

FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an
administrative marker by the William J. Clinton
Presidential Library Staff.**

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: Speechwriting

Series/Staff Member: Jeff Shesol

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 19942

FolderID:

Folder Title:

RFK [Robert F. Kennedy] Statement 6/6/98

Stack:

S

Row:

91

Section:

6

Shelf:

10

Position:

1

RFU Radio address 6/6/68

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

He was becoming something new

not lost more of the same

courageous enough

+ admit failure
to confront fate

He asked
crowd to
dedicate selves
to that as he did

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

RFU radio address
12:15 6/6/48

Traveled very far; indeed. Hard to believe
that one who had been in constant motion —
building new coalition, posing new ?s
and new ideas ...

Could ever rest, even in death.

Distrust bureauc. — no trad. central sol's
erode distinct b/w lib. + cons.
if he subscribed to any pol. doctrine
it was pragmatism — infused w/
characteristic moral urgency + faith
in spirit of Am people

Concern for those on the margins

Essential + agonizing reappraisal
of govt action at home +
intervention abroad.

bridged R+L, old + new,
B+W generations
(WWII to young gen)

T

Draft 06/04/98 11:00am

Jeff Eneke

Paul
San
Poderra

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
RADIO ADDRESS ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE DEATH OF ROBERT F. KENNEDY

June 6, 1998

Thirty years ago, I scaled the heights of hope with Robert F. Kennedy. I watched intently, in the last days before my graduation from college, as he confronted new challenges, posed new questions, faced the unexpected and never flinched. And thirty years ago today, I -- like so many others around the world -- fell to the depths of despair. It seemed impossible to me that this man of constant motion could ever be at rest, even in death.

But Robert Kennedy would not wish us to dwell upon our loss. He had lost much, in his short life, but he never lost faith; in suffering, he struggled to find wisdom. On the night our nation lost Martin Luther King, Robert Kennedy appeared before a crowd in a poor neighborhood of Indianapolis. The night was cold, and Kennedy stood hunched in a black overcoat. "Let us dedicate ourselves," he said, "to what the Greeks wrote so many years ago: to tame the savageness of man and make gentle the life of this world."

Like Martin Luther King, Robert Kennedy dedicated himself to that, and enriched and ennobled our nation. Robert Kennedy ran for President, as he said, "to close the gaps . . . between black and white, between rich and poor, between young and old." And in a time of division, more than any American, he bridged those gaps -- reaching out to starving families in Mississippi and unemployed miners in West Virginia, to migrant workers in California and struggling teens in the cities of New York State. He touched their lives and, just as important, they touched his. He changed and grew as a result, becoming a fuller person and a better, wiser leader.

In changing times, Robert Kennedy was one of the first to see that old solutions did not always fit new challenges, either at home or abroad. "We can do better," he so often said, and pushed his government and himself to do no less. To Robert Kennedy, labels like "left" and "right" meant little. Dogmas were to be discarded. If he subscribed to any political doctrine, it was pragmatism -- infused with the moral urgency of his faith and of his times.

Robert Kennedy's legacy is every bit as vital today. The distance of three decades cannot silence the power of his words or diminish the impact of his actions. We still hear his appeal to the best qualities of the American spirit. We strive to answer his insistent challenge to do good, and to do better. And on this day of reflection, when the thoughts of all Americans are with his large and loving family, we can do the memory of Robert Kennedy no greater honor than to dedicate ourselves, as he did, to tame the savageness of man, and make gentle the life of this world.

last pol to appeal to poor blacks and poor whites ... [until BC]



SUNTUM M @ A1
06/05/98 05:17:00 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: EMBARGOED TRANSCRIPT: Radio Address

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Lincoln, Massachusetts)

Embargoed For Release
Until 10:06 A.M. EDT
Saturday, June 6, 1998

RADIO ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT TO THE NATION

THE PRESIDENT: Good morning. Before I begin today's address, I want to speak very briefly about the most important issue before the Congress right now, one that affects our children most of all -- the tobacco bill.

This is a critical moment of truth for Congress. Senator McCain and Senator Hollings and others have brought to the floor a landmark proposal to protect our children from tobacco. There's broad consensus for this bill -- it's reasonable, bipartisan, in the best interest of our children. But for weeks now the Senate hasn't acted as a few members have done everything they could to protect big tobacco by putting off a vote.

Today I say to them the delay has gone on long enough. You are not just trying to kill the tobacco bill, you are standing in the way of saving one million children's lives. The American people will not stand for it. The Senate should do nothing else until it passes tobacco legislation and it should pass it this week.

(The following is for Immediate Release.)

Thirty years ago, like millions of young Americans, I scaled the heights of hope with Robert F. Kennedy in his campaign for President. I watched intently in the last days before my graduation from college as he took his case to the American people, confronting new challenges, posing new

questions, reaching across the racial divide and reaching out to the forgotten Americans. Thirty years ago today, I, like so many others around the world, felt pain, despair, a sense of deeply personal loss -- and a sense of loss for my country that our troubled land had been denied a leader who could bind us together, change course and move us forward.

