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JOHN J. FENCSAK
President

August 2, 1976

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Ford:

By way of introduction, I was very pleased at the opportunity to serve as your press relations representative in the Oregon primary election. As you well know, you were victorious here in our primary and, in my judgement, the lion's share of the credit is due our PFC State Chairman, Craig Berkman.

Perhaps this letter, and my request, is presumptuous -- that Craig be carefully considered to deliver one of your seconding speeches at the Republican National Convention. Hopefully, however, a few paragraphs will pique the interest of you and your closest advisors in my recommendation.

First, it makes political sense. Craig is young (34), well respected within the Republican Party (General Program Chairman of the 1975 Western States Republican Conference), and comes from the West Coast, an area where your support is not as solid as it should be.

Second, Craig is articulate. You might recall his speaking abilities from his introduction of you at the Sheraton Motor Inn in Portland this May.

Third, he has the advantage of being a fresh face, not identified in any way with the bureaucracy. This should contrast nicely with the high elected officials who will deliver your nominating and other seconding speeches.

Admittedly, Craig has no "name value." But he is absolutely dedicated to your election and his loyalty and commitment to you cannot be questioned.

-more-



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Again, I'm certain that you and your advisors have a number of prominent Republican personalities under evaluation for your nominating and seconding speeches. In 1976, a year when the American public is apparently less than enchanted with government in general and elected officials at all levels of government, I propose you consider a fresh, new face to illustrate to the voters the broad appeal of the Republican Party and its candidate for the Presidency of the United States.

For your further information, I have taken the liberty of enclosing a brief biographical sketch of Craig Berkman.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Very truly yours,



John J. Fencsak
President

JJF/lv

Enclosed.

cc/ Mrs. Paul (Nola) Haerle
Mr. Robert Hartmann ✓
Mr. George Hinman
Mr. Rogers Morton
Mrs. Mary Louise Smith
Mr. Stuart Spencer
Mrs. Sheila Weidenfeld

BIOGRAPHY OF CRAIG L. BERKMAN

RESIDENCE: 3503 S. W. Gale Street OFFICE: 1300 S.W. 5th Ave., Suite 2323-E
Portland, OR 97201 Portland, OR 97201
(503) 228-2795 (503) 228-0700

PERSONAL: Born August 12, 1941 - Sioux City, Iowa. Married to Susan Joan Mowat, formerly of Seattle; A.B. Stanford University; M.A. University of California. Two children - Heidi Anne, 6½, and Jennifer Lynn, 4.

EDUCATION:

- . Portland Public Schools
- . Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois (A.B., Government)
- . Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts (International Studies)
- . University of California, Berkeley, California (M.A., Publ. Admin.)
- . Northwestern School of Law, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, Oregon (Juris Doctor)
- . United States Army Transportation School (Graduate Officer Basic Course)

PROFESSIONAL:

- . Cardiac Resuscitator Corporation, Portland, Oregon
Vice President, Director and Secretary
- . Applied Materials, Inc., Sunnyvale, California
Co-Organizer and Original Investor
- . Lewis & Clark College, Portland, Oregon
Assistant to President

MILITARY: United States Army - Captain
Aide de Camp - Commanding General; Operations Officer

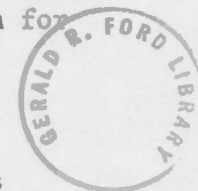
COMMUNITY AND CIVIC ACTIVITIES: Metropolitan Youth Commission; Board Member: Volunteer Services Bureau, Family Counseling Service, The National Assembly for Social Policy and Development, New York, World Affairs Council of Oregon, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church; Co-Chairman "People for Portland;" Member, Portland City Club; Executive Council University of California Alumni Assoc.; Charter Revision Commission, Berkeley, California; Commonwealth Club of California; Oregon Cancer Crusade; Portland Chamber of Commerce; Pi Gamma Mu & Pi Kappa Delta Scholastic Honor Societies,

HONORS: Academic:
Scholarship Recipient and Dean's List, Wheaton College, Harvard University, and University of California; Alumni Citation for Meritorious Service to University of California, 1970.

Military:
Joint Services Commendation Medal.

Civic:
One of America's Ten Outstanding Young Men, United States Jaycees, 1971. Junior First Citizen Portland, Oregon, 1970. One of Oregon's Five Outstanding Young Men 1970. Multnomah County Public Safety Award, 1970. National Good Citizen Award, Sons of American Revolution, Washington, D.C.

Publications:
Recognized in Who's Who in the West. Feature Articles in the National Observer, Liberty Magazine and National Inquirer. Subject of News Stories in San Francisco Chronicle, Sacramento Bee, Washington Post, Oregonian and The Oregon Journal, among others.



O.C.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 15, 1976

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
UPON HIS ARRIVAL AT
THE CROWN CENTER HOTEL

6:22 P.M. CDT

It is wonderful to be back in Kansas City. What a wonderful welcome, and I can say without any hesitation or qualification, this is the kind of enthusiasm that will give us a victory on Wednesday night.

Now, let me say I am not going to make a speech, but I do want to introduce some very good, some very close friends of mine, first the Vice President of the United States, Nelson Rockefeller. Then, one of my best friends and one of the most ardent and effective supporters, a great Governor of my State, Governor Bill Milliken and Mrs. Milliken. Then, another very good friend -- and you can't miss him -- the Chairman of the President Ford Committee, Rog Morton.

I have a few of the members of my wonderful family here. First a young lady who is going to be a temporary resident of the great State of Kansas when she goes to -- she will be entering Kansas University this fall. She loves her photography like I love those uncommitted delegates. (Laughter)

Then a third son, Steve, he likes to ride the ranges up in Montana or Utah or California. He promised to stay in the saddle for the next four years. (Laughter)

Then Jack, who has been out campaigning month after month after month. Jack Ford.

And then last but not least, the most effective campaigner in the Ford family, she has more President Ford buttons with her name on it than I do. (Laughter)

Mike and his wonderful wife, Gayle, are going to come out here on Tuesday. The whole Ford family will be here for a reunion before we win on Wednesday night.

Thank you all. We are really just tremendously impressed with the warmth, the numbers and the wonderful welcome you have all given us. Let me say we will not let you down, and we know we are going to win. Thank you very much.

END

(AT 6:27 P.M. CDT)



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 19, 1976

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
TO THE
1976 REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

KEMPER ARENA

10:40 P.M. CDT

Mr. Chairman, delegates and alternates of this Republican Convention:

I am honored by your nomination, and I accept it, with pride, with gratitude and with a total will to win a great victory for the American people. We will wage a winning campaign in every region of this country from the snowy banks of Minnesota to the sandy plains of Georgia.

We concede not a single State. We concede not a single vote. This evening I am proud to stand before this great Convention as the first incumbent since Dwight D. Eisenhower who can tell the American people: America is at peace.

Tonight, I can tell you straightaway this nation is sound, this nation is secure, this nation is on the march to full economic recovery, and a better quality of life for all Americans.

I will tell you one more thing. This year the issues are on our side. I am ready, I am eager to go before the American people and debate the real issues face to face with Jimmy Carter.

The American people have a right to know first hand exactly where both of us stand. I am deeply grateful to those who stood with me in winning the nomination of the party whose cause I have served all of my adult life. I respect the convictions of those who want a change in Washington. I want a change, too. After 22 years of majority misrule, let's change the United States Congress.

My gratitude tonight reaches far beyond this Arena to countless friends whose confidence, hard work and unselfish support have brought me to this moment. It would be unfair to single out anyone, but may I make an exception for my wonderful family -- Mike, Jack, Steve and Susan, and especially my dear wife Betty.

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We Republicans have had some tough competition. We not only preach the virtues of competition, we practice them. But tonight, we come together not on a battlefield to conclude a cease-fire, but to join forces on a training field that has conditioned us all for the rugged contest ahead.

Let me say this from the bottom of my heart. After the scrimmages of the past few months, it really feels good to have Ron Reagan on the same side of the line.

To strengthen our championship line-up, the Convention has wisely chosen one of the ablest Americans as our next Vice President, Senator Bob Dole of Kansas. With his help, with your help, with the help of millions of Americans who cherish peace, who want freedom preserved, prosperity shared, and pride in America, we will win this election.

I seek not a Republican victory, but a victory for the American people. You at home listening tonight, you are the people who pay the taxes and obey the laws. You are the people who make our system work. You are the people who make America what it is.

It is from your ranks that I come and on your side I stand. Something wonderful happened to this country of ours the past two years. We all came to realize it on the Fourth of July. Together, out of years of turmoil and tragedy, wars and riots, assassinations and wrongdoing in high places, America recaptured the spirit of 1776.

We saw again the pioneer vision of our revolutionary founders and our immigrant ancestors. Their vision was of a free man and free woman enjoying a limited Government and unlimited opportunity.

The mandate I want in 1976 is to make this vision a reality, but it will take the voices and the votes of many more Americans who are not Republicans to make that mandate binding and my mission possible.

I have been called an unelected President, an accidental President. We may even hear that again from the other party, despite the fact that I was welcomed and endorsed by an overwhelming majority of their elected representatives in the Congress who certified my fitness to our highest office.

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Having become Vice President and President without expecting or seeking either, I have a special feeling toward these high offices. To me, the Presidency and the Vice Presidency were not prizes to be won, but a duty to be done.

So, tonight, it is not the power and the glamor of the Presidency that leads me to ask for another four years. It is something every hard-working American will understand -- the challenge of a job well begun, but far from finished.

Two years ago, on August 9, 1974, I placed my hand on the Bible, which Betty held, and took the same Constitutional oath that was administered to George Washington. I had faith in our people, in our institutions, and in myself.

"My fellow Americans," I said, "our long national nightmare is over." It was an hour in our history that troubled our minds and tore at our hearts. Anger and hatred had risen to dangerous levels, dividing friends and families. The polarization of our political order had aroused unworthy passions of reprisal and revenge. Our governmental system was closer to a stalemate than at any time since Abraham Lincoln took that same oath of office.

Our economy was in the throes of runaway inflation, taking us headlong into the worst recession since Franklin D. Roosevelt took the same oath. On that dark day I told my fellow countrymen, "I am acutely aware that you have not elected me as your President by your ballots, so I ask you to confirm me as your President with your prayers."

On a marble fireplace in the White House is carved a prayer which John Adams wrote. It concludes, "May none but honest and wise men ever rule under this roof."

Since I have resided in that historic house, I have tried to live by that prayer. I faced many tough problems. I probably made some mistakes, but on balance, America and Americans have made an incredible comeback since August, 1974.

Nobody can honestly say otherwise, and the plain truth is that the great progress we have made at home and abroad was in spite of the majority who run the Congress of the United States.

For two years, I have stood for all the people against a vote-hungry, free-spending Congressional majority on Capitol Hill. Fifty-five times I vetoed extravagant and unwise legislation; 45 times I made those vetoes stick. Those vetoes have saved American taxpayers billions and billions of dollars. I am against the big for the little taxpayer.

MORE

I called for a permanent tax cut, coupled with spending reductions, to stimulate the economy and relieve hard-pressed middle income taxpayers. Your personal exemption must be raised from \$750 to \$1,000.

The other party's platform talks about tax reform, but there is one big problem -- their own Congress won't act.

I called for reasonable Constitutional restrictions on court ordered busing of school children, but the other party's platform concedes that busing should be a last resort. But their's is the same problem -- their own Congress won't act.

I called for a major overhaul of criminal laws to crack down on crime and illegal drugs. The other party's platform deplores America's \$80 billion cost of crime. There is the problem again -- their own Congress won't act.

