

The original documents are located in Box 37, “8/15/76 - Remarks Upon Arrival at the Presidential Headquarters, Kansas City, Missouri, for the Republican National Convention” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

ARRIVAL REMARKS
CROWN CENTER HOTEL

It's great to be back in Kansas City -- and to receive your very warm and generous welcome.

I'm not going to make any speeches now. I'll save that for our victory celebration Thursday night.

But I do want to introduce you to a few people who are doing so much to help us go all the way to victory in November.

First, let me introduce some of my closest friends:

Vice President Nelson Rockefeller;

The great Governor of Michigan, Bill Milliken;

My outstanding campaign chairman and good friend Rog Morton;

-- The very distinguished convention delegation from the great state of Michigan;

Now let me take a moment to make a few other introductions closer to home.

I'll begin with a young lady who plans to take up temporary residence this fall just a few miles away at the University of Kansas -- a young lady who takes her photography as seriously as I take uncommitted delegates -- my daughter Susan.

2.

Next let me introduce a young man who would rather rope a steer in Utah than roam around the White House -- but who's promised to help me stay in the saddle for another four years -- my son Steve.

Then there is a young man who has campaigned for me quite a bit this year -- and I couldn't be more proud of the tremendous job he has done -- my son Jack.

Finally, let me introduce to you my best friend and closest adviser, whose name seems to be on as many campaign buttons as mine. She's my favorite dancing partner, and she's been the first lady at our house for almost 28 wonderful years -- my wife Betty.

My son Mike and his wife Gayle will be joining us later this week -- so while you may be here for the Republican Convention, the Fords have come to Kansas City for a family reunion.

We've been looking forward to this convention for a long time, because I knew the people of Kansas City would do a magnificent job in making these very difficult arrangements and making us feel at home -- and they certainly have.

But we've also been looking forward to this convention, because when the roll is called on Wednesday night, I'm confident we'll have a first-ballot victory and the Republican nomination for President.

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So, let me just thank you again for being here and giving us such a warm welcome, and we'll see you again later this week for a grand celebration.

(NOTE: It is suggested that you pause for cheers after each introduction.)