The original documents are located in Box D22, folder "Fund-Raising Event Honoring Representative Margaret Heckler of Massachusetts, October 30, 1967" of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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REMARKS AT FUND-RAISING EVENT HONORING REP. MARGARET M. HECKLER, R-MASS. -- OCTOBER 30, 1967

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I AM VERY HAPPY TO BE HERE TONIGHT SINCE IT GIVES ME AN OPPORTUNITY TO TELL YOU HOW VERY PLEASED I AM THAT THE TENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS SAW FIT LAST FALL TO SEND MARGARET HECKLER TO THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. I ONLY WISH I COULD STAY TO SEE THE MOVIE WITH YOU.

THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE A FINE MOVIE COMING UP IN JUST A FEW MINUTES IS A REMINDER TO ME TO KEEP MY REMARKS BRIEF.

HOWEVER, THE TRUTH IS I DON'T NEED A REMINDER. WHENEVER I AM IN DANGER OF TALKING TOO LONG IN PUBLIC, I RECALL WHAT HAPPENED TO ME AT A DINNER PARTY ONE NIGHT. I WAS THE SPEAKER OF THE EVENING, AND I WAS JUST NICELY GETTING INTO MY TALK WHEN MY WIFE BETTY SLIPPED A NOTE UNDER MY NOSE. FALL

IT SAID WAS K-I-S-S. I SMILED BACK AT HER, THINKING IT WAS A MESSAGE OF ENDEARMENT, AFFECTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT. WHEN I FINALLY SAT DOWN, I THANKED HER. "YOU'RE ALL WET," SHE SAID. "WHAT I WAS TRYING TO TELL YOU WAS, 'KEEP IT SHORT, STUPID."

BECAUSE THERE IS SO MUCH TO BE SAID ABOUT HER. FIRST OF ALL, YOU PEOPLE ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE SO ENERGETIC AND HARD-WORKING A PERSON REPRESENTING YOU IN THE CONGRESS. I KNOW AND YOU KNOW THAT MARGARET IS SPARING NO EFFORT TO GIVE YOU THE BEST SERVICE POSSIBLE AND TO VOTE YOUR BEST INTERESTS IN THE HOUSE.

MARGARET IS A DOER. IT'S VERY APPROPRIATE THAT SHE REPRESENTS AN AREA THAT LIVES IN THE PAUL REVERE STORY, BECAUSE MARGARET HECKLER IS THAT KIND OF AN AMERICAN. IF IT

HAD BEEN A WOMAN WHO HAD SPREAD THE ALARM THAT NIGHT IN APRIL, 1775, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN SOMEONE LIKE MARGARET HECKLER.

I WOULD JUST MAKE THE POINT THAT THIS IS THE KIND OF SPIRIT WE NEED IN AMERICA TODAY, THE KIND OF PATRIOTISM THAT CRIES OUT IN SUPPORT OF OUR COUNTRY. INSTEAD WE FIND SOME AMERICANS FLEEING TO CANADA TO ESCAPE INDUCTION INTO THE ARMY AND THE OTHERS WHO ARE BURNING THEIR DRAFT CARDS IN A CONTEMPTUOUS GESTURE OF NON-LOYALTY.

IF PAUL REVERE HAD BEEN THAT KIND OF MAN, HE WOULD
NOT HAVE RIDDEN IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT TO EVERY MIDDLESEX
VILLAGE AND TOWN. HE WOULD HAVE SHRUGGED HIS SHOULDERS AND
SAID, "WHY ME? AM I THE ONLY MAN IN TOWN WITH A HORSE?"
THAT'S NOT THE KIND OF PERSON YOU WOULD WANT TO SPEAK
FOR YOU. BUT MARGARET HECKLER IS. SHE'LL ALWAYS BE THERE
WHEN YOU NEED HER.

