

**The original documents are located in Box D30, folder “Fund-raising Dinner, Republican Candidate for Governor Albert Watson, Spartanburg, SC, September 18, 1970” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE AT 6:30 p.m. FRIDAY--  
September 18, 1970

Excerpts from a Speech by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., Republican Leader, U.S. House of Representatives, at a fund-raising dinner for Republican Governor candidate Albert Watson, at Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium, Spartanburg, S.C.

It's wonderful to be here in the textile center of the world. And it is great to be with Al Watson's kind of people because they are bound to be good people, fine people.

I recently had the honor to present a plaque to Al Watson on behalf of the Republican Leadership of the U.S. House of Representatives. It was a tribute to Al for his outstanding service in the Congress.

Let me tell you something about that service. Let me tell you first of all that Al Watson is the best friend in Congress that a textile worker ever had. Al Watson has been a most effective member of the Congress in working to offset the impact of imports on the textile industry. He has fought to save the jobs of textile workers. He has been waging this battle ever since he first came to Congress. And let me assure you that Congressman Watson has been working closely with President Nixon on the problem of textile imports. The President has said that he is four-square behind a textile quota bill--and Al Watson was standing next to him when he said it.

Al Watson will work for you. Al Watson will fight for the domestic textile industry. Al Watson will see to it that the textile industry stays healthy.

I look for Al Watson to become the first Republican governor of South Carolina in a hundred years--and I'm here to tell you tonight that this is the best thing that could happen to the great state of South Carolina.

You have a wonderful man in Al Watson. You have a leader. You have a man of great courage.

I am very much aware of Al Watson's outstanding leadership qualities. That is why I named him as the senior Republican on the House Select Committee on Crime. I knew he would deliver on that committee--just as he will deliver when you elect him governor of South Carolina. Al Watson is a man for the criminal to reckon with.

When Al Watson is elected governor, the racketeers operating in this state had better pack their bags and skedaddle because Al Watson won't put up with them. Your state will be secure from criminal elements. Al Watson won't tolerate any cop-killing. And he won't tolerate any violence on college campuses, either.

(more)

Al Watson is a no-nonsense man. He will clear the criminals out of South Carolina.

Al Watson not only is courageous; he is far-seeing. As a member of the House Internal Security Committee, he put the finger on the Students for a Democratic Society as a Marxist-oriented organization back when most people thought SDS members were just a bunch of idealistic college students. Al Watson is a man who won't be fooled.

I can talk about Al Watson's leadership qualities because I have seen him at work in the Congress. I know that he gets the job done.

At this point I must applaud Al Watson for the effort he is exerting to get the busing issue decided once and for all by the U.S. Supreme Court. As you know Al has filed a friend of the court brief in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg school case and is calling upon other members of Congress to join him in that brief. Here again you have an example of Al Watson's fine leadership.

Al also exhibited his great leadership qualities when he followed up on his House Select Crime Committee membership by initiating a drug education program for the entire state of South Carolina. That took imagination. That took drive. That took organizational ability. In Al Watson you find all of these traits.

The people of South Carolina are indeed fortunate--fortunate because they have a wonderful leadership team in Al Watson and his running mate, Jim Henderson. Postmaster General Winton Blount has told me what an outstanding man Jim Henderson is--what a great job he has done in the Post Office Department. So you have a great team in Al Watson and Jim Henderson.

The Watson-Henderson team is a team that spells progress, a team that spells new plans for action in state government, genuine solutions for the problems that have been plaguing South Carolina, realistic answers for the challenge of the Seventies.

I ask the people of South Carolina to recognize that the team of Al Watson and Jim Henderson is the team that will serve them best, the team that makes sense, the team that believes every man is responsible for his own acts and for his own place in society, the team that believes no man is above the law or beneath it, the team that believes every man must work if he is to enjoy the benefits of our society, the team that believes our individual and national prosperity flows from the free enterprise system, the team that will fight to make that system function at its very best so that South Carolina will be prosperous.

I believe in Al Watson and Jim Henderson--and that is why I am asking the people of South Carolina to make them their leaders, to let them promote good government, responsible government, government that truly serves the people.

# # #



# ALBERT WATSON

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR

## CAMPAIGN DINNER

*featuring*

THE HONORABLE GERALD R. FORD  
MINORITY LEADER - U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
(R) FIFTH DISTRICT - MICHIGAN

September 18, 1970

SPARTANBURG MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM  
SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA



## M E N U

*Marinated Shrimp, Louis IV*

*Hearts of Celery and Stuffed Olives, Delmonico*

*Roast Prime Rib of Western Beef, Au Jus*

*Baked Stuffed Idaho Potatoes, Suzette*

*Fresh Green Beans, Almondine*

*Salad of the Season, Provencale*

*Hot Rolls Maison, Maitre d'Hotel Butter*

*Coffee            Tea            Milk*

*Strawberry Shortcake*

## PROGRAM

*Presiding* . . . . . Dr. F. Larry Gant  
*GOP Chairman, Fourth Congressional District*

*Welcome* . . . . . Mayor Robert L. Stoddard  
*City of Spartanburg*

*Pledge of Allegiance* . . . . . Richard T. Hines  
*Chairman, S. C. College Republicans*

*National Anthem* . . . . . Allan R. Willis  
*Accompanied by Mr. Donald McGraw*

*Entertainment* . . . . . Dorman High School Singing Cavaliers  
*Mary Francis Gosnell, Director*

*Invocation* . . . . . Rev. Alastair C. Walker  
*First Baptist Church*

### DINNER

*Introduction of Head Table* . . . . . Mrs. Constance D. Armitage  
*First Vice President, National Federation  
of Republican Women*

*Recognition of Special Guests* . . . . . Raymond A. Harris  
*Chairman, South Carolina Republican Party*

*Introduction of Speaker* . . . . . Harry S. Dent  
*Special Counsel to the President*

*Speaker* . . . . . The Honorable Gerald R. Ford, M.C.  
*Minority Leader—U. S. House of Representatives*

*Response* . . . . . The Honorable Albert Watson, M.C.  
*Candidate for Governor of South Carolina*

*Presentation of Gift* . . . . . Hal C. Byrd  
*State Finance Chairman*

*"God Bless America"*

## DINNER COMMITTEE

<i>General Chairman</i> . . . . .	Dr. F. Larry Gant GOP Chairman, Fourth Congressional District
<i>County Chairmen</i> . . . . .	Jesse Cooksey, Spartanburg Ray Smith, Greenville W. R. Garrett, Laurens
<i>Ticket Sales</i> . . . . .	Hal C. Byrd
<i>Decorations and Facilities</i> . . . . .	Mrs. Sylvia McCollough
<i>Music and Entertainment</i> . . . . .	Miss Earline Bates
<i>Ushers</i> . . . . .	T. Kenneth Cribb, Jr.
<i>Aid to Congressman Ford</i> . . . . .	Richard T. Hines

## OUR SPECIAL THANKS TO

Case Brothers Music House . . . . .	Organ
Burnett's Television & Appliance Company, Inc. . . . .	Door Prize—Color T.V.
Dorman High School Singing Cavaliers . . . . .	Mary Francis Gosnell, <i>Director</i>

And all others who have worked so hard to make this dinner possible

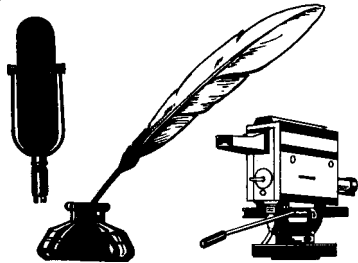
ALBERT WATSON—Our Candidate for Governor—

“A man of courage, character, and conviction for a time of crisis!”



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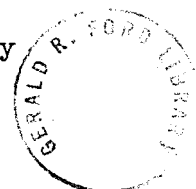
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