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Each moment in history is a fleeting time, precious and

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Through the wonders of science, our physical and human

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In throwing wide the horizons of space we have opened our eyes to the horizons of earth.

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What kind of a nation we then have, what kind of a world we have, whether we shape the future in the image of our hopes, is ours to determine by our actions and our choices.

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The second third of this century has been a time of proud acht evement. We have made enormous strides in science and industry and agriculture. We have shared our wealth more broadly than ever, and learned at last to manage a modern economy to assure its continued growth.

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We have given freedom new reach, and begun to make its promise real for black as well as for white.

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No people has ever been so close to the achievement of a just and abundant society, or so possessed of the will to achieve it.

Because our strengths are so great, we can afford to appraise our weaknesses with candor and to approach them with hope.

Standing in this same place a third of a century ago,

Franklin Delano Roosevelt addressed a nation ravaged by depression

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We have found ourselves rich in goods, but to in spirit; reaching with magnificent precision for the moon, but falling into raucous discord here on earth.

We are caught in war, wanting peace. We are torn by division, wanting unity. We see around us empty lives, wanting fulfillment. We see tasks that need doing, waiting for hands to do them.

To a crisis of the spirit, we need an answer of the spirit.

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When we listen to "the better angels of our nature," we find that they celebrate the simple things, and the basic things -- such as goodness, decency, love, kindness.

Greatness comes in simple trappings.

The simple things are the ones most needed today if we are to surmount what divides us, and cement what unites us,

To lower our voices would be a simple thing.

In these difficult years, America has suffered from a fever of words: from inflated rhetoric that promises more than it can possibly deliver; from angry rhetoric that fans discontents into hatreds; from bombastic rhetoric that postures instead of persuading.

We cannot learn from one another until we stop shouting at one another -- until we speak quietly enough so that our words can be heard as well as our voices.

For its part, government will listen. We will strive to
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Those who have been left out, we will try to bring in.

Those left behind, we will help to catch up.

For all of our people, we will set as our goal the decent order that makes progress possible and life and life and life and life.

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It will not be easy to fashion the cords that can bind us in peace. In our lifetimes, we may not fully succeed. But only if we begin -only if we weave them strand by strand, patiently, persistently, will we be true to the most sacred trust of our generation.

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Our destiny offers, not the cup of despair, but the chalice of opportunity. So let us seize it, not in fear, but in gladness -- and, "riders on the earth together," let us go forward, firm in our faith, steadfast in our purpose, cautious of the dangers; but sustained by our confidence in the will of God and the promise of man,

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Draft -- 1/18/69 RWP Smul #

Over the past twenty years, I have visited most of the nations of the world.

I have come to know the leaders of the world, and the great forces and the ancient fears and hatreds that divide the world,

I know that peace does not come through wishing for it -that there is no substitute for days and even years of patient and
prolonged diplomacy.

I also know the people of the world.

I know that the hunger of a child, the grief of a mother who has lost her son, the anguish of the destitute -- these know no national boundaries, no color no race.

I speak from my heart, and the heart of my country, the deep concern that I have for those who suffer, and those who sorrow.

I know America. I know the heart of America is good.

I have taken an oath today in the presence of God and my countrymen. To that oath, I add this sacred commitment: that I shall consecrate my office, my energies, and all the wisdom I can summon, to the cause of peace among nations.

Let this message be heard by strong and weak alike:

The peace we seek to win is not victory over any other

people, but the peace that comes "with healing in its wings;" with

compassion for those who have suffered; with understanding for

those who have opposed us; with the opportunity for all the peoples of

this Earth to choose their own destiny.

It is the hope of this peace that has lifted man's eyes through
the centuries to that bright infinity where the spirit rules transcendent;
It is toward the hope of this peace that America's noblest destiny beckons.

Mr. Chief Justice, President Johnson, Vice President Humphrey, Vice President Agnew, my fellow Americans -- and my fellow citizens of the world community:

I ask you to share with me today the majesty of this moment. In the orderly transfer of power, we celebrate the unity that keeps us free.

