

The original documents are located in Box 37, “8/16/76 - Remarks to a "Presidential" Youth Rally, Kansas City, Missouri” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS BEEN

IT'S GREAT TO BE IN KANSAS CITY -- HOME OF THE
REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION AND SITE OF THE JERRY
FORD VICTORY CELEBRATION.

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ON BEHALF OF BETTY, MIKE AND GAYLE, JACK, STEVE
AND SUSAN -- LET ME THANK ALL OF YOU "PRESIDENTIALS"
FOR DOING A SUPER JOB AT THIS CONVENTION.

I KNOW IT'S HARD WORK, BUT LOOK AT IT THIS WAY:

WE CAN ALL RELAX A LITTLE BIT WEDNESDAY NIGHT AT THE

BIGGEST VICTORY PARTY YOU EVER SAW.

YOU HAVEN'T LET US DOWN, AND WE WON'T LET YOU DOWN

IN THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

WE'VE ALREADY MADE A GOOD START SINCE TAKING OFFICE

TWO YEARS AGO.

AFTER SO MANY YEARS OF WAR, AMERICA TODAY IS AT
PEACE. NO AMERICANS ARE FIGHTING ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD --
AND NONE ARE BEING DRAFTED, EITHER -- AND I INTEND TO KEEP
IT THAT WAY.

AFTER GOING THROUGH THE WORST ECONOMIC CRISIS IN
40 YEARS -- WITH RECESSION ON THE ONE HAND AND RUNAWAY
INFLATION ON THE OTHER -- WE'RE ON THE ROAD TO A NEW
PROSPERITY IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

I INTEND TO SEE THAT PROSPERITY EXTENDED TO EACH OF
YOUR LIVES -- INTO THE LIFE OF EVERY YOUNG MAN AND WOMAN
IN AMERICA.

EVERY AMERICAN, YOUNG OR OLD, BLACK OR WHITE, WHO
WANTS A JOB SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET A JOB. THAT IS THE GOAL
THE FORD ADMINISTRATION WORKS TOWARD EVERY SINGLE DAY.

IT HAS ALSO BEEN MY POLICY TO INVOLVE YOUNG PEOPLE
IN AN ACTIVE, IMPORTANT WAY IN THE WORK OF GOVERNMENT.

NEW IDEAS, THE STAMINA FOR HARD WORK, THE IDEALISM
GOVERNMENT SO DESPERATELY NEEDS, AND THE CAPABILITY TO
LAY IT RIGHT ON THE LINE -- THIS IS WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE LIKE
YOU ARE ALREADY CONTRIBUTING TO MY ADMINISTRATION --
AND THIS COUNTRY IS BETTER FOR IT.

THIS COUNTRY ALSO NEEDS A STRONG, VIGOROUS,
VICTORIOUS REPUBLICAN PARTY.

WE'VE GOT ONE IN 1976 -- AND WE'LL HAVE ONE FOR
MANY YEARS TO COME.

YOU CAN HELP MAKE SURE WE DO. BY TAKING PART
IN THE EXCITEMENT AND HARD WORK OF THIS CONVENTION, YOU
ARE PREPARING YOURSELVES FOR LEADERSHIP.

RIGHT NOW WE'RE BUILDING THE REPUBLICAN PARTY
OF THE 1980'S AND THE 1990'S -- AND THERE'S AN IMPORTANT
PLACE IN IT FOR EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU.

WE NEED YOUR HELP, WE VALUE IT, AND WE WILL NEED
YOUR TALENTED, COMMITTED LEADERSHIP EVEN MORE IN THE
FUTURE.

WORKING TOGETHER WE CAN CONTINUE TO MAKE AMERICA'S
NOBLEST DREAMS COME TRUE. THAT'S WHY I'M IN THIS RACE,
AND THAT'S WHY I'M COUNTING ON EACH OF YOU TO HELP PUT US
OVER THE TOP WEDNESDAY NIGHT -- AND THEN ON THE FIRST
TUESDAY NIGHT IN NOVEMBER.

LET ME THANK YOU AGAIN FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE
AND FOR EVERYTHING YOU WILL DO THIS WEEK AND DURING THE
FALL CAMPAIGN.

I'LL DO MY BEST TO MAKE IT WORTH YOUR EFFORT IN THE
NEXT FOUR YEARS.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

END OF TEXT

"PRESIDENTIALS" YOUTH RALLY
MONDAY - AUGUST 16

It's great to be in Kansas City -- home of the Republican National Convention and site of the Jerry Ford victory celebration.

On behalf of Betty, Mike and Gayle, Jack, Steve and Susan -- let me thank all of you "Presidential" for doing a super job at this convention.

I know it's hard work, but look at it this way: we can all relax a little bit Wednesday night at the biggest victory party you ever saw.

You haven't let us down, and we won't let you down in the next four years.

We've already made a good start since taking office two years ago.

After so many years of war, America today is at peace. No Americans are fighting anywhere in the world -- and none are being drafted, either -- and I intend to keep it that way.

After going through the worst economic crisis in 40 years -- with recession on the one hand and runaway inflation on the other -- we're on the road to a new prosperity in the United States of America.

I intend to see that prosperity extended to each of your lives -- into the life of every young man and woman in America.

Every American, young or old, black or white, who wants a job should be able to get a job. That is the goal the Ford

Administration works toward every single day.

It has also been my policy to involve young people in an active, important way in the work of government.

New ideas, the stamina for hard work, the idealism government so desperately needs, and the capability to lay it right on the line -- this is what young people like you are already contributing to my Administration -- and this country is better for it.

This country also needs a strong, vigorous, victorious Republican Party.

We've got one in 1976 -- and we'll have one for many years to come.

You can help make sure we do. By taking part in the excitement and hard work of this convention, you are preparing yourselves for leadership.

Right now we're building the Republican Party of the 1980's and the 1990's -- and there's an important place in it for each and every one of you.

We need your help, we value it, and we will need your talented, committed leadership even more in the future.

Working together we can continue to make America's noblest dreams come true. That's why I'm in this race, and that's why I'm counting on each of you to help put us over the top Wednesday night -- and then on the first Tuesday night in November.

Let me thank you again for all you have done and for everything you will do this week and during the fall campaign.

I'll do my best to make it worth your effort in the next four years.

Thank you very much.

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