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FORD/DOLE CAMPAIGN

GOP Needs Ford

When, for the first time in the history of the U.S., a President was forced to resign, Gerald R. Ford stepped into the most demanding job in the world. In this toughest of times, Ford faced a Nation ripped apart by the Watergate scandal. The public seemed to have only one thing in common: a lack of confidence in government.

To make matters worse, America was in the midst of both a recession and an inflationary economy. And Ford faced a hostile Congress and left-over Cabinet and staff chosen by the former President. However, he had two things going in his favor: his own public record which had no mars; and the relative quickness with which he put together a talented staff that shared his commitment to heal the Nation's wounds. He went about his tasks in a quiet efficient manner. And the results began to show. His personal example in office started to create public confidence of a degree sufficient to enable him to weather the aftermath of his courageous and conscientious but controversial decision to pardon Richard Nixon.

Even the most learned economists differ as to whom should be given credit, but under the Ford Administration the nation's economy is in an upward swing. The President can take a modest bow -- well, perhaps not so modest, considering this is an election year -- and who can effectively argue it is not deserved?

Ford's battles with Congress have been legion, but they served to quell one fear: that Ford would be a weak President, automatically rubber-stamping the wishes of his former colleagues. As long as Presidential-Congressional differences do not result in governmental stalemates, they are not unhealthy for the Nation.

Under the leadership of Ford and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, whose services Ford was wise and fortunate enough to retain, the United States has been able to maintain and even enhance its world stature without direct involvement in world crises.

The Times endorses President Ford for the Republican nomination for President of the United States. (Ed. ex., El Paso Times, 8/8/76)



*Pres. Pres. Nomination 848*  
FOREST HILLS PUBLISHING COMPANY  
Publishers Of

*141*  
*2nd*  
**Forest Hills Journal**

**Community Journal**

564 Batavia Pike

Cincinnati, Ohio 45244

Phone 528-1111

1976 AUG 25 PM 2 34

August 19, 1976

*BN*  
President Gerald R. Ford  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

ORIGINAL TO: Betty Nolan

*✓* COPY FYI TO: Ron Nessen

Dear Mr. President:

Congratulations on receiving the nomination of your party at the Republican Convention last night. It must certainly give you a good feeling to come out on top, with the majority of the delegates nominating you, after a hard primary fight.

You might be interested in knowing, Mr. President, that we have personally followed your career for a number of years and can well recall having the privilege of chatting with you after a press conference you conducted at the 1972 Republican convention in Miami Beach, Florida.

Again we were impressed in the summer of 1973 when we heard you speak as a guest at the National Legislators Convention in Chicago. We were impressed with your remarks and I know the state legislators who heard it also were.

We thought you would be also interested in knowing that our two papers, the Forest Hills Journal and the Community Journal, have been behind your efforts since you occupied the White House in August, 1974. In our issues of August 17, 1976 we endorsed your nomination. We expect to also endorse your candidacy for reelection this fall.

Enclosed, Mr. President, please find a copy of the endorsement that was carried in the Forest Hills Journal and the Community Journal. These newspapers circulate to more than 57,000 homes to saturate the many Republican homes in the Far Eastern Hamilton County (Cincinnati) and Clermont County areas.

Again, please accept our heartiest congratulations and very best wishes for defeating Jimmy Carter on November 2.

Sincerely,

*EB*  
Edward B. Wright Jr.  
Editor

Enclosures (2)



August 1, 1976

Dear Creed:

I did **not** want to let another day go by without thanking you for the editorial of July 22, encouraging all uncommitted delegates to give me their support. This has been a week of fast-breaking political developments. But I wanted you to know that your editorial was not lost among them. I appreciate your efforts in my behalf.

With the continued support of you and my many other friends, I remain confident about the election, as well as the nomination.

With sincere thanks and best wishes,

**JERRY FORD**

Mr. Creed C. Black  
Editor  
The Philadelphia Inquirer  
400 North Broad Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19101

cc: Ron Nessen  
Sandra Wisniewski (w/copy of attached editorial)

GRF:RHN:STW:RLE:aby



Reagan and Schweiker: A Surrender to Expediency  
(Editorial, excerpted, Philadelphia Inquirer)

Granted that politics makes strange bedfellows, the sudden marriage of Ronald Reagan and Richard Schweiker is just too strange to be credible.

The kindest thing that can be said of it is that it reeks of expediency on both sides. Harsher descriptions which come to mind are "cynical" and "hypocritical."

Throughout his campaign, Reagan has said he would choose a running mate whose views were compatible with his own instead of

making a "cynical" effort to balance the ticket. And as recently as last Saturday he told a reporter that while he didn't rule out geographical balance had said that "philosophically ... it is hypocritical to choose someone of the opposite view."

Mr. Reagan has thus done precisely what he has been saying all along he would not do. The only interpretation we can put on such a stunning turn-around is that it is an act of desperation, a last-gasp attempt to add to a delegate total which he presumably has concluded is insufficient to win the presidential nomination.

From Mr. Reagan's standpoint, that might be a gamble worth taking. But what of Sen. Schweiker?


Here is a man who has spent his public life fighting for a more progressive Republican Party. A man who had warned that a ticket headed by Reagan could suffer the same disastrous fate as in 1964. A man who was on the record in support of Ford.

What turned him around? When, Schweiker was asked, had he come to the conclusion that Ronald Reagan would make a better President than Gerald Ford? His answer: When Mr. Reagan had offered to tap him for the vice presidential nomination.

It would have been less of a surprise if Sen. Schweiker had accepted such an offer after a Reagan nomination. He has much to commend him as a candidate for the vice presidency. But casting his lot with the conservative wing of the party in advance is something else. It suggests that on this occasion personal ambition has clouded Sen. Schweiker's judgment and compromised the principles on which his constructive career in Washington has been built.

We remain convinced, as we said in this space just a week ago, that the future of the Republican Party lies in "the broad ideological and policy middle ground which has been the arena of every seriously contested national election in the last generation and longer."

Ronald Reagan is not to be found there, even with Richard Schweiker now standing at his side. We thus again urge the delegates in this region -- who are the principal targets of this surrender to expediency -- to give their support to President Ford. -- (7/28/76)



C-1  
COMMENT

Ford Is Strongest Choice as Republican Candidate  
(Editorial, excerpted, Detroit Free Press)

For the Republicans, the nomination of President Ford has surely taken on a broad new importance following the Democratic Convention of 1976. Yet with all of the Republican Convention delegates chosen, the outcome of the Republican race is still in doubt.

By the normal rules of politics, one would assume that an incumbent president, even an unelected one, could make the leap from 1,102 delegates that Ford apparently can count on for the nomination to the 1,130 he will need for nomination. Reagan has 1,063. As the primaries have taught us, though, the normal rules of politics are not necessarily at work this year. So we are not disposed to indulge in attempting to handicap what is left of the race.

Rather, we would simply reiterate that, in our judgment (1) President Ford is the most electable candidate the Republicans can put forward and (2) Ford is the better candidate in terms of the substance of what he and Reagan stand for.

The Democrats have put together a ticket and a coalition to support it that have a broad potential appeal. Already, the candidacy of Ronald Reagan has pulled President Ford to the right, thus reducing the breadth of his appeal. Yet he remains an infinitely preferable choice, with a substantially broader appeal than the former California governor.

The support in the country for a doctrinaire right-wing position is not all that great. Every poll shows that among Republicans and independents, Ford enjoys significantly more support than Reagan. Surely the Republican conservative element will not require that their candidate be any more of an absolutist than Ford is.

We believe that the race for president this fall could be a great deal tighter than appears now to be likely, providing President Ford is the nominee and providing he begins to pay some attention to the broad audience to whom he must appeal to win the election in the fall.