VLADIMIR KAZAN-KAMAREK OF WELLSELEY HILES FOUND THAT OUT WHEN THE COMMUNISTS TOSSED HIM INTO A CZECH JAIL UNDER AN EIGHT-YEAR SENTENCE. MARGARET IMMEDIATELY WENT TO BAT FOR HIM AND IS CREDITED WITH HELPING TO OBTAIN KAZAN'S RELEASE.

YOU KNOW, BOBBY KENNEDY SHOWED UP AT KAZAN'S NEWS
CONFERENCE AT KENNEDY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WHEN KAZAN
RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES. AND, JUST TO SHOW HOW FAIR
HE WAS, BOBBY PRAISED MRS. HECKLER'S ROLE AS WELL AS THAT OF
HIS BROTHER TEDDY IN ARRANGING FOR KAZAN'S RELEASE FROM PRISON.

THE REASON BOBBY HAS SUCH APPEAL IS BECAUSE OF THAT HAIR, YOU KNOW. I'M TOLD BOBBY'S HAIRDO RESEMBLES NOTHING SO MUCH AS A HAYSTACK IN HEAT. BUT MARGARET HECKLER HAS HER OWN SPECIAL BRAND OF CHARISMA...OR I WOULDN'T BE HERE TONIGHT, AND NEITHER WOULD YOU.

IT'S NOT ONLY THE CZECHS WHO HAVE FOUND OUT THAT

MARGARET CAN BE TOUGH. SHE HAS SERVED ON A HOUSE SUB-COMMITTEE INVESTIGATING POSSIBLE MISUSE OF THE UNITED STATES PROPERTY THAT BECAME SURPLUS WITH THE U.S.-NATO WITHDRAWAL FROM FRANCE...AND SHE HAS TAKEN SEVERAL SWINGS AT THE JOHNSON ADMINISTRATION FOR KEEPING THE TARIFF ON TEXTILES AT A LOW LEVEL.

MARGARET IS ALWAYS AT WORK, DOING A JOB FOR YOU. AS YOU KNOW, MUCH OF THE WORK IN CONGRESS IS DONE IN COMMITTEE.

MARGARET IS A MEMBER OF THE VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND THE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, WHICH DOES CONSIDERABLE FOREIGN AID SLEUTHING.

MARGARET IS TOUGH, BUT SHE NEVER FORGETS SHE'S A
WOMAN. NEITHER DO HER LADY FRIENDS, AND THEY'RE MIGHT PROUD
OF HER...AS WE ALL ARE. THAT IS WHY SHE WAS CHOSEN AS THE
KEYNOTE SPEAKER FOR THIS YEAR'S NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE

REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S FEDERATION.

MARGARET IS ABLE. THE CLEAREST PROOF OF THIS IS THAT
THE OTHER FRESHMEN WHO WERE ELECTED TO THE HOUSE WITH HER
CHOSE HER AS VICE-PRESIDENT OF THEIR GROUP, THE 90TH CONGRESS
CLUB.

TRIBUTE TO MR. HECKLER. JOHN HAS BEEN A GREAT HELP TO MARGARET IN EVERY WAY. I AM HAPPY TO REPORT THAT HE HAS MADE THE ADJUSTMENT TO WASHINGTON LIFE, AND THAT WASHINGTON HAS TAKEN BOTH JOHN AND MARGARET TO ITS BOSOM. THEY RE A FINE COUPLE, AND IT IS THIS KIND OF FAMILY STABILITY THAT AMERICA DESPERATELY NEEDS TODAY.

I HOPE I HAVEN'T DISAPPOINTED ANY OF YOU BY BEING SO NONPARTISAN TONIGHT. ACTUALLY, I HAVE SAVED THAT FOR THE LAST. IN LEAVING YOU, I'D LIKE TO ADDRESS ONE FINAL WORD TO

THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

GOODNIGHT, ROCKY. GOODNIGHT, DICK. GOODNIGHT, GEORGE. GOODNIGHT, RONNIE. GOODNIGHT, MR. PERCY. AND GOODNIGHT HARDLD STASSEN, WHEREVER YOU ARE.

-END-



Remarks by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, ReMich., at a Fund-Raising Event honoring Rep. Margaret M. Heckler, R-Mass.

10/30/67

Ladies and gentwhemen, I am very happy to be here tonight since it gives me an opportunity to tell you how very pleased I am that the Tenth Congressional District of Massachusetts saw fit last fall to send Margaret Heckler to the United States House of Representatives. I only wish I could stay to see the moview with you.

The fact that you have a fine movie we coming up in the just a few minutes is a reminder to me to keep my remarks brief. However, the truth is I don't need a reminder.

Whenever I am in danger of talking too long in public, I recall what happened to me at a dinner party one night. I was the speaker of the evening, and I was just getting into my talk when my wife Betty slipped a note under my nose. All it said was K-I-S-S. I smiled back at her, thinking it was a message of endearment, affection and encouragement. When I said down, I thanked her. "You're all wet," she said. "What I was trying to tell you was, 'Keep it short, stupid."

It's pretty hard to be brief, about Margaret Heckler because there is much to be said about her. First of all, you people are fortunate to have so energetic and hard-working a person representing you in the Congress. I have so energetic know that Margarett is sparing no effort to give you the best passible service possible and to vote your best interests in the House.

Margaret is a doer. It's very appropriate that she interest represents an area that lives in the Paul Revere story, because Margaret Heckler is that kind of an American. If it had been a woman who had spread the see alarm that night in April, 1775, it is the story have been as someone like Margaret Heckler.

I would just make the point that this is the kind of spirit we need in America today, the kind of patriotism that cries out in support of our country. Instead induction into the Army we find the Americans Americans fleeing to Canada to escape fleeing to Canada to escape in the Army are burning their draft cards in a contemptuous gesture of the army non-loyalty.

If Paul Revere had been that kind of man, he would not have ridden in the dead of night to every Middlesex village and town. He would have shuruggedhis shoulders and said, "Why me? Am I the only man in town with a horise?"

That's not the kind of person you would want to present speak for you.

But Margaret Heckler is. She always the state of the second between the second secon

Vladimir Kazan-Kamarek found that out when the Communists tossed him into a immediately Czech jail under an eight-year sates were sentence. Margaret wents to bat for him and is credited with sates helping to obtain in release.

You know, And Parkers Bobby Kennedy showed up at Kazan's news conference at Kennedy International Airport when Kazan returned to the United States. And, just to show how fair he was, Bobby praised in Mrs. Heckler's parkers role as well as international that of his brother Teddy in arranging for Kazan's

release from prison.

The reason Bolty has me happeal is because of that

I have have been been been been been nothing so much

as a haystack in heat. But Margaret Hackler has her own special brand of

charisma...or I wouldn't be here tonight, and neither would you.

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It's not only the Czechs who have found out that Margaret can be tough. She has served on a House subcommittee investigating possible issue of the United States property that became surplus with the U.S-NATO withdrawal from France... and she has taken taken several swings at the Johnson Administration for keeping the tariff on textiles at a low level.

Margaret is always and the at work, doing a job for you. As you know, much of the work in Congress is done in committee. Margaret is a member of the Veterans Affairs Committee and the Government Operations Committee, which does considerable foreign aid sleuthing.

Margaret is tough, but she never forgets she's a woman. Neither do her lady friends, and they're might proud of her...as we all are. That is why she was chosen as the keynote speaker for this year's this year's National Convention of the Republican Women's Federation.

Margaret is able. The clearest proof of this is that the other freshmen who were elected to the House with her chose her as vice-president of their group, the 90th Congress Club.

Heckler. John has been a great help to Margaret in every way. I am happy to report that he has made the adjustment to Washington life, and that Washington has taken both John and Margaret to its bosom. They're a fine couple, and it is this kind of family stability that America desperately needs today.

I hope I haven't distappointed any of you by being so nonpartisan tonight.

Actually, I have save that for the last. In leaving you, I'd like to address one final word to the next President of the United States.

Goodnight, Rockey. Goodnight, Dick. And Goodnight Harold Stassen, whetrever you are.