

REMARKS OF HONORABLE BOB DOLE

KANSAS STATE GOP CONVENTION
TOPEKA, KANSAS
SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1972

IT IS BOTH A PLEASURE AND AN HONOR TO BE HERE WITH YOU THIS MORNING AT THE KANSAS STATE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION AND TO SHARE WITH YOU SOME OF MY THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS ABOUT THIS 1972 ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

AT MINIMUM, IT MUST BE SAID THAT THESE ARE EXCITING TIMES FOR ALL OF US WHO ARE INTERESTED IN POLITICS AND IN THE FUTURE OF THIS COUNTRY AND THE CHANCES FOR PEACE IN THE WORLD.

AND IF I HAD TO POINT TO ANY ONE THING THAT HAS MADE THEM SO -- THAT HAS TURNED THE FRUSTRATIONS AMERICANS FELT ONLY FOUR OR FIVE YEARS AGO INTO OPTIMISM -- IT WOULD HAVE TO BE THE LEADERSHIP OF THIS PRESIDENT -- OF THIS REPUBLICAN PRESIDENT -- RICHARD NIXON.

A PROMISE OF PEACE

DURING THE LAST THREE AND A HALF YEARS, I HAVE WATCHED THIS COUNTRY CHANGE, I AM SURE YOU HAVE SEEN IT -- THE CHANGE FROM DESPERATION TO HOPE, FROM THE AGONY OF FRUSTRATION OVER OUR PROBLEMS, TO THE CONFIDENCE AND DETERMINATION THAT THEY COULD -- AND WOULD -- BE SOLVED.

Idem
Dyck
Hutt
Murphy
Quinn
Yarby

-2-

WE STILL HAVE SOME SERIOUS PROBLEMS. THESE ARE STILL TROUBLED TIMES. BUT A NEW DIMENSION HAS BEEN ADDED TO THEM. THE DIMENSION OF PROMISE.

THERE IS THE PROMISE THAT WE CAN BUILD A PEACEFUL TOMORROW -- A FULL GENERATION OF PEACEFUL TOMORROWS -- OUT OF THE TURMOIL OF THE PRESENT.

THERE IS THE PROMISE THAT OUT OF PRESENT DIVISIONS IN THIS COUNTRY, WE CAN FORGE A FUTURE ALLIANCE AMONG THE GENERATIONS, AMONG THE RACES, BETWEEN VARIOUS LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT AND BETWEEN THE VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS IN THIS COUNTRY, BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE.

THERE IS THE PROMISE THAT WE CAN FASHION FOR OURSELVES THE KIND OF ECONOMIC PROSPERITY WE HAVE ALWAYS WANTED -- ONE BASED ON PEACE -- AN ECONOMY THAT DOESN'T NEED THE ARTIFICIAL STIMULUS OF WAR WHICH CAN ONLY PRODUCE AN ARTIFICIAL PROSPERITY BASED ON WAR.

THINGS CHANGE FAST THESE DAYS. INCREDIBLY FAST. AND THAT FACT ALONE HAS CAUSED US PROBLEMS AS OLD WAYS OF DOING THINGS, OLD UNDERSTANDINGS, EVEN OLD VALUES, SEEM TO LOSE THEIR EFFECTIVENESS AND PASS AWAY.

FOR AWHILE, THIS NATION WAS DISORIENTED BY THAT RAPID CHANGE. FOR AWHILE THERE WAS THE WIDESPREAD FEELING IN AMERICA THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS LOSING ITS EFFECTIVENESS AND THAT THIS SOCIETY ITSELF WAS FALTERING.

-3-

BUT TODAY THERE IS PROMISE. AND THERE IS PROMISE BECAUSE PRESIDENT NIXON, BY HIS PROGRAMS AND POLICIES, BY HIS VISION AND INSIGHT -- BY HIS LEADERSHIP -- HAS RESTORED TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE A SENSE OF THEIR OWN EFFICACY -- A SENSE OF THEIR CAPACITY TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF TODAY.