Each moment in history is a fleeting time, precious and unique. But some stand out as moments of beginning, in which courses are set that shape decades or centuries.

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We shall plan now for the day when our wealth can be transferred from the destruction of war abroad to the urgent needs of our people at home.

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This can be such a moment.

Forces now are converging that make possible, for the first time, the hope that many of man's deepest aspirations can at last be realized.

The spiraling pace of charge allows us to contemplate, within our own lifetime, advances that once would have taken centuries.

In throwing wide the Morizons of space we have opened our eyes to the horizons of earth.

For the first time, because the people of the world want peace and the leaders are afraid of war, the times are on the side of peace.

Eight years from now America will celebrate its 200th anniversary as a nation. Within the lifetime of most people now living, manking will celebrate that great new year which comes only once in a thousand years -- the beginning of the Third Millenium,

what kind of a nation we will be, what kind of a will world we live in, whether we shape the future in the image of our hopes, is ours to determine by our actions and our choices.

The greatest honor history can bestow is the title of peacemaker. This honor now beckens America: the chance to help lead the world at last out of the valley of turnoil, and onto that high ground of peace man has dreamed of since the dawn of civilization.

If we succeed generations to come will say of us now living that we mastered our moment, that we helped make the world safe for mankind.

This is our summons to greatness.

I believe the American people are ready to answer this call.

The second third of this century has been a time of proud achievement. We have made enormous strides in science and industry and agriculture. We have shared our wealth more broadly than ever, and learned at last to manage a modern economy to assure its continued growth.

We have given freedom new reach, and we have begun to make its promise real for black as well as for white.

We see the hope of tomorrow in the youth of today.

I know America's youth. I believe in them. We can be proud that they are a generation better educated, more committed, more passionately driven by conscience than any that has gone before.

In this past third of a century, government has passed more laws, spent more momey, initiated more programs, than in all our previous history. But we are approaching the limits of what government alone can do.

In pursuing our goals of full employment, better housing, excellence in education; in rebuilding our cities and improving our rural areas; in protecting our environment and enhancing the quality of life; in all these and more, we will press urgently forward.

The American dream does not come to those who fall asleep.

We shall plan for the day when our wealth can be transferred from the destruction of war abroad to the urgent needs of our people at home.

But our need now is to reach beyond government, and to enlist the legions of the concerned and the committed.

What has to be done, has to be done by government and people together or it will not be done at all. The lesson of past agony is that without the people we can do nothing; with the people we can do everything.

To match the magnitude of our tasks, we need the energies of our people -- enlisted not only in grand enterprises, but more importantly in those small, splendid efforts that make headlines in the neighborhood newspaper instead of the national journal.

With these, we can build a great cathedral of the spirit -- each of us raising it one stone at a time, as he reaches out to his neighbor, helping, caring, doing.

I know that peace does not come through wishing for it -- that there is no substitute for days and even years of patient and prolonged diplomacy.

I also know the people of the world.

I know that the hunger of a child, the grief of a .
mother who has lost her son, the anguish of the destitute -these know no national boundaries, no color, and no race.

I speak from my heart, and the heart of my countrythe deep concern that I have for those who suffer, and those who sorrow.

I know America. I know the heart of America is

I have taken an oath today in the presence of God and my countrymen. To that oath, I add this sacred cormitment: that I shall consecrate my office, my energies and all the wisdom I can summon, to the cause of peace among nations.

Let this message be heard by strong and weak alike:

The peace we seek to win is not victory over any other people, but the peace that comes "with healing in its wings;" with compassion for those who have suffered; with understanding for those who have opposed us; with the opportunity for all the peoples of this Earth to choose their own destiny.

Only a few short weeks ago, we shared the glory of man's first sight of the world as God sees it, as a single sphere reflecting light in the darkness.