

Wash. Hilton
RNC Leadership Conf.

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JOHN MITCHELL INTRODUCTION

THERE WAS A CARTOON IN THE WASHINGTON POST THE OTHER DAY THAT SHOWED DICK KLEINDIENST SITTING BEHIND JOHN MITCHELL'S DESK AT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT. THERE WAS A SIGN HANGING ON THE DOOR WHICH SAID: "BUSINESS AS USUAL." AND I THOUGHT TO MYSELF, "THANK GOODNESS FOR THAT."

I'M NOT CERTAIN IT WAS MEANT IN A COMPLIMENTARY WAY. HOWEVER, THE ADMINISTRATION OF FEDERAL JUSTICE IN THIS COUNTRY HAS COME A LONG, LONG WAY IN THE LAST THREE YEARS.

IT HAS COME A LONG WAY SINCE THE RADICAL-ROUSING DAYS OF RAMSEY CLARK. WE KNOW THE IMPROVEMENT HAS TRULY BEEN VAST.

AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE HAS COME A LONG WAY, TOO, SINCE THE KENNEDY WIRETAP DAYS.

PEOPLE SEEM TO FORGET THAT BUSINESS NOW. AT LEAST THE DEMOCRATS FORGET IT. YOU KNOW, THOUGH, THEY DON'T FORGET -- THEY JUST TRY TO BLAME IT ON THE WRONG MAN. THEY ACCUSE THE BEST ATTORNEY GENERAL THIS NATION HAS EVER HAD OF ALL THE THINGS THAT THEIR TWO MOST RECENT ATTORNEYS GENERAL WERE PRACTICING.

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BUT I DON'T MIND THEM DISLIKING JOHN MITCHELL. YOU REMEMBER, PEOPLE SAID OF PRESIDENT CLEVELAND, "WE LOVE HIM FOR THE ENEMIES HE HAS MADE." AND THAT'S WHY WE LOVE JOHN MITCHELL.

NOT ONLY HAS HE REFUSED TO TOLERATE THE ARROGANT, TOTALITARIAN TACTICS OF THE NEW LEFT; NOT ONLY HAS HE TURNED THE HEAT ON THE PUSHER AND THE MOBSTER; NOT ONLY DOES HE THINK CRIMINALS OUGHT TO BE APPREHENDED AND PROSECUTED; BUT HE REJECTS THE EMPTY DISTINCTIONS THAT THE RADICALS THINK HE SHOULD MAKE ABOUT POLITICAL CRIMES -- LIKE ROBBING BANKS TO FINANCE THE SO-CALLED REVOLUTION, MURDERING JUDGES, BOMBING ACADEMIC LABS AND TORTURING ONE'S COHORTS TO DEATH FOR THE SAKE OF PURIFYING SOCIETY. ALL OF THESE MERRY LITTLE PRANKS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE ACCEPTED BECAUSE SOMEBODY SAYS THEY ARE POLITICAL, BUT JOHN MITCHELL SAYS THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO BE PROSECUTED BECAUSE THEY ARE CRIMES.

WELL, I SAY, "THANK GOD" -- THAT AFTER EIGHT LONG YEARS, THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT FINALLY GOT A MAN WITH THE FORTITUDE TO CALL A CRIME A CRIME AND A CRIMINAL A CRIMINAL -- AND A MAN TO RUN THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AS AN EXAMPLE OF JUSTICE AND NOT AS A PERSONAL VENDETTA. SO THEY HATE HIM FOR IT. BUT AMERICA IS GRATEFUL.

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AND I'LL TELL YOU ANOTHER REASON THEY DON'T LIKE JOHN MITCHELL -- BECAUSE HE HELPED ELECT RICHARD NIXON PRESIDENT.

I PREDICT THAT THEY AREN'T GOING TO BE ANY HAPPIER THIS YEAR, BECAUSE THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT -- WITH THE ABLE HELP OF DICK KLEINDIENST -- IS GOING TO FUNCTION ON A "BUSINESS AS USUAL" BASIS. AND JOHN MITCHELL -- WITH YOUR HELP -- IS GOING TO HELP RE-ELECT PRESIDENT NIXON.

AND I AM PROUD TO BE ABLE TO INTRODUCE HIM TO YOU NOW.