

The original documents are located in Box 35, “6/23/76 - Remarks to Guests Attending the Fundraising Reception at the Capitol Hill Club, Washington D.C.” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN. ~~.....~~

REMARKS TO CAPITOL HILL CLUB

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 1976

WE'RE JUST DELIGHTED TO BE AT THE CAPITOL HILL CLUB
TONIGHT -- AND SEEING SO MANY OF OUR GOOD FRIENDS ONCE AGAIN.

AS YOU KNOW MY ADMINISTRATION HAS GOTTEN SOMETHING
OF A REPUTATION FOR BUDGET CUTTING, PARTICULARLY FOR SOME OF
THOSE ITEMS PROPOSED BY OUR FRIENDS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE AISLE.
WELL TONIGHT, WE WANT TO CUT THE BUDGET OF THE CAPITOL HILL CLUB
BY RETIRING ITS SECOND MORTGAGE. IF YOU ARE AS HELPFUL
WITH YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS, AS YOU HAVE BEEN IN SUSTAINING
MY VETOES, WE OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO PAY THE WHOLE THING OFF
TONIGHT.

THIS YEAR IS THE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL
REPUBLICAN CLUB. I REMEMBER WHEN WE STARTED UP.

I WAS BEGINNING MY SECOND TERM IN CONGRESS. WE WERE
LOOKING FORWARD TO ELECTING A REPUBLICAN PRESIDENT IN 1952 --
AND BY STANDING TOGETHER, WE ACHIEVED VICTORY THAT YEAR.

AFTER THE 1974 ELECTION, SOME CYNICS TOLD US
THE NEW CONGRESS WAS VETO PROOF. BUT THE VETO-PROOF CONGRESS
GOT VETOED 49 TIMES. FORTY-TWO OF THOSE VETOES WERE SUSTAINED
AND THE AMERICAN TAXPAYER WAS SAVED 13 BILLION DOLLARS.
AND WE WON THOSE 42 BATTLES BECAUSE WE STUCK TOGETHER.

THAT IS WHAT WE MUST DO IN THE COMING ELECTION.

YOU AND I KNOW THAT CAMPAIGNING IS HARD WORK. MY STAFF

TELLS ME THAT WHILE I WAS MINORITY LEADER FROM 1966 TO 1973,

I MADE 530 APPEARANCES AND SPEECHES AT REPUBLICAN FUND RAISERS

AND GATHERINGS. IN TEN MONTHS AS VICE PRESIDENT,

I MADE 55 MAJOR APPEARANCES FOR REPUBLICAN GROUPS --

AND AS PRESIDENT, ANOTHER 24 APPEARANCES AT REPUBLICAN EVENTS.

WHEN WE ENTER THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN OF 1976, I PLEDGE TO YOU

THAT I WILL CONTINUE TO WORK FOR REPUBLICAN CAUSES AND CANDIDATES

AS VIGOROUSLY AS THE DUTIES OF MY OFFICE ALLOW.

PARTY UNITY MUST BE MAINTAINED EVEN THROUGH THE SPIRITED CONTEST FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION. WE MUST MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PREVENT THE NOMINATING PROCESS FROM BECOMING BITTER AND STRIDENT. FOLLOWING KANSAS CITY, I WANT REPUBLICANS TO BE UNITED AND ENTHUSIASTIC, BECAUSE UNITY AND ENTHUSIASM MEAN WINNING IN NOVEMBER.

FURTHERMORE, WHEN WE WIN, AMERICA WILL BE BETTER SERVED FROM THE COURT HOUSE TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

WE HAVE GOOD CANDIDATES TO FIELD AND A GOOD RECORD TO POINT TO.

ALL OVER AMERICA, PEOPLE ARE TURNING TO THE SOUND
PRINCIPLES THAT REPUBLICANS HAVE ALWAYS STOOD FOR.

NOW IS THE TIME TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR RECORD,
INSTEAD OF LETTING THE OPPOSITION STEAL OUR THUNDER.

WE ARE THE PARTY OF PEACE, PROSPERITY AND TRUST.

THAT IS THE MESSAGE WE MUST TAKE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE
IN THE CAMPAIGN AHEAD.

THIS GATHERING TONIGHT GIVES THE LIE TO THE PROPHETS
OF DOOM. IT IS A SYMBOL OF REPUBLICAN TOGETHERNESS
AS WELL AS A SIGN THAT THERE ARE PLENTY OF REPUBLICANS
TO GET TOGETHER.

THE WARMTH, THE CHEERFULNESS, AND THE SPIRIT I SEE TONIGHT

TELLS ME THAT REPUBLICANISM IS ALIVE AND WELL AND FLOURISHING

HERE IN WASHINGTON AND THROUGHOUT AMERICA.

NOW LET'S CARRY THE MESSAGE TO 215 MILLION OTHER AMERICANS

IN THE CRITICAL MONTHS AHEAD.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

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