SO IT MAY BE TRUE THAT THESE ARE STILL TROUBLED TIMES, BUT NOW THEY HOLD PROMISE. AND WITH THE CONTINUED LEADERSHIP OF THIS PRESIDENT, WE CAN HAVE HOPES OF REALIZING THAT PROMISE.

NIXON'S VISION OF AMERICA

AS ONE OF THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISERS SAID IN 1970, UNDER THIS ADMINISTRATION, "A LARGE VISION OF AMERICA HAS BEEN PUT FORTH." IT IS RICHARD NIXON'S VISION OF AMERICA AND I BELIEVE THAT DURING THE LAST THREE AND A HALF YEARS, THE MAJORITY OF AMERICANS HAVE COME TO ACCEPT THAT VISION AS THEIR OWN. AND THEY HAVE COME, WITH THE PRESIDENT, TO REJECT WHAT HE CALLED "THE NARROW VISION OF THOSE WHO WOULD TELL US THAT.....ALL THE SWEAT AND TOIL AND SACRIFICE THAT HAS GONE INTO THE BUILDING OF AMERICA WAS FOR NAUGHT BECAUSE THE BUILDING IS NOT YET DONE."

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE COMING TO REJECT THAT NOTION. WITH RENEWED

-4-

CONFIDENCE, THEY ARE DETERMINED TO GO ON WITH THE BUILDING OF AMERICA, IN THE RECOGNITION THAT THAT IS A JOB THEY CAN DO AND A CHALLENGE THEY MUST CONFRONT.

YOUTH SHOWS PROMISE

IN THE LONG TERM, I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY HAVE THE CONFIDENCE AND THE DETERMINATION AND THE INTELLIGENCE TO MEET THE CHALLENGE OF TOMORROW.

AND I MEAN ALL OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY -- THE OLD WHO DON'T WANT US TO LOSE THE GOOD WE HAVE AND THE YOUNG WHO WANT TO MAKE IT BETTER.

IN THAT CONTEXT, I AM REMINDED OF ANOTHER CONVENTION I ATTENDED ONLY A FEW DAYS AGO. I WAS IN SHAWNEE MISSION TO DELIVER THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT A CONVENTION THAT TO ALL APPEARANCES WAS MUCH LIKE THIS ONE.

THERE WAS THE SAME BUSTLE OF ACTIVITY, THE SAME KINDS OF CONCERNS WERE ON THE MINDS OF THE DELEGATES. EVEN THE MOST CASUAL OBSERVER COULD NOT FAIL TO PERCEIVE THAT THE DELEGATES ALL SHARED A COMMON SENSE OF SERIOUSNESS AND OF GREAT PURPOSE.

AS I SAID, IT WAS A CONVENTION MUCH LIKE THIS ONE, WITH PERHAPS ONE ESSENTIAL DIFFERENCE. THE AVERAGE AGE OF THE DELEGATES WAS ABOUT 17.

-5-

THEY CALLED IT A MOCK CONVENTION, BUT THERE WAS CERTAINLY NOTHING ERSATZ ABOUT THE INTELLIGENCE AND SOPHISTICATION OF THE DELGATES. CERTAINLY THE INTEREST IN THE FUTURE OF THIS COUNTRY, AND IN THE POLITICAL SYSTEM WHICH WILL HELP TO SHAPE THAT FUTURE, WHICH I VIEWED AT THE SHAWNEE MISSION HIGH SCHOOL MOCK CONVENTION, WAS GENUINE.

TOMORROW'S PROMISE ROOTED IN PAST TRADITIONS

I HAVE ADDRESSED SEVERAL AUDIENCES IN RECENT WEEKS, AND I MUST SAY MY EMOTIONS ABOUT THESE VISITS ARE MIXED. BUT IF I EVER HAD REASON TO DOUBT THE ABILITY OF THE YOUTH OF THIS COUNTRY, MY EXPERIENCE IN SHAWNEE MISSION WENT A LONG WAY TOWARD EASING THAT DOUBT. THAT MOCK CONVENTION WAS A CREDIT TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE -- INDEED TO ALL THE PEOPLE -- OF KANSAS. TO MY KNOWLEDGE, IT WAS UNIQUE IN THE NATION. THERE IS NO OTHER LIKE IT.

