

The original documents are located in Box 15, “9/12/75 - Remarks at the GOP Fundraiser Dinner, Kansas City, Missouri” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Acknowledgments

- Thank you, DUTTON (Dinner chairman
Dutton Brookfield)
- Governor Kit Bond
- Lt. Gov. BILL PHELPS
- CONGRESSMAN GENE TAYLOR
- Atty. GEN. JACK DANFORTH
- Lowell McCuskey (State Chairman)
- Ladies and Gentlemen

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS

KANSAS CITY GOP FUNDRAISER DINNER

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

SEPTEMBER 12, 1975

IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE TO BE HERE IN KANSAS CITY,
THE HOME OF NEXT YEAR'S REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION.

I KNOW IT ISN'T EASY PLAYING HOST TO A NATIONAL CONVENTION.

I KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE SOME PROBLEMS.

BUT I ALSO KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO SOLVE THEM.

AS YOU ALL KNOW, THERE WERE A NUMBER OF CITIES
IN CONTENTION FOR THE HONOR OF 1976 CONVENTION CITY.
EACH OF THEM HAD ITS UNIQUE ATTRACTIONS. BUT I COMMEND
THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR ITS EXCELLENT CHOICE OF
KANSAS CITY. I LOOK FORWARD TO COMING BACK NEXT YEAR.

IN FACT, I ALWAYS LOOK FORWARD TO VISITING
MISSOURI, THE HOME STATE OF THE MAN FROM INDEPENDENCE,
HARRY TRUMAN, FOR WHOM I HOLD HIGH REGARD.

BUT AS MUCH AS I RESPECTED PRESIDENT TRUMAN, I
AM HAPPY TO SEE A BRIGHT NEW GENERATION OF LEADERS
SPRINGING UP IN THIS STATE. I AM ESPECIALLY PLEASED
THAT THESE ATTRACTIVE NEW LEADERS ARE REPUBLICANS.

KIT BOND, FOR EXAMPLE, HAS DONE A MAGNIFICENT JOB

AS YOUR GOVERNOR SINCE HIS ELECTION IN 1972. HE'S ALSO

A GREAT ASSET FOR THE REPUBLICAN PARTY -- AND WE'LL HEAR

A LOT MORE ABOUT HIM IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

A handwritten signature in black ink. The signature consists of the letters 'K' and 'B' connected by a horizontal line, with 'I' and 'O' written below them. A large, sweeping flourish extends from the bottom of the 'B' across the bottom of the signature.

HIS "JOBS FOR MISSOURIANS" PROGRAM AND HIS MANY OTHER
INNOVATIVE, FOWARD-LOOKING PROGRAMS HAVE PROVIDED THIS
STATE WITH BETTER GOVERNMENT AND HAVE HELPED MAKE HIM A
PUBLIC SERVANT OF THE FIRST RANK.

THAT RANKING APPLIES, TOO, TO YOUR OUTSTANDING
ATTORNEY GENERAL, JACK DANFORTH; TO GENE TAYLOR, YOUR
VERY HARD-WORKING, CAPABLE REPRESENTATIVE FROM YOUR
SEVENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT; AND TO A MAN WITH THE BEST
NICKNAME I'VE HEARD IN YEARS, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

"FULL-TIME" PHELPS.

THESE MEN, TOGETHER WITH AN EXCELLENT TEAM OF
REPUBLICAN STATE LEGISLATORS, ARE GIVING THIS STATE THE
KIND OF LEADERSHIP, THE KIND OF REPRESENTATION, THE KIND
OF GOVERNMENT YOU WANT -- FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE,
FORWARD-LOOKING, RESPONSIVE -- IN THE BEST TRADITION OF
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

BY COMING HERE TODAY, YOU HAVE MADE A GENEROUS
AND SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO YOUR PARTY'S ELECTION
PROSPECTS NEXT YEAR. FOR IT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT THAT
WE RE-ELECT GOOD MEN LIKE KIT BOND, THAT WE PICK UP
ADDITIONAL SEATS IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE AND IN YOUR
CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION. AND I WANT TO SEE A
MISSOURI REPUBLICAN IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE IN 1976.

THIS GREAT STATE HAS OFTEN BEEN CALLED A MICROCOSM
OF AMERICA: AN AMERICA IN MINIATURE.

