peace.

Here in this land, we of America feel a special sense of historic debt. It was the great Viking heroes who first crossed the sea between us to discover the New World where America was born. Long before there was an America in history -- or a United States -- an impressive civilization and culture flourished here.

Today our common concern is the future, not the past.

Where yesterday brought us together in common purpose, common values, common principles and common hopes, it is our belief now that the common experience of the future can and will present more opportunities for closer unity in both purpose and effort.

We of the United States live with the belief today that the world is entering one of the most hopeful periods in the history of mankind.

We recognize -- as you recognize -- that the age of peril and danger is still with us. The time has not come when free men can drop their guard or cease their vigilance. It is doubtful that such a time would ever come, for eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. But we can look about the world -- and especially to the nations of the North Atlantic community -- and see now the existence of great new strength and potential.

There is greater hope for maintaining and assuring world peace. We do not overestimate the first tentative steps toward that high goal -- but we do find it more hopeful and more encouraging that such steps can be taken at all.

There is cause for greater confidence in the ultimate spread of universal freedom. This is not a nebulous and vague conjecture. Very tangible evidence exists in support of this faith. Since the end of World War II, more new nations have come into being than ever before. Of these new nations, not one has chosen to place itself under an ideological totalitarianism -- all have sought to establish and perfect a free system.

- 2 -

There is a strong, fresh tide running for freedom, for justice, for individual integrity and decency. Furthermore, there is among free peoples a will to succeed in helping the world to raise the standards by which all men live.

As we look ahead into the immediate years to come we can see uncharted seas where we have need of the explorers of the human mind and spirit carrying forward the Norwegian tradition of independence of thought and intrepidity of action. The Free World has need of modern-day Nansens and of Amundsens if it is to understand the new era and to reach the new world of assured peace, sustained prosperity, and international good will.

What we need to see together is this. The economic foundations of modern civilization are shifting -- from exclusive dependence on products made from basic materials of earth and sea to those requiring a higher content of the mental capacity of man.

The era of iron, of coal, of unskilled mass labor is passing. In its place is coming the rapid development of a world economy based on precision instruments, on computer machines, on electronics, on petro-chemicals. This is a new industrial age -- a second industrial revolution.

What attracted so many of the sons of Norway to the United States in decades gone by were the broad empty acres of the Middle West farmlands. There, with their characteristic energy and determination, they performed heavy manual and physical labor to feed the growing millions. Today with the technical revolution applied to farming less than 11 percent of our population feeds the rest of the country. Each American farmer produces enough food for himself and 27 other persons and we are privileged to have surplus supplies which are being used to help feed millions in other lands.

Youthful descendants of those respected and honored Norwegian settlers are found today less and less on farms working with their muscles and more and more in schools, universities and technical institutions working with their minds. The emphasis today and in the future will be on quality and above all on the quality of the mind and heart.

Here we believe is Norway's opportunity. Norway's population may be smaller and your natural resources more limited. But there is no limit to the capabilities and genius of your people, especially your young. Economic resources will be measured less and less by coal production or supply of workers. It will be measured more and more by products of the test tube and the laboratory.

In the market place of ideas small powers and great powers tend to become equal.

It is in the field of international affairs where progress needs most to be made and where urgency is greatest. Here Norway has been a pioneer. Norway's influence in world councils as a democratic progressive forward-looking country is high. My government looks ahead with anticipation to a close collaboration with your/^{new} government in the future even as we have with the previous Norwegian government in the past. Norway's influence in the councils of the United Nations has not been reckoned by the size of its population or the amount of its natural resources. It has provided men and money through the United Nations to keep the peace and strengthen this great world institution.

In the North Atlantic Council the wisdom and courage of Norway have played an important role. It is the strength of the NATO alliance, the devotion and sense of dedication of its members which provide the solid foundation from which we all hope to make further steps toward a more assured peace and a relaxation of tensions as symbolized by the Nuclear Test Ban treaty of which Norway was one of the early signatories.

Your country and mine are connected by the broad reaches of the Atlantic ocean. We seek together to build and strengthen an Atlantic Community to which we both belong. A Community of like-minded nations, not shackled by an imposed ideology but united by common ideals of democracy and freedom, depending for our strength on the soaring minds of free men. We must cooperate together to build and maintain an international way of life which will allow the new era which we see rising before us to fulfill its promise as an era of hope and progress, of peace and prosperity.

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM

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Authority E.O. 11652 SEC. 5(A) and (D) 39
By ing, NARS, Date 5-7-76
AmEmbassy, OSLO

ACTION: SecState WASHINGTON 222

September 11, 1963

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Vice President and Ambassador Wharton met with Prime Minister Lyng, Foreign Minister Wikburg and other ministers today. Following is unclassified memcon, subject to amendment upon review:

Lyng held brief get-acquainted session with Vice President and Ambassadors Wharton and Engen. Discussion centered on U.S. legislative figures of present and past. Following brief tour of new Government Building and visit to 15th floor roof, Lyng opened meeting by describing present Norwegian political situation.

Norwegian Political Situation and Foreign Policy

Although government only two weeks in office and may have to resign in short time, Lyng assured Vice President there absolutely no difference in Norway's foreign policy and attitude toward NATO regardless of whether his own coalition or opposition Labor Party in power. He assured Vice President opposition would be told of present discussions and hoped it might be possible for Vice President to see ex-Prime Minister Gerhardsen during visit.

Communications Satellites and Space Programs

Press photographers summoned to record signature by FonMin of Norwegian Government note accepting NASA-Scandinavian joint communications satellite program. Note handed to Vice President by FonMin with appropriate words regarding importance of program and acknowledging Vice President's role as leader of U.S. space program. Vice President hailed importance of exchange of notes for all four participating countries.

When press departed, Vice President spoke effectively of past five years of U.S. space program and prospects for future. He pointed out that U.S. space budget had grown from few hundred million to 7 1/2 billion in five years. Vice President emphasized U.S. resolve to be first in space in order also to protect free world primacy on earth. Relating exchange of notes to this aim he affirmed U.S. lead over Soviets in fields of communication, navigation, and weather. Vice President forecast expenditure of up to 50 billion in next three to four years and predicted this would cause second industrial revolution. He noted creation 5,000 new companies and 3,000 new products in U.S. since 1959 and predicted growing impact of space program on such other industrial countries as Norway.

Norwegian Government representatives were very attentive and followed Vice President's presentation with great interest.

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OSLO's telegram 222 to Department, September 11, 1963

Page: 2

Post Test Ban Treaty Prospects

Prime Minister sought Vice President's view on test ban treaty's importance, consequences, and effect on Western posture. Vice President noted relationship between Cuban crisis and test ban treaty, emphasizing that firmness of Western posture had led to Soviet realization that there no alternative to co-existence. Vice President emphasized that test ban treaty increased the importance of firmness on part of NATO Alliance. If NATO Alliance maintained and increased defensive strength, then there was real opportunity for further steps toward peace and progress in disarmament area, which could in turn release hundred billion dollars, now spent by both sides on armaments, for improvement well-being of mankind. Vice President stressed that search for peace was primary goal of Kennedy administration with domestic program--tax reform, education, medicare, and housing--an important but lesser goal.

Prime Minister Lyng stated that all except two of the Norwegian legislators supported Norwegian NATO membership and almost as large a majority of populace agreed with them. He reminded Vice President, however, that Norway is strategically and geographically exposed, with small population, which posed serious problems and demanded difficult sacrifices of Norwegian people.

Vice President confirmed his earlier statement that test ban treaty appeared to be first ray of hope since 1946; it was step that could lead to peace but only in conjunction with continued Western strength. He reminded Norwegian representatives that although Norway has border exposed to Soviets, U.S. was prime strategic target and thus entirely exposed. Vice President pointed out importance of next few months in determining whether Soviets would be willing to take further steps towards peace. During this crucial time, he said, it important that both Norway and U.S. do everything possible in NATO to strengthen Western position. If no weakness shown and firm resolve to negotiate from strength made evident, test ban treaty might prove turning point and be followed by steps on disarmament.

Lyng stated that Norwegian analysis almost entirely in agreement; he emphasized that Norway did not expect miraculous change after treaty ratified. He assured Vice President that Norway would not weaken its defensive posture, while sharing U.S. hope for long-term decrease of tension and diminution of defense burden. Formin asked whether Vice President saw chance of further immediate steps, for example, stationary inspection posts on both sides of curtain. He noted that Soviet post-Cuba reaction, test ban, and hot line agreement were optimistic signs and expressed hope that Soviet-Chicom dispute might also be helpful. He added that Gromyko during visit earlier this year had been QTE nicer UNQTE than ever before. He believed Soviets had now accepted

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OSLO's telegram 222 to Department, September 11, 1963

Page: 3

Norway's NATO participation and existing balance in Northern Europe. Norway also attaches importance to preservation of this balance; FonMin said this was why he had refused allow eommunique after recent Nordic FonMins meeting Stockholm to make any reference to Kekkonen neclear-free-zone plan. He said that to do so might have made outside countries believe some change in existing balance contemplated, which is not the case.

Vice President stated that this time last year he did not expect as much would be accomplished as had been gained in test ban treaty; if both sides ratify and if both act in good faith, he was confident governments on both sides would be happy to redirect their programs toward peace.

Shipping

Foreign Minister hailed wonderful perspective opened by Vice President's comments on test ban and space. He expressed Norway's gratitude to U.S. for its role in these fields. FonMin reminded Vice President that Norway small and poor country but assured him Norway would do its best to assist in maintaining Western strength within limits of its earning capacity. Turning to shipping, he stated that Norway with population of less than 4 million possessed world's third largest merchant marine which provided much of income on which Norway's defenses based. He stated that Norway was deeply concerned at discriminatory shipping policies; Norway did not subsidize its fleet, and 90% of Norwegian ships were engaged in carrying trade between other countries.

Vice President concisely stated American position pointing out necessity maintain U.S. merchant marine for defense and emphasized that over 90% of goods moving out of U.S. ports is carried on fully competitive basis. Vice President acknowledged special role of shipping in Norwegian economy, but expressed hope that Norway would be willing also to make sacrifices on occasion to help U.S., citing case of Cuban shipping problem as example.

Foreign Minister acknowledged it in interest of alliance for U.S. to retain big merchant marine but said that Norway believed discrimination was contagious and was deeply concerned by effect American example on others.

Vice President assured Norwegians he would inform Senator Magnuson (stressing Scandinavian pronunciation of name) of Senate Commerce Committee and President Kennedy, of Norway's special problem in shipping field, and said he believed U.S. would try to be understanding.

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OSLO's telegram 222 to Department, September 11, 1963

Page: 4

Vice President stressed again importance with which U.S. regarded Cuba shipping problem. Noting that he had observed devastation of northern city of Bodo caused by war, he declared that no one wanted infinitely greater destructions from nuclear way -- which had seemed to be almost certain prospect in closing moments of October 1962 Cuban crisis. Vice President emphasized that shipping stranglehold was one of few effective tools against Cuban desperados; he affirmed that U.S. policy in Cuban was basic American effort and that only alternative to more military measures too terrible to contemplate.

Foreign Minister pointed out Norway's problem with Cuban shipping caused by long-term charters of ten or even twenty years under which Norway, in many cases, had no power to control ships use. He noted that Norway had held its breath during Cuban crisis and stated he regarded its outcome as turning point in history.

Later in discussion, Foreign Minister produced figures from U.S. Maritime Commission report showing that Norwegian ships calling at Cuba had decreased from over 300 in 1962 to only five in 1963. The five Norwegian ships were thus very small proportion of 200 Western European ships that had called in 1963. He added that Norway would work on this five in hopes of reducing them further. Vice President commended this record and urged that Norway keep up the good work.

Trade Prospects

Ambassador Wharton pointed out that steady increase in volume of Norwegian shipping and increased fleet total would inevitably tend to increase Norway's shipping problems. The Foreign Minister responded that Norway looked forward to great increase in world trade, particularly from new states - such as those in Africa. Norway's optimism was based on its own experience of increases in trade following its own independence 60 years ago. Minister of Industry Melaud asked whether Vice President was optimistic regarding progress in field of trade liberalization following breakdown UK/EEC negotiations early this year. He asked whether eventual free-trade goal such as EFTA-EEC merger and addition to it of rest of NATO and U.S. was impracticable. He added that trading area like this would have vital role for shipping.