BUT IT IS NO SURPRISE THAT IT TOOK PLACE HERE. WE HAVE A GREAT TRADITION IN THIS STATE -- A TRADITION EXEMPLIFIED BY A GREAT MAN. GOVERNOR ALF LANDON. AND IT IS A TRADITION THAT PERHAPS HE HIMSELF EXPLAINED BEST IN AN INTERVIEW HE GAVE IN 1970, WHEN HE SAID, "THERE ARE SOME INTELLIGENT PEOPLE IN WASHINGTON. MORE OF 'EM IN KANSAS."

-6-

IN A SUBSEQUENT INTERVIEW EARLIER THIS YEAR, ALF LANDON REFERRED TO WHAT HE CALLED THE "ENLIGHTENED, VIGOROUS, CONSTRUCTIVE LEADERSHIP" OF PRESIDENT NIXON. I CONCUR WITH HIS EVALUATION AND I NOTE THAT THE LEADERSHIP HE SPOKE OF IS DEEPLY ROOTED IN THE REPUBLICAN PRINCIPLES AND TRADITION OF OUR PARTY, A TRADITION THAT ALF LANDON PLAYED SO LARGE A ROLE IN SHAPING.

POSITIVE REASONS FOR SUPPORT

IT IS THE KIND OF LEADERSHIP THAT DESERVES OUR STUDY HERE AT THIS CONVENTION AND OUR SUPPORT IN THE CURRENT CAMPAIGN.

AND IT IS THE KIND OF LEADERSHIP THAT I BELIEVE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE RESPONDING TO AND WILL SUPPORT OVER ANY ALTERNATIVE THE DEMOCRATS MAY FINALLY DECIDE TO OFFER.

BUT I DO NOT MEAN BY THIS THAT THE BEST REASON FOR SUPPORT OF RICHARD NIXON IS SIMPLY THAT THE DEMOCRATS HAVE NO ONE BETTER TO PROPOSE. FAR FROM IT. WHAT THE DEMOCRATS ARE FACED WITH AS A CHOICE FOR THEIR PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE IS NOTHING MORE THAN A CHOICE OF THE LEAST INCOMPETENT AMONG THE CURRENT FIELD OF POSSIBILITIES. THE CHOICE OF A CANDIDATE LEAST OUT OF STEP WITH THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY. THE CHOICE THAT IS LEAST UNACCEPTABLE TO THE AMERICAN VOTER. AND WHEN YOU GET RIGHT DOWN TO IT, THAT IS NO CHOICE AT ALL. NOT WHEN YOU

-7-

OPPOSE THAT KIND OF A PROCESS-OF-ELIMINATION-CANDIDATE AGAINST THE INCUMBENT, RICHARD NIXON, WHO HAS A RECORD TO RUN ON, WHO HAS SUCCESS TO POINT TO, WHO HAS POSITIVE LEADERSHIP TO OFFER.

TIMES -- AND NIXON -- ON PEACE SIDE

LET US TAKE A MOMENT TO LOOK AT THAT RECORD AND THAT LEADERSHIP TO SEE HOW IT STACKS UP AGAINST THE ISSUES THE DEMOCRATS SEEM DETERMINED TO RUN ON.

IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, FOR EXAMPLE, THE PRESIDENT IN HIS INAUGURAL PREDICTED THAT "THE TIMES ARE ON THE SIDE OF PEACE." AND DURING HIS ADMINISTRATION, HE HAS STRIVED TO MAKE THAT PREDICTION COME TRUE.

AND HE HAS MET WITH NO LITTLE SUCCESS.

X IN THE MIDDLE EAST, A CEASE-FIRE NEGOTIATED AT AMERICAN INITIATIVE WAS AGREED TO IN 1970. IT WAS SUPPOSED TO LAST FOR ONLY NINETY DAYS. YET, TODAY IT IS STILL IN EFFECT.

X IN BERLIN, WE REACHED AN HISTORIC AGREEMENT ON THE STATUS OF THAT TROUBLED CITY.

