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CAPITOL CITY REPUBLICAN CLUB, INC.
1974 LINCOLN DAY DINNER

Wednesday, February 27, 1974
Washington Hilton Hotel, Washington, D.C.



PRESS KIT

PAUL A. MILTICH







The Capitol City Republican Club, Inc.

requests the pleasure of your company at the

1974 Lincoln Day Dinner

Address by

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford

Vice President of the United States of America

Wednesday, February the twenty-seventh

Nineteen hundred and seventy-four

The Washington Hilton Hotel

Washington, D.C.

Please reply by enclosed card

Dinner General Chairpersons

*H. A. Stuart Pace, II
Bettie G. Benjamin, Esq.
508 Fifth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001*

*Phone (202) 638-4040
(202) 833-1225*

*7:00 p.m. Reception—The Terrace
Cash Bar*

*8:00 p.m. Dinner, International
Ballroom Center*

Black Tie Optional

*Admission by contribution only
Table of 10 \$350.00 - Per Person \$35.00*

"Partnership in Progress"

CAPITOL CITY REPUBLICAN CLUB 1974 LINCOLN DAY DINNER

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Enclosed please find check for \$.....for:

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.....Individuals, \$35.00

.....I cannot attend but wish to contribute \$.....

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508 Fifth Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20001

NOTE: A copy of our report filed with the appropriate supervisory officer will be available for purchase from The Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402

Political contributions are deductible up to \$100 joint return and \$50 separate return.

MESSAGE FOR LINCOLN DAY DINNERS



A new inspiration may be found in this 165th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's Birthday.

As we move forward to meet the challenges of our times, a Republican Administration -- based on the solid foundation of a strong and vibrant Republican Party -- strives to fulfill the Lincolnian vision of binding up the nation's wounds.

The objective of President Nixon is, in effect, to implement the program envisaged by Abraham Lincoln in his Second Inaugural Address. Lincoln sought -- in his words -- "a just and lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations."

It was Lincoln who said over a century ago that "the dogmas of a quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present." He addressed himself to the agony of a nation then divided. Today, we face the need for new answers to new problems. The Republican Party can offer those answers. Our Party is not only viable but powerful in its determination and ability to serve America.

In offering ourselves for the political leadership of our nation in this 120th anniversary year of the Republican Party, we dedicate ourselves to the renewal of the moral and spiritual idealism that inspired Abraham Lincoln.

As Vice President, I draw strength and guidance from the philosophy of Abraham Lincoln. As Lincoln looked at the 1865 post-war situation, he saw the times "piled high with difficulty." He said: "We must rise with the occasion. As our cause is new, so we must think anew and act anew."

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For Confirmation:

MERCERMEDIA, Inc. - (202) 833-1224
1832 Jefferson Place, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036
Winfred R. Mundle (202) 638-4040
Prepared: February 7, 1974

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



WASHINGTON, D. C.: Vice President Gerald R. Ford makes his first venture into the public spotlight before a predominantly-Black audience when he addresses the Capitol City Republican Club's Lincoln Day Dinner on Wednesday, February 27th at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

The announcement was made by Chairman Winfred R. Mundle, a Washington attorney. CCRC is an 800-member, integrated club that places primary emphasis on local Washington concerns. "We played a major role in alerting Congress, particularly Republicans, of our desire to have Home Rule legislation passed," said Mundle. The Club "is vitally interested in a viable Two Party System in the District. We intend to be a constructive alternative in the first Home Rule elections," he added.

CCRC's legal counsel, Samuel C. Jackson, the former General Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), stated, "ours is a responsive Club, serving the needs of the average D. C. resident to attain good government, a good economic climate, good jobs, decent housing and a quality environment. We lament delays, confusion and bureaucratic bungling and do not want Home Rule to become Machine Rule."

CCRC was organized immediately after the 1972 presidential elections. The Club contacted Ford during Home Rule negotiations when he was House Minority Leader. He promised support and the Lincoln Day Dinner engagement resulted.

Ford's hometown of Grand Rapids, Michigan has one of the nation's 101 Black mayors occupying its City Hall. His address will undoubtedly touch on that fact intermixed with the impact Abraham Lincoln's policies and actions of a century ago has on the nation today, particularly regarding Blacks and other minorities.



Mundle states the club is "anxious to prove that Black Republicans can meaningfully contribute to the GOP at the decision-making level". General Chairpersons of the event are H. A. Stuart Pace, II, a management and marketing consultant and Ms. Bettie G. Benjamin, a young attorney. Mundle said they were examples of the type of Black leadership CCRC wants "utilized to the fullest. Our Dinner is a declaration that the time is ripe for Black Republicans to advance in the wake of weakened Conservative hold on the GOP. Also in our favor is the impending resignations of 15 incumbent congressmen plus the fact that Watergate and its assorted shocks has not adversely stigmatized any Black Republicans."

Mundle cited CCRC's leadership in the National Black Republican Council (NBRC) as another indicator of growing Black attraction for the Republican Party. He said NBRC was recently founded by Dr. Henry Lucas, a California dentist who is the lone Black on the Republican National Committee's executive body and Arthur Fletcher, former Assistant Secretary of Labor who is a consultant to the RNC. "They called a hasty meeting in Chicago several weeks ago and drew 50 Black leaders from across the nation where only 15 were expected," said Mundle.

CCRC is pledged to support NBRC; help implement Home Rule in D. C.; promote jobs, patronage and Administration appointments for worthy Blacks; give new respectability to Blacks within the GOP and to work harmoniously with all elements of the Republican Party in pursuit of its objectives. Current projects include "monthly forum luncheons with prominent speakers on major issues and a long-range, voter education and registration effort to increase the percentage of Republican registered voters in Washington from 23% to 40% by 1976," said Mundle.

CCRC leadership is comprised of 51 directors and advisors and an executive council made up of its eight founders. They expect the Lincoln Day Dinner to be a rallying base for attendees from across the country. Full details regarding the \$35.00 per plate event can be obtained by calling (202) 833-1225 or 638-4040.

CCRC, INC.



WASHINGTON, D. C.

1974 LINCOLN DAY DINNER COMMITTEE
Planning Headquarters
1832 Jefferson Place, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036
(202) 833-1225 (202) 638-4040



RESOLUTION

Lincoln Day in Washington, D. C.

In order for American democracy to remain vibrant, relevant and progressive, it requires a strong Two-Party System. Black Americans in Washington's metropolitan area who support the Republican Party, believe in themselves as a people; in their country as the greatest one in the world; strongly support Home Rule for their city as well as the GOP as an integral part of the democratic process.

Now, therefore be it resolved, that the Capitol City Republican Club, Inc., in fostering these tenets, proudly announces its 1974 Lincoln Day Dinner on Wednesday, February 27, 1974 at the Washington Hilton Hotel as a pace-setter for the times.

Partnership In Progress



Roger Wilkins

Gerald Ford and Civil Rights

CAPITOL CITY REPUBLICAN CLUB, INC.
Lincoln Day Dinner Committee
Planning Headquarters
1832 Jefferson Place, N. W.
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Wednesday, February 27, 1974
Washington Hilton Hotel
Guest Speaker
VICE PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD

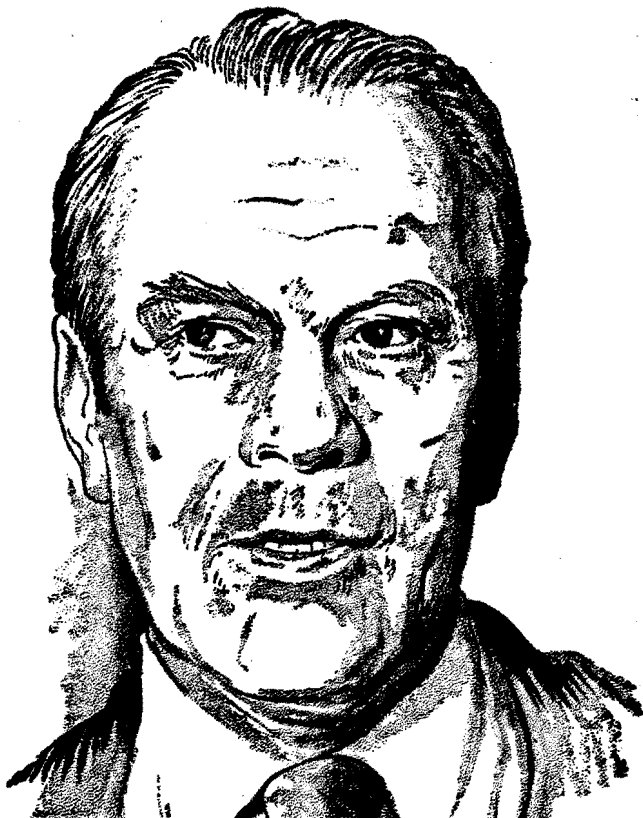
Back in 1948, Grand Rapids, Michigan, was a simple city. It had deliberately abjured the affluence that flows from heavy automobile construction in favor of cleanliness, furniture making and light industry. The white population was heavily laced with strong Christians of Dutch descent. The white people of Grand Rapids were deeply religious, worked hard, kept their promises and were politically conservative and quite square. They said things like, "Real glad to see you," or "I'm going to do my darndest." They usually meant those things. The black population was small and placid.