But whether President Ford wins the nomination, and whether he has not so narrowed his appeal as to defeat himself in the fall, are the central questions for the Republicans as they move toward Kansas City. On those bases may well turn the question of whether the race in the fall is in fact a serious contest or, instead, turns into a cakewalk. -- (7/20/76)

Uncommitted delegates  
should reject Mr. Reagan

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Joe:

Your editorial of support on Friday, July 9 was greatly appreciated. Coming from a newspaper with the high and demanding standards of the Washington Star made it an even greater honor.

Joe, I want you to know how much it means to me to have your support.

Incidentally, Betty and I really enjoyed having you and your wife as our guests for the fireworks display on July 4th. What a memorable evening it was to commemorate our Nation's Bicentennial.

With sincere appreciation and best wishes,

Mr. Joe L. Allbritton  
Publisher  
The Washington Star  
Washington, D. C. 20061

# The Washington Star

JOE L. ALLBRITTON, Publisher

JAMES G. BELLOWS, Editor

SIDNEY EPSTEIN, Managing Editor

EDWIN M. YODER JR., Associate Editor

FRIDAY, JULY 9, 1976

# Ford — the better choice

PL/Ford  
PR16  
PU-3

June 18, 1976

Dear Mr. Nokes:

I wanted to thank you personally for the editorial endorsement which appeared in the Sunday Oregonian on May 23. I am grateful for your support and was particularly pleased that you feel I have served the Nation with "great credit."

It was good to talk with you, Herbert Lundy, and Malcolm Bauer recently at the meeting for Oregon newspaper executives. I hope we have the opportunity to meet again soon.

With sincere best wishes,

JERRY FORD

Mr. J. Richard Nokes

Editor

The Oregonian

Oregonian Building

1320 S.W. Broadway

Portland, Oregon 97201

RLE  
GRF:RHN:MEW:STW:mgs

cc: Nessen/White

cc: Sandra Wisniewski w/copy of May 23 editorial

POB

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34  
Thanks for editorial support



D2 3M

## Editorials

# The Sunday Oregon

Founded Dec. 4, 1850. Established as a daily Feb. 4, 1861. Sunday Oregonian established Dec. 4, 1961. Sunday by the Oregonian Publishing Co., Oregonian Bldg., 1320 SW Broadway, Portland, Ore.

MICHAEL J. FREY, Chairman

✓ FRED A. STICKEL, President and Publisher

✓ J. RICH

ALBERT L. McCREADY, Managing Editor

✓ HERBERT LUNDY, Editor, Editorial Page

MAY 23, 1976

# *Gerald Ford and Frank Church*

Ford Is GOP's Best Choice  
(Editorial, excerpted, Buffalo Evening News)

The alacrity with which nearly all Democratic factions have accepted the primary results and rallied 'round Jimmy Carter as their party's now-certain presidential nominee is an amazing sight to see. And it also preaches a compelling lesson to Republicans. It means that Republicans simply cannot afford the luxury of further fratricidal bloodletting; that if they want their nomination to have value, they had better do as the Democrats have done: Settle their in-fighting quickly and start rallying around their party's natural leader. That, in our judgment -- given all the circumstances the GOP presently faces -- can only be President Gerald R. Ford.

We therefore urge both his nomination and an early ending to further uncertainty about it.

On his record as appointed President, Ford has clearly earned his party's endorsement for a full term. He has restored an image of trust and decency to the White House; he has -- with calmness, competency and common sense -- brought us out of an inherited war, a double-digit inflation and the worst economic recession in a generation. He has fought hard and effectively to bring runaway spending and big government under control. And he has pushed a headstrong Democratic Congress with every weapon at his command to strengthen our defenses, to stop undercutting a strong and constructive foreign policy and to face up to such immense problems as the energy crisis.

For Republicans to repudiate the only President they have would in itself be such a self-destructive act as to virtually ruin any chance they have of winning with anyone else. Ford's "electability" can be shown by specific reference to this year's primaries. The Reagan strength was plainly regional -- South and West, with half his delegates coming from the Old South. Without his sweep of the Dixie primaries, he would not today be even a serious challenger. But that is Carter country; in fact, in most of those primaries, Carter easily outpolled Reagan and Ford combined.

There is no way in short, that a Republican "southern strategy" can beat Carter. The primary battleground for Republicans against Jimmy Carter will have to be the Midwest and Northeast, where they would have far less hope with Reagan who, in those two regions, has won only 178 delegates so far compared with 789 for Ford.

"Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their party" -- by rallying promptly to the support of President Ford, who is clearly their best hope for victory in November. -- (6/12/76)

## Ohio Supplement

**Ford over Reagan**

June 18, 1976

Dear Mr. Alexander:

My personal thanks for the editorial of June 5 in the Dayton Journal Herald endorsing my candidacy for President. I am grateful for your support. There is no doubt that your editorial made a major impression on the voters, and for that I am sincerely appreciative.

With best wishes,

**JERRY FORD**

Mr. Charles T. <sup>X</sup>Alexander  
Editor and Publisher  
The Dayton Journal Herald  
37 South Ludlow Street  
Dayton, Ohio 45401

GRF:RHN:MEW:STW:RLE:mgs

cc: Ron Nessen/Margita White

cc: Sandra Wisniewski w/copy of June 5 editorial

POB

10



RECEIVED

JUN 21 1976

CENTRAL

Thanks for editorial + support

33

34

# Gerald Ford

*... President's performance merits primary vote*

June 18, 1976

Ohio Supplement

Dear Bill:

My personal thanks for the editorial which appeared in The Cincinnati Enquirer on June 6. There is no doubt in my mind that your endorsement went a long way in helping me to my resounding win in the Ohio primary -- for that I am sincerely grateful. Knowing that I continue to have the support of long-time friends keeps me confident and determined in my efforts to win the nomination and the election.

I very much enjoyed our visit on Air Force One and look forward to seeing you again soon.  
Thanks again, Bill.

With best wishes,

**JERRY FORD**

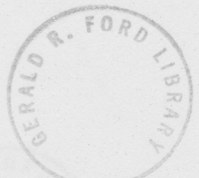
The Honorable William J. Keating  
President and Editor  
The Cincinnati Enquirer  
617 Vine Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

GRF:RHN:MEW:STW:mgs  
cc: Nessen/White

cc: Sandra Wisniewski w/copy of June 6 editorial

BB

33  
34  
Thanks for editorial + support



RECEIVED

JUN 21 1976

GENERAL FILES

# *The Case For President Ford*

EXECUTIVE

PL/Ford

PU2-3

PR16

June 18, 1976

Dear Carl:

I wanted to say a personal thanks for the editorial which appeared in The Dispatch on Sunday, June 6. I read the editorial with great attention and appreciated the evaluation of my performance as President.

It was good to meet with you and your colleagues in Columbus recently. I hope to see you again soon.

Please extend my best regards to John Wolfe.

With best wishes,

JERRY FORD

Mr. Carl<sup>X</sup> DeBloom  
Executive Editor  
The Columbus Dispatch  
34 South Third Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43216

GRF:RHN:MEW:STW:RLE:mgs

cc: Nessen/White

cc: Sandra Wisniewski w/copy of June 6 editorial

POB

33  
34 Thanks for editorial + support



RECEIVED

JUN 21 1976

CENTRAL FILES



Ohio Supplement

# Ford Understands Presidency's Needs

June 18, 1976

RL Ford  
PR 16  
PU 2-3

Dear Tom:

I wanted to let you know how much I appreciated the editorial endorsement which appeared in The Plain Dealer on June 6.

I am grateful to you for your support, which I am sure contributed to the successful outcome of the Ohio primary.

It was good to see you at the State Dinner for the King and Queen of Spain and at the dinner in Cleveland. I wish we had had more time to talk and I hope to see you again soon.

