
We have come to the end of a long dark night. We have passed through a fearful spiritual crisis in this country. Now that crisis is finished. The fever is broken. The patient is growing ever stronger; in fact, he is well and flourishing.

We have, in effect, suffered through a civil war in America in the years just past.

This country was torn asunder, its national fabric rent by dissent and divisions and its character buffeted by winds of horrendous change.

A Republican President has seen us through this time of national crisis, just as in another time the first Republican President used his great moral strength to keep our country from permanently splitting apart and gave it the God-loving leadership it so desperately needed.

Why do we love and revere Abraham Lincoln? We cherish him for his insight and wisdom, his great courage and his tenderness, and most of all his devotion to what he thought was right.

President Nixon is much like Lincoln. He has insight. He is sensitive. He is determined to uphold that which he believes to be right.

I think it is because of this that Richard Nixon was able to lead us out of the darkness of civil strife, out of the toils of a government so bogged down with welfare state bureaucracy as to be almost immobile, and out of the nightmare of a horrible little war halfway around the world in which there could be no hope of victory.

Think how far we have come in the last four years—as a people and as a Nation.

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Years of rioting had wrecked our cities. Years of senseless war had robbed our youth of respect for their own national birthright. An agonising economic dilemma existed, a dilemma that told us we would only have prosperity if the war (more)
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Above all, the cosmic cataclysm of nuclear war seemed all too possible.

Look around you now. Let's take stock of what America is like today.

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It meant the people approved of the President's conduct of his office and his innovative foreign policy. And I think the people want the Democratic majority in the Congress to work with the President—not against him.

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If the Democrats try to put the New Deal back together again, they will be (more)
making a terrible mistake—in terms of the country's welfare and in terms of their party's political future. The New Deal is dead. And yet for the last decade the Democratic Party has been drifting to the left.

The American people, I am thoroughly convinced, reject all extremism—of the right and the left.

If the Democrats try to keep the old New Deal gravy train running, the American people will derail it. The Democrats may well continue to be inclined leftward and so I see more Republican victories in 1974.

I am convinced that the Republican Party will still become the majority party in the United States. I have never despaired of that because the Republican Party is a party of principle—and that is our strongest point.

Abraham Lincoln put it this way: "Our principle, however baffled or delayed, will finally triumph, I do not permit myself to doubt. The principle will remain, and will reproduce another, and another, till the final triumph will come."

Let us hold true to our principles. If we do, the time will come as surely as the night follows the day—we will prevail.

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