

REMARKS OF HONORABLE BOB DOLE

RNC PROFESSIONAL STAFF CONFERENCE
MARRIOTT TWIN BRIDGES MOTEL
WASHINGTON, D. C.
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1972

FOR MYSELF AND ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF AT THE RNC HEADQUARTERS, I AM HAPPY TO WELCOME YOU TO WASHINGTON AS PARTICIPANTS IN THE 1972 REPUBLICAN PROFESSIONAL STAFF CONFERENCE. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN ED DE BOLT HAS PREPARED A PROGRAM THAT I THINK YOU WILL FIND A PROFITABLE AND, WE HOPE, A SOMEWHAT ENJOYABLE LEARNING EXPERIENCE.

I KNOW THAT AMONG YOU THERE IS A WIDE RANGE OF EXPERIENCE IN POLITICAL CAMPAIGNING. SOME OF YOU ARE OLD PROS WHOSE EXPERIENCE MAY GO BACK PERHAPS LONGER THAN YOU'D CARE TO TALK ABOUT OR EVEN REMEMBER. OTHERS AMONG YOU MAY BE RELATIVELY NEW TO THE PRACTICE OF POLITICS.

HARD WORK AHEAD

TWO THINGS, HOWEVER, YOU ALL HAVE IN COMMON. EACH OF YOU IS COMMITTED TO OUR COMMON GOAL OF REELECTING THE PRESIDENT AND ELECTING REPUBLICANS ALL ACROSS THIS COUNTRY TO NATIONAL, STATE AND LOCAL OFFICES.

-2-

AND EACH OF YOU IS A PROFESSIONAL, IDENTIFIED BY YOUR LOCAL PARTIES AS SUCH AND RELIED UPON BY THEM FOR LEADERSHIP AND POLITICAL KNOW-HOW.

I DON'T HAVE TO TELL YOU THAT THE MONTHS AHEAD WILL BE BUSY ONES WITH PLENTY OF HARD WORK FOR ALL OF US. I AM SURE THAT YOU ARE ALL VERY KEENLY AWARE OF THAT. AND I AM EQUALLY SURE THAT, LIKE ME, YOU ALL LOOK FORWARD TO IT. SO NEITHER IS IT NECESSARY THAT I SPEND MY TIME OR WASTE YOURS WITH A PEP TALK OR WITH NEEDLESS EFFORTS TO JUSTIFY OR ENCOURAGE AN ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IN REPUBLICAN POLITICS.

I DO THINK, HOWEVER, THAT IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR ME, AT THE START OF THIS CONFERENCE AND OF THIS CAMPAIGN YEAR, TO MAKE A FEW COMMENTS ABOUT WHAT I THINK WE CAN EXPECT IN THE YEAR AHEAD.

1972 A GOOD YEAR

FIRST OF ALL, 1972 WILL BE A GOOD YEAR FOR THE REPUBLICAN PARTY. WE CAN LOOK FORWARD TO THE REELECTION OF PRESIDENT NIXON AND TO THE RESTORATION OF THE GOP TO ITS STATUS AS THE MAJORITY PARTY IN CONGRESS, IN STATE HOUSES, AND IN STATE LEGISLATURES ALL ACROSS THIS NATION.

-3-

AND 1972, IN THE PRESIDENT'S OWN WORDS, "WILL BE A GREAT YEAR" FOR THIS COUNTRY. CONTINUED PROGRESS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST INFLATION AND THE SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION FROM A WAR-TIME ECONOMY TO PEACE-TIME PROSPERITY WILL BEAR OUT HIS PREDICTION.

AND FINALLY, 1972 WILL BE A YEAR MARKED BY THE MOST SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS SINCE THE END OF WORLD WAR II. IT PROMISES, IN FACT, TO MAKE A TURNING POINT TOWARD A NEW ERA WHEN PEACE -- ONCE THE OBJECT OF CYNICISM AND DESPAIR -- BECOMES, AT LONG LAST, A REALISTIC AND REALIZABLE GOAL.

IN THE CAMPAIGN OF 1968, THE ISSUES WERE WAR AND THE WAR INDUCED INFLATIONARY ECONOMY. THE ISSUES IN 1972 WILL BE PEACE AND PEACE-TIME PROSPERITY -- AND THEY WILL BE REPUBLICAN ISSUES.

CHANGED AMERICAN MOOD

THE POLICY INITIATIVES SET INTO MOTION IN THE FIRST THREE YEARS OF RICHARD NIXON'S FIRST TERM HAVE CHANGED THE MOOD OF THIS COUNTRY FROM ONE OF DESPAIR TO ONE OF HOPE; FROM CYNICISM TO OPTIMISM.

