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HHH Tells Ohioans They Owe Late JFK Victory

Hits State's Support of Nixon in 1960

By HARRY KELLY

AKRON, Ohio (AP) — Hubert H. Humphrey, spurring into the final week of his campaign, told Ohioans Monday they owe a victory to the late John F. Kennedy because they went for Richard Nixon instead of Kennedy in 1960.

Humphrey, campaigning under grey skies and with a knifing wind, charged that Nixon was incapable of the works of peace. The vice president was in Ohio seeking to turn the tide which most surveys indicate is with Nixon.

Humphrey insists he has better than a 50-50 chance to win the state and its 26 electoral votes.

The Democratic candidate, during a question and answer session at Malone College in Canton, aimed his political guns directly at Nixon and the Republicans on the issue of war and peace.

The original commitment to Vietnam, Humphrey said, was made in 1954 during the Eisenhower administration when Nixon was vice president.

"And I might also suggest with complete accuracy that it was Mr. Richard Nixon, who at the time the French were there as a colonial power, called on the United States to send American armed forces into Vietnam to save a colonial regime," he added. "And no Democrat has ever done that."

Humphrey was apparently referring to the time when the French had trouble in Indochina after the military defeat at Dien Bien Phu.

The vice president denied that his own position on Vietnam has fluctuated.

Humphrey said he always was for a political settlement of the war.

As Humphrey swung across the state he repeated his assertion that the main issue in the

1968 campaign was "whom do you trust to lead this nation for the next four years."

"I submit to you," said Humphrey, "that Mr. Nixon does not know how to conduct the works of peace. He is incapable of it by his thoughts and by his record and by his program."

Speaking to a crowd estimated at 3,000 at the Summit County Courthouse in Akron, Humphrey recalled that despite the big crowds Ohio turned out for the late John F. Kennedy in 1960, the state voted for Nixon.

Thus, Humphrey argued, "I think you owe him one election."

Nixon, Humphrey said in a speech prepared for Cleveland, has offered in his speech on security "a futile policy of escalation."

Humphrey also rattled the dinner pail, saying the Eisenhower - Nixon administration "plunged this country into three job-killing, profit-killing recessions."

The vice president said there were three times as many people out of work in Cleveland in 1960, at the end of the Republican administration as there are today.