

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Office of the Vice President  
(Portland, Oregon)

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REMARKS OF THE VICE PRESIDENT  
AT VIP RECEPTION  
HILTON HOTEL, COUNCIL ROOM,  
PORTLAND, OREGON

AT 7:43 P.M. PDT

MR. YOUNG: This is a joint event to which I am very, very proud to introduce the Vice President. This is a combination event of our major Party contributors which have been almost the sole reason why the Republican Party in the State of Oregon has been able to field and finance the best set of candidates this state has seen in a long time, if not ever. We are very, very happy to join that event with our first Congressional District candidate Bladine's fund-raising effort tonight.

Of course, the star of the party is the man who we hope calls his second home Oregon, a man who has been very, very good for us and I think Oregon has been very good for him. He very unselfishly comes back to help us whenever needed. He could very well have spent his time in other states around the country this next month, but I am very, very proud that Nelson Rockefeller, our Vice President, did choose to come to Oregon and give us a hand.

Thank you, sir.

THE VICE PRESIDENT: Steve, thank you.

(Applause.)

THE VICE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, Steve. I am grateful to you for those generous words. I would just like to congratulate you and Carol on the fabulous job you two have done in leading the great ticket you fielded here for statewide candidates in Oregon. Also, of course, we are all here to support and to see to it that Phil Bladine gets to Washington. We need him there. You need him there. We all need him there.

Now, I have, and you know it, a very special place in my heart for all of you, for the state, and for what you have done for me. I am tremendously grateful, and anytime I can be helpful, I am here, just knock.

First, I would like to give you some interesting good news, if you haven't already heard it. That is that the poll was just out in California today and the President has moved ahead one point in the Field poll in California. It is 44 to 43, and that was taken four days after the debate. That is just to let you know, if there is any question.

It is very exciting. Ladies and gentlemen, I don't think ever in history there has been a case where a Democratic candidate has come out of a convention with

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as great a lead as my former colleague from the State of Georgia had, the Governor, as he had after the Convention, and President Ford has just slowly come forward, and steadily done so. When I used to be in public life myself, and was running for office -- and this is the first time I have ever appeared here not running for office, unaccustomed as I am -- my authorities on polling said that whatever the trend was in the last month, it was virtually irreversible and the President's trend has just been steadily up this last month.

I want you to know that in the great County of Nassau, which is our biggest suburban county in New York, over 2 million people, the President is now 10 points ahead and gaining rapidly and it looks as though there will be a sweep. I think he is going to carry New York and carry California and, of course, right here you are his friends, so he ought to carry Oregon, and if he can carry Texas, which he is liable to do after those generous remarks that Mr. Carter made about his former colleague, just an afterthought in that interview with that distinguished publication, So I think this thing looks very exciting.

When you look back two years ago and you think where we were as a nation, then think where we are today -- the confidence in the White House restored, the economy starting to roll again, the situation in the world, we are at peace, and no President has been able to say that since President Eisenhower. People know that they have a proven leader, a man of integrity, a man of courage, a man of great guts who believes in this country, who loves this country, who understands the fundamental principles and values on which this country grew to greatness, and he wants to get us back to those. He recognizes that we are not going to do it if government just creeps into our lives with a bureaucratic red tape structure in Washington growing night and day, which is not going to be able to preserve the strength and vitality of America. He is trying to get us back with less government, create a framework within which free citizens can function, knowing that the rules of the game are not going to be changed in the middle of the game. That is his objective.

Of course, Governor Carter wants more of the same -- more big Federal spending, greater deficits. I just think the American people are going to make that decision and I think this switch in the polls is absolutely fascinating. It is steady. It is moving. He has got two and a half weeks to go. I would like to say that with Phil Bladine coming to Washington to support him in the House of Representatives, and the President winning in November -- as he is going to do -- we are really going to get back on the track.

Ladies and gentlemen, I would just like to thank you for letting me be here with you and thank you for your support of Phil and the Party.

Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

MR. YOUNG: I really wasn't making light of my  
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introduction. When Carol Weissert and I went to Washington the first time, we were very delighted to be in a small group invited to the Vice President's house. When it was introduced that the Chairman and Vice Chairman from the State of Oregon were at the door, both the Vice President and Mrs. Rockefeller immediately overwhelmed us at the door.

They really do care about us in Oregon and they really do think this is a second home.

Mrs. Rockefeller said seriously a week does not go by that Nelson does not talk about Oregon and all the beautiful things he has seen there, and his personal admiration for it. The Oregon State Party would like him to take home for his wife's perusal, and his, our Oregon Book as a little memento --

THE VICE PRESIDENT: Aren't you nice.

MR. YOUNG: -- of his coming to Oregon.

THE VICE PRESIDENT: Aren't you nice. Steve, that is great. I appreciate that.

(Applause.)

THE VICE PRESIDENT: I will take this back to Happy. I want to thank you very much. I have to say that of course my first love is all of you, as individuals, But also I have a tremendous feeling for the state, itself, and for the beauty of the state.

I happen to have been born in Maine. There is a great deal of similarity in many ways between the whole topography and the whole environment here and Maine. So every time I come here, I sort of feel at home from that point of view as well.

As I look at these beautiful pictures, here, I know that we are going to feel that. Happy will be back on Friday. She is on a little trip. I will take her this and she is going to be absolutely thrilled and very jealous she wasn't here to see all of you.

Thank you very, very much.

Thank you, Steve.

(Applause.)

END

(7:52 P. M. PDT)