

**The original documents are located in Box 6, folder “3/26/75 - White House Republican Reception” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies 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. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections.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.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

*[Handwritten signature]*

# WHITE HOUSE REPUBLICAN RECEPTION

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1975

I AM DELIGHTED SO MANY OF YOU COULD JOIN BETTY  
AND ME THIS EVENING, BECAUSE IT GIVES ME THE OPPORTUNITY  
TO TELL YOU HOW MUCH I APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS. I CAN  
THINK OF NO BETTER WAY TO THANK THE MOVERS AND MOTIVATORS  
OF THE GRAND OLD PARTY -- THAN TO HAVE A GRAND OLD PARTY  
RIGHT HERE IN THE WHITE HOUSE.

AND AS I LOOK ABOUT ME THIS EVENING, AT YOUR  
ENERGY, YOUR VITALITY, YOUR DRIVE AND YOUR ENTHUSIASM --  
I LOOK FORWARD TO A NEW REPUBLICAN RENAISSANCE. THIS  
WON'T BE THE GRAVEYARD OF THE ELEPHANTS!

MANY OF YOU ARE OLD ASSOCIATES. YOU AND I HAVE  
WORKED SUCCESSFULLY TOGETHER BEFORE AND I KNOW WE WILL CONTINUE  
TO DO SO IN THE FUTURE. TO SHOW YOU WHAT HIGH VALUE I PUT  
ON OLD ASSOCIATES -- LET ME JUST POINT OUT THAT FIVE MEMBERS  
OF MY TOP PERSONAL STAFF ARE FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL CAMPAIGN  
COMMITTEE: MILT FRIEDMAN, PAUL THEIS, BOB ORBEN, JACK CALKINS  
AND KAYE PULLEN ALL SERVED ON THE HILL.

I REALLY SHOULDN'T SAY "OLD" ASSOCIATES.

FOR INSTANCE, IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT MILT FRIEDMAN, WHO

MANY OF YOU KNOW, IS WASHINGTON'S MOST ELIGIBLE,

MOST ATTRACTIVE, AND MOST SOPHISTICATED BACHELOR.

AND TONIGHT YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET THE ONE

WHO SAID IT -- MILT FRIEDMAN.

AND AS YOU MAY KNOW, MY TOP STAFF ALSO  
INCLUDES GWEN ANDERSON, FORMERLY A MEMBER OF THE  
NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

THE JOB BEFORE US, AS A PARTY, IS IMMENSE.

BUT I MEANT EXACTLY WHAT I SAID EARLIER THIS MONTH AT THE

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE. WE ARE GOING UP FROM NOW ON.

WE ARE GOING TO RECAPTURE SEATS WE LOST IN 1974. WE ARE

GOING TO TAKE SEATS THAT WE HAVEN'T HELD BEFORE. AND

WE ARE GOING TO TAKE OVER STATEHOUSES ALL ACROSS THIS COUNTRY.



YOU KNOW, SOMETIMES WE GET SO CAUGHT UP IN  
OUR OWN CONCERNS, WE FORGET THE DEMOCRATS HAVE PROBLEMS  
TOO. AS I POINTED OUT AT THE GRIDIRON DINNER LAST  
SATURDAY NIGHT, THE DEMOCRATS ARE FACED WITH ONE OF THE  
MOST PRESSING AND SIGNIFICANT QUESTIONS OF OUR TIME.  
THEY NOW HAVE TO DECIDE IF MOE UDALL'S CAMPAIGN FOR PRESIDENT --  
HAS PEAKED TOO SOON!

IN THE UPCOMING CAMPAIGNS, YOUR WORK WILL BE MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER BEFORE, FOR TWO REASONS:

FIRST, THE CAMPAIGNS WILL BE SHOE-LEATHER CAMPAIGNS TO A HIGH DEGREE. THIS IS SO -- LARGELY BECAUSE OF THE LIMITS ON CONTRIBUTIONS AND SPENDING UNDER THE NEW LAW.

SECOND, YOUR FUND-RAISING EFFORTS FOR ALL CANDIDATES WILL BE CRUCIAL, CRITICAL PARTS OF OUR TOTAL EFFORT.

I AM ALSO GREATLY PLEASED TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY  
TO THANK EVERY ONE OF YOU FOR THE TREMENDOUSLY SUCCESSFUL,  
STANDING-ROOM ONLY, LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE EARLIER THIS MONTH.  
MY SPECIAL THANKS GO TO MARY LOUISE SMITH, EDDIE MAHE (MYY)  
AND TO THE FIVE VERY CAPABLE LADIES WHO WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN THE  
DRAMATIC SUCCESS OF THE CONFERENCE -- KIT DONAHUE (DONNA-HUE),  
JACKIE NYSTROM (NYE-STRUM), CATHY BERTINI (BER-TEENIE),  
JANE GRIGOR (GRIGG-ER) AND CHERYL JACKSON.

LOOKING AHEAD, I CONGRATULATE EACH OF YOU  
ON THE HARD WORK YOU ARE PUTTING IN ON THE SENATE-HOUSE  
FUND-RAISING DINNER NEXT MONTH -- TO HELP RAISE MONEY  
FOR THE 1976 CAMPAIGNS.

IF WE ARE GOING TO BROADEN THE BASE OF THE PARTY --  
TO MAKE THE POLITICS OF ADDITION -- INSTEAD OF SUBTRACTION --  
WORK, WE MUST COMMIT OURSELVES AGAIN AND AGAIN TO  
ACCOMMODATION, CONCILIATION AND COOPERATION -- NOT TO  
MENTION HARD WORK. THE SPIRIT I SEE HERE THIS EVENING  
IS THE BEST PROOF THAT WE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL.

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK. THANK YOU ALL --  
VERY MUCH.

END OF TEXT