Today I'm pleased to be speaking to you from the home of Congressman Joe Kennedy in Massachusetts, where Hillary and I have gathered with Mrs. Kennedy and her children, Senator Edward Kennedy and other members of the Kennedy family to observe this day. Robert Kennedy would wish us not to dwell upon his

loss, but to celebrate his life and carry on his legacy. In his all too short life he lost much, but he never lost faith. In suffering, he struggled to find wisdom.

On the night our nation lost Martin Luther King, Robert Kennedy appeared before a shocked and grieving crowd in Indianapolis. The night was cold, the moment tense. Hunched in a black overcoat he stood before the crowd and said, let us dedicate ourselves to what the Greeks wrote so many years ago -- "to tame the savageness of man and make gentle the life of this world."

Like Martin Luther King, Robert Kennedy dedicated himself to that, and his life enriched and ennobled our nation. Robert Kennedy ran for President, he said, to close the gaps between black and white, between rich and poor, between old and young. In a time of division, more than any American, he bridged those gaps, reaching out to starving families in the Mississippi Delta and to factory workers in Chicago, to migrant workers in Northern California and to struggling teens in Harlem. He touched their lives and, just as important, they touched his.

He changed and grew as a result, becoming a fuller person and a better, wiser leader. In changing times, Robert Kennedy was one of the first to see that old solutions did not always fit new challenges, either at home or abroad. We can do better, he so often said, and he pushed his government and himself to do no less. To him, in a time of change, labels like "left" and "right" meant little; dogmas that kept us from moving forward to be discarded. But he did not discard his passionate convictions or his steely determination to act on them. They infused his public service and his last campaign with a power and purpose we can still feel today.

Yes, Robert Kennedy's legacy is alive today -- in the work of his family in public service, in the work of those of us he inspired, in the hearts of his fellow Americans. The distance of three decades cannot silence the strength of his words or lessen the impact of his actions. We still hear his

voice appealing to the best qualities of the American spirit. We still strive to answer his insistent challenge to do good and to do better.

And on this day of reflection, when the thoughts of all Americans are with his large and loving family, we can do the memory of Robert Kennedy no greater honor than to dedicate ourselves as he did, to tame the savageness of man and make gentle the life of this world.

Thanks for listening.

END

Message Sent To: _____

Draft 06/04/98 5:30pm

Jeff Shesol

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
RADIO ADDRESS ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE DEATH OF ROBERT F. KENNEDY

June 6, 1998

Thirty years ago, I scaled the heights of hope with Robert F. Kennedy. I watched intently, in the last days before my graduation from college, as he sought the Presidency -- confronting new challenges, posing new questions, facing the unexpected. And thirty years ago today, I -- like so many others around the world -- fell to the depths of despair. It seemed impossible to me that this man of constant motion could ever be at rest, even in death.

But Robert Kennedy would not wish us to dwell upon our loss. He had lost much, in his short life, but he never lost faith; in suffering, he struggled to find wisdom.

On the night our nation lost Martin Luther King, Robert Kennedy appeared before a shocked and grieving crowd in Indianapolis. The night was cold, and the moment tense. Robert Kennedy, hunched in a black overcoat, stood before them and said: "Let us dedicate ourselves to what the Greeks wrote so many years ago: to tame the savageness of man and make gentle the life of this world."

Like Martin Luther King, Robert Kennedy dedicated himself to that, and his life enriched and ennobled our nation. Robert Kennedy ran for President, as he said, "to close the gaps . . . between black and white, between rich and poor, between young and old."

In a time of division, more than any American, he bridged those gaps -- reaching out to starving families in the Mississippi Delta and factory workers in Chicago, to migrant workers in Northern California and struggling teens in Harlem. He touched their lives -- and, just as important, they touched his. He changed and grew as a result, becoming a fuller person and a better, wiser leader.

In changing times, Robert Kennedy was one of the first to see that old solutions did not always fit new challenges, either at home or abroad. "We can do better," he so often said, and pushed his government and himself to do no less. To Robert Kennedy, labels like "left" and "right" meant little. Dogmas were to be discarded.

If he subscribed to any political doctrine, it was moral pragmatism -- infused with the urgency of his faith and of his times.

Robert Kennedy's legacy is every bit as vital today. The distance of three decades cannot silence the power of his words or diminish the impact of his actions. We still hear his appeal to the best qualities of the American spirit. We strive to answer his insistent challenge to do good, and to do better. And on this day of reflection, when the thoughts of all Americans are with his large and loving family, we can do the memory of Robert Kennedy no greater honor than to dedicate ourselves, as he did, to tame the savageness of man, and make gentle the life of this world.