The other party's platform talks about a strong defense. Now, here is the other side of the problem -- their own Congress did act. They slashed \$50 billion from our national defense needs in the last ten years.

My friends, Washington is not the problem, their Congress is the problem. You know, the President of the United States is not a magician who can wave a wand or sign a paper that will instantly win a war or cure a recession or make bureaucracy disappear. The President has immense powers under the Constitution, but all of them ultimately come from the American people and their mandate to him.

That is why, tonight, I turn to the American people and ask not only for your prayers, but also for your strength and your support, for your voice and for your vote. I come before you with a two-year record of performance, without your mandate. I offer you a four-year pledge of greater performance with your mandate.

As Governor Al Smith used to say, 'Let's look at the record.' Two years ago, inflation was 12 percent. Sales were off, plants were shut down, thousands were being laid off every week. Fear of the future was throttling down our economy and threatening millions of families.

Let's look at the record since August of 1974. Inflation has been cut in half. Payrolls are up. Profits are up. Production is up. Purchases are up. Since the recession was turned around, almost 4 million of our fellow Americans have found new jobs or got their old jobs back. This year, more men and women have jobs than ever before in the history of the United States.

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Confidence has returned and we are in the full surge of sound recovery through steady prosperity. Two years ago, America was mired in withdrawal from Southeast Asia. A decade of Congresses had short-changed our global defenses and threatened our strategic posture. Mounting tension between Israel and the Arab nations made another war seem inevitable. The whole world watched and wondered where America was going. Did we, in our domestic turmoil, have the will, the stamina and the unity to stand up for freedom?

Look at the record since August, two years ago. Today, America is at peace and seeks peace for all nations. Not a single American is at war anywhere on the face of this earth tonight.

Our ties with Western Europe and Japan, economic as well as military, were never stronger. Our relations with Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union and Mainland China are firm, vigilant and forward-looking. Policies I have initiated offer sound progress for the peoples of the Pacific, Africa and Latin America.

Israel and Egypt, both trusting the United States, have taken an historic step that promises an eventual just settlement for the whole Middle East.

The world now respects America's policy of peace through strength. The United States is again the confident leader of the free world. Nobody questions our dedication to peace but nobody doubts our willingness to use our strength when our vital interests are at stake, and we will.

I called for an up to date, powerful Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines that will keep America secure for decades. A strong military posture is always the best insurance for peace. But America's strength has never rested on arms alone. It is rooted in our mutual commitment of our citizens and leaders in the highest standards of ethics and morality and in the spiritual renewal which our Nation is undergoing right now.

Two years ago, people's confidence in their highest officials, to whom they had overwhelmingly entrusted power, had twice been shattered. Losing faith in the word of their elected leaders, Americans lost some of their own faith in themselves.

Again, let us look at the record from August, 1974. From the start, my Administration has been open, candid, forthright. While my entire public and private life was under searching examination for the Vice Presidency, I reaffirmed my life-long conviction that truth is the glue that holds Government together -- not only Government, but civilization, itself. I have demanded honesty, decency and permanent integrity from everybody in the Executive Branch of the Government. The House and Senate have the same duty.

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The American people will not accept a double standard in the United States Congress. Those who make our laws today must not debase the reputation of our great legislative bodies which have given us such giants as Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, Sam Rayburn and Robert A. Taft.

Whether in the nation's capital, the State capital or city hall, private morality and public trust must go together. From August of 1974 to August of 1976, the record shows steady progress upward toward prosperity, peace and public trust.

My record is one of progress, not platitude. My record is one of specifics, not smiles. My record is one of performance, not promises. It is a record I am proud to run on. It is a record the American people -- Democrat, Independent and Republicans alike -- will support on November 2.

For the next four years I pledge to you that I will hold to the steady course we have begun. But, I have no intention of standing on the record alone. We will continue winning the fight against inflation. We will go on reducing the dead weight and impudence of bureaucracy.

We will submit a balanced budget by 1978. We will improve the quality of life at work and play and in our homes and in our neighborhoods. We will not abandon our cities. We will encourage urban programs which insure safety in the streets, create healthy environment and restore neighborhood pride.

We will return control of our children's education to parents and local school authorities. We will make sure that the party of Lincoln remains the party of equal rights. We will create a tax structure that is fair for all of our citizens, ones that preserve the continuity in the family home, the family farm and the family business.

We will ensure the integrity of the Social Security system and improve Medicare so that our older citizens can enjoy the health and the happiness that they have earned. There is no reason they should have to go broke just to get well.

We will make sure that this rich nation does not neglect citizens who are less fortunate, but provide for their needs with compassion and with dignity. We will reduce the growth in the cost of Government and allow individual breadwinners and businesses to keep more of the money that they earn.

MORE

We will create a climate in which our economy will provide a meaningful job for everyone who wants to work and a decent standard of life for all Americans. We will insure that all our young people have a better chance in life than we had, an education they can use and a career they can be proud of.

We will carry out a farm policy that assures a fair market price for the farmer, encourages full production, leads to record exports and eases the hunger within the human family. We will never use the bounty of America's farmers as a pawn in international diplomacy. There will be no embargoes.

We will continue our strong leadership to bring peace, justice and economic progress where there is turmoil, especially in the Middle East. We will build a safe and saner world, through patient negotiations and dependable arms agreements which reduce the danger of conflict and horror of thermonuclear war.

While I am President, we will not return to a collision course that could reduce civilization to ashes. We will build an America where people feel rich in spirit as well as in worldly goods. We will build an America where people feel proud about themselves and about their country.

We will build on performance, not promises; experience, not expediency; real progress instead of mysterious plans to be revealed in some dim and distant future.

The American people are wise, wiser than our opponents think. They know who pays for every campaign promise. They are not afraid of the truth. We tell them the truth.

From start to finish, our campaign will be credible; it will be responsible. We will come out fighting, and we will win. Yes, we have all seen the polls and the pundits who say our party is dead. I have heard that before. So did Harry Truman. I will tell you what I think. The only polls that count are the polls the American people go to on November 2.

Right now, I predict that the American people are going to say that tonight, "Jerry, you have done a good job. Keep right on doing it."

MORE

As I try in my imagination to look into the homes where families are watching the end of this great Convention, I can't tell which faces are Republicans, which are Democrats and which are Independent. I cannot see their color or their creed. I see only Americans.

I see Americans who love their husbands, their wives and their children. I see Americans who love their country for what it has been and what it must become. I see Americans who work hard, but who are willing to sacrifice all they have worked for to keep their children and their country free.

I see Americans who in their own quiet way pray for peace among nations and peace among themselves. We do love our neighbors and we do forgive those who have trespassed against us.

I see a new generation that knows what is right and knows itself, a generation determined to preserve its ideals, its environment, our nation and the world.

My fellow Americans, I like what I see. I have no fear for the future of this great country. As we go forward together, I promise you once more what I promised before: To uphold the Constitution, to do what is right as God gives me to see the right and to do the very best that I can for America.

God helping me, I won't let you down.

Thank you very much.

END (AT 11:18 P.M. CDT)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 19, 1976

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
AT THE
CROWN CENTER HOTEL

THE LOBBY

2:25 A.M. CDT

It is really awfully hard to express adequately my deep appreciation, that of Betty, all of the family. As we have traveled in every one of the 50 States, you have been wonderful in helping and assisting. You have been tremendous here as an inspiration in the closing minutes of a tough ball game.

When things didn't go as well as we would have liked, we knew that we had literally millions and millions of people -- young and old -- all kinds of Americans who were out there willing to go to the mat to help us and I want you to know that helped us get through and win, and win on November 2nd.

I want you to know that I just returned from a meeting with Governor Reagan. I complimented him on a real good campaign. (Laughter) I indicated that we certainly wanted him to be standing shoulder to shoulder with us in the months ahead. And I am glad to report that he indicated he would be there fighting just as hard as I am.

So, I think we can leave that arena tomorrow night unified, vigorous, determined to win for the American people on November 2nd.

Thank you.

END

AT 2:30 A.M. CDT)



O.C.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 18, 1976

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
TO THE PFC STAFF

THE LIBERTY ROOM
CROWN CENTER HOTEL

8:45 A.M. CDT

Let me just thank all of you that I didn't have a chance to express my appreciation with a handshake.

It was a great night last night and it came about because of all the hard work of people like yourselves, not only here, but all over the country. It is a big step toward the result that we are going to get tonight and the more important result we are going to get November 2nd.

Thank you very much.

END

(AT 8:46 A.M. CDT)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 19, 1976

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE

EXCHANGE OF REMARKS
BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT

ROBERT DOLE

SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF KANSAS

THE VICE PRESIDENT

ROBERT GRIFFIN

SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF MICHIGAN

AND

PAUL LAXALT

SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF NEVADA

THE CROWN CENTER HOTEL

12:05 P.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: It is a very great occasion for me, it is a very proud moment for me, to have the opportunity of introducing my running mate for this campaign in 1976.

I am really thrilled with the opportunity of having Bob Dole as my running mate. I am enthusiastic for a number of reasons. I have known Bob Dole a good many years. I served with him in the House of Representatives for eight years. He served with great distinction not only in the House but in the Senate of the United States, representing the great State of Kansas.

Bob Dole, of course, had an outstanding record in the military service in World War II. Bob Dole has been a team player. Bob Dole's philosophy and mine coincide identically. Bob Dole is a good campaigner. Bob Dole will help to heal any divisiveness within the party.

I have talked to Governor Reagan and told him of my selection. Governor Reagan has endorsed my selection of Bob Dole as my running mate. I have consulted with others who were very, very strong as potential candidates as my running mate and all of them have indicated their support, their endorsement, of Bob Dole.

So, it is a great pleasure, privilege and I am extremely proud to introduce to you Senator Bob Dole of the great State of Kansas as my running mate for victory in 1976.

Bob?

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SENATOR DOLE: Thank you, Mr. President.

Mrs. Ford, Mr. Vice President, let me first introduce my wife, Elizabeth, from the State of North Carolina, and that will be part of our Southern strategy. (Laughter)

Let me also indicate that I did not expect to receive a phone call this morning, but I am very pleased that we were in. (Laughter)

I have known, of course, President Ford at a time when I could call him Jerry. As he has indicated, we served in the House together. He has been in many places in Kansas on my behalf, and I remember in 1974 when the going was tough and I was trying to be re-elected one of the President's -- I think the President's last -- campaign stops was in Wichita, Kansas, in the rain, and he came there to help me and I won by a very narrow margin after trailing some 12 points in the polls.

I say that to indicate his great help and also the fact that you can catch up if you are behind. (Laughter)

The Vice President, of course, was one of my earliest supporters in Kansas, and he came to Kansas, I think, to visit Alf Landon, and while he was there I had him do a little work for me. That was very helpful, too.

One of my other great supporters was Governor Reagan. He came to Wichita and did an outstanding job on my behalf. He is a great Republican, and I am certainly pleased that he has indicated that I will be all right. (Laughter)

So, I am just very pleased to be here. I am very proud to be on the ticket with President Ford for many, many reasons that I will go into as I go along the campaign trail.

I think he has an outstanding record. I am realistic. I know there is work to be done between now and November -- in fact, in a little over eight weeks -- but I want to be a part of a winning combination.

It is my opinion that we can win based on his leadership. I am not certain what I can add to the ticket but I will work hard and do the best I can, not just for the Republican Party, but because I think America needs President Ford's leadership for four more years.

Thank you very much.

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THE PRESIDENT: We have on the podium, just to indicate and to show the unity that has come out of a tough struggle and very hard competition, some people that I think will be extremely helpful and beneficial in the 74 days between now and November 2nd.

