The original documents are located in Box 10, folder "6/13/75 - Video Message to College Republican Convention" of the President's Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN 23

VIDEO MESSAGE TO COLLEGE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 1975

MY FRIENDS IN THE COLLEGE REPUBLICANS, I HOPE YOU ARE ENJOYING THE FINE COLORADO CLIMATE AND SCENERY AS MUCH AS MY FAMILY AND I ENJOY IT ON OUR VISITS THERE. COLORADO IS TRULY ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST BEAUTIFUL STATES. BUT I KNOW THAT YOU ARE MEETING IN COLORADO ON SERIOUS BUSINESS -- BUSINESS THAT CONCERNS THE FUTURE OF OUR PARTY AND THE FUTURE OF OUR NATION. TO ACQUIRE A LIBERAL GROUNDING IN THE ARTS; TO PREPARE OURSELVES FOR A PROFESSIONAL CAREER; AND, OF COURSE, TO PARTAKE OF THE VARIED FUN AND ACTIVITIES THAT GO INTO EVERYONE'S COLLEGE YEARS -- THE SPORTS, THE SOCIAL ACTIVITIES, THE VOLUNTEER WORK AND THE DISCUSSIONS OF NEW IDEAS AND THE EXPOSURE TO NEW EXPERIENCES.

THERE ARE MANY REASONS WHY WE GO TO COLLEGE --

I REMEMBER MY OWN COLLEGE DAYS FONDLY AND I AM SURE THAT YOU WILL, TOO. MUCH HAS CHANGED SINCE I GRADUATED FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN IN 1935. BUT ONE THING I LEARNED IS STILL THE SAME. IT'S A VERY SIMPLE LESSON: THE MORE YOU JOIN IN, PARTICIPATE IN, THE MORE YOU EXPERIENCE -- THE MORE YOU WILL GET OUT OF YOUR COLLEGE YEARS.

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AND ONE OF THE MOST VALUABLE EXTRA-CURRICULAR

ACTIVITIES I CAN THINK OF IS COLLEGE REPUBLICANS. AS COLLEGE STUDENTS, YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE KIND OF COUNTRY YOU LIVE IN. YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT IT AND TO IMPROVE IT.

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COLLEGE REPUBLICANS PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY

AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN OUR **PO**LITICAL PROCESS -- TO BE ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS INSTEAD OF PASSIVE SPECTATORS IN EVENTS THAT HELP MOLD AMERICA'S FUTURE -- WHICH, IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, MEANS YOUR FUTURE AS WELL. SO MY MESSAGE TO YOU IS A SIMPLE ONE: GET INVOLVED AND STAY INVOLVED. RECRUIT YOUR FRIENDS IN THE COLLEGE REPUBLICANS. INCREASE THE BREADTH AND RANGE OF YOUR CLUB ACTIVITIES. SHOW THIS COUNTRY OF OURS WHAT IT ALREADY SUSPECTS TO BE TRUE: THAT THIS GENERATION OF COLLEGE YOUNG REPUBLICANS -- AND YOUNG AMERICANS -- HAS THE INTELLIGENCE, THE ENERGY AND THE COMMITMENT IT TAKES TO MAKE A GREAT TOMORROW FOR OUR COUNTRY. IN THE MONTH'S AHEAD, AS I TRAVEL AROUND THE COUNTRY, I HOPE THAT I WILL HAVE THE CHANCE TO MEET AND THANK EACH OF YOU IN PERSON. IN THE MEANTIME, MY HEART WILL BE WITH YOU.

I WISH YOU ALL THE BEST -- FOR YOURSELVES AND FOR THE

AMERICA YOU ARE HELPING TO BUILD.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

END OF TEXT