Vice President expressed optimism. He believed no country could survive without optimism, but his confidence based on importance which Kennedy administration assigned to liberal trade policy and to great accomplishment last year - Trade Expansion Act. U.S. administration believed that prosperity and protectionism were not compatible. Vice President declared forcefully that every country must make own decision in light of its own interests but that U.S. had made its by enacting TEA; therefore he was very optimistic about long-term trade negotiation prospects.

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OSLO's telegram 222 to Department, September 11, 1963

Page: 5

Summary

Prime Minister and Vice President expressed appreciation each others contribution to this visit. Vice President pointed out that his mission had no negotiating objectives but was rather to convey President Kennedy's and American peoples' admiration and regard for Norway and its people, to express appreciation for Norway's NATO role in common with U.S., to express cautious optimism at prospects for progress toward peace, and to invite Norway's assistance in maintaining the strength essential to such progress. Vice President pointed out both of two areas of vast promise, realization of peace and space revolution would require vigorous effort by both nations. Norway's participation would be of great value.

GROUP IV

WHARTON

Drafted: SFGammon:mms

Cleared: S/S:RWKent
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Rec'd: September 12, 1963
10:17 P.M.EUR
InfoFROM: Oslo

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TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 225, September 13, 2 A.M.

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Authority State Ltr 11/26/76By mmg, NARS, Date 6/15/77

Embassy Telegram 222.

Vice President cleared MEMCON with following three additions:

RMR

1. Under section titled post test ban treaty prospects, add following sentence to paragraph two:

"Vice President commented forcefully that the warm welcome of the people of Bodo and their courage and self-sacrifice in rebuilding their city after the destruction of World War II had moved him deeply."

2. Same section, last paragraph should end:

"...and toward concrete steps for the improvement of human welfare everywhere."

3. Last paragraph of section titled shipping should have following concluding sentence:

"He pressed the Norwegian representatives forcefully, to eliminate even these visits to Cuba by Norwegian ships."

WHARTON

TMC/14

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UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE

AMERICAN EMBASSY

DRAMMENSVEIEN 18, OSLO

TELEPHONE 56 68 80

VICE PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON
DEPARTURE STATEMENT, FORNEBU AIRPORT
OSLO, SEPTEMBER 13, 1963

Our visit to your impressive country -- and with your wonderful people -- has been all too brief. While our days with you have been too few, we shall take away lasting happy and proud memories.

We -- like all your visitors -- have been impressed by the unforgettable scenes of your countryside. But we have been impressed indelibly by your success in achieving the high standard of living which Norway enjoys and the excellent standards of social welfare and progress which are a mark of your society. Among the peoples and nations of earth, few enjoy so high a reputation and universal regard as Norway. After this visit, it is certainly not difficult to understand the basis for that enviable standing in the eyes of the world.

Our meetings and exchanges with your leaders and Government officials have been most productive and illuminating. We have gained greater insight into our respective problems and aspirations.

Personally, it is gratifying to have come to know better our friendly and valued ally. The people of Norway may know that across the sea which joins our countries together, you have always standing at your side in support of your freedom and independence, 180 million American friends.

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Rec'd: SEPTEMBER 13, 1963
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FROM: OSLO

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 227, SEPTEMBER 13

PRIORITY

ACTION PRIORITY COPENHAGEN 35, INFORMATION DEPARTMENT 227.

CODEL JOHNSON

FOR GAMMON - DELIVER BY 0700 SEPTEMBER 14

FOLLOWING ARE TRANSLATIONS OF NEWSPAPER ARTICLES AND EDITORIALS
HIGHLIGHTING VICE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO NORWAY.

(1) MORGENBLADE, (CONSERVATIVE, CIRC 18672) SEPTEMBER 11.
LYNDON JOHNSON IN HIGH SPIRITS MET AN ENTHUSIASTIC BODO TODAY
HALF OF BODES POSSESS GILT-EDGED INVITATION TO VICE PRESIDENT'S
GALLERY IN SENTAT, CARRYING PERSONAL SIGNATURE OF LYNDON BAINES
JOHNSON. WITH UNERRING SENSE OF SHOWMANSHIP UNITED STATES VICE
PRESIDENT IN SPLENDID SPIRITS GREETED ENTHUSIASTIC YOUNG BODO
PUBLIC BY SHAKING HUNDREDS OF HANDS AND DISTRIBUTING INVITATIONS
TO EXTENT WHICH THREATENED TO UPSET ENTIRE SCHEDULE FOR HIS FIRST
DAYS. VICE PRESIDENT HAD HIS WIFE LADY BIRD AND HIS 19 YEAR OLD
DAUGHTER LYNDY BIRD WITH HIM IN BIG JET WHICH CAME THUNDERING TO
BODO AIRPORT. SHORTLY BEFORE 15:00 HOURS, CLOSELY FOLLOWED BY FIRST
SUN RAYS WHICH MANAGED TO PENETRATE HEAVY AND THREATENING LAYER OF
CLOUDS JOHNSON STEPPED SMILINGLY OUT OF THE AIRPLANE AND GREETED
REPRESENTATIVES OF GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES WHO HAD COME
TO MEET HIM, INCLUDING MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ERLING WIDBORG,
COUNTY GOVERNOR BUE EJERMEROS AND MAYOR OF BODO, OLAV HAGEN. ALSO
PRESENT WERE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR IN OSLO, CLIFTON R. WHARTON, AND
RECENTLY APPOINTED NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR TO US, HANS ENGEN.

OUR ALLY

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-2- 227, SEPTEMBER 13, FROM OSLO

WE ARE ESPECIALLY GRATEFUL TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT VALUED NATO ALLY AND TO EXPRESS TO YOU APPRECIATION OF AMERICAN PEOPLE FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO SECURITY AND FREEDOM OF ATLANTIC COMMUNITY, VICE PRESIDENT SAID. I AM PRIVILEGED TO BRING TO YOU- AND TO ALL PEOPLE OF NORWAY - PERSONAL GREETINGS AND GOOD WISHES OF PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES, JOHN F. KENNEDY, VICE PRESIDENT CONTINUED.

FOREIGN MINISTER WIKBORG, ON BEHALF OF KING AND NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT WISHED JOHNSON AND HIS RETINUE WELCOME, STATING THAT JOHNSON REPRESENTS PEOPLE TO WHICH NORWEGIANS ARE COLSELY ASSOCIATED THROUGH FRIENDSHIP.

KIN, CULTURE AND HISTORY.

JOHNSON INSPECTED GUARD OF HONOR FROM AIR COMMAND NORTH NORWAY. HE THEN STEPPED INTO OPEN DIPLOMAT CAR WHICH HAD BEEN IMPORTED FROM OSLO FOR OCCASION. HUGE CROWD OF PEOPLE HAD LINED UP ALONG ROUTE TO GRAND HOTEL IN BODO, WAVING WITH FLAGS TO VICE PRESIDENT AND 20 LONG MOTORCADE.

A TRAFFIC JAM

IT WAS OUTSIDE HOTEL, HOWEVER, THAT BULK OF PEOPLE HAD GATHERED AND HERE EVERYTHING CAME TO STANDSTILL IN JAM OF CARS AND PEOPLE. LYNDON JOHNSON, STANDING IN HIS CAR WHILE RESPONDING TO OVATIONS, STEPPED OUT AND NEARLY DISAPPEARED AMONG CROWDS OF YOUNGSTERS WHO WANTED TO SHAKE HANDS WITH HIM, TOUCH HIM AND GET ONE OF HILT EDGED INVITATION CARDS WITH AMERICAN MONOGRAM AND SIGNATURE. WHILE BAND OF BODO PRIMARY SCHOOL DID THEIR BEST TO CONTRIBUTE TO FESTIVE MOOD, RYTHMICAL HURRAHS WERE HEARD FROM FLAGWAVING CHILDREN, AND LYNDON JOHNSON HIMSELF WAS PUSHED INTO STRAUMAN-PETERSEN A/S DRAPERY STORE ON OTHER SIDE OF STREET. HE FINALLY HAD TO BE HELPED OUT BY TWO POLICEMEN AND SEEK REFUGE ON RED CARPET IN FRONT OF HOTEL ENTRANCE.

LIVING-ROOM CHAT

FEW MINUTES LATER COMPANY DEPARTED FOR COMMUNITY OF BODIN TO VISIT NEW HOUSING PROJECT AND MEET THREE OF FAMILIES. ONE OF WIVES HAD ONCE BEEN TO

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-3- 227, SEPTEMBER 13, FROM OSLO

BEEN TO TEXAS, JOHNSON'S HOME STATE, AND TWO OF THEM HAD LONG CHAT IN HER LIVING-ROOM, WHICH WAS CROWDED WITH EMBASSY OFFICIALS, PHOTO-GRAPHERS AND JOURNALISTS.

FINALLY, THE TOWN OF BODO GAVE A RECEPTION IN CITY HALL WHERE AMERICAN FLAG WAS PRESENTED TO MAYOR, OLAV HAGEN.

SHORT, BUT HECTIC STAY CAME TO END AT 1800 HOURS, WHEN BOEING AIRPLANE STOOD READY TO CARRY VICE PRESIDENT AND HIS RETINUE TO OSLO. HOST OF PEOPLE HAD FOUND THEIR WAY TO AIRPORT TO WISH GUEST CORDIAL GOODBYE AND BEHIND THEM WAS FAMOUS ROUTE INDICATOR WHICH GIVES DISTANCES TO ALL COMERS OF WORLD. ON THIS OCCASION POSTER MARKED: L.BJ. RANCH, TEXAS 13.45 HOURS HAD BEEN ADDED.

(2) ARBEIDERBLADET, (LABOR, CIRC 67,894) SEPTEMBER 12

THE CIVIL RIGHTS BILL WILL BE PASSED, JOHNSON PREDICTS. USA CONTINUES ROOSEVELT'S ECONOMIC PLANNING.

IT IS MY BELIEF THAT BILL REGARDING CIVIL RIGHTS FOR NEGROES WILL BE PASSED BY SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THAT THIS LAW WILL REPRESENT GOOD STEP FORWARD ON COURSE ADOPTED WITH CIVIL RIGHTS LEGISLATION OF 1957 AND 1960. I AM ALSO GLAD THAT MARCH TO WASHINGTON THIS SUMMER WAS SUCH DIGNIFIED DEMONSTRATION AND I BELIEVE IT BEARS WITNESS OF SOUNDNESS OF GREAT NATION WHEN 200,000 CITIZENS CAN GO TO CAPITOL TO PRESENT THEIR DEMANDS TO PRESIDENT, AND TO "LITTLE MEN" VICE PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON SAID IN INTERVIEW "NORDLANDS FRAMTID" (LABOR) HAD WITH HIM DURING HIS VISIT TO BODO YESTERDAY. THIS REPORTER ASKED:

"OUR NORTH NORWAY PLAN HAS BEEN DRAFTED MORE OR LESS ON PATTERN OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S TENNESSEE VALLY PROJECT. HOW ABOUT REGIONAL PLANNING IN US TODAY?."

"WE CONTINUE TO WORK ON SAME PATTERN AS TVA IN US ALSO, BUT NATURALLY ON SMALLER SCALE. BUT IN MY HOME STATE IN TEXAS ALONE, WE HAVE RECENTLY COMPLETED SIX PROJECTS IN SAME STYLE. THEY ARE FINANCED PARTLY BY FEDERAL AND PARTLY BY STATE FUNDS.

"IT HAS

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4- 227, SEPTEMBER 13, FROM OSLO

- "IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT YOU ARE MOST MOBILE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE US UP TO DATE?"