Of course, the Vice President has, himself, been a tower of strength in the two years that I have been President. He has not only done a great job as Vice President, but he has been of inestimable help to me in making some tough decisions. He fully supports this choice. He was in on the final decision-making. But I think, in addition to that kind of support, we are fortunate to have here two outstanding United States Senators who, for the last few months, have been on the opposite side, but who have, while they were performing their Senatorial duties, worked together on many occasions.

I think the fact that Senator Paul Laxalt, who was Chairman of Governor Reagan's campaign, and Senator Bob Griffin, who has been a long-time friend and supporter of mine and the Minority Whip in the United States Senate, can be here indicates their joint efforts. I think it would be nice if Bob and Paul came forth and maybe said a word together, or individually.

Bob?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: Paul and I have been very good, close friends in the United States Senate and one of the great experiences of my participation in this campaign is to work with a counterpart like Paul Laxalt, who is always straightforward, who is always responsible and whose word was as good as gold.

Paul, you have been a great leader of the opposition. We are so happy that we are going to be working together from now on.

SENATOR LAXALT: Thank you, Bob, very much.

We worked for months in an effort to have a harmonious Convention and I think we achieved that and it has been due, in great part, to Bob Griffin.

I might say, also, that I couldn't be more delighted than to hear the news this morning about Dole's selection. In my judgment, he is going to make a tremendous candidate. He is sound philosophically. My daughter, and others, consider him to be a fox. (Laughter) And he is going to bring to the campaign, I think, a delightful sense of humor which we are going to need in the next eight weeks. (Laughter.)

I think we have in these two men the potential of a winning combination and I am looking forward to working with both of them in the next several weeks.

Thank you.

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THE PRESIDENT: Last, but not least, as I said, a man who has done a super job as Vice President. I would like to introduce to all of you, so he can indicate his feelings, the Vice President of the United States.

VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER: Mr. President, Vice President-designate, distinguished ladies and gentlemen:

To me, this is a very important moment for every American and for the world because the United States has been through, as have other countries of the world, a most difficult period. If we think back two years ago where this country was and where the world was and think what President Ford has done to restore the confidence of the American people in Government, to restore the vitality and dynamism of our economy, to stop inflation, to move forward on employment, to regain the confidence of the leaders of the world, of the people of the world and America -- America has been waiting and the world has been waiting -- for this decision. I think we are fortunate, ladies and gentlemen, that the people of this country and, therefore, the people of the world, are going to have the chance to select these two leaders to carry on the kind of responsible Government in which America, and the world, can have trust and confidence; to preserve freedom, respect for dignity and equality of opportunity for all.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: I thought you might like to get a picture of the beauty of the Ford-Dole team and I think both Bob and I couldn't be happier to have them out helping and assisting. And believe me, the Ford-Dole team is not just the two of us, we have four of us.

We have some other members of the Ford family -- Mike and Gayle, Steve and Susan, I don't know whether we have got Jack or not, yet, but he, as you all know, has been doing quite a bit -- and Michelle, Senator Laxalt's daughter. I think you ought to get a good chance to see what this kind of outfit is going to be and we are going to get Bob's daughter. We didn't have much time to get that coordinated, but she will be here.

Thank you all very much. You will see a lot of us. We will be out there battling. We will be out there doing a good job. I couldn't be happier having Bob Dole as Vice President.

Thank you all very much.

END

(AT 12:17 P.M. CDT)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 19, 1976

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE
PRESS CONFERENCE
OF
RICHARD CHENEY,
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
AND
EDWARD SCHMULTS,
DEPUTY COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

THE CROWN CENTER HOTEL

3:30 P.M. CDT

MR. NESSEN: We have brought Dick Cheney and Ed Schmults to give you an idea and answer your questions about how this process took place.

Before we start, let me say that we are working on the advance text of the acceptance speech. We expect to have it to you between 4:30 and 5:00, embargoed for release upon delivery.

Secondly, Larry Speakes is going to be helping out Senator Dole for a while with his press relations, so if you have questions and interview requests, picture requests and so forth, you can get in touch with Larry.

Q Can you say anything about tomorrow, about what time we leave, baggage check-in, that sort of thing?

MR. NESSEN: Certainly by the end of the day we will, Walt.

Dick and Ed?

MR. CHENEY: Let me begin by apologizing for the delay in coming down. It has obviously been hectic and busy upstairs. We have had a lot of things we are working on today, but we did definitely want to come down and try to give you a traditional fill-in, if you will, an on-the-record briefing to the extent we can on the process we went through in selecting Senator Dole.

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What I would like to do at the outset is walk back through the process. Much of it has been described previously, and then I will try to walk through a brief chronology of last night in terms of what happened when, leading up to this morning when the announcement finally was made.

You will remember that on about July 31 we announced that we were going to send letters out to delegates and alternates around the country, contact Republican Members of the Congress, Republican Governors and other party leaders, to seek their views and their advice and recommendations as to who they thought could best serve as the President's running mate.

That was followed up approximately a week later, on August 6, when we began to initiate contacts with specific individuals that had either been recommended to the President for consideration or whom he wanted to have placed on the list for consideration.

That list contained approximately two dozen names. Most of those names have become public in the course of speculation over the course of the last two weeks. I think most of you can identify those individuals under consideration. I would prefer not to list the actual names today for the simple reason that there were a few individuals who were approached.

Our guarantee at the outset was that the approach would be in confidence, that those individuals indicated they did not wish to be considered, and we do feel it would not be proper to highlight that at this time.

In terms, though, of you having the information, obviously most of you have the vast number of names that were on that list.

Q How many were on the list?

MR. CHENEY: I said approximately two dozen.

Q How many of those contacted did not want to be considered?

MR. CHENEY: It was only a very few, very few.

Q Who made the contacts?

MR. CHENEY: The contacts were made by myself, by Phil Buchen, the President's Counsel, and by Ed Schmults.

MORE

Q By telephone?

MR. CHENEY: Basically by telephone, yes, in all instances.

At the time those individuals were contacted, they were told that they had been recommended for consideration as Vice President. They were asked if they wished to be considered. If they indicated they did in fact so wish, they were told we would send them a packet of material and that packet included two basic things.

One was a draft letter which we wanted them to sign and return to us which committed each of them in the event they became the nominee authorizing us to run reference checks to third parties with respect to their qualifications, and secondly committed them to -- in the event they became the nominee -- making public the same basic material the President has made public over the course of the primary campaign; specifically, a complete physical report on their health, a balance sheet of their assets and liabilities and summary information parallel to that released by the President of the income taxes over the last several years.

I want to be precise here. We didn't ask for the exact release of the specific tax purposes per se, but a release similar to what the President put out earlier this year, which most of you are familiar with. If you don't have copies of it, we can obtain it for you.

Q Will you take questions on that now?

MR. CHENEY: I will be happy to go back and take your questions after I run through it all.

That process, obviously, continued up through last night. That is in virtually every case -- and Ed Schmults can address it more directly than I can -- we received from those individuals who wished to be considered the letter requested, plus the submission on the attached materials.

I should back up here a minute because I left out one step. In addition to the letter they were asked to send in, the packet also included a very lengthy questionnaire that dealt with such things as conflict of interest, et cetera. It is a questionnaire that is administered to everyone that the President selects to be nominated to a Senate confirmed post.

It goes into great detail about the person's background, financial records, et cetera. The candidates submitted to us material that answered or referenced those particular questions that were attached.

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Now, at the outset, our assumption had been that that questionnaire would be used as guidance and those individuals who did want to be considered would merely compile the information and then hold it and at the appropriate point we would be able to sit down and go over it with the individual potential candidate or his representative.

In fact, what happened during the process is that virtually everyone was eager to comply and submitted the materials to us rather than simply holding it and waiting for us to come to them.

MORE

Q How many submitted the material?

MR. CHENEY: As I said previously, there were approximately two dozen people on the list. A very few indicated they did not wish to be considered. The rest all submitted the materials. I would like to come back to your questions after I finish the process.

In addition to that, while Phil Buchen and Ed Schmults were reviewing the materials that were submitted that related to those specific questions, we obviously also were compiling -- and continued to compile -- the results of our request for advice from Senators and Congressmen and Governors and delegates. That process was actually managed out of my office by two of my secretaries and an assistant who works for me. We set up a special address at the White House so the mail all came in was centralized and treated on a confidential basis. It didn't go through the regular mail system.

Those results were tabulated. Again, you will remember when we asked those people, requested their advice, to submit five names in priority order. That was the basic format everyone followed when they came back to us, although there were some exceptions. We got some advice as to who people were against. We got other comments of various kinds. Some people suggested we should pursue certain criteria in selecting a running mate and so forth.

But for the most part, the advice we got in through the mail did come in requested form; that is, five names ranked in priority order. We tabulated those and kept a running count for the President which was then made available to him in his information in terms of his having the benefit of the thinking of those people whose views were solicited.

In addition to that, over the course of that two-week period of time, the President held a great many meetings. Oftentimes, the meetings were on other subjects unrelated to the Vice Presidency, but frequently, the question came up from Members of Congress, delegates when he met with groups of delegates, delegates when he talked with many of them independently on the telephone, and other's advice on the Vice Presidency throughout the week. I don't have any count on the total number of people who, in a face-to-face situation or on the telephone, gave advice to the President on the subject. It was very extensive.

The process then came to a head, obviously, this past week; that is to say, the week of the Convention. Ed Schmults accompanied the President to Kansas City to be available because he had been actively working on the records and the qualifications and the credentials of those people under consideration.

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That process continued right up through this week with Phil Buchen pursuing certain matters in Washington and Ed Schmults pursuing certain matters here.

Last night, after the President was nominated, as you all know, the President went to the Alameda Plaza, met with Governor Reagan. They held a press briefing afterwards at which they commented on that meeting.

After that, we returned to the Crown Center and met with the -- first of all, he went to the rally downstairs and then he met upstairs with the Notification Committee. It is a formal panel established by the Convention that formally notified the President of his nomination.

That group basically included regional whips, party leaders, people who have been helpful in his nomination process.

He also solicited from them their views on the Vice Presidency, and they offered them.

At the end of that meeting, the President began a session at approximately 3:15 with a group of advisers to discuss where he felt he was at that point in terms of making a decision. The individuals who actually participated in that meeting on a continuous basis included, in addition to the President, Vice President Rockefeller, Senator Griffin, Senator Tower of Texas, Stu Spencer, Bob Teeter, Counsellor Jack Marsh, Bryce Harlow, Mel Laird and myself.

I want to make, as strongly as I can, one important point here and that is that that meeting was in fact the culmination of a great many meetings that went before. Obviously, we would have liked to have been able to include large numbers of other people, we simply didn't have time or the space to accommodate them. But based on the prior consultations the President had, we did feel we had touched on a lot of bases and this was the group the President chose to sit down with, weigh the pros and cons and discuss the various options and alternatives before him.

That meeting ran until approximately 5:00 a.m. We adjourned at that point and agreed that we would reconvene this morning at 9:30. A final decision was not made last night. Rather, we weighed the options and alternatives, argued and debated the merits of various potential candidates and then basically slept on it without having made a final decision.

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We reconvened again this morning at approximately 9:35. Within the course of the next hour, after again renewing the debate and the discussion, I would say approximately after 10 a.m. this morning, the President made a decision and announced to the group that he had decided that he wished to nominate Senator Dole.

He then called at approximately 10:30 a.m. Senator Dole, informed him of his decision, asked him to accept his post as running mate and asked him to come to the hotel.