With appreciation and best wishes,

JERRY FORD

Mr. Thomas V.H. Vail  
Publisher and Editor  
The Plain Dealer  
1801 Superior Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

GRF:RHN/MEW:STW:RLE:mgs

cc: Nessen/White

cc: Sandra Wisnewski w/copy of June 6 editorial

POB



RECEIVED

JUN 21 1976

GENERAL FILES

33

thanks for editorial + support

34

Ohio supplement

**Vote for Ford, Carter**

Presidency: Comment

C-7

Meeting The President

C-8

Presidency: Comment

A MEMORABLE DAY

By Bill Blakeman

June 8, 1976

Dear Andy:

I wanted to let you know how much I appreciate the editorial of endorsement which appeared on May 9 in your Sunday World Herald.

I am grateful for your support and especially the comments about my being the most "electable" candidate. The loss in Nebraska was unfortunate, but I feel confident about winning the nomination and the election.

It was good to see you again in Omaha, and I very much enjoyed my visit with your editorial board.

With best wishes,

JERRY FORD

Mr. Harold W. Andersen  
President  
Omaha World-Herald  
World Herald Square  
Omaha, Nebraska 68102

bcc: Ron Nessen, Margita White  
bcc: Sandra Wisniewski (with copy of editorial)  
GRF:RHN:MEW:STW:AVH:aby



May 10, 1976

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT**

**FROM:       RON NESSEN**

Here is the editorial in the Omaha World Herald on Sunday endorsing you in the primary election. Given the influence of the World Herald in Nebraska, this has got to be helpful.

I'm sorry about the poor quality of this copy. The fastest way we could get it here was by DEX machine to Senator Curtis' office.

**Attachment:**

**Omaha World Herald Editorial -  
May 9, 1976**

**RN/jb**





20-A  
Sunday, May 9, 1976

# Strongest Nebraska GOP Choice: President Ford

Nebraska's presidential primary has taken on added importance because of Ronald Reagan's victories in Texas, Georgia, Alabama and Indiana.

At this stage, the Nebraska vote could lend further momentum to the Reagan effort or provide a timely boost for the President's campaign.

The end product of the primary-convention process should be the selection of the strongest possible candidate in each party, a candidate who would appeal to the widest section of the electorate and draw votes from disparate elements of the population.

For this reason we believe Nebraska Republicans would be well advised to vote for President Ford on Tuesday.

## Sunday World-Herald Editorials

*Unsigned articles are the opinion  
of The World-Herald*

and for approved slates of delegate candidates pledged to Ford.

It has been apparent in the results of past presidential elections that candidates of moderate views, appealing to the broad center of political thought, are the most electable.

Republicans learned this the hard way in their venture to the right with Barry Goldwater in 1964. Democrats learned it the hard way when they veered left with George McGovern in 1972.

Nebraska Republicans might consider that the only time a Democratic presidential candidate has carried Nebraska in the past 36 years was in 1964, when Goldwater was the nominee.

If there are Nebraska Republicans who think Ford's views are too "liberal" as compared with Reagan's they might reflect on the fact that Sen. Goldwater, solidly identified with the conservative forces within the party, is backing Ford against Reagan on the

Panama Canal and other issues.

It seems sensible to us for the Republicans (and the Democrats, too, of course) to nominate a candidate who would have broad appeal in that great middle ground of American politics where most of the votes lie.

American voters have consistently demonstrated their willingness to cross party lines to support candidates whom they perceive to be neither too far right nor too far left.

We are not saying that Reagan is an extremist or that we find his philosophy unpalatable. Many of the positions he has taken are worthy of support.

He is an attractive, polished, articulate campaigner. But in the big battle after the conventions, we think President Ford would have a better chance to unite Republicans and attract the independent and Democratic votes that the candidate of a minority party must have to win.

In short, Ford is closer to the middle of the road — and experience has shown that it is in the middle of the road where elections are won.

MAY 10 1976



# Panax Corporation

JOHN P. MCGOFF  
President

Box 1860, East Lansing, Michigan 48823 517 349-4100

TELEGRAM SENT TO PRESIDENT FORD BY WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

JUNE 3, 1976

Dear Mr. President:

I would like to thank you for your expression of appreciation through Ron Nessen for our endorsement of your candidacy in the Michigan primary. I am sure as Ron said we did play a role in having a positive impact on the voters in Michigan.

I would like you to be aware that we are also endorsing your candidacy in California in the Sacramento Union and our suburban newspaper groups. I have sent under separate cover a copy of the endorsement for your information.

Best of luck in the California primary. I look forward to visiting with you in the near future.

Sincerely,

John P. McGoff  
President

JPMc:mm1

cc: ✓ Ron Nessen

**PANAX**  
Corporation



When President Ford delivered his inaugural speech on Aug. 9, 1974, a listener was struck by how many times he used the word "friend." Then in an address to Congress he said his motto is "communication, conciliation, compromise and cooperation."

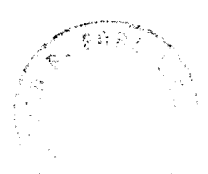
The words seemed to express the healing promise that all Americans wanted to hear in the traumatic aftermath of Watergate.

And in the 21 months since they were spoken it is clear that the words have set the tone for the nation's recovery from its worst constitutional crisis since the Civil War.

And we know now they were spoken by a decent, honorable man who substituted an open administration for the trappings and the secrecy and the vindictiveness of the previous two "imperial presidencies."

But Gerald R. Ford has exhibited many more qualities than just a spirit of generosity and common sense as President. Since entering office he has shown an increasingly sure-handed grasp of problems of the economy, accountability in government, foreign policy and national security.

By his stewardship, he had helped Americans regain some of their lost confidence in their government. He has preached the message of "what's right with America." He has won the right, we believe, to the Republican Party's nomination as president.



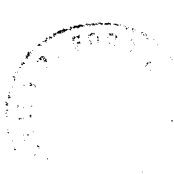
It has been no bed of roses for Mr. Ford since he became the nation's first non-elected president upon the resignation of Richard Nixon. He entered the White House just as an economic recession was overtaking the country, as a Democratic-controlled Congress moved to regain power from the executive branch, and as the Communists were consolidating their conquest of Indochina.

Some of the President's own actions added to his troubles. By pardoning former President Nixon, he touched off a storm of protest. But it was a proper act of compassion which otherwise might have extended the Watergate travail indefinitely.

And his nomination of Nelson Rockefeller to be vice president brought down the anger of the GOP's conservatives on him.

But he quickly brought in his own staff and his own Cabinet to help him put his own stamp on government. He also has called on a close circle of friends made during his 23 years in Congress. He listened to their counsel, and he acted decisively.

Mr. Ford properly points with pride to what he calls //a strong and stable recovery// in the economy. He can take credit with Congress for the comeback through tax cuts and other judicious measures. And to prevent tax relief from fueling inflation, he sought aggressively to bring government spending under control.



By moving to tighten welfare programs such as food stamps, to trim the federal payroll of nearly 5 million people, holding pay increases to 4.7 per cent on an average, and cut red tape regulations, Mr. Ford drew up an effective blueprint to stop //drifting in the direction of bigger and bigger government.//

That this policy has proven successful is seen by the way Congress has sustained Mr. Ford's vetoes of free-spending measures that would balloon multi-billion dollar federal deficits keeping the nation in a red-ink bath for 17 consecutive years. 40 of 49 Ford vetoes have been sustained.

But the Ford Administration is seeking no such cutbacks in the crucial field of national defense. Indeed, military spending under Ford proposals would increase by some \$8.9 billion to \$100.1 billion next year.

And the President demonstrated his own ability to act decisively when he ordered U.S. armed forces to rescue the U.S. merchant ship Mayaguez and its crew after Communist-ruled Cambodia seized the vessel last year.

