

H97-66-22 Pt. 2

Hubert H. Humphrey

July 4, 1967

Centennial site, Fairbanks, Alaska

Charlie Mayse, recorder

Hubert H. Humphrey thanks all the people who have put the centennial celebration. He has enjoyed his stay in Fairbanks. He appreciated the hospitality.

He recently went to South Korea with a delegation. He talked about Congressman Spark Matsunaga from Hawaii. He talked about visiting Anchorage and Seward. He said his wife visited Fairbanks in 1964. She had an enjoyable visit in Fairbanks. He said the president would have enjoyed visiting Fairbanks, but he was glad to be visiting Alaska. Senator Gruening has wanted Hubert Humphrey to visit Alaska for a long time. Vice-President Hubert Humphrey talked about the flag of Alaska. He said Alaska has not yet begun to touch its resources. He said the gold, timber and fisheries are only the beginning and the discovery of oil in Alaska will be an economic breakthrough for the state of Alaska. He thinks there will be much progress in agriculture, small industries, electrical power, and new mineral discoveries. He spoke of the old buildings of the old pioneers and the pioneers of the present. He encouraged Alaska to educate and train the young people in the state. He said there is great talent in the Native people in the state. The beauty of America is found in its people. It is the great diversity and variety of people that makes up the vitality of the nation. America is still a young nation and vital. He thinks Alaska is an inspiration for the country. He thought the 1867 purchase was a wonderful real estate deal. He pondered if this did not happen and Alaska was still in the hands of the Russians. Alaska is the gateway to the Pacific and the Orient. It represents one of the largest land masses in the United States. He decided it was appropriate to celebrate Independence Day in Alaska which was celebrating its centennial. He was planning to fly back to Minneapolis and then on to Washington.