X IN HELSINKI, AMERICAN AND SOVIET NEGOTIATORS ARE WORKING TO COME TO AN AGREEMENT ON THE LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

-8-

TREATIES HAVE BEEN SIGNED PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS TO NON-NUCLEAR NATIONS AND PREVENTING THE USE OF THE OCEAN FLOOR AS A BASE FROM WHICH TO LAUNCH THESE WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION.

WE ARE ELIMINATING OUR ARSENALS OF BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS AND AGREEMENTS HAVE BEEN REACHED WITH OTHER NATIONS SO THAT THEY WILL DO THE SAME.

THE PRESIDENT'S HISTORIC JOURNEY FOR PEACE TO CHINA -- AND HIS COMING TRIP TO THE SUMMIT IN MOSCOW NEXT MONTH -- ALL OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS AND INITIATIVES HAVE PROVEN THAT THE TIMES -- AND RICHARD NIXON -- ARE ON THE SIDE OF PEACE.

RIGHT MAN -- RIGHT LEADERSHIP

I HAVE COME TO KNOW THE PRESIDENT. HE IS A REMARKABLE MAN. TOUGH. HONEST. PRINCIPLED. CONCERNED ABOUT MANY THINGS BUT NONE SO MUCH AS HE IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE GOOD OF THIS COUNTRY AND OF ITS PEOPLE, AND OF ITS COMMITMENT TO FULFILL ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO ITS OWN PRINCIPLES AND TO THE FUTURE OF FREEDOM IN THE WORLD.

BUT YOU ALREADY KNOW WHAT KIND OF A MAN HE IS. IF YOU HAVE FOLLOWED THE DEVELOPMENTS OF THE LAST THREE AND A HALF YEARS, YOU DO. IF YOU WATCHED HIS TELEVISED ADDRESS TO THE NATION ON THE WAR IN VIETNAM LAST WEDNESDAY NIGHT, THEN SURELY YOU KNOW WHAT KIND OF A MAN HE IS.

-9-

PEOPLE SUPPORT FIRM NIXON STAND

THAT WAS A FORCEFUL STATEMENT AND A FORTHRIGHT ONE. AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, IT WAS A STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLE -- SOMETHING HIS DETRACTORS AND POLITICAL CRITICS, ESPECIALLY IN THIS ELECTION YEAR, SEEM UNABLE TO COPE WITH OR EVEN TO COMPREHEND.

U BUT IF THEY HAVE TROUBLE UNDERSTANDING HIS STATEMENTS OF PRINCIPLE, I AM SURE THAT YOU DO NOT. AND I AM SURE -- TIRED OF THIS WAR AS THEY MAY BE AND AS EAGER TO SEE IT END AS THEY ARE -- THE MAJORITY OF AMERICANS CAN UNDERSTAND WHAT HE MEANT WHEN HE SAID "WE MUST BE STEADFAST. AND WE MUST NOT FALTER IF WE NOW LET DOWN OUR FRIENDS, WE SHALL SURELY BE LETTING DOWN OURSELVES AND OUR FUTURE AS WELL."

U IF THE PRESIDENT'S CRITICS CANNOT UNDERSTAND THAT, I BELIEVE, NONETHELESS, THAT MOST OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE CAN. AND THAT THEY CAN AND WILL SUPPORT IT.

NO ALTERNATIVE TO FIRM ACTION


IF THE DEMOCRATS WANT TO MAKE A PARTISAN ISSUE OUT OF THE WAR, THEN LET THEM OFFER THE AMERICAN PEOPLE A BETTER WAY TO END THE WAR. SO FAR, THEY HAVE NOT DONE THAT. SO FAR THEY HAVE ONLY CRITICIZED. SO FAR, THEY HAVE ONLY PROTESTED THEIR OUTRAGE AND HORROR AT THE ACTIONS OF AMERICA IN ITS WILLINGNESS TO HELP A BELEAGUERED ALLY.