At approximately 10:40, he called Governor Reagan and informed Governor Reagan of his decision. Governor Reagan indicated, as the President said earlier this morning when he was down to introduce Senator Dole, that he thought it was a good selection and that he would support it.

At approximately 10:55, he called John Connally to inform him of his decision. At approximately 10:55 -- these are approximate times and they are fairly close, I believe and if I am off a minute or two, don't hold me to them -- at approximately 11 a.m., he called Senator Howard Baker, also.

Sometime, I believe, around 11:20 or 11:25 a.m., Senator Dole arrived in the Hotel with his wife. He met alone with the President in the office upstairs, briefly, then met with others who had been involved in the group in the decision last night, including Vice President Rockefeller, and so forth. Senator Laxalt also came to the office this morning around 11:30 a.m. and met with the group assembled upstairs and then we proceeded downstairs where the President announced his decision.

That is a fairly detailed outline of the process we went through. I am sure you have some questions. I will try to answer them. Let's take them one at a time.

Q Can you tell us how much the alcoholic problem, the former problem of Senator Baker's wife, figured in his not being selected?

MR. CHENEY: No, I will not.

Let me explain something for a minute, please, so we get the ground rules established at the outset. The process we went through to review the credentials and qualifications of every candidate was as I have described them. With respect to the specific questions involving a particular individual who was or was not a candidate, obviously, I don't think it is proper to get into that. We did check, make reference checks, with a number of people on several different candidates. We did pursue individually with them in some cases specific questions we had, but I will not, because, again, I don't feel it is appropriate for me to comment on why any one particular individual out of those some two dozen ultimately was eliminated and Senator Dole was selected.

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Q Can you describe this generally as a debate or was it a process of gradual elimination? In other words, did you eliminate certain candidates as you went along and narrow the list down to a few?

MR. CHENEY: I think, to be precise and accurate about it, the President did not communicate to anyone until after he had been to the Alameda Plaza last night, a sense of a reduced list from the original two dozen we started with.

He obviously had thought about the subject a great deal as he received advice both verbally and in writing from people over the last two weeks. I think it would be fair to say that through that process he mentally went through the exercise of reducing down the list and eliminating some people, but he did not convey or communicate that reduction to anyone. By the time we got down to the meeting this morning, it was quite clear, from the names that were discussed in a serious manner, that the President had in his own mind significantly reduced the list before the debate started.

Q To how many?

MR. CHENEY: I would say there were a few discussed this morning.

Q When, when you say "this morning"?

MR. CHENEY: I am saying early this morning, approximately 3:15.

Q A few, like five?

MR. CHENEY: That is a fairly accurate statement. Again, from time to time, a particular individual would suggest someone whose name would crop up. That would be discussed and debated, then dropped, and we would move on to someone else. Don't hold me to the total number of names, but it was roughly on that order they were given very serious consideration.

One at a time.

Yes. Phil.

Q On that survey that the President took from approximately 5,000 different individuals, where did Senator Dole rank?

Q Question?

MR. CHENEY: The specific question was, where did Senator Dole rank in this survey we made of delegates, alternates and others.

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I think it would be an accurate statement to say he had more support than some and less than others. (Laughter)

I don't have the exact numbers. We indicated at the time we started that the process that that material was being submitted in confidence and we did not anticipate we would make public hard numbers.

Yes, Helen?

Q How much impact did it have?

MR. CHENEY: I think it was an important consideration because it did in fact give us a sense of the mood and the attitude of the Republican Party, of the delegates to the Convention and a feeling that not only were they part of the process but that it was a very useful and healthy exercise for us to be able to thumb through by various categories and be able to identify supporters of potential candidates.

It was a factor but clearly not the only factor.

Yes, Jim.

Q You don't want to talk about people who were not chosen, but will you discuss with us some of the grounds on which Senator Dole was chosen?

MR. CHENEY: I certainly will.

Q For instance, the fact it is generally conceded he is considered to be a very hard campaigner, a very good speaker, a very hard-driving campaigner, was that a factor? If so, how heavy was it and what were the other factors?

MR. CHENEY: It certainly was a factor in the consideration. Again, in terms of weighing these things and quantifying them, this factor is worth two points, that one is worth ten, it is not that kind of a process. Those attributes of Senator Dole that figured prominently in the discussion -- and I think in the President's final conclusion -- were, one, a feeling that he was a very experienced man, a man who had served some 15 years in the House and the United States Senate, and that he had served his party as National Chairman, that he was a man who is a good speaker, who is a very effective campaigner, that he is a tough-minded man and that he is bright, able and fully qualified to be President of the United States.

Obviously, there were other considerations. I think I have touched on most of them.

Yes, Marty.

MORE

Q I take it then from what you have said that the President never did offer the Vice Presidency to Ronald Reagan? Is that accurate, and can you tell me if there was discussion and if you now think it is at all possible that there will be a draft Reagan movement?

MR. CHENEY: Marty, with respect to the first part of your question, which was whether or not the President offered the Vice Presidency to Governor Reagan, I can't add anything beyond what was stated last night at the conclusion of their meeting when they met with the press at the Alameda Plaza. They said at that time that they had agreed that the contents of that discussion would be treated as a private matter and I am simply unable to add beyond that.

Q Would you like to deal with the second part of the question, the possibility that there might be a draft Reagan movement?

MR. CHENEY: It is my understanding that Governor Reggan has indicated that he supports the Dole selection, that he does not wish to be a candidate, and I have every reason to expect that tonight the Convention will in fact nominate Senator Dole as the President's running mate.

Q Was there discussion at the later stages of the open Convention giving the delegates the choice? Was that course recommended to the President, and was that discussed at any length?

MR. CHENEY: That recommendation was made, but not in that small group I have named. It was a recommendation we received from time to time, including ones as late as yesterday. It was an idea that surfaced periodically.

Q Question?

MR. CHENEY: The question specifically was, was there ever a recommendation to the President to throw the nomination open to the Convention? I indicated there was such a recommendation, that it came in on more than one occasion from various people over the course of the last several weeks.

Most recently it was a recommendation that was received from at least one individual late yesterday but not within the context of the 3:15 meeting I described previously.

Q When will you get the medical and financial records?

MR. CHENEY: We haven't set a date, but I am sure it will be in the near future.

Yes, Dick?

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Q Can you be a little more specific and give us some reconstruction of the moment in the meeting this morning -- the second meeting -- when the President came to his decision? Did it come in the middle of a conversation? Did he pause? Did he go out of the room? What did he specifically say at the time? How did he reach the decision?

Q Question?

MR. CHENEY: The question was if I could provide a little bit more detail regarding the specific point at which the President reached the decision this morning that he wanted to name Senator Dole.

My recollection of it, Dick, is that it seemed clear to me when the President opened the meeting this morning -- and again I would be hard put to specify why; it was a sense or feeling as much as anything -- that he had pretty well moved in his own mind in the direction of picking Senator Dole, primarily because he began to ask the group what they thought.

Again, his name obviously had been discussed previously, and he, in effect, solicited the views of those people around the table with respect to the Senator.

Q I mean, the Senator alone, he didn't mention any other names, just Dole's?

MR. CHENEY: No, there were other names discussed this morning, but I think it would be fair to characterize this morning's meeting as zeroing in on Senator Dole.

Q That was at the 9:30 meeting?

MR. CHENEY: Yes.

Q Let him finish.

MR. CHENEY: I think that is about it, Dick. There was a sense, a mood, in the meeting. The focus of the meeting this morning clearly predominated. Senator Dole was the predominant figure discussed, if you will. I believe there were some other names discussed but there was a sense in the room that that was the direction in which the President was moving and also that the bulk of those people there agreed with that selection.

Yes, Walt?

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Q Often when you were discussing the Vice Presidential choices, it was often thought the President would have to have some with geographical balance, like someone from the West Coast, someone from the Northeast, perhaps someone from the South. Does the fact that the President, who is a midwesterner, chose someone who is also a midwesterner mean that you don't think geographic balance is all that important on the ticket?

Will you give us some idea of what the discussions were by having a Michigander and a Kansan on there, and why you didn't go Northeast or South, something like that?

MR. CHENEY: The point was raised, Walt, not only with respect to Senator Dole but to others. I think it would be fair to say there was a general feeling clearly that it was not a factor that outweighed others under consideration; that is to say, there were other characteristics or qualities that were far more important in the decision than the question of geography.

Q Can you tell us why the President called John Connally and as a follow up, how were the other finalists notified they were no longer under consideration?

Q Question?

MR. CHENEY: The question is, why did the President call John Connally --

Q And Senator Baker.

MR. CHENEY: -- and Senator Baker and how were the other potential candidates notified?

I think he felt specifically that he wanted to call John Connally and Senator Baker. I am not certain why specifically he singled them out. We obviously were working on a short time frame by the time we made the decision. We did want to hold the press conference by noon, if we could do so. By this time it was approximately 10:30 when Senator Dole was contacted and we simply didn't have time, if we were to keep our public schedule, to contact all the people we would have like to.

A number of other people were called, as I mentioned earlier, by those individuals who were in the group who had been consulted so that meant like Senator Tower, Mel Laird and others did fan out to the telephones and call a number of people to notify them of the decision.

Yes, Rudy?

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Q Two unrelated questions. One, why wasn't the President's campaign chairman involved in these two meetings, and the other is on the recommendations to leave the nomination to the Convention, did the President ever really seriously consider that or was it dismissed out of hand?

MR. CHENEY: The first question is with respect to Rog Morton's participation in the process. Rog was in the first meeting held when we returned from the Alameda Plaza with the regional whips and the notification committee that I mentioned earlier.

Secondly, I believe, if I am correct, Rudy, you asked how seriously we considered the suggestion of leaving it up to the Convention to select and not make a recommendation.

It was considered courteously, I think I would say. The President has felt all along and has stated, I think fairly consistently, that he feels an obligation and has felt an obligation to the Convention with respect to his nominee. I would characterize his feeling in that area very much the way I would his feeling that he should never let a piece of legislation become law without his signature.

If you will check back, the President has never let a bill become law without signing it. He feels very strongly that he has an obligation to address the issues in the bill, and either sign it or veto it, but not to take a pass. I think he felt he would have been to some extent abdicating his responsibilities as the President and as the nominee of the party had he failed to make a recommendation to the Convention.

Yes, Aldo?

Q Did Governor Reagan have veto power over any candidate, over the Vice Presidential nominee?

Q Question.

MR. CHENEY: The question by Mr. Beckman of the Tribune is whether or not Governor Reagan had veto power over the selection.

Again, I don't want to be misleading here at all, obviously. What transpired last night in the meeting has been determined by Governor Reagan and the President to be basically a private matter which they have not discussed.

To say that anyone, however, in a general sense had a veto power over the President's selection I think would be inaccurate. We did consult with Governor Reagan.

MORE

Q You didn't?

MR. CHENEY: I say the President did consult with Governor Reagan. Obviously that was the purpose of the trip last night. The nature of what transpired in that meeting is something that either one of them will have to talk about because no one else was present.

The Governor did indicate, as I said earlier, that he thought the selection was a good one and that he would support Senator Dole.

Yes?

Q On the question of ideology, President Ford is perceived as a Conservative; Senator Dole is a Conservative. How are you going to square this appointment, this selection, with the moderate wing of the party? Would you say ideology, like geography, was not a factor?

Q Question?

MR. CHENEY: The question went to the issue -- correct me if I mistake your question, but I would like to shorten it a little bit -- to the issue of philosophical balance, if you will, that the President is a Conservative or perceived as a Conservative, Senator Dole is perceived as a Conservative, and why was that done. Was that treated in effect a little bit like geography going with Michigan and Kansas?

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Q Was that a concession to the Reagan forces?

MR. CHENEY: No, I don't think it is a concession at all. I think it is the selection of the man best qualified to serve as President of the United States and, therefore, as the President's Vice President in the case.

The President has said all along that he anticipated that he would select someone who was philosophically compatible with his own views, both with respect to domestic and foreign policy and I believe Senator Dole perfectly fits that criteria.

Q You said that Senator Dole was outranked in the survey by some but ranked ahead of others.

MR. CHENEY: Correct.

Q Also, we were told a couple of days ago that in the tabulation it narrowed down to some five or six persons in terms of popularity -- not popularity -- but it had been narrowed down to five or six. Was he within that group of five or so?

MR. CHENEY: Bob, to my knowledge, no one has seen that chart except myself and the President and a few people who prepared it, who worked for me. I don't think there has ever been, to my knowledge, a report to the effect that it narrowed down to five or six. What it was was a long list of people with the names down the side and numbers horizontally across. We had columns across the top labeled one, two, three, four, five, that represented first, second and through fifth choices. Then, in the box for Bob Dole, for example, under one would be the total number of first-place votes he received, and then number two, the total number of second place, and so forth. But I don't believe we have ever put out any statement which could be accurately characterized as indicating that the list narrowed down to five or six based on the survey.

Q Was there any opposition to the Senator in that meeting early this morning and, if so, by whom and what was the focus of it?

MR. CHENEY: Again, I think I have described, in general, the tenor and tone of the meeting and the nature of the discussions that took place. However, I would refrain from commenting upon specific advice given to the President. That kind of meeting, it seems to me, he benefits from having a wide range of viewpoints presented to him and for me to discuss that would, in effect, be to violate a confidence.

MORE

I would state it would be very accurate to characterize the decision to name Senator Dole as having very wide support in that group.

Q Mr. Cheney, wasn't it a consideration with picking a vigorous campaigner such as Senator Dole that the President could go more into fulfilling his duties as President rather than campaigning?

MR. CHENEY: I wouldn't state it quite in those terms. It was obviously a consideration in the course of the dialogue and the discussion of the merits of the relative candidates, their overall ability as a candidate, their ability to speak, their ability to articulate issues, to advocate effectively our cause and our philosophy and our beliefs.

Certainly, Senator Dole has those qualities in abundance and, I think, it would be accurate to say that that is one of the reasons why he had extensive support in the course of the discussion.

Q Will Mrs. Dole resign from the FTC?

MR. CHENEY: That issue has come up and not yet been resolved. Obviously, we will do whatever is appropriate.

Q There was some talk last fall the farmers were mad at the President because of the grain embargo. How much consideration was given to the fact Dole is a farmbelt Senator and has some support from the farmers in his selection as Vice President?

MR. CHENEY: Again, so I can be very precise, the relative weight of the various factors and qualifications discussed was something the President had to determine and I don't know any way to quantify that process in terms of how much various attributes counted.

I think it would be accurate to say that there were those who argued that the Senator's strong background in, and knowledge of, agricultural policy matters was an asset which should be considered in the course of evaluating his qualifications.

I would like to take about two more questions and then I have to go back to work.

Yes, Bob.

MORE

Q Could you clear up for us once and for all during this consulting process, was Leon Jaworski ever contacted by anyone in the White House and, if so, in reference to what candidate?

MR. CHENEY: No, Bob, and I am afraid I can't clarify that for you. As I said previously, what we did, we contacted each of the people on the list. We asked them, in addition to committing to make public certain information, to authorize us to contact third parties, which we felt was only proper, with respect to checking out their credentials and qualifications.

We also believe that that process should have taken place in confidence, and has, and I don't think it would be appropriate for me to get into the business of characterizing who we contacted or about which individuals they were contacted.

One more question.

Q To clarify the early morning chronology, how long were Chairman Morton, the whips and the notification committee present in this meeting? I assume they didn't stay until 5:00 a.m.

MR. CHENEY: That is correct. They were in the hotel upstairs when we returned from the Alameda Plaza. They were brought into the President's office upstairs on the 18th floor. The President met them, thanked them for their work and among other things autographed their caps. This group included those people who worked the floor for us with the red and yellow baseball caps.

Most of them asked him to autograph those caps. Then they sat down around the room. It was a fairly large group, and the President sat on the desk facing the group in a half-circle around him and told them in effect that he had a very important decision, obviously, to make last night and he would like their views and advice on the Vice Presidency.

Rog Morton and a great many other people were part of that group. I don't want to leave anybody out, but examples of people in the group included such people as Paul Haerle from California, Bob Michel from Illinois, Harry Dent from South Carolina, Tom Milligan of Indiana, Edward Weldon of Alabama, and others.

If you look at the notification committee list of the people who notified the President last night, which I am sure we can produce for you and add into it others who were a part of that operation on the floor, that is the group that was in there. I would say they were in there for 30 to 45 minutes for the course of this discussion.

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One more, and then I have to depart.

Q Was Watergate and the milk scandal considered at all in ruling people out in the selection process?

MR. CHENEY: As I said previously, I mean specifically, I will not get into the business of commenting upon what specific reasons led to the exclusion of any one individual.

Thank you all very much.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END (AT 4:15 P.M. CDT)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 19, 1976

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
AND
QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION
WITH
RONALD REAGAN

THE ALAMEDA PLAZA HOTEL

2:05 A.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: Governor Reagan, I came over to the hotel for the purpose of congratulating you on a very fine campaign and expressing to you our compliments for the outstanding organization that you had. You really got us in shape.

I think the campaign you waged and the organization you put together was beneficial to the campaign that we have, beginning right away to defeat the Democratic nominees and to make certain that our philosophy prevails for the next four years.

I thank you for your indication of full support and again, I congratulate you for a fine campaign. Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR REAGAN: Mr. President, my congratulations to you.

It was a good fight, Mom, and he won.

My congratulations and, of course, you know that as we both agreed all the way from the very beginning, once the fight was over, we are on the same side and we go forward together.

QUESTION: Mr. President, did you discuss the Vice Presidency with Governor Reagan?

THE PRESIDENT: I talked about a number of possibilities. We had a discussion in that regard, yes.

QUESTION: Mr. President, was Mr. Reagan one of those possibilities you discussed?

THE PRESIDENT: That is a private matter between Governor Reagan and myself and I don't think we should comment further.

MORE



QUESTION: Governor Reagan, are you prepared to campaign actively for President Ford in the election?

GOVERNOR REAGAN: Yes, as I said before, and that is what I have always done and believed in with regard to the party and I will do all I can.

QUESTION: Governor Reagan, your wife said earlier this evening that she would be happy to get back to the ranch when this is all over. Is that what is going to happen, sir?

GOVERNOR REAGAN: I want to tell you I will be happy to get back to the ranch, too, but I don't think we mean permanently settle down on the ranch, but I know what she meant. We are both tired -- I think we are all tired -- having been through this campaign. We are looking forward to a breathing spell.

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GOVERNOR REAGAN: I shall stand by that statement, yes.

QUESTION: Governor Reagan, could you turn down a draft by the Convention?

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QUESTION: Mr. President, why did you send Ben Becker out to California to negotiate the pardon of Mr. Nixon when he was under investigation for criminal tax fraud at the time?

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QUESTION: Will you debate Jimmy Carter, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT: We don't rule it out.

QUESTION: Mr. President, you haven't said whether you have or you have not made up your mind yet about a Vice President.

THE PRESIDENT: I have not.

QUESTION: Can you tell us who is on your Vice Presidential list?

THE PRESIDENT: I will tell you who the choice is tomorrow.

QUESTION: What time?

THE PRESIDENT: How early do you want it? (Laughter)

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THE PRESIDENT: We will advise you at the appropriate time.

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QUESTION: If the Convention were to draft you, sir, would you reject any move by the Convention?

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THE PRESIDENT: I think all during the campaign the Ford people that I talked with indicated they would have supported Governor Reagan and the Reagan people that I had the opportunity to talk with or heard from otherwise said they would support President Ford. I think that is true across the spectrum as far as the Convention is concerned. Our principles transcend personalities, and I think we can solidify the party, strengthen it and win in November.

Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR REAGAN: Thank you.

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
TO
THE PRESIDENTIALS

THE TRADE MART

9:50 A.M. CDT

Wow, what a meeting. What a Convention. What a victory Wednesday night.

Let me be serious just a minute. On behalf of Mike and Gayle, Jack, Steve, and Susan and, of course, Betty, and especially on my own behalf, I want to thank all the great Presidentials for being here on your own and doing a great job.

We have had a tough two years. We have done a good job. But, everytime the going got rougher and rougher, everytime we had a hard, tough decision to make -- and we did.-- I had the feeling that the young people in this country understood the problems and were on our side.

But, let me, if I might, take just a minute. Your parents, your grandparents, have made a great effort over their lifetime to make this a good country. But, they wanted to make it a good country for one single reason -- because they wanted their grandchildren to have a better America for themselves than they did for themselves.

That is what you want for your children and that is why you are so idealistic, that is why you have a cause, that is why you are here -- because you believe in something, something good about America.

You want peace at home and you want peace throughout the world. I am on your side. In the last two years we have healed America at home, and in the last two years we have achieved peace abroad, and we are going to keep it abroad.

Our nation is trusted, respected. We have the military capability and the diplomatic skill to keep that peace, and with the strength and the hopes and the aspirations and the visions of the American people, including all of the wonderful young people, America will continue to be the leader of the world and we will keep the peace.

The young people of this country want their environment at home expanded. They want it better -- more parks, a better life for them when they go on vacation, a better life when they live in their urban centers or on their farm. They want an environment that will make this country the kind of a country where we can have a quality of life; not today, not tomorrow, but during this next century. I am on your side.

MORE

The American people, especially our youth, want to help the economy with jobs. I am on your side. The opposition party talks about statistics as far as unemployment is concerned. The only criteria that I use is that every American -- white or black, old and young -- who wants a job has a job.

The thing that all of us want -- our country has grown from 13 poor, struggling colonies with less than 3 million people 100 years ago. For the first 100 years of our history, we developed the greatest form of government in the history of mankind. Then, in the second 100 years of America's history, we were the leaders of an industrial revolution that made it possible for us to lead the world in worldly goods. But it is my feeling that in our third century -- and I think this came through during that wonderful Fourth of July celebration -- we have to make the third century of America the century of the individual so that he lives -- we have to have the opportunity for that individual, wherever he or she may live, a century where we have peace abroad and peace at home, where we have the environment where a quality of life is meaningful to each and everyone of us, where a job is not just a Government-promised job, but a job with some real common sense with an opportunity for advancement and permanency -- a third century where you and your children and your grandchildren can have a vision for a broadened opportunity for each and every one of you every day of every year.

We have to have that vision of a better America. Our forefathers gave us much -- a good government, the opportunity to increase our worldly goods -- but if we don't keep and strengthen the opportunity for individual liberty all of which we believe in won't have much meaning. And so I say to you, Jerry Ford is on your side.

I will stand with you, work with you and we will win a great victory on Wednesday.

You have a thousand wonderful young people here today, but we have to multiply and multiply and multiply our efforts so we win on November 2nd.

END

(AT 10:04 A.M. CDT)



Weekly Compilation of
**PRESIDENTIAL
DOCUMENTS**

Monday, August 23, 1976



Volume 12 • Number 34

Pages 1261-1273

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WEEKLY COMPILATION OF *Presidential Documents*

Published every Monday by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Service, General Services Administration, Washington, D.C. 20408, the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* contains statements, messages and other Presidential materials released by the White House during the preceding week.

