

"1968: TIME FOR FRESH APPROACHES, NEW LEADERS"

REMARKS OF  
CONGRESSMAN BOB DOLE  
SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1968  
REPUBLIC COUNTY RALLY  

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BELLEVILLE, KANSAS

I APPEAR HERE TODAY WITH MORE OPTIMISM FOR THE  
REPUBLICAN PARTY THAN EVER BEFORE IN MY EIGHT YEARS IN  
CONGRESS.

AND THIS BEING A REPUBLICAN MEETING, I WANT TO  
SPEAK TO YOU BRIEFLY ABOUT ONE THING: THE OPPORTUNITY  
OF THE G.O.P. IN NOVEMBER 1968.

ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL, REPUBLICANS HAVE THE OP-  
PORTUNITY TO CAPTURE THE WHITE HOUSE, GAIN CONTROL OF  
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND PICK UP SEVERAL SEATS  
IN THE U.S. SENATE

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I SAY WE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY BECAUSE OF FOUR  
PRIMARY ASSETS OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY: THE CANDIDATES,  
THE ISSUES, THE TIDE OF PUBLIC OPINION AND THE ISSUES.

-THE CANDIDATES-

FIRST, WE'VE GOT THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES --  
RICHARD NIXON AND NELSON ROCKEFELLER -- WHO HAVE PLEDGED  
THEMSELVES NOT TO SLIP, DUCK OR HIDE FROM THE ISSUES, BUT  
TO MEET THE ISSUES HEAD ON WITH POSITIVE, RESPONSIBLE  
STATEMENTS AND ACTION.

EVEN A CURSORY GLANCE AT NEWSPAPERS, NATIONAL NEWS  
MAGAZINES OR TELEVISION SHOWS THESE TWO MEN ARE READY  
TO MOVE WITH HUMILITY AND ENERGY . . . TO TURN AMERICA'S  
GAZE IN NEW DIRECTIONS . . . TO GUIDE THIS COUNTRY'S VAST  
RESOURCES . . . AND UPLIFT ITS PEOPLE TO WORK TO HOUSE, TO  
EDUCATE, TO BUILD, TO CREATE AND INSPIRE.

IT IS THE REPUBLICAN PARTY THAT CAN PROVIDE THE LEADER-  
SHIP TO UNIFY THIS GREAT NATION -- FOR THE PARTY NOW IN POWER  
IS TORN BY THE SAME DIVISIVENESS THAT HAS CRIPPLED OUR  
NATION'S WILL.

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-THE PHILOSOPHY-

SECOND, THE G.O.P. PHILOSOPHY HOLDS OUT HOPE AND PROMISES ACTION. REPUBLICANS KNOW -- AND FOR THAT MATTER, MOST AMERICANS KNOW -- THAT THE DEMOCRAT PHILOSOPHY OF FEDERAL SOLUTIONS, FEDERALLY-FINANCED AND FEDERALLY-ADMINISTERED HAS NOT WORKED IN 8 YEARS AND WILL NOT WORK NOW OR IN THE FUTURE.

BOTH MAJOR PARTIES WANT WHAT IS BEST FOR AMERICA. WE SHARE MANY OF THE SAME OBJECTIVES. WHERE WE DIFFER IS NOT ON THE GOALS AND ENDS BUT ON THE MEANS TO THOSE ENDS.

IN MY JUDGEMENT, ~~THE~~ DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES WAS NEVER BETTER STATED THAN AT THE RECENT MOCK POLITICAL CONVENTION AT KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY .

THOSE YOUNG COLLEGE YOUTH PUT IT THIS WAY:

"EVEN IN THIS CONSTITUTIONAL REPUBLIC, FOR TWO CENTURIES THE BEACON OF LIBERTY THE WORLD OVER, INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM RETREATS UNDER THE MOUNTING ASSAULT OF EXPANDING CENTRALIZED POWER.



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"FISCAL AND ECONOMIC EXCESSES, TOO LONG INDULGED, ALREADY HAVE ERODED AND THREATENED THE GREATEST EXPERIMENT IN SELF-GOVERNMENT MANKIND HAS KNOWN.

"WE REPUBLICANS CLAIM NO MONOPOLY OF LOVE OF FREEDOM. BUT WE CHALLENGE AS UNWISE THE COURSE THE DEMOCRATS HAVE CHARTED; WE CHALLENGE AS DANGEROUS THE STEPS THEY PLAN ALONG THE WAY; AND WE DEPLORE AS SELF-DEFEATING AND HARMFUL MANY OF THE MOVES ALREADY TAKEN.

"DOMINANT IN THEIR COUNCIL ARE LEADERS WHOSE WORDS EXTOL HUMAN LIBERTY, BUT WHOSE DEEDS HAVE PERSISTENTLY DELIMITED THE SCOPE OF LIBERTY AND SAPPED ITS VITALITY.

"YEAR AFTER YEAR, IN THE NAME OF BENEVOLENCE, THESE LEADERS HAVE SOUGHT THE ENLARGEMENT OF FEDERAL POWER. YEAR AFTER YEAR, IN THE GUISE OF CONCERN FOR OTHERS, THEY HAVE LAVISHLY EXPENDED THE RESOURCES OF THEIR FELLOW CITIZENS. AND YEAR AFTER YEAR, FREEDOM, DIVERSITY AND INDIVIDUAL, LOCAL, AND STATE RESPONSIBILITY HAVE GIVEN WAY TO REGIMENTATION, CONFORMITY AND SUBSERVIENCE TO CENTRAL POWER.

"WE REPUBLICANS HOLD THAT A LEADERSHIP SO MISGUIDED WEAKENS LIBERTY IN AMERICA AND THE WORLD. WE HOLD THAT GLITTERING ENTICEMENTS SO INVITINGLY PROFFERED THE PEOPLE, AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE, WILL INEVITABLY BRING DISILLUSIONMENT AND CRUEL DISAPPOINTMENT IN THE PLACE OF PROMISED HAPPINESS.

"SUCH LEADERS ARE FEDERAL EXTREMISTS -- IMPULSIVE IN THE USE OF NATIONAL POWER, IMPROVIDENT IN THE MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS, THOUGHTLESS AS TO THE LONG-TERM EFFECTS OF THEIR ACTS ON INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM AND CREATIVE, COMPETITIVE ENTERPRISE..."

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QUITE A STATEMENT, ISN'T IS?

YES, REPUBLICANS KNOW THAT THE GOVERNMENT MUST  
SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF INDIVIDUALS AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISE  
-- BUT THAT GOVERNMENT ALONE CANNOT WAGE THE WARS OR WIN  
THE PEACE -- AT HOME OR ABROAD, WITHOUT SACRIFICING HUMAN  
LIBERTY AND THE COLLECTIVE GOALS OF THIS NATION.

REPUBLICANS CAN PROVIDE THE IMAGINATIVE, NEW  
LEADERSHIP THAT CAN INSPIRE OTHERS. REPUBLICANS UNDER-  
STAND AND BELIEVE IN PEOPLE. THEY VIEW THEIR FELLOW  
AMERICANS AS INDIVIDUALS -- NOT AS MEMBERS OF VOTING  
BLOCS TO BE MOVED ABOUT LIKE PAWNS IN A POLITICAL CHESS  
GAME.

- PUBLIC OPINION -

THIRD, THE TIDE OF PUBLIC OPINION.

THIS YEAR REPUBLICANS HAVE A BUILT-IN NATIONAL  
AUDIENCE. IF EVER AMERICANS WERE READY FOR NEW LEADER-  
SHIP, THEY'RE READY IN '68.



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JUST LAST SUNDAY THE GALLUP POLL SAID NIXON OR ROCKEFELLER CAN DEFEAT ANY DEMOCRAT CANDIDATE. A DAY LATER, THE HARRIS POLL SAID BOBBY KENNEDY'S SUPPORT AMONG THE ELECTORATE HAS "DECLINED SHARPLY". THEN CAME THE NEBRASKA PRIMARY WHICH NEARLY WIPED OUT MCCARTHY.

THE TIDE OF PUBLIC OPINION IS WITH US.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY -- WITH THE HELP OF MANY INDEPENDENTS AND DISENCHANTED DEMOCRATS -- CAN MAKE SWEEPING GAINS IN THE NOVEMBER ELECTIONS.

AND THE PUBLIC UTTERANCES OF DEMOCRAT HUBERT HUMPHREY, DEMOCRAT EUGENE MCCARTHY AND DEMOCRAT BOBBY KENNEDY WILL HELP INCREASE THE SCOPE OF THE REPUBLICAN WINS. I SAY THIS BECAUSE THE PEOPLE ARE TIRED OF JOHNSON-HUMPHREY POLICIES, DISTRUSTFUL OF BOBBY KENNEDY, SKEPTICAL OF GENE MCCARTHY AND FEARFUL OF GEORGE WALLACE.