You could ride a bike the length of the town in about an hour. Without much trouble, the route could pass both Creston High in the north end and South High on the other side of town. The former was virtually all white and the latter had a larger percentage of blacks in the student body than any high school in the city. At Creston, the principal, a man named Howard W. Wicket, called an assembly the day after the 1948 election, to talk about a student he had taught at South when South was largely white. Howard Wicket said that Gerald R. Ford, the city's brand new congressman, had been a fine hard-working student in high school, college and law school, a good sailor in the war and that all that virtue had paid off. As Mr. Wicket glared at his then current crop of charges, his moral was inescapable.

When Vice President Gerald R. Ford was told that story the other day, he responded with neither nostalgia nor amusement. He responded earnestly. He remembered Howard Wicket. "He died a few years back. I had him for session room, for a math class and he was the football equipment manager." Gerald Ford went to high school more than 40 years ago. One feels he has that kind of information tucked away about a lot of his constituents.

But what could a man from a square and largely white town know about civil rights? All but one of his black colleagues in the House must have thought that he didn't know much because all but one of them voted against his confirmation. The Vice President leaned forward. He seems eager to answer these questions. "Grand Rapids is 18 per cent black now. We have a lot of problems—they're not massive like Detroit or Cleveland, but they're similar problems and very real, just on a smaller scale. I think the black leaders would agree that I know about those problems and that I did the maximum to help solve them." He then ticked off a list of Grand Rapids agencies—a number of them creatures of Great Society programs—with which he had worked to keep federal money flowing toward the problems of his black constituents.

There is little small talk and virtually no humor as the Vice President talks. His words are not facile. "I gave them practical down-to-earth help," Ford said. "It's executing programs



By Bill Perkins—The Washington Post

that counts and I was able to get results." As he talked about practicality and down-to-earth efforts, his interviewer, a one time resident of Grand Rapids, began finally to understand the elusive praise Ford's colleagues heaped on him when he was nominated. "Jerry Ford keeps his word," they said. "Jerry Ford is a nice guy. He doesn't pressure you for a vote, and if you don't give it to him this time, you know you'll give it to him the next time he asks."

The thing is, Jerry Ford is quintessentially Grand Rapids. There are no frills and there is no glamor. He is as plain as Campau Square and the Pantlind Hotel. He is square and he has believability.

But, if he has all those assets that made him so popular in the House, why did all but one of his black colleagues vote against his confirmation? "I don't know," he mused. "I don't know whether they all got together or whether they did it individually. I was pleased and proud of Andy Young's speech and vote. All the rest are still good friends and we enjoy excellent personal relations."

Rep. Andrew J. Young (D-Ga.) was the only black to vote for Ford's confirmation. In doing so, he said, "I have

seen so many men, about whom I had questions and about whose past I had grave doubts, rise to the occasion. . . . So I guess my vote for Gerald Ford is coming out of that Southern experience. It is an experience that says that people, given an opportunity to serve in time of crisis, can grow to meet the challenge of that crisis."

If Ford denies explicit knowledge of the reasons for that black bloc vote against him, he at least has his guesses and he has understood its message. "Forget the voting record," he says. "The voting record reflects Grand Rapids. You know Grand Rapids. It doesn't want the heavy hand of the federal government in there—they want to work things out for themselves. I had to represent my constituency. On final passage, I did vote for all those bills. I think that's a better indication of my personal feelings."

Well, if there is movement from a local to a national vision, what is he doing now and how does he see the future? Without claiming that he is embarked on an effort to revive the long moribund dialogue between blacks and the administration, Ford described a series of meetings he is now planning with the help of a black White House aide, to be held just after the first of the year with a wide range of black leaders both in and out of government.

Looking down the road, the Vice President said, "I don't think we need major new legislation." He then ticked off all the major legislative initiatives in social policy achieved in the 60s and said, "We have to see that those laws are properly enforced and that they work properly." That is standard Nixon administration doctrine, but then Ford shifted into a more urgent mode and continued, "We now have to concentrate on improving the economic well-being of minorities. People need jobs to make the rights meaningful. We really need to concentrate on that."

