

*United Party*

REMARKS OF HONORABLE BOB DOLE

CABINET MEETING  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1971

*Director  
of the  
Republican Party*

I'D LIKE TO TAKE THE NEXT 10 MINUTES TO TELL YOU MY POLITICAL FINDINGS AROUND THE COUNTRY AND HOW WE VISUALIZE OUR JOB AT THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

DURING THE LAST 10 MONTHS, I HAVE VISITED 36 STATES -- MOST OF THEM SEVERAL TIMES -- AND EXPECT TO MAKE THAT AT LEAST 40 BEFORE THE FIRST OF JANUARY.

IN ADDITION, I'VE BEEN TO MANY REGIONAL MEETINGS WHERE REPUBLICANS FROM A NUMBER OF STATES HAVE COME TOGETHER. SO, I THINK WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO GET A PRETTY GOOD FEEL FOR THE SITUATION.

THERE'S NO QUESTION THAT TODAY THINGS ARE BETTER THAN THEY WERE EVEN THREE MONTHS AGO. THERE'S NO QUESTION THAT THE REPUBLICAN PARTY -- AND THE PRESIDENT AND THE VICE PRESIDENT -- ARE ON THE UPGRADE.

*Director  
of  
R.N.C.  
Republican Party*

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THE POLLS REFLECT THIS OVERALL, BUT EVEN MORE IMPORTANT, I THINK, IS THE FACT THAT ENTHUSIASM IS GROWING AMONG REPUBLICAN ACTIVISTS -- THOSE PEOPLE WE COUNT ON EVERY TWO AND FOUR YEARS TO GO OUT AND DO THE WORK THAT MUST BE DONE IF WE ARE TO ELECT REPUBLICANS AT ANY LEVEL.

WITH SOME EXCEPTIONS, THE DAYS OF SECOND-GUESSING, AND NIT-PICKING, AND CRITICIZING ARE LARGELY GONE. THE MOOD IS MORE: LET'S SET TO WORK AND REELECT DICK NIXON.

OF COURSE, THERE ARE TROUBLE SPOTS -- SUCH AS IN THE FARM BELT WHERE PARITY AND THE PRICE OF CORN AND OTHER COMMODITIES ARE PROBLEMS. AND PROBLEMS REMAIN IN AREAS SUCH AS SEATTLE AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WHERE UNEMPLOYMENT REMAINS RELATIVELY HIGH.

AND THERE IS SOME UNREST AMONG CONSERVATIVES, ALTHOUGH I THINK PRESS TALK ABOUT "THUNDER ON THE RIGHT" IS EXAGGERATED. THE THUNDER MOSTLY COMES FROM SO FAR RIGHT IT'S OVER THE HORIZON. AND IT IS ALMOST LEADERLESS. THE PEOPLE THEY WOULD ORDINARILY LOOK TO FOR

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LEADERSHIP, SUCH AS BARRY GOLDWATER OR RONALD REAGAN OR JOHN TOWER, ARE FIRMLY ON THE PRESIDENT'S SIDE.

STILL, THERE IS NO QUESTION BUT THAT WE AT THE RNC NEED TO DO A CONTINUING SELLING JOB TO CONVINCING THESE PEOPLE THAT WE REMAIN ALLIES AND FRIENDS OF TAIWAN, THAT WE ARE NOT MAKING DEALS WITH RED CHINA THAT ARE AGAINST OUR OWN BEST INTERESTS, THAT WE DO INTEND TO KEEP SUPPORTING OUR ALLIES AND PROVIDING NECESSARY AID TO THEM.

BUT, I DON'T THINK WE HAVE TO APOLOGIZE FOR ANY OF THE PRESIDENT'S PROGRAMS, AND I DO THINK THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF ALL AMERICANS ARE IN AGREEMENT WITH HIM, NOT ONLY ON WHAT HE IS DOING IN THE AREA OF FOREIGN RELATIONS, BUT ALSO IN THIS AREA OF BRINGING THE ECONOMY BACK TO NORMAL.

AT THE SAME TIME, I WOULD CAUTION AGAINST OVERCONFIDENCE. WE ARE A MINORITY PARTY. WE DO HAVE STRONG GROUPS ARRAYED AGAINST US ---- ORGANIZED LABOR, SUPER-PEACE GROUPS, AND THE GREAT BULK OF THE BLACK LEADERS AND THE BLACK POPULATION.

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WE HAVE A LOT OF WORK TO DO, NOT ONLY TO CONVINCe MEMBERS OF ORGANIZED LABOR, MEMBERS OF MINORITIES AND OTHERS THAT THE PRESIDENT IS WORKING ON THEIR BEHALVES AND IN THEIR BEST INTERESTS, BUT ALSO JUST TO FIGHT OFF THE CONSTANT ATTACKS OF THE SIX OR EIGHT DEMOCRATS WHO ARE RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT. AND WE ARE WORKING POSITIVELY, AND WE ARE FIGHTING OFF THE ATTACKERS, ALTHOUGH IN THE LATTER CASE, WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL THAT WE ARE NOT JUST REACTING ALL THE TIME TO THEIR CHARGES AND TO THE ISSUES THEY TRY TO MAKE. SOMETIMES, I THINK, IT IS BETTER TO IGNORE THEM, AND SOMETIMES IT IS BETTER TO SEEK A POSITIVE APPROACH OR A DIFFERENT APPROACH RATHER THAN TO REACT IMMEDIATELY.