We haven't always felt that the policy of detente has benefited this country as much as it does Russia, particularly in the case of Angola. But Mr. Ford and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger have often been hamstrung by a post-Vietnam reluctance by Congress to carry out this country's proper responsibilities to the free world. On balance,

the Ford-Kissinger policy toward Western Europe, the Middle East and Asia has been executed effectively in the nuclear age, although growing Soviet military strength must be continually watched.

Six months ago Mr. Ford was considered a shoo-in for the GOP nomination. The emergence of Ronald Reagan with a series of primary election victories over Mr. Ford has changed all that, and presents Republican voters with the question of which man has the best chance to win the presidency next November.

With the charismatic Jimmy Carter the likely Democratic nominee, the GOP standard-bearer will have his work cut out. He should be a man with support across the GOP spectrum, and also from independents. And any Republican who can win the backing of Sen. Barry Goldwater and Vice President Nelson Rockefeller on an issue, as Mr. Ford did in his countering Mr. Reagan's attacks on our Panama policy, would seem to have that support.

While Mr. Reagan makes much of the fact he has never worked in Washington, there is a question as to whether that anti-government theme adds up to a plus or a minus. We think Mr. Ford, with his many years of experience in Washington, his solid track record, his many friends in Congress, his plain-spoken integrity that evokes memories of Dwight Eisenhower and Harry Truman, is the better choice. We urge the election of Mr. Ford in the primary election.

THE SACRAMENTO UNION

cg  
May 17, 1976

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT**

**FROM: RON NESSEN**

Attached is a copy of a telegram I received from John McGoff, President of the Panax Newspapers in Michigan. As you see, the telegram announces that McGoff's 6 daily and 28 weekly newspapers in Michigan are endorsing you in a special front-page editorial today, on the eve of the Michigan primary.

The telegram then goes on to reprint the wording of the editorial endorsement.

This should be very helpful in tomorrow's primary, and indicates how influential a phone call, a lunch, and an editorial board meeting can be!

**Attachment:**

**Telegram from John P. McGoff - Panax Corporation**



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2 WHD001 156A EDT MAY 17 76 WAF002(0015)(2-000172E138)PD 05/17/760

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4 ICS IPMBNGZ CSP

5 5176765189 NL TDBN MASON MI 452 05-17 0015A EST 1976 MAY 17 AM 2 06

6  
7 PMS MR RONALD NESSEN PRESS SECRETARY, BACKDATE FILED MAY 16

8 WHITE HOUSE

9  
10 WASHINGTON DC 20500

11 THE FOLLOWING IS A COPY OF A TELEGRAM SENT TO PRESIDENT GERALD FORD

12  
13  
14 DEAR PRESIDENT FORD, WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE 6 DAILY AND  
15  
16 28 WEEKLY PANAX NEWSPAPERS IN MICHIGAN ARE ENDORSING YOU IN  
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18 TUESDAY'S PRIMARY.

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20 THE ENDORSEMENT WILL BE ON THE FRONT PAGE OF A SPECIAL PRIMARY  
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22 ELECTION ADDITION GOING TO OVER 400,000 HOMES IN MICHIGAN ON MONDAY  
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OUR ENDORESEMENT READS AS FOLLOWS: "WHEN PRESIDENT GERALD FORD TOOK OFFICE NEARLY TWO YEARS AGO THIS WAS A COUNTRY BITTERLY DIVIDED BY THE ISSUES OF WATERGATE AND SOUTHEAST ASIA AND RAVAGED BY THE TWIN ECONOMIC ILLS OF INFLATION AND RECESSION.

IT WAS A ROUGH ASSIGNMENT ONE THAT MANY THOUGHT THAT WAS TOO MUCH FOR HIM. HE HAD NO EXECUTIVE EXPERIENCE, THE ARGUMENT WENT, AND AS OUR FIRST APPOINTED PRESIDENT HE HAD NO ELECTORAL MANDATE TO POINT TO.

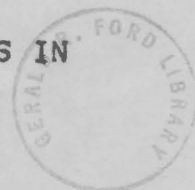
BUT IN TWO SHORT YEARS WE HAVE SEEN A NEARLY MIRACULOUS TURNAROUND. THE BITTERNESS AND HATRED WHICH TORE AT US SO MANY YEARS HAS FADED AWAY. INFLATION HAS BEEN CUT ALMOST IN HALF. THE ECONOMY IS ON A VIGOROUS UPTURN.

GERALD R. FORD



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4  
5 THE TOUGH QUESTIONS THAN ON THE INSIDE ACTUALLY PROVIDING ANSWERS.  
6  
7 PART OF OUR PROBLEMS IN THE FIELD OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, FOR INSTANCE,  
8  
9 HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY A POST-VIETNAM CONGRESS AT TIMES AFRAID TO MEET  
10  
11 OUR RESPONSIBILITIES. AND THE SIGHT OF BOTH NELSON ROCKEFELLER AND  
12  
13 BARRY GOLDWATER AGREEING ON MR FORD'S HANDLING OF THE PANAMA CANAL  
14  
15 SHOULD MAKE ANYONE THINK THAT MAYBE HE IS ON THE RIGHT TRACK THERE.  
16  
17 IT IS, IN SHORT, ALOT EASIER TO BE IN THE GRANDSTAND THAN OUT ON THE  
18  
19 PITCHERS MOUND.

20  
21 THERE IS AN OLD RULE IN BOXING THAT IN A CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH A  
22  
23 DECISION ALWAYS GOES TO THE CHAMPION UNLESS THE CHALLENGER IS  
24  
25 CLEARLY AND DECISIVELY BETTER. MR REAGAN HAS SCORED SOME POINTS IN  
26  
THIS CAMPAIGN AND WE HOPE MR FORD PAYS ATTENTION TO THEM.



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7 IN HIS TIME IN OFFICE HE HAS BEEN INCREASINGLY SURE-HANDED IN HIS  
8 ACTIONS, WHETHER DEALING WITH CONGRESS OR WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES. HE  
9 HAS HELPED CONTROL FEDERAL SPENDING WITH A SERIES OF VETOES. HE HAS  
10 RECOGNIZED THE DANGEROUS SLIDE IN THE CAPABILITY OF OUR MILITARY  
11 FORCES AND HAS PUSHED FOR MORE FUNDING FOR THEM. HE HAS MOVED TO  
12 STOP ABUSES IN WELFARE PROGRAMS. HE HAS MOVED TO TRIM THE FEDERAL  
13 PAYROLL.  
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19 IT HASN'T BEEN AN EASY PRIMARY SEASON FOR MR FORD. RONALD REAGAN  
20 HAS ASKED SOME TOUGH QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FORD ADMINISTRATION SOME OF  
21 WHICH WE AGREE WITH.  
22  
23  
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25 BUT WE MUST REMEMBER IT IS MUCH EASIER TO BE ON THE OUTSIDE ASKING  
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BUT THE OVERALL DECISION HAS TO GO IN FAVOR OF MR FORD. WE URGE A  
VOTE FOR HIM ON TUESDAY."

BEST WISHES AND GOOD LUCK ON TUESDAY.

SINCERELY,

JOHN P MCGOFF PRESIDENT PANAX CORPORATION  
NNNN



Edition: Comment

# Presidential Choices and Decisions

June 8, 1976

Dear Werner:

My sincere thanks to you for the editorial of May 13 giving me the endorsement of the Grand Rapids Press for the Michigan primary. I feel certain that your favorable endorsement was a positive factor in my primary win in Michigan, and I hope that in the days ahead I will continue to have your support and confidence.

It is especially encouraging to know that through all the years I have had the support of the folks back home.

It was good to see you again at the breakfast with the Booth editors in Flint, and I hope to have an opportunity to see you again soon.

