## The original documents are located in Box 129, folder "Feb. 9, 1974 - Speech, Michigan Republican Dinner, Detroit, MI" of the Gerald R. Ford Vice Presidential Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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MICHIGAN REPUBLICAN DINNER, COBO HALL, DETROIT, MICHIGAN, 7:15 P.M. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1974 Mary Mary Mary B.

TONIGHT I WANT TO TALK ABOUT MY PRIDE IN BEING AN AMERICAN --- AND A REPUBLICAN. I what hormon Multiple has done in Medium /2 am proved for Republican diligation in Congress (Bot Hoffin et al.) And the PROUD (Privadent I WANT TO SHARE WITH YOU MY OPTIMISM ABOUT THE FUTURE OF OUR NATION AND OF OUR GRAND OLD REPUBLICAN PARTY WHICH WAS ORGANIZED IN THE STATE OF MICHIGAN 120 YEARS AGO.





THIS WEEK I SAW A VERY PESSIMISTIC NEWSPAPER HEADLINE. IN BOLD TYPE, IT PROCLAIMED: "DISASTER FACES MICHIGAN G.O.P." SPEAKING TO YOU WITH FERVENT CONVICTION, I WANT TO COMMENT ON THAT HEADLINE. I PREDICT THAT BY NEXT NOVEMBER WE WILL SEE OURSELVES IN AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT LIGHT. AND VOTERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY WILL DEMONSTRATE THEIR RECOGNITION OF THE REPUBLICAN VALUES THAT CARRIED 49 OF THE 50 STATES IN 1972.



THE UNITED STATES IS NOW PREOCCUPIED WITH MOVIES AND BOOKS ABOUT EXORCISM ----THE IDEA OF FREEING A HUMAN BEING FROM POSSESSION BY EVIL SPIRITS. LET ME SAY TONIGHT THAT IF ANY REPUBLICANS ARE POSSESSED BY NEGATIVE AND DEFEATIST SPIRITS, I AM GOING TO EXORCISE THOSE DEMONS.



THE DEVILS OF DOUBT AND DESPAIR CANNOT LIVE IN THE HOPEFUL CLIMATE THAT THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION HAS CREATED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

- 4

WE HAVE EXTRICATED OURSELVES FROM THE WAR IN VIETNAM --- ACHIEVING PEACE WITH HONOR. WE HAVE LIBERATED THE BRAVE MEN WHO FOR SO LONG WERE PRISONERS OF WAR.

WE HAVE ENDED THE DRAFT.



WE HAVE SEPARATED THE WARRING PARTIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND BROUGHT THE WORLD BACK FROM THE BRINK OF CATASTROPHE. WE HAVE CREATED A NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

- 6

WE HAVE ARRIVED AT A DEGREE OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE SOVIET UNION THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN UNTHINKABLE 20 OR EVEN 10 YEARS AGO. YES, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF PRESIDENT NIXON, WE HAVE DONE ALL THOSE THINGS INVOLVING OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD. I THINK WE ACHIEVED A REMARKABLE TRANSITION --- IN A VERY SHORT TIME --- FROM BOTH A HOT WAR AND COLD WAR.

- 7 -

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE PROBLEMS AT HOME? THE ENERGY CRISIS? JOBS? INFLATION?



THESE ARE GRIM AND TERRIBLE PROBLEMS. I DO NOT MINIMIZE THEIR IMPACT ON OUR WAY OF LIVING AND OUR MORALE. BUT WITH FAITH AND MOTIVATION WE CAN PREVAIL.

WE ARE GOING THROUGH A PERIOD OF TRANSITION AND TRIAL AT HOME. JUST AS WE WENT THROUGH A TRANSITION FROM WAR TO PEACE OVERSEAS, WE WILL SUCCESSFULLY ACHIEVE A NEW FUTURE AT HOME.



- 10 -

THE CONCENTRATED IMPACT OF TEMPORARY DISLOCATIONS HAS FALLEN HEAVILY UPON THE STATE OF MICHIGAN. OUR STATE, WITH ITS GREAT AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY, IS A SPECIAL VICTIM OF THE ARAB OIL EMBARGO. I FULLY AGREE WITH DR. KISSINGER, OUR SECRETARY OF STATE, WHO HAS JUST STATED THAT PROLONGATION OF THIS EMBARGO "MUST BE CONSTRUED AS A FORM OF BLACKMAIL."



WE ARE MOVING AHEAD AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE TO DEVELOP OUR OWN ENERGY RESOURCES SO THAT WE WILL NEVER AGAIN BE SUBJECT TO THE BLACKMAIL OF ANY NATION.

- 11 -

WE DO NOT WANT GASOLINE RATIONING. WITH RATIONING, WE MIGHT FIND OURSELVES STANDING IN LINE IN THE POST OFFICE INSTEAD OF WAITING IN LINE AT THE GAS STATION. RATIONING WOULD ESCALATE THE BUREAUCRACY AND BIG GOVERNMENT THAT REPUBLICANS ABHOR. BUT UNLESS THE OIL EMBARGO ENDS SOON, WE MAY HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE. CONSUMERS AND INDUSTRY HAVE DEMONSTRATED HEART-WARMING PATRIOTISM IN THE CONSERVATION MEASURES TAKEN. OFFICIALS OF OREGON, HAWAII, AND OTHER STATES AND LOCALITIES HAVE DEMONSTRATED THE AMERICAN WAY OF SOLVING PROBLEMS.

- 12 -

REFINERIES ARE NOW SWITCHING FROM PRODUCTION OF FUEL OIL TO GASOLINE TO PROVIDE MORE FOR TRANSPORTATION AS THE WINTER DRAWS TO A CLOSE. PETROLEUM NEEDS HAVE SURPASSED SUPPLIES TO THE EXTENT THAT WE CANNOT TURN THE CLOCK BACK TO WHAT USED TO BE. BUT WE CAN MOVE FORWARD TO A HOPEFUL FUTURE. THIS IS STILL AMERICA.



TO MEET THE TEMPORARY EMERGENCY, WE ARE TAKING A WIDE RANGE OF CONTINGENCY MEASURES. THE THRUST OF OUR EFFORTS IS TO PRESERVE JOBS. WE ARE STRIVING TO PREVENT SHORTAGES FROM HITTING TOO HEAVILY AT KEY INDUSTRIES TO PREVENT A CHAIN REACTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT.



WORKERS WHOSE JOBS ARE OUTMODED WILL BE RETRAINED. NEW JOBS ARE BEING CREATED IN OUR EVER-EXPANDING TECHNOLOGY. A TEMPORARY TRANSITIONAL GAP HAS DISLOCATED TOO MANY WORKERS HERE AND ELSEWHERE. WE REGRET THE EXISTING HARDSHIP AND UNCERTAINTY. WE HAVE CONTINGENCY PLANS THAT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED TO MEET THESE CRISES.



BEYOND THIS PRE-DAWN DARKNESS LIES A NEW CREATIVITY FOR AMERICA. OUR ECONOMISTS PREDICT A COMING BOOM FOR MICHIGAN IN THE MANUFACTURE OF SMALL CARS. THEY SEE THE BIG CAR BECOMING OBSOLETE, WITH MILLIONS UPON MILLIONS OF SMALL OR COMPACT CARS NEEDED FOR REPLACEMENT. FOR NEXT YEAR, FOR THE MAN YEARS AFTER, THE PROGNOSIS IS EXCELLENT.



AS LIFESTYLES CHANGE, WE WILL BUILD NEW COMMUNITIES AND NEW TYPES OF HOUSING. WE WILL FIND NEW RESOURCES AND NEW INDUSTRIES. WE WILL BE BUSIER AND HAPPIER AND HEALTHLER THAN EVER.

MEANWHILE, STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN TO EAST THE SHORT-TERM PROBLEM OF TRANSITION. - 18 -

FUNDS ARE BEING APPROPRIATED TO EXPEDITE THE CLAIMS OF MICHIGAN WORKERS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

I AM VERY PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO ANNOUNCE TONIGHT THAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS ASKING FOR SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO AREAS OF HIGH JOBLESSNESS BY EXTENDING 26-WEEK UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AN ADDITIONAL 13 WEEKS THROUGH FEDERAL-STATE JOINT ACTION. WE ARE ALSO BROADENING THE SCOPE OF ENTERPRISES WHOSE WORKERS ARE ENTITLED TO UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION TO INCLUDE AGRICULTURE AND OTHER AREAS NOT NOW COVERED. INDIVIDUALS WOULD BE INCLUDED REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEIR JOB LOSS WAS CAUSED BY THE ENERGY CRISIS.



- 20 -

A SPECIAL REVENUE SHARING PROVISION PROVIDES FOR NEW PUBLIC SERVICE JOBS -- IF STATES CHOOSE TO USE FUNDS FOR THAT PURPOSE.

IN MICHIGAN AND NATIONWIDE THERE IS A READY SUPPLY OF FEDERAL - STATE COOPERATION TO MEET THE CRISIS. I BELIEVE, AS ABRAHAM LINCOLN DID, THAT THE PROPER FUNCTION OF GOVERNMENT IS TO DO FOR PEOPLE THOSE THINGS THAT HAVE TO BE DONE, BUT CANNOT BE DONE AS WELL BY INDIVIDUALS FOR THEMSELVES.

## - 21 -OUR GOALS IN THE YEAR 1974 ARE TO:

--SURMOUNT THE ENERGY CRISIS AND BUILD A LONGTERM CAPACITY FOR MEETING ALL OUR OWN NEEDS.

--PROMOTE LASTING PEACE BY NURTURING THE MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT.



--MAINTAIN ECONOMIC GROWTH WHILE WINDING DOWN INFLATION.

- 22 -



--REDUCE FEDERAL CONTROL AND OPEN A NEW ERA OF ACHIEVEMENT AND RESPONSIVENESS IN STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. - 23 ---REFORM FEDERAL AID TO EDUCATION.

FOR

-- ACHIEVE BETTER TRANSPORTATION NATIONALLY AND IN EACH COMMUNITY.

--BEGIN REFORM OF THE PRESENT DEMEANING WELFARE SYSTEM.

-- DEVELOP ADEQUATE SAFEGUARDS TO PROTECT INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS AGAINST INTRUSIONS OF NEW TECHNOLOGY.

--THROUGH INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATION, ESTABLISH A FRAMEWORK FOR AMERICA TO SHARE FULLY IN AN EXPANDING WORLD PROSPERITY.



THE TIME HAS COME FOR THE NATION, THE CONGRESS, AND THE ADMINISTRATION TO UNITE TO MOVE AMERICA FORWARD. THERE IS NO GROUND FOR PESSIMISM OR A PSYCHOLOGICAL COMPLEX OF DEFEAT. I SAY THIS <u>PARTICULARLY</u> TO REPUBLICANS.

- 25 -

A REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE CAME SO NEAR WINNING THIS WEEK IN A PENNSYLVANIA SPECIAL ELECTION THAT WE CAN COUNT IT AS A MORAL VICTORY. THE DIFFERENCE WAS A MERE HANDFUL OF VOTES IN A DISTRICT WHERE DEMOCRATS HAD A REGISTRATION EDGE OF 8,000. THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IS ALIVE AND WELL.

I BELIEVE IN THE REPUBLICAN PARTY BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT FAITH IN THE INDIVIDUAL IS THE ONLY TRUE FOUNDATION OF OUR NATIONAL STRENGTH.



I BELIEVE THAT FREE ENTERPRISE AND THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF INDIVIDUAL INCENTIVE HAVE GIVEN THIS NATION AN ECONOMIC SYSTEM SECOND TO NONE ON EARTH.

I BELIEVE THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IS A PARTY OF VISION, RETAINING THOSE THINGS FROM THE PAST THAT ARE WORTH RETAINING AND ALWAYS RECEPTIVE TO NEW IDEAS IN THE TASK OF BUILDING A BETTER AMERICA.



+ 40 ·

I BELIEVE WE CAN WIN ON MERIT AND PERFORMANCE AS WE APPEAL TO ALL SEGMENTS OF THE POPULATION.

AND I BELIEVE THAT ONLY THROUGH THE REPUBLICAN PARTY CAN BASIC AMERICAN IDEALS BECOME ACTIVE AND SUCCESSFUL PRINCIPLES OF GOVERNMENT.



LET US TAKE A NEW LOOK AT OURSELVES AS A POLITICAL PARTY. LET US SEE OURSELVES THROUGH OUR OWN EYES AND NOT THROUGH THE PERCEPTIONS OF OTHERS.



I AM PROUD TO BE A REPUBLICAN Mom when Dressed Mom VICE PRESIDENT IN AN ADMINISTRATION THAT IS IMPLEMENTING THE OBJECTIVE STATED BY ABRAHAM LINCOLN IN HIS SECOND INAUGURAL ADDRESS: TO SEEK "A JUST AND LASTING PEACE, AMONG OURSELVES, AND WITH ALL NATIONS."



REMARKS BY VICE PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD AT A MICHIGAN REPUBLICAN DINNER, 7:15 m. SATURDAY, FEB.9, 1974, DETROIT, MICH. COBO HALL, DETROIT, MICH.



FOR RELEASE AT 7:15 pm. SATURDAY

Tonight I want to talk about my pride in being an American --and a Republican.

I want to share with you my optimism about the future of our nation and of our grand old Republican Party which was organized in the State of Michigan 120 years ago.

This week I saw a very pessimistic newspaper headline. In bold type, it proclaimed: "Disaster faces Michigan G.O.P." Speaking to you with fervent conviction, I want to comment on that headline . It was in Michigan that the G.O.P. was born. And the G.O.P., I can assure you, is not going to die here ! Instead, I predict that by next November we will see ourselves in an entirely different light. And voters throughout the country will demonstrate their recognition of the Republican values that carried 49 of the 50 States in 1972.

The United States is now preoccupied with movies and books about exorcism --- the idea of freeing a human being from possession by evil spirits. Let me say tonight that if any Republicans are possessed by negative and defeatist spirits, I am going to exorcise those demons. The devils of doubt and despair cannot live in the hopeful climate that the Administration of President Richard M. Nixon has created throughout the world .

We have extricated ourselves from the war in Vietnam --- achieving peace with honor .

We have liberated the brave men who for so long were prisoners of war. We have ended the draft.

We have separated the warring parties in the Middle East and brought the world back from the brink of catastrophe.

We have created a new relationship with the People's Republic of China.

We have arrived at a degree of understanding with the Soviet Union that would have been unthinkable 20 **Control of the set of the se** 

Yes, under the leadership of President Nixon, we have done all those things involving our relationship with the rest of the world. I think we achieved a remarkable transition --- in a very short time --- from hot war and cold war.

But what about the problems at home? The energy crisis? Jobs? Inflation ?

These are grim and terrible problems, I do not minimize their impact on our lifestyle and our morale.

home. Just as we went through a transition from war to peace overseas, we will successfully negotiate a new future at home. We have run short of gasoline. But we have not short of hope. Or American initiative. Or American know-how. Or American gas

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The concentrated impact of temporary dislocations has fallen heavily upon the State of Michigan. This State, with its great automotive industry, is a special victim of the Arab oil embargo. I filling forment with Dr. Kissinger, our Secretary of State, who has just stated that prolongation of this embargo "must be construed as a form of blackmail. "

We are moving ahead as rapidly as possible to develop our own energy resources so that we will never again be subject to the blackmail of any nation.

We do not want gasoline rationing. With rationing, we might find ourselves standing in line in the post office instead of waiting in line at the gas station. Rationing would escalate the bureaucracy and big government that Republicans abhor. But unless the Arab embargo ends soon, we may have no alternative.

Consumers and industry have demonstrated heart-warming patriotism in the conservation measures taken. Officials of Oregon, Hawaii, and other States and localities have those the American way of solving problems . Refineries are now switching from fuel oil to gasoline to provide more for transportation as the winter draws to a close . Petroleum needs have surpassed supplies to the extent that we cannot turn the clock back to what used to be . But we can move forward to a very comfortable and hopeful future . This is still America . To meet the temporary emergency, we are taking a wide range of contingency measures. The thrust of our efforts is to preserve jobs. We are striving to prevent shortages from hitting too heavily key industries to prevent a chain reaction of employment

- 4-

Workers whose jobs are outmoded will be retrained. New jobs are being created in our ever-expanding technology. A temporary transitional gap has dislocated too many workers here and elsewhere. We regret the existing hardship and uncertainty.

Beyond this pre-dawn darkness lies a new for America.

## PREDICT

Our economists a coming boom for Michigan in the manufacture of small cars. They see the big car becoming obsolete, in millions upon millions of small or compact cars needed for replacement. For next year, for the years after, the prognosis is excedient. One manufacturer has already declared a dividend for the first time in many years.

As lifestyles change, we will build new communities and new types of housing. We will find new resources and new industries. We will be busier and happier and healthier than ever.

Meanwhile, steps are being taken to ease the short-term problem of transition.

Funds are being appropriated to expedite the claims of Michigan workers for unemployment insurance.

The Administration is asking this weekend for special assistance to areas of high joblessness benefits an additional 13 weeks through Federal-State joint action. Governor Milliken has helped bring this about .

We are also broadening the scope of enterprises whose workers are entitled to unemployment compensation to include agriculture and other areas not now covered. Individuals would be included regardless of whether their job loss was caused by the energy crisis.

A special revenue sharing provision provides for new public service jobs --- if States choose to use funds for that purpose.

In Michigan and nation wide there is a paragrame of Federal - Skate cooperation to transpond the crisis . I believe, as Abraham Lincoln did, that the proper function of government is to do for people those things that have to be done, but cannot be as well done by individuals for themselves.

Our goals in the year 1974 are to :

Surmount the energy crisis and build a longterm capacity

for meeting all our own needs.

Promote lasting peace by nurturing the Middle East settlement.

Maintain economic growth while winding down inflation.

Establish a comprehensive system of National Health Insurance to provide medical care at a reasonable cost.
Reduce Federal control and open a new era of achievement and responsiveness in State and local governments.

Reform Federal aid to education.

Achieve better transportation nationally and in each community.

Begin reform of the present demeaning welfare system.

Develop adequate safeguards to protect individual rights against intrusions of new technology.

Through international negotiation, establish a framework for America to share fully in an expanding world prosperity.

The time has come for the nation, the Congress, and the Administration to unite to move America forward. There is no ground for pessimism or a psychological complex of defeat. I say this particularly to Republicans.

A Republican Congressional candidate came so near winning this week in a Pennsylvania special election that we can count it as a moral victory. The difference was a **setter change of the property is alive and well**.

I believe in the Republican Party because I believe that faith in the individual is the only true foundation of our national strength.

I believe that free enterprise and encouragement of individual incentive have given this Nation an economic system second to none on earth.

I believe the Republican Party is a party of vision, retaining those things from the past that are worth retaining and always receptive to new ideas in the task of building a better America. I believe are the population .

And I believe that only through the Republican Party can the ideals become active and successful principles of government.

Let us take a new look at ourselves as a political party. Let us see ourselves through our own eyes and not through the perceptions of others.

I am proud to be a Republican Vice President in an Administration that implementing the objective enunciated by Abraham Lincoln in his Second Inaugural Address: to seek "a just and lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations. "

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We have arrived at a degree of understanding with the Soviet Union that would have been unthinkable 20 or even 10 years ago. (more) Yes, under the leadership of President Nixon, we have done all those things involving our relationship with the rest of the world. I think we achieved a remarkable transition -- in a very short time -- from both a hot war and cold war.

But what about the problems at home? The energy crisis? Jobs? Inflation?

These are grim and terrible problems. I do not minimize their impact on our way of living and our morale. But with faith and motivation we can prevail.

We are going through a period of transition and trial at home. Just as we went through a transition from war to peace overseas, we will successfully achieve a new future at home.

We have run short of gasoline. But we have not run short of hope. Or American initiative. Or American know-how. Or American courage.

The concentrated impact of temporary dislocations has fallen heavily upon the State of Michigan. Our State, with its great automotive industry, is a special victim of the Arab oil embargo. I fully agree with Dr. Kissinger, our Secretary of State, who has just stated that prolongation of this embargo "must be construed as a form of blackmail."

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## Page 2

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FORD

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Develop adequate safeguards to protect individual rights against intrusions of new technology.

Through international negotiation, establish a framework for America to share fully in an expanding world prosperity.

The time has come for the nation, the Congress, and the Administration to unite to move America forward. There is no ground for pessimism or a psychological complex of defeat. I say this <u>particularly</u> to Republicans.

A Republican Congressional candidate came so near winning this week in a Pennsylvania special election that we can count it as a moral victory. The difference was a mere handful of votes in a district where Democrats had a registration edge of 8,000. The Republican Party is alive and well.

I believe in the Republican Party because I believe that faith in the individual is the only true foundation of our national strength.

I believe that free enterprise and the encouragement of individual incentive have given this Nation an economic system second

(more)

to none on earth.

I believe the Republican Party is a party of vision, retaining those things from the past that are worth retaining and always receptive to new ideas in the task of building a better America.

I believe we can win on merit and performance as we appeal to all segments of the population.

And I believe that only through the Republican Party can basic American ideals become active and successful principles of government.

Let us take a new look at ourselves as a political party. Let us see ourselves throughour own eyes and not through the perceptions of others.

I am proud to be a Republican Vice President in an Administration that is implementing the objective stated by Abraham Lincoln in his Second Inaugural Address: To seek "a just and lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations."

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