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16TH ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER OF THE NATIONAL
FOOTBALL FOUNDATION AND HALL OF FAME,
GRAND BALLROOM, WALDORF ASTORIA HOTEL, NYC NY
7 P.M. TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1973.

IT'S A PLEASURE FOR ME TO BE A
GUEST AT YOUR ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER FOR THE
SECOND YEAR IN A ROW. BUT I COULDN'T HELP
THINKING, AS I SAT THERE AT THE HEAD TABLE
TONIGHT, HOW DIFFERENT THE CIRCUMSTANCES
ARE THIS EVENING AS COMPARED TO THAT
OCCASION 12 MONTHS AGO.



LAST YEAR I CAME AS A MAN WHO WAS
BEING HONORED BY THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL
FOUNDATION TO RECEIVE A GOLD MEDAL.

TONIGHT I'M HERE AS A MAN WHO IS BEING
SWEATED INTO SHAPE BY ^{one's own teammates on} THE U. S. CONGRESS. ~~TO~~
~~WEAR A BRASS HAT.~~

~~EVERY NOW AND THEN, THOUGH,
SOMETHING HAPPENS THAT MAKES ALL OF US
FORGET OUR OWN PROBLEMS BECAUSE OF A TOUGH
BREAK THAT HAPPENS TO SOMEONE ELSE. THAT'S
THE WAY I FELT AS A MICHIGAN FOOTBALL ALUMNUS~~

*Last week after the Big Ten Athletic
Directors voted 6 to 4 against my alma mater, one
of my colleagues on the House of Rep. was spreading
the rumor that there was a candidate from Ohio
& the vote would be taken*



WHEN THEY BROKE THE NEWS LAST WEEK ABOUT OHIO STATE'S INVITATION TO THE ROSE BOWL. MY WIFE SAID TO ME, "JERRY, IF YOU THINK THOSE HOUSE AND SENATE COMMITTEES ARE A TOUGH CROWD, JUST BE GRATEFUL YOUR CONFIRMATION IS NOT UP FOR A VOTE BY THE BIG TEN ATHLETIC DIRECTORS."

WELL, WHAT HAPPENED TO MICHIGAN IS JUST ONE OF THE RISKS OF THE GAME, AND THAT'S ONE OF THE REASONS WHY EVERY TRUE COMPETITOR HATES TO TIE. BUT IF I CAN BE



PERMITTED A MOMENT OF PARTISAN PRIDE ON
BEHALF OF MY OLD SCHOOL, I DO WANT TO SAY
THAT AN UNDEFEATED SEASON IS AN ACHIEVEMENT
THAT STANDS ON ITS OWN AND SPEAKS FOR
ITSELF.



AS THIS AUDIENCE VERY WELL KNOWS,
YOU CAN'T BREAK THE SPIRIT OR ERASE THE
RECORD OF A FINE TEAM WITH ONE VOTE ON A
BOWL BID. AND I WOULD GO ON FROM THERE TO
SAY BY THE SAME TOKEN YOU CAN'T BREAK THE
SPIRIT OR ERASE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF A
GREAT PRESIDENT.

THAT'S WHY I AM PROUD TO BE JOINING PRESIDENT NIXON'S TEAM AT THIS VERY CHALLENGING AND DEMANDING TIME IN OUR NATION'S HISTORY. THE LAST-STRING BENCHWARMER FROM WHITTIER COLLEGE WHO ATTENDED THIS DINNER AND RECEIVED YOUR GOLD MEDAL AWARD FOUR YEARS AGO HAS SHOWN HIMSELF TO BE MUCH MORE THAN JUST AMERICA'S NUMBER ONE FOOTBALL FAN. HE HAS ALSO PROVIDED ONE OF THE FINEST EXAMPLES IN MY KNOWLEDGE OF HOW TO TRANSLATE THE VALUES OF TEAMWORK AND LEADERSHIP WE LEARN ON THE GRIDIRON INTO THE DAILY BUSINESS OF LIFE.



IT MAY HAVE BEEN THIRD AND LONG
YARDAGE FOR THE PRESIDENT A FEW WEEKS AGO,
BUT IT'S FIRST AND TEN NOW. AND WITH YOUR
HELP I KNOW HE WILL CONTINUE DRIVING
STRAIGHT ACROSS THE GOAL LINE.



I KNOW THAT I SPEAK NOT ONLY FOR
MYSELF BUT FOR THE PRESIDENT WHEN I EXTEND
THE WARMEST THANKS AND COMMENDATION TO THE
NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION FOR THE
OUTSTANDING WORK YOU ARE DOING TO KEEP
ALIVE IN THIS COUNTRY THE SPIRIT OF

SPORTSMANSHIP AND OF FAIR COMPETITION WHICH WE NEED SO MUCH NOT ONLY ON THE PLAYING FIELD BUT ALSO IN THE ARENAS OF BUSINESS, GOVERNMENT, AND PROFESSIONAL LIFE. AMERICA IS GREATLY INDEBTED TO YOU FOR THIS IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION.



AND NOW -- BECAUSE I HAVE SEEN ENOUGH JOHN WAYNE MOVIES TO KNOW THAT ANYONE WHO KEEPS THE DUKE WAITING IS ASKING FOR TROUBLE -- I WANT TO YIELD THE FLOOR FOR THE MAIN PRESENTATION OF THE EVENING. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

-- END --

MR. CHAIRMAN, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, GENTLEMEN:

FIRST LET ME SAY HOW MUCH I APPRECIATE THE HONOR YOU GIVE ME IN PRESENTING ME WITH THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION AND HALL OF FAME'S GOLD MEDAL AWARD....I AM EQUALLY HONORED TO BE IN THIS ROOM WITH ALL OF YOU, BECAUSE I BELIEVE.....WHAT YOU STAND FOR..... REPRESENTS THE BEST WE HAVE IN OUR SOCIETY, AND THAT'S THE OTHER REASON I CAME HERE TONIGHT.

I SUPPOSE IT IS EXPECTED OF ME THAT I FILL THE NEXT FEW MINUTES BY RECOUNTING MY OWN EXPERIENCES ON THE PLAYING FIELD AND TRY TO WORK IN AS MANY FOOTBALL EXPRESSIONS AS I CAN.....WELL, I'M AFRAID I DON'T HAVE ANY GREAT HEROIC STORIES TO TELL YOU.



(2)

I WENT TO USC ON SCHOLARSHIP -- BEST OF CLASS -- OF THAT I AM PROUD. AFTER MY FRESHMAN YEAR, I BARELY POSITIONED MYSELF IN ~~the~~ THREE-CORNERED STANCE BEFORE THIS GENTLEMANLY OPPONENT BROKE MY LEG FOR ME....FOR WHICH I AM MOST THANKFUL. IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR FOOTBALL AND THE FACT I GOT MY LEG BROKE AND HAD TO GO INTO THE MOVIES TO EAT, WHY.....WHO KNOWS?.....I MIGHTA TURNED OUT TO BE A LIBERAL DEMOCRAT. I'VE BEEN MEANING TO LOOK THAT FELLOW UP AND THANK HIM, BUT IF I DO, I'M AFRAID HE MIGHT BREAK MY OTHER LEG.

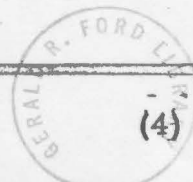
I COME BEFORE YOU TONIGHT AS THE ONLY FELLOW WHO EVER MADE THE 1930 ALL-AMERICAN TEAM.....IN 1960. I WAS UNANIMOUS CHOICE THE HOLLYWOOD WOMEN'S PUBLICISTS GUILD.

WALTER CAMP NEVER SAW ME PLAY. HARDLY ANYBODY DID....

EVEN HOWARD JONES USED TO COVER HIS EYES.

OF COURSE, I WANT YOU ALL TO KNOW I'M NOT ~~SS~~ SISSY. WHY I SINGLEHANDEDLY BEAT UP MONTGOMERY CLIFT IN RED RIVER. IT'S JUST THAT, ON THE FOOTBALL FIELD, THEY DIDN'T SEEM TO KNOW I WAS THE GUY IN THE WHITE HAT.

I DON'T WANT YOU TO THINK I WAS COMPLETELY ATHLETIC. I WAS ON THE GLENDALE HIGH TEAM THAT WENT UNDEFEATED FOR TWO SEASONS. I WON'T SAY THOSE GUYS WERE TOUGH, BUT I WAS THE ONLY THING ON THE TEAM THAT TALKED. THAT TEAM LATER BECAME THE SC TROJANS. LEASTWAYS, HALF OF THEM DID. THE OTHER HALF BECAME THE DILLINGER GANG.



ACTUALLY, ~~YOU MAY NOT BELIEVE THIS, BUT~~ I WAS ON THE DEBATING TEAM. YOU CAN IMAGINE HOW MANY I WON. BY THE TIME I GOT TO THE VERB, THEY'D TURNED OUT THE LIGHTS AND EVERYONE HAD GONE HOME.

I STUDIED LATIN AND ROMANCE LANGUAGES IN SCHOOL, BUT THERE'S ALWAYS THAT WISE GUY WHO SAYS, "HEY, DUKE, WHY DIDN'T YOU STUDY ENGLISH WHILE YOU WERE AT IT?" SOME WISEACRE YEARS LATER WHEN THE UNIVERSITY GAVE ME AN HONORARY DEGREE SAID I WAS THE ONLY MAN WHO EVER RECEIVED AN HONORARY DEGREE HE COULDN'T READ. BUT I HAD HIM THERE: IT WAS IN LATIN.

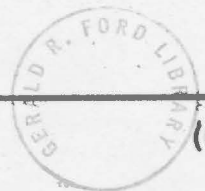
Strangely enough

~~ACTUALLY~~, WHEN I WENT INTO WESTERNS, THE HARDEST THING I

HAD TO DO WAS LEARN TO SAY "AIN'T." HELL, I WAS SO EDUCATED I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT IT MEANT.

I WAS BORN IN A SUBURB OF LOS ANGELES CALLED "IOWA" AND MY FATHER WAS A DRUGGIST. MY FATHER MOVED TO CALIFORNIA FOR HIS HEALTHABOUT AS DEEP INTO CALIFORNIA AS YOU CAN GO....THE MOJAVE DESERT. SO I'M NOT YOUR RUN-OF-THE-MILL MIDNIGHT COWBOY. I DID LEARN TO RIDE AND SHOOT.

AND I DID LEARN TO PLAY FOOTBALL. COACH HOWARD JONES ALWAYS SPOKE VERY HIGHLY OF ME....MATTER OF FACT, WHAT HE DID WAS SCREAM AT ME.



(6)

IN THOSE DAYS I WENT BY MY REAL NAME.....MARION. MARION MICHAEL MORRISON. I HAD TO CHANGE THAT WHEN I WENT INTO PICTURES BECAUSE THE STUDIOS MIGHT HAVE TRIED TO GIVE ME DORIS DAY PARTS..... AND I SURE DIDN'T WANT TO GO AROUND SLEEPING WITH ROCK HUDSON.

I CAN'T TELL YOU WHAT A GREAT PLEASURE IT IS TO BE HERE WITH YOU TONIGHT MAKING THIS SPEECH BECAUSE I MAKE IT A PRACTICE NEVER TO LIE. TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH IT'S A LITTLE LIKE WAKING UP IN CAMP AND FINDING A RATTLESNAKE TRYING TO MAKE LOVE TO YOUR PERSON.

BUT IT IS A DISTINCT PLEASURE FOR ME TO BE AMONG SO MANY ALL-AMERICANS HERE. I WAS A LITTLE NERVOUS AT FIRST. SOMEBODY TOLD ME I WAS GOING TO A DINNER FOR ALL-AMERICANS AND I THOUGHT THEY MIGHT MEAN THE COMMANCHES.

I HAVE A BETTER RECORD AGAINST THE INDIANS THAN NOTRE DAME HAS OVER NAVY, BUT IF I HAVE TO FACE THEM I'M SENDING FOR THE REST OF THE CAVALRY.

I GUESS I'M THE ONLY FELLOW IN HOLLYWOOD WHO NEVER HAD A PART WHERE HE WASN'T ON A HORSE, OR A SHIP, OR A TANK. I HAVEN'T BEEN ALLOWED TO WEAR A MONOCLE OR PLAY ONE OF THOSE PARTS WHERE THEY WRITE WITH A FEATHER.

I'VE BEEN IN MORE UNIFORMS THAN GEORGIE JESSEL. I'VE BEEN IN MORE BATTLES THAN NAPOLEON, AND MORE WARS THAN GERMANY. I'VE CAPTURED BATAAN, CORREGIDOR, FORT APACHE AND MAUREEN O'HARA. I STOPPED GETTING THE GIRL ABOUT TENS YEARS AGO, WHICH IS JUST AS WELL, BECAUSE I'D HAVE FORGOTTEN WHAT I WANTED HER FOR.



MY PICTURES HAVE NEVER MADE MUCH OF A DENT WITH THE REVIEWERS OF ~~THE~~ PERIODICALS ~~AS THE SATURDAY REVIEW OR ANY OF THOSE~~ ~~MAGAZINES~~ THAT YOU CAN'T READ WITHOUT A LORGNETTE, OR UNLESS YOU VOTE ANTI-CULTURAL, OR GOSSIP A LOT. IF THERE'S ANYTHING THAT TURNS THOSE FOLKS OFF, IT'S A PICTURE THAT HAS NO TROUBLE WITH THE CENSORS, DOESN'T GLORIFY ANARCHY, OR WHINE ABOUT THE WORLD.

FROM WHAT I SEE OF THE WORLD TODAY, THE KIDS COULD USE A FEW HEROES. EVEN YOUR SPORTS PAGES ARE FULL OF GUYS WHO REFUSE TO REPORT FOR PRACTICE OR SHOW UP LATE OR GET BUSTED OR JUMP OUT OF BUSHES AT LITTLE GIRLS OR DO THE DAMNEDEST THINGS YOU EVER HEARD OF STAR ATHLETES DOING.

I DON'T KNOW WHERE THE KIDS ARE GOING TO TURN FOR HEROES. EVERY COP AND SHERIFF YOU SEE ON SCREEN IS A HEAVY. THE TOWNSPEOPLE ARE ALWAYS A BUNCH OF JERKS WHILE THE UNWASHED ~~BOY~~ ON THE MOTORCYCLE WITH THE FUNNY CIGARETTE, A CHARACTER WHO HASN'T DONE ONE CONSTRUCTIVE THING IN HIS LIFE--- ~~EXCEPT WHEN HE'S IN A MOVIE~~ ~~WAITRESSES~~ IS YOUR HERO. YOU CAN ALWAYS TELL THE BAD GUY IN A MOVIE. HE'S THE ONE WHO WORKS FOR A LIVING. THE GOOD GUY IS THE LOAFER. THE FELLOW WAVING THE FLAG IS ALWAYS GOING TO TURN OUT TO BE THE REAL RIDICULED ~~VILLAIN~~.

Bugler



I DON'T KNOW THAT THE PUBLIC WANTS THESE PICTURES. BUT CERTAIN ARTISTS DO. AND I CAN TELL YOU FROM MY EXPERIENCE, THE LAST PERSON WHO KNOWS WHAT'S GOOD FOR HIM OR HIS PRODUCT IS THE ACTOR. I CAN STILL SEE POOR OLD COOP PLAYING AN ARCHITECT. CAN YOU SEE ME IN "LAST TANGO IN PARIS?"

NO, I LIKE TO THINK WE LEARNED OUR CRAFT THE LONG, HARD WAY. WE USED TO DO MOST OF OUR OWN STUNTS, RIDE OUR OWN HORSES, SAY OUR OWN LINES. NO SECOND UNITS ON LOCATION. WHAT WE RECEIVED FOR A PICTURE MEANT YOU DIDN'T HAVE THE LUXURY OF TURNING DOWN SCRIPTS. WE WOULD HAVE DONE THE PHONE BOOK TO KEEP WORKING.

I READ SOMEPLACE WHERE I USED TO MAKE "B" PICTURES. HELL, THEY WERE A LOT FARTHER DOWN THE ALPHABET THAN THAT. BUT.....NOT AS FAR DOWN AS "R" AND "X." I THINK ANY MAN WHO MAKES AN "X" RATED PICTURE SHOULD BE MADE TO TAKE HIS OWN DAUGHTER TO SEE IT.

MY GENERATION NOT ONLY CARED ABOUT PICTURE-MAKING, WE CARED ABOUT THE COUNTRY. THE ONLY MESSAGE WE HAVE WANTED TO GET ACROSS WAS PRIDE....PRIDE IN YOURSELF, PRIDE IN YOUR HISTORY.



I THINK THE LESSON YOU LEARN ON THE FOOTBALL FIELD IS A BASIC ONE: IF THE PLAYER ON THE OTHER SIDE OF SCRIMMAGE IS AS GOOD AS, OR BETTER THAN YOU.....YOU DON'T CARE WHAT COLOR, RELIGION OR NATIONALITY HE IS, YOU RESPECT HIM.....RESPECT FOR THE OTHER FELLOW IS WHAT DEMOCRACY IS ALL ABOUT. AND I THINK RESPECT FOR COUNTRY GOES HAND-IN-HAND. I DON'T KNOW OF ANY COUNTRY IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD THAT'S BEEN MORE LIED ABOUT, MORE JEERED AT, MORE PUSHED AROUND.

I GUESS THAT'S WHAT I REALLY WANT TO TALK ABOUT TONIGHT... THIS WONDERFUL COUNTRY OF OURS. AND WHILE I'M THE FIRST TO ADMIT IT'S NOT PERFECT, IT'S STILL THE BEST THING MAN HAS GOING FOR HIM ON THIS EARTH.

AS NATIONS GO, WE'RE STILL A BABY. JUST COMING UP TO OUR TWO HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY.

DESPITE WHAT THE GLOOM PEDDLERS SAY, WE'RE GOING TO MAKE IT ALL THE WAY TO 1976....AND WAY BEYOND.

AS FAR AS NATIONS GO, WE'RE STILL THE NEW KID ON THE BLOCK. WE'RE ALSO THE STRONGEST, BEST FED, MOST EMPLOYED, AND THE MOST SECURE KID ON THE BLOCK. IN LESS THAN TWO HUNDRED YEARS, OUR FOREFATHERS TOOK A WILDNERNESS AND TURNED IT INTO A FACTORY THAT SUPPLIES THE WORLD, A FARM THAT FEEDS THE WORLD AND A WILL THAT DEFENDS THE WORLD. AND SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY, THEY DEvised A SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT THAT WORKS AND IT WILL CONTINUE TO WORK. AND I'LL TELL YOU ONE OF THE MANY REASONS WHY.

BECAUSE WE HAVE LEGISLATED OURSELVES THE RIGHT TO BE WRONG, ONCE IN A WHILE. TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT THIS WHOLE WATERGATE MESS. IT WAS WRONG. POSITIVELY, ABSOLUTELY, DEAD WRONG. SOME MEN ABUSED POWER, BUT THE SYSTEM WORKS. OTHER MEN ABUSED MONEY, BUT THE SYSTEM WORKS. OTHERS LIED AND PERJURED THEMSELVES, BUT THE SYSTEM WORKS.

AND I'LL GUARANTEE YOU WHEN THE HISTORY BOOKS ARE WRITTEN OF THE LAST FEW WEEKS, WATERGATE WILL BE A FOOTNOTE AND THE MAIN STORY WILL BE HOW OUR LEADERS STEPPED IN, IN SPITE OF ALL THE PRESSURE AND QUIETED DOWN A MID-EAST CONFLICT THAT OTHERWISE MIGHT HAVE STARTED A FIRE TO BURN DOWN THE FUTURE.

I DON'T KNOW TOO MUCH ABOUT

~~I DON'T KNOW TOO MUCH ABOUT~~ POLITICS WHICH IS WHAT WATERGATE IS

ALL ABOUT. I DON'T KNOW ALL OF THE DETAILS ABOUT THAT YET, NOR DO YOU. BUT I DO KNOW THIS. IF YOUR STAR QUARTERBACK FUMBLES THE BALL, YOU DON'T HAUL HIM OFF THE FIELD AND KICK HIM OFF THE TEAM. YOU LOOK ~~AT THE~~ ^{AT THE} ~~BACK ON~~ OTHER GAMES HE'S PLAYED AND COUNT THE TOUCHDOWNS HE'S LED THE TEAM TO IN SCORING. AND HOPE HE'LL DO IT AGAIN. THE TEAM SURVIVES THE FUMBLE JUST AS A GOVERNMENT SURVIVES POLITICS AND WATERGATE.

YOU KNOW WHAT I SAY? TO HELL WITH POLITICS. ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME WE USED OUR PRESENT TO GET OUT OF OUR PAST AND INTO OUR FUTURE??



THIS IS A GOOD COUNTRY. WITH GOOD PEOPLE IN IT. GOOD PEOPLE DON'T ALWAYS AGREE WITH ONE ANOTHER. MAYBE THE BEST THING WE DO IN THIS COUNTRY IS AGREE TO DISAGREE ONCE IN A WHILE. BUT WITH A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF CIVILITY. AND THAT'S WHAT SEEMS TO BE MISSING THESE DAYS....
A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF CIVILITY.

WE'RE SHOUTING WHEN WE SHOULD BE TALKING. WE'RE ARGUING WHEN WE SHOULD BE CONVERSING. WE'RE ANGRY WHEN WE SHOULD BE REASONING. I THINK THE BEST SINGLE THING ALL OF US CAN DO IS CALM DOWN. AND MAYBE THINK A LITTLE BIT MORE AND TALK A LITTLE BIT LESS.

I'D LIKE TO THINK THAT WHEN THAT BIG BIRTHDAY ROLLS AROUND....

WHEN WE FINALLY DO LIGHT UP THOSE TWO HUNDRED CANDLES ON JULY 4, 1976.

I'D LIKE TO THINK THAT MAYBE BY THEN WE'LL ALL BE PULLING TOGETHER AGAIN. IF NOT FOR US, FOR OUR CHILDREN. AND FOR THEIRS.

~~BECAUSE THE WORST THING WE COULD DO IS INSULT THEIR FUTURE~~

~~BY NOT USING OUR PRESENT TO SET AMERICA IN SHAPE AGAIN. I'M SURE THAT~~

~~ALL OF YOU IN THIS ROOM WANTS TO LEAVE THIS COUNTRY IN BETTER SHAPE~~

~~THAN IT WAS WHEN WE FOUND IT~~



AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, THAT'S WHAT LIFE IS REALLY ALL

ABOUT. EACH OF US IS GIVEN A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF YEARS TO WALK THROUGH OUR OWN BIRTHDAYS. WE BRUSH PAST SOME PEOPLE: WE STOP AND GET TO KNOW AND LOVE OTHERS. HOPEFULLY, WE'LL ADD TO DECENCY WHILE WE'RE LUCKY ENOUGH TO BE HERE. HOPEFULLY, WE'LL MAKE OUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE GOOD FEELING OF OTHERS WHILE WE'RE HERE. HOPEFULLY, FREEDOM GROWS AS WE DO THROUGH OUR YEARS. BECAUSE, GOD KNOWS, WE WOULDN'T WANT TO LEAVE A WORLD WITH LESS HOPE THAN IT HAD WHEN WE SIGNED IN.

SO THE MESSAGE I HAVE TONIGHT ISN'T ANYTHING EARTH SHAKING.

WHAT I HAVE TO SAY IS WHAT YOU WOULD SAY IF YOU WERE CALLED ON TO BARE YOUR HEART HERE TONIGHT.

MAYBE I CAN SUM IT UP FOR ALL OF US. WE LOVE THIS COUNTRY....

WARTS AND ALL. WE LOVE WHAT IT HAS BEEN.... WHAT IT IS NOW.... AND EVEN MORE.... WE LOVE WHAT AMERICA CAN BE. WE'RE LUCKY GOD CHOSE US TO SPEND OUR LIVES HERE.... IN RETURN FOR THAT, WE SHOULD PAY OUR DUES. NOT IN TERMS OF DOLLARS AND CENTS, BUT IN THE WORDS OF ANOTHER MAN.... IN TERMS OF ASKING OURSELVES NOT WHAT OUR COUNTRY CAN DO FOR US BUT WHAT WE CAN DO FOR OUR COUNTRY.

I THINK THE ANSWER EACH OF US FINDS TO THAT QUESTION IS THE KEY TO THE KINGDOM OF INNER PEACE AND OUTER TRANQUILITY. WE ARE HERE. AMERICA IS HERE. LET'S PLAN THE REST OF OUR LIVES IN SUCH A WAY THAT AMERICA WILL NOT WANT TO FORGET WHAT WE CHIPPED IN ALONG OUR WAYS.

(20)

IN LEAVING YOU, MAY I THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN FOR THE DOUBLE HONOR YOU HAVE GIVEN ME TONIGHT. YOUR GOLD MEDAL AWARD. AND YOUR FRIENDSHIP..... MY GOODNIGHTS TO EACH OF YOU ARE JOINED BY A WISH I HAVE ALWAYS HAD FOR MYSELF..... WHEN YOU PLAY THE LAST SCENE OF YOUR LIFE..... MAY YOU GET TO KISS THE SCHOOLMARM.

THANK YOU AND GOODNIGHT.

Paul -

This is



John Waynes
speech.

A man gave it
to me in the hall
per. "Mr. Ford's
request".

J O H N W A Y N E



Good Luck
John W
The

DINNER - 1973

GERALD FORD'S SPEECH

NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION AND HALL OF FAME, INC. 12/4/73

.....Thank you very, very much Vin. About a year ago tonight Dr. Brud Holland and I were honored by the Football Hall of Fame Foundation. I do not know exactly what's transpired in Brud's life over the last 12 months but there has been somewhat significant changes in my situation.

I would like to tell you one story following the announcement that there would be a new vice president. The President called Senator Scott down at the White House on that Friday morning to ask what the process and procedure would be in the Senate for the confirmation, and at 11 o'clock after the President had seen Hugh he asked me to come down and give him the procedure and process for the confirmation of the vice president in the house. Of course, during the course of this 30 minute conversation I did not get any hint or indication that it might fall my way. He did tell me that at 7:30PM that night he would call the individual that was to be selected. Well, we were busy on the floor of the House that afternoon and I went home for a swim and sit down for dinner with my wife and our teenage daughter.