With sincere best wishes,

**JERRY FORD**

Mr. Werner Veit  
Editor  
Grand Rapids Press  
Press Plaza  
Vandenberg Center  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49502

bcc: Ron Nessen, Margita White  
bcc: Sandra Wisniewski (with copy of editorial)  
GRF:RHN:MEW:STW:AVH:aby



Michigan Supplement

*Michigan and Mr. Ford*

June 8, 1976

Dear Martin:

The editorial in the Detroit News, endorsing my candidacy for the Republican Presidential nomination, meant a great deal to me. I am sure your endorsement was a factor in my primary win in Michigan, and I am sincerely grateful for your support. I am particularly proud of your conclusion that I have achieved what I considered my first objective on becoming President -- restoring faith and trust in the White House.

Your support over the years has meant very much to me, and I hope I will continue to have your faith and confidence.

With best wishes,

JERRY FORD

Mr. Martin Hayden  
Editor and Vice President  
The Detroit News  
615 Lafayette Boulevard  
Detroit, Michigan 48231

bcc: Ron Nessen, Margita White

bcc: Sandra Wisniewski (with copy of editorial)

GRF:RHN:MEW:STW:AVH:aby



***Ford deserves support  
on basis of his record***

Michigan Supplement



June 8, 1976

Dear Joe:

The May 16 editorial in the Detroit Free Press endorsing my candidacy for the Republican Presidential nomination meant a great deal to me, and I want to express my appreciation for your support.

I was most pleased that you emphasized the fact that I have "earned" the nomination. I have worked very hard and faithfully at being President. I have always tried to do what I felt best for the country. For you to say that I have "earned" the nomination is a real source of pride to me.

With best wishes,

Mr. Joe H. Stroud  
Editor  
The Detroit Free Press  
321 West Lafayette Boulevard  
Detroit, Michigan 45231

bcc: Ron Nessen, Margita White  
bcc: Sandra Wisniewski (with copy of editorial)  
GRF:RHN:MEW:STW:AVH:aby



**A lack of leadership**

Austin American-Statesman

Mr. James E. Fain  
Publisher

"Our voice is a recommendation that President Ford, who seems to be establishing a steady course for the ship of state, despite many difficulties, deserves Texas Republican support."

Beaumont Enterprise

Mr. E. H. Cornwell  
Publisher

"If Republicans do not nominate Gerald Ford, they will be risking debacle comparable to Barry Goldwater's landslide loss in 1964. Ford has recognized that Congress is controlled by the other party and while using the veto to kill many pieces of unwise legislation, he also has worked with law-makers to forge significant compromises on key issues."

Corsicana Daily Sun

Mr. Arthur J. Keeney  
Publisher

"Inflation is down, unemployment is down, production is up. Those are three good reasons why Texas Republicans should support President Ford in the May 1 primary. Ford has simply done a good job since he became the first President ever to take office without being elected."

"Under his leadership we have recovered from one of the first ever peacetime recessions. We believe that Texans in particular can look forward to some good years ahead under Ford. We are particularly skeptical on the future of welfare and social security programs under Reagan. Things are going well under Ford's leadership right now. Navarro County Republicans should recognize that with a vote of confidence in him."



Corpus Christi Caller

Mr. Edward H. Harte  
Publisher

"The Caller recommends that Texas Republicans give Gerald Ford a resounding victory. President Ford has been in the mainstream of American political thought provide him with an affirmation of their faith in his performance and rebuff Reagan's attempt to turn the party around."

El Paso Times

Mr. Frank Feuille III  
Publisher

"President Gerald Ford will be represented by (names 4 delegates). The Times recommends them.

Ft. Worth Star-Telegram

Mr. Amon G. Carter Jr.  
Publisher

"And of the two, Ford clearly is the more deserving of the chance to represent the Republican party in the November election. . . Reagan talks a strong economy in the government game, but Ford has had to play that game in the real area on Washington politics.

Texas Republicans should choose the man of the two who could better lead their party in November and better serve the nation if elected. That man is Gerald Ford.

Galveston Daily News

Mr. Les Daughtry  
Publisher

"In the Republican Presidential primary, the News favors the delegates representing Ford on the ballot."



Midland Reporter-Telegram

Mr. Jim Allison Jr.  
Publisher

"The President has the momentum plus his own record of fiscal responsibility going for him. Jerry Ford has proved himself as a national leaders and campaigner.....For these reasons the Midland Reporter has endorsed the President and urges West Texans to vote for him.





**TEXAS NEWSPAPER ENDORSEMENTS**

**Dallas Times-Herald**

Mr. W. Thomas Johnson  
Publisher  
Dallas Times-Herald  
Post Office Box 5445  
Dallas, Texas 75222

"In the Republican primaries, the Times-Herald urges the election of President Ford over Former California Governor Ronald Reagan. President Ford has led this nation through a trying period of political and economic upheaval. With steady hand and increasing adroitness he has provided sound leadership on both domestic and foreign fronts. He deserves the votes of Texans to be the nominee for an elected term as President."

**Abilene Reporter-News**

Mr. A. B. Shelton  
Publisher  
Abilene Reporter-News  
Post Office Box 30  
Abilene, Texas 79604

"Ford favored best in Texas Republican primary. Ford assumed the Presidency of the United States under the most trying circumstances since Andrew Johnson succeeded the assassinated Abraham Lincoln. The wreckage left in the wake of the Watergate scandal in August 1974 left the country adrift. The people were dismayed. Respect and confidence in the government were at a low ebb. Ford became the first President in the history to assume office unelected under the 25th amendment.

me Twenty one months later, President Ford's most remarkable accomplishment is the normalcy and confidence he has instilled in the institution of the Presidency. Just what his mark in history will be, no one will say. Instant evaluation in the quality of a living President is fallible. Much time must pass before a judgement can be made as long as the emotions and controversy of the President are passed.



But it is clear here and now that Gerald Ford has a strong hand on the helm of state and is bringing his policy convictions to bear on national affairs. He doesn't win all his points, as indeed he cannot and perhaps should not in a system of government which provides for a system of checks and balances.

His checks and balances are primarily an overwhelming Democratic Congress and he has controlled its 2-1 majority with a series of the veto, particularly in instances where he has felt the Congress was spending excessively.

Ford is now locked in a battle for the nomination of his party with Ronald Reagan, the former Governor of California. Texas is a crucial battleground on Saturday. . . (stuff about Reagan). . .

The Reporter-News endorses President Ford, careful to make the distinction that this endorsement applies only in the Republican primary in which Texans will vote on Saturday, and implies nothing toward the final choice Americans will make in November by the Democratic and Republican candidates, not yet known.



San Angelo Standard-Times

Mr. Bill Martin  
Publisher  
San Angelo Standard-Times  
Post Office Box 5111  
San Angelo, Texas 76901

**Ford is Owed GOP Nomination**

The evening Richard Nixon announced his resignation as President of the United States was certainly one of the darkest hours in the nation's history. Our whole form of government seemed suspended above the edge of a cliff ready to topple at the slightest breeze. Even in greater peril, however, was the Republican party. Multitudes were predicting it was the final days of the party as well as the Nixon Administration. Gerald Ford, unelected and appointed by a disgraced President, assumed the leadership of the nation and the party. Few thought it possible that he could right the ship of state or salvage the GOP and on top of having to save the party in our form of government, Ford was faced with an economy sinking to historic depths. The U. S. is not utopia today nor is the Republican party in control of the Congress. Nor is our economy standing on proven solid grounds. But Gerald Ford has brought us all a long way. No one owes him a greater debt than those who cling to the Republican Party. Certainly he is owed the Republican nomination and Texans voting Saturday should cast their votes for his delegates.





