

8-8-74 1070

*Statement following Nixon Resignation*

THE EVENTS OF THE DAY PROMPT A WIDE RANGE OF THOUGHTS AND EMOTIONS.

IT IS MOST IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT EVEN IN THE MIDST OF THIS TRAGIC AND UNPRECEDENTED SITUATION, WE WILL HAVE AN ORDERLY TRANSITION OF POWER, PROVING ONCE AGAIN THE ENDURING STRENGTH OF OUR INSTITUTIONS.

WE ARE TO HAVE A NEW PRESIDENT, GERALD FORD. HE IS A MAN I HAVE KNOWN AND RESPECTED SINCE I FIRST CAME TO WASHINGTON. HE NOW DESERVES THE ACTIVE SUPPORT AND THE PRAYERS OF ALL AMERICANS. HE WILL MOST CERTAINLY HAVE MINE.

FINALLY, I HAVE BEEN A STRONG SUPPORTER OF MANY OF THE POLICIES OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF RICHARD M. NIXON. NOW OUR FOCUS IS ONLY ON THE BAD SIDE OF THAT ADMINISTRATION'S RECORD. HISTORY WILL JUDGE IT FAIRLY.

MY HEART GOES OUT TO RICHARD NIXON AND TO HIS WIFE AND FAMILY IN THIS PROFOUND PERSONAL TRAGEDY.