

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 18, 1976

Office of the Vice President
(Greensboro, North Carolina)

REMARKS OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
AT THE
NORTH CAROLINA REPUBLICAN STATE DINNER
DOGWOOD ROOM, FOUR SEASONS HOLIDAY INN
GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

7:30 P.M. EDT

Thanks very much, Governor. I appreciate those kind words. I would like to thank you for inviting me down and tell you what a pleasure it is to be here.

I am sorry Happy is not here. She sends her love to everybody. She has got a lot of friends here. She felt badly not to come, but we had our big day yesterday for the New York State Republican Committee meeting and a big lunch and then a fund-raising cocktail party in the afternoon and then fund-raising dinner last night. So by the end of that she felt that she better stay home with the little boys and try to rest -- not with them, because that is not rest. But she is not here and I am sorry, but she would have liked to have been.

I come before you this evening as an ex-politician and I am very happy to be here. I feel there is a great similarity, as I was saying earlier, between our two States. We have minority parties in both States, about three-to-one registered against us, and yet in both States we have elected Republicans to the governorship, to the Senate.

We have been very fortunate; in the last 38 years we have had 28 years of control of both Houses of the legislature and the governorship. So I have to believe that we share common beliefs as Party people here, those of you who are generously supporting the party. And, believe me, that makes you part of the Party, and the Party is deeply grateful for those generous men and women who are willing to contribute. Because without the contributions of those who care enough about our two-party system to support it, we can't preserve that strength, that vitality which is the essence of freedom. So I would like to thank everybody who has come here and who has generously contributed to the Party.

The common denominator, it seems to me, between our two States is we have the capacity to reach out to people wherever they live or work and have a concern for people, their problems, their hopes, their aspirations, their fears, and to intelligently and effectively help them and deal with them, deal with the problems on a sound fiscal basis with deep human concern, and, therefore, gain the confidence of people to get elected even though we are minority parties. And I think that principle applies very strongly to the Nation as a whole, the Republican party on a national basis.

Yesterday our party, which is pretty well-organized, if I may say so myself -- I am an ex-politician

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so I am just looking at it, see.

(Laughter)

Dick Rosenbaum is our State Chairman, and we have a long-standing tradition that the State Chairman is the leader. And we kind of believe a little bit, if you will forgive me for saying so, in party discipline. We are a minority party, and, therefore, we have our differences, but we like to iron them out among ourselves and face the public on a united basis. That is where our strength is.

Yesterday, after carefully considering the matter over a period of months, 99 percent voted for Jim Buckley. Now, he was elected on a conservative ticket, and we nominated him for the Republican Senatorial race this coming fall. That is the same party that only a few weeks before had gone 87 percent for Ford. I would just like to say that any party that can have Senator Javits and Senator Buckley representing them has got to be a pretty broad-spread party. We believe we are representing people, and we don't pick them because of their beliefs on one side or the other, but we just like to have men and women of integrity, ability and dedication. And we like to have them in the party and they are all welcome. Then we argue out and settle our differences and then, as I said, the majority wins. Those who lost at that particular point wait to come back and win another day.

I think this, frankly, has got to be the strength of our party. We are not afraid of differences, and I feel you are going to be the same way. We have got to have it. This is the essence of democracy.

The American people like to be able to express themselves freely on any subject, and I think it is very healthy, myself. So we encourage it and then try to work out our differences and, as I say, present a united front.

Now, we are coming into an exciting period, or we are in the middle of it, I guess it would be better to say, on the national scene. I think we Republicans can be very proud of the Republican record.

If you look back two years, things were pretty rough. We had been through the trauma of Viet Nam, then the trauma of Watergate. It had torn this country apart. People had lost confidence in government, in leadership. We then were faced with, as a result of the OPEC countries, these tremendous increases in the cost of energy and then in food, with the shortages of food around the world and the Soviet Union's crop failures, plus inflation, depression, unemployment, loss of confidence in government and the very sad circumstances under which the Viet Nam War was terminated, which left a very unhappy feeling in this country.

Now, two years later, I don't think anybody could have thought we would be in the position we are in under Republican leadership. The confidence in government has been restored, respect for government, and we can be proud of that.

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The economy has improved faster than anyone thought possible, even the most optimistic people who believe deeply in the free enterprise system, as I believe all of us do here. That system has been given the chance to work by a Republican Administration. And the President vetoed one giveaway program after another that was supposed to solve all the problems, just the way they tried during the depression years of the thirties.

Roosevelt tried to solve the problems of the country by all those programs, and the truth of the matter is that it wasn't until World War II that our country's economy got back on its feet. That is a sad thing to say, but that is the fact. We were running about eight percent unemployment despite all these programs.

Now, we have seen in the last year this thing turn around, inflation cut in half. Nobody thought you could stop inflation and regain employment at the same time, and yet in the last year we have got 2,600,000 new jobs more than we had a year ago. And that is more than the number of jobs that were lost at the bottom of the depression. In the meantime there have been a million and a half come into the labor market each year, so there are about three million now still looking for employment. But we have got a growth rate of 8.5 GNP, which is phenomenal. Nobody thought that was going to happen. This is an extraordinary situation.

So now the problem is that we don't want to go too fast. We don't want to come back too fast, because the demands for goods and services will grow before we are able to increase production, and that would get us back to inflation. It is a happy situation to find ourselves in, but the Administration is trying to cool this down a little bit so it doesn't go too fast.