The *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* is published pursuant to the authority contained in the Federal Register Act (49 Stat. 500, as amended; 44 U.S.C. Ch. 15), under regulations prescribed by the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register, approved by the President (37 F.R. 23607; 1 CFR Part 10).

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There are no restrictions on the republication of material appearing in the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents*.

Administration of Gerald R. Ford

PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

Week Ending Friday, August 20, 1976

Veto of Bill Extending the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act

The President's Message to the House of Representatives Returning H.R. 12944 Without His Approval. Dated August 13, 1976. Released August 14, 1976

To the House of Representatives:

I am returning, without my approval, H.R. 12944, a bill "To extend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, as amended, for six months." If the only purpose of the bill were that set forth in its caption I would have no reservations about it.

The bill would, however, also make a serious substantive change in the law. It would subject rules and regulations issued under authority of the Act to a 60-day review period during which either House of Congress may disapprove the rule or regulation by simple resolution.

As I have indicated on previous occasions, I believe that provisions for review of regulations and other action by resolutions of one-house or concurrent resolution are unconstitutional. They are contrary to the general principle of separation of power whereby Congress enacts laws but the President and the agencies of government execute them. Furthermore, they violate Article I, section 7 which requires that resolutions having the force of law be sent to the President for his signature or veto. There is no provision in the Constitution for the procedure contemplated by this bill.

Congress has been considering bills of this kind in increasing number. At my direction, the Attorney General moved recently to intervene in a lawsuit challenging the

constitutionality of a comparable section of the Federal election law. I hope that Congress will reconsider H.R. 12944 and pass a bill which omits this provision.

GERALD R. FORD

The White House,
August 13, 1976

Kansas City, Missouri

The President's Remarks Upon Arrival at His Headquarters in the Crown Center Hotel for the 1976 Republican National Convention. August 15, 1976

It is wonderful to be back in Kansas City. What a wonderful welcome. And I can say without any hesitation or qualification, this is the kind of enthusiasm that will give us a victory on Wednesday night.

Now, let me say I am not going to make a speech, but I do want to introduce some very good, some very close friends of mine, first the Vice President of the United States, Nelson Rockefeller. Then, one of my best friends and one of the most ardent and effective supporters, a great Governor of my State, Governor Bill Milliken and Mrs. Milliken. Then, another very good friend—and you can't miss him—the chairman of the President Ford Committee, Rog Morton.

I have a few of the members of my wonderful family here. First a young lady who is going to be a temporary resident of the great State of Kansas when she goes to—she will be entering Kansas University this fall. She loves her photography like I love those uncommitted delegates. [Laughter]

Then a third son, Steve, he likes to ride the ranges up in Montana or Utah or California. He promised to stay in the saddle for the next 4 years. [Laughter] Then Jack,

who has been out campaigning month after month after month. Jack Ford.

And then last but not least, the most effective campaigner in the Ford family [Betty Ford]. She has more President Ford buttons with her name on it than I do. [Laughter]

Mike and his wonderful wife, Gayle, are going to come out here on Tuesday. The whole Ford family will be here for a reunion before we win on Wednesday night.

Thank you all. We are really just tremendously impressed with the warmth, the numbers, and the wonderful welcome you have all given us. Let me say we will not let you down, and we know we are going to win. Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:22 p.m.

Kansas City, Missouri

The President's Remarks to a President Ford Youth Group, The Presidentials. August 16, 1976

Wow, what a meeting. What a convention. What a victory Wednesday night.

Let me be serious just a minute. On behalf of Mike and Gayle, Jack, Steve, and Susan and, of course, Betty, and especially on my own behalf, I want to thank all the great Presidentials for being here on your own and doing a great job.

We have had a tough 2 years. We have done a good job. But everytime the going got rougher and rougher, everytime we had a hard, tough decision to make—and we did—I had the feeling that the young people in this country understood the problems and were on our side.

But let me, if I might, take just a minute. Your parents, your grandparents, have made a great effort over their lifetime to make this a good country. But they wanted to make it a good country for one single reason—because they wanted their grandchildren to have a better America for themselves than they did for themselves.

That is what you want for your children, and that is why you are so idealistic, that is why you have a cause, that is why you are here—because you believe in something, something good about America.

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You have a thousand wonderful young people here today, but we have to multiply and multiply and multiply our efforts so we win on November 2.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:50 a.m. at the Trade Mart Building.

Kansas City, Missouri

The President's Remarks to the President Ford Committee Staff. August 18, 1976

Let me just thank all of you that I didn't have a chance to express my appreciation with a handshake.

It was a great night last night, and it came about because of all the hard work of people like yourselves, not only here, but all over the country. It is a big step toward the result that we are going to get tonight and the more important result we are going to get November 2.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:45 a.m. in the Liberty Room at the Crown Center Hotel.

Death of American Military Officers in Korea

Statement by the White House Press Secretary. August 18, 1976

The President condemns the vicious and unprovoked murder of two American officers last night in the demilitarized zone near Panmunjom in Korea.

These officers were peacefully supervising a work detail in the neutral zone when they were subjected to a brutal and cowardly attack totally without warning.

Total responsibility for the consequences of these murders rests with the North Korean Government.

NOTE: The statement was released in Kansas City, Mo.

Kansas City, Missouri

Remarks of the President and Ronald Reagan in a Question-and-Answer Session With Reporters. August 19, 1976

THE PRESIDENT. Governor Reagan, I came over to the hotel for the purpose of congratulating you on a very fine campaign and expressing to you our compliments for the outstanding organization that you had. You really got us in shape.

I think the campaign you waged and the organization you put together was beneficial to the campaign that we have, beginning right away to defeat the Democratic nominees and to make certain that our philosophy prevails for the next 4 years.

I thank you for your indication of full support and, again, I congratulate you for a fine campaign. Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR REAGAN. Mr. President, my congratulations to you. It was a good fight, Mom, and he won.

My congratulations and, of course, you know that as we both agreed all the way from the very beginning, once the fight was over, we are on the same side and we go forward together.

QUESTIONS

Q. Mr. President, did you discuss the Vice Presidency with Governor Reagan?

THE PRESIDENT. I talked about a number of possibilities. We had a discussion in that regard, yes.

Q. Mr. President, was Mr. Reagan one of those possibilities you discussed?

THE PRESIDENT. That is a private matter between Governor Reagan and myself, and I don't think we should comment further.

Q. Governor Reagan, are you prepared to campaign actively for President Ford in the election?

GOVERNOR REAGAN. Yes, as I said before, and that is what I have always done and believed in with regard to the party, and I will do all I can.

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THE PRESIDENT. How early do you want it? [Laughter]

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Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR REAGAN. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:05 a.m. at the Alameda Plaza Hotel, where Governor Reagan was staying for the Republican National Convention. The President went to the hotel to meet with the former Governor following the balloting for the Presidential nominee at the convention.

Kansas City, Missouri

The President's Remarks to Campaign Supporters Following His Nomination as the 1976 Republican Presidential Candidate. August 19, 1976

It is really awfully hard to express adequately my deep appreciation, that of Betty, all of the family.

As we have traveled in every one of the 50 States, you have been wonderful in helping and assisting. You have been tremendous here as an inspiration in the closing minutes of a tough ball game.

When things didn't go as well as we would have liked, we knew that we had literally millions and millions of people—young, old—all kinds of Americans who were out there willing to go to the mat to help us. And I want you to know that helped us get through and win, and win on November 2.

I want you to know that I just returned from a meeting with Governor Reagan. I complimented him on a real good campaign. I indicated that we certainly wanted him to be standing shoulder to shoulder with us in the months ahead. And I am glad to report that he indicated he would be there fighting just as hard as I am.

So, I think we can leave that arena tomorrow night unified, vigorous, determined to win for the American people on November 2.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:25 a.m. in the Lobby at the Crown Center Hotel.

Kansas City, Missouri

Announcement by the President of Senator Robert J. Dole as his Vice-Presidential Running Mate and an Exchange of Remarks Between the President, Senator Dole, Senator Robert P. Griffin, Senator Paul Laxalt, and Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller. August 19, 1976

THE PRESIDENT. It is a very great occasion for me, it is a very proud moment for me, to have the opportunity of introducing my running mate for this campaign in 1976.

I am really thrilled with the opportunity of having Bob Dole as my running mate. I am enthusiastic for a number of reasons. I have known Bob Dole a good many years. I served with him in the House of Representatives for 8 years. He served with great distinction not only in the House but in the Senate of the United States, representing the great State of Kansas.

Bob Dole, of course, had an outstanding record in the military service in World War II. Bob Dole has been a team player. Bob Dole's philosophy and mine coincide identically. Bob Dole is a good campaigner. Bob Dole will help to heal any divisiveness within the party.

I have talked to Governor Reagan and told him of my selection. Governor Reagan has endorsed my selection of Bob Dole as my running mate. I have consulted with others who were very, very strong as potential candidates as my running mate and all of them have indicated their support, their endorsement, of Bob Dole.

So, it is a great pleasure, privilege, and I am extremely proud to introduce to you Senator Bob Dole of the great State of Kansas as my running mate for victory in 1976.

Bob.

SENATOR DOLE. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mrs. Ford, Mr. Vice President, let me first introduce my wife, Elizabeth, from the State of North Carolina, and that will be part of our Southern strategy. [Laughter]

Let me also indicate that I did not expect to receive a phone call this morning, but I am very pleased that we were in. [Laughter]

I have known, of course, President Ford at a time when I could call him Jerry. As he has indicated, we served in the House together. He has been in many places in Kansas on my behalf. And I remember in 1974 when the going was tough and I was trying to be reelected one of the President's—I think the President's last—campaign stops was in Wichita, Kansas, in the rain. And he came there to help me, and I won by a very narrow margin after trailing some 12 points in the polls. I say that to indicate his great help and also the fact that you can catch up if you are behind.

The Vice President, of course, was one of my earlier supporters in Kansas. And he came to Kansas, I think, to visit Alf Landon, and while he was there I had him do a little work for me. That was very helpful, too.

One of my other great supporters was Governor Reagan. He came to Wichita and did an outstanding job on my behalf. He is a great Republican, and I am certainly pleased that he has indicated that I will be all right. [Laughter]

So, I am just very pleased to be here. I am very proud to be on the ticket with President Ford for many, many reasons that I will go into as I go along the campaign trail.

I think he has an outstanding record. I am realistic. I know there is work to be done between now and November—in fact, in a little over 8 weeks—but I want to be a part of a winning combination.

It is my opinion that we can win based on his leadership. I am not certain what I can add to the ticket but I will work hard and do the best I can, not just for the Republican Party, but because I think America needs President Ford's leadership for 4 more years.

Thank you very much.

THE PRESIDENT. We have on the podium, just to indicate and to show the unity that has come out of a tough struggle and very hard competition, some people that I think will be extremely helpful and beneficial in the 74 days between now and November 2.

Of course the Vice President has, himself, been a tower of strength in the 2 years that I have been President. He has not only done a great job as Vice President, but he has been of inestimable help to me in making some tough decisions. He fully supports this choice. He was in on the final decisionmaking. But I think, in addition to that kind of support, we are fortunate to have here two outstanding United States Senators who, for the last few months, have been on the opposite side, but who have, while they were performing their senatorial duties, worked together on many occasions.