- "THAT MUST HAVE BEEN SAID BY ONE OF MY FRIENDS. US HAS HAD 37 VICE PRESIDENTS. 30 OF THEM NEVER WENT BEYOND US BORDERS. VICE PRESIDENT WALLACE UNDER ROOSEVELT TRAVELLED SOME. SO DID NIXON UNDER EISENHOWER, MAINLY ON GOODWILL TOURS, BUT ALSO ON NEGOTIATIONS TRIPS. I MYSELF HAVE TRAVELED IN ASIA AND AFRICA, BESIDES THIS TOUR IN SCANDINAVIA."

- "AND THIS TRIP IS A GOOD-WILL TOUR?"

- "THAT ALSO. BUT IN FINLAND I HAD SERIES OF CONFERENCES, WITH PRIME MINISTER AND PRESIDENT KEKKONEN AND OTHERS. LET ME SAY THIS MUCH: THEY WERE HIGHLY CONSTRUCTIVE TALKS. I HAD DECIDED IMPRESSION THAT WE ARE WORKING FOR SAME THINGS. WE WORK FOR PEACE, SECURITY AND RELAXATION OF TENSION. AND IT HAS BEEN GREAT EXPERIENCE INDEED TO MEET GOODWILL, AND WILL TO COOPERATE WITH US ALSO IN NEUTRAL STATES SUCH AS SWEDEN AND FINLAND. VISIT ALSO INCLUDES NORWAY, DENMARK AND ICELAND, AND I MUST SAY WE AMERICANS ARE PROUD TO HAVE YOU FOR FRIENDS AND ALLIES. IT HAS BEEN SAID, AND I AGREE, THAT SOME OF BEST CITIZENS IN OUR NATION COME FROM NORWAY AND OTHER SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES."

- "PRESIDENT KENNEDY LAUNCHED CATCH WORD: GET AMERICA MOVING. IS US MOVING NOW?"

- "YES. PERHAPS NOT AS QUICKLY AS WE MIGHT WISH. YOU CAN RARELY HAVE ALL YOUR WISHES FULFILLED. BUT LET ME GIVE YOU SOME FIGURES. WE HAVE 70 MILLION PEOPLE AT WORK, MORE THAN EVER BEFORE IN HISTORY. WAGE EARNERS' INCOMES HAVE RISEN BY 18 BILLION DOLLARS, CORPORATE PROFITS HAVE GONE UP 30 PERCENT. THIS IS ONLY SMALL PART OF RESULTS. OF COURSE, WE SET EVEN HIGHER AIMS FOR OURSELVES, BUT WE ARE GLAD THAT WE HAVE "AMERICA THAT IS MOVING". WE HAVE ADOPTED COURSE WHICH WE BELIEVE IS RIGHT. WE WANT TO STIMULATE GREATER EFFORT, WE INTRODUCE EASIER DEPRECIATIONS TO GET INVESTMENTS UP, AND WE ALLEVIATE TAXATION AND PROGRESSION RATES WHICH WITH US RUN INTO NO LESS 90 PERCENT ON TOP INCOMES."

(3) AFTENPOSTEN

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-5- 227, SEPTEMBER 13, FROM OSLO

(3) AFTENPOSTEN (CONSERVATIVE CIRC 172,891) SEPTEMBER 13

L.B.J. HAPPY ABOUT HIS VISIT TO NORWAY. NO MISUNDERSTANDINGS, ONLY UNDERSTANDING.

AT INFORMAL MEETING WITH THE PRESS YESTERDAY AFTERNOON VICE PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES LYNDON B. JOHNSON SUMMED UP HIS IMPRESSIONS FROM HIS THREE-DAY, MUCH TOO BRIEF, VISIT TO NORWAY. WHAT HAD MADE STRONGEST IMPRESSION ON HIM DURING HIS TALKS WITH LEADING NORWEGIANS, IN AND OUTSIDE PRESENT GOVERNMENT, WAS EXCEPTIONAL DEGREE OF UNANIMITY IN TWO COUNTRIES' VIEWS ON MAJOR INTERNATIONAL ISSUES. AS REAL FRIENDS. WE UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER'S VIEWPOINTS, EVEN WHEN THEY ARE NOT IN ACCORD. BETWEEN USA AND NORWAY THERE ARE NO MISUNDERSTANDINGS, ONLY UNDERSTANDING.

VICE PRESIDENT WAS CONFIDENT THAT TALKS HE HAD CONDUCTED IN NORWAY WOULD MARK BEGINNING OF NEW, BIG EXPANSION OF TRADE CONNECTION BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. HE EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN DEVELOPMENT OF SATELLITE TELECOMMUNICATIONS WHICH HAD BEEN SIGNED DURING HIS STAY IN OSLO, AND SAID THAT NORWAY IN LONGER RUN, IN VIEW OF ITS TECHNICAL STANDARD, INSIGHT AND HIGH INDUSTRIAL QUALITY, MAY EXPECT SUBSTANTIAL RESULTS FROM THIS COOPERATION. VICE PRESIDENT APPRECIATED NORWAY'S CONSTRUCTIVE AND FIRM ATTITUDE TO NATO, AND HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT ALLIANCE WOULD GROW IN STRENGTH AND INCREASE ITS PREPAREDNESS AND THUS CONTINUE TO BE MAJOR FACTOR IN PRESERVATION OF PEACE.

JOHNSON WAS CONVINCED THAT HIS VISIT HAD BEEN USEFUL. HE HAD NEVER HAD BETTER HOSTS. HE HAD MET NOTHING BUT FRIENDLINESS AND WARMTH. FROM PALACE TO PEOPLE IN STREETS AND IN FACTORIES.

THE VICE PRESIDENT, WHO HAS NOT WANTED TO GIVE FORMAL PRESS CONFERENCE DURING HIS VISIT TO NORWAY, AT THIS INFORMAL RECEPTION, CONVEYED TO REPORTERS STRONG IMPRESSION OF HIS PHILOSOPHY AS STATESMAN, POLITICAN AND AS INDIVIDUAL.

HE EMPHASIZED THAT MAINTENANCE OF PEACE IS GREATEST AND MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL TASKS. WAR MEANS ANNIHILATION.

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-6- 227, SEPTEMBER 13, FROM OSLO

HE DESCRIBED SATISFACTION THAT POLITICIAN DERIVES FROM DOING SOMETHING FOR HIS PEOPLE AND FOR THE WORLD. HE MUST LIKE PEOPLE. AND MAKE THEM LIKE HIM. HE COULD NOT SAY EXACTLY HOW MANY HANDS HE IS ABLE TO SHAKE IN HOUR, HE GUESSED THAT HE COULD SHAKE SOME HUNDREDS. MASS HANDSHAKING IS ART, HOWEVER. FIRST, YOU MUST LIKE IT. SECONDLY, YOU MUST NEVER LET PERSON YOU GREET GET HOLD OF YOUR HAND FIRST. IF YOU MAKE THAT MISTAKE, RESULT MAY BE MOST PAINFUL.

VERDENS GNAG (INDEPENDENT CIRC 35,476) SEPTEMBER 13

IMAGINATIVE VICE PRESIDENT DEPARTS NORWAY TODAY.

AFTER HIS TWO DAYS HECTIC VISIT TO NORWAY, AMERICAN VICE PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON AND HIS FAMILY AND RETINUE LEFT FORNEBU AT 10:30 THIS MORNING FOR COPENHAGEN.

DURING THESE DAYS HE HAS MANAGED TO FIND TIME FOR MOST UNBELIEVABLE NUMBER OF VISITS, LUNCHEONS, KINNERS, AND HE HAS MADE SEVERAL SPEECHES AND LECTURES ON AMERICAN SPACE RESEARCH. IN AULA LAST NIGHT, WHERE AMONG OTHERS HIS MAJESTY THE KING AND PRIME MINISTER JOHN LYNG WERE PRESENT, VICE PRESIDENT EXPRESSED HIS CONVICTION THAT SPACE RESEARCH WILL BE BLESSING FOR MANKIND.

DURING HIS VISIT VICE PRESIDENT JOHNSON HAS SHOWN THAT HE IS DYNAMIC AND, ABOVE ALL, IMAGINATIVE MAN WITH SENSE OF HUMOR AND SENSE OF WHAT IS EFFECTIVE. WHEN OPPORTUNITY HAS OFFERED ITSELF, HE HAS SOUGHT INFORMAL CONTACT WITH ORDINARY PEOPLE AND HAS UNFOLDED HIS TALENTS FOR SHOWMANSHIP TO GREAT EXTENT. HIS WAYS OF LOOKING AT THINGS IS ILLUSTRATED BY HIS GIFT TO OSLO'S PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS, THEY DISCOVERED THAT THEY WERE NOT GIVEN LEEWAY THEY WANTED AT ARRIVAL OF THE VICE PRESIDENT TO FORNEBU. LAST NIGHT HE GAVE THEM ROPE, SO THAT THEY COULD MAKE THEIR OWN BARRIER.

YESTERDAY MRS. LADY BIRD REVEALED THAT SHE WAS EXPERT ON AGRICULTURE DURING VISIT TO BIG FARM OF MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE HANEBOGEN

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-7- 227, SEPTEMBER 13, FROM OSLO

HANEBOGEN IN FET. SHE DISCUSSED CATTLE BREEDING, SILOS AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS WITH MINISTER AND ALSO SHOWED THAT SHE APPRECIATED TYPICAL NORWEGIAN MEAL WITH SMOKED MEAT AND SOUR CREAM PORRIDGE.

(ABOVE STORY WAS PRINTED UNDER A FOUR-COLUMN BANNER HEAD AND ILLUSTRATED BY TWO-COLUMN-PICTURE OF HIS MAJESTY KING OLAV V AND VICE PRESIDENT JOHNSON. THE CAPTION READ AS FOLLOWS: (THE KING AND VICE PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON IN AULA, WHERE VICE PRESIDENT DELIVERED LECTURE ON AMERICAN SPACE RESEARCH.)

(5) MORGENPOSTEN, (INDEPENDENT, CIRC. 44,253) SEPTEMBER 13

KINFOLK (EDITORIAL)

IT IS CLAIMED THAT NEVER BEFORE IN HISTORY HAVE SO MANY HEADS OF STATE AND STATESMEN TRAVELED AS IN RECENT YEARS. SO-CALLED STATE VISITS HAVE ALMOST BECOME REGULAR PART OF WEEKLY SCHEDULE MANY PLACES. THEY INCLUDE STATESMEN FROM ALL PARTS OF WORLD. DISTANCE IS NO LONGER OBSTACLE, JETS TAKE CARE OF THIS ASPECT. NORWAY ALSO HAS PROMINENT VISITORS. KINGS AND PRESIDENTS DO US THEIR HONOR, AND MAJORITY OF THEM GET CORDIAL RECEPTION. WE APPRECIATE THEIR INTEREST IN US, AND ARE A LITTLE PROUD OF HAVING SOMETHING TO SHOW THEM. ALL THIS ENTERTAINING ON HIGH LEVEL MAY BE SOMEWHAT STRENUOUS AND FORMAL AND TIMES, AND WE ARE THEREFORE PARTICULARLY GLAD TO WELCOME SOMEONE FROM OUR "OWN FAMILY." FOR WE ARE ON THE SAME WAVE-LENGTH. VICE PRESIDENT LYNDON JOHNSON'S VISIT TO NORWAY REPRESENTS THIS KIND OF VISIT. IT IS FIRST TIME HE HAS BEEN IN THIS COUNTRY, BUT WE "KNOW HIS PEOPLE", AS WE SAY IN NORWAY, HE IS OUR KIN.