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-THE 1968 ISSUES-

TO THESE THREE G.O.P. ASSETS -- CANDIDATES, PHILOSOPHY AND PUBLIC OPINION -- ADD ISSUES FOR THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IN 1968 UNDOUBTEDLY HAS THE ISSUES.

A NEWS REPORTER RECENTLY SAID PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S DECISION NOT TO RUN AND THE RESULTING FLURRY OF DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL HOPEFULS HAVE NEUTRALIZED THE ISSUES REPUBLICANS HAVE BEEN CONCENTRATING ON.

THIS IS NOT TRUE. THE MAJOR PROBLEMS CONFRONTING THIS NATION HAVE NOT BEEN SOLVED. THE RECORD IS PLAIN. AND -- NO MATTER HOW YOU CUT IT-- THE DEMOCRATS WILL HAVE TO RUN ON THAT RECORD, ESPECIALLY HUBERT HORATIO HUMPHREY. THE RECORD, THEN:

\*\* DESPITE THE PARIS PEACE TALKS,  
PEACE DOES NOT REIGN IN VIETNAM.  
WE ARE STILL ENGAGED IN A MAJOR  
WAR WHICH IS COSTING US DEARLY  
-- IN LIVES, IN DOLLARS, IN UNITY  
AT HOME, IN PRESTIGE ABROAD.

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- \*\* THE NATION'S LARGEST CITIES HAVE SUFFERED SOME OF THE WORST CIVIL DISTURBANCES IN OUR HISTORY, AND THEY'RE BRACING FOR MORE THIS SUMMER.
- \*\* THE NATIONAL CRIME RATE SOARS -- EVEN AFTER JUMPING 83 PER CENT FROM 1960 TO 1967, WHEN POPULATION INCREASED 11 PER CENT.
- \*\* THE DOLLAR IS IN CRITICAL CONDITION. WE HAVE AN ALL-TIME HIGH COST OF LIVING . . . THE DEFICIT IN OUR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS IS DEEP. OUR SUPPLY OF GOLD IS ABYSMALLY LOW; THE NUMBER OF DOLLARS HELD BY FOREIGNERS, DANGEROUSLY HIGH.
- \*\* AMERICAN FARMERS, THE MOST EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE IN THE WORLD, SUFFERED AN INCOME LOSS OF 1.9 BILLION DOLLARS LAST YEAR.
- \*\* WE HAVE A SPRAWLING FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WHICH MANY PEOPLE NEITHER UNDERSTAND NOR BELIEVE.

LET'S LOOK CLOSER AT TWO OF THE ISSUES.

-FISCAL AND MONETARY MATTERS-

FIRST, FISCAL AND MONETARY MATTERS.

THE DEMOCRATS ARE BRAGGING ABOUT MORE THAN 80 MONTHS OF "UNINTERRUPTED PROSPERITY".



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BUT THE U.S. LABOR DEPARTMENT SAYS FLATLY THE WAGE GAINS AMERICAN WORKERS MADE IN 1966 AND 1967 WERE WIPED OUT BY INCREASES IN THE COST OF LIVING.

THE NAME OF THE GAME IS INFLATION, NOT PROSPERITY.

INFLATION -- HIGH PRICES-- HURTS EVERYONE, BUT ESPECIALLY THE VERY PEOPLE WE MOST NEED TO HELP... THE POOR...THE SICK...THE RETIRED...THE WIDOWED.

INFLATION HAS JACKED UP INTEREST RATES AND CREATED BAD PROBLEMS FOR ALL WHO FIND IT NECESSARY TO BORROW.

INFLATION HAS HURT OUR FOREIGN TRADE. FOR EXAMPLE, OUR BALANCE OF TRADE ACTUALLY SLIPPED INTO DEFICIT DURING MARCH, THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1963.

THEN THERE IS THE GOLD CRISIS, THE RESULT OF AN INTERNATIONAL CRISIS OF CONFIDENCE IN THE FISCAL AND MONETARY POLICIES PURSUED BY THE DEMOCRATS.

THERE IS NO DOUBT ABOUT IT: THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD IS RIGHT WHEN HE DESCRIBES US AS EXPERIENCING THE WORST FINANCIAL CRISIS SINCE THE DEPRESSION.