-4-

INSPIRED BY LEADERSHIP THAT ONLY PROMISES WHAT IT CAN DELIVER, THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY HAVE BEGUN TO LOOK FORWARD AGAIN. AND THEY HAVE BEGUN TO MOVE FORWARD AGAIN.

RICHARD NIXON HAS GIVEN THE AMERICAN PEOPLE SOLID, IMAGINATIVE LEADERSHIP AND THAT LEADERSHIP HAS WON A DRAMATIC RESPONSE. AMERICANS, DISORIENTED BY DEMOCRAT WAR AND BY DEMOCRAT PROMISES UNKEPT, HAD BEEN SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING TO BELIEVE IN AGAIN. IN THE LAST THREE YEARS UNDER THIS PRESIDENT, THEY HAVE FOUND IT, AND THEY HAVE FOUND IT IN THEMSELVES.

RICHARD NIXON'S LEADERSHIP RESTORED AMERICA'S FAITH IN ITSELF. THIS IS OUR GREATEST REPUBLICAN ASSET. INTANGIBLE AS IT MAY BE, IT IS OUR MOST COMPELLING REPUBLICAN ISSUE.

NEW BEGINNINGS -- THEIRS AND OURS

WE CAN LEAVE THE TALK OF NEW BEGINNINGS TO THE DEMOCRATS -- TO MUSKIE AND TO WALLACE, WHO HAVE BOTH BASED THEIR CAMPAIGNS ON SUCH TALK.

AND WE CAN LEAVE THE POLITICAL HATCHET WORK TO THE DEMOCRATS' MOST CELEBRATED NON-CANDIDATE, TED KENNEDY, WHO SEEMS MORE THAN

-5-

WILLING TO TAKE IT ON. IN WHAT WAS BILLED AS HIS PERSONAL STATE OF THE UNION MESSAGE, LAST MONDAY, KENNEDY LAUNCHED HIS NON-CANDIDACY WITH THE PROMISE OF A NEW BEGINNING OF DEMOCRAT NEGATIVISM ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THIS COUNTRY AND THE MOTIVES OF ITS LEADERS.

AMERICA MADE ITS NEW BEGINNING IN 1968 WHEN UNDER RICHARD NIXON IT BEGAN TO SEE ITSELF AGAIN IN TERMS OF ITS GREATNESS. AND DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS, AMERICANS HAVE BEGUN TO SEE THE GREATNESS OF THEIR COUNTRY IN A DIFFERENT AND MORE REALISTIC WAY. AMERICANS ARE COMING TO APPRECIATE THE FACT THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN WASHINGTON IS NOT THE SOLE GUARDIAN AND REPOSITORY OF THEIR NATIONAL GREATNESS. THAT REALLY IS THE MEANING OF THE PRESIDENT'S REVENUE SHARING PROPOSAL. IT MEANS FAR MORE THAN SIMPLY THE REDISTRIBUTION OF FEDERAL MONEY.

POLICIES OF PARTNERSHIP

IT EXEMPLIFIES AND IMPLEMENTS A TRADITIONAL REPUBLICAN CONCEPT THAT RUNS THROUGH THE HISTORY OF OUR PARTY AND SHAPES ALL OF THE PRESIDENT'S POLICIES, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC. I SPEAK

-6-

OF THE POLICY THEME OF PARTNERSHIP.

IN THE DOMESTIC CASE, REVENUE SHARING PRESAGES A RENEWED PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE STATES AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. IT POINTS TOWARD A RENEWED FEDERAL RELATIONSHIP IN WHICH THE STATES WILL REGAIN THE MEANS TO DO FOR AND BY THEMSELVES WHAT FOR TOO LONG THEY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO ONLY AT THE INITIATIVE AND UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

IN THE CASE OF FOREIGN POLICY, IT IS PARTNERSHIP AGAIN, IN WHICH THE POLICIES OF THIS ADMINISTRATION ARE ROOTED. THE NIXON DOCTRINE, AND ITS COMPANION STRATEGY OF REALISTIC DETERRENCE, RELIES ON NOTHING SO MUCH AS IT RELIES ON THE CONCEPT OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITY AND PARTNERSHIP IN THE MUTUAL DEFENSE OF THE FREE WORLD.