FACT THAT PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE PRESIDENTIAL VISITS FROM US ARE RARE DOES NOT, AS MOST PEOPLE REALIZE, MEAN THAT CONTACT BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES IS POOR. THOUSANDS OF NORWEGIANS HAVE GOOD POINTS OF CONTACT IN AMERICA. COMMUNICATION LINES ARE IN ORDER. VALUE OF US AID MEASURES IS WELL KNOWN BY OUR PEOPLE. WHAT WE WOULD LIKE TO STRESS IN THIS CONNECTION IS VALUE OF FACTORS WHICH HAVE MADE THIS RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BIG AND SMALL COUNTRY SINCERELY FRIENDLY. RELATIONSHIPS WHERE ONE PARTY IS SO BIG AND OTHER SO SMALL EASILY DEVELOP INTO STATE OF DEPENDENCE AND NOTHING MORE. IN THIS CASE, IT IS NATURAL, AS BOTH THE

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-8- 227, SEPTEMBER 13, FROM OSLO

AMERICAN VICE PRESIDENT AND NORWEGIAN PRIME MINISTER DID, TO SPEAK OF SPIRITUAL KINSHIP. FOR NORWAY - AND OTHER FREE NATIONS - IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THERE EXISTS IN OUR HARD AND CHANGEABLE WORLD A GREAT POWER WHO STANDS FIRMLY ON WHAT WE MEAN BY DEMOCRATIC GROUND. WHERE RESPECT FOR INDIVIDUAL AND RULE OF LAW ARE TAKEN FOR GRANTED. WHEN US VICE PRESIDENT NOW LEAVES US, HE SHOULD KNOW WHY THIS VISIT HAS BEEN ESPECIALLY WELCOME. IS IS TRUE THAT IT WAS VISIT FROM GREAT STATESMAN, REPRESENTATIVE OF GREAT NATION WHICH HAS DONE OUR COUNTRY GREAT SERVICES, BUT MANY OF US NOW HOPE THAT VICE PRESIDENT ALSO HAS REGISTERED THIS SPIRITUAL KINSHIP, WHICH AFTER ALL IS ESSENTIAL. THAT HE HAS FELT HE WAS WITH HIS OWN KIND.

(6) NATIONEN (AGRARIAN, CIRC. 23,708) SEPTEMBER 13

ROMERIKE IN GLITTERING SUNSHINE WAS THE FRAMEWORK AROUND LADY BIRD JOHNSON'S VISIT TO BORGEN:

JUST AS HOSPITALITY IS OLDEST AND BEST OF ALL GOOD NORWEGIAN CUSTOMS, OLD SAYING: "BY THEIR CARRIAGE GOOD FOLDS ARE RECOGNIZED" IS AND INDISPUTABLE FACT. WHEN SEPTEMBER SUN WAS AT ITS HIGHEST POINT IN SKY OVER ROMERIKE YESTERDAY, AND LAKE OYEREN GLITTERED LIKE PLATE OF PUREST SILVER, IMPOSING PROCESSION OF CARS DROVE INTO COURTYARD AT BORGEN IN FET. LADY AND LYNDA BIRD JOHNSON WITH LARGE RETINUE HAD ARRIVED AT FARM. AS IS CUSTOM, BOSS OF FARM HIMSELF, HANS BORGEN, STOOD IN COURTYARD AND RECEIVED HIS GUESTS. HE INTRODUCED HIS FAMILY AND BADE GUESTS FROM FAR AWAY WELCOME TO ORDINARY NORWEGIAN FARM. AND JUST AS MRS. MARTHA BORGEN GOT HER WISH FOR SUN AND BEAUTIFUL WEATHER FULFILLED, ALSO LADY BIRD JOHNSON'S WISH TO VISIT NORWEGIAN FARM BECAME REALITY WHICH, SHE ASSURED, WOULD BE MEMORY FOR LIFE. FROM COURTYARD OF BORGEN, AMERICAN GUESTS WERE ABLE TO VIEW BEAUTIFUL PART OF NORWAY - ROMERIKE'S APPEARANCE ON AUTUMN DAY, WITH YELLOW CORNFIELDS, GREEN FIELDS, GLITTERING LAKE AND RIVER AND DARK FOREST RIDGES WITH SLENDER PEACEFUL CONTOURS SILHOUETTED AGAINST PALE GREY SKY. THIS AUTUMN, PICTURE HAS PERHAPS BEEN MARRIED BY MANY LONGDAYS OF RAIN. YESTERDAY, WEATHER GODS SMILED BENIGNLY IN HONOR OF PROMINENT GUESTS, AS THEY CONJURED UP MOST BEAUTIFUL SPECTRUM OF AUTUMN.

FROM HEN COOP TO WHEAT FIELD

LADY BIRD JOHNSON WAS INDEED INTERESTED IN DAILY LIFE AT BORGEN FARM

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-9- 227, SEPTEMBER 13, FROM OSLO

WITH MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AS HER PROFESSIONAL GUIDE, HER MANY QUESTIONS, WHETHER THESE CONCERNED PLANT PRODUCTION OR PRODUCTION OF MILK, AND EGGS, WERE SATISFACTORILY ANSWERED.

TOUR OF FARM BEGAN WITH HENCOOP AND COWSHED, HOUSE OF FARM-BAILIFF AND THEN ON TO WHEAT FIELDS. OUTSIDE HENCOOP, LADY BIRD JOHNSON MET TWO YOUNG 4H MEMBERS, INGRID RINGEREIDE FROM ULLENSAKER AND ROLF BORGERUD FROM VESTBY. BOTH HAVE VISITED AMERICA ON SCHOLARSHIP TRIP. 4H PROGRAM IS VERY CLOSE TO MRS. JOHNSON'S HEART.

CALVES LICKED LYNDA

YOUNG KNUT BORGEN ATTENDED TO 19-YEAR OLD LYNDA WHO ALSO SEEMED TO BE INTERESTED IN NORWEGIAN FARMS. IN COWSHED CALVES LICKED HER UNTIL HER FINGERS BECAME QUITE STICKY, BUT AT SAME TIME SHE ASSURED THAT SHE WAS NO EXPERT ON CROSS BREEDS OF MILK CATTLE AND BEEF CATTLE. CALVES WHICH SHOWED SUCH GREAT INTEREST LYNDA JOHNSON, WERE CROSS BREED BETWEEN RODKOLLE (NORWEGIAN BREED) AND HERTFORD CATTLE.

PLEASANT VISIT TO BORGEN WAS CONCLUDED WITH LUNCHEON OF GENUINE NORWEGIAN FARM FOOD FROM "ROMME" (SOUR CREAM) AND "LEFSE" (TYPE OF POTATO PANCAKE) TO "SPEKEMAT" (SALT-CURED MEAT). IT TASTED GOOD, AS LIFE ON NORWEGIAN FARM GIVES YOU APPETITE. IN WELL SELECTED WORDS, LADY BIRD JOHNSON EXPRESSED HER APPRECIATION FOR HOSPITALITY WHICH HAD BEEN BESTOWED ON HER AND HER RETINUE AT BORGEN - FARM WHICH HAD GIVEN HER INSIGHT ON OLD TRADITIONS AND DAILY LIFE WHICH SIGNIFY FARM OF MANIFOLD ACTIVITIES.

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FROM : Embassy HELSINKI

DATE: October 2, 1963

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SUBJECT: Review of Vice President Johnson's Visit to Finland

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REF :

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OSD USA NSA
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Warm Reception

SANITIZED
Authority: State Sec. 11/26/76
By: [Signature] 2/15/77

Vice President Johnson and his family were enthusiastically received during their September 6-10 visit to Finland, although there were minor untoward incidents and Finnish authorities were at some moments placed under unaccustomed heavy strain. While sometimes astonished, the public was delighted with the Vice President's informal manner and his frequent stops to shake hands and chat with well-wishers. The press was extravagant with its news and picture coverage of the visit and allowed unusual ebullience to creep into its headlines. Even the Communist and Skogist papers gave prominent attention to the occasion and reserved criticism until after the Vice President had departed Finland. Except at the Helsinki airport, which is some distance out of town, the Vice President was ordinarily greeted by large crowds. From the moment of his arrival, 200-300 persons gathered around the hotel entrance at the appointed times of his comings and goings. A wave from the Vice President almost invariably brought applause and vocal greetings in response from the usually undemonstrative Finns.

Program

Upon arrival at the Helsinki airport, the Vice President was met by President Kekkonen with honors ordinarily accorded only a chief of state. The speech of welcome given by Helsinki City Council Chairman Teuvo Aura was particularly friendly in its stress on common American and Finnish ideals and its expressions of gratitude for the visit and for past United States support of Finland (Enclosure 1).

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Group 3

Downgraded at 12-year intervals,
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Page 2, A-141 from Helsinki

The first evening, after a brief meeting with the Prime Minister, Vice President Johnson was entertained at a banquet given by President Kekkonen. In his speech to the 140 guests, President Kekkonen spoke of the hope evoked by the test-ban treaty and the desire of President Kennedy and Premier Khrushchev for peace. He said Finnish neutrality makes its contribution to peace too (Enclosure 2). In his turn, the Vice President spoke in praise of American-Finnish ties and of the Finns' courage and love of freedom.

The next day was the most active of the Vice President's stay in Finland. He walked through the crowded open market, where he created something of a sensation by singing "Happy Birthday" to a 70-year-old woman vegetable vendor. Then he visited the United States destroyer USS BARTON moored nearby, had a talk with President Kekkonen, drove in an unprecedented ticker-tape parade up the main shopping street lined by American and Finnish flags and 12,000 people and opened the street for "American Week." This was followed by a luncheon given by Speaker Kleemola for the Vice President at the Parliament and a luncheon given by Mrs. Rowan for Mrs. Johnson and attended by Finnish women leaders in politics, the professions, and the arts. That afternoon the Vice President and his family participated in another unprecedented event--a barbecue attended by some 3,000 persons. In the evening he was patron of a banquet given by the Finnish-American Society in honor of President Kekkonen. Before the 800 guests he delivered the major speech of his visit. He spoke of the contributions made by Finnish emigrants to the United States and of Finland's valor and adherence to the principles of the United Nations. He also told the guests of continuing United States efforts to develop its democratic society, to overcome its shortcomings, and to eliminate the danger of nuclear war.

On Sunday, September 8, the Vice President gave a television interview in which he commented on Finnish friendliness, American social welfare, the problems and achievements of the Kennedy Administration, and the racial integration question. Then he and his party flew to Rovaniemi on the Arctic Circle, where they were given perhaps their warmest welcome. The small capital of Lapland turned out 2,000 people at the airport, even more lined the streets of the town itself, and clusters formed at almost every cross-road along the route into Rovaniemi. The drive from the airport extended well over an hour beyond the usual ten minutes as the Vice President made numerous stops to talk with the people along the roadside who had come to see his arrival. Following a luncheon given by the city, the Vice President laid a wreath on the Monument to the War Dead at the military cemetery before an honor guard, a troop of Girl Scouts, a group of veterans, and a large crowd of spectators. The day in Rovaniemi ended after a stop at the Arctic Circle cabin where Lapp families and reindeer were gathered. There were about 1,000 people at the airport to see the Vice President off for Helsinki.

Later in the afternoon, the mounting success of the Vice President's visit prompted a physical reaction from elements unfriendly to the United

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Page 3, A-111 from Helsinki

States. As the Vice President was pressing his way into the Hotel Marski through a friendly, enthusiastic mob, two eggs were thrown by persons standing on the outskirts of the crowd. Finnish police efficiently and quietly took steps to prevent recurrence of this type of demonstration. In the evening Miss Johnson was the guest of honor at a dinner attended by Finnish university students.

The Vice President spent the final full day of his visit in the Turku area where he visited the University, was guest of honor at a Turku Castle luncheon, and spent a few hours at the island retreat of Finland's Ambassador to the United States. Mrs. Johnson visited farms in the Turku area during the morning and rejoined the party at the Castle luncheon, where her charm and graciousness displayed itself to particularly good advantage.

Prior to his departure the next day, Vice President Johnson had a most pleasant second meeting with President Kekkonen, who then accompanied the Vice President to the airport. In his farewell remarks the Vice President expressed appreciation for the reception given him, praised the Finns once more, and extended special thanks to the Finnish authorities--the Foreign Ministry, the police, the airport personnel--and others who had provided him with innumerable services.

The Press

Press attention to the Vice President's visit left very little to be desired, particularly during the first two days. It is likely, in fact, that the news and picture coverage was unprecedented.

The newspapers began building up to the visit two or three days early with biographic reports and stories about the Vice President's departure from the United States as well as his stay in Sweden. On the day of his arrival in Finland, September 6, there were feature articles on the Vice President, Mrs. Johnson, and their daughter. Nearly every Helsinki paper printed editorials of welcome.