**April 28, 1976**

**Dear Mr. Daughtry:**

**I want to thank you for the recent editorial endorsement by the Galveston Daily News of me in the Texas primary.**

**I will be proud to be represented at Kansas City by the delegates you supported in your editorial.**

**I believe your readers in the Galveston area are better informed citizens because of the insights and perspective which you bring to your news, columns, and editorials.**

**Sincerely,**

**Mr. Les Daughtry  
Publisher  
Galveston Daily News  
Post Office Box 628  
Galveston, Texas 77550**

**GF/RN/cg**



It's late in the day for that. And until now the white leadership could think that Kissinger was actually on their side. His devotion to the idea of majority rule was not previously convincing. How convincing is it now? -- (4/29/76)

Clearing the Air (Editorial, excerpted, N.Y. Daily News): Secretary Kissinger scored some points for the U.S. with his clear-cut statement of American opposition to continued white supremacist rule in Rhodesia.

It was, in fact, merely a restatement of what has been this nation's historic stand against colonialism -- a policy deeply rooted in the origins of our own struggle for independence.

However, the secretary's remarks at this particular time may not only erase some misconceptions about the U.S. that are current in Africa, but also could contribute to a solution of the Rhodesian crisis. Anything we can do or say to bring about an early peaceful transition will be a service to mankind. -- (4/29/76)

Texas Supplement

The News Endorses Candidates in May 1 Primary Election (Editorial, excerpted, Galveston Daily News): Next Saturday voters go to the polls in the primary elections to select the candidates for the Nov. general election. The vote May 1 is, in most cases, at least as important as the vote in the Nov. election, and in many cases even more important.

The Galveston Daily News is pleased to announce its endorsements in the race of most widespread local area interest. While the endorsements represent the choices of The News, they are not intended to imply that there are not other good people in the races; it's just The News feels the ones endorsed are the best qualified to serve the interests of all the residents within the particular political jurisdiction.

In the race between the four Democratic groups seeking election as delegates to the state convention, The News recommends the election of Sen. A.R. Schwartz, Helen Fuqua and Charles R. Delgado, who are committed to support Lloyd Bentsen, favorite son candidate for the nomination for president. Bentsen's leadership and status in the Democratic Party plus the possibility of his favorite son nomination would give Texas stronger representation than could be had by the other committed delegates or the uncommitted delegates.

In the Republican presidential primary, The News favors the delegates representing Ford on the ballot. They are Laren K. Richardson, Kris Anne Vogelpohl, Mrs. Howell Cobb and Donald W. Parman. -- (4/25/76)

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 27, 1976

TO: RON'S OFFICE  
FROM: CONNIE THUMMA *CT*  
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL LETTER

Ann in Mr. Morton's office called to say that the PFC in Galveston, Texas (Roger Wallace/Grace Marie at 512-459-4101) called her yesterday to notify them of the endorsement in the Galveston Daily News for the President. This, evidently was not expected.

Therefore, it is felt that a Presidential letter of thanks would be greatly appreciated....perhaps before the May 1 Primary. If approved, it should be sent to:

Ms. Les Daughtry  
Publisher  
Galveston Daily News  
2605 Gerol Drive  
Galveston, TX 77550

Thanks.



*Sam Woods*  
*Editor, Austin American*

supportive

**April 28, 1976**

**Dear Mr. Feuille:**

**I want to thank you for the recent editorial endorsement by the El Paso Times of me in the Texas primary.**

**I will be proud to be represented at the Republican Convention this summer by the four delegates you recommend.**

**I believe your readers in the El Paso area are better informed citizens because of the insights and perspective which you bring to your news, columns, and editorials.**

**Sincerely,**

**Mr. Frank Feuille III  
Publisher  
El Paso Times  
Post Office Drawer 20  
El Paso, Texas 79999**

**GF/RN/cg**



Texas Supplement

# The El Paso Times

PUBLISHED EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR

BY EL PASO TIMES, INC.

MEMBER OF THE GANNETT GROUP

Frank Feuille III, President and Publisher

William I. Latham, Editor

Robert Bentley  
Executive Editor

Dorrance H. Guy  
Associate Editor

Fritz Wirt  
Managing Editor

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Page 8-A

Sunday, April 25, 1976

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*The Times Endorses*

**April 28, 1976**

**Dear Mr. Harte:**

**I want to thank you for the recent editorial endorsement by the Corpus Christi Caller of me in the Texas primary.**

**I hope your readers will follow your advice and give me on Saturday "a resounding victory" which will propel me on my way to the Republican nomination and victory in November.**

**I believe your readers in the Corpus Christi area are better informed citizens because of the insights and perspective which you bring to your news, columns, and editorials.**

**Sincerely,**

**Mr. Edward H. Harte  
Publisher  
Corpus Christi Caller  
Post Office Box 9136  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78403**

**GF/RN/cg**



MONDAY, APRIL 19, 1976

PAGE 14A

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# Reagan offers good show, not leadership

# Ford, Bentsen choices in presidential primary



**April 30, 1976**

**Dear Mr. Martin:**

**I want to express my appreciation for the recent editorial endorsement of me in the Texas primary by the San Angelo Standard-Times.**

**You correctly assessed the difficulties I inherited with the Presidency and the problems encountered in these past 20 months. I believe I have earned your declaration, "Gerald Ford has brought us a long way," and I pledge that I will lead all Americans even further along the road to a better future in a full four-year term.**

**I believe your readers in the San Angelo area are better informed citizens because of the insights and perspective which you present in your news stories, columns, and editorials.**

**Sincerely,**

**Mr. Bill Martin  
Publisher  
San Angelo Standard-Times  
Post Office Box 5111  
San Angelo, Texas 76901**

**GF/RN/cg**



The GOOD Morning Paper for the GOLDEN West of Texas  
**San Angelo Standard**

# Opinion Page

P.O. Box 5111, San Angelo, Texas 76901

In Our Opinion

**Ford Is Owed  
GOP Nomination**

MACFELLY THE RICHMOND NEWS SERVICE © 1976 BY THE RICHMOND NEWS SERVICE

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

TO: FILES

FROM: CONNIE GERRARD

The President wrote in by hand "Jim"  
over the typewritten "Mr. Allison"  
in the salutation.

**April 28, 1976**

**Dear Mr. Allison:**

**I want to thank you for the recent editorial endorsement by the Midland Reporter-Telegram of me in the Texas primary.**

**Of all the things I have accomplished in my career of public service, I believe I would prefer to be remembered by one you cite in your editorial -- namely my record of fiscal responsibility.**

**I believe your readers in the Midland area are better informed citizens because of the insights and perspective which you bring to your news, columns, and editorials.**

**Sincerely,**

**Mr. Jim Allison Jr.  
Publisher  
Midland Reporter-Telegram  
Post Office Box 1650  
Midland, Texas 79701**

**GF/RN/cg**



SUN., MARCH 28, 1978

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# The Midland Reporter-Telegram

Dial 492-5311

P.O. Box 1650

Midland, Texas 79701

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MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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JAMES N. ALLISON (1902-1975)

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JIM ALLISON, JR. .... PUBLISHER

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## In the driver's seat

April 28, 1976

*Amon*  
Dear ~~Mr. Carter~~:

I want to thank you for the recent editorial endorsement by the Fort Worth Star-Telegram of me in the Texas primary.

Believe me, every day I'm in the Oval Office I realize the difference between campaign rhetoric and the realities you point out of dealing with real problems in the real world of Washington politics.

I believe your readers in the Fort Worth area are better informed citizens because of the insights and perspective which you bring to your news, columns, and editorials.