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ONLY AFTER THEY ESCALATED THE VIETNAM WAR  
TWO YEARS AGO DID THE DEMOCRATS BEGIN TO DISCOVER  
WHAT THE REPUBLICANS HAD BEEN SAYING FOR YEARS -- THIS  
COUNTRY CAN'T LIVE BEYOND ITS MEANS.

THE ADMINISTRATION'S ANSWER? TAX THE PEOPLE  
MORE, OF COURSE.

THE CONGRESS SAID, IN ESSENCE: A TAX INCREASE  
MAY, IN FACT, BE NECESSARY, BUT YOU CAN'T COLLECT  
MORE MONEY FROM THE PEOPLE UNLESS THERE ARE MASSIVE  
REDUCTIONS IN FEDERAL SPENDING.

THE ADMINISTRATION BALKED, AND TODAY, BALKS.

HERE IS THE STATUS OF THE PROPOSAL: HOUSE AND  
SENATE CONFEREES AGREED ON A 10 PERCENT INCOME TAX  
SURCHARGE THAT PRESIDENT JOHNSON WANTS AND A 6 BILLION  
DOLLAR SPENDING CUT IN THE FEDERAL BUDGET THAT HE  
DOESN'T WANT. A VOTE IS EXPECTED IN BOTH HOUSES SHORTLY.

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NO ONE WANTS A TAX INCREASE. NO ONE, FOR THAT  
MATTER, WANTS TO CUT BACK ON MANY PROGRAMS.

BUT THE DEMOCRATS HAVE LEFT US NO CHOICE: WE'VE  
BEEN LED TO A POINT OF NO RETURN UNLESS DRASTIC STEPS  
ARE TAKEN.

THE GREAT FAILURE OF DEMOCRAT LEADERSHIP HAS  
BEEN THEIR REFUSAL TO ESTABLISH SPENDING PRIORITIES AND  
ECONOMIC DISCIPLINE.

I URGE YOU TO LISTEN TO THE PUBLIC STATEMENTS  
OF THE DEMOCRAT PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES. IF YOU HEAR  
WHAT I HEAR, YOU HEAR PROMISES, EXPENSIVE PROMISES,  
MORE PROMISES OF NEW PROGRAMS ON TOP OF OLD PROGRAMS  
WITH NO REGARD FOR OUR FISCAL DILEMMA.

ON ITS PAST RECORD AND ON ITS CURRENT PUBLIC  
UTTERANCES, IT IS DOUBTFUL DEMOCRATS COULD BRING THIS  
COUNTRY OUT OF OUR FISCAL AND MONETARY CRISIS.



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- CIVIL DISORDER-

THE FISCAL AND MONETARY MESS APPEARS TO CLASH  
HEAD ON WITH THE DESPERATE DEMANDS OF OUR CITIES  
AND GROWING CIVIL DISORDER.

THERE IS NO SIMPLE SOLUTION TO THE CRISIS IN  
THE CITIES. BUT I CAN TELL YOU THIS: THE SOLE  
DEMOCRAT SOLUTION -- FEDERAL PROJECTS, FEDERALLY-  
FINANCED AND FEDERALLY-ADMINISTERED -- IS NOT IT.

THE WAR ON POVERTY HAS PROVEN THAT. BILLIONS  
WERE SPENT, ,MUCH OF IT IN AREAS LIKE DETROIT, WASHINGTON  
AND NEWARK, AND STILL THERE ARE RIOTS AND LOOTING  
AND DEMANDS FOR MORE FEDERAL AID.

IF 5 OR 10 BILLION DOLLARS HAS NOT MADE AN  
APPRECIABLE DENT IN POVERTY, THE ULTIMATE ANSWER  
IS NOT SPENDING 4 TIMES MORE.

ONCE AGAIN, OUR PRIORITIES HAVE BEEN MISGUIDED.

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IT SEEMS TO ME OUR FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS IS TO RECOGNIZE AMERICANS -- BLACK AND WHITE -- CANNOT LIVE TOGETHER DIVIDED BY HATRED. EACH OF US MUST REDEDICATE HIMSELF TO WHAT THE AUTHORS OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE SAID IS SELF-EVIDENT -- THAT ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL.

A CHANGE IN ATTITUDE WON'T ERASE THE SLUMS, BUT IT WILL ERASE SOME OF THE ~~P~~ASSIONS WHICH ERUPT INTO VIOLENCE.

IT'S UP TO THE INDIVIDUAL. NO LAW WILL AUTOMATICALLY USHER IN BROTHERLY LOVE. WE CAN'T LEGISLATE TOGETHERNESS.

TURNING TO THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT... IN MY OPINION AND IN THE OPINION OF MANY REPUBLICANS, FIRST CALL ON GOVERNMENT FUNDS TO HELP PEOPLE HELP THEMSELVES SHOULD BE FOR EDUCATION.

SOME MONEY SPENT ON WELFARE PROGRAMS, PRISON SYSTEMS AND RIOT INSURANCE COULD BE SAVED -- AND BE BETTER DIRECTED -- IF SPENT ON EDUCATION.

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ONLY BE WELL EDUCATING ALL OF OUR YOUTH --  
PARTICULARLY DURING THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL  
YEARS -- DO WE HAVE ANY LASTING HOPE. THE BETTER THE  
EDUCATION, THE BETTER THE JOBS, THE BETTER THE HOUSING  
AND SO ON -- IT'S A CHAIN REACTION.

THERE MUST BE A COMMITMENT OF EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES  
AT ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT TO OVERCOME THE EDUCATIONAL  
DEFICIT EXISTING IN MANY AREAS.

ANOTHER PRIORITY IS JOBS -- JOBS TO HELP PEOPLE  
HELP THEMSELVES AND TO RELIEVE THE MOUNTING PRESSURES  
IN THE CITIES.

REPUBLICANS HAVE ALWAYS ENCOURAGED BUSINESS AND  
INDUSTRY TO TAKE THE LEAD.

BUSINESS CAN MOVE, IN PART, TO THE SLUMS...REACH  
OUT TO RECRUIT THE HOPELESS IN THE SLUMS WHERE THEY LIVE  
....BUSINESS CAN RE-THINK PRODUCTION PROCESSES SO THAT  
THE JOB CAN BE FITTED TO THE MAN, RATHER THAN THE MAN TO  
THE JOB. TRAINING PROGRAMS CAN BE EXPANDED.



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BUT THIS COSTS MONEY. HERE AGAIN IS A PROPER GOVERNMENT ROLE.

GOVERNMENT SHOULD SUPPORT PRIVATE EFFORTS. FOR EXAMPLE, INCENTIVES FOR BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY TO HELP REBUILD OUR CITIES CAN BE OFFERED. THERE SHOULD ALSO BE SHARING OF FEDERAL REVENUES WITH STATES AND COMMUNITIES TO BRING THEM INTO FULL PARTNERSHIP IN THE PROBLEM-SOLVING.

GOVERNMENT, TOO, MUST MOVE TO CONTROL CRIME AND JUVENILE DELINQUENCY, REVISE OUR COURT SYSTEM AND CRACK DOWN ON ORGANIZED CRIME.

THE DEMOCRATS HAVE FAILED -- OR HAVE FAILED TO MOVE WITH URGENCY -- TOWARD A SOLUTION TO THIS PRESSING PROBLEM OF CRIME.

-TIME FOR FRESH APPROACHES-

THESE ARE JUST SOME OF THE THINGS REPUBLICANS BELIEVE...SOME OF THE PROPOSALS WHICH CAN HELP CURE THE MALAISE WHICH HAS PARALYZED AMERICA FOR 8 YEARS.

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IT IS A TIME FOR FRESH APPROACHES, NEW LEADERSHIP.

AMERICA MUST HAVE THE NEW APPROACHES AND NEW LEADERSHIP...TO BRING US LASTING AND HONORABLE PEACE...TO DESTROY THE GHETTOES AND BUILD THE CITIES... TO STRENGTHEN THE DOLLAR...AND PERHAPS, MOST IMPORTANT, TO RESTORE AMERICA'S DREAM OF FREEDOM AND EQUALITY TO EACH AND EVERY PERSON.

REPUBLICANS HAVE THE CANDIDATES. WE'VE GOT THE RIGHT PHILOSOPHY. WE'VE GOT THE TIDE OF PUBLIC OPINION IN OUR FAVOR. AND WE'VE GOT THE ISSUES.

THE G.O.P. OPPORTUNITY IN NOVEMBER IS THE NATION'S OPPORTUNITY TO FORGE AHEAD, CLOSING THE DOOR ON AN UGLY CHAPTER IN WHICH WE USED OUR TREMENDOUS WEALTH AND POWER TO SHATTER, MISLEAD, DESTROY AND CONFUSE.