The original documents are located in Box 14, "8/19/75 - Minnesota GOP Reception, Minnesota" of the President's Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN ....

MINNESOTA GOP RECEPTION

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1975

## GOP - RALLY

Thank you, Chuck Slocum (State Chairman)
Representative Bill Frenzel
Representative Al Quie
Representative Tom Hagedorn
Mrs. Ring (State Chairwoman)
Distinguished Guests
Ladies and Gentlemen

## (ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS)

YOU KNOW, EVERY VISIT I'VE EVER MADE TO

MINNESOTA HAS BEEN MEMORABLE AND THIS IS NO EXCEPTION.

AS I WAS GETTING OFF THE PLANE AT TWIN CITIES INTERNATIONAL

AIRPORT, AN AMAZING THING HAPPENED. SOMEBODY

ASKED ME HOW TO GET TO THE STATE CAPITOL IN ST. PAUL.

WHAT MADE IT SO AMAZING -- IT WAS GOVERNOR ANDERSON.

LAND OF 10,000 LAKES -- WHICH I UNDERSTAND IS NOW KNOWN AS

THE LAND OF 15,000 LAKES. AND IN A WAY, THAT RECOUNT COULD

BE A GREAT LESSON FOR THE REPUBLICAN PARTY. LIKE THOSE

LAKES, I THINK THERE ARE A LOT MORE REPUBLICANS HERE IN

MINNESOTA THAN ANY OF US REALIZE. WE JUST HAVE TO GO OUT

AND FIND THEM!

THERE'S BEEN QUITE A PARADE OF MY ASSOCIATES

FROM WASHINGTON COMING TO MINNESOTA LATELY. SECRETARY
KISSINGER WAS HERE LAST MONTH. SO WAS SECRETARY BUTZ.
I THOUGHT I'D BETTER COME OUT AND SEE FOR MYSELF WHAT WAS
ATTRACTING EVERYBODY TO MINNESOTA.

WHAT I FOUND WAS WHAT I'VE KNOWN FOR YEARS:

MINNESOTA IS ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL STATES IN THE UNION.

IT HAS SOME OF THE FRIENDLIEST PEOPLE ANYWHERE. AND IT

HAS SOME OF THE HARDEST-WORKING, MOST DEDICATED REPUBLICANS

I'VE EVER MET.

I'M VERY GLAD TO BE HERE TODAY. AND I'M
ESPECIALLY HAPPY TO SEE THE SAME KIND OF ENTHUSIASM THAT
I'M SEEING AT REPUBLICAN MEETINGS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.

## I'M EXTREMELY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT REPUBLICAN

PROSPECTS FOR NEXT YEAR'S ELECTIONS. I THINK WE'RE

GOING TO HAVE THE CANDIDATES, THE ISSUES, THE MONEY, THE

WORKERS AND THE VOTES TO WIN A LOT OF ELECTIONS. BUT

IT'LL TAKE A LOT OF HARD WORK -- HERE IN MINNESOTA AND ALL

OVER AMERICA.

IF WE ARE TO CAPITALIZE ON THE OPPORTUNITIES

AHEAD OF US, WE MUST REACH OUT TO THAT GREAT AMERICAN

MAJORITY THAT DOES THE NATION'S WORK, PAYS THE NATION'S

BILLS, PROVIDES FOR THE NATION'S DEFENSE, AND OBSERVES

THE NATION'S LAWS.

NO MATTER THE COLOR OF THEIR SKIN, THE RELIGION

THEY PRACTICE, THE POLITICS THEY VOTE, THESE SOLID AMERICANS

ARE THE REPUBLICAN PARTY'S NATURAL CONSTITUENCY. THEY

ARE THE PEOPLE TO WHOM WE MUST TELL OUR STORY -- OVER

AND OVER AGAIN -- THIS YEAR AND NEXT YEAR.

AFTER ONE YEAR AS PRESIDENT, I AM EVEN MORE

FIRMLY CONVINCED THAT REPUBLICAN PRINCIPLES ARE REALLY WHAT

MOST AMERICANS BELIEVE IN. SPECIFICALLY, AS REPUBLICANS:

-- WE BELIEVE IN THE FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM AND
IN LIFTING THE HEAVY HAND OF GOVERNMENT FROM BUSINESS SO
THAT THE SYSTEM CAN WORK MOST EFFECTIVELY.

- -- WE BELIEVE IN FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND IN KEEPING FEDERAL SPENDING TO LEVELS WHICH WILL NOT TRIGGER FURTHER INFLATION.
- THE BEST WAY TO INSURE PEACE AND AN ADEQUATE DEFENSE BUDGET
  TO INSURE OUR SECURITY.

- -- WE BELIEVE IN CONTROL OF OUR AFFAIRS BY

  STATE AND LOCAL LEVEL OFFICIALS CLOSE TO THE PEOPLE RATHER

  THAN BY A REMOTE BUREAUCRACY.
- -- MOST IMPORTANTLY, WE BELIEVE IN FREEDOM
  FOR THE INDIVIDUAL AND IN RETAINING THE UNIQUENESS OF
  THE INDIVIDUAL PERSONALITY.

WE ARE HEADING RAPIDLY INTO A VERY IMPORTANT CAMPAIGN.

NEXT YEAR'S ELECTIONS AT EVERY LEVEL -- LOCAL,

STATE AND NATIONAL -- WILL BE A CRITICAL TEST OF OUR ABILITY

TO CONVINCE THE MAJORITY OF AMERICANS THAT REPUBLICANS

CARE ABOUT THE THINGS THAT CONCERN MOST PEOPLE TODAY,

THAT WE'RE READY TO LISTEN TO THEM, THAT WE'RE PREPARED

TO WORK OUR HARDEST AND DO OUR BEST FOR THEM.

IT IS MY HOPE AND MY CONFIDENT BELIEF THAT

IF WE ARE SUCCESSFUL IN GETTING THIS MESSAGE ACROSS TO

THE PEOPLE -- OVER AND OVER AGAIN -- 1976 CAN BE A GREAT

YEAR FOR THE REPUBLICAN PARTY, HERE IN MINNESOTA AND

THROUGHOUT AMERICA.

WE CAN MAKE THE FUTURE YEARS GREAT ONES FOR

OUR COUNTRY. I'VE COME HERE TO ASK FOR YOUR HELP

IN THAT EFFORT. I WANT TO THANK YOU NOW FOR WHAT

YOU'VE DONE AND WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO DO. I AM CONFIDENT

THAT WE'LL SHARE A GREAT REPUBLICAN VICTORY IN 1976.

TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE IT A BANNER YEAR. LET'S MAKE

SURE THE BANNER SAYS "REPUBLICAN."

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

**END OF TEXT**