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28 April 1972

Senator Edmund S. Muskie
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Muskie:

Your withdrawal from the presidential primaries has saddened and to a degree disheartened your supporters who believed that in you they had a candidate for the presidency of unmatched candor and unimpeachable honesty equal to that of Adlai Stevenson. Not since his defeat have I felt that the country has been so greatly deprived of the services of a great and good man as I feel it has now been deprived by your enforced withdrawal.

It reflects on the grotesque political complexion of our country that forthrightness works a disadvantage to a candidate.

However, I am confident your outspoken support in the Senate of legislation intended to serve the welfare and interest of all the people will continue as in the past, uncorrupted by personal political advantage.

^{yet}
~~still~~ I still hope against odds that you may be the party nominee for the presidency.

Yours faithfully,

Eliot Porter

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