On September 7 and 8, the papers were dominated by the activities of the Vice President and his family. Pro-American, independent HELSINGIN SANOMAT, the newspaper with the largest circulation in Finland, devoted three full pages to the visit on September 7 and almost as much space the next day. A few other papers were not far behind in the amount of coverage they gave the Vice President. Even Communist KANSAN UUTiset and Skogist. PÄIVÄN SANOMAT, which is a regular critic of the United States, gave him prominent and objective attention. Headlines spoke of the "spontaneous, enthusiastic atmosphere" sparked by the "irresistible state visitor" who was "conquering Helsinki." Adding to the volume were stories on the visits of two United States destroyers--the BARTON in Helsinki and the BORIE in Turku (A-117, September 18).

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Page 4, A-141 from Helsinki

Although coverage fell off during the last two days of the visit, it remained on most front pages and the volume was still substantial.

Before, during, and after the visit several weekly magazines printed stories about the Vice President and his family. With two or three exceptions, these stories were most favorable.

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Page 2, A-2.1 from Helsinki

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For the Ambassador:

Harvey P. Nelson, Jr.

Harvey P. Nelson, Jr.
Second Secretary of Embassy

Enclosures
Enclosures

1. Speech of Teuvo Aura,
September 6, 1963
2. Speech of President Kekkonen,
September 6, 1963

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Helsinki, Finland
SEP 10 1963
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Helsinki, Finland

46a

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Page 1 of 2
Encl. No. 1
A-141 from Helsinki

Speech of welcome by Mr. Teuvo Aura,
Chairman of the Helsinki City Council,
on the arrival of Vice President and
Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson at Seutula
Airport, September 6, 1963

Mr. Vice President and Mrs. Lyndon Johnson,

I deem it a very great honor that I have been given, on behalf of the City of Helsinki, this opportunity of extending to you, Mr. Vice President and Mrs. Lyndon Johnson and your party, an extremely cordial welcome to the capital of Finland. The fact that you have come here as our guests gives us Finns an even deeper sense of gratification by virtue of this being the first occasion on which a visit has been made by an official representative so highly placed in a country which holds one of the leading positions in the political and economic life of the world, and with which our relationship has been traditionally one of mutual friendship and appreciation.

The foundations of this friendship were laid years ago, in the early seventeenth century; it was then that the first Finnish immigrants sailed from Sweden to America, to establish there a settlement by the mouth of the River Delaware. Despite the immigration which started then, and which has continued in some measure right until the present day, Finns constitute no more than a tiny drop in the sea of peoples which makes up the United States. Nevertheless, Finnish settlers too have made a contribution, small though it may be, to the building of your mighty nation. Finns have taken firm root in America; to them it has become their new homeland.

Above all, the Finns have felt themselves at home in America because in their hearts they cherish the same ideals, the love of freedom and democracy so characteristic of the American people, and which form the basis of the governmental system of the United States and of their social and political life. These ideas held in common also--so I believe--constitute the reasons for the feeling of friendship which the people of the United States have for Finland. What better proof of this could one ask than the helping hand extended towards us, not only for the proffering of sympathy, but also with material aid, during the days of our most severe trials? We remember with a sense of deep gratitude the assistance organized by the former President Hoover and given us after the First World War. During the Winter War, individuals and organizations in the United States rallied to our aid, and once again after the Second World War to the help of the people of the afflicted and devastated areas.

Subsequently, the personal contacts between our countries have broadened and deepened in a gratifying way. The economic prosperity of the United States

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Page 2 of 2
Encl. No. 1
A-141 from Helsinki

is built upon the freedom of private ownership and enterprise. Although differences do exist, these also represent the foundations upon which the economic system of Finland plays an important role in the lives of our people. We hope for an even greater expansion of our mutual trading relations--even now, we are proud of the knowledge that some of the largest American dailies have for a long time been printed on paper from Finland.

Mr. Vice President, we wish to salute through you the people and the President of the United States, whom you are representing when you are visiting this country. We sincerely hope that your stay here will be a pleasant one, and trust that this visit will make the bonds of friendship between our two countries even stronger.

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468
Page 1 of 2
Enclosure No. 2
A-141
Helsinki

The speech of President Kekkonen at dinner
on the 6th of September 1963, in honor of the Vice-
President of the United States and Mrs. Johnson
(As released by the Finnish Foreign Ministry)

Mr. Vice-President and Mrs. Johnson,

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of my wife and myself I wish you, Mr. Vice-President and Mrs. Johnson, most cordially welcome to Finland. This welcome, I am convinced, is shared by the whole Finnish people, which by bonds of friendship and blood feels so close to the people of the United States.

Your visit brings back to us vividly memories of the unforgettable visit we made to the United States two years ago. We had the opportunity to travel widely through the great American continent, but regrettably our program did not include a visit to the "Lone Star State". And thus we missed, among other things, the legendary cattle hordes of Texas, about which you Texans do not usually mince your words. Our national epic Kalevala tells of a bull with horns a hundred fathoms long, muzzle half a hundred broad, and which, while switching his tail in Häme, stooped his head to Kemi's river. This was by far the most remarkable description of cattle I had ever come across until I became familiar with the potentialities of Texas. Now I know that these words of Kalevala fade into insignificance compared with the poetical praise Texans are so eminently capable of when describing truthfully the virtues of their cattle.

Mr. Vice-President.

In your person we are greeting not only a leading Texan but also a leading American statesman, who occupies an active and essential role as well in the political life of the U.S. as on the international scene. Under your presidency the Senate of the U.S. has been debating during the past few weeks the Treaty of Moscow of the 5th of August, banning nuclear tests in all elements except underground. The ratification of the Treaty by the three Great Powers, which were its original signatories will undoubtedly strengthen still further the hope which spread among the nations of the world after the signature.

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We know, all of us, that this Treaty is but a first step on the road to better international relations. We know how difficult the going can be on that road. Personally, however, I am convinced that even those obstacles can be removed, which in the present atmosphere, poisoned by mutual distrust, seem insurmountable. This goal can be reached, but only if both sides have the will - and also the courage to trust in the existence of a reciprocal will - to cooperate for the safeguarding of peace.

In this context I would like to quote a speech by President Kennedy, a speech of courage and foresight. This speech, delivered on the 10th of last June, made a particular impression on me. In his speech the President said: "I realize that the pursuit of peace is not as dramatic as the pursuit of war - and frequently that the words of the pursuer fall on weary ears. But we have no more urgent task." The discussions I have had with President Kennedy have convinced me that these words are no empty words, but reflect a firm conviction. I do just as firmly believe that Premier Khrushchev, the leader of the Government of the Soviet Union, is animated by the same conviction. To know that the will of the two leading statesmen of our world is firmly committed to peace, is for us a promise for the future.

To influence the course of events in international affairs is for Finland, naturally, possible only within very limited boundaries. I believe that in practising a policy of neutrality, in not becoming engaged in disputes between the Great Powers, Finland can best serve its own national interests as well as the cause of peace, especially in the North of Europe. It is for us a matter of great importance that the policy of neutrality, which forms the core of our foreign policy, has met with the understanding of the President and the Government of the United States, which have declared their desire to respect it.

Mr. Vice-President.

There are no problems unsolved between Finland and the United States. Many are the ties, traditional I might call them, that bind us together, and the friendship between our peoples has emerged strengthened from the ordeals of time.

Your visit, Mr. Vice-President and Mrs. Johnson, is a new evidence of the friendship and cooperation between our two countries. I do sincerely hope that your visit will personally convince you of the feelings of welcome and warmth we feel towards you, and that it will stay in pleasant memory.

Ladies and Gentlemen. I raise my glass in honor of the President of the United States and Mrs. Kennedy and in honor of the Vice-President and Mrs. Johnson.

ADVANCE HOLD FOR ARRIVAL

There follows text of statement to be made by Vice President upon arrival in Copenhagen. (Sept. 13)

"We are proud and privileged to have had this opportunity to visit one of the oldest and best friends of the United States - - the wonderful country of Denmark.

"I come as the personal representative of the President of The United States, John F. Kennedy, - - bringing to the people of Denmark his personal warm greetings and good wishes.

"Among the nations of the world, Denmark is held in high esteem by the people of her sister nations because of the long tradition of democracy and respect for freedom of the individual which is part of your heritage. Our American respect and admiration for the Danish people is strong and long-standing. Since the late 19th century, some 350 thousand Danes have honored us by coming to live in the United States - - and their contribution to our national success have been many in every region of our country.

In this period of world affairs, we of the United States are especially grateful for the steadfast and continuing support which Denmark is giving the free world through her membership in NATO and the active and important role played by Danish representatives in the United Nations and other international organizations. Danish contributions to the keeping of peace are well known - - and your sons of Denmark are serving even now as volunteers in

the efforts of the United Nations in the Middle East and in Congo.

"We come as good friends knowing that we shall be among old friends and allies here in Denmark. We look forward to talking with your leaders and meeting your people and hope that our visit here will serve to strengthen the long and cherished bonds between our peoples and our countries".

A SPEECH BY VICE PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON
AT THE CHRISTIANSBORG GOVERNMENT DINNER
SEPTEMBER 13, 1963

Mr. Prime Minister, Friends of Denmark:

My country is privileged and grateful to have many friends among the peoples and nations of the world. But your country, your people and your city enjoy a place of special affection in American hearts.

We have learned the great qualities of the Danish people in the finest possible way -- by having them come to live among us, as neighbors and friends. We have admired your efforts in both adversity and prosperity. And I might add, every American child enjoys singing of -- and dreaming of -- "wonderful, wonderful Copenhagen."

We are very glad to be here and we are most grateful for the warm welcome we received -- for the memorable experience of meeting with Their Majesties and the lovely Princesses -- and for the gracious courtesy of this occasion tonight.

We have come as friends, knowing we are among friends, to talk as old and good friends of those things which mean most to our common aspirations and our common destiny.

These are hopeful times for free men. There is a rising hope for peace -- for progress toward a more just world -- for

eventual realization of universal prosperity among all mankind. We of the United States believe such high and hopeful goals can be achieved -- if we of the west, we of the free world, do not allow ourselves to become victims of our own illusions.

If we have advanced toward peace, it is because the western nations have stood united in upholding the indispensable shield of the North Atlantic Alliance. It would be illusion to expect that the works of peace would continue if that unity and resolve should lessen.

The same is true for the economic success and prosperity which has flourished in our community of nations under those conditions of peace maintained by our common unity and strength. It would be illusion to expect such gains to continue unless we continue the spirit of dedication which has distinguished our great alliance of mutual purpose.

We of the United States are determined -- and we feel sure you share this determination with us -- that the great opportunity born of the upsurge of western unity shall not be lost in a decline of western realism.

A great new age of human progress is opening before us with new horizons of science, of space exploration, of trade, of international cooperation. We are challenged not merely to maintain the habit of working together -- but to expand and increase our joint collaboration.

We of the United States hope to join with you and your

neighbors in lowering the barriers of trade between us, to deepen and widen Danish American collaboration in exploration of space for peaceful purposes, and to bring our respective purposes into even closer accord.

For the Danish people -- as for the American people -- the broad horizons of the future have always been appealing and exciting. Those horizons have never been so broad -- or so appealing -- as now. We are proud to share with you the efforts and labors of attaining the high promise this new age of man offers for us all.

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Page 1

55

Sept. 15, 1963

TO: SECSTATE, WASHINGTON

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Authority E.O. 11652 SEC. 5(A) and (D)

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By iso, NARS, Date 5-7-76

(Following MemCon cleared with Vice President.)

Vice President and Ambassador Blair met with Prime Minister Krag, Foreign Minister Haekkerup, and other government leaders for hour and a half Saturday morning. Press admitted to initial portion meeting covering Danish signature and presentation note agreeing to communications satellite program. Krag then asked Fonmin to discuss EFTA ministerial just concluded in Helsinki.

Trade and Shipping -- Fonmin stated EFTA countries with population only 90 million have same size export trade as US, with double population. He added that increasing EFTA trade, standard of living and production makes group important partner of US, and one which wants to cooperate with us. Fonmin expressed hope that EFTA group could talk EEC neighbors into ending divergence of economic policies of two groups. He added that Denmark concerned that unity for defense could not endure indefinitely if at same time NATO allies in Europe divided into two economic blocs engaged in trade war with each other; Denmark as large trader with all members both groups particularly concerned over situation.

