

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 17, 1976

Office of the Vice President
(New York, New York)

REMARKS OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
AT THE
NEW YORK REPUBLICAN STATE COMMITTEE MEETING
STARLIGHT ROOF, WALDORF ASTORIA HOTEL
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

AT 2:16 P.M. EDT

I have got to say, ladies and gentlemen, this is to me a very, very happy occasion. These are many wonderful old friends, and you see the new blood that is coming into the party and the vitality that is evidenced not only in this room but out at the cocktail lounge before lunch and the delegation meeting.

I would just like to say, ladies and gentlemen, that in my opinion the Republican Party of New York State is the greatest Republican Party in the Nation. You are setting an example for responsible leadership in our two-party system that could be well-emulated from one end of this Nation to the other. And I think that the demonstration today and the responsibility that was shown and the responsiveness at the meeting in nominating the present Senator, Senator Buckley, is a perfect example of this leadership in our Party.

I agree with Dick that he is going to go on to victory and we are going to have topflight representation.

I have to say that what we set in this Party as an example is that we stretch out our arms and embrace all to the Republican Party from one side to the other side of the spectrum of politics, and that is what the Republican Party nationwide has got to do. You have done it here today.

I want to tell you, anywhere I go in this country, talking about our Party, I just say, what can you do better than have Jake Javits and Jim Buckley representing the great State of New York in Washington, D. C.?

Now, to be with my old friends Malcolm and Louis anywhere, anytime is always the greatest pleasure in the world, two of the most wonderful human beings. And I want to say what a thrill it is to be with them and two great leaders from the legislature, Perry and Warren. We are grateful that they are part of this responsible leadership.

My only regret is it isn't the partnership leadership that Malcolm used to talk about, responsible Republican leadership in cooperation between the Executive and Legislative Branches, both in the hands of Republicans. But that will be corrected shortly, ladies and gentlemen.

Now, one can't accomplish anything in life without leadership, and any group as big as this has to have strong leadership of integrity, of courage, of vision, of faith and belief. We have got that leadership in Dick Rosenbaum.

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I know there are complaints once in a while that he is too modest, too retiring and somewhat shy.

(Laughter)

But Eunice and Phyllis are trying to bolster him up and give him courage to stand up and express himself clearly so we know what he means.

I want to tell you, Dick, we are grateful to you. And there are a lot of people in Washington who want to know more about how you are doing in New York State when they see what is happening around the country. I want to say thanks to you and thanks to the rest of this group, because you are the ones who elected him. Believe me, we are fortunate.

Now, we have got a great dinner tonight, and it is a great dinner because we have had two great chairmen for this dinner. Al Gordon, Jr., in my opinion, has emerged as one of the great finance chairmen of the State, and we are grateful to him. I want to thank him for what he has been doing. And if we see anybody with their arms in slings tonight, don't be surprised, ladies and gentlemen, because it is slippery sometimes. But they are coming, and we are grateful.

One of the most exciting things is that not only have we got a chairman, but we have a cochairman -- or cochairperson, whatever they call it; cochairman as far as I am concerned -- in Carolyn Amory, and I would like to say we are grateful to her. She is getting a great group going on the women's side of the operation.

No party anywhere can have strength without financial support. That is the lifeblood of the Party. To have two attractive young people who are really concerned and dedicated and have the ability to deliver, that has got to be something. So we are very grateful to both of them.

I would just like to say that it is wonderful to have the funds, but without the Party leaders, you cannot do it. And to all the county chairmen, vice chairmen, to all the Party workers here, I would like to say thank you, thank you for what you have done, for what you are doing and what is going to be done this fall. In my opinion we are going to have a very exciting and successful election this year in November. It is going to be a Republican President, and it is going to be Jerry Ford, ladies and gentlemen.

Just keep right on eating so we won't waste time, because you have got more meetings to go to and so do I.

If you go back two years ago and think where we were as a Nation and the concerns that were existing in this country and the distress of the political leadership and think where we are now, we have got a President who has restored respect and confidence in the leadership in the Executive Branch of government. And that in itself is no small achievement. He has done that.

And then go back two years, and we have the recession and depression and inflation and unemployment.

And look what has happened in that period, with inflation down, cut in half, two-and-a-half million new jobs within the last year, a growth rate of 8.5 percent and, believe me, ladies and gentlemen, personal income going up. Nobody thought this was possible. This is what Jerry Ford has done, because of his courage, his perception and belief in the American enterprise system. It has been a fantastic accomplishment.

To go one step further, there is peace in the world. We take a lot of things for granted, but when you think of the delicacy of the situation in the Middle East, it is one hot area. And the Panama Canal -- excuse me; the Suez Canal is open, and ships are going through.

We have heard so much about the Panama Canal, too, but that is also open, ladies and gentlemen. We won't go into that. That is closer to home.

These are all accomplishments, ladies and gentlemen, and nobody in the world thought this would happen. Thanks to the leadership of our President and thanks to a brilliant negotiator, a conceptual thinker on a global basis in the form of our Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, this country is in good hands and good shape. Let's keep it that way, and let's keep the President who has brought us this kind of stability in our Nation.

Now, let me just read you something that supports what I have been saying. I think all of you or some of you may read Kevin Phillips' American Political Report. As you know, he is a political analyst that is most respected by the conservatives in this country. Therefore, I go to a source which would be unbiased, an analysis of the coming election. I just read from this report, page three.

"If Ronald Reagan wins a bitter nomination fight, it is also safe to look for a major bolt, this time from party liberals and moderates. If it's Reagan versus Carter, we think that 25 to 30 percent of GOP voters would swing to Carter (in some states, Gene McCarthy might pick up a small minority, too). A Reagan candidacy would help other GOP candidates in a few Deep Southern and Rocky Mountain states, but across most of the country, especially in big Northern industrial states, Ronald Reaaan could lose badly and drag down other GOP candidates.

"In New York, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Minnesota and New England, the GOP could lose a collective net 5 to 10 House seats, and also lose its last chances in many counties and state legislatures. Our guess is that the damage would be well nigh irreparable, and that the 'Old Minority' Northern GOP base would be fatally shattered."

"Old Minority" was in quotes.

"Offsetting Southern and Western gains would be minimal. The Reaganites could be left with a party that was more of a grave than a vehicle for putting together a 'New Majority' coalition. The conservative movement would be badly impugned by a decisive Reagan defeat."

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Ladies and gentlemen, I read you this because this supports the vast majority of the delegates to our convention, and I just wanted you to know what I think myself is the situation we face in this country.

Let's keep nationally the approach that we have on the State basis in New York.

Best of luck, and thanks for what you have done.
God bless you.

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AT 2:27 P.M. EDT