

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 30, 1976

Office of the Vice President
(Dearborn, Michigan)

REMARKS OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
AT
GOP RECEPTION
HUBBARD BALLROOM, HYATT REGENCY HOTEL
DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

(AT 7:30 P.M. EST)

Thank you. All I can say is, ladies and gentlemen, for an Easterner to be in the heartland of America and feel the strength and the enthusiasm that I feel here tonight in this Republican gathering, it is a thrill and an inspiration, and thanks for inviting me.

What a wonderful country it is, ladies and gentlemen; what strength this country has. All we need to have is confidence in ourselves and we are just going to go right back on top and out in front where we belong.

I would just like to say, "Order in the Senate, please."

(Laughter)

That is the only thing I can say. I am not allowed to speak in the Senate. But I would like to say that in this great party and in this great country I know of no two more representative Americans, no two finer Americans more dedicated to the well-being of our nation and the people of this nation than your great Senator, Bob Griffin, and your great Governor, Bill Milliken.

So I am thrilled to be here with both of them, and I would like to say that we, as a party, are very fortunate in our national leadership, Mary Louise, one of the great party leaders, and I tell you, I am proud to be in a party that has the courage and the wisdom and the perception and the vision to pick a woman as the leader of our party; and a beautiful one, too.

She was picked for her ability, but she has the looks as well, I want to tell you.

I want to thank Bill and Hope and I want to say what a wonderful organization you have here, too. So let's go on to this evening, because old Ray Bliss is my friend. He symbolizes the things that we want to stand for here tonight and that is unity in the Republican Party, ladies and gentlemen. That is right. The courage to have unity with diversity, that is America.

All individuals in a free land, everybody saying what they think but when we have all had our say, then we come together and we stand united. That is what makes a great party and that is what makes a great nation. I want to tell you, ladies and gentlemen, we got a great leader. That is why I have this button on. I am very grateful to him for the opportunity of serving with

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him and that is President Ford.

I believe deeply in the two-party system. We are a minority party. Therefore, we have to work harder. But the American people need us today, ladies and gentlemen, and they are beginning to realize that and they are turning to the Republican Party. That surge is just starting, because they need strong leadership. They need good management. They need sound management.

These are the things the Republican Party stands for. That is why you are here. That is what we are going to get in this next election.

Ladies and gentlemen, let me just say a few things about what this great President has done. Two problems we face at home, inflation and unemployment. He has had the courage to face this question of inflation by vetoing popular measures of expenditures as I said this afternoon, when we had a little meeting. I was allowed to come in the meeting of your leaders. I want to tell you what I said and I think it is right.

A lot of people have said about New York City, you know, they got into a little trouble. Forgive me. They spent a little more money than I had. Now they were faced with a very serious situation, but, ladies and gentlemen, the Congress of the United States has done exactly the same thing under the democratic leadership. That is right.

If it wasn't for the fact they could print the money, we would be bankrupt as a nation. Let's not forget that. They point fingers at New York, but Congress is going to run with a Democratic 2 to 1 majority control, going to run a \$74 billion deficit this year. Okay; that is right. That is what feeds inflation. That is why the President studied the situation, had the courage to veto these spending measures and, believe me, this man, ladies and gentlemen, coming from Michigan, right here, this man has had the courage to say what is in the best interests of America, then stand for it, regardless of the short-term political advantages. That is what America wants and needs.

So what are the results? Cut inflation down from 12 percent down to 6.9 percent last year and it is headed on down to protect those on fixed incomes, those wage earners, all of those Americans who otherwise had their money stolen out of their pocket by the most insidious tax there is, inflation. That is President Ford's number one problem.

Number two is to get the economy rolling again, not to put people on doles, but to get the economy rolling so they can have decent jobs to build for their families and get their hope for the future and there are now 1,700,000 more jobs in America than there were at the bottom of this recession last year. We need 2,800,000 more -- and because this country has got the capacity -- we are going to get them under a Republican leadership and we need more Republicans in the House of Representatives, in the Senate of the United States, and a Republican President.

END (AT 7:45 P.M. EST)