WHEN THE PRESIDENT ORDERED AMERICAN PLANES TO BOMB THE NORTH OF VIETNAM IN REACTION TO THE COMMUNISTS' INVASION -- AN INVASION WHICH THE PRESIDENT'S

-10-


CRITICS HAVE FAILED TO CONDEMN EVEN AS THEY CONDEMN OUR RESPONSE TO IT -- SOME OF THOSE PARTISAN CRITICS ONLY WRUNG THEIR HANDS AND SAID THERE MUST BE A BETTER WAY.

IF THEY HAVE ONE, HOWEVER, THEY AREN'T SAYING.

 WOULD IT HAVE BEEN A BETTER WAY JUST TO STAND BY AND LET THE INVASION PROCEED UNCHECKED? WOULD IT HAVE BEEN BETTER TO ABANDON OUR LONG STANDING COMMITMENT TO THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE WHILE 12 DIVISIONS OF NORTH VIETNAMESE REGULAR SOLDIERS -- ARMED AND GENEROUSLY SUPPLIED BY THE SOVIETS -- VIOLATED THE TERRITORY OF AN ALLY THAT FIFTY THOUSAND AMERICAN MEN HAVE DIED TO KEEP FREE? WOULD IT HAVE BEEN BETTER TO HAVE LET THE INVASION PROCEED WITHOUT TAKING THE ACTION NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE SEVENTY THOUSAND AMERICAN TROOPS WHO ARE STILL THERE?

ARE THESE THE ALTERNATIVES THE PRESIDENT'S CRITICS WOULD HAVE US CONSIDER?

PERHAPS THEY ARE. BUT THEY ARE NOT REAL ALTERNATIVES -- NOT REALISTIC OPTIONS.

 FOR THIS PRESIDENT, THERE COULD BE NO ALTERNATIVE TO KEEPING FAITH WITH AMERICA'S LONG-STANDING COMMITMENT TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIETNAM AND TO KEEPING FAITH WITH THE SACRIFICES OF THOUSANDS OF OUR OWN MEN.

-11-

GOP HAS ADVANTAGE

WE REPUBLICANS HAVE AN ADVANTAGE IN THIS CAMPAIGN. JUST HAVING A CANDIDATE WE CAN ALL AGREE ON IS AN ADVANTAGE OVER THE DIVIDED OPPOSITION PARTY. BUT EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN THAT, WE HAVE A CANDIDATE WHOSE PRINCIPLES WE CAN ALL AGREE TO. THERE IS ONLY ONE THING THE DEMOCRATS CAN AGREE ON, ONLY ONE THING MC GOVERN AND HUMPHREY AND KENNEDY AND MUSKIE, BEFORE HE GAVE UP, HAVE IN COMMON. AND THAT IS THEIR CURIOUS WILLINGNESS TO FIND FAULT WITHOUT FIRST FINDING ALTERNATIVES, TO CRITICIZE WITHOUT FIRST PROPOSING SOMETHING BETTER, TO SPEAK, IN OTHER WORDS, WITHOUT FIRST THINKING.


1972 -- GREAT YEAR ABUILDING

h NOTHING IS IMMUNE FROM THEIR POLITICAL SNIPING. NOT THE WAR, NOT THE PRESIDENT'S EFFORTS TO WIN THE PEACE.

AND TODAY, THEY WANT TO MAKE AN ISSUE OUT OF THE ECONOMY. IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN OLD STAND-BY IN POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS, THE ECONOMY, AND WITHOUT MUCH MORE TO GO ON THAN HABIT, THEY SEEK TO MAKE IT AN ISSUE AGAIN.

BUT HERE AGAIN, THEY HAVE TO OFFER SOMETHING BETTER, IF THEY WANT THAT TO BE AN ISSUE THAT WORKS IN THEIR FAVOR.