Here we are in a situation where, slowing it a little bit in the next year, the new jobs should be created for the million and a half people each year that came along since, and we ought to be in a situation where we are back to normal, really growing with the capacity to create the additional million and a half jobs every year from there on.

The United States is leading the rest of the free industrial world in its recovery. And this conference that is going to be held down in Puerto Rico is going to be a very important conference, because this is now the European nations, Japan, big industrial nations working together to coordinate their activities, their fiscal policies and their economic policies, which hasn't been done before. So we are seeing ourselves in a position where our strength is being reestablished at home, the prestige of the government is reestablished, and now we see the United States' prestige abroad reestablished, the accepted leader of the free world.

We have seen the Secretary of State go to both Africa and Latin America and working with the developing countries. And at this conference in Puerto Rico the problems of the developing countries are going to be discussed to get a common policy about how the industrial nations will work with and help the developing nations on the basis of mutual interest and mutual benefit, working together

to help them by giving them opportunities to increase their production so they can raise their own standard of living.

One of the things that Pat Moynihan said that I thought was awfully good before he went to the U.N. was that the trouble with most of the leaders of the Third World is they had been educated in the London School of Economics in the time of the Fabian Society. The basic concept was you divide up the pie. The British were a very successful nation and that was a fine idea. Now these leaders are all heads of these nations, but they haven't got any pie, so what they want to do is divide up our pie, you see. That's where he really put his finger on it.

I think it is very interesting, because now the whole concept is shifting around to where we want to help them produce by work. And the only way the United States got here -- it wasn't that somebody gave us what we got. We worked to get it as a nation. And the work ethic, in my opinion, is basic. And this is one of the things that worries me about the high unemployment rate among the youth of this country, and I think that is one of the serious aspects that is left. We have got to get to that, and I think we are getting to it.

But here we are, the Republican Party having gone through this record or reestablishing confidence, reestablishing the economy, not through government expenditure but by the President vetoing these popular measures and the Republicans supporting his veto override, which the Democrats have tried to do. That took a lot of courage.

I have sat with him hour after hour as he worked on these issues, trying to decide what is in the best long-term interests of this country. And then without hesitation, when he came to the conclusions of what was the best long-term interest, he would take that action, regardless of the short-term political consequences. That is real leadership and what our country needs.

So with those two plus the international situation -- and we are at peace in the world; nobody should forget that. And we have been through some very traumatic things in the Middle East and other areas, still going through them. But they have handled this beautifully.

So I have to think when we get to the elections in November, that it is going to be very hard for the Democrats -- I don't know Mr. Carter very well. He came in as I was going out as governor. But I guess Jim knows him pretty well. I don't really know too much about him. I thought he was an attractive young man, but he didn't take too much interest, as far as I can tell, as far as the rest of us were concerned. So I would have to think they are going to have a very hard time, come November, to find an issue to attack the Republicans on. We have got a tremendous record of achievement as a Party, and those issues are going to be very hard for them to attack.

I listened, as I was saying earlier, to Hubert Humphrey make a speech the other night. You know how eloquent he is. He cut it down to about half an hour, which

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he said he had never done before, because I was speaking after he was, and he wanted me to have time before everybody went home. He was saying the same old things about the government has to do this, the government has got to make all these jobs, government has got to make everybody a house, government has to guarantee this.

The truth is, unless this country grows, unless the American enterprise system grows, there will be no taxes paid to the government for the government to do these things. Eighty-five percent of all the taxes come from the American enterprise either directly or indirectly.

It is because of men and women who work in the country who make profits, who produce the goods and services on which they make the profits, and those who work for the companies and what they pay in taxes and on dividends. That is how this country gets the money, and that is how government gets its money. Tax collectors get it every year.

(Laughter)

That is how this system works. Therefore, unless we make our system work -- and we are putting more and more hurdles in the way, and I don't think that the old cliches that the Democrats have been living on are working. I think that the American people have seen that what has happened in the last two years is reaffirmation of faith in fundamental values on which this country was founded -- hard work, creativity, imagination, willingness to take risks.

You can't get a riskless society. If we wanted a riskless society, nobody would have come to this country to begin with. And if they had gotten here, they wouldn't have gone west because of the risks. The willingness to take risks built America, because it was an opportunity to achieve something for themselves and their families, and then in the process for the country as a whole.

So, as I say, I don't see how the Democrats are going to be able to mount a very effective campaign. I cut out this morning in the paper the Democratic platform, or at least the summary of it, and I am going to read it on the way home. I will see what they have got to offer. Probably it's a promise for everybody. It usually is.

But the truth of the matter is, I think the American people are restoring their faith -- and that includes the young people -- in the basic values that made America what it is, and the Republican Party has led us back.

Now, having said that, ladies and gentlemen -- and we are speaking here with total frankness, and I have got to think this is a very sophisticated group and your basic interest is our country and your next interest is politics, and you are in politics because you love the country and you are supporting the Party, that being the party you want to win. That is my idea of politics. You don't go in it just to lose, as far as I am concerned.

But we all believe that the best politics is good government, and I think the Republican Party has given good

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government. And I think the American people are going to say to themselves, "Why should we take an unknown?" when they get to voting this fall. "Why should we take an unknown when we have got something we have seen now, that we know is good?" I think we are going to have a Republican victory in November.

I have to say to you, ladies and gentlemen, and this, of course, gets down to our Party, but just from a practical politics point of view, I have the same feeling about Mr. Ford. He has now proven a record, and I have to say, "Why should we pick an unknown on the national scene when we have got somebody who has proven that he can do the job?"

Thank you very much.

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AT 7:50 P.M. EDT