AN EDITORIAL IN A ST. LOUIS NEWSPAPER SEVERAL YEARS
AGO SAID -- AND I QUOTE: "MISSOURI IS MORE THAN A
HEARTLAND. THE HEART IS ALSO THE WHOLE. MISSOURI
IS ALL AMERICA IN ONE PLACE.

IT IS THE STATES OF THE UNION JOINED TOGETHER, SUPERIMPOSED
ON ONE ANOTHER, FUSED INTO A COMPOSITE OF MANY OUTLOOKS
AND MOODS AND EXPERIENCES AND WAYS OF THINKING AND
SPEAKING AND DOING THINGS."

THAT'S AN EXCELLENT DESCRIPTION OF MISSOURI.

IT'S ALSO A GOOD DESCRIPTION OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY TODAY.

OUR PARTY IS RICH IN DIVERSITY. WITHIN OUR

PARTY'S RANKS ARE MEN AND WOMEN OF ALMOST EVERY POLITICAL

STRIPE: CONSERVATIVE, LIBERAL AND MODERATE. WE HAVE

PEOPLE FROM EVERY WALK OF LIFE, PEOPLE OF EVERY RACE AND

OF THOUSANDS OF DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS.



WE SOMETIMES DIFFER WITHIN OUR OWN PARTY ABOUT THE
BEST WAY TO DEAL WITH INDIVIDUAL PROBLEMS FACINT THE NATION.

BUT I LOOK ON THESE DIFFERENCES AS STIMULATING BECAUSE THEY

BREED CONSTRUCTIVE COMPROMISE AND LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR

POLICIES AND PROGRAMS THAT ATTRACT WIDESPREAD PUBLIC SUPPORT.

BUT EVEN AS WE DISAGREE ON SOME ISSUES, THERE ARE
CERTAIN BASIC PRINCIPLES OF GOVERNMENT TO WHICH WE ARE
FIRMLY COMMITTED -- WHICH UNITE US AS REPUBLICANS.

REPEATEDLY, THE DEMOCRATIC-CONTROLLED CONGRESS
HAS SOUGHT TO PUSH THE FEDERAL DEFICIT HIGHER AND HIGHER
WITH ITS PROPOSED SPENDING BILLS -- FOR SOME GOOD CAUSES,
SOME BAD ONES -- AND FOR EVEN SOME LOST CAUSES.

OUTNUMBERED AS REPUBLICANS ARE IN THE CONGRESS,
THE ONLY AVAILABLE WEAPON TO COMBAT THIS UNWARRANTED
AND EXCESSIVE SPENDING OF YOUR TAX DOLLARS IS THE VETO --
AND I MAY BE FORCED TO USE IT A FEW MORE TIMES BEFORE I'M
THROUGH. BUT FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY MUST BE RESTORED
TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE PROBLEM OF EVER-PRESENT
INFLATION CURBED.

DESPITE HOW SOME OF THE DEMOCRATS IN THE CONGRESS
INTERPRET THESE ACTIONS, LET ME REMIND YOU THAT THE VETO
WAS PUT INTO THE CONSTITUTION FOR A SPECIFIC PURPOSE --
AND ITS USE REFLECTS A POSITIVE ASPECT OF OUR TRIPARTITE
SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT.

FROM MY 25 YEARS IN THE CONGRESS AND THE TIME I HAVE
SPENT IN THE WHITE HOUSE, I AM CONVINCED BEYOND DOUBT THAT
THE FOUNDING FATHERS PUT THE VETO POWER IN THE CONSTITUTION
AS A VITAL PART OF OUR SYSTEM OF CHECKS AND BALANCES.

RECENT HISTORY BEARS THIS OUT. PRESIDENT TRUMAN

EXERCISED THE VETO 250 TIMES AND WAS OVERRIDDEN ONLY 12 TIMES.

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER USED IT 181 TIMES. HE WAS OVERRIDDEN

ONLY TWICE. BUT AGAIN AND AGAIN THE RESULT OF THE INITIAL

VETO WAS TO BRING THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS TOGETHER

TO WORK OUT A COMPROMISE MEASURE -- USUALLY A SOUNDER,

MORE RESPONSIBLE MEASURE THAN THE ORIGINAL ONE.