AND TO DATE, THEY HAVEN'T. AND, IN FACT, THEY CAN'T. WHAT CAN THEY PROPOSE THAT CAN OFFER BETTER RESULTS THAN THE PRESIDENT'S POLICIES WHICH HAVE SEEN THE INFLATION FALLING, EMPLOYMENT RISING AND WHICH HAVE PROMPTED ECONOMISTS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY TO PREDICT CONFIDENTLY THAT WE ARE ON THE EVE OF AN ECONOMIC BOOM. A BOOM THAT DOESN'T GET ITS STIMULUS FROM HIGH GOVERNMENT WAR-TIME SPENDING BUT FROM PEACE-TIME ENTERPRISE. A BOOM THAT DOESN'T HAVE TO -- AND THAT WILL NOT -- RESULT IN ANOTHER ROUND OF RAPID AND UNCONTROLLED INFLATION.

 THE LATEST FIGURES RELEASED THIS WEEK BEAR OUT THE PRESIDENT'S PREDICTION THAT 1972 IS GOING TO BE A GREAT YEAR FOR THE AMERICAN ECONOMY. PRODUCTION IS UP. PRICES ARE DOWN. EVEN THE MOST STUBBORN ONES AT THE SUPERMARKET HAVE BEGUN TO DECLINE WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE PRESIDENT'S OBJECTIVE OF ENSURING THE FARMER HIS FAIR SHARE OF AMERICAN PROSPERITY.

RIGHT POLICIES YIELD BEST RESULTS

THESE RESULTS ARE ENCOURAGING, BUT IT IS NOT ONLY THE RESULTS THEMSELVES, BUT THE WAY IN WHICH THEY WERE ACHIEVED THAT HAS DISTINGUISHED THE POLICIES OF PRESIDENT NIXON.

BACK IN PHASE ONE OF THE ECONOMIC CONTROLS -- THE PERIOD OF THE WAGE AND PRICE FREEZE -- THE PRESIDENT WAS URGED BY MANY TO ESTABLISH ANOTHER ENORMOUS BUREAUCRACY TO IMPLEMENT THE CONTROLS. INSTEAD OF RELYING UPON MASSIVE NUMBERS OF FEDERAL BUREAUCRATS TO MAKE IT WORK, HOWEVER, HE CHOSE TO PUT HIS TRUST IN THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, TO RELY ON THEM TO MAKE THE NECESSARY SACRIFICES AND TO RELY ON THEM -- AND ON THEM ALONE -- FOR THE SUCCESS OF HIS POLICIES.

EVENTS HAVE SHOWN THAT HIS TRUST WAS NOT MISPLACED. THERE WERE SOME EXCEPTIONS DURING THE FREEZE -- AND THERE HAVE BEEN SOME SINCE, AS IN THE PAY BOARD WALK-OUT BY AFL-CIO AND UAW UNION LEADERS -- BUT I BELIEVE THESE HAVE BEEN ALL THE MORE NOTABLE BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN EXCEPTIONS TO WHAT HAS BEEN THE GENERAL RULE -- THE POSITIVE SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY FOR THE ECONOMIC POLICIES OF THIS PRESIDENT.

-14-

TRUST A TWO-WAY STREET

IF YOU REMEMBER, THE DEMOCRATS STARTED OUT TALKING OF TRUST. BUT SENATOR MUSKIE FOUND OUT -- AS THEY WILL ALL FIND OUT -- THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DON'T RESPOND TO THE POLITICS OF TRUST UNLESS IT MEANS THAT GOVERNMENT IS GOING TO TRUST THEM -- NOT JUST THAT THEY OUGHT TO TRUST GOVERNMENT.

SECOND TERM NEEDED -- EARNED

THAT IS WHAT THIS ADMINISTRATION IS ALL ABOUT. THAT IS WHAT REVENUE SHARING IS ALL ABOUT, CERTAINLY. AND ALL OF THE MEASURES INTENDED TO REFORM THE WORKINGS OF GOVERNMENT. THEY ARE ALL DESIGNED TO MAKE GOVERNMENT MORE RESPONSIVE TO THE PEOPLE AND NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND, AS SOME OF THE DEMOCRATS MIGHT PREFER TO HAVE IT.

RICHARD NIXON HAS BROUGHT THIS COUNTRY A LONG WAY. HE HAS MADE A GOOD START AT ANY RATE. AND HE HAS PROVEN THAT HE DESERVES ANOTHER FOUR YEARS TO FINISH WHAT HE HAS STARTED.

