

The original documents are located in Box 15, “9/4/75 - Remarks at a GOP Fundraising Luncheon (\$25 per person), Seattle, Washington” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN. . .

SEATTLE \$25 DOLLAR GOP LUNCHEON

SEPTEMBER 4, 1975

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN. . .

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS -- \$25.00 FUNDRAISER

THANK YOU, GOVERNOR DAN EVANS

SENATOR BOB PACKWOOD

CONGRESSMAN JOEL PRITCHARD

CHAIRMAN ROSS DAVIS (STATE CHAIRMAN)

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

FYI -- OTHER NOTABLES: SLADE GORTON (ATTORNEY GENERAL)

BRUCE CHAPMAN (SECRETARY OF STATE)

JOHN SPELLMAN (KING COUNTY

EXECUTIVE AND 1976

GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE

- 1 -

IT IS A REAL PLEASURE TO BE HERE IN WASHINGTON AGAIN.

I ALWAYS ENJOY COMING BACK TO SEATTLE, IN PARTICULAR, BECAUSE

OF YOUR GREAT WEATHER. . . . ESPECIALLY LAST MONTH. . . . IT'S ALWAYS

NICE TO KNOW THERE'S SOMETHING THAT BAD THAT ISN'T BEING

BLAMED ON THE WHITE HOUSE.

- 2 -

I'M HAPPY TO SEE SO MANY OF YOU HERE TODAY.

I APPRECIATE YOUR WARM WELCOME AND YOUR ENTHUSIASM.

THAT ENTHUSIASM MUST BE CONTAGIOUS, BECAUSE I'VE

SEEN IT AT REPUBLICAN EVENTS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY IN RECENT

WEEKS. I LIKE WHAT I SEE.

- 3 -

I'M GLAD TO BE HERE WITH GOVERNOR DAN EVANS AGAIN.

DAN HAS DONE A MAGNIFICENT JOB AS GOVERNOR OF THIS STATE FOR
THE PAST ELEVEN YEARS, AND I'M SURE THAT THE PEOPLE OF
WASHINGTON WILL WANT TO CONTINUE IN 1976 THE SAME KIND OF
DYNAMIC REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP WHICH DAN HAS SO SKILLFULLY
PROVIDED FOR MORE THAN A DECADE.

- 4 -

DAN, YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF FRIENDS IN THIS ROOM AND
ALL OVER THE STATE AND I'M PROUD TO NUMBER MYSELF AMONG THEM.

I'M ALSO HAPPY TO BE IN THE COMPANY OF SEATTLE'S
OUTSTANDING CONGRESSMAN, JOEL PRITCHARD. JOEL AND I
SERVED ONLY ONE YEAR TOGETHER IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

- 5 -

BUT I COULD TELL EVEN FROM THAT RELATIVELY BRIEF EXPERIENCE
THAT JOEL WOULD PROVE TO BE AN EFFECTIVE, HARD-WORKING MEMBER
OF CONGRESS. BUT HE NEEDS HELP. I URGE YOU TO SEND
MORE REPUBLICANS TO CONGRESS FROM THIS GREAT STATE TO WORK
WITH JOEL IN MAKING SURE AMERICA CONTINUES TO MOVE FORWARD.

- 6 -

YOU HAVE A GREAT PARTY CHAIRMAN IN ROSS DAVIS.
WITH THE KIND OF ENTHUSIASM AND SUPPORT I SEE HERE TODAY,
I KNOW ROSS WILL WORK WONDERS FOR THE PARTY IN THE MONTHS
AHEAD.

I KNOW THAT WASHINGTONIANS ARE SOME OF THE
MOST INDEPENDENT-MINDED PEOPLE IN AMERICA. AND I THINK
THAT'S JUST GREAT.

I ALSO THINK THE REPUBLICAN PARTY HAS A LOT TO SAY
TO THE INDEPENDENT-MINDED VOTER -- SO LET'S REACH OUT TO THESE
INDEPENDENTS AND BRING THEM INTO THE PARTY WHICH MOST
CLOSELY REFLECTS THEIR VIEWS AND THEIR PHILOSOPHY.