Draft 06/04/98 5:30pm
Jeff Shesol

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
RADIO ADDRESS ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE DEATH OF ROBERT F. KENNEDY
June 6, 1998

Thirty years ago, I scaled the heights of hope with Robert F. Kennedy. I watched intently, in the last days before my graduation from college, as he sought the Presidency -- confronting new challenges, posing new questions, facing the unexpected. And thirty years ago today, I -- like so many others around the world -- fell to the depths of despair. It seemed impossible to me that this man of constant motion could ever be at rest, even in death.

But Robert Kennedy would not wish us to dwell upon our loss. He had lost much, in his short life, but he never lost faith; in suffering, he struggled to find wisdom. On the night our nation lost Martin Luther King, Robert Kennedy appeared before a shocked and grieving crowd in Indianapolis. The night was cold, and the moment tense. Robert Kennedy, hunched in a black overcoat, stood before them and said: "Let us dedicate ourselves to what the Greeks wrote so many years ago: to tame the savageness of man and make gentle the life of this world."

Like Martin Luther King, Robert Kennedy dedicated himself to that, and his life enriched and ennobled our nation. Robert Kennedy ran for President, as he said, "to close the gaps . . . between black and white, between rich and poor, between young and old." And in a time of division, more than any American, he bridged those gaps -- reaching out to starving families in the Mississippi Delta and factory workers in Chicago, to migrant workers in Northern California and struggling teens in Harlem. He touched their lives -- and, just as important, they touched his. He changed and grew as a result, becoming a fuller person and a better, wiser leader.

In changing times, Robert Kennedy was one of the first to see that old solutions did not always fit new challenges, either at home or abroad. "We can do better," he so often said, and pushed his government and himself to do no less. To Robert Kennedy, labels like "left" and "right" meant little. Dogmas were to be discarded. If he subscribed to any political doctrine, it was moral pragmatism -- infused with the urgency of his faith and of his times.

Robert Kennedy's legacy is every bit as vital today. The distance of three decades cannot silence the power of his words or diminish the impact of his actions. We still hear his appeal to the best qualities of the American spirit. We strive to answer his insistent challenge to do good, and to do better. And on this day of reflection, when the thoughts of all Americans are with his large and loving family, we can do the memory of Robert Kennedy no greater honor than to dedicate ourselves, as he did, to tame the savageness of man, and make gentle the life of this world.

TIME OF TRANSMISSION:

TIME OF RECEIPT:

**WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM**

98 JUN 5 04:11:35

PRECEDENCE: XIMMEDIATE
PRIORITY
ROUTINE

RELEASER: _____

DTG: _____

MESSAGE NO: _____ CLASSIFICATION: Unclassified PAGES: 13
(Including Cover)
FROM: Sean Maloney 62702 Gd Fl WW
(NAME) (PHONE NUMBER) (ROOM NO.)
MESSAGE DESCRIPTION: Radio Address on Tobacco

<u>TO (AGENCY)</u>	<u>DELIVER TO</u>	<u>DEPT/ROOM NO.</u>	<u>PHONE NUMBER</u>
	Kris Engskov (FOR THE PRESIDENT) (2 copies)		
	Doug Sosnik		
	Jeff Shesol		

REMARKS: Comm Center; Please provide Kris Engskov with 2 copies.

(OPTION A TOBACCO)

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
RADIO ADDRESS ON TOBACCO BILL

June 6, 1998

98 JUN 5 AM 11:52

Good morning. We are living in a very exciting time, when our country and our Congress face many challenges to strengthen our nation for the 21st Century. Today, I want to talk to you about the most important issue before the Congress right now -- and one that affects our children most of all: the tobacco bill.

Over the past five and a half years, our nation has confounded the conventional wisdom and broken through political paralysis to address many of our most difficult challenges. We turned a deficit, projected to be \$290 billion when I took office, into a balanced budget -- and now we are working to reserve the surplus until we save Social Security.

We ended decades of rising welfare dependency – and now we have the lowest percentage of people on welfare in three decades. We stopped the seemingly inexorable rise in lawlessness, and now crime is down for six years in a row. The American people did this, by demanding that our leaders put aside partisan differences, focus on the national interest over narrow interests, and above all, come together in common sense and act.

Today, we have a once in a lifetime opportunity to take such bipartisan, historic action on the greatest single public health threat we face: the deadly addiction of tobacco.

The statistics are well known to us now, but they have not lost their power to shock: Smoking kills more people every year than AIDS, alcohol, car accidents, murders, suicides, drugs and fires combined. Ninety percent of all smokers lit their first cigarettes before they turned 18. Every day, 3,000 more young people will start smoking -- and 1,000 of them will die early as a result.

Now, thanks to groundbreaking steps taken by my administration, the courage of parents and the public health community, the determination of public officials at every level, and committed and courageous bipartisan leadership on Capitol Hill, America is ready to break through gridlock once again.

We can make 1998 the year when we enact comprehensive, effective legislation that puts tobacco out of the reach of our children forever.

This is the critical moment of truth for Congress.

Senator John McCain and others have brought to the floor a landmark proposal to protect our children from tobacco.

This bill raises the price of cigarettes if tobacco companies do not show clear progress in reducing teen smoking; it ends the manipulative marketing campaigns that seek to lure children to smoke; it would be the most significant step forward for public health since Medicare and Medicaid.

There is a broad consensus for this bill. It is reasonable; it is bipartisan; it is in the best interests of our children. But for weeks now, the Senate has not acted, as a few members have done everything they could to protect big tobacco by putting off a vote. Today, I say to them: This delay has gone on long enough. You are not just trying to kill the tobacco bill -- you are standing in the way of saving one million lives. And the American people will not stand for it.

The Senate should do nothing else until it passes tobacco legislation -- and it should pass it this week.

**It is time to put aside narrow interests for the
national interest, and come together for the good of
our children.**

Thanks for listening.

Option A - To tobacco

Draft 6/5/98 11:30am

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
RADIO ADDRESS ON TOBACCO BILL
June 6, 1998

98 JUN 5 AM 11:52

Good morning. We are living in a very exciting time, when our country and our Congress face many challenges to strengthen our nation for the 21st Century. Today, I want to talk to you about the most important issue before the Congress right now -- and one that affects our children most of all: the tobacco bill.

Over the past five and a half years, our nation has confounded the conventional wisdom and broken through political paralysis to address many of our most difficult challenges. We turned a deficit, projected to be \$290 billion when I took office, into a balanced budget -- and now we are working to reserve the surplus until we save Social Security. We ended decades of rising welfare dependency -- and now we have the lowest percentage of people on welfare in three decades. We stopped the seemingly inexorable rise in lawlessness, and now crime is down for six years in a row. The American people did this, by demanding that our leaders put aside partisan differences, focus on the national interest over narrow interests, and above all, come together in common sense and act.

Today, we have a once in a lifetime opportunity to take such bipartisan, historic action on the greatest single public health threat we face: the deadly addiction of tobacco. The statistics are well known to us now, but they have not lost their power to shock: Smoking kills more people every year than AIDS, alcohol, car accidents, murders, suicides, drugs and fires combined. Ninety percent of all smokers lit their first cigarettes before they turned 18. Every day, 3,000 more young people will start smoking -- and 1,000 of them will die early as a result.

Now, thanks to groundbreaking steps taken by my administration, the courage of parents and the public health community, the determination of public officials at every level, and committed and courageous bipartisan leadership on Capitol Hill, America is ready to break through gridlock once again. We can make 1998 the year when we enact comprehensive, effective legislation that puts tobacco out of the reach of our children forever.

This is the critical moment of truth for Congress. Senator John McCain and others have brought to the floor a landmark proposal to protect our children from tobacco. This bill raises the price of cigarettes if tobacco companies do not show clear progress in reducing teen smoking; it ends the manipulative marketing campaigns that seek to lure children to smoke; it would be the most significant step forward for public health since Medicare and Medicaid.

There is a broad consensus for this bill. It is reasonable; it is bipartisan; it is in the best interests of our children. But for weeks now, the Senate has not acted, as a few members have done everything they could to protect big tobacco by putting off a vote. Today, I say to them: This delay has gone on long enough. You are not just trying to kill

the tobacco bill -- you are standing in the way of saving one million lives. And the American people will not stand for it.

The Senate should do nothing else until it passes tobacco legislation -- and it should pass it this week. It is time to put aside narrow interests for the national interest, and come together for the good of our children.

Thanks for listening.

(OPTION B RFK WITH
TOBACCO INSERT)

INSERT FOR TOP OF RADIO ADDRESS

Good morning. Before I begin, I want to speak briefly about the most important issue before the Congress right now -- and one that affects our children most of all: the tobacco bill.

This is a critical moment of truth for Congress. Senator John McCain and others have brought to the floor a landmark proposal to protect our children from tobacco. There is a broad consensus for this bill. It is reasonable; it is bipartisan; it is in the best interests of our children. But for weeks now, the Senate has not acted, as a few members have done everything they could to protect big tobacco by putting off a vote.

Today, I say to them: This delay has gone on long enough. You are not just trying to kill the tobacco bill -- you are standing in the way of saving one million lives. And the American people will not stand for it. The Senate should do nothing else until it passes tobacco legislation -- and it should pass it this week.

(OPTION B. RFK WITH

TOBACCO

INSERT)

INSERT FOR TOP OF RADIO ADDRESS

Good morning. Before I begin, I want to speak briefly about the most important issue before the Congress right now -- and one that affects our children most of all: the tobacco bill.

This is a critical moment of truth for Congress.

Senator John McCain and others have brought to the floor a landmark proposal to protect our children from tobacco.

There is a broad consensus for this bill. It is reasonable; it is bipartisan; it is in the best interests of our children.

But for weeks now, the Senate has not acted, as a few members have done everything they could to protect big tobacco by putting off a vote.

Today, I say to them: This delay has gone on long enough. You are not just trying to kill the tobacco bill -- you are standing in the way of saving one million lives. And the American people will not stand for it. The Senate should do nothing else until it passes tobacco legislation -- and it should pass it this week.



White House Press Release

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AT GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING-ROBERT KENNEDY STATUE

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Indianapolis, Indiana)

For Immediate Release

May 14, 1994

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY FOR
MARTIN LUTHER KING-ROBERT KENNEDY STATUE

Martin Luther King Memorial Park
Indianapolis, Indiana

10:00 A.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. (Applause.) Ladies and gentlemen, now we're all being tested by a little rain. (Applause.) Those of us who grew up in farming areas know that the rain is a gift from God. It's going to help us all grow a little. (Applause.)

Let me say how honored I am to be back in Indianapolis with your Governor, your Mayor, the prosecutor who supported this fine project. I'm glad to be here with Congressman Jacobs and the other members of Congress, and with Senator Lugar, who was the mayor here that fateful night in April in 1968 so long ago.

I thank Mrs. **Kennedy** and Senator **Kennedy** and Martin and Dexter King for coming here, as well as others from Indiana that came down with me -- Congressman Romer, Congressman McCloskey, Congressman Lee Hamilton.

Let me tell you, folks, even in the rain I can say in a much more brief manner what I would have taken longer to say if it hadn't been raining. (Applause.) And it is this: I sought the presidency because I was inspired by what you just saw on that screen when I was a young man. And I believed we could

do better. (Applause.)

I believed that we could build a country where we would go forward instead of backward, and where we would go forward together; where people would deal with one another across the bounds of race and region and income and religion; and even different political parties and philosophies with respect and honor, to try to pull this country together and push our people forward.

We just have witnessed a miracle in South Africa. (Applause.) We hope we are witnessing a miracle in the Middle East, as the Palestinians cheer and the police officers move into Jericho and they try to take control of their own destiny. (Applause.)

Everywhere in the world people have looked to us for an example. And I ask you today, have we created that miracle here at home? What you saw in **Robert Kennedy's** speech was a miracle that night. He was advised not to come here. The police said, we're worried about your safety. Cities all over America erupted in flames when Dr. King was killed. But a miracle occurred here in Indianapolis. The city did not burn because of people's hearts were touched. Miracles begin with personal choices.

Yes, I would like to say to you, the things I can do as your President -- to create jobs, to empower people through education, to reform the welfare system, to give health care to all Americans, to pass this crime bill -- these things will change America. Oh, yes, they will. But in the end, America must be changed by you, in your hearts, in your lives every day on every street in this country. (Applause.) And you can do it. (Applause.)

In our Nation's Capital, just a few days ago, there was a news story about people living in a poor neighborhood who got sick and tired of seeing their children shot and living in fear, so they put a big fence up around their neighborhood. And they hired guards, just like they were rich folks in a planned development. And they got exactly the same result -- people could go outside and sit on the park benches, and the children could walk and play.

And one of the men was interviewed; he said, I guess this is freedom in the '90s. Is it freedom in the '90s when we have to put up walls between our own people even as we celebrate the walls coming down from Berlin to South Africa? Is that our freedom? Are we going to live in a time when all of our political dialogue becomes a shouting match?

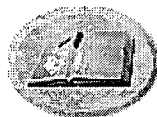
You heard what Diane said -- that's absolutely true. If you preach hate, you can get a talk show. If you preach love, you'll get a yawn. (Applause.)

What we have to decide today is whether we are going to live by the spirit that animates this park and this project. I want to thank the Indiana Pacers. I want to thank your prosecutor. I want to thank everybody who's responsible for this gun buy-back program. But when they melt that metal down, and they make this statue to the memory of Martin Luther King and **Robert Kennedy**, you ask yourselves, why don't we keep giving these guns up? Why don't we keep melting them down? Why don't we make a monument to peace where all of us can live together -- not with walls coming up, but with walls tearing down, so we can

go forward together.

God bless you, and thank you very much. (Applause.)

END10:06 A.M. CDT



To comment on this service: feedback@www.whitehouse.gov



White House Press Release

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AT MEMORIAL MASS FOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 6, 1993

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AT MEMORIAL MASS FOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY

Arlington National Cemetery
Arlington, Virginia

8:13 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Father Creedon, Mrs. Kennedy, the children of Robert Kennedy and the Kennedy family, to all the distinguished Americans here present, and most of all, to all of you who bear the noble title, citizen of this country. Twenty-five years ago today, on the eve of my college graduation, I cheered the victory of Robert Kennedy in the California primary, and felt again that our country might face its problems openly, meet its challenges bravely, and go forward together.

He dared us all. He dared the grieving not to retreat into despair. He dared the comfortable not to be complacent. He dared the doubting to keep going.

As I looked around this crowd today and saw us all graced not only by the laughter of children, but by the tears of those of us old enough to remember, it struck me again that the memory of Robert Kennedy is so powerful, that in a profound way we are all in two places today. We are here and now; and we are there, then.

For in Robert Kennedy we all invested our hopes and our dreams that somehow we might redeem the promise of the America we then feared we were losing; somehow we might call back the promise of President Kennedy and Martin Luther King, and heal the divisions of Vietnam and the violence and pain in our own country. But I believe

~~If Robert Kennedy were here today he would dare us not to mourn his passing, but to fulfill his promise and to be the people that he so badly wanted us all to be. He would dare us to leave yesterday and embrace tomorrow.~~

We remember him, almost captured in freeze-frame, standing on the hood of a car, grasping at out-reached hands, black and brown and white. His promise was that the hands which reached out to him might someday actually reach out to each other. And together, those hands could make America everything that it ought to be -- a nation reunited with itself and rededicated to its best ideals.

When his funeral train passed through the gritty cities of the Northeast, people from both sides of the tracks stood silent. He had earned their respect because he went to places most leaders never visit, and listened to people most leaders never hear, and spoke simple truth most leaders never speak.

He spoke out against neglect, but he challenged the neglected to seize their own destiny. He wanted so badly for government to act, but he did not trust bureaucracy. And he believed that government had to do things with people, not for them. He knew we had to do things together or not at all. He spoke to the sons and daughters of immigrants and the sons and daughters of sharecroppers, and told them all, as long as you stay apart from each other, you will never be what you ought to be.

He saw the world not in terms of right and left, but right and wrong. And he taught us lessons that cannot be labeled except as powerful proof. **Robert Kennedy** reminded us that on any day, in any place, at any time, racism is wrong; exploitation is wrong; violence is wrong; anything that denies the simple humanity and potential of any man or woman is wrong.

He touched children whose stomachs were swollen with hunger, but whose eyes still sparkled with life. He marched with workers who strained their backs for poverty wages while harvesting our food. He walked down city streets with people who ached, not from work, but from the lack of it. Then as now, his piercing eyes and urgent voice speak of the things we all like to think that we believe in.

When he was alive, some said he was ruthless, some said he wasn't a real liberal, and others claimed he was a real radical. If he were here today, I think he would laugh and say they were both right. But now as we see him more clearly, we understand he was a man who was very gentle to those who were most vulnerable; very tough in the standards he kept for himself; very old-fashioned in the virtues in which he believed; and a relentless searcher for change, for growth, for the potential of heart and mind that he sought in himself and he demanded of others.

Robert Kennedy understood that the real purpose of leadership is to bring out the best in others. He believed the destiny of our nation is the sum total of all the decisions that all of us make. He often said that one person can make a difference, and each of us must try.

Some still believe we lost what is best about America when President **Kennedy** and Martin Luther King and **Robert Kennedy** were killed. But I ask you to remember, my fellow Americans, that **Robert Kennedy** did not lose his faith when his own brother was killed. And when Martin Luther King was killed, he gave from his heart what was perhaps his finest speech. He lifted himself from despair time after

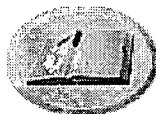
time and went back to work.

If you listen now you can hear with me his voice telling me and telling you and telling everyone here, "We can do better." "Today's troubles call us to do better." The legacy of **Robert Kennedy** is a stern rebuke to the cynicism, to the trivialization that grips so much of our public life today.

What use is it in the face of the aching problems gripping millions of Americans -- the American without a job, the American without health care, the American without a safe street to live on or a good school to send a child to? What use of it is it in the face of all the divisions that keep our country down and rob our children of their rightful future?

Let us learn here the simple, powerful, beautiful lesson, the simple faith of **Robert Kennedy**: We can do better. Let us leave here no longer in two places, but once again in one only: in the here and now, with a commitment to tomorrow, the only part of our time that we can control. Let us embrace the memory of **Robert Kennedy** by living as he would have us to live. For the sake of his memory, of ourselves and of all of our children and all those to come, let us believe again, we can do better.

END8:21 P.M. EDT



To comment on this service: feedback@www.whitehouse.gov

7TH STORY of Level 2 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1992 Cable News Network, Inc.

All rights reserved

CNN

CNN Convention Coverage '92

July 15, 1992

Transcript # 2 - 12

TYPE: Live Report

SECTION: Democratic Convention; Election; News

LENGTH: 781 words

HEADLINE: The Late Robert Kennedy is Eulogized at Convention

BYLINE: BERNARD SHAW

HIGHLIGHT:

The son of Robert Kennedy introduces the video eulogy being presented tonight regarding the contributions of the late Massachusetts senator who was tragically murdered during the 1968 presidential campaign.

BODY:

BERNARD SHAW, Anchor: Robert Kennedy, former Attorney General, former Senator from New York, and of course, tragically assassinated in Los Angeles during an earlier campaign. His son Joseph now - being applauded as his mother, Ethel Kennedy there, watches in her white dress.

Sen. JOE KENNEDY, Massachusetts (LIVE): Thank you all very very much. I know that that applause is not just for the Congressman from the 8th Congressional District. A lot of that applause comes from you, comes from your hearts because of your love for my father [applause] and my uncle [applause]. And on behalf of my mother, who is sitting with you tonight, and all of my brothers and sisters, I want to say - my mother, she's standing up. Can my mother stand up over there please? Mrs. Robert Kennedy. [applause]

On behalf of my mother and all of my brothers and sisters, I want to thank each and every one of you, and I want to thank, most particularly, Bill Clinton, Al Gore, Ron Brown, for the deep honor that they have bestowed on our family by taking the time to recognize the contributions of Robert Kennedy this evening.

Many of you in this room are very much a part of the events that made up my father's life. You share with my family memories of him, some of them which the film we are about to see will bring to mind - memories not just of his love for all of us which he gave so abundantly, but memories that each and every one of you shared.

Many of you in the 1960 campaign, when he worked so hard on behalf of his brother John Kennedy, many of you - [applause] - many of you in 1964, when this organization honored him after the loss of his brother, and many of you again

CNN Transcripts, July 15, 1992

in 1968 in his last campaign. But, there were also people in this great city and in this great state that honored him in 1964. And, for each and every one and resident of New York City and New York state, we want to say a great big thank you and a great big hello from all the Kennedys tonight.

You know, he had a faith in God and a faith in our country. His clear thinking was such that he was not content to analyze problems or to just give speeches. He took clean action. He had a way of coming about these issues that I think caught the spirit and the mood of the people of this country. What Robert Kennedy tried to do with his life was say that each and every individual in this country counted, and that he went from all of the different parts of our nation. He went to Appalachia. He went to all the migrant farms in California. He went and he touched [applause] he touched people of poor white backgrounds. He touched people of oriental backgrounds. He touched people all across this nation because he wanted an inclusive society. He wanted a nation that not only stood for something in our Constitution and our Bill of Rights, but he wanted a people that would stand together and firmly take on the challenges of our time.

You know, when Robert Kennedy was alive, he took on the major unions of this country, and he said that the union movement in America should stand up for the rights of working people. And if that meant - [applause] - if that meant making enemies with Jimmy Hoffa, then he was willing to do it. And today, we see Ron Carey [sp?] taking over the Teamsters Union 30 years after that union was corrupted and 30 years after his work paid fruition. And, we see the kinds of challenges that our country today faces, when we see the corrupt individuals, you know, we hear so much talk from our moral leaders in Washington, D.C. that talk to us about the fact that what we need in America is some kind of new morality, but that new morality tells us that we can condemn four black looters in Los Angeles, but we should somehow remain silent, when looters such as Michael Milken steal seven times as much money as four blacks in Los Angeles.

It's time, ladies and gentlemen, that we recognize that Robert Kennedy would have spoken out on what are today called 'family values' and what are today called the moral values of our time. For the Republican Administration to stand up and call their country club values the values of America is just plain dead wrong. There are an awful lot of - [applause] - there are an awful lot of plain working people that Robert Kennedy spent his blood and his sweat and his tears trying to represent. And, those ordinary people in America are the voiceless. Those ordinary people of America don't have the rich fat-cat lobbyists that so often represent special interests in Washington, D.C.

I just want to say again, on behalf of our family, that the film that we are about to see I think captures the spirit and the mood that my father tried to make a difference in this world. He tried to let each and every one of you know that you could make a difference. And for the difference that you are making in the lives of each one of us tonight, for the difference that Al Gore and Bill Clinton can make in the lives of so many millions of vulnerable American children. We all want to say thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Ladies and gentlemen, I'd like to present the film on Robert F. Kennedy. Thank you all very very much.

The preceding text has been professionally transcribed. However, although the text has been checked against an audio track, in order to meet rigid

CNN Transcripts, July 15, 1992

distribution and transmission deadlines, it has not yet been proofread against videotape.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: July 16, 1992

5TH STORY of Level 2 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1992 Burrelle's Information Services
CBS News Transcripts

SHOW: CBS THIS MORNING (7:00 AM ET)

July 15, 1992, Wednesday

TYPE: Interview

LENGTH: 988 words

HEADLINE: EDWARD KENNEDY DISCUSSES FILM HONORING HIS BROTHER ROBERT

ANCHORS: Paula Zahn

BODY:

Paula Zahn, co-host:

Twenty-five years ago New York Senator Robert Kennedy began his campaign for the White House. It ended with his assassination the very night he won the California primary. Tonight here at the convention the Democratic Party will remember RFK.

