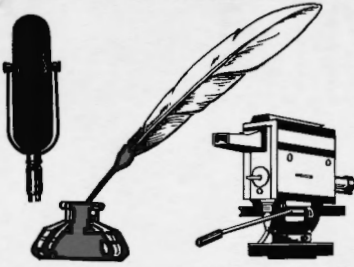


The original documents are located in Box D28, folder “Republican Dinner, Lebanon, PA, October 20, 1969” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE AT 6:30 P.M. MONDAY--
October 20, 1969

Excerpts from a speech by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., Minority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives, at a Republican Dinner Monday evening, October 20, 1969 at Lebanon, Pa.

The 1970 campaign is on.

In the words of an outstanding newspaper columnist, the liberal Democrats have plunged headlong into an exercise which he labels, "The Breaking of the President." I can tell them right now, he won't break.

In the words of National Democratic Chairman Fred Harris, "It is time we (Democrats) took the gloves off on Vietnam." With those words, he made a partisan issue of the Vietnam War. If they want it that way, let's get the RECORD straight.

The campaign is on, and the liberal Democrats are employing tactics which demonstrate an amazing disregard for the facts, for cause and effect, for blame and results, in short...for history.

Let me ask you here tonight, and in fact let me pose this question to the Nation: Did you want a continuation of what was happening in this country and to this country in 1968?

The answer given by the people of this country at the polls last November was clearly "no." And it is equally clear that President Nixon has moved to change what was happening in this country -- and it is changing.

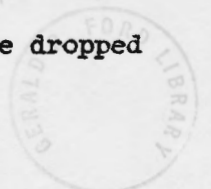
When he became President, Dick Nixon began grappling with problems that had accumulated for eight years under Democratic administrations...principally under the immediate precedent administration. Deep involvement in a jungle war halfway around the world. Escalating inflation, price rises that had built up during nearly four years of inflationary pressure. A crime rate which had climbed nearly 10 times as fast as the Nation's population. Cities being put to the torch by black militants. Taxpayers at the point of revolt.

The liberal Democrats would have you believe that President Nixon has done nothing, that nothing has changed in the country since he took office. But the facts show otherwise.

Dick Nixon has cooled it. In both foreign and domestic affairs, the fires have been dampened down.

In Vietnam, Dick Nixon is the first President in eight years to be taking troops out instead of putting more troops in, and American fatalities have dropped to the lowest point in three years.

(more)



Again, in world affairs, Dick Nixon has inaugurated a new foreign policy based on a "do-it-yourself doctrine" for Southeast Asia, a pledge of No More Vietnams, and an innovative policy elsewhere in the world attuned to the concept that all countries, including Communist nations, are responsive to their own nationalistic concerns.

Domestically, