

The original documents are located in Box 39, “10/9/76 - Remarks at Opening Ceremonies of Texas State Fair, Dallas, Texas” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

ST
THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT AT THE STATE FAIR

DALLAS, TEXAS - OCTOBER 9, 1976

- THANK YOU, GOV. BRISCOE / MRS. BRISCOE
- GOV. CONNALLY / MRS. CONNALLY
- MAYOR FOLSOM
- MR. GALLAGHER
- DISTINGUISHED GUESTS
- LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

-1-

IT'S ALWAYS GREAT TO BE BACK IN TEXAS AND IN DALLAS.
I thank Gov. Briscoe for his friendship & warm welcome.

I'M DEEPLY HONORED TO HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF OPENING

YOUR WORLD-FAMOUS STATE FAIR.

JOHN CONNALLY HAS JUST

given
~~BEEN GIVING~~ ME A PREVIEW OF THE LIVESTOCK BARNS. *He's*

*an expert on cattle, swine & sheep just as
he is on national security and government from
Austin to Washington, D.C.*
I thank

THERE'S A LOT MORE LEFT TO SEE, BUT I'VE LEARNED ONE

THING ~~HERE~~: WHEN TEXANS TALK ABOUT THE FINE THINGS YOU

PRODUCE IN TEXAS - WHETHER IT'S CATTLE OR COTTON,

SPACESHIPS OR SHEEP, PECANS OR PETROLEUM -- YOU'RE REALLY

NOT BRAGGING; YOU'RE REALLY BEING MODEST.

EVEN YOUR PEANUTS TASTE BETTER TO ME.

~~AND WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT YOUR PRETTY GIRLS - WELL,~~

~~I JUST HAVE TO SAY "WORDS FAIL ME."~~

I'M TOLD YOU PRODUCE SOME PRETTY FAIR FOOTBALL TEAMS,

Good luck this afternoon -

~~TOO.~~

~~WE'LL CHECK THAT OUT LATER.~~

NOBODY WANTS TO STAND IN THE SUN ON A BEAUTIFUL

FOOTBALL SATURDAY IN OCTOBER AND LISTEN TO A LONG

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

I'LL TELL YOU WHAT

WHEN WE HAVE

THE FORD-DOLE INAUGURAL DOWN IN WASHINGTON NEXT JANUARY

YOU ALL COME.

Let me take a
let me
I DO WANT TO TAKE A MINUTE OR TWO TO THANK YOU FOR

YOUR TEXAS HOSPITALITY AND HEARTWARMING WELCOME.

I WASN'T

SURPRISED

I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE.

BUT IT'S WONDERFUL

TO BE AMONG AMERICANS WHO ARE JUST BORN FRIENDLY AND POLITE.

hospitality

are
TEXANS ~~MUST BE~~ BORN PATRIOTIC, TOO. I FIRST GOT
 TO KNOW A LOT ABOUT TEXAS WHEN I WAS, OF ALL PLACES, OUT
 IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PACIFIC. IN THAT WAR AMERICA'S
SURVIVAL AND THE FATE OF FREEDOM IN THE WORLD WERE IN THE
STEADY HANDS OF TEXANS LIKE CHESTER W. NIMITZ AND
DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER.

THE TEXANS I KNEW PERSONALLY WERE OF ^{on my ship} ~~SOMEWHAT LOWER~~ ^{the same high caliber}
~~RANK~~ ON OUR CARRIER WE NOT ONLY HAD PLENTY OF NATIVE
TEXANS, BUT A LOT OF MEN WHO HAD TRAINED ^{in Texas} ~~HERE~~ AND ARE
 PROBABLY TEXANS NOW. WE DID EVERYTHING BUT FLY A
LONE STAR BATTLE FLAG.

WHEN I FIRST WENT TO CONGRESS I LEARNED THE ROPES
FROM LEGISLATIVE GIANTS LIKE MR. SAM RAYBURN AND
LYNDON JOHNSON. I MADE GOOD FRIENDS LIKE GEORGE MAHON
AND GEORGE BUSH AND JOHN TOWER AND TIGER TEAGUE AND

WHAT ALWAYS IMPRESSED ME WAS THE WAY TEXANS PUT
THEIR COUNTRY ABOVE THEIR POLITICAL PARTY WHEN AMERICA'S
FUNDAMENTAL INTERESTS WERE AT STAKE. I SAW THEM TIME AND
AGAIN RALLY AROUND THE PRESIDENT, WHOEVER HE MIGHT BE, WHEN
HE WAS DEALING IN THE HIGH STAKES OF PEACE AND WAR.

THE COOPERATION AND SUPPORT SPEAKER RAYBURN AND

Lyndon
SENATOR JOHNSON GAVE TO PRESIDENT EISENHOWER WHEN HE WAS

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF BECAME MY EXAMPLE WHEN PRESIDENT JOHNSON

FACED THOSE SAME TOUGH CALLS IN FOREIGN POLICY AND DEFENSE.

*altho we had our differences
And he never distorted the truth when discussing
the tough issues affecting American security.*

IN THE COMING WEEKS AND IN FUTURE YEARS, I REALLY

HOPE THIS BIPARTISAN TRADITION OF RESPONSIBILITY AND UNITY

BEYOND THE WATERS EDGE CAN SURVIVE IN AMERICAN POLITICS.

IT IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR NATIONAL STRENGTH, AS TEXANS

TAUGHT ME.

YOU NEVER HEARD A TEXAN TELL THE WORLD OUR COUNTRY
IS NOT STRONG ANY MORE.

YOU NEVER HEARD A TEXAN PROCLAIM THAT AMERICA IS NOT
RESPECTED ANY MORE.

YOU NEVER HEARD A TEXAN ALLEGE THAT THE AMERICAN
PEOPLE HAVE LOST THEIR PRIDE IN AMERICA'S STRENGTH AND
MORAL INTEGRITY.

IT ISN'T ONLY THE EYES OF TEXANS THAT ARE UPON US.

THE EYES OF THE WHOLE WORLD ARE ON THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THIS YEAR, NOT JUST FOR THE

when we celebrated our glorious 200th Birthday

FOURTH OF JULY, BUT ALSO ON NOVEMBER 2. WE ARE ON

DISPLAY AS MUCH AS ALL THE ENTRIES IN THIS GREAT FAIR.

Tolson

WE HAVE BEEN THE WORLD CHAMPIONS OF LIBERTY AND

SELF-GOVERNMENT FOR THE LAST 200 YEARS.

WE ARE PROUD OF OUR TROPHIES, PROUD OF OUR

MATERIAL STRENGTH AND EVEN MORE OF OUR MORAL STRENGTH.

WE ARE RESPECTED FOR BOTH. LET'S GET OUR THIRD CENTURY
OFF TO A GOOD START, SCRAPPING OVER THE LITTLE THINGS BUT
STANDING TOGETHER, TALL AND STRONG, ON THE BIG THINGS.
BIG THINGS LIKE PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH, PEACE WITH FREEDOM.

THAT'S THE SPIRIT THAT MADE TEXAS GREAT ~~AND~~ THAT MADE
AMERICA GREAT, ~~AND~~ THAT'S THE SPIRIT WE CAN SHOW THE WORLD
IN 1976.

THANK YOU.

END OF TEXT