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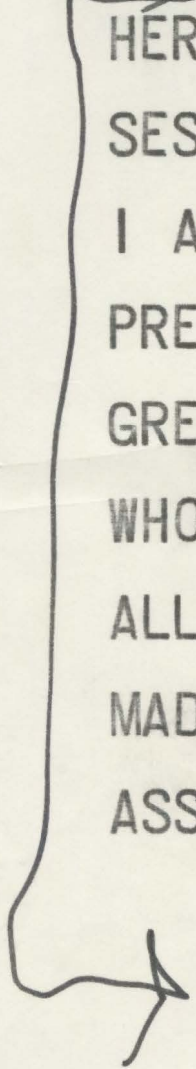
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS CONVENTION
SHERATON PARK HOTEL, WASHINGTON, D.C.
TUESDAY AT 9:10 A.M., NOVEMBER 13, 1973.

Sawyer / Lynn / Washington



*Telephone
Attch*

IT IS A PLEASURE FOR ME TO BE
HERE THIS MORNING TAKING PART IN THE OPENING
SESSION OF THE NAR'S 66TH ANNUAL CONVENTION.
I AM NOT JUST HERE FOR MYSELF, HOWEVER.
PRESIDENT NIXON HAS ASKED ME TO EXTEND HIS
GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES TO THOSE OF YOU
WHO ARE HERE FOR THIS EVENT TODAY, AND TO
ALL OF THE 500,000 MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE
MADE THE NAR THE LARGEST AMERICAN TRADE
ASSOCIATION REPRESENTING A SINGLE INDUSTRY.



AS REALTORS YOU REPRESENT A VITAL PART OF OUR NATIONAL ECONOMY, AND I AM PROUD TO SAY THAT, ALTHOUGH IT STILL HAS ITS SHARE OF PROBLEMS, THE AMERICAN ECONOMY IS IN GREAT SHAPE TODAY AND GROWING STRONGER EVERY MINUTE. ~~other places etc.~~



SO MUCH HAS BEEN HAPPENING LATELY -- BOTH GOOD AND BAD -- THAT SOME VITAL NATIONAL STATISTICS HAVE BEEN LOST IN THE SHUFFLE. DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, WHILE MOST EYES WERE UNDERSTANDABLY TURNED TOWARDS WATERGATE, THE MIDDLE EAST OR THE ENERGY CRISIS, THE AMERICAN ECONOMY QUIETLY

ACHIEVED PRESIDENT NIXON'S TARGET FIGURE FOR REDUCED UNEMPLOYMENT. THAT OVERALL FIGURE IS NOW DOWN TO 4.5 PER CENT AND THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR ADULT MALES IS THE LOWEST IT HAS EVER BEEN IN AMERICA DURING PEACETIME. AT THE SAME TIME, LAST MONTH WE HAD THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE MONTHLY DROP IN WHOLESALE PRICES. *This encouraging success in the battle against inflation.*

THIS IS NOT SPECTACULAR NEWS BECAUSE IT ISN'T SHOCKING OR DEPRESSING. IT IS JUST PLAIN GOOD NEWS. AND IT IS PERSUASIVE EVIDENCE THAT, DESPITE SOME VERY SERIOUS OBSTACLES, THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION



IS MAKING SOLID PROGRESS IN DELIVERING
WHAT IT PROMISED THE AMERICAN PEOPLE LAST
NOVEMBER -- AN ERA OF GENUINE PROSPERITY --
PROSPERITY IN PEACETIME.



HARD AS IT MAY BE FOR US TO
REALIZE IT NOW, THIS MAY BE THE BIG STORY
OF THE PAST FEW MONTHS WHEN HISTORIANS LOOK
BACK ~~ON THEM~~ IN THE YEARS TO COME -- THE
STORY OF HOW A BELEAGUERED ADMINISTRATION,
WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE AND THE
BACKING OF RESPONSIBLE DEMOCRATS AND
REPUBLICANS IN THE CONGRESS, SUCCEEDED IN

BRINGING NEW PROSPERITY TO AMERICA AND NEW HOPE FOR PEACE IN THE WORLD IN SPITE OF POLITICAL TURMOIL AT HOME.

*1 at Time
12 go on America by contact
25 on America by Wright.*



EVEN WITHOUT WATERGATE, THAT SUCCESS STORY WOULD BE DRAMATIC. WITH WATERGATE, IT IS LITTLE SHORT OF MIRACULOUS.

We should all be thankful

~~BUT~~ IT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED.

