

We fight that all peoples shall live. We fight to send our money to end colonialism for the colored peoples of the world, not perpetuate it in Malan's South Africa, Churchill's Malaya, French Indo-China and the Middle East.

You have called me to lead the fight against evil, the fight for human life and human dignity. I am indeed proud to answer the call of this party of progress. Can you conceive of the party of Taft and Eisenhower and MacArthur and McCarthy and the big corporations, calling a Negro woman to lead the good fight in 1952? Can you see the party Truman, of Russell of Georgia, of Rankin of Mississippi, of Byrnes of South Carolina, of Acheson, naming a Negro woman to lead the fight against enslavement?

I am stirred by the responsibility that you have put upon me. I am proud that I am the choice of the leaders of my own people and leaders of all those who understand how deeply the fight for peace is one and indivisible with the fight for Negro equality.

And I am impelled to accept this call, for it is the call of all my people and call to my people. Frederick Douglass would rejoice, for he fought not only slavery but the oppression of women. Above all, Douglass would counsel us not to falter, to "continue the struggle while a bondsman in his chains remains to weep." For Douglass had that calm resolution which held fast while others waivered, that steadfastness which helped to shape the party of Abraham Lincoln and held it fast to the fight for abolition.

I make this pledge to my people, the dead and the living-- to all Americans, black and white. I will not retire nor will I retreat, not one inch, so long as God gives me vision to see what is happening and strength to fight for the things I know are right. For I know that my kingdom, my people's kingdom, and the kingdom of all the peoples of all the world, is not beyond the skies, the moon and the stars, but right here at our feet-- acres of diamonds--freedom--peace--and justice--for all the peoples-- if we will but stoop down and get them.

I accept this great honor. I give you as my slogan in this campaign -- "Let my people go."