LET ME EMPHASIZE THIS: THE BUSINESS OF GOVERNMENT

IS TO HELP, NOT TO INTERFERE WITH THE LIVES, THE BUSINESSES,

THE OCCUPATIONS, THE PROFESSIONS, THE FAMILY LIFE OF THE

AMERICAN PEOPLE.

THERE ARE TIMES WHEN THE PRESIDENT'S VETO MUST BE
USED TO KEEP THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FROM OVEREXTENDING ITS
OPERATIONS AT THE INDIVIDUAL'S EXPENSE -- IN TERMS OF SUCH
INFRINGEMENTS AS LOST DOLLARS AND LOST INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS.

THE EXCESSIVE GROWTH OF FEDERAL SPENDING AND
INTERFERENCE HAS ALREADY INFLICTED AN INCREDIBLE TOLL IN TAXES,
LOSS OF INCENTIVE AND ECONOMIC DAMAGE TO THE PUBLIC.

WE CAN'T SPEND MORE THAN WE EARN WITHOUT ENDLESS
BORROWING.

THE BORROWING AND SPENDING, AS I SEE IT, MUST END --
AND END NOW.

I'M GRATEFUL FOR THE HELP I'VE BEEN GETTING IN THIS
EFFORT FROM MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS LIKE GENE TAYLOR AND
MOST OTHER RESPONSIBLE REPUBLICANS -- AND EVEN SOME
DISCERNING DEMOCRATS.

BUT FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY IS ONLY ONE PRINCIPLE OF
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY -- ONLY ONE DISTINCTION OF THE
REPUBLICAN OFFICEHOLDER.

WE ALSO BELIEVE IN LOCAL CONTROL OVER LOCAL CONCERNS,
IN A STRONG NATIONAL DEFENSE AND A STRONG COMMITMENT TO
PEACE. WE BELIEVE IN A VIGOROUS AND PROSPEROUS FREE
ENTERPRISE SYSTEM AND IN PERSONAL FREEDOM FOR THE INDIVIDUAL.

THESE PRINCIPLES ARE NOT CAST IN THE RIGID MOLD OF
CONSERVATIVE OR LIBERAL IDEOLOGY. THEY REFLECT A
COMMON-SENSE ATTITUDE TOWARD GOVERNMENT.

YOU HAVE MADE A GREAT START, RIGHT HERE IN THE
"SHOW ME" STATE -- SHOWING PEOPLE THAT REPUBLICAN
GOVERNMENT IS GOOD GOVERNMENT, THAT REPUBLICAN PRINCIPLES
ARE IN TUNE WITH THE NEEDS AND ASPIRATION OF MOST AMERICANS.

LET'S TAKE THAT MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE.

LET'S SHOW THEM THAT A VICTORY FOR REPUBLICANS IS ALSO

A VICTORY FOR THEM AND FOR THE FUTURE OF AMERICA.

AND LET'S SHARE A GREAT VICTORY TOGETHER ON NOVEMBER 2, 1976.

END OF TEXT

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

CLEARANCE FORM FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH MATERIAL

TO: THE PRESIDENT

VIA: ROBERT HARTMANN

FROM: PAUL A. THEIS

SUBJECT: Capital Club Reception

TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF PRESIDENTIAL USE: _____

7:45 p.m., Friday, September 12, Kansas City, Kansas

SPEECHWRITER: Butler

EDITED BY: Theis

BASIC RESEARCH/SPEECH MATERIAL SUPPLIED BY:

RNC, Research and Scheduling

CLEARED BY (Please initial):

- () OPERATIONS (Rumsfeld) _____
- () CONGRESSIONAL/PUBLIC LIAISON (Marsh) _____
- () PRESS (Nessen) _____
- (X) LEGAL (Buchen) _____
- () ECONOMIC POLICY BOARD (Seidman) _____
- () OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (Lynn) _____
- () DOMESTIC COUNCIL (Cannon) _____
- () NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL (Scowcroft) _____
- (X) RESEARCH (Waldron) AW
- () MARGITA WHITE (FYI) _____
- () ENERGY RESOURCES COUNCIL (Zarb) _____
- () COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS (Greenspan) _____
- () OFFICE OF PUBLIC LIAISON (Baroody) _____
- (X) Jack Calkins [Signature]
- () _____