I think the fact that Senator Paul Laxalt, who was chairman of Governor Reagan's campaign, and Senator Bob Griffin, who has been a long-time friend and supporter of mine and the minority whip in the United States Senate, can be here indicates their joint efforts. I think it would be nice if Bob and Paul came forth and maybe said a word together, or individually.

Bob.

SENATOR GRIFFIN. Paul and I have been very good, close friends in the United States Senate, and one of the great experiences of my participation in this campaign is to work with a counterpart like Paul Laxalt, who is always straightforward, who is always responsible, and whose word was as good as gold.

Paul, you have been a great leader of the opposition. We are so happy that we are going to be working together from now on.

SENATOR LAXALT. Thank you, Bob, very much.

We worked for months in an effort to have a harmonious convention, and I think we achieved that. And it has been due, in great part, to Bob Griffin.

I might say, also, that I couldn't be more delighted than to hear the news this morning about Dole's selection. In my judgment, he is going to make a tremendous candidate. He is sound philosophically. My daughter, and others, consider him to be a fox. [Laughter] And he is going to bring to the campaign, I think, a delightful sense of humor which we are going to need in the next 8 weeks.

I think we have in these two men the potential of a winning combination, and I am looking forward to working with both of them in the next several weeks.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT. Last, but not least, as I said, a man who has done a super job as Vice President. I would like to introduce to all of you, so he can indicate his feelings, the Vice President of the United States.

VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER. *Mr. President, Vice President-designate, distinguished ladies and gentlemen:*

To me, this is a very important moment for every American and for the world because the United States has been through, as have other countries of the world, a most difficult period. If we think back 2 years ago where this country was and where the world was and think what President Ford has done to restore the confidence of the American people in government, to restore the vitality and dynamism of our economy, to stop inflation, to move forward on employment, to regain the confidence of the leaders of the world, of the people of the world and America—America has been waiting and the world has been waiting—for this decision. I think we are fortunate, ladies and gentlemen, that the people of this country and, therefore, the people of the world, are going to have the chance to select these two leaders to carry on the kind of responsible government in which America, and the world, can have trust and confidence; to preserve freedom, respect for dignity, and equality of opportunity for all.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT. I thought you might like to get a picture of the beauty of the Ford-Dole team, and I think both Bob and I couldn't be happier to have them out helping and assisting. And believe me, the Ford-Dole team is not just the two of us, we have four of us.

We have some other members of the Ford family—Mike and Gayle, Steve and Susan. I don't know whether we have got Jack or not, yet, but he, as you all know, has been doing quite a bit—and Michelle, Senator Laxalt's daughter. I think you ought to get a good chance to see what this kind of outfit is going to be. And we are going to get Bob's daughter. We didn't have much time to get that coordinated, but she will be here.

Thank you all very much. You will see a lot of us. We will be out there battling. We will be out there doing a good job. I couldn't be happier having Bob Dole as Vice President.

Thank you all very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:05 p.m. at the Crown Center Hotel.

1976 REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

The President's Remarks Accepting the Nomination. August 19, 1976

Mr. Chairman, delegates and alternates to this Republican Convention:

I am honored by your nomination, and I accept it with pride, with gratitude, and with a total will to win a great victory for the American people. We will wage a winning campaign in every region of this country, from the snowy banks of Minnesota to the sandy plains of Georgia. We concede not a single State. We concede not a single vote.

This evening I am proud to stand before this great convention as the first incumbent President since Dwight D. Eisenhower who can tell the American people: America is at peace.

Tonight, I can tell you straightaway this Nation is sound, this Nation is secure, this Nation is on the march to full economic recovery and a better quality of life for all Americans.

And I will tell you one more thing. This year the issues are on our side. I am ready, I am eager to go before the American people and debate the real issues face to face with Jimmy Carter. The American people have a right to know firsthand exactly where both of us stand.

I am deeply grateful to those who stood with me in winning the nomination of the party whose cause I have served all of my adult life. I respect the convictions of those who want a change in Washington. I want a change, too. After 22 long years of majority misrule, let's change the United States Congress.

My gratitude tonight reaches far beyond this arena to countless friends whose confidence, hard work, and unselfish support have brought me to this moment. It would be unfair to single out anyone, but may I make an exception for my wonderful family—Mike, Jack, Steve and Susan, and especially my dear wife Betty.

We Republicans have had some tough competition. We not only preach the virtues of competition, we practice them. But tonight we come together not on a battlefield to conclude a cease-fire, but to join forces on a training field that has conditioned us all for the rugged contest ahead.

Let me say this from the bottom of my heart. After the scrimmages of the past few months, it really feels good to have Ron Reagan on the same side of the line.

To strengthen our championship lineup, the convention has wisely chosen one of the ablest Americans as our next Vice President, Senator Bob Dole of Kansas. With his help, with your help, with the help of millions of Americans who cherish peace, who want freedom preserved, prosperity shared, and pride in America, we will win this election.

I speak not of a Republican victory, but a victory for the American people. You at home listening tonight, you are the people who pay the taxes and obey the laws. You are the people who make our system work. You are the people who make America what it is. It is from your ranks that I come and on your side that I stand.

Something wonderful happened to this country of ours the past 2 years. We all came to realize it on the Fourth of July. Together, out of years of turmoil and tragedy, wars and riots, assassinations and wrongdoing in high places, Americans recaptured the Spirit of 1776. We saw

again the pioneer vision of our revolutionary founders and our immigrant ancestors. Their vision was of free men and free women enjoying limited government and unlimited opportunity.

The mandate I want in 1976 is to make this vision a reality, but it will take the voices and the votes of many more Americans who are not Republicans to make that mandate binding and my mission possible.

I have been called an unelected President, an accidental President. We may even hear that again from the other party, despite the fact that I was welcomed and endorsed by an overwhelming majority of their elected representatives in the Congress who certified my fitness to our highest office.

Having become Vice President and President without expecting or seeking either, I have a special feeling toward these high offices. To me, the Presidency and the Vice Presidency were not prizes to be won, but a duty to be done.

So, tonight, it is not the power and the glamor of the Presidency that leads me to ask for another 4 years. It is something every hard-working American will understand—the challenge of a job well begun, but far from finished.

Two years ago, on August 9, 1974, I placed my hand on the Bible, which Betty held, and took the same constitutional oath that was administered to George Washington. I had faith in our people, in our institutions, and in myself.

"My fellow Americans," I said, "our long national nightmare is over." It was an hour in our history that troubled our minds and tore at our hearts. Anger and hatred had risen to dangerous levels, dividing friends and families. The polarization of our political order had aroused unworthy passions of reprisal and revenge. Our governmental system was closer to stalemate than at any time since Abraham Lincoln took that same oath of office.

Our economy was in the throes of runaway inflation, taking us headlong into the worst recession since Franklin D. Roosevelt took the same oath. On that dark day I told my fellow countrymen, "I am acutely aware that you have not elected me as your President by your ballots, so I ask you to confirm me as your President with your prayers."

On a marble fireplace in the White House is carved a prayer which John Adams wrote. It concludes, "May none but honest and wise men ever rule under this roof." Since I have resided in that historic house, I have tried to live by that prayer. I faced many tough problems. I probably made some mistakes, but on balance, America and Americans have made an incredible comeback since August 1974. Nobody can honestly say otherwise. And the plain truth is that the great progress we have made at home and abroad was in spite of the majority who run the Congress of the United States.

For 2 years I have stood for all the people against a vote-hungry, free-spending congressional majority on Capitol Hill. Fifty-five times I vetoed extravagant and unwise legislation; 45 times I made those vetoes stick. Those vetoes have saved American taxpayers billions and billions of dollars. I am against the big tax spender and for the little taxpayer.

I called for a permanent tax cut, coupled with spending reductions, to stimulate the economy and relieve hard-pressed middle-income taxpay-

ers. Your personal exemption must be raised from \$750 to \$1,000. The other party's platform talks about tax reform, but there is one big problem—their own Congress won't act.

I called for reasonable constitutional restrictions on court-ordered busing of schoolchildren, but the other party's platform concedes that busing should be a last resort. But there is the same problem—their own Congress won't act.

I called for a major overhaul of criminal laws to crack down on crime and illegal drugs. The other party's platform deplors America's \$90 billion cost of crime. There is the problem again—their own Congress won't act.

The other party's platform talks about a strong defense. Now, here is the other side of the problem—their own Congress did act. They slashed \$50 billion from our national defense needs in the last 10 years.

My friends, Washington is not the problem, their Congress is the problem.

You know, the President of the United States is not a magician who can wave a wand or sign a paper that will instantly end a war, cure a recession, or make bureaucracy disappear. A President has immense powers under the Constitution, but all of them ultimately come from the American people and their mandate to him.

That is why, tonight, I turn to the American people and ask not only for your prayers, but also for your strength and your support, for your voice and for your vote. I come before you with a 2-year record of performance, without your mandate. I offer you a 4-year pledge of greater performance with your mandate.

As Governor Al Smith used to say, "Let's look at the record." Two years ago, inflation was 12 percent. Sales were off. Plants were shut down. Thousands were being laid off every week. Fear of the future was throttling down our economy and threatening millions of families.

Let's look at the record since August 1974. Inflation has been cut in half. Payrolls are up. Profits are up. Production is up. Purchases are up. Since the recession was turned around almost 4 million of our fellow Americans have found new jobs or got their old jobs back. This year, more men and women have jobs than ever before in the history of the United States. Confidence has returned and we are in the full surge of sound recovery to steady prosperity.

Two years ago America was mired in withdrawal from Southeast Asia. A decade of Congresses had shortchanged our global defenses and threatened our strategic posture. Mounting tension between Israel and the Arab nations made another war seem inevitable. The whole world watched and wondered where America was going. Did we in our domestic turmoil have the will, the stamina, and the unity to stand up for freedom?

Look at the record since August, 2 years ago. Today, America is at peace and seeks peace for all nations. Not a single American is at war anywhere on the face of this Earth tonight.

Our ties with Western Europe and Japan, economic as well as military, were never stronger. Our relations with Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union, and mainland China are firm, vigilant, and forward-looking. Policies I have initiated offer sound progress for the peoples of the Pacific, Africa, and Latin America. Israel and Egypt, both trusting the United

States, have taken an historic step that promises an eventual just settlement for the whole Middle East.

The world now respects America's policy of peace through strength. The United States is again the confident leader of the free world. Nobody questions our dedication to peace, but nobody doubts our willingness to use our strength when our vital interests are at stake, and we will.

I called for an up-to-date, powerful Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines that will keep America secure for decades. A strong military posture is always the best insurance for peace. But America's strength has never rested on arms alone. It is rooted in our mutual commitment of our citizens and leaders in the highest standards of ethics and morality and in the spiritual renewal which our Nation is undergoing right now.

Two years ago, people's confidence in their highest officials, to whom they had overwhelmingly entrusted power, had twice been shattered. Losing faith in the word of their elected leaders, Americans lost some of their own faith in themselves.

Again, let's look at the record since August 1974. From the start, my administration has been open, candid, forthright. While my entire public and private life was under searching examination for the Vice Presidency, I reaffirmed my life-long conviction that truth is the glue that holds government together—not only government but civilization, itself. I have demanded honesty, decency, and personal integrity from everybody in the executive branch of the Government. The House and Senate have the same duty.

The American people will not accept a double standard in the United States Congress. Those who make our laws today must not debase the reputation of our great legislative bodies that have given us such giants as Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, Sam Rayburn, and Robert A. Taft. Whether in the Nation's Capital, the State capital, or city hall, private morality and public trust must go together.