PROGRESS SET IN MOTION

WHEN HE ASSUMED OFFICE, THE DRAFT WAS ESSENTIALLY UNCHANGED FROM WHAT IT HAD BEEN SINCE SHORTLY AFTER THE END OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR. HE HAS REFORMED IT, IMPROVED IT, MADE IT MORE FAIR AND REMOVED IT AS A SOURCE OF DIVISION IN THIS COUNTRY. BUT HE NEEDS MORE TIME IF HE IS TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL HE HAS SET -- THE EVENTUAL END OF THE DRAFT ALTOGETHER AND ITS REPLACEMENT WITH AN ALL-VOLUNTEER MILITARY.

HE HAS PROPOSED WELFARE REFORM, AND BY THAT FACT, GIVEN US HOPE THAT WE MAY SEE THE EVENTUAL END OF THE INEFFECTIVE AND ALMOST BANKRUPT SYSTEM OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE WE HAVE TODAY IN THIS COUNTRY. BUT THE CONGRESS HAS FAILED TO ACT ON HIS PROPOSAL AND HE NEEDS MORE TIME -- AND MORE REPUBLICANS IN CONGRESS -- TO BRING THAT ABOUT.

THE PRESIDENT HAS PROPOSED REVENUE SHARING TO GIVE TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS A GREATER OPPORTUNITY -- AND A GREATER SHARE OF THE RESPONSIBILITY -- TO SOLVE THEIR OWN PROBLEMS. THERE ARE ENCOURAGING INDICATIONS THAT HIS PROPOSAL OR SOMETHING VERY SIMILAR TO IT WILL PASS THIS YEAR. AND HE NEEDS MORE TIME TO IMPLEMENT IT -- TO GET IT GOING AND ON THE RIGHT TRACK.

HE HAS PROPOSED EXECUTIVE REORGANIZATION AND THE EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ACT AND HE HAS PROPOSED NEW INITIATIVES IN THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG CONTROL. AND HE NEEDS TIME -- AND MORE REPUBLICANS IN CONGRESS -- TO SECURE PASSAGE OF THESE PROPOSALS AND TO BEGIN TO IMPLEMENT THEM.

OPPORTUNITY '72

BY OUR ACTIONS HERE AT THIS CONVENTION AND IN THE CAMPAIGN MONTHS AHEAD, WE CAN HELP HIM TO GET THAT TIME. WE CAN HELP BY GIVING HIM OUR SHARE OF THE SUPPORT HE NEEDS AND DESERVES SO THAT HE CAN WIN THE SECOND TERM HE NEEDS AND DESERVES.

IN THE SHORT PERIOD OF THREE AND A HALF YEARS, PRESIDENT NIXON HAS DONE MORE THAN MANY THOUGHT POSSIBLE. HE HAS BROUGHT HOME ALMOST HALF A MILLION AMERICAN SERVICEMEN FROM SOUTH VIETNAM. HE HAS DESEGREGATED MORE SCHOOLS THAN IN THE ENTIRE PREVIOUS FIFTEEN YEAR PERIOD FOLLOWING THE 1954 SUPREME COURT DECISION. HE HAS REFORMED THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AND GOTTEN IT OUT OF POLITICS. HE HAS COME A LONG WAY TOWARD CONTROLLING INFLATION.

WE HAVE COME FAR UNDER RICHARD NIXON -- FURTHER TOWARD ACHIEVING THE GOALS OF THIS COUNTRY -- A FULL GENERATION OF PEACE AND PROSPERITY WITHOUT WAR -- THAN UNDER ANY OTHER PRESIDENT IN THIS CENTURY.

HOW MUCH GREATER, THEN, MIGHT OUR PROGRESS BE IN RICHARD NIXON'S SECOND TERM?

THAT IS ANYBODY'S GUESS, BUT IT IS ALSO EVERYBODY'S OPPORTUNITY -- EVERYBODY HERE -- TO WIN FOR RICHARD NIXON AND THE COUNTRY, THE CHANCE TO FIND OUT.

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