Senator Robert Kennedy: I think people should be angry enough to speak out, and I think there are injustices and I think there are unfairnesses in my own country and around the world. And I think that if one feels involved in it, that one should try to do something about it.

Zahn: Senator Edward Kennedy will speak after the film honoring his brother and he joins us this morning. Good morning, Senator.

Senator Edward Kennedy (Democrat, Massachusetts): Good morning.

Zahn: Welcome.

Kennedy: Fine. Thank you very much.

Zahn: I had no idea what a good voice you have.

Kennedy: Oh, I--I--I haven't seen that program yet...

Zahn: We're going to show it to you right now.

Kennedy: ...but--well, I hope I don't have to.

Zahn: There you are. Is that the--sort of the song you think of when you wake up every morning? Back to politics now. As you look at today's Democratic Party, the platform that was ratified last night and the direction that the Clinton-Gore ticket seems to be talking about going in, is that consistent with the Democratic Party; your brother Robert Kennedy, loved and adored?

Kennedy: Absolutely. I don't think there's really a substantial difference in the kind of economic policies of Franklin Roosevelt or John or Robert

CBS News Transcripts, July 15, 1992, Wednesday

Kennedy. President Kennedy made the essential theme of his campaign to get--get the country moving again and the kind of vision that Governor Clinton and Senator Gore have. The difference...

Zahn: Do you think they're moving...

Kennedy: The difference--the differences, really, are between their--their vision and what the Republican program has been, which has been trickle-down economics. I think Governor Clinton understands that what we have to do in this country is invest and we have to stimulate the--the economy and we have to grow. And that was the essential aspects of President Roosevelt in 1932; President Kennedy, after eight years of Republican administrations in the 1950s. Remember, 1932 it was Hoover, Coolidge and Harding. And we had eight years of indifference in the 1950s. And now we've had 12 years of a bankrupt economic policies. And I think Governor Clinton and Senator Gore understand that, and what they understand, as President Kennedy did, that the most important social policy is a sound economy. Unless you're going to have economic growth, you not going to have the resources to be able to educate the young people, to deal with the kind of health-care crisis, to do things about the--the environment. And that's a very fundamental and basic difference.

Zahn: Does a Clinton-Gore ticket, though, move the Democratic Party to the right?

Kennedy: Well, what's important is the--not so much where people sort of come from...

Zahn: But is that's where it's going?

Kennedy: ...but the direction that they're going.

Zahn: Is--is--is it a more moderate ticket?

Kennedy: I--I--you know, we're--we're not going to--what doesn't make much sense is the cliches of--of labels. Investing in education--is that--is that an investment or is that an expenditure? What's important is the differences out of this convention between the economic policies of Governor Clinton and the economic policies--bankrupt economic policies of President Bush. People understand what has happened in this country--the growth of debt; the increasing problems of unemployed; the lost hopes and dreams of young people who want to be able to get an--an education; and the--it is so fundamentally different between what President Bush has offered this country and the directions of Governor Clinton that--that I think that that's--that's really the issue.

Zahn: And yet voters out there looking at the governor's economic plan question where he's going to come up with the money to pay for a lot of the programs he's talking about espousing.

Kennedy: Well, first of all, I mean, there--there are resources which are available under the--the peace dividends and the cutback in defense. I think the idea that we're invested in gold-plated weapon systems when the Cold War is over makes no sense at all. And, secondly, Governor Clinton has made it very clear that he believes that the working men and women of this country are already paying more than their share in terms of taxes. And I think--but there's no question that there are those who haven't--are--are not paying their fair

CBS News Transcripts, July 15, 1992, Wednesday

share of taxes. But I think it's important to understand that what Governor Clinton is talking about is investing in the future, getting the country going again. That was the themes of Franklin Roosevelt, the themes of John and Robert Kennedy and I think that is the essential difference in this--in this fall.

Zahn: Very quickly in closing, how concerned are you about the potentially low voter turnout in November?

Kennedy: Well, I...

Zahn: And what's the party going to do about that?

Kennedy: I--I find that this convention has been an exciting convention. The Democrats have come together. There's a spirit that we are going to win. And I think it's been a good convention for Governor Clinton and a poor one for George Bush.

Zahn: Senator Kennedy, nice to see you again.

Kennedy: Thanks again.

Zahn: And congratulation on your marriage.

Kennedy: Thank you very much.

Zahn: How is married life?

Kennedy: It's wonderful. You know.

Zahn: Yeah, I do know. I--I like it a lot.

Kennedy: Thanks.

Zahn: Thanks so much. Let's go back to Harry now in the studio.

Harry Smith (Co-host): Sixteen minutes after the hour. Next, good news about inspecting imported meat. Our Hattie Kauffman broke the story. She'll have the follow-up next.

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: April 28, 1998