BUT, LET ME ASSURE YOU, WE DO NOT INTEND TO LET THEM GET AWAY WITH ANYTHING, AND IF YOU WILL CHECK THE RECORD OF THE LAST YEAR, YOU WILL SEE THAT THEY REALLY HAVEN'T.

OF COURSE, WE ARE ALSO MOVING IN THE POSITIVE AREA, NOT ONLY IN SPEECHES I MAKE, AND THE PRESS RELEASES WE PUT OUT, BUT ALSO IN THE POLITICAL OPERATION WHICH IS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF TOM EVANS AND THE WOMEN'S AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES WHICH ARE UNDER THE DIRECTION OF ANNE ARMSTRONG.

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AND LET ME ASSURE YOU THAT THESE ARE AREAS THAT DO NOT CONFLICT WITH AND DO NOT OVERLAP THE DIRECT CAMPAIGN EFFORTS, BUT INSTEAD ARE MEANT TO SUPPLEMENT AND COMPLEMENT AND FILL IN THE BLANKS.

THEY ARE JOBS THAT AN ON-GOING ORGANIZATION SUCH AS THE RNC CAN DO MORE EFFECTIVELY THAN A QUICKLY PUT TOGETHER CAMPAIGN ORGANIZATION.

THERE IS NO COMPETITION, NO RIVALRY BETWEEN THE RNC AND THE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE. WE ARE A TEAM.

OUR JOBS ARE: CONTINUED CONTACT AND LIAISON WITH THE STATE PARTIES, PROVIDING INFORMATION, GUIDANCE AND INSPIRATION. AND IN SOME PLACES, TO BE HONEST, THERE ARE PROBLEMS. IN INDIANA, THERE IS A CONFLICT OF LEADERSHIP THAT MUST BE STRAIGHTENED OUT. IN A NUMBER OF STATES, INCLUDING MY OWN STATE OF KANSAS, THERE ARE SERIOUS MONEY PROBLEMS. THE NOVEMBER 9 DINNERS WILL SOLVE SOME, BUT NOT ALL, OF THOSE PROBLEMS. BUT THE MAIN THING IS THAT WE ARE IN CONTACT, WE ARE IN TOUCH, AND WE ARE IN COMMUNICATION THROUGH TOM EVANS, ANNE ARMSTRONG, AND OUR FIELDMEN WITH THE REPUBLICAN PARTIES IN THE STATES.

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FOR THEM AND FOR THE CAMPAIGN, WE ARE PUTTING TOGETHER A PROGRAM WE CALL "TARGET '72", WHICH IS VOTER REGISTRATION, VOTER IDENTIFICATION, BALLOT SECURITY, AND GET-OUT-THE-VOTE. WE ARE TALKING TO THE MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE AND UP-TO-DATE PEOPLE IN ALL OF THESE AREAS. WE ARE EVALUATING SUCH CONCEPTS AS "THE VICTORY SQUAD" USED SO SUCCESSFULLY IN CALIFORNIA AND OTHER SUCCESSFUL GET-OUT-THE-VOTE TECHNIQUES FROM PLACES AS VARIED AS NEW YORK AND ARIZONA.

WE ARE GOING TO FOCUS ON FINDING VOTERS AND GETTING THEM TO THE POLLS, ON REGISTERING THE UNREGISTERED, AND ON A BALLOT SECURITY PROGRAM THAT WILL INSURE THAT NO ONE STEALS AN ELECTION NEXT YEAR IN ST. LOUIS OR CHICAGO OR ANYWHERE ELSE.

WE ARE PUTTING TOGETHER A PROFESSIONAL STAFF CONFERENCE THIS WINTER TO BRING IN ALL THE PROFESSIONAL PARTY WORKS TO TALK ABOUT REGISTRATION, GET-OUT-THE-VOTE TECHNIQUES, AND COMMUNICATIONS.

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WE ARE GETTING BACK TO THE BASICS OF HOW TO WIN ELECTIONS,  
BUILDING ON ROG MORTON'S VERY FINE "MISSION '70'S" PROGRAM.

AND DURING ALL THIS TIME, WE INTEND TO CONTINUE COMMUNICA-  
TION NOT ONLY WITH PARTY LEADERS AND PARTY MEMBERS, BUT WITH ALL AMER-  
ICANS THROUGH OUR PUBLICATIONS, SUCH AS "MONDAY", THROUGH THE USE OF  
THE PRESS, RADIO, AND TV.

WE THINK IT IS OUR JOB TO LET THE PEOPLE KNOW THE FACTS ABOUT  
THE REPUBLICANS AND THE TRUTH ABOUT THE LEADERS OF THE OTHER PARTY. AND  
AFTER HAVING TOLD THEM, WE THINK IT IS OUR JOB TO REGISTER THEM, VOTE  
THEM AND INSURE AN HONEST COUNT.

IF WE DO OUR JOB, WE CAN HELP INSURE WHAT WE SO DESPERATELY  
NEED -- FOUR MORE YEARS OF DICK NIXON IN THE WHITE HOUSE.