Krag noted that an EEC discriminatory policy toward agricultural products could be very damaging to Danes since EEC absorbs 15% of Danish agricultural export. He said that German Fonmin Schroeder on recent visit to Denmark had expressed willingness

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-2-

to work with Danes in this field but had seemed to doubt other EEC partners would allow it. Fonmin interjected that French Premier Pompidou, on contrary, had told Danish Government that French would not oppose in principle any accord reached by Danes and Germans. Krag then requested that U.S. use its influence with EEC with Denmark's problems in mind and added that Denmark was strong supporter of European political union also.

Vice President expressed understanding of Danish commercial interests, and stated that next to objective of peace, liberal trade policy was most important objective of Kennedy administration. He pointed out administration had staked whole reputation on principle that protectionism incompatible with prosperity; TEA passed last year is most liberal US trade policy ever. Regarding prospects for economic union, Vice President pointed out that our influence on other nations often overstated but that we followed world trade developments with intense interest. He said we believed every nation must choose its course in light of own interests but US policy was to break down our tariff walls towards other countries in belief they would reciprocate. He stressed US interest in increasing our exports while at same time increasing opportunity for others to furnish fruits of their skill and technology to US market. Vice President extended hearty invitation to Prime Minister and his wife to come to US next fall to

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-3-

participate in occasion honoring Scandinavian culture and people and to be guest on Johnson ranch. He hoped Prime Minister could arrange that his elections not conflict with this occasion. Krag expressed appreciation for invitation.

Fonmin made brief statement on subject shipping policy in which he associated Denmark with sentiments he knew had been expressed by Norwegian government.

Danish-Soviet Relations and Effect on Post Test-Ban Era -- Fonmin stated that he slated to go to USSR this fall and Prime Minister probably would go in winter or spring of 1964. He described these as normal exchange of visits and stated Khrushchev might also make return to all Scandinavian countries next year. Krag stressed that all of Scandinavian Prime Ministers, including his predecessors, have visited USSR and that Khrushchev return has been hanging fire for several years owing to frequent postponements brought on by international situation. He stated he was not sure how Swedes felt about Khrushchev visit in wake of Wennerstrom spy case, but Fonmin assured him Swedes had said they would stand by their invitation. Krag said Fonmin's visit to USSR this November would be for renewal Danish-Soviet trade agreement.

Vice President then described US evaluation of present situation following test-ban agreement. He expressed hope that we will have clearer idea of developments in world by next year and suggested that

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-4-

Krag's visit to Moscow can make solid contribution to our mutual goal, which also primary goal of all mankind, construction of true and lasting peace. Vice President spoke eloquently of October Cuban crisis, emphasizing closeness of world to brink of war; he said history alone would determine if this had been true turning point, but his own evaluation as of today was that it had been. Resolution and firmness of American President and of America's allies, combined with awful proximity of nuclear war had brought home to US importance of our faithful friends and allies and had brought home to Soviets the impossibility of continuing their belligerent policy. Vice President pointed out to the Danish government representatives, that President Kennedy believed that there had never been a time when maintenance and reenforcement of non-provocative defensive strength had been more important than the present.

The Vice President acknowledged with hearty appreciation Denmark's contribution to Western defensive strength, particularly its making available to us base rights in Greenland. He acknowledged appreciatively Denmark's contribution to NATO and in the peace-keeping efforts of the UN to bring about lasting peace. He reminded Danish representatives that if our mutual defense were maintained and increased then test-ban treaty might well be first of many steps towards sound basis for peace. Pointing out care of President Kennedy to avoid provocative steps, Vice President emphasized need for caution -- peace was not inevitable

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-5-

but its chances were substantially improved if everyone increased efforts a little more. If Denmark and our other allies were able to give small extra bit to defense posture now, Vice President suggested, it might be little bit needed to get us over hump on road to peace.

Vice President spoke forcefully of benefits to all Americans and Danes if world could reduce by half vast sums now being spent on weapons. If true peace were established by remaining strong now, then U.S. for example, could devote half of nearly \$60 billion it was spending on defense and on space to creating better world. Vice President stated that peace was primary goal of Kennedy Administration; trade, taxes and all other subjects had lower priority.

Turning to US-Danish relations, Vice President expressed appreciation for many thousands of Danish American citizens. He assured Danish Government that United States stood solidly with Denmark and would always place high value on that alliance and reminded his hearers that US guarantee of Greece and Turkey had preserved liberties of those nations also. He concluded by asking Danish Government to reexamine its policies with view to strengthening defense posture in coming months in order to improve chances of continued Soviet motivation toward peace. Prime Minister Krag thanked Vice President for his eloquent and forceful presentation, saying that no-one could add word to his summation.

Space Prospects -- Prime Minister Krag invited Vice President to discuss prospects in space and their relationship to defense. Vice

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-6-

President said that his speech same night would be on this subject. He pointed out that no nation or group of nations could be first on earth and second in space and recalled that US had seen in 1958 necessity for matching and surpassing the Soviet high-thrust missiles for space exploration. The Vice President illustrated forcefully importance of weather control and forecasting, communications control, and navigation for both military and peaceful uses.

Turning to economic aspects of space effort, he showed effect on standards of living, personal comfort, wages, health, and food, illustrating presentation with statistics on single state of California following research and development expenditures of \$5 billion in last year's appropriation. Pointing out that multiplier effect of R&D expenditures made sum equal to \$25 billion in benefits, he pointed out that this exceeded gross personal income of Texas with all its oil, cotton, cattle, and lumber resources. Noting that 5000 new firms producing 3000 new products had come into being since passage of Johnson-McCormack Space Act, he forecast expenditure of an additional \$40 to \$50 billion during this decade for space exploration and research. Drawing on this material he affirmed that same phenomenal growth would happen in Denmark and other Scandinavian countries if these countries developed their skill and intellectual resources. Vice President reminded Danish representatives that numbers were unimportant and that quality alone counted in space effort, which could come

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-7-

from them just as well as from US. For this contribution the small technologically advanced nations of Scandinavia were particularly qualified, as evidenced in note signed today by Denmark to establish cooperation with US in communication satellites.

Vice President then explained imaginatively prospects for world of five years hence. He described discoveries in plastics field and in medical research for a quick tuberculosis cure growing from preparation for Col Glenn's space flight. He pointed to prospects of intercontinental television conferences between statesmen. He described Tiros weather satellite warning which had saved population in Galveston this past year from worse disaster than 1903 hurricane, and said US decision to build supersonic airliner would, before he reached high school age, permit Krag's little son to fly to America in little over an hour. In conclusion, Vice President welcomed glorious adventure and described as blessing the opportunity for Scandinavians and Americans to prove their worthiness to live in and be part of space age.

Prime Minister Krag hailed grand and inspiring perspective of Vice President's presentation and expressed his gratitude for it, noting very great interest with which he and his colleagues followed it.

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Drafted by: SRGannon/V.P. Wilber/mf
Clearances: S/S R Kent

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September 15, 1963

HOLD FOR RELEASE UPON DELIVERY

DEPARTURE STATEMENT, COPENHAGEN, SEPTEMBER 16, 1963

It is with real reluctance that we must take our leave so soon from Denmark and the wonderful Danish people. We came to your country as old friends, proud of the long history of good relations between us as friends and allies in common cause.

We depart now believing confidently that our old friendship has acquired new meaning, new understanding and new promise for the future. In both our official discussions and our cordial personal meetings with the leaders of the Danish Government, we have found a depth of mutual purpose which is most heartening.

Denmark and America work together in the determined search for peace, but Denmark and America shall continue to stand together unwaveringly in support of the great North Atlantic Alliance.

If I may, I would like to say here that our mission to each of the Scandinavian countries has been deeply gratifying and most successful. We of the United States have long enjoyed the close ties of kinship with these fine lands. More persons of Scandinavian origin live in our country than anywhere else outside of Scandinavia. But looking to the future we fully realize that the ties between us can be, must be, and will be based upon much

more than just our traditional affection.

Northern Europe is a center of growing importance in and for the rapidly advancing technological world of the last half of the Twentieth Century. In many realms of scientific endeavor, intellectual and cultural exchange, trade and commerce, we believe the time has come when we can work together much more closely -- to the mutual benefit of all. I am confident this mission -- the first of its kind by a Vice President of my country -- will have lasting influence far beyond this moment of departure.

Mr. Prime Minister, Mrs. Krag, friends of Denmark, we thank you for your cordiality and warmth which we shall never forget. Our best wishes go to all the people of Denmark -- for continued success, for continuing happiness, and for permanent peace.

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Action
EUR~~CONFIDENTIAL~~Control: 12455
Rec'd: September 17, 1963
3:53 PMFROM: Copenhagen

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 228, September 17, 7 PM (SECTION 1 of 2)

PRIORITY

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In Embassy opinion Vice President's visit Denmark most successful in helping realize US objectives particularly psychological and public relations goals impressing on Danes at all levels importance we attach to their friendship and support as members NATO Alliance. Public activities Mr. Johnson provided dramatic and widely noted evidence sincerity of US interest Danish problems and served to emphasize traditional bonds friendship between two countries pointing up particularly US appreciation contribution several generations Danish immigrants to American arts, sciences and professions.

On substantive level believe talks with PRIMIN Krag and FONMIN Haekverup highly useful and reassuring to Danish government particular Vice President's expression of gratitude for Greenland bases and strong emphasis on Kennedy Administration efforts establish secure peace by retaining strong Western defense posture.

As reported EMBTEL 217 prepared by Gammon, PRIMIN Krag described Johnson presentation as providing "grand and inspiring perspective" on world problems. Adjectives such as this rare in Krag's lexicon since like many Scandinavian leaders he tends to cautious reserve in both public and private comments. Similar tone taken by Krag in briefing Danish press immediately following talks. He told reporters Vice President had presented some "very interesting and optimistic perspectives" concerning probable impact atomic test ban treaty and outlook for future progress in space research, /particularly

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-2- 228, September 17, 7 PM (SECTION 1 of 2), from Copenhagen particularly the latter.

With reference technical arrangements for trip and management program details Embassy concurs observation Stockholm's 28 to Department that more reliance should be placed on Ambassador at Post for advice on local considerations and clearance texts public statements. Also noteworthy that while frequent and late changes in program details probably inevitable they are certain cause some disappointments cancellation Greenland portion of visit has so far caused little unfavorable official or public comment but some disappointment apparent. Semi-official social democratic newspaper AKTUELT most understanding on this point and commented editorially "we take off our hat for a man who as best he can tries to live up to inhuman demands by dropping less essential commitments".

Little strictly editorial comment on visit has so far appeared. However several interpretive articles by prominent Danish special feature writers most favorable in tone. For example, the independent financial Copenhagen newspaper BORSEN reported on September 15 that "when Lyndon Johnson was leaving for American Ambassador's residence after the conference at the Danish Foreign Office, 100 Copenhageners gathered outside the main entrance of the Hotel Royal and Mr. Johnson crossed the street to shake hands. This caused tremendous cheering and an unknown Dane stepped forward to call for a hoorah for the Vice President. Mr. Johnson seemed deeply touched."

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INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Rec'd:

September 17, 1963

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FROM: Copenhagen

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 228, September 17, 7 pm (Section two of two)

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The Conservative Copenhagen newspaper BERLINGSKE AFTENAVIS on September 16 quoted Prime Minister Krag as saying at the departure ceremony that he had found Mr. Johnson to be a friend of Denmark and of the Nordic countries. "I also see a personal friend in him," Krag added, "I look forward to seeing him again." Several Danish newspapers, including normally left-wing DEMOKRATEN OF AARHUS, called attention to the Vice President's comment during the substantive talks at the Foreign Office that it would be a mistake to reduce military preparedness because of the atomic test ban treaty. DEMOKRATEN related this remark directly to proposals which have recently been made in Denmark for reduction of the period of compulsory military service. The influential Radical Liberal newspaper POLITIKEN said that such reductions might influence American opinion against giving additional assistance to the Western allies.

