The original documents are located in Box D31, folder "Republican Women of Capitol Hill, Washington, DC, June 22, 1971" of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. The Council donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

REMARKS BY REP. GER ALD R. FORD TO THE REPUBLICAN WOMEN OF CAPITOL HILL, 12 NOON, TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 1971, ROOM B 339, RAYBURN BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D.C.

maffece copy

Politicians have a favorite pasttime. It is called "viewing with alarm." It's an easy game to play. All you have to do is to see the worst of things and blame the other fellow for it. Who's the best at this game? You gue sed it, the Democrats.

There's really only one way to beat the "emocrats at their game of "viswing with alarm", for the second and that is to recite the accomplishments of the Republican Administration. Accomplishments made despite and not because of the Democratic Congress. Accomplishments made the hard way.

It's a bit difficult to pierce through the mantle of gloom in which the Democrats have sought to wrap both our domestic and foreign affairs but today I'm going to do it. And I think you'll be surprised by the proud Republican record which is revealed when you strip away all the Democratic nonsense.

A good Democrat, Al Smith, used to say, let's look at the record. And today when we do that it's going top sound like bragging. But that's all right, if that's the way it comes out then so be it.

Republicans are usually modest fellows, you know. We don't engage in a lot of flowery oratory or issue a lot p of political promissory notes. These are the stock in trade of the other fellow. What we do is deliver. We are not New Dealers; we are dealers in rationality and realism.

Because we have been realistic, we can point with pride to the accomplishments of the Republican Administration during its 29 months in office. We can point to the recorded--as al ^Smith used to--and come up with a fistful of accomplishments.

We have reason to be proud, and we should let the American people know why we feel that way.

We feel proud because we are getting out of Vietnam in a way that sives South Vietnam a chance to survive as an independent, non-Communist nation.

We feel proud because we **conclude the second secon**

We feel proud because we have achieved major draft reform and are moving to end the draft and go to an all-volunteer Army.

We feel proud because we have reordered our priorities monthstation for the first time in two decades, so that we are spending more Federal dollars on human resource programs than on military programs--and that twend is continuing.

We feel proud because we have cut taxes and reformed the Federal tax structures and the tax reductions are continuing.

We feel proud because we are holding back the rise in crime.

We feel proud because we are near the point of reforming the scandalous welfare system inherited from a previous era.

We feel proud because we have established a non-political postal service although it was generally believed this was not possible.

We feel proud because we are successfully fighting inflation.

WeWfeel proud because we are improving mass transportation and have embarked on the most **uniform** ambitious mass transit program ever.

We feel proud because we are protecting the national health and safety and are implementing the most far-reaching coal mine safety laws in the history of American labor.

We could do more. We want to do much more. And we will do much more if we get some cooperation from the our Democratic friends. But of course Democratics in Congress are reluctant to take any actions which would reflect credit on a Republican President. Instead they are speking to embarrass him.

Let's be frank. The new Administration inherited a mess when Richard Nixon took office information January 1969.

With the help of Republicans in Congress, the President is working hard to clean up the mess the Democrats left behind. And some of this mess is really tough to clean up.

Nationally the Democrats aren't anxious to help the President. Every time they do join hands with him to solve a problem they are admitting it is something they themselves should have cleaned up long before. So what they do is to try to take credit--credit for cleaning up the mess they themselves made.

To end the war a Democratic President plunged us into.

To curb the inflation brought on by the irresponsible spending policies of the previous Administration.

To reduce the unemployment which resulted when **descriptions** an inflation-fueled economy which overheated in the 1965-68 period had to be forcibly cooled off.

To reorder priorities knocked askew by the war we got into under a Democratic President.

To end air and water pollution which grew steadily worse during the eight years the Democrats controlled both the Congress and the White House.

To reduce a crime rate that rose 10 times faster than our population during the eight Democratic years of the **Example of Sixties**.

It's tough to clean up the Democratic mess, but we are making progress. Instead of helping us, the Democrats are employing the same kind of spend-more

-2-

tactics they used in **Automatical destinations** during the last decade. Passing a \$4 billion accelerated public works bill that is going to have little or no immediate impact on unemployment. Passing a **5** billion public service jobs bill that would **6** create 150,000 jobs-hardly **10** making a dent in unemployment of 5.2 million.