From August of 1974 to August of 1976, the record shows steady progress upward toward prosperity, peace, and public trust. My record is one of progress, not platitudes. My record is one of specifics, not smiles. My record is one of performance, not promises. It is a record I am proud to run on. It is a record the American people—Democrats, Independents, and Republicans alike—will support on November 2.

For the next 4 years I pledge to you that I will hold to the steady course we have begun. But I have no intention of standing on the record alone. We will continue winning the fight against inflation. We will go on reducing the dead weight and impudence of bureaucracy.

We will submit a balanced budget by 1978. We will improve the quality of life at work, at play, and in our homes and in our neighborhoods. We will not abandon our cities. We will encourage urban programs which assure safety in the streets, create healthy environments, and restore neighborhood pride.

We will return control of our children's education to parents and local school authorities. We will make sure that the party of Lincoln remains the party of equal rights. We will create a tax structure that is fair for all our citizens, one that preserves the continuity of the family home, the family farm, and the family business.

We will ensure the integrity of the social security system and improve Medicare so that our older citizens can enjoy the health and the happiness that they have earned. There is no reason they should have to go broke just to get well.

We will make sure that this rich Nation does not neglect citizens who are less fortunate, but provides for their needs with compassion and with dignity. We will reduce the growth and the cost of government and allow individual breadwinners and businesses to keep more of the money that they earn.

We will create a climate in which our economy will provide a meaningful job for everyone who wants to work and a decent standard of life for all Americans. We will ensure that all of our young people have a better chance in life than we had, an education they can use, and a career they can be proud of.

We will carry out a farm policy that assures a fair market price for the farmer, encourages full production, leads to record exports, and eases the hunger within the human family. We will never use the bounty of America's farmers as a pawn in international diplomacy. There will be no embargoes.

We will continue our strong leadership to bring peace, justice, and economic progress where there is turmoil, especially in the Middle East. We will build a safer and saner world through patient negotiations and dependable arms agreements which reduce the danger of conflict and horror of thermonuclear war. While I am President, we will not return to a collision course that could reduce civilization to ashes.

We will build an America where people feel rich in spirit as well as in worldly goods. We will build an America where people feel proud about themselves and about their country.

We will build on performance, not promises; experience, not expediency; real progress instead of mysterious plans to be revealed in some dim and distant future.

The American people are wise, wiser than our opponents think. They know who pays for every campaign promise. They are not afraid of the truth. We will tell them the truth.

From start to finish, our campaign will be credible; it will be responsible. We will come out fighting, and we will win. Yes, we have all seen the polls and the pundits who say our party is dead. I have heard that before. So did Harry Truman. I will tell you what I think. The only polls that count are the polls the American people go to on November 2.

And right now, I predict that the American people are going to say that night, "Jerry, you have done a good job, keep right on doing it."

As I try in my imagination to look into the homes where families are watching the end of this great convention, I can't tell which faces are Republicans, which are Democrats, and which are Independents. I cannot see their color or their creed. I see only Americans.

I see Americans who love their husbands, their wives, and their children. I see Americans who love their country for what it has been and what it must become. I see Americans who work hard, but who are willing to sacrifice all they have worked for to keep their children and their country free.

I see Americans who in their own quiet way pray for peace among nations and peace among themselves. We do love our neighbors, and we do forgive those who have trespassed against us.

I see a new generation that knows what is right and knows itself, a generation determined to preserve its ideals, its environment, our Nation, and the world.

My fellow Americans, I like what I see. I have no fear for the future of this great country. And as we go forward together, I promise you once more what I promised before: to uphold the Constitution, to do what is right as God gives me to see the right, and to do the very best that I can for America.

God helping me, I won't let you down.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:45 p.m. in Kemper Arena in Kansas City, Mo. His remarks were broadcast live on radio and television.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

Following is a listing of items of general interest which were announced to the press during the period covered by this issue but which are not carried elsewhere in the issue.

August 15

The President left the White House for a stay in Kansas City, Mo., the site of the 1976 Republican National Convention.

August 16

The President attended a reception hosted by Representative John J. Rhodes, minority leader of the House of Representatives, for Governors, Members of Congress, and heads of State delegations at the Radisson Muehlebach Hotel.

August 17

The White House announced that following the earthquake in the Philippines, the President sent a message to President Ferdinand E. Marcos offering U.S. assistance and condolences to the families of those who lost their lives.

August 18

The President met with a group of Republican Governors to discuss party unity, the fall campaign, and the selection of the Vice-Presidential running mate, in the Presidential suite at the Crown Center Hotel.

The President went to the Radisson Muehlebach Hotel to attend the United Republican Victory Luncheon.

The President sent a telegram, and later telephoned Senator Jake Garn, in Bloomfield, Colo., to express his condolences on the death of the Senator's wife, Hazel, who was killed in an automobile accident.

August 20

The President attended a breakfast meeting of the Republican National Committee at the Radisson Muehlebach Hotel.

ACTS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

Approved August 14, 1976

- H.J. Res. 738 Public Law 94-389
An act providing for Federal participation in preserving the Tule elk population in California.
- H.R. 1394 Private Law 94-60
An act for the relief of Suk Chin and Hae Suk Chin.
- H.R. 1395 Private Law 94-61
An act for the relief of Mee Kyung Cho and Hee Kyung Cho.
- H.R. 1396 Private Law 94-62
An act for the relief of Sang Kook Chung and Hwa Soon Chung.
- H.R. 1397 Private Law 94-63
An act for the relief of Ae Sook Song and Mi Yun Lee.
- H.R. 1426 Private Law 94-64
An act for the relief of Juliet Elizabeth Tozzi.
- H.R. 1507 Private Law 94-65
An act for the relief of Marisa Marzano.
- H.R. 1645 Private Law 94-66
An act for the relief of Kevin Patrick Saunders.
- H.R. 2118 Private Law 94-67
An act for the relief of Cheryl Lynn V. Camacho.
- H.R. 2278 Private Law 94-68
An act for the relief of Mrs. Mary Saxton (Mary Nuku).
- H.R. 2399 Private Law 94-69
An act for the relief of Leonard Alfred Brownrigg.
- H.R. 2411 Private Law 94-70
An act for the relief of Alinor Anvari Adams.
- H.R. 2495 Private Law 94-71
An act for the relief of Miss Malgorzata Kuzniarek Czapowski.
- H.R. 2502 Private Law 94-72
An act for the relief of Peter Olav Mesikepp.

ACTS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT—Continued

- H.R. 2565 Private Law 94-73
An act for the relief of Luisa Marillac Hughes, Marco Antonio Hughes, Maria del Cisne Hughes, Maria Augusta Hughes, Miguel Vicente Hughes, Veronica del Rocio Hughes, and Ivan Hughes.
- H.R. 2940 Private Law 94-74
An act for the relief of Maria Sylvia Macias Elliott.
- H.R. 2941 Private Law 94-75
An act for the relief of Susan Rosemary Harwood.
- H.R. 3372 Private Law 94-76
An act for the relief of Tze Tsun Li.
- H.R. 4053 Private Law 94-77
An act for the relief of Roderic Patrick Stafford.
- H.R. 5052 Private Law 94-78
An act for the relief of Yolanda E. Vez.
- H.R. 5500 Private Law 94-79
An act for the relief of Rafael Strochlitz Wurzel.
- H.R. 5648 Private Law 94-80
An act for the relief of Violetta Cebreros.
- H.R. 6093 Private Law 94-81
An act for the relief of Maria D'Arpino.
- H.R. 6392 Private Law 94-82
An act for the relief of Koviljka C. Clendenen.
- H.R. 6687 Private Law 94-83
An act for the relief of Doo Hoon Park.
- H.R. 7404 Private Law 94-84
An act for the relief of Christine Donnelly.
- H.R. 7494 Private Law 94-85
An act for the relief of Luigi Santaniello.
- H.R. 7882 Private Law 94-86
An act for the relief of Miss Leonor Young.
- H.R. 7908 Private Law 94-87
An act for the relief of Edward Drag.
- H.R. 8557 Private Law 94-88
An act for the relief of Carmen Thomas.
- H.R. 8695 Private Law 94-89
An act for the relief of Eugene Homsy Phillips.
- H.R. 10076 Private Law 94-90
An act for the relief of Mrs. Kazuko Scillon.
- H.R. 11076 Private Law 94-91
An act for the relief of Ok Ja Chol.

ACTS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT—Continued

- H.R. 12169 Public Law 94-385
Energy Conservation and Production Act.
- H.R. 13121 Public Law 94-386
An act to direct the Law Revision Counsel to prepare and publish the District of Columbia Code through publication of supplement V to the 1973 edition, with the Council of the District of Columbia to be responsible for preparation and publication of such Code thereafter.
- H.R. 14234 Public Law 94-387
Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1977.
- S. 1689 Public Law 94-388
An act to amend the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation Act of 1972 (Public Law 92-578), as amended.

CHECKLIST OF WHITE HOUSE PRESS RELEASES

The following releases of the Office of the White House Press Secretary, distributed during the period covered by this issue, are not included in the issue.

Released August 19, 1976

News conference: on the President's selection of Senator Robert J. Dole as his Vice-Presidential running mate—by Richard B. Cheney, Assistant to the President, and Edward C. Schmults, Deputy Counsel to the President

Advance text: 1976 Republican National Convention, President's acceptance speech

NOMINATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE

NOTE: The Congress being in recess, no nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

Editor's Note

Note Concerning the Closing Time of This Issue

On Friday, August 20, the President left Kansas City, Mo., and stopped at Russell, Kans., on his way to Vail, Colo. Releases issued in those cities which were not received in time for publication in this issue will be printed next week.

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1976 Republican National Convention

Committee On
Arrangements

McDill (Huck) Boyd, Chairman
Subcommittee on News Media Operations
257 F Street
Phillipsburg, Kansas 67661
(913) 543-5242

Sept. 25, 1976

Mr. Robert Hartmann,
Counsellor to the President,
White House,
Washington, D. C.



Dear Bob:

Mandated government folly has become the modern "crown of thorns" which presses down most heavily upon those with a living to make, or a budget to stretch.

Every new agency, every new program, every new requirement or restriction adds to the cost of doing business ... a cost inevitably passed along to the consumer. Big business, the corporations, pass these costs along. They must pass these costs along to their customers or they couldn't stay in business, and more people would be out of work.

But those who eat the food, wear the clothes, drive the cars, smoke the cigarettes and pay the rent, have no alternative, no "pass through". They just pay.

Government controls, requirements, inspections and the mountain of paperwork unnecessarily required, thus become a cruel tax upon the poor; upon those who live on social security or pensions; upon those who are having the most difficulty "making ends meet."

The rich can take care of themselves. The laboring man and woman trying to buy their needs with pay checks stymied by inflation; people of modest means -- those who work and pay the bills -- are the people who need our compassion.

When we oppose new programs, a bigger and more costly government, and more taxes, we are actually fighting for the consumer. This is the forgotten man.

When the Democrats propose new programs, a bigger federal government and more intervention and control, they are actually proposing a bigger burden for those least able to pay.

For two decades, the Democrats have been in control of Congress, lock, stock and barrel. Not a dime of federal money can be spent until it is appropriated by Congress. Every new agency, control or restriction, has been made possible by legislation approved by Democrat leadership. *Some have merit. All are expensive.*

A new label on the package will not change its contents. The root cause of inflation lies within it. More programs, more government, more federal intervention will only add fuel to the fire.

We have a competent challenger to an incumbent Democrat liberal, one who has supported all of the social programs which add to consumer costs. I am sending him a copy of this letter, recommending this theme in his campaign approach. Do you think it has merit?

Kansas City, Missouri -- August 16, 1976

Regards,