Sincerely,

Mr. Amon G. Carter Jr.  
Publisher  
Fort Worth Star-Telegram  
400 West Seventh Street  
Fort Worth, Texas 76101

GF/RN/cg



~~Star-Telegram~~ recommends these Republicans

**April 28, 1976**

**Dear Mr. Keeney:**

**I want to thank you for the recent editorial endorsement by the Corsicana Daily Sun of me in the Texas primary.**

**You have captured in a few words what I sincerely believe are the results of my economic policies: "Inflation is down, unemployment is down, production is up."**

**I believe your readers in the Corsicana area are better informed citizens because of the insights and perspective which you bring to your news, columns, and editorials.**

**Sincerely,**

**Mr. Arthur J. Keeney  
Publisher  
Corsicana Daily Sun  
Post Office Box 6223  
Corsicana, Texas 75110**

**GF/RN/cg**





Texas Supplement

17

SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 1976

Corsicana Daily Sun

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# *Ford merits GOP votes*

**April 29, 1976**

**Dear Jim:**

**It was especially meaningful for me to receive the endorsement of the Dallas Times-Herald in the Texas primary because of our long acquaintance and because of the high place your newspaper holds in the ranks of American journalism.**

**In a full four-year term I pledge to continue my leadership with the "steady hand and adroitness" which you called attention to in your editorial.**

**Jim, I'm sorry my campaign swing through Texas does not allow me the time for an extended personal visit. I look forward to having another such visit with you in the Oval Office when these busy campaign days are over.**

**Sincerely,**

**Mr. James F. Chambers  
Chairman of the Board  
Dallas Times-Herald  
1101 Pacific  
Dallas, Texas**

**GF/RN/cg**



# Presidential primaries

IN THE TWO party primaries to

**April 29, 1976**

**Dear Tom:**

**I want to express my appreciation for the recent editorial endorsement of me in the Texas primary by the Dallas Times-Herald.**

**I am proud to offer the voters of Texas my record of accomplishment in what you so rightly termed a "trying period of political and economic upheaval."**

**I believe your readers in the Dallas area are better informed citizens because of the insight and perspective which you consistently present in your news stories, columns, and editorials.**

**Sincerely,**

**Mr. W. Thomas Johnson  
Publisher  
Dallas Times-Herald  
1101 Pacific Street  
Dallas, Texas**

**GF/RN/cg**



# Presidential primaries

April 29, 1976

Dear Mr. Shelton:

I want to express my deep appreciation for the recent supportive editorial of me in the Texas primary by the Abilene Reporter-News.

I believe you have correctly assessed the difficult period through which our country has passed in recent years. Of all the things I have accomplished in my 21 months as President, the one of which I am most proud is the re-establishment of "normalcy and confidence in the institution of the Presidency" which you cite in your editorial. I pledge that in a full four-year term I will continue to keep a "strong hand on the helm of state" which you saw fit to single out for praise in your editorial.

I believe your readers in the Abilene area are better informed citizens because of the insight and perspective which you offer in your news stories, columns, and editorials.

Sincerely,

Mr. A. B. Shelton  
Publisher  
Abilene Reporter-News  
Post Office Box 30  
Abilene, Texas 79604

GF/RN/cg



April 29, 1976

Dear Joe:

I'm sorry my short stay in Dallas during these final days of the primary campaign will not allow me to have an opportunity for quiet conversation with you. I hope when the busy campaign season is over, we will have a chance to talk in the Oval Office.

But while I am passing through Dallas, I did want to express to you my thanks for the recent editorial endorsement of my candidacy in the primary by the Dallas Morning News. Joe, this is very meaningful to me because of the special place the Dallas Morning News occupies in Texas journalism.

I promise that in a full four-year term I will continue to work for and put into place those policies which you and I both believe are best for the future of our nation and the American people.

Sincerely,

Mr. Joe M. Dealey  
President  
Dallas Morning News  
Communications Center  
Dallas, Texas 75222

GF/RN/cg



# The Dallas Morning News

*The News, oldest business institution in Texas, was established in 1842  
while Texas was a Republic*

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## Editorial Page

*Dick West, Editorial Director*

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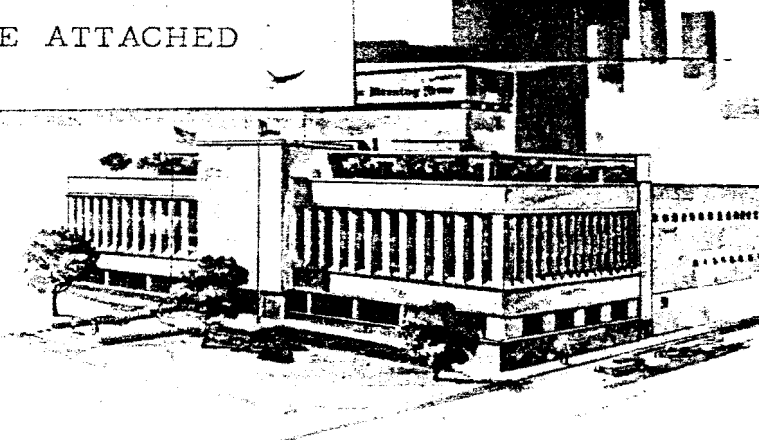
TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 1976

*The News Endorses:*

# Ford for President



## The Dallas Morning News



May 3, 1976

1976 MAY 6 AM 11 06

CM  
The Hon. Gerald R. Ford,  
President of the United States,  
The White House,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:


Thank you for your kind note about my column on the Texas primary.

I was surprised by the outcome last Saturday and can only account for it, in part, by the large number of Democrats who crossed over into the Republican primary.

You still have a great reservoir of good will in this state, and I think November will be another story.

I do not spend much time in Washington nowadays, but I would like to have the privilege of talking with you the next time I am there. I still recall with pleasure the luncheons with you on Capitol Hill when you were Republican leader of the House.

Sincerely,

  
Bob Baskin

ORIGINAL TO: CARON MCCONNOR  
COPY TO: RON NESSEN

FYI

**April 29, 1976**

**Dear Bob:**

**I was fortunate enough to be in Dallas on Wednesday when your column appeared raising questions about the Reagan candidacy and what it might do to the Republican party to which I have dedicated so much of my life. I was glad to be able to read this column myself on the day it appeared, and I want you to know that I agree with many of the insights you have presented to your readers on this important subject.**

**Bob, of all the accomplishments of my first 20 months as President, I consider the most important to be the return to the White House of "sincerity and honesty," which you mention in your column.**

**I regret that my busy schedule in Dallas does not permit me an opportunity to spend some time with you. I look forward to seeing you on a quieter day in the Oval Office.**

**Sincerely,**

**Mr. Robert Baskin  
Dallas Morning News  
Communications Center  
Dallas, Texas 75222**

**GF/RN/cg**



Bob Baskin  
Dallas Morning News

## CAMPAIGN BY REAGAN QUESTIONABLE, DEVISIVE

It is possible that the many good and sincere Republicans in Texas who are strongly supporting Ronald Reagan in Saturday's state Presidential primary are not looking far enough down the road. The Reagan candidacy has been something of a puzzle ever since it began. It continues to be a puzzle when one examines all the political connotations with it.

Here we have the spectacle of a former California Governor- a conservative challenging and incumbent Republican President also a conservative for the GOP nomination in 1976. It would be easy to understand a challenged President Ford by someone from the liberals of the Eastern ranks of the party. Someone in the Rockefeller-Javits camp for example but nothing of that sort has materialized.

Republican party membership constitutes less than 25 percent of the national electorate and it can be estimated that not much more than 75 percent of that membership is of conservative persuasion.

Senator John D. Tower, head of Ford's campaign in Texas has emphasized two things in his intensive swing around the state this week. 1. Reagan cannot be elected if he is nominated. 2. A bitter division in Republican ranks can spell defeat for hundreds of GOP candidates for Congress and other high offices.

This is precisely what happened in 1964. In 1964 when Senator Barry Goldwater highly conservative and divisive campaign for the nomination gave the Democrats a massive victory. Tower and others have not hesitated to point out the similarities between Goldwater and Rockefeller. Goldwater and Reagan candidacy.

The scenario that may develop is not a pleasant one for Republicans or all conservatives for that matter to contemplate.

Assuming that Reagan will acquire enough delegates between now and this summer's national convention in Kansas City there will be the prospect of a bitter struggle on the floor that could rend the party. Such a contest could be virtually irreparable.

