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SEPTEMBER 29, 1976

Office of the Vice President
(Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania)

REMARKS OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
AT THE
RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY
PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE HEADQUARTERS
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

PARTIAL TRANSCRIPT

(AT 3:15 P.M. EDT)

Elsie and Marianne, these women, that is where the power is.

(Applause.)

I know it is that way in my State. We got to get them up here, too. Here she comes. Here is Kathy. I want to tell you this is our inspiration. Where is Charlotte? Charlotte got down there in a hurry. She is too modest.

I want to tell you and Bill and Jim, there are some great leaders, chairmen, and vice chairmen of the PFC and Bob Pierce. Everybody is here. I want to tell you, the only one we haven't got here is our next Senator from Pennsylvania, John Heinz.

(Applause.)

He is setting up his ticket for Pennsylvania. He has been campaigning. I have been with him for two days. He got called back to Washington for a vote. Can you imagine? That is the way they run it. He is a responsible Congressman. That is why one has to respect them. He left the campaign trail, just like the President.

The President would like to be out campaigning right now but he has to be there in the closing days of Congress because that is when all the legislation jams up. That is where the arrangements are made and the compromises and the amendments and he has to be there to protect the American people from the two-to-one majority of Democrats in the Congress. Who knows what the Congress is liable to do in these closing days.

That is why we need these Republicans down there to give the President support.

(Applause.)

When you think of what the President has done for this country in two years, where we were two years ago, a loss of confidence in the Executive Branch of Government, the White House, the country torn, torn by Viet Nam, Watergate and then we were going into inflation, recession, depression. Then the situation in Viet Nam and the loss of confidence around the world and all of it, the President has dealt with.

He has restored respect for the White House and

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the Executive Branch. He restored confidence. He has cut inflation in half. The economy has started to roll. We have a growth rate up over eight percent, four million jobs in the last 16 months.

It has levelled off a little bit right now and that is a good thing because we were running a little ahead which could lead to an overheated economy. We have to slow down a little bit and then go on up where the productive capacity gets back to where it should be.

Then we are going to have the jobs for the men and women who want those jobs in this country. The reason that demand is growing is because confidence is growing. A month ago there were 400,000 additional jobs, new jobs in this country of ours. But that same month, 700,000 people came back into the labor market and therefore, it showed an increase in unemployment even though there had been a 400,000 increase in the number of net jobs.

This is one of the things we have to look from statistics and understand. Another factor is showing the power of women, more than half of the 700,000 were women who had come in the labor market. As a matter of fact, 45 percent of the workers in America today are women because they are doing all the work anyhow.

(Applause.)

All I can say is we have got a man with a proven record who believes in this country, who loves this country, who understands the traditions on which this country has grown to greatness. I just know that when people get into that booth on November 2, that they are going to be there alone. You don't have to worry. I will be out of here in a minute. He is looking at his watch. I was really getting warmed up.

(Applause.)

You have to understand, I am not allowed to speak in the Senate. I preside over the Senate, see. I am not allowed to speak without unanimous consent. So, when I get a wonderful, attractive group like this I am inspired. I am just getting started.

(Applause.)

But when they get into that booth and they are alone, the American people, each person individually, in my opinion, they are going to think, who can we trust, in whose hands do we want to be in the next four years to make decisions about the problems at home and the problems abroad.

Who has been able to restore confidence? Who has brought peace to America, the Republican Party, ladies and gentlemen, let's face it.

(Applause.)

That is what the American people want. In coming to conclusion, in my opinion, the majority of the American people are going to say, we want Jerry Ford who has a proven record, who believes in America, who understands the American enterprise system and who wants to see this country grow

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back to the strength and vitality and leadership in the world that it has had. That is why he is going to be reelected.

You have a great guy in Bob Dole. You are going to love him. He has a wonderful sense of humor, knows government at local, State and national levels. He is a war hero. I have to say while I am very respectful of Governors and Mr. Carter has had a lot of experience as Governor of Georgia, there is nothing wrong with Georgia, it is a great State. Just the same he has had no experience on the national basis.

He has had no experience on the world scene. Therefore, at this moment it is a little dangerous, it seems to me, for an experiment on on-the-job training. So, let's go with Jerry Ford, ladies and gentlemen. And let's get this whole thing because we need that support.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

END

(AT 3:20 P.M. EDT)