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Office of the White House Press Secretary  
(Seattle, Washington)

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THE WHITE HOUSE

EXCERPTS FROM REMARKS  
BY THE PRESIDENT  
AT THE  
WASHINGTON GOP LUNCHEON

OLYMPIC HOTEL  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

SEPTEMBER 4, 1975

Three of the most important issues we'll be addressing in the next few months -- energy, economy and foreign policy -- have special significance to the people of Seattle and the State of Washington.

First of all, Seattle serves as a vital link to this nation's number one energy-producing project -- construction of the Alaska Pipeline.

Beginning in 1974 and continuing through next year, more than a billion dollars worth of supplies and equipment for the pipeline project will have gone from the Port of Seattle to Alaska. Another 500 million dollars worth is being shipped in barges directly to the North Slope through the Arctic Ocean.

Twenty-two thousand people working on the pipeline system depend on this great port city for almost all of life's essentials. You are serving them -- and serving your country -- in a very effective and admirable way.

We expect the first oil to come through the pipeline in 1977. By the end of that year, we expect to be getting 1.2 million barrels a day from the rich reserves on the North Slope. We hope eventually to get 2 million barrels a day or more.

The success of this pipeline project will represent a tremendous contribution to energy independence for America, and Seattle is playing a major role in assuring the project's success. This energy partnership is an exciting prospect -- one that you should pursue to the fullest.

But your role in America's energy future is not the only thing that makes this city and this state so important to the Nation.

As a major center for world trade, especially trade with Asia, Seattle plays an important part in our national economy.

In 1974, we sold more than 22 billion dollars worth of goods to the nations of Asia, and we purchased more than 24 billion dollars in Asian merchandise and raw materials in return. And nearly 20 percent of that trade came through the great port of Seattle.

(MORE)

This Port won the President's "E" Award last April for its excellence in export activities, and it is one of several facilities which makes Seattle such a lovely and dynamic city.

You certainly made a strong and favorable impression on Japan's Prime Minister Miki last month when he visited Seattle on his way to that other Washington on the East Coast.

The Prime Minister had special praise for Seattle's beauty and its vitality, and for the friendliness of its people. I couldn't agree with him more.

I want you to know that I personally appreciate the warm welcome you gave the Prime Minister, and I am very happy to report to you that he and I had some very interesting and fruitful discussions on a number of important topics.

Japan, as all of you know, is the number one overseas consumer of American exports, and Seattle, as I mentioned a moment ago, has played a crucial role in making that trading relationship the highly successful one it is today.

It is my desire and my goal to expand our trade, not only with Japan but with the other nations of Asia. As a major step toward that goal, and toward our overall goal of peace and stability and normal relations with our neighbors in the world, I look forward to visiting the People's Republic of China later this year to continue the leadership discussions our two countries initiated four years ago.

Although differences of philosophy and policy continue to exist between ourselves and the People's Republic, we know it is far wiser to seek resolution of those differences through negotiation rather than confrontation. The Shanghai Communique of 1972 remains the basic charter of our efforts to build a more normal relationship with a nation embodying a quarter of mankind.

In the last four years we have built a constructive exchange program with Peking, and a trading relationship that benefits both countries. The people of Seattle experienced those benefits directly with the sale of ten Boeing 707's to the People's Republic in 1973.

I want this kind of commercial cooperation to grow, with China and other nations, and to be enhanced by political, cultural, and diplomatic cooperation as well.

I want our two great nations -- and all nations -- to live in a world that is both prosperous and secure.

This need not be an impossible dream. It is a realistic, attainable goal which we can achieve with the right kind of policies and with the right kind of leadership.

From my travels across this beautiful country, I have become convinced of this: Republican policies, both foreign and domestic, are in tune with the needs and the aspirations of most Americans.

Perhaps more than at any time in our history, our Party's principles and objectives match the hopes of the American people.

Our Republican commitments to fiscal responsibility in government, to a vigorous free enterprise system, to a strong national defense, to local control over local concerns, and to personal freedom for the individual -- are commitments shared by the vast majority of Americans and Washingtonians.

(MORE)

Let's open the Party's door to all Americans who believe as we do rather than opening it just a crack for a few. Let's work together for common victory rather than working against each other for sure defeat.

We need to take this message to the people: We care about them and about what they think. We want to do our best to make the life of this nation and the lives of its citizens the best they can be.

We need your help to get this message across. You've helped us in the past, you've helped us in a very generous way today. We're counting on you to help us in the next fourteen critical months.

Together, we can make 1976 a great year for the Republican Party -- and the future great for America.

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