VIETNAMIZATION -- THE FIRST TEST OF THE NIXON DOCTRINE -- IS SUCCEEDING. IN ITSELF, THE SUCCESS OF THAT POLICY WOULD BE TREMENDOUSLY IMPORTANT. WHAT MAKES IT EVEN MORE SO -- WHAT MAKES IT OF REALLY CRUCIAL SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE FUTURE OF PEACE IN THE WORLD -- IS THE FACT THAT IT HAS ESTABLISHED THE VALIDITY OF A DEFENSE STRATEGY BASED ON PARTNERSHIP. AND THAT PARTNERSHIP

-7-

CAN PROVIDE A TRUE POSITION OF STRENGTH ON WHICH TO BASE THIS COUNTRY'S CONTINUING EFFORTS TO ATTAIN A LASTING PEACE.

JUST AS REVENUE SHARING WILL LAY TO REST THE BANKRUPT MYTH OF FEDERAL INFALLIBILITY, SO WILL THE NIXON DOCTRINE RID US OF THE UNREALISTIC EXPECTATION THAT THE UNITED STATES CAN OR SHOULD TRY TO FUNCTION AS THE WORLD'S POLICEMAN.

DEMOCRAT PROBLEMS -- REPUBLICAN SOLUTIONS

MY POINT IS SIMPLY THIS. REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP HAS GIVEN US POLICIES BASED ON PARTNERSHIP AND SHARED RESPONSIBILITY THAT PROMISE TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS CREATED BY THE WORN-OUT DEMOCRAT PHILOSOPHIES OF THE SIXTIES.

THE DEMOCRATS DECLARED A WAR ON POVERTY THAT THEY THOUGHT THEY COULD FIGHT AND WIN FROM WASHINGTON. THEY NEVER WON THAT WAR BECAUSE THEY BASED THEIR PROGRAMS ON THE FLAWED AND ARROGANT PREMISE OF FEDERAL OMNISCIENCE.

THEY COMMITTED THIS COUNTRY WITH NOBLE INTENT AND IN WORDS YOU WILL REMEMBER TO "FIGHT ANY FOE AND BEAR ANY BURDEN" FOR THE DEFENSE OF FREE NATIONS ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD. AND ON THE STRENGTH

-8-

OF THAT COMMITMENT, WE BLUNDERED INTO WAR BECAUSE OF A POLICY BASED ON THE FLAWED AND ARROGANT PREMISE OF AMERICAN OMNIPOTENCE.

THE REALISTIC POLICIES OF THIS PRESIDENT BASED ON THE POTENTIAL OF PARTNERSHIP MAKES PEACE -- AND PROSPERITY BASED ON PEACE -- AN ATTAINABLE GOAL.

POLITICS OF PARTNERSHIP

THERE IS A LESSON IN THIS FOR US, AS POLITICAL PRACTITIONERS. IF PARTNERSHIP AND SHARED RESPONSIBILITY WILL WORK IN PUBLIC POLICY, THEY WILL WORK FOR US, TOO, AS WE PROSECUTE THE PRESENT ELECTION CAMPAIGN. REPUBLICANS PULLING TOGETHER CAN ACHIEVE THE COMMON GOAL WE ARE AGREED UPON -- THE RESTORATION OF OUR PARTY TO ITS RIGHTFUL STATUS AS THE MAJORITY PARTY IN THIS COUNTRY AND A SECOND TERM FOR RICHARD NIXON.

THE POTENTIAL OF PARTNERSHIP STILL ESCAPES THE DEMOCRATS. THEY CAN'T DECIDE ON ISSUES, THEY CAN'T DECIDE ON STRATEGY, THEY CAN'T EVEN DECIDE ON A CANDIDATE.

BECAUSE WE ARE IN THE BUSINESS, IN OUR PROFESSION, OF LEARNING FROM OTHERS' MISTAKES -- IN THIS ONE RESPECT AT LEAST --

- 9 -

THE DEMOCRAT CAMPAIGN PROMISES TO BE A HIGHLY EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE. FROM EACH OF THEIR TEN CANDIDATES, WE CAN LEARN HOW NOT TO WORK TOGETHER.

FROM RICHARD NIXON, WE SHOULD HAVE ALREADY LEARNED WHAT WE CAN GAIN FROM CONCERTED ACTION, FROM POLITICAL PARTNERSHIP IN THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN IN 1972. I URGE YOU TO USE THIS PROFESSIONAL STAFF CONFERENCE AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER, TO GAIN FROM EACH OTHER'S EXPERIENCES AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, TO RENEW YOUR RESOLVE TO JOIN TOGETHER IN THE IMPORTANT WORK AHEAD OF US.