

LOOKING BACK AT ROBERT F. KENNEDY'S VISIT TO ASTORIA

The Daily Astorian

Hundreds greeted Robert F. Kennedy at an airport near Astoria on May 24, 1968. The U.S. senator from New York was campaigning ahead of the Oregon Democratic presidential primary. After briefly addressing the crowd, Kennedy and a crew of campaign staffers and volunteers, media and state officials then headed for Fort Stevens State Park. Kennedy was filmed walking 1 1/2 miles along the shoreline. Kennedy then went to downtown Astoria, where roughly 3,000 spectators had been waiting for hours. He gave a 20-minute speech, went to meet Bumble Bee seafood cannery workers and then departed for other stops along the Oregon Coast. Less than two weeks later, Kennedy was shot and killed after a victory speech in California.



Photos by Clyde Keller/clydekellerphoto.com
Kennedy addresses a crowd in downtown Astoria on May 24, 1968.



Supporters wait for Kennedy on an airport tarmac near Astoria.



Kennedy greets spectators after his plane landed near Astoria.



Kennedy sprints into the ocean at Fort Stevens State Park.



LEFT: Kennedy walks along the shoreline at Fort Stevens State Park with his wife, Ethel, and dog, Freckles. MIDDLE: Kennedy gives a speech in downtown Astoria. RIGHT: Kennedy greets supporters in downtown Astoria. BELOW: Kennedy strolls along the beach at Fort Stevens State Park with his dog, Freckles.

