

**The original documents are located in Box 5, folder “1/25/75 - Remarks for the Alfalfa Club” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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**THE WHITE HOUSE**

WASHINGTON

**SUGGESTED ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**PRESIDENT HUMPHREY,**

**FORMER PRESIDENT BORMAN,**

**FELLOW ALFALFANS AND GUESTS**

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *de*

REMARKS FOR  
THE ALFALFA CLUB

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1975

President Humphrey  
Former President Borman

~~Frank Borman~~  
~~Hubert Humphrey~~  
~~Scorp Jackson~~  
~~George Bush~~

(ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS)

Fellow Alphas  
of Alpha

And in addition

AND ABOVE ALL, LET ME SAY HOW MUCH I ENJOYED THE

MAGNIFICENT VOICE OF MISS BARBARA SHUTTLEWORTH. MISS

SHUTTLEWORTH, YOU ARE A PLEASURE TO THE EAR AND TO THE EYE

AS WELL, MY ONLY DISAPPOINTMENT IS THAT YOU DIDN'T SING

MY FAVORITE SONG. THE ONE THAT'S DEDICATED TO ALL THE

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT. MAYBE YOU KNOW IT.

IT'S CALLED + "I LOVE A PARADE!"

FRANKLY, I WOULDN'T MISS COMING TO AN ALFALFA

CLUB DINNER.

AND IN PARTICULAR, \ TO THE ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE ALFALFA PARTY.

AS A SKIER, \ THIS IS ONE PARTY I CAN

REALLY RELATE TO.

*alfalfa*

IT WAS FOUNDED SIXTY-TWO YEARS AGO --

AND IT'S BEEN GOING DOWNHILL EVER SINCE!

I ALSO LOVE THE NAME OF THE ALFALFA CLUB. FOR THE  
BENEFIT OF THOSE WHO MAY BE ATTENDING THIS DINNER FOR THE FIRST  
TIME, LET ME EXPLAIN HOW THE ALFALFA CLUB CAME TO BE CALLED  
THAT. IT WAS NAMED AFTER THE PLANT THAT SENDS ITS ROOTS  
DOWN THE DEEPEST FOR LIQUID REFRESHMENT. I DON'T KNOW WHAT  
LIQUID IT'S LOOKING FOR + BUT THIS YEAR IT ~~HAD~~ BETTER BE OIL!  
THAT IS ONE THING SCOOP JACKSON AND I AGREE ON.  
IF WE DON'T SOLVE THE OIL PROBLEM — COME 1995, BOEING IS  
GOING TO BE MAKING ROLLER SKATES!

IT IS A PLEASURE TO BE HERE ON THIS HISTORIC  
OCCASION -- THE NOMINATION OF AMBASSADOR GEORGE BUSH FOR  
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. BUT AS A FRIEND AND FELLOW  
ALFAN, I HAVE TO WARN GEORGE THAT POLITICS IS A VERY  
UNCERTAIN BUSINESS. ONE MINUTE YOU'RE UP /-- AND THE  
NEXT MINUTE YOU'RE OUT. DON'T TAKE MY WORD FOR IT.  
ASK THE FELLA WHO WRITES JOKES FOR EARL BUTZ.

SLOW

AND GEORGE, I HAVE TO WARN YOU ABOUT SOME OF THE

MEMBERS OF THE ALFALFA PARTY. THEY'RE TRICKY . . . TAKE OUR

RETIRING PRESIDENT, FRANK BORMAN. YOU LOOK AT HIM AND

HE APPEARS SO CLEAN-CUT — A FORMER ASTRONAUT; A DISTINGUISHED

EXECUTIVE. GEORGE, ALL I CAN SAY IS -- WATCH OUT FOR HIM.

LAST YEAR FRANK BORMAN INTRODUCED ME TO THIS <sup>distinguished</sup> AUDIENCE AND

HE CALLED ME A WARM PERSONALITY. I FELT PRETTY GOOD ABOUT IT

UNTIL I LOOKED UP THE WORD WARM IN THE DICTIONARY. IT SAID:

NOT SO HOT!

outland

SLOW



ONE OF THE THINGS I'VE ALWAYS LIKED ABOUT THE ALFALFA

CLUB -- WE'VE NEVER LOST OUR SENSE OF HUMOR. I KNOW WE

HAVEN'T LOST OUR SENSE OF HUMOR JUST BY LOOKING AT THE TIME

SCHEDULE THEY GAVE ME FOR THIS DINNER. (HOLD UP PAGE AND

READ FROM IT.) IT HAS ITEMS LIKE: 8:18 -- SERVE ENTREE.