Let me give you a description of the setup in the Ford household. We have downstairs a listed telephone number with five extensions - we have two teenage children. In the upstairs bedroom, we have an unlisted phone number with no extensions. Well, at 7:25PM the downstairs phone rang and it was my oldest



son a Divinity student in Massachusettes had learned from a newscast at 7PM that his old man might get the nod and was all excited, and my wife was talking to him.

At 7:30PM the phone rang upstairs. Well, I was the only one not occupied - my daughter was helping my wife with the Dinner and so I dashed upstairs (faster than I had moved for sometime) and I answered the phone with no extension. The White House operator said, "The President wants to talk to you." He came on the line and said, "I have good news for you but I think you should get Betty on the extension." I thought quickly and said to myself I have got to get a good answer. I said, "Mr. President, I cant put Betty on this phone would you mind hanging up and calling back?" So I went downstairs and got Betty off the phone and then some 30-60 seconds that transpired. ~~He~~ He didn't change his mind.

You, I am sure have read about the investigation ~~conducted~~ conducted about my personal and political life. It has been interesting I can assure you to have 350 FBI agents go around the country and 70 of them to overwhelm your own home town (which isn't too big), plus IRS and a few others.

I did turn over to the committee everything they asked for except one letter. This is the first time I have revealed it to the public. After the nomination, I got a letter which reads like this:

"Dear Mr. Ford: I was born in St. Johns, Michigan, and saw you play for the University of Michigan in several games. In one of those games you did not play very well. In fact, you played very badly (Ford: he didn't know how badly). The question I have is this: were you doped up, or could you have tried to throw that game, and should I report this to the confirmation people or Jack Anderson?"

I also remember vaguely - it was in 1930.....that you also got up limping one time. Could you have been faking?" Maybe Jack Anderson would want to ask that question.

Well, it has been quite an experience and I am still at limbo and I might preface what I am going to say now because there has been a lot of kidding in the House. Let me say that as a good Wolverine alumni, I was disappointed but I wholeheartedly agree with Woody Hayes that once decisions are made we ought not to bellyache about it.

But, after that weekend, some of my friends on the floor of the House came up to me and said, Gerry, there is a rumor going around that the Ohio Delegation has a candidate and that the Big Ten Athletic Commissioners are going to make the decision.

Let me say that it has been a great year for me and that I am pleased and honored to be here tonight to see John Wayne get a Gold Medal. I am looking forward - and sometime within the next 40 hours or thereabouts, a former Michigander will try to help a bench warmer from Whittier College who was your

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recipient four years ago who has been faced with some tough problems in the last five years. He has had many decisions where it was third down and long yardage, but on balance, I think he has made a lot of first downs. I am looking forward to the opportunity of working with him, and I am sure all of you will give all of us the best support you can as we seek to meet the problems both at home and abroad.



December 3, 1973
1:30 pm

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



SCHEDULE

VICE PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE GERALD FORD'S ATTENDANCE AT
THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION HALL OF FAME DINNER

New York City
Tuesday, December 4, 1973

ATTIRE: Black Tie

5:50 pm
(EST)

Advanceman:
Allen Hall

National Football Foundation Greeters
arrive at your Suite.

You will be met by:

Vin Draddy, Chairman of Foundation
Senator George Murphy, President
of Foundation.

Bill Morton, Dinner Chairman
Bob Hall, Vice President of
Foundation.

John Wayne, Award Recipient.
Dick Kazmaier, Chairman of the
Awards Committee.

NOTE: The greeters are desirous of
spending a few moments with you in
your Suite. They will have their
official photographers along.

6:10 pm

DEPART Suite and proceed to West Foyer,
escorted by Greeting Committee, to attend
a Private Reception. (212/758-5273.)

6:15 pm

ARRIVE West Foyer and meet with approxi-
mately 300 guests, including dais guests.

6:45 pm

Those reception guests not seated on
the dais will depart for the Grand
Ballroom.

6:50 pm

Proceed to special area where dais guests will form in preparation to enter the Grand Ballroom.

6:58 pm

DEPART West Foyer with other dais guests en route Grand Ballroom dais and be seated.

NOTE: Your seat will be on the second (honored guest) tier of the four-tiered dais. Non-announced entrance.

7:02 pm

Welcoming remarks by Bill Morton.

7:05 pm

"National Anthem" by Ben Cutler

7:07 pm

Invocation by Terence Cardinal Cooke

7:10 pm

Introduction of Chris Schenkel, Program MC, by Bill Morton.

7:12 pm

Chris Schenkel response.

7:15 pm

Dinner begins.

8:45 pm

Program begins.

National Football Hall of Fame Salute and introduction of Hall of Fame Members by Tom Harmon (Old 98).

8:59 pm

Introduction of Vice President-Designate Gerald Ford.

9:00 pm

Vice President-Designate Gerald Ford remarks.

FULL PRESS COVERAGE

9:05 pm

Remarks conclude.


9:05 pm

President's Report by Senator George Murphy.

9:15 pm

Remarks by Duffy Daugherty.

9:30 pm	Induction of New Members of the Football Hall of Fame by Fred Russell, Chairman of Honors Court.
9:50 pm	Response by Reverend Don Moomaw
9:52 pm	Presentation of the MacArthur Bowl by John Galbreath
9:55 pm	Acceptance (Bear Bryant?)
10:05 pm	Presentation of the Scholar-Athlete Trophies by Dr. Harold Enorson, President of Ohio State.
10:15 pm	Response by Mark Harmon
10:17 pm	Remarks by Dick Kazmaier, Chairman of the Awards Committee.
10:20 pm	Presentation of Foundation's Gold Medal Award by Vin Draddy.
10:25 pm	Acceptance by John Wayne.
10:35 pm	Benediction by Terence Cardinal Cooke.
10:37 pm	Program Concludes.
10:40 pm	DEPART Grand Ballroom and proceed to motorcade for departure, escorted by Bob Hall, Chris Schenkel will ask guests to remain seated until you depart.
10:45 pm	DEPART Waldorf-Astoria Hotel via motorcade en route LaGuardia Airport.
	[Driving time: 30 minutes]
11:15 pm	ARRIVE LaGuardia Airport and board Convair.
11:20 pm	DEPART New York via Convair en route Andrews AFB.



[Flying times: 1 hour]
[No time change]

Wednesday, December 5, 1973

12:20 am.

ARRIVE Andrews AFB.

REMARKS BY VICE PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE GERALD R. FORD
AT THE 16th ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER
OF THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION AND HALL OF FAME

GRAND BALLROOM
WALDORF ASTORIA HOTEL
NEW YORK CITY

7 p.m. TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1973



ADVANCE FOR RELEASE AT
7 P.M. TUESDAY

It's a pleasure for me to be a guest at your annual awards dinner for the second year in a row. But I couldn't help thinking, as I sat there at the head table tonight, how different the circumstances are this evening as compared to that occasion 12 months ago.

Last year I came as a man who was being honored by the National Football Foundation to receive a gold medal. Tonight I'm here as a man who is being sweated into shape by the U. S. Congress to wear a brass hat.

Every now and then, though, something happens that makes all of us forget our own problems because of a tough break that happens to someone else. That's the way I felt as a Michigan football alumnus when they broke the news last week about Ohio State's invitation to the Rose Bowl. My wife said to me, "Jerry, if you think those House and Senate Committees are a tough crowd, just be grateful your confirmation is not up for a vote by the Big Ten athletic directors."

Well, what happened to Michigan is just one of the risks of the game, and that's one of the reasons why every true competitor hates to tie. But if I can be permitted a moment of partisan pride on behalf of my old school, I do want to say that an undefeated season is an achievement that stands on its own and speaks for itself.

As this audience very well knows, you can't break the spirit or erase the record of a fine team with one vote on a bowl bid. And I would go on from there to say by the same token you can't break the spirit or erase the achievements of a great President.

That's why I am proud to be joining President Nixon's team at this very challenging and demanding time in our Nation's history.

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The last-string benchwarmer from Whittier College who attended this dinner and received your gold medal award four years ago has shown himself to be much more than just America's number one football fan. He has also provided one of the finest examples in my knowledge of how to translate the values of teamwork and leadership we learn on the gridiron into the daily business of life.

It may have been third and long yardage for the President a few weeks ago, but it's first and ten now. And with your help I know he will continue driving straight across the goal line.

I know that I speak not only for myself but for the President when I extend the warmest thanks and commendation to the National Football Foundation for the outstanding work you are doing to keep alive in this country the spirit of sportsmanship and of fair competition which we need so much not only on the playing field but also in the arenas of business, government, and professional life. America is greatly indebted to you for this important contribution.

And now -- because I have seen enough John Wayne movies to know that anyone who keeps The Duke waiting is asking for trouble -- I want to yield the floor for the main presentation of the evening. Thank you very much.

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