The idea of an incumbent President being denied the nomination is almost inconceivable. The embarrassment of such a development would throw the Republican party into an irresolute position. It has never been a party that could heal its internal wounds easily.



It is well and good for Reagan to point up some of the issues that confront the nation today, and it may be that his candidacy in preventing Ford from veering away from his long-held conservative views. In that context, some useful purpose may be seen in the Reagan campaign.

But it is apparent that the former California governor is a determined contender for the GOP nomination that he is fully intent on unseating Gerald Ford.

In this effort he has rather patent speeches that go over well in many places. He has the advantage of being out of office, where he does not have the pressures that come from all sides, and he can expound ideas that might be impractical for a sitting President, who must represent all of the nation to a certain extent, to expense.

It seems strange that this contest should exist at a time when the economy is rebounding and when Ford is developing an image of consistency and coolness dealing with the issues at home and abroad. He is not the polished performer that Reagan is in his public appearances, but his sincerity and honesty came through to most of those who knew him.

There is a great deal riding on the outcome of the Republican Presidential primary in Texas this coming Saturday and the prognosticators including the President himself are saying that Reagan is ahead, although Ford may be coming up some in the final days before the vote.

Former Texas governor John G. Connally who could influence the outcome decisively has elected to stay above the fray. Some of his friends say that this is a mistake, that he should take sides preferably in behalf of Ford.

There may be good reason for Connally to follow his present course. There have been repeated speculative stories that he would be given some reward possibly the Vice Presidential nomination if he came out for Ford. If Ford wins out at the national convention. The idea of a deal of this kind obviously is repugnant to Congress and is bad politics to boot.

The Ford-Reagan contest in Texas will have the nation's attention if Ford gets the nomination his chances of getting a good majority of the delegates at the Kansas City convention will be tremendously enhanced. If Reagan wins his challenge of the incumbent President will be of greater significance than ever.





**April 28, 1976**

**Dear Mr. Fain:**

**I want to thank you for the recent editorial endorsement by the Austin American-Statesman of me in the Texas primary.**

**Indeed I have tried to establish a "steady course for the ship of state" during my Presidency, and I pledge to continue that steady course during a full four-year term.**

**I believe your readers in the Austin area are better informed citizens because of the insights and perspective which you bring to your news, columns, and editorials.**

**Sincerely,**

**Mr. James E. Fain  
Publisher  
Austin American-Statesman  
308 Guadalupe Street  
Austin, Texas 78701**

**GF/RN/cg**



**April 28, 1976**

**Dear Mr. Cornwell:**

**I want to thank you for the recent editorial endorsement by the Beaumont Enterprise of me in the Texas primary.**

**I was pleased by your clear perception of what I have tried to accomplish through both vetoes and compromises in advancing the nation's best interests.**

**I believe your readers in the Beaumont area are better informed citizens because of the insights and perspective which you bring to your news, columns, and editorials.**

**Sincerely,**

**Mr. E. H. Cornwell  
Publisher  
Beaumont Enterprise  
Post Office Box 3071  
Beaumont, Texas 77704**

**GF / RN / cg**



**April 22, 1976**

**Dear Len:**

**The March 5 editorial in the Daily Journal endorsing my candidacy for the Republican Presidential nomination meant a great deal to me. I am particularly grateful for your kind personal comments and also your encouraging words about how I have handled our Nation's economic situation.**

**I feel certain that your favorable endorsement was a positive factor in my primary win in Illinois, and I hope that in the days ahead I will continue to have your support and encouragement.**

**With best wishes,**

**Mr. Len H. Small  
Publisher  
The Daily Journal  
Eight Dearborn Square  
Kankakee, Illinois 60901**

**GRF:MEW:STW:mgs  
cc: Ron Nessen/Margita White  
cc: w/cpy of editorial of March 5 to: Sandra Wisniewski**



April 16, 1976

Dear Jim:

I have been following some of your recent editorials, and I want you to know that it means a great deal to me to have your support in my campaign for the Presidency. I am particularly grateful for your editorial endorsement of March 7. There is no doubt in my mind that this support was very helpful in bringing about my win in the Florida primary.

It was good to see you when you were here for the Florida editors interview and more recently for the ASNE reception. I trust you and Mrs. Clendinen enjoyed your stay in Washington.

I hope that in the days ahead my Administration will continue to have your support and encouragement.

With best wishes,

**JERRY FORD**

Mr. J. A. Clendinen  
Chairman of the Editorial Board  
The Tampa Tribune  
Post Office Box 191  
Tampa, Florida 33601



bcc: Ron Nessen, Margita White, Sandra Wisniewski w/copy of editorials.

GRF:NEW:STW:RLE:aby



April 1, 1976

PUR-3

Dear Bill:

Thank you so very much for your editorial endorsing me for a full term as President.

It means a great deal to me to know that you understand and support what I am trying to do for our country and for my fellow Americans.

With best wishes and appreciation,

JERRY FORD

Mr. William J. Keating  
President  
The Cincinnati Enquirer  
617 Vine Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45201

B  
GRF:RN:mvm

Copy of this case sent to  
Jan in the Press office on 4/9/76

RECEIVED

APR 7 1976

GENERAL FILES

32 - Endorsing Presidential Candidacy  
7604031430



# THE CINCINNATI ENQUIRER

FOUNDED APRIL 13 1841

*One of the World's Greatest Newspapers*

WILLIAM J. KEATING  
PRESIDENT

March 23, 1976

RN  
The Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Enclosed please find an endorsement from The Cincinnati Enquirer.

Best regards,

*Bill*

jr

Enclosure

# *The Case For President Ford*

Dear Kirk:

I was in Sarasota, Florida, enjoying the weather and the large, friendly crowds, when a copy of the Sunday Chicago Tribune arrived with the very good news that I had your editorial support in the March 16 Illinois primary.

I want you to know how much it means to me to have your support, Kirk. Your editorial showed a welcome understanding of what I have tried to do since I came to the White House and what my hopes and plans are for the future.

Your support in this primary is especially meaningful to me because the Chicago Tribune both reflects and leads the opinion of millions of Americans in the heartland of our Nation.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Mr. Clayton Kirkpatrick  
Editor  
Chicago Tribune  
435 N. Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60611

GRF:RN:jb



**Dear Mr. Skewes:**

**Your recent editorial announcing that the Meridian Star is changing its affiliation to Independent Conservative Republican has just been called to my attention. Welcome!**

**As you wrote so eloquently and with such understanding, those principles for which the Meridian Star has stood for so many years are the principles of the Republican Party, and I know you will be comfortable with the many like-minded people in your new home.**

**I am, of course, pleased that you have decided to transfer your affiliation to the Republican Party, whose ideals you obviously share. What is more important is that you continue to bring your insights and solid judgments on important issues to your readers.**

**With appreciation,**

**Sincerely,**

**Mr. James B. Skewes  
The Meridian Star  
Box 1591  
Meridian, Mississippi 39301**

**GRF:RN:jb  
cc: Dick Cheney - w/incoming  
Margita White - w/incoming**



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 3, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:      RON NESSEN  
FROM:                      DICK CHENEY

Ron, attached is an editorial written by the owner and publisher of the Meridian Star, James B. Skewes, which is probably the second paper in Mississippi in influence. The editorial underlines the strength of the Governors race last November.

A letter from the President to Mr. Skewes, Box 1591, Meridian, Mississippi 39301, should probably be sent on this editorial.

Attachment

# *the Meridian Tuesday Star*

January 27, 1976

VOL 82—NO. 27

MERIDIAN, MISS.

DAILY 10c—SUNDAY 25c

*Voice Of The New South*

## **We Change Parties**

AN EDITORIAL

# HOUSTON CHRONICLE Editorials

Page 18, Section 1

Wednesday, April 28, 1976



## Reagan rhetoric divisive



2D The Houston Post  
THURS., APRIL 29, 1976

# Post/commentary

## Campaign dust