

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 16, 1976

Office of the Vice President
(Syracuse, New York)

REMARKS OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
AT THE SAIR AVIATION TERMINAL
HANCOCK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

AT 12:37 P.M. EDT

Thank you very much, Dick.

Ladies and gentlemen, this is a free country, and we want to let everybody have a chance to speak. You are listening to one of the American Labor Party Marxists over there. Marxism might be nice, but not for America. We don't need it here.

Sit down. Thank you.

He can have his chance to speak at his own rally, and everybody should have their own chance at the right time. But this happens to be a Republican rally and not a Marxist rally.

(Applause)

I would just like to say, ladies and gentlemen, no nation in the world has ever given as much opportunity to more people as America has, because of democracy. We don't need any other ideologists to come here and try to tell us how to run our country and we have known how and when we have proven how, and they have had a total failure in achieving opportunity for their people on the basis of freedom.

That is what we believe in, in freedom for all Americans. That is what we are fighting for, and freedom of speech.

(Applause)

We want him to have an opportunity for freedom of speech, but he has got to have his own rally.

There is another one. They have got five of them. That is all right. They are very fine young men. They were all good when they were in college. They come from nice families. Unfortunately, they got converted.

(Laughter)

All right. Now, let me go on. We are a little behind schedule, or we would let you speak. Otherwise, we would like to hear from you.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, I want to again thank Dick for having me. I want to thank him for inviting these great Marxists to this rally.

(Laughter, applause)

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What they need to do is go over to the Soviet Union and see if they can talk over there.

(Applause)

Mr. Solzhenitsyn had to come to the United States to be able to speak.

(Applause)

Go out and try your theories over there in the Communist world. That is what you are advocating. So let's let it go at that.

I want to talk about the future of America, the future of democracy, ladies and gentlemen, and I want to talk about what the Republican Party's role in this future is, because we believe in a two-party system as a basis of democracy.

(Applause)

We want to thank the East Syracuse-Minoa Fife and Drum Corps.

(Applause)

This is America, ladies and gentlemen. It is their future we are talking about, and we want them to have the same opportunities we have had -- opportunities of freedom to express our own desires, our own ambitions, our own hopes and to do it in our own way and not have somebody tell us how to do it or what we should do. We want freedom and that is what we are going to have.

(Applause)

I want to tell you that President Ford has sent his regards to everybody here, including those wonderful members of the American Labor Coalition, which doesn't happen to belong to the AFL-CIO, in case you are interested. They use the word "labor," but they don't really represent labor. That is another question I won't get into.

But the President sends his regards to everybody, both Republicans and discerning Democrats.

(Applause)

I want to say that he is very grateful to the Republican delegates from New York for their nomination at the convention. And he is particularly grateful to Dick Rosenbaum, our great friend, our great leader, for his role, and to Eunice Whittlesey and Phyllis Kelly, his right hands, for what they did not only in New York but this great country for his nomination.

(Applause)

And I would like to predict right here and now that President Ford and Bob Dole are going to be elected in November.

(Applause)

The President has turned this country around in two years from the despondency, from loss of faith in ourselves and in our government, to a restoration of faith, to a restoration of the vitality of our economy, to stopping inflation, to 3,800,000 new jobs in the last 18 months, and to peace in the world and to respect for the United States.

(Applause)

Ladies and gentlemen, the American people trust him. That is what they want. They trust him. They have confidence in him. And when they get in the booth in November, I want to tell you, that is something you want to think about -- which man do we trust? Who has had the experience? In whom can we have confidence in a crisis? And it is going to be President Ford.

(Applause)

And the extraordinary thing is, ladies and gentlemen, he has done it in spite of the lack of cooperation of the two-to-one majority in the Senate and House. And what we need are more Republicans in the Senate and more Republicans in the House. And we need Jim Buckley back in the Senate.

(Applause)

He has got integrity. He has got respect from all sides, and he is a man who believes in and advocates individualism. He advocates American enterprise, and he advocates a strong America that can preserve freedom throughout the world. That is what we need.

Now, as a Representative, we need Bill Walsh back in the House of Representatives, your former mayor. He couldn't be here today because he is working for the Congress. He is down there voting on important measures. That is the kind of public servant we need.

You might say, what am I doing here? Well, I am here, but I am on the job just the same, because I am standby equipment, and I am here if anything happens. That's okay.

(Laughter)

But, ladies and gentlemen, we need Bill Walsh back. I worked with him when I was governor and he was mayor. We did good things here. He knows his country, knows local control of government, and that is what we need.

I want to tell you, you have got a great group here for the Senate and the Assembly of this State. We need to have more Republicans in both those houses. But let me say we have in our presence here today a man who has stood as a bulwark against a whole lot of things which we would hate to see happen in New York, and that is Warren Anderson, the leader of the New York State Assembly.

He needs more support. He needs Tarky Lombardi and he needs Martin Auer, who are back there to help him to do the right thing for this great State and keep it the Empire State, the first State in the Nation.

With true apologies to you, Senator. We are very patriotic, Senator, and we believe in our Empire State, so you understand.

(Laughter)

Now, we have also got Jim Emery, who is representing Perry Duryea, who was the Speaker. Now he is the minority leader. We have got to get Perry back as Speaker so we have the kind of leadership we need.

Joe Williams and the wonderful group of Assemblymen who are sitting here on the platform, and Congressmen, Jack Kinsella, Robert Nortz, Bill Bush, Leonard Bersani. They have got special support out there, and Johnny Zagame. We need them all.

(Applause)

Now, I want to tell you, ladies and gentlemen, my biggest pleasure and my biggest thrill is to have the honor of presenting to you the next Vice President of the United States. He is a special kind of guy. He is our kind of guy, Bob Dole. That is what he is known as, and I want to tell you, he is great.

(Applause)

Let me tell you, Bob Dole knows about America. Bob Dole started out as a county attorney. He knows it from the grass roots up. Then he was in the State legislature. He knows the problems here. Then he was a Congressman, then a United States Senator.

He served three-and-a-half years in World War II, a war hero, paralyzed in one arm. And I want to tell you, this man has served his country all his life.

Let me tell you something about him. He brings to this ticket courage. We need courage these days. That's right. And he brings character, and we need character. And, I tell you, he brings something else, ladies and gentlemen, he brings with him a brilliant and beautiful wife, Elizabeth.

(Applause)

She has been mentioned already, her career at Harvard. But I want to tell you, she is a woman in her own right. She is a member of the Federal Trade Commission. So you get two for one here.

(Laughter)

It is very seldom it happens like that. So we are very fortunate.

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Let me go on about him. He is a man of compassion. That is what we need in America today. He has been a champion of civil rights. He has stood for the food stamp program for those who are in need. He has had the courage to do that.

You won't believe it, ladies and gentlemen, but it was the McGovern-Dole bill. That is a combination for you. It shows the breadth of this man. They came up with a reorganization to cut off those who didn't deserve it but help those who deserve it.

He is a champion of the handicapped. He understands their problem because he has one arm handicapped himself.

This man, in addition, is a lifelong supporter of Israel, a believer in the American enterprise system which made this country what it is today, a war hero, as I have already mentioned.

And let me tell you one thing. There is never going to be any doubt in anybody's mind as to where this man stands. He will not equivocate, and, as Malcolm Wilson would say, he will not obfuscate. That is one of those big words Malcolm used all the time we were together and I never understood.

(Laughter)

He will not double-talk, either. And, another thing, he will not give the opposition the luxury of fuzzing up the issues, either. And he will be a tremendously important asset to the President of the United States in running this country. And he is fully prepared, should fate will, God forbid, to lead America.

I give you the next Vice President of the United States, Senator Robert Dole.

(Applause)

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(AT 12:50 P.M. EDT)