Krag tended in his press briefing to point up his own remarks to Vice President re alleged US discrimination against Scandinavian countries in merchant shipping policy. This to be expected considering intense Danish interest in subject and was astute effort by Krag to capture headlines Danish press on subject. Embassy countered same day with background press briefing of its own concerning subjects covered in talks. Copenhagen press following morning (September 15) gave prominent position to Vice President's remarks concerning outer space research and US efforts preserve world peace while retaining strength Western

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-2- 228, September 17, 7 pm, From Copenhagen (Section two of two)

alliance. Krag's reference to US shipping policy covered by most papers as subordinate theme. However Embassy feels strong hint made by Krag to Vice President and later to press concerning desirability "negotiations" on shipping questions may be prelude to further efforts this direction.

Further on substantive talks Embassy views Krag reference to Danish aspiration "for a United Europe in broad sense" as new and healthy indication Denmark's official commitment to support outward looking economic policies in "Atlantic Community" spirit both within EFTA now and possible later within EEC if Danes should succeed obtaining membership with Great Britain.

As to overall impact visit on Danish public following selected press comments are considered by Embassy to be representative:

Conservative BERLINGSKE TIDENDE September 13 said "he is on his way (to Denmark). He has been called the USA's most influential politician..." Independent KRISTELIGT DAGBLAD September 14, "a fantastic welcome. He could not have been received with greater warmth..." Radical Liberal POLITIKEN September 13 recalled that President Eisenhower had referred to Vice President Johnson as "the best Democratic in the Senate." Conservative BERLINGSKE TIDENDE September 13 prior to Mr. Johnson's arrival referred to him as "the President's messenger--an experienced political strategist with considerable influence in the American Government."

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60

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Tour d'horizon

Place: Iceland

PARTICIPANTS:

Date: September 16, 1963

Prime Minister Thors
Foreign Minister Gudmundsson
Minister of Justice Benediktsson
Minister of Education and Commerce Gislason
Minister of Agriculture Jonsson

Vice President Johnson
Ambassador Penfield
Mr. Samuel Gammon

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The Vice President expressed his great pleasure at having this opportunity to visit Iceland and the Icelandic people. He pointed out that he had encountered great interest in every Scandinavian land on the subject of the test ban treaty and its after effects; therefore, he wished to say a few words to the representatives of the Government of Iceland on this subject. The Vice President stated that he believed the treaty would be ratified by the American Senate during this week. He then stressed the direct connection of the October Cuban crisis with the test ban treaty in inducing Khrushchev to abandon his policy of "winner take all". The withdrawal of Soviet missiles from Cuba might well prove the turning point toward true peace in the cold war. He stressed the necessity of exercising due caution with regard to Soviet policy following our experience a few days before the Cuban crisis in receiving absolute and completely false assurance from Gromyko that there were no missiles in Cuba.

Nevertheless, the Vice President continued, the test ban treaty was a truly optimistic sign. Optimism is necessary for every people and he personally regarded this as the most hopeful sign since World War II. Prime Minister Thors expressed emphatic agreement with the Vice President's optimistic statement; he pointed out that it was necessary to begin the search for peace with a first step, and he quoted President Kennedy in this vein. The Icelandic Government and people believed the test ban treaty to be a truly hopeful sign.

The Vice President briefed the Icelandic representatives on his substantive conversations with the Prime Ministers of the other Scandinavian countries, characterizing them as very encouraging. He said that all four Northern European Governments are most interested in discussing the prospects for peace in the wake of the test ban agreement. He said the topic of next most interest to them was trade and after that space research and exploration and their impact on the economies of all countries.

The Vice President

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The Vice President turned to the subject of foreign aid pointing out that although the United States was having some difficulty in the Congress with this year's foreign aid bill, he expected that the Administration would still obtain a satisfactory bill. Prime Minister Thors interjected that Iceland was deeply grateful for the generous aid it had received from the United States. He characterized United States foreign aid as unprecedented in the history of the world for its generosity and affirmed that Iceland well realized that there were limits to American aid capacity. The United States, he said, could be sure that Iceland would not crowd this limit and above all that it would not make a new aid request during the Vice President's most welcome visit. The Vice President confirmed that the United States had spent one billion dollars since World War II on aid. He stressed that we regarded this as an investment toward keeping the peace and preserving the liberties of free men. He thanked Icelandic representatives warmly for Iceland's contribution toward keeping the peace through maintaining Western strength without provocation. He stated that the United States was grateful for Iceland's assistance to this goal through our bases in Iceland.

The Vice President informed Prime Minister Thors and his colleagues that he was investigating the question of American aid for the Keflavik-Reykjavik Road project in which he would give sympathetic consideration to Iceland's needs. He pointed out that although Iceland was a small country, its staunchness and the high quality of its people were well known. He stressed that numbers were unimportant but that the two important questions were: for what one stands and with whom one stands. On this subject, the Vice President affirmed, we had no doubts about Iceland.

Prime Minister Thors responded with an eloquent and forceful statement that Iceland and its people stand firmly with the United States and for the same ideas, for whose defense the Icelanders were ready to give their lives. As for Iceland's contributions to joint Western defense, they had been made also in Iceland's own interest. Prime Minister Thors stated that his Government was strongly in favor of NATO and would continue to work to strengthen Iceland's program on NATO policy. He concluded by thanking the Vice President warmly for his remarks about the Keflavik highway.

The Vice President stated his personal interest in Iceland and undertook to keep Iceland's interest in mind in his activities at Washington. The discussion ended with a restatement by the Vice President of his gratitude toward his Icelandic hosts during his visit.

SGammon:ml
September 19, 1963

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62

Hold for Release at 1330 Sept. 16, 1963

Following is text of luncheon toast by Vice President Johnson.

"Mr. President, distinguished guests: Your words are most generous and most appreciated and I thank you on behalf of President Kennedy and the American people. We consider ourselves very fortunate to have this privilege of visiting your stalwart land. Our American ties with Iceland are old and strong. In fact, they reach back for a thousand years when your intrepid explorer, Leif Eriksson, first came to the shores of North America. It is symbolic of the long affection between our peoples that his statue overlooking your city was presented by the American Congress and the American people.

"We are drawn together in common purpose, more than history. For generations, Americans have admired your achievements and success against the rigors of nature and we have especially admired your courageous devotion to the democratic way of life. What you have done--and the influence you have exerted upon the affairs of the world--are far out of proportion to the numbers of your population.

"Your institutions have been exulted by many. Your artists and thinkers have won world recognition for their contributions to Western culture. Your unwavering support of freedom and democracy has been an inspiration to all like-minded nations and we are proud to stand with Iceland as friend and ally.

"In this spirit, I would like to propose a toast to you, Mr. President, and to the people of Iceland."

63

28





RELEASE:



UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE, AMERICAN EMBASSY, REYKJAVIK

FOR RELEASE AT 5:15 P.M., September 16, 1963 (Reykjavik time)

TEXT OF VICE PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S SPEECH AT HASKOLABIO

Reykjavik, Iceland, September 16 - The following is the full text of the speech delivered by U. S. Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson at a joint meeting of the Vardberg, Icelandic-American Society and the Society for Western Cooperation here today:

We are most grateful for the honor you pay our country--and the friendship between our people--by welcoming us as you have today and by coming to this assembly tonight.

This is a visit to which I have long looked forward. We in America learn early in life the story of your great explorer, Leif Erikson. Along with that story, we acquire--and carry through life--an image of the people of Iceland as courageous, stalwart figures from an almost legendary land. It has been a life-long ambition for me to come to Iceland and meet your people.

This day has fulfilled my expectations many times over.

Our visit to your country comes at the end of a gratifying and rewarding mission to each of the Northern lands--Sweden, Finland, Norway, Denmark and now Iceland. With each of these lands, we in the United States have many proud and binding ties of common heritage, common values and common goals. We cherish the history, both ancient and more recent. But we find now a new and exciting promise for the future, and it is of this future that we come to talk together tonight.

In our world today, there is an encouraging sense of global community uniting the peoples of all continents in more and more common endeavors. We hope and expect this tide in the affairs of man will continue to run and bring us to new shores of achievement of all mankind.

But hopeful as this prospect may be, realism requires us to acknowledge that for the present--in the here and now--there remain marked distinctions in the stage of development attained by societies of different global areas.

My country is privileged to be actively associated and allied with those groups of countries which have enjoyed the most marked advance.

We recognize the blessings and good fortune which have come to us--and to our people--because of the places and time we occupy in the world and in history. But we regard this not as a basis for claiming privilege to exercise dominion over others. On the contrary, we regard these circumstances as demanding of us and requiring of us the most exacting exercise of responsibility.

We believe the success of the developed societies shall have been achieved in vain unless the successful concern themselves with the aspirations of the less developed.

We believe the strength of the strong societies shall have been built in vain unless the strong concern themselves with assuring peace.

We believe the freedom of the free societies cannot have its fullest meaning until all men in all societies live under freedom.

These beliefs are--and will continue to be--basic to the policies, programs and purposes of the United States. While we hold these convictions with the strongest dedication, we of the United States do not regard dedication as a justification for dogma.

If free men are to be truly free, they must be able to set their own course, fashion their own societies, hold to their own values, fulfill their own destinies and opportunities. This requires defense against those enemies of freedom who would impose an alien will by armed aggression or subversion. But it also means that the dignity of each society must be free from the dogma of any others--whether enemy or friend.

In the North Atlantic Alliance--of which Iceland and United States are part--the world has been offered an inspiring and convincing example of what can be achieved in this regard. Our alliance in NATO is based on the modern realism that free societies must stand together if they are to resist subjugation by international aggressors. But our alliance for common purpose is not based on compliance with or submission to a standard dogma, and this is a vital source of our alliance's capacity to endure.

Within NATO there are 15 nations representing 15 heritages, 15 traditions, 15 distinctive cultural histories. We speak more than 10 languages and many more dialects. We trace our ethnic heritages to many different origins. Of these differences and distinctions, we are justly and rightfully proud individually and have no thought of sacrificing them or permitting their compromise.

Our systems and laws are equally distinctive, country to country.

Our economies are different and our economic interests differ.

But the supreme fact of our alliance is that none of us are required to submit to the dogma or dictation of those with whom we are so proudly allied.

This is our strength--and we must preserve it.

We have rejected--and we shall continue to reject-- the concept of an alliance eroding the integrity of any of our cultures.

We accept--and we shall continue to accept--the concept of an alliance based not alone on the interests of mutual security but on the values of mutual respect.

Ours is the only such alliance in history and the only such alliance in the world today where allies and partners are not forced to defend themselves against the designs and dogma of fellow allies and partners. Because we are not turning inward, because we are not reduced to suspicions of one another, because we are devoted to common principles we can believe that our alliance will endure long after more rigid and less trusting alliances have shattered.

We of the United States have particular understanding for the desire of individual peoples to retain their identity and integrity. One hundred and eighty years ago our central government was formed as a union of 13 distinctive states. Under our Constitutional system, the 50 states of today retain their identity as 50 equals under our system. Because of our own experience at home, it is repugnant to Americans even to think of alliances which are callous and unfeeling toward the pride and heritage of any members.

We regard the western alliance as an alliance of equals.

We regard it as an alliance which draws its essential unity from common devotion to the same basic ideals of freedom and democracy.

We know that your people-- and our people-- share such devotion with common fervor.

In terms of population, Iceland is the smallest of the NATO nations. But we respect--as the world respects--Iceland's traditional genius for making contributions to the world far out of proportion to population size. Icelanders have made historic contributions to the exploration of our planet. In the forums of international relations--such as the United Nations--Iceland exercises a significant influence for responsibility.

All this befits a country and a people which gave the world the model of the parliamentary systems which support our democratic systems today.

Amid the challenges of the most rugged forces of nature, you have for many centuries forged a vital, stable, constructive and inspiring society--making contributions far beyond your shores.

We are proud to be allied with you and look to you to continue Iceland's uniquely valuable leadership in the progress of Western civilization. As a nation bounded on two sides by the oceans, we also have developed our history in close affinity with the seas--and we understand and appreciate your achievements in fishing and the commerce of the sea. We look with greatest satisfaction upon your desire now to broaden your economic base and to diversify the elements of production for the benefit of all your people.