"I worked darn hard," Ford said, "to get Congress to agree to the Philadelphia Plan." The Philadelphia Plan, a program to increase the number of blacks in the trade union movement in Philadelphia, received a mixed reaction from blacks, but was a major civil rights initiative of the first Nixon administration. "I got it through with my leadership," the Vice President said. "That is indicative of the things we've got to do outside." Then reflecting about the possibility of cutbacks in federal employment, the Vice President said, "We've got to make sure that if there are layoffs, the minorities are protected. Just because they were the last in doesn't mean that they should be the first fired."

As his visitor shifted to leave near the end of the interview, the Vice President stopped him and said, "I want to tell you something you'll understand, because you know South High School. I went there from the 7th through the 12th grade. It was about 15 per cent black when I went there and it was about 80 per cent black when they turned it into a middle school a few years ago. It is still mostly black. The local people are planning a Jerry Ford Day celebration back in Grand Rapids and when I go back for it, the first thing I'm going to do is to go back to South to give a talk. You can understand how I feel about it. I'll be trying to do what Howard Wicket was trying to do."

Moving to the door, the Vice President repeated an earlier statement, "Remember, all those people who voted against me are still good friends. The personal relationships are excellent."

Then he said, "It was real good to see you. Stop in again." It was pure Grand Rapids. He had said nothing flashy or innovative, but he was solid and earnest and he knew his subject. More important, he had been believable.

That's refreshing in this town these days.



1974 LINCOLN DAY DINNER COMMITTEE
of the
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Event
CCRC's 1974 Lincoln Day Dinner
Vice President Gerald R. Ford
Guest Speaker

Place
Washington Hilton Hotel
Washington, D. C.

Dress
Black Tie Optional

Date
Wednesday, February 27, 1974

Time
7:00 p.m. Cash Bar Reception
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Cost
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1832 Jefferson Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

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Dear Communicator:

The platform participants at their February 27th Dinner are excellent examples of a "new thrust" philosophy. It would be well worth your while to give strong consideration to any of them for interview, talk-show, feature treatment or on-camera film, print and broadcast, indepth coverage.

GERALD R. FORD, Vice President of the United States - Guest Speaker

Mr. Ford was sworn in as Vice President on December 6, 1973. In his 25-year tenure as a Republican Congressman from Michigan, he maintained a 90% attendance record. He was Minority Leader of the House of Representatives. He earned a B.A. from the University of Michigan and received his law degree from Yale.

WINFRED RAYMOND MUNDLE, SR. Chairman, CCRC

Has been a practicing attorney in Washington for the last 14 years. B.A. Howard, J.D. and L.L.M Georgetown University Law Center. He is a Ruling Presbyterian Elder; uniquely he is both an Army and Navy veteran; testified before a number of congressional committees and commissions; and very active both civic and socially in D. C.

H. A. STUART PACE, II - General Chairperson

Stuart Pace conceived the idea of CCRC having an annual Lincoln observance at which time awards would be tendered for distinguished and community service. He is a management and marketing consultant in affiliation with Arthur A. Fletcher & Associates. Pace is a Stanford graduate and a First Lieutenant in the Marine Corps Reserve.

BETTIE G. BENJAMIN - General Chairperson

Mrs. Benjamin is a practicing attorney who is an officer and a director of the Washington Bar. She has been president of two Parent Teacher Associations and is affiliated with a number of civic and neighborhood groups in Northeast Washington. She is married to an orthodontist and the mother of two highschoolers, Billy and Lisa.

ELAINE B. JENKINS - Introducer of the Vice President

Mrs. Howard Jenkins, Jr., is the president of One America, Inc., one of the largest minority-owned consultant firms in the nation. She is one of the founders of CCRC and has known Gerald Ford for a number of years. Her husband was the first Black to be appointed to an independent regulatory agency, the National Labor Relations Board and she herself is a member of a presidential commission.

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Dinner Coordinator

SAMUEL C. JACKSON, Esq. - Toastmaster

The former General Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), is a member of the law firm Stroock & Stroock & Lavan of New York City and Washington. Previously he was Vice President of the American Arbitration Association and before that, one of the original five commissioners of the U. S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. The Kansan has a long and continuing relationship (legal) with the NAACP on the local, state and national level.

W. ANTOINETTE FORD - Presenter of the Lincoln Award for Community Service

Mrs. Ford is a member of the D. C. City Council. She was Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury as a White House Fellow in 1971-1972. Prior to her fellowship she had been awarded another study grant by the National Science Foundation to continue research in biological oceanography. Her B.S. degree from Chestnut Hill College in biology and graduate study at American University also centered on oceanography.

REVEREND JERRY A. MOORE, JR. - CCRC Lincoln Award recipient

The honoree is the holder of three earned degrees. His service to the community, in his church, in government, particularly regarding transportation is rich in assistance to his fellow man. Rev. Moore is a D. C. Councilman and the Pastor of Washington's 19th Street Baptist Church. His religious and civic associations that he is active with number close to 50. Probably no one has had a larger imprint on "Metro" the three billion dollar subway system coming to the Washington area by the nation's 200th birthday - - than Jerry Moore.

These seven individuals plus Vice President Ford are available for coverage. I would be pleased to arrange meetings with them and direct you to the Vice President's press secretary at your earliest convenience. I can be reached at (202) 833-1224-5-6.

William A. Mercer
Dinner Coordinator



CCRC, INC.



WASHINGTON, D. C.

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1832 Jefferson Place, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036
(202) 833-1225 (202) 638-4040

January 29, 1974

Dear Friend:

On February 27th the Honorable Gerald R. Ford, Vice President of the United States will be the speaker for the Capitol City Republican Club's Lincoln Day Dinner. We are confident your presence and assistance can help us to have a "sold out" affair. There are lots of reasons for this auspicious Dinner, many obvious, so I'll just list a few:

- (1) The two-party system must survive if our country is to continue as a strong example of democracy.
- (2) Black Americans are increasingly proving their sophistication in the total political process. That is why we want our Dinner to set a new standard of excellence.
- (3) Many pressing agenda priorities are needed to strengthen America and divisiveness along any artificial lines will not be tolerated in the Republican Party of the 1970s.

We have priced our tickets at \$35.00 enough not to be competitive with other fund-raising affairs. Yet, the quality of the occasion could not be higher. Dinner planners and Party leaders are requested to be responsible for at least a table, \$350.00.

Please join a distinguished cross-section of Washingtonians, Marylanders and Virginians in planning this tremendous event - cocktail style - at the home of Willie Mason on Saturday, February 9th, 5 to 7 p.m.

We, of course, strongly support all fundraising efforts by the D. C. Republican Committee and all other Republicans throughout the Washington Metropolitan area.

Be with us on February 9th. Assist us to put it all together - - together.
Please RSVP above.

Directions to the home of
Mr. & Mrs. Willie C. Mason

Turn at North Portal Drive off 16th Street at the Colesville Road, D. C./ Silver Spring line. Make a right on Tamarack and a right on Verbena.

Masons residence:
1770 Verbena Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20012

Sincerely yours,
FUNDRAISING & NATIONAL LIAISON COMMITTEE

Elaine Jenkins
Jackson R. Champion
Mrs. Howard Jenkins, Jr. (Elaine)
and Jackson R. Champion
Co-Chairpersons

For Confirmation:

MERCERMEDIA, Inc. - (202) 833-1224

1832 Jefferson Place, N. W.

Washington, D. C. 20036

Winfred R. Mundle - (202) 638-4040

Prepared: February 18, 1974



For release after February 19, 1974

H. A. Stuart Pace, II and Ms. Bettie G. Benjamin, General Co-Chairpersons of the Capitol City Republican Club's 1974 Lincoln Day Dinner placed a wreath at the base of the 16th President's memorial in Washington on his birthday. The commemoration, also a Presidents Day tribute, took place February 12th shortly after President Nixon held a somewhat similar public ceremony at the Lincoln Memorial.

CCRC formally honors Abraham Lincoln on February 27th at the Washington Hilton Hotel when Vice President Gerald R. Ford addresses their Lincoln Day Dinner. It will be Ford's first speech before an audience that is expected to have a majority of Blacks in attendance. CCRC is an integrated political club whose major concerns centers on local D. C. issues, some with a national perspective.

The Dinner has already attracted table reservations from a number of states including Georgia, Indiana, Colorado, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Michigan, Illinois, Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. Legislative meetings, workshops and other events are being planned for February 27 and 28 as added Dinner inducements to get Black Republicans across the nation to come to Washington to meet with national leaders.

Serving as co-chairpersons with Pace, a management and marketing consultant, and Ms. Benjamin, an attorney, are Winfred R. Mundle, also a Washington lawyer and CCRC chairman. Honorary chairmen are Senator Edward W. Brooke of Massachusetts; Governor Melvin A. Evans of the Virgin Islands and George Bush, Chairman of the Republican National Committee. Another 29 honorary co-chairpersons includes Stanley S. Scott, Special Assistant to the President; John A. Nevius, Chairman of the D. C. City Council and A. Linwood Holton, former Governor of Virginia. Details regarding the \$35.00 per plate affair can be obtained by calling (202) 833-1225 or (202) 638-4040.

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