8:35 -- REMOVE PLATES. 8:40 SERVE SALAD. BUT THE ITEM

THAT REALLY PROVED WE HAVEN'T LOST OUR SENSE OF HUMOR, IT IS

THIS: 9:50 -- CANDIDATE'S ACCEPTANCE SPEECH. PRESIDENT

HUBERT HUMPHREY RESPONDS -- BRIEFLY.

GENTLEMEN -- SENATOR HUMPHREY IS A DEAR FRIEND

OF MINE AND I CAN STILL REMEMBER THE VERY FIRST TIME I EVER

HEARD HIM SPEAK AT THE ALFALFA CLUB. HUBERT WAS IN THE

SECOND HOUR / - OF A FIVE MINUTE TALK . . .

I COULDN'T FIND MY PROGRAM, SO I LEANED OVER TO

*Alfalfa*  
THE ~~MEMBER~~ SITTING NEXT TO ME AND ASKED, "WHAT FOLLOWS

SENATOR HUMPHREY?" HE LOOKED AT HIS WATCH, THEN HE

LOOKED AT ME AND SAID, "CHRISTMAS!"

NOW FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO MIGHT BE A LITTLE CONFUSED  
BY MY REFERRING TO HUBERT AS PRESIDENT HUMPHREY -- LET ME  
EXPLAIN THIS IN A VERY CLEAR AND CONCISE WAY: *I wish I had a  
chart here.*

HUBERT HUMPHREY IS THE PRESIDENT OF THE ALFALFA CLUB  
AND I AM A MEMBER OF THE ALFALFA CLUB. I AM ALSO PRESIDENT  
OF THE UNITED STATES. NOW | I HAVE NEVER BEEN PRESIDENT OF THE  
ALFALFA CLUB BUT | HUBERT WAS VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES  
WHEN I WAS MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE.

*Can't you get the picture?*

SLOW

THEN PRESIDENT HUMPHREY -- AND AS I EXPLAINED,

THIS IS PRESIDENT OF THE ALFALFA CLUB, AS DIFFERENTIATED FROM

GEORGE BUSH, WHO IS RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

ON THE ALFALFA TICKET -- PRESIDENT HUMPHREY RAN FOR PRESIDENT

OF THE UNITED STATES WHILE I RAN FOR CONGRESS -- NOT KNOWING

THAT I WOULD SOME DAY BE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

BUT NOT OF THE ALFALFA CLUB -- AT THE SAME TIME PRESIDENT

HUMPHREY, OF THE ALFALFA CLUB, WHO WAS NOW SENATOR HUMPHREY

OF MINNESOTA -- OUR FORMER VICE PRESIDENT AND CANDIDATE FOR

PRESIDENT -- WOULD SHORTLY BE KNOWN, AND JUSTIFIABLY SO,

AS ALFALFA'S GREATEST FUTURE FORMER VICE PRESIDENT.

YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED TO KNOW, THAT IN MY

SPARE TIME, I ALSO WRITE THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE INCOME TAX.

WELL, YOU ALL KNOW I DON'T MEAN A WORD OF  
WHAT I'VE BEEN SAYING, AND IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING  
THAT I HAVE THE HIGHEST REGARD, ADMIRATION AND  
AFFECTION FOR SENATOR HUMPHREY, SENATOR JACKSON, AND  
ALL OF MY FELLOW ALFALFANS. BUT EVEN MORE, I HAVE  
A HEART FILLED WITH GRATITUDE FOR THE GOOD WORDS, THE  
GOOD FUN, AND THE GOOD FELLOWSHIP THAT AN EVENING LIKE  
THIS AFFORDS ME.

AS A SONG ONCE PUT IT, "THE DAYS DWINDLE DOWN TO

A PRECIOUS FEW." IN THE WHITE HOUSE, IT IS THE <sup>careful</sup> ~~FREE~~ HOURS

THAT DWINDLE DOWN TO A PRECIOUS FEW. AND SO -- I SPEND

<sup>careful</sup> THESE ~~FREE~~ HOURS WITH GREAT CARE. TONIGHT, I THANK YOU all

~~ALL~~ FOR HELPING ME TO INVEST THEM SO REWARDINGLY IN THE LAND

OF ALFALFA.

THANK YOU AND GOOD NIGHT.

END OF TEXT



No matter how you put it/  
You are a distinguished group/  
A great bunch of Rays / and  
I proud to be a Member.