

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 5, 1975

Office of the Vice President

**CHAIRMAN'S CLUB RECEPTION
Holiday Inn
(Rochester, New York)**

(4:06 P.M. EDT)

THE VICE PRESIDENT: Mr. Chairman, distinguished Congressmen, ladies and gentlemen, fellow Republicans, discerning Democrats, what a pleasure. This is just like old times for me. I can't tell you how thrilled I am to be here.

You know, there is something about the Rochester area and Rochester that has a special Monroe County meaning to me. That is going way back. Most of you are too young to remember. But to me that means a very meaningful moment. So I am very grateful to this community and all of you.

I would like to say how much I admire all of you who are involved in the work of the party of your choice. I guess it is all sort of in the same party. I just think that those of you, whether it is the Chairman, whether it is the various captains, whether it is the workers from one group or another, the womens groups, the young peoples groups, and those who contribute to the party and who make possible the activities, I would just like to say by your presence here today -- hi; there is an old friend -- what this country owes to you men and women who give of your time and energy to keep the party of your choice alive and strong. This is the essence and strength of democracy. I am thrilled to be here and to be with you on this occasion. First I would like to thank you for that.

Then I would like to just say a few words about sort of where I see we are at the moment as a Nation in a very difficult world. We are living in a period of rapid change. I happen to feel very strongly that we are tremendously fortunate as a Nation to have a man as President of the United States with the integrity, the courage, and the openness and dedication and fundamental belief in the values on which this country was founded as we have in President Ford. I would just like to say that about the President.

(Applause.)

THE VICE PRESIDENT: We can all be deeply grateful that he is still with us today; I can tell you that. Some of you may not have heard the news yet.

Now let me just say a word, that we are in this period of accelerating change, growing interdependence in this world. We have seen the impact when energy prices went up because we are not an exporter, we are a net importer, the impact on the economy, the

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purchase of large quantities of grain, the growing population in the world, the impact on food prices, inflation, recession, unemployment -- gobs of problems. Basically our national security is going to depend on the well-being of the people and the ability to do for people at home.

There are two points. One is to be self-sufficient in energy so we are not vulnerable in this country. That is one of the President's basic objectives, to develop self-sufficiency. We can be grateful we have the great resources in this country to become self-sufficient. Energy is essential to jobs, national security, and so it is a key. Then a moving economy, rolling again; get that going again. That is essential to opportunities for all and the well-being of all in this country and the stability of freedom in the world and the preservation of the concept of freedom.

Now we come to one other thing, and we know we are in a very difficult moment and particularly in this State. This country has a great tradition of generosity and kindness. It is part of our heritage, a belief in human dignity, human values.

So all of us, whether it is in private philanthropy or whether government in its assumption of responsibility to help people -- I have to be very frank with you, I have been a part of it -- we have perhaps as public officials, politicians, I might say, or statesmen as we would like to think, or whatever you want to call it, we have promised more in the last 15 years and delivered less than we promised. We have underdelivered on our promises, and people have become cynical in many respects about government.

This was done, I think, in sincerity. Political life has some influence there. But just the same, we have all tried to do for people the best we could and, as a result, we find that we have committed ourselves to larger expenditures than we have the capacity of paying for. Therefore, we find ourselves in a very difficult situation.

This is where New York City is right now. We have got to be very careful about New York State, and this country. The Federal Government has a deficit now of \$60 billion. It could go to seventy for next year and seventy -- who knows.

We have a member of the Budget Committee, in Barber Conable, on the Ways and Means, one of the most important men in the economic side of the life of this Nation and the Congress of the United States. We can be deeply grateful that Barber is there and that he has the courage and the eloquence and prestige that he does have and that he is there in that key spot.

I would just like to say about Frank, how grateful we are from Monroe County, from the Rochester area, for two great Congressmen that New York can be

proud of and who are doing the job out of respect on both sides of the aisle.

(Applause.)

THE VICE PRESIDENT: That we restore the strength of America and then we restore sound fiscal policy, cut out the waste in government, cut out the overlapping in bureaucracy, and get back to the fundamentals and get to living within our means, I think, ladies and gentlemen, if we do that and get our economy rolling, that we are going to be able to feel that this country has the capacity to preserve its leadership in meeting the needs of people at home and its responsibility throughout the world. That is what the Ford Administration is dedicated to, and I am proud to be a part of it.

I am thrilled to be here with all of you.
Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

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(4:12 P.M. EDT)