IN SPITE OF WATERGATE, THE PRESIDENT'S DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES HAVE SUCCEEDED IN MAKING A FRESH BEGINNING FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A GENERATION, ARABS AND ISRAELIS HAVE BOTH EXPRESSED A WILLINGNESS TO SIT DOWN AND DISCUSS THEIR DIFFERENCES. FOR THE FIRST TIME

SINCE THE BIRTH OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL,
THERE IS HOPE THAT THE LEGACY OF HATRED AND
VIOLENCE CAN BE SET ASIDE -- THAT
REASONABLE NEGOTIATION CAN REPLACE BLOODY
CONFRONTATION IN THIS TROUBLED PART OF THE
WORLD.



NO OTHER AMERICAN PRESIDENT -- NO
OTHER WORLD LEADER, FOR THAT MATTER -- WAS
EVER ABLE TO ACHIEVE THIS. RICHARD NIXON,
THE MAN THAT SOME PEOPLE HAVE REFERRED TO
AS A CRIPPLED PRESIDENT, HAS ACHIEVED IT.

THAT'S QUITE A TRACK RECORD FOR
A CRIPPLE. IT REMINDS ME OF A SPEECH THAT
WAS MADE IN THE CANADIAN SENATE AND HOUSE
OF COMMONS IN 1941 BY A VERY DISTINGUISHED
VISITOR -- A MAN NAMED WINSTON CHURCHILL.
IN HIS SPEECH, CHURCHILL DESCRIBED THE
SITUATION IN EUROPE AFTER THE FALL OF FRANCE,
WHEN ENGLAND STOOD ALONE AGAINST THE
COMBINED FORCES OF THE AXIS POWERS.



WHEN CHURCHILL HAD WARNED THE
FRENCH THAT BRITAIN WOULD FIGHT ON ALONE
WHATEVER THEY DID, THE FRENCH GENERALS

HAD ADVISED THEIR GOVERNMENT THAT, "IN THREE WEEKS ENGLAND WILL HAVE HER NECK WRING LIKE A CHICKEN."

"SOME CHICKEN," CHURCHILL REFLECTED, "SOME NECK."



TODAY WE HEAR A LOT OF VOICES THAT SOUND VERY MUCH LIKE THOSE DEFEATED AND DEFEATIST FRENCH GENERALS AND POLITICIANS. WE ARE TOLD THAT PRESIDENT NIXON IS A PARALYZED PRISONER, INCAPABLE OF ACTING. SOME SUGGEST THAT HE SHOULD RESIGN OR BE IMPEACHED.

I SEE IT A DIFFERENT WAY. I LOOK AT RICHARD NIXON'S RECORD ON BUILDING A HEALTHY PEACE-TIME ECONOMY; ON WORKING TO ACHIEVE PEACE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND THE MIDDLE EAST; ON GIVING THIS NATION A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM FOR MEETING THE ENERGY CHALLENGE -- I LOOK AT ALL THIS AND MY ANSWER TO THE CRITICS IS SIMPLE.

SOME PRISONER; SOME PARALYSIS.



IF RICHARD NIXON CAN ACHIEVE ALL
THAT HE HAS FOR THIS COUNTRY IN THE LAST
FEW WEEKS AS A "CRIPPLE" THEN HE IS THE
BEST ARGUMENT THIS NATION EVER HAD FOR
HIRING THE HANDICAPPED.

THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT WE DON'T
HAVE A REAL PROBLEM OF PUBLIC CONFIDENCE
ON OUR HANDS.

IT IS REAL, IT IS BIG AND IT
ISN'T GOING TO GO AWAY OVERNIGHT IF WE
SIMPLY IGNORE IT.



BUT IT IS NOT INVINCIBLE. THERE
IS NO CREDIBILITY PROBLEM IN THE WORLD TOO
BIG FOR THE TRUTH TO OVERCOME. AND WITH
THE RELEASE TO THE COURT OF THE TAPES, AND
WITH THE TESTIMONY THAT WILL BE HEARD IN
THE DAYS AHEAD, THAT IS WHAT WE ARE GOING
TO GET -- THE TRUTH. I AM CONVINCED THAT
ONCE THE FULL TRUTH IS KNOWN, PRESIDENT
NIXON WILL BE ^{completely} EXONERATED.
1



UNFORTUNATELY, THERE ARE ALWAYS
SOME PEOPLE SO EAGER TO REACH A VERDICT
THAT THEY DON'T BOTHER TO WAIT FOR EVIDENCE.

FOR SOME OF THEM, NOTHING -- NOT EVEN THE TRUTH -- WILL MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE. THEY HAVE MADE UP THEIR MINDS, AND EVEN THE FACTS WILL NOT CHANGE THEM. BUT SUCH PEOPLE ARE ONLY A SMALL MINORITY.