We believe that a new age is dawning for mankind in the present great undertaking of space exploration. In this new day, we know that space technology will have the most constructive influence for all nations--nations as large as ours, nations as small in population as yours. The measure of a nation's role in the world's space effort will not be resources or wealth or population but, rather, it will be the talent and genius of its people and their minds.

Out of the projects already underway in our space program we expect in the not distant future to see such things as these made possible.

Fishermen and seafarers will be able to know two weeks or two months in advance about the storms on the seas.

Navigators will be able to pinpoint their positions from man-made "stars" with unprecedented accuracy at any hour of night or day, in any kind of weather.

Distress calls from ships--or even life rafts--will be detected and plotted in seconds from satellites hundreds of miles in the sky.

We shall be able to foretell the patterns of nature far in advance--from the formation of storms to the run-off of melting spring snows.

We shall see--in the very next few years--the longest strides of progress man has made in modern times in many realms; weather, communication, navigation, medicines, and many more. The benefits of these gains will be benefits for all mankind, because the basic law governing the space effort of the United States expressly directs that such benefits be shared with other nations.

But the age of space offers more than participation in the benefits and results. It offers to nations like Iceland the opportunity to make contributions to the development of space capabilities. The role of your people will not be limited by geography or climate or resources or population or national wealth. The world will need and will seek the finest of minds and put those talents to use in a great cooperative effort for human betterment.

We welcome this stimulating and hopeful prospect. We believe that the space era now opening will afford particular opportunity for fulfillment of the promise and potential of the nations of the North. We believe, furthermore, that at the end of the long road before us--the road of understanding as allies and cooperation as free men--there lies for us all universal peace, universal justice and universal freedom. It is the prospect of attaining this goal that inspires our continuing joint efforts and leads us to trust our ability always to reach mutual understandings.

We are allied as equals in the greatest cause of man on earth. We are working together as respectful and self-respecting partners and friends. We can and do believe that someday we shall be able to stand together, side by side, in a world of freedom and peace.

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Hold for Release at 2030 Sept. 16, 1961

Following is text of toast at the Prime Minister's dinner by Vice President Johnson.

"Mr. Prime Minister. Distinguished Guests. This evening regretfully brings to a close a most memorable visit to the Nordic Countries. It has been a great and rewarding experience for me to come to these lands, which share so closely with us a deep belief in democratic concepts and determination to preserve them.

"I am particularly pleased to have had the opportunity to visit your truly unusual and beautiful country. Your welcome to me and my party has been one of the most memorable events of our tour.

"Mrs. Johnson has told of some of the farms in Iceland she has visited. Lynda Bird has gone off to spend the evening with perhaps the most encouraging part of Icelandic life, a group of Icelandic youth.

"I am most appreciative of the opportunity to have met and had frank and friendly talks with your President and with the Prime Minister and members of his cabinet.

"We have come to know one another well. My report to the President of the United States on these conversations will gratify him, I know, because it will reflect the mutual understanding and confidence which exists between our two countries. We share the same ideals and aspirations: We are linked in a free and equal alliance. We are partners with a common goal, that is, to protect and strengthen our freedom through mutual cooperation.

"I heartily endorse the delightful Nordic custom of permitting the guest to end a meal by saying a proper 'thank you.' In this case, the traditional thanks cover much more. They represent deep appreciation for a memorable experience and friendly relationship. Skaul."

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SP

L CODEL JOHNSON

H

DAC FOR PORTER AND KNOX

E EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT CONCENTRATED ONE-DAY VISIT OF VICE PRESIDENT
AID TO ICELAND WAS RESOUNDING SUCCESS.

P

USIA BREVITY OF VISIT LIMITED LENGTH OF CONVERSATIONS WITH TOP ICELANDIC
NSC GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS BUT PERMITTED VICE PRESIDENT TO SUMMARIZE
INR EFFECTIVELY US POSITION ON GENERAL TOPICS OF TEST BAN TREATY, NATO
CIA RELATIONSHIPS, SPACE PROGRAM, TRADE, AND BURDENS BORNE BY US AS RESULT
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ARMY PAGE TWO RUDIHS 071 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
NAVY OF HEAVY AID AND MILITARY EXPENDITURES ABROAD.

AIR

O PRIME MINISTER'S RESPONSE SHOWED FULL UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT FOR
A BASIC US POLICIES. HE EXHIBITED PARTICULARLY KEEN APPRECIATION OF
OPR FINANCIAL AND MILITARY BURDENS IMPOSED ON UNITED STATES AS RESULT
RMR LEADERSHIP IN WORLD AFFAIRS AND PRAISED US INITIATIVE AND RESPONSIBILITY
IN CONCLUDING TEST BAN TREATY. ON LATTER POINT, PRIME MINISTER SAID
HIS OWN FEELING BEST SUMMARIZED BY PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S QUOTATION
OF A CHINESE PROVERB TO EFFECT THAT JOURNEY OF THOUSAND MILES MUST
BEGIN WITH FIRST STEP.

LIMITED TIME PERMITTED DISCUSSION ONLY OF ONE BILATERAL QUESTION,
THAT OF FINANCING KEFLAVIK ROAD. VICE PRESIDENT REFERRED TO US AID
ALREADY EXTENDED IN CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD, SAID HE HAD SYMPATHETIC
APPRECIATION OF PROBLEM AND WAS LOOKING INTO IT BUT COULD MAKE NO
COMMITMENTS ON FUTURE POSSIBILITIES.

HIGH POINT OF VISIT WAS PUBLIC ADDRESS TO PACKED UNIVERSITY AUDITORIUM
AUDIENCE OF OVER 1,000. FOLLOWING ENTHUSIASTIC APPLAUSE AT END OF
SPEECH, BULK OF AUDIENCE WENT OUTSIDE AUDITORIUM TO CHEER VICE PRESIDENT
ON 200 YARD WALK TO HIS HOTEL NEARBY. CROWD ALSO CARRIED OUT HIGHLY
EFFECTIVE COUNTERDEMONSTRATION AGAINST GROUP OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM
ORGANIZATION OF OCCUPATION OPPONENTS (OOO). ANTI-BASE ORGANIZATION
CFN 1,000 200 (OOO).

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By isg, NARS, Date 5-7-76

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PAGE THREE RUDIHS 071 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
INFILTRATED AND USED BY COMMUNISTS. MORGUNBLADID (INDEPENDENCE)
ESTIMATED ANTI-BASE DEMONSTRATORS AT 200 AND PRO-NATO DEMONSTRATORS
AT 2,000. THESE ESTIMATES DOUBTLESS SOMEWHAT WEIGHTED IN FAVOR PRO-
WESTERNERS BUT EMBASSY CONSIDERS THEM FAIRLY ACCURATE. EXCEPT FOR
FEW SCUFFLES, CROWD WAS MANAGEABLE THOUGH HIGHLY DEMONSTRATIVE AND
BOISTEROUS FOR ICELANDERS. VICE PRESIDENT COURAGEOUSLY MADE HIS WAY
THROUGH CROWD TO 000 GROUP WHERE HE WAS POLITELY HANDED "PROTEST"
WHICH HE IMMEDIATELY PASSED TO AMBASSADOR PENFIELD. BEFORE ENTERING
HOTEL VICE PRESIDENT MADE INFORMAL REMARKS FROM STEPS WHICH WERE
RECEIVED SO ENTHUSIASTICALLY BY PRO-NATO ELEMENTS THAT 000 PROTESTS
WERE DROWNED OUT. "WELCOME JOHNSON" BANNERS WERE MANEUVERED IN FRONT
OF "NO SUBMARINES", "FREE NEUTRAL ICELAND", "NO HANDING OVER OF
HVALFJORDUR", ETC., BANNERS DISPLAYED BY 000. (VICE PRESIDENT'S
PARTY HAS COPIES OF "PROTEST", WHICH IS COURTEOUSLY WORDED 3
PAGE LETTER ALLEGING THAT GOI IS ENDEAVORING COVER UP FACT (SIC)
THAT THERE IS "WIDESPREAD MOVEMENT INDEPENDENT OF POLITICAL PARTIES"
200 2,000 000 000 000 3

PAGE FOUR RUDIHS 071 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
AGAINST MILITARY BASES IN ICELAND.) THJODVILJINN (COMMUNIST) REPORTED
RATHER INEFFECTIVELY ON EVENT THIS MORNING USING SUCH DISTORTIONS
AS "THOUSANDS PRESENT WHEN PROTEST HANDED OVER". OTHER THREE PAPERS,
ALL NON-COMMUNIST, GAVE FULL AND POSITIVE COVERAGE TO EVENTS OF DAY.

VISIT WAS VERY USEFUL IN TERMS OF UNDERLINING BOTH ICELANDIC
GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE THE INTEREST OF THE US IN ICELAND, ITS STRATEGIC
IMPORTANCE TO US, NATO AND WEST, AND US-ICELANDIC BILATERAL
RELATIONSHIPS, AS WELL AS OUR DETERMINATION TO WORK FOR WORLD PEACE
IN FULL AND EQUAL PARTNERSHIP WITH ICELAND AND OUR OTHER ALLIES,
A POINT EFFECTIVELY AND REPEATEDLY MADE BY VICE PRESIDENT IN INFORMAL
SPEECHES TO GROUPS ON STREETS THROUGHOUT THE DAY. WHILE MAJORITY
OF ICELANDERS INCREASINGLY UNDERSTAND AND ACCEPT THEIR INTERNATIONAL
RESPONSIBILITIES IN DEFENSE OF FREEDOM AND STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF
ICELAND, PERSONAL HIGH LEVEL US RECOGNITION OF ICELAND'S IMPORTANCE
IN THESE RESPECTS WAS A MUCH NEEDED DEVELOPMENT IN VIEW OF FACT THAT
NO HIGH RANKING AMERICAN HAS VISITED ICELAND IN RECENT YEARS. EMBASSY
BELIEVES VISIT WILL IMPORTANTLY ADVANCE CURRENT TREND OF WIDESPREAD
SUPPORT OF US AND CONFIDENCE IN US AS LEADER OF WEST.

WHILE THIS TREND WAS CLEARLY CONFIRMED AT PUBLIC ADDRESS AND FOLLOWING
OUTDOOR DEMONSTRATION, CONTINUING INGRAINED ICELANDIC ISOLATIONISM,

PAGE FIVE RUDIHS 071 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
HYPERSENSITIVITY ABOUT "INDEPENDENCE" AND STRONG TENDENCY TO ESCHEW
MILITARY ESTABLISHMENTS OF ANY KIND WERE ALSO CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED.
DESPITE COMPLETE LACK OF EXPLOITABLE INCIDENTS OVER PAST TWO YEARS
IN BASE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS, FAILURE TO AROUSE MORE THAN MINIMAL PUBLIC
CONCERN OVER ESSENTIALLY NON-MILITARY HVALFJORDUR INFRASTRUCTURE
PROJECT AND YESTERDAY'S RAINY AND DISAGREEABLE WEATHER, 000 SUCCEEDED
IN TURNING OUT SIZEABLE CROWD BY ICELANDIC STANDARDS.

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-3- 139 SEPT 17, 6 PM FROM REYKJAVIK

VISIT WAS MARKED GZNERALLY BY UNUSUALLY LARGE CROWDS (FOR ICELAND) AND BY UNTYPICALLY DEMONSTRATIVE PUBLIC BEHAVIOR INDICATING STRONG APPROVAL OF U.S. POLICIES AND REFLECTING CLOSE RAPPORT OF VICE PRESIDENT WITH AUDIENCE. AS MORGUNBLADID (INDEPENDENCE) EDITORIALIZED: "ICELANDERS ARE CONSIDERED TO BE RATHER SLOW IN EXPRESSING THEIR FEELINGS. YET THE US VICE PRESIDENT, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, SUCCEEDED IN WINNING THEIR HEARTS TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT IT IS CERTAIN NO FOREIGN POLITICIAN HAS BEEN CHEERED AS MUCH."

GP-4 PENFIELD

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