-3-

Instead of supporting the President as we steadily withdraw from Vietnam while strengthening the South Vietnamese, Democrats with an eye on the White House undercut the President by urging immediate total withdrawal me withdrawal methods of the consequences.

What we we are getting from the Democrats where is the same thing we got from them from during the Sixties. It can be summed up in one word-irresponsibility.

There is still another phrase that describes the Democratic Farty today--status quo.

The Democratic Party has become a stick-in-the-mud party, a party that resists change, a party which clings to the past, a party which keeps pushing schemes which are outdated and shopworn, schemes that have never worked but read like good political propaganda, schemes like accelerated public works and public service jobs.

So this is the **Second Markov** Democratic Party of the Seventies--a party which advocates surrender to get us out of the war they got us into in Southeast Asia and a party which proposes billions upon billions of dollars for so-called unemployment solutions that would have about as much real impact as a raindrop falling into the second.

This is why I call the Democratic Party irresponsible.

Yes, we are still plagued inflation. And, yes, unemployment is much too high. But we cannot solve overnight the problems that the Democrats labored for years to make generate.

We are slowly bringing inflation under control. The cost of living during the first four months of this year rose at an annual rate of 3 per cent. That stands in sharp contrast with 1970, when the rate was 5.5 per cent, and with 1969, when the cost of living rose 6.1 per cent.

We will bring unemployment down, but we are moving from a wartime to a peacetime economy and the dislocations are severe. It will take time to improve the unemployment situation. Meantime, employment is at an all-time high. ^But the numbers moving into the job market are so great that the economy will have to grow markedly in order to soak up the increased number of job-seekers.

It is efforts to control inflation that have produced severe unemployment. And

we inherited the inflation problem from the Democrats. The Democrats allowed inflation to race along almost unchecked for meanly four years before the Nixon Administration took office.

)-

Whenever any Democrat talks to you about high unemployment, just remind him of one thing. The Democrats have never solved the unemployment problem. They were find in office when a war came along to take up the slack.

during the first four Democratic years of the Sixties and dropped below that figure only after a Democratic President took us into a jungle war halfway around the world.

The facts are that the sharp decline in unemployment in 1966 coincided with a sharp upsurge in the economy triggered by the Vietnam War. Is that the kind of prosperity we want in this country? I think not. We want present present prosperity, and that is the kind of prosperity we are going to have under a Republican Administration.

What the Democrats now are trying to do is to saddle Republicans with the consequences of their own sins. I don't think the American people will be misled. They are too smart for that.

The issues of the 1972 campaign are already clear. A vote for the Democrats will be a vote for irresponsibility--former reckless inflationary spending and for the status quo.

By contrast, the Republican Party offers the voter a whole host of reforms: A workfare program in place of the welfare scandal; a consolidation of manpower programs, with job training to be turned over to the states and local communities; a sharing of Federal income tax revenue with the states and local units of government on a no-stringsattached basis; a re-examination of Federal aid to schools to achieve quality education; a revampaing of our labor laws for improved handling of national emergency labor disputes in transportation; and a crusade to rid curselves of water pollution.

Every one of these reforms will be an issue in the 1972 campaign to the extent that the Democrats in Congress fail to join this crusade to improve the quality of life in America.

The American people want these reforms. You can be sure Republicans would deliver on them if Republicans controlled the Congress.

The hour of truth is upon us, and the time is now. Truth will be our greatest weapon in the 1972 campaign. Our success at the polls will be measured by our success in bringing the truth to the people.

It is vital that we elect **Explore** Republicans to the Congress next year and keep Richard Nixon in the White House. That is the truth you must make clear to your friends and neighbors. You must make clear that President Nixon will be helped immensely---the Nation will be aided---if there is a Republican majority in the

È.

Congress as a result of the 1972 elections.

So let us do the job. Let us prove that our party is a winning one. We have the candidates and the programs the people want. Let us move forward together.

--##**####**

--5---

с 9 — С. 2 — С.