I BELIEVE THAT A MAJORITY OF AMERICANS, AND A MAJORITY OF THE MEN AND WOMEN ON BOTH SIDES OF THE AISLE IN THE CONGRESS, ARE GOING TO COME OUT OF THIS WATERGATE ORDEAL WITH THEIR CONFIDENCE RAISED AND THEIR TRUST RESTORED -- NOT ONLY IN THE PRESIDENT, BUT IN THE AMERICAN POLITICAL SYSTEM AS WELL.

AS REALTORS, YOU HAVE SEEN THE SAME PROCESS TAKE PLACE IN ANOTHER SPHERE. YOU KNOW HOW EMOTIONAL SPECULATION CAN DRIVE THE PRICE OF LAND OR BUILDINGS UP AND DOWN OVER THE SHORT TERM. BUT YOU ALSO KNOW THAT, IN THE LONG RUN, THE REAL MARKET VALUE -- THE HONEST WORTH OF THE PROPERTY -- WILL MAKE ITSELF FELT ONCE THE HYSTERIA HAS CEASED AND PEOPLE HAVE THE FULL FACTS AT THEIR DISPOSAL.



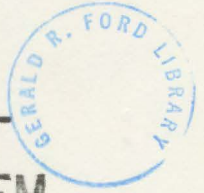
THE SAME THING IS TRUE OF GOVERNMENT. THERE ARE AND ALWAYS WILL BE

PERIODS OF CRISIS WHEN EMOTION, EVEN HYSTERIA, GET THE UPPER HAND. BUT, IN A FREE, INFORMED SOCIETY, GOOD SENSE WINS OUT IN THE END -- GOOD SENSE AND FAIR PLAY.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A POLITICIAN AND A STATESMAN, ACCORDING TO AN OLD SAYING, IS THAT THE POLITICIAN THINKS ABOUT THE NEXT ELECTION BUT THE STATESMAN THINKS ABOUT THE NEXT GENERATION.



THOSE WHO ARE LOOKING TO THE NEXT GENERATION, AND WHO HAVE A SENSE OF HISTORY, KNOW THAT, GIVEN THE FACTS AND DUE DELIBERATION, COOLER, FAIRER HEADS WILL PREVAIL. THEY KNOW THAT WHAT MIGHT SEEM LIKE AN EASY SHORTCUT TODAY -- A QUICK ESCAPE FROM TEMPORARY ANNOYANCES -- COULD ACTUALLY INFLICT DEEP, PERMANENT SCARS ON THE AMERICAN POLITICAL SYSTEM. AND LET US NEVER FORGET THAT THOSE SCARS WOULD BE BORNE BY THE NEXT GENERATION OF AMERICANS.



I HAVE FAITH THAT THE COURTS WILL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS CASE. I HAVE FAITH THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL ACT WITH HONOR AND INTEGRITY IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTY, AND ABOVE ALL, AS ONE WHO HAS SPENT A QUARTER OF A CENTURY AS A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS, I HAVE FAITH IN THE CONGRESS -- FAITH THAT IT, TOO, WILL NOT BE PANICKED INTO UNWISE ACTION OR DOMINATED BY A FEW SHRILL, EXTREME VOICES.

BUT THE BIGGEST SINGLE FACTOR IN ALL OF THIS IS NOT ANY ONE OF THE



THREE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT I HAVE JUST MENTIONED. IT IS YOU, THE PEOPLE OF THIS GREAT COUNTRY ~~OF OURS~~.

THROUGH THE ENTIRE WATERGATE ORDEAL, MOST OF THE PEOPLE HAVE REACTED WITH QUIET PATIENCE, WAITING FOR THE FULL STORY TO UNFOLD. THEIR AIM HAS BEEN TO JUDGE FAIRLY FROM THE FACTS.



MOST, BUT NOT ALL. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF PRESSURE GROUPS THAT HAVE ALWAYS BEEN OPPOSED TO THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION AND

TO THE PROGRAMS THAT IT HAS PURSUED,
DESPITE THE FACT THAT THOSE PROGRAMS WERE
OVERWHELMINGLY ENDORSED BY THE AMERICAN
PEOPLE LAST NOVEMBER.

THESE OPPONENTS HAVE BEEN VERY
BUSY IN THE LAST FEW WEEKS. NEWSPAPER ADS
CALLING FOR IMPEACHMENT OR RESIGNATION AND
URGING LETTER-WRITING CAMPAIGNS TO THE
CONGRESS HAVE ABOUNDED AND CONGRESSIONAL
OFFICES HAVE BEEN BOMBARDED WITH LETTERS AND
TELEGRAMS. ONE MEMBER OF THE SENATE,
BILL SCOTT OF VIRGINIA, RECENTLY RAN A



SPOT CHECK OF THE MOUNTAIN OF MAIL HE HAD RECEIVED CALLING FOR THE OUSTER OF THE PRESIDENT AND HE FOUND THAT MOST OF THE PEOPLE WHO WERE SO LOUDLY MAKING THIS DEMAND TODAY HAD VOTED AGAINST RICHARD NIXON LAST NOVEMBER. THEY WERE TRYING TO USE WATERGATE AS A WEAPON TO REVERSE AN ELECTION THEY DIDN'T AGREE WITH AND DIDN'T WIN.

MEANWHILE, THE FAMOUS "SILENT MAJORITY" HAS BEEN LIVING UP TO ITS NAME.



I HOPE THAT EACH OF YOU, WHEN YOU RETURN HOME FROM THIS GREAT GATHERING, WILL TAKE THE TIME TO EXPRESS YOUR PERSONAL VIEW TO YOUR SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN. IF YOU REALLY BELIEVE THAT IMPEACHMENT OR RESIGNATION IS THE ONLY ANSWER, BY ALL MEANS SAY SO. BUT IF YOU ARE PART OF THAT MUCH LARGER GROUP THAT BELIEVES IN FAIR PLAY AND IN THE IMPORTANT THINGS THAT RICHARD NIXON HAS DONE AND CAN DO FOR AMERICA, DON'T WAIT FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO DO IT FOR YOU. SPEAK UP AND SPEAK NOW. YOU DESERVE TO BE HEARD.



NOT ONLY THAT, BUT YOUR
REPRESENTATIVES DESERVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.
THEY MUST HEAR FROM BOTH SIDES ON THIS
VITAL NATIONAL QUESTION.

WHILE YOU ARE DOING THAT, I
PROMISE YOU THAT I WILL BE DOING EVERYTHING
I CAN AT MY END TO SEE THAT A SPIRIT OF
CANDOR, FAIR PLAY AND CONCILIATION
PREVAILS BETWEEN THE CAPITOL, THE COURTS
AND THE WHITE HOUSE.



TOGETHER I AM CONVINCED THAT WE
CAN EMERGE FROM THIS PAINFUL EXPERIENCE
AS A STRONG, UNITED PEOPLE, WITH A RENEWED
FAITH IN OUR PRESIDENT AND OUR POLITICAL
SYSTEM.

-- END --



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 7, 1973



MEMORANDUM FOR: VICE PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE GERALD FORD
FROM: W. DEWEY CLOWER *WDC*
SUBJECT: YOUR ATTENDANCE AT THE 66TH ANNUAL
CONVENTION OF THE NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS
Washington, D.C.
Tuesday, November 13, 1973



Attached at Tab A is a proposed schedule for your participation in the subject event at the Sheraton Park Hotel.

Approve Schedule _____ Disapprove Schedule _____

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

This organization of 500,000 members is considered to be the largest trade association representing one facet of an industry. The 66th annual convention will be attended by in excess of 10,000 members, 3,000 of whom will view the Opening Session at which you will deliver your remarks.

PLATFORM GUESTS

The association has yet to finalize its program for the Opening Session and, as a result, will not have a listing of platform guests until later in the week. It will be provided with your final schedule.

It should be noted that Secretary James Lynn and Dr. Marina Whitman are also scheduled to address the convention on Tuesday. Specifics of the time of their participation will not be available until later this week.

cc: Dave Gergen
Dick Howard



November 7, 1973
2:30 pm

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

VICE PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE GERALD FORD'S ATTENDANCE
AT THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS' CONVENTION

Washington, D. C.
Tuesday, November 13, 1973



8:45 am

ARRIVE Sheraton Park Hotel and
proceed to Wilmington Room to join
with other platform guests.

You will be met by:

Mr. Al Abrams, Director of
Government Affairs of the
National Association of
Realtors.

NOTE: Mr. Abrams will escort
you to the Wilmington Room.

8:50 am

ARRIVE Wilmington Room and meet with
platform guests.

9:00 am

DEPART Wilmington Room with other
platform guests en route Sheraton Hall.

ARRIVE Sheraton Hall platform and be
seated.

9:04 am

Presentation of Colors.

9:06 am

Pledge of Allegiance

9:08 am

Introduction of Vice President-
Designate Gerald Ford by Mr. J. D.
Sawyer, President of the National
Association of Realtors.

9:10 am

Vice President-Designate Gerald Ford
remarks.

FULL PRESS COVERAGE

9:30 am

Remarks conclude.

DEPART Sheraton Hall en route motorcade
for boarding.

9:35 am

DEPART Sheraton Park Hotel via motorcade
en route Capitol.

[Driving time: 10 minutes]

9:45 am

ARRIVE Capitol.



(Bakshian)DG

November 9, 1973

VICE PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE FORD DRAFT REMARKS FOR
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS CONVENTION, SHERATON
PARK HOTEL, WASHINGTON, D. C., NOVEMBER 13, 1973

It is a pleasure for me to be here this morning taking part in the opening session of the NAR's 66th annual convention. I am not just here for myself however. President Nixon has asked me to extend his greetings and best wishes to those of you who are here for this event today, and to all of the 500,000 men and women who have made the NAR the largest American trade association representing a single industry.

As realtors you represent a vital part of our national economy, and I am proud to say that, although it still has its share of problems, the American economy is in great shape today and growing stronger every minute.

So much has been happening lately -- both good and bad -- that some vital national statistics have been lost in the shuffle. For example, during the month of October, while most eyes were understandably turned towards Watergate, the Middle East or the energy crisis, the American economy quietly achieved President Nixon's

target figure for reduced unemployment. That overall figure is now down 4.5 percent and the unemployment rate for adult males is the lowest it has ever been in America during peacetime.

This is not a spectacular piece of news. It isn't shocking or depressing. On the contrary, it is just plain good news. And it is persuasive evidence that, despite some very serious obstacles, the Nixon Administration is making solid progress in delivering what it promised the American people last November -- an era of peace and prosperity.

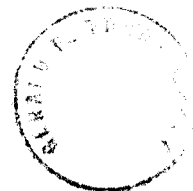
Hard as it may be for us to realize it now, this may be the big story of the past few months when historians look back on them in the years to come -- the story of how a beleaguered Administration, with the support of the people and the backing of responsible Democrats and Republicans in the Congress, succeeded in bringing new prosperity to America and new hope for peace in the world in spite of political turmoil at home.

Even without Watergate, that success story would be dramatic. With Watergate, it is little short of miraculous. But it has been achieved.

In spite of Watergate, the President's diplomatic initiatives have succeeded in making a fresh beginning for peace in the Middle East. For the first time in a generation, Arabs and Israelis have both expressed a willingness to sit down and discuss their differences. For the first time since the birth of the state of Israel, there is hope that the legacy of hatred and violence can be set aside -- that reasonable negotiation can replace bloody confrontation in this troubled part of the world.

No other American President -- no other world leader, for that matter -- was ever able to achieve this. Richard Nixon, the man that some people have referred to as a crippled President, has achieved it.

That's quite a track record for a cripple. It reminds me of a speech that was made in the Canadian Senate and House of Commons in 1941 by a very distinguished visitor -- a man named Winston Churchill. In his speech, Churchill described the situation in Europe after the fall of France, when England stood alone against the combined forces of the Axis powers.



When Churchill had warned the French that Britain would fight on alone whatever they did, the French generals had advised their government that, "In three weeks England will have her neck wrung like a chicken."

"Some chicken," Churchill reflected, "some neck."

Today we hear a lot of voices that sound very much like those defeated and defeatist French generals and politicians. We are told that President Nixon is a paralyzed prisoner, incapable of acting. Some suggest that he should resign or be impeached.

I see it a different way. I look at Richard Nixon's record on building a healthy peace-time economy; on working to achieve peace in Southeast Asia and the Middle East; on giving this Nation a comprehensive program for meeting the energy challenge -- I look at all this and my answer to the critics is simple.

Some prisoner; some paralysis.

If Richard Nixon can achieve all that he has for this country in the last few weeks as a "cripple" then he is the best argument this Nation ever had for hiring the handicapped.



That doesn't mean that we don't have a real problem of public confidence on our hands.

It is real, it is big and it isn't going to go away overnight if we simply ignore it.

But it is not invincible. There is no credibility problem in the world too big for the truth to overcome. And with the release to the court of the tapes, and with the testimony that will be heard in the days ahead, that is what we are going to get -- the truth. I am convinced that once the full truth is known, President Nixon will be exonerated.

Unfortunately, there are always some people so eager to reach a verdict that they don't bother to wait for the evidence.

For some of them, nothing --not even the truth -- will make any difference. They have made up their minds, and even the facts will not change them. But such people are only a small minority.

I believe that a majority of Americans, and a majority of the men and women on both sides of the aisle in the Congress, are going to come out of this Watergate ordeal with their confidence



raised and their trust restored -- not only in the President, but in the American political system as well.

As realtors, you have seen the same process take place in other sphere. You know how emotional speculation can drive the price of land or buildings up and down over the short term. But you also know that, in the long run, the real market value -- the honest worth of the property -- will make itself felt once the hysteria has ceased and people have the full facts at their disposal.

The same thing is true of government. There are and always will be periods of crisis when emotion, even hysteria, get the upper hand. But, in a free, informed society, good sense wins out in the end -- good sense and fair play.

The difference between a politician and a statesman, according to an old saying, is that the politician thinks about the next election but the statesman thinks about the next generation. ~~Those who are thinking about nothing but the next election may really believe that the sky is falling -- that the President should resign or be impeached.~~



Those who are looking to the next generation, and who have a sense of history, know that, given the facts and due deliberation, cooler, fairer heads will prevail. They know that what might seem like an easy shortcut today -- a quick escape from temporary annoyances -- could actually inflict deep, permanent scars on the American political system. And let us never forget that those scars would be borne by the next generation of Americans.

I have faith in the courts to get to the bottom of this case. I have faith in the President to act with honor and integrity in the performance of his duty, and above all, as one who has spent a quarter of a century as a Member of the United States Congress, I have faith in the Congress -- faith that it, too, will not be panicked into unwise action or dominated by a few shrill, extreme voices.

But the biggest single factor in all of this is not any one of the three branches of government I have just mentioned. It is you, the people of this great country of ours.

Through the entire Watergate ordeal, most of the people have reacted with quiet patience, waiting for the full story to unfold. Their aim has been to judge fairly from the facts.



Most, but not all. There are a number of pressure groups that have always been opposed to the Nixon Administration and to the programs that it has pursued, despite the fact that those programs were overwhelmingly endorsed by the American people last November.

These opponents have been very busy in the last few weeks. Newspaper ads calling for impeachment or resignation and urging letter-writing campaigns to the Congress have abounded and Congressional offices have been bombarded with letters and telegrams. One member of the Senate, Bill Scott of Virginia, recently ran a spot check of the mountain of mail he had received calling for the ouster of the President and he found that most of the people who were so loudly making this demand today had voted against Richard Nixon last November. They were trying to use Watergate as a weapon to reverse an election they didn't agree with. *and didn't win.*

Meanwhile, the famous "silent majority" has been living up to its name.



I hope that each of you, when you return home from this great gathering, will take the time to express your personal view to your Senators and Congressmen. If you really believe that impeachment or resignation are the only answer, by all means say so. But if you are part of that much larger group that believes in fair play and in the important things that Richard Nixon has done and can do for America, don't wait for someone else to do it for you. Speak up and speak now. You deserve to be heard.

Not only that, but your representatives deserve to hear from you. They must hear from both sides on this vital national question.

While you are doing that, I promise you that I will be doing everything that I can at my end to see that a spirit of candor, fair play and conciliation prevails between the Capitol, the courts and the White House.

Together I am convinced that we can emerge from this painful experience as a strong, united people, with a renewed faith in our President and our political system.

#

November 9, 1973

5:00 pm

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE



VICE PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE GERALD FORD'S ATTENDANCE
AT THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS' CONVENTION

Washington, D. C.

Tuesday, November 13, 1973

ATTIRE: Business Suit

WEATHER: Mid 50's, cloudy, windy

8:40 am
(EST)

Advanceman:
John Gartland

ARRIVE Sheraton Park Hotel and proceed
to Wilmington Room to join with other
platform guests.

You will be met by:

Mr. Al Abrams, Director of
Government Affairs of the
National Association of
Realtors.

NOTE: Mr. Abrams will escort
you to the Wilmington Room.

8:45 am

ARRIVE Wilmington Room and meet with
platform guests.

8:50 am

DEPART Wilmington Room with other
platform guests en route Sheraton Hall.

8:55 am

ARRIVE Sheraton Hall platform and be
seated.

8:58 am

Invocation by Dr. Lowell Ditzen,
National Presbyterian Center.

8:59 am

Presentation of Colors by Armed
Forces Joint Color Guard.

Pledge of Allegiance by Joseph Rowe,
Regional Vice President of the
National Association.

National Anthem by Walter McArdle,
President of the Metropolitan Board
of Trade.

9:08 am

Introduction of Vice President-
Designate Gerald Ford by Mr. J. D.
Sawyer, President of the National
Association of Realtors.

9:10 am

Vice President-Designate Gerald Ford
remarks.

FULL PRESS COVERAGE

9:30 am

Remarks Conclude.

NOTE: You will be presented two
gavels (one each for you and the
President) by Mr. J. D. Sawyer.
Mr. Sawyer will then say a few
words to explain to the audience
your departure from the stage.

9:35 am

DEPART Sheraton Hall en route motorcade
for boarding.

9:40 am

DEPART Sheraton Park Hotel via motorcade
en route Capitol.

[Driving time: 10 minutes]

9:50 am

ARRIVE Capitol.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 9, 1973



MEMORANDUM FOR: VICE PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE GERALD FORD
FROM: W. DEWEY CLOWER *WDC*
SUBJECT: YOUR ATTENDANCE AT THE NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS' CONVENTION
Washington, D. C.
Tuesday, November 13, 1973

Attached at Tab A is your schedule for participation in the
subject event at the Sheraton Park Hotel.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

This organization of 500,000 members is considered to be the
largest trade association representing one facet of an industry.
The 66th annual convention will be attended by in excess of
10,000 members, 3,000 of whom will view the Opening Session
at which you will deliver your remarks.

HEAD TABLE RECEPTION

The following persons will greet you at the head table reception
in the Wilmington Room and accompany you to the platform:

Martin West, General Convention Chairman
Dr. Lowell Ditzen, National Presbyterian Center
Joseph N. Rowe, National Association Regional
Vice President
Walter McArdle, President of the Metropolitan
Mayor Walter Washington
Rich Port, Past Association President

Joseph L. Donnelly, Washington Board of Realtors
President

J. D. Sawyer, Association President

Secretary James T. Lynn, HUD

Dr. Marina Whitman, Former Member of the Council of
Economic Advisors

William D. North, Association Counsel

GAVEL PRESENTATION

Upon completion of your remarks, Mr. J. D. Sawyer will present you with two gavels (in boxes). One is for yourself, while the other will be for the President. This token gift, of which the Association is very proud, is given annually to keynote speakers. The wood is from Mount Vernon, and the metal is from the battleship Missouri.

REMARKS BY VICE PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE GERALD R. FORD
BEFORE THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF REALTORS CONVENTION

SHERATON PARK HOTEL
WASHINGTON, D. C.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1973

Advance for release on delivery
at 9:10 a.m. Tuesday

It is a pleasure for me to be here this morning taking part in the opening session of the NAR's 66th annual convention. I am not just here for myself, however. President Nixon has asked me to extend his greetings and best wishes to those of you who are here for this event today, and to all of the 500,000 men and women who have made the NAR the largest American trade association representing a single industry.

As realtors you represent a vital part of our national economy, and I am proud to say that, although it still has its share of problems, the American economy is in great shape today and growing stronger every minute.

So much has been happening lately -- both good and bad -- that some vital national statistics have been lost in the shuffle. During the month of October, while most eyes were understandably turned towards Watergate, the Middle East or the energy crisis, the American economy quietly achieved President Nixon's target figure for reduced unemployment. That overall figure is now down to 4.5 per cent and the unemployment rate for adult males is the lowest it has ever been in America during peacetime. At the same time, last month we had the second consecutive monthly drop in wholesale prices.

This is not spectacular news because it isn't shocking or depressing. It is just plain good news. And it is persuasive evidence that, despite some very serious obstacles, the Nixon Administration is making solid progress in delivering what it promised the American people last November -- an era of genuine prosperity -- prosperity in peacetime.

Hard as it may be for us to realize it now, this may be the big story of the past few months when historians look back on them in the years to come -- the story of how a beleaguered Administration, with the support of the people and the backing

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of responsible Democrats and Republicans in the Congress, succeeded in bringing new prosperity to America and new hope for peace in the world in spite of political turmoil at home.

Even without Watergate, that success story would be dramatic. With Watergate, it is little short of miraculous. But it has been achieved.

In spite of Watergate, the President's diplomatic initiatives have succeeded in making a fresh beginning for peace in the Middle East. For the first time in a generation, Arabs and Israelis have both expressed a willingness to sit down and discuss their differences. For the first time since the birth of the state of Israel, there is hope that the legacy of hatred and violence can be set aside -- that reasonable negotiation can replace bloody confrontation in this troubled part of the world.

No other American President -- no other world leader, for that matter -- was ever able to achieve this. Richard Nixon, the man that some people have referred to as a crippled President, has achieved it.

That's quite a track record for a cripple. It reminds me of a speech that was made in the Canadian Senate and House of Commons in 1941 by a very distinguished visitor -- a man named Winston Churchill. In his speech, Churchill described the situation in Europe after the fall of France, when England stood alone against the combined forces of the Axis powers.

When Churchill had warned the French that Britain would fight on alone whatever they did, the French generals had advised their government that, "In three weeks England will have her neck wrung like a chicken."

"Some chicken," Churchill reflected, "some neck."

Today we hear a lot of voices that sound very much like those defeated and defeatist French generals and politicians. We are told that President Nixon is a paralyzed prisoner, incapable of acting. Some suggest that he should resign or be impeached.

I see it a different way. I look at Richard Nixon's record on building a healthy peace-time economy; on working to achieve peace in Southeast Asia and the Middle East; on giving

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this Nation a comprehensive program for meeting the energy challenge -- I look at all this and my answer to the critics is simple.

Some prisoner; some paralysis.

If Richard Nixon can achieve all that he has for this country in the last few weeks as a "cripple" then he is the best argument this Nation ever had for hiring the handicapped.

That doesn't mean that we don't have a real problem of public confidence on our hands.

It is real, it is big and it isn't going to go away overnight if we simply ignore it.

But it is not invincible. There is no credibility problem in the world too big for the truth to overcome. And with the release to the court of the tapes, and with the testimony that will be heard in the days ahead, that is what we are going to get -- the truth. I am convinced that once the full truth is known, President Nixon will be exonerated.

Unfortunately, there are always some people so eager to reach a verdict that they don't bother to wait for evidence.

For some of them, nothing -- not even the truth -- will make any difference. They have made up their minds, and even the facts will not change them. But such people are only a small minority.

I believe that a majority of Americans, and a majority of the men and women on both sides of the aisle in the Congress, are going to come out of this Watergate ordeal with their confidence raised and their trust restored -- not only in the President, but in the American political system as well.

As realtors, you have seen the same process take place in another sphere. You know how emotional speculation can drive the price of land or buildings up and down over the short term. But you also know that, in the long run, the real market value -- the honest worth of the property -- will make itself felt once the hysteria has ceased and people have the full facts at their disposal.

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The same thing is true of government. There are and always will be periods of crisis when emotion, even hysteria, get the upper hand. But, in a free, informed society, good sense wins out in the end -- good sense and fair play.

The difference between a politician and a statesman, according to an old saying, is that the politician thinks about the next election but the statesman thinks about the next generation.

Those who are looking to the next generation, and who have a sense of history, know that, given the facts and due deliberation, cooler, fairer heads will prevail. They know that what might seem like an easy shortcut today -- a quick escape from temporary annoyances -- could actually inflict deep, permanent scars on the American political system. And let us never forget that those scars would be borne by the next generation of Americans.

I have faith that the courts will get to the bottom of this case. I have faith that the President will act with honor and integrity in the performance of his duty, and above all, as one who has spent a quarter of a century as a Member of the United States Congress, I have faith in the Congress -- faith that it, too, will not be panicked into unwise action or dominated by a few shrill, extreme voices.

But the biggest single factor in all of this is not any one of the three branches of government I have just mentioned. It is you, the people of this great country of ours.

Through the entire Watergate ordeal, most of the people have reacted with quiet patience, waiting for the full story to unfold. Their aim has been to judge fairly from the facts.

Most, but not all. There are a number of pressure groups that have always been opposed to the Nixon Administration and to the programs that it has pursued, despite the fact that those programs were overwhelmingly endorsed by the American people last November.

These opponents have been very busy in the last few weeks. Newspaper ads calling for impeachment or resignation and urging letter-writing campaigns to the Congress have abounded and Congressional offices have been bombarded with letters and

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telegrams. One member of the Senate, Bill Scott of Virginia, recently ran a spot check of the mountain of mail he had received calling for the ouster of the President and he found that most of the people who were so loudly making this demand today had voted against Richard Nixon last November. They were trying to use Watergate as a weapon to reverse an election they didn't agree with and didn't win.

Meanwhile, the famous "silent majority" has been living up to its name.

I hope that each of you, when you return home from this great gathering, will take the time to express your personal view to your Senators and Congressmen. If you really believe that impeachment or resignation is the only answer, by all means say so. But if you are part of that much larger group that believes in fair play and in the important things that Richard Nixon has done and can do for America, don't wait for someone else to do it for you. Speak up and speak now. You deserve to be heard.

Not only that, but your representatives deserve to hear from you. They must hear from both sides on this vital national question.

While you are doing that, I promise you that I will be doing everything I can at my end to see that a spirit of candor, fair play and conciliation prevails between the Capitol, the courts and the White House.

Together I am convinced that we can emerge from this painful experience as a strong, united people, with a renewed faith in our President and our political system.

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