THE INDEPENDENT VOTER, IT SEEMS TO ME, IS CONCERNED
MORE WITH THE FUTURE OF HIS COUNTRY THAN WITH THE FORTUNES
OF ONE POLITICAL PARTY OR ANOTHER.

HE IS CONCERNED WITH ECONOMIC PROGRESS, ENERGY
INDEPENDENCE, NATIONAL DEFENSE, THE PURSUIT OF JUSTICE AND
THE PROTECTION OF SOCIETY IN AMERICA. HE WANTS A GOOD
EDUCATION, GOOD HOUSING, GOOD HEALTH CARE AND GOOD FOOD
FOR HIS FAMILY -- AND AT PRICES HE CAN AFFORD.

THESE ARE BASIC CONCERNS THAT AFFECT ALL OUR LIVES --

REGARDLESS OF OUR POLITICAL PERSUASION. THESE ARE THE

ELEMENTS THAT HELP DETERMINE THE QUALITY OF OUR PRIVATE LIVES,

FAR MORE THAN DETERMINING THE ISSUES FOR POLITICAL DEBATE.

IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN AMERICA IS THE

GREAT CHALLENGE WE FACE AS WE ENTER OUR THIRD CENTURY OF

INDEPENDENCE JUST TEN MONTHS FROM TODAY.

IN OUR FIRST HUNDRED YEARS, OUR MOST URGENT
GOAL WAS TO ESTABLISH FIRMLY AND SECURELY A SYSTEM OF
GOVERNMENT AND AN ORDER OF SOCIETY THAT WOULD SAFEGUARD OUR
LIBERTIES AND ALLOW PROGRESS TO FLOURISH IN OUR LAND.

OUR FREEDOMS AND OUR FORM OF GOVERNMENT WERE
MARVELS FOR THE WORLD, AND THE PROMISE OF AMERICA GAVE
HOPE TO MILLIONS OF OPPRESSED PEOPLE ALL AROUND THE GLOBE.

AMERICA'S SECOND CENTURY OF INDEPENDENCE WAS DEVOTED
TO INCREASING OUR MATERIAL WEALTH, MAKING THE MOST OF THE
INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION, EXPANDING WESTWARD. OUR CIVILIZATION
ADVANCED DURING THIS PERIOD AT AN INCREDIBLE PACE, WITH A HOST
OF INVENTIONS AND DISCOVERIES THAT MADE OUR LIVES MORE
PLEASURABLE AND OUR WORK MORE PROFITABLE.

AMERICA'S PAST, LIKE ITS PRESENT, IS A MIXTURE OF
SUCCESSSES AND SETBACKS, OF GOOD AND BAD. THE FUTURE,
IN THIS SENSE, WILL BE NO DIFFERENT. AND YET THE FUTURE
MUST BE DIFFERENT.

WE MUST RECLAIM OUR INDEPENDENCE FROM THOSE HUGE
INSTITUTIONS OF SOCIETY WHICH HAVE COME SO CLOSE TO SNUFFING
OUT THE FIRE OF PERSONAL INITIATIVE AND INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT.

WE MUST REDEDICATE OURSELVES TO THOSE GREAT
PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM AND EQUALITY WHICH FIRST GAVE LIFE AND
PURPOSE TO THIS GREAT NATION.

WE MUST DEMONSTRATE THAT, FAR FROM BEING IN A
STATE OF DECLINE, AMERICA AND ITS PEOPLE ARE PREPARED FOR
ADVENTURES AND ACHIEVEMENTS FAR EXCELLING ANY WE HAVE SEEN
IN THE PAST.

WE MUST AGREE THAT A SUCCESSFUL BLEND OF PERSONAL
INITIATIVE, PRIVATE ENTERPRISE AND PUBLIC SERVICE WILL COME
CLOSER TO SOLVING OUR PROBLEMS AND REALIZING OUR POTENTIAL
THAN WILL TOTAL RELIANCE ON THE MASSIVE, MUSCLE-BOUND
BUREAUCRACY OF GOVERNMENT.

TOO MANY AMERICANS HAVE RELIED TOO MUCH, FOR
TOO LONG ON THE GOVERNMENT IN WASHINGTON TO MEET THEIR
DEMANDS | GRANT THEIR WISHES AND SOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS.

I THINK IT'S TIME WE LOOK ELSEWHERE -- MORE TO
WASHINGTON STATE, FOR EXAMPLE, AND LESS TO WASHINGTON, D.C.
WE SHOULD LOOK IN THE OFFICES AND SHOPS, THE FACTORIES, THE
FARMS, THE LABORATORIES, THE HOMES, THE SCHOOLS AND THE
CHURCHES OF AMERICA.

THERE IS WHERE THE REAL STRENGTH AND PROMISE AND

POTENTIAL OF AMERICA RESIDE. THERE IS WHERE TO FIND THE

CREATIVE GENIUS, THE KNACK FOR PROBLEM-SOLVING, THE PIONEERING

SPIRIT, AND THE YANKEE INGENUITY FOR WHICH THIS COUNTRY

IS SO WELL-KNOWN.

I AM CONVINCED THAT IF WE SHOULDER MORE OF LIFE'S

RESPONSIBILITIES OURSELVES, AND TAKE A MORE PERSONAL STAKE IN

THE LIFE AND SUCCESS OF THIS NATION, WE CAN TRULY MAKE A FRESH

START IN AMERICA, EVEN AS WE CELEBRATE OUR 200TH BIRTHDAY.

IN OUR THIRD CENTURY, WE SHOULD SEEK TO ENHANCE
THE INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM OF EACH OF OUR CITIZENS AND STRIVE TO
MAKE AMERICA'S CIVILIZATION THE WONDER OF THE WORLD. AND WE
SHOULD GAUGE THE PROGRESS OF OUR CIVILIZATION NOT JUST BY OUR
STANDARD OF LIVING BUT BY THE QUALITY OF OUR LIVES.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IS PREPARED TO HELP GUIDE THAT
PROGRESS.

PERHAPS MORE THAN AT ANY TIME IN OUR HISTORY, OUR
PARTY'S PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES MATCH THE HOPES OF THE
AMERICAN PEOPLE.

OUR REPUBLICAN COMMITMENTS TO FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

IN GOVERNMENT, TO A VIGOROUS FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM, TO A

STRONG NATIONAL DEFENSE, TO LOCAL CONTROL OVER LOCAL CONCERNS,

AND TO PERSONAL FREEDOM FOR THE INDIVIDUAL -- ARE COMMITMENTS

SHARED BY THE VAST MAJORITY OF AMERICANS AND WASHINGTONIANS.

WE BELIEVE, AS ABRAHAM LINCOLN SAID, THAT

GOVERNMENT SHOULD ONLY DO FOR PEOPLE WHAT THEY CANNOT DO AS

WELL FOR THEMSELVES.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE GROWN WEARY

OF GOVERNMENT'S OVERBLOWN PROMISES AND OVERBEARING CONTROLS.

WE BELIEVE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE READY TO DO
GREAT THINGS FOR THEMSELVES AND FOR THEIR COUNTRY.

WE ARE PREPARED TO GOVERN -- BUT NOT TO DOMINATE --
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. THAT IS OUR PLEDGE FOR THE COMING
CAMPAIGN AND FOR THE YEARS AHEAD.

WE CAN MAKE THOSE YEARS GREAT ONES FOR AMERICA --
SO MUCH SO THAT WE AND OUR CHILDREN AND THEIR CHILDREN MAY
SAY WITH NEW MEANING AND FRESH ENTHUSIASM THE WORDS OF
DANIEL WEBSTER: "THANK GOD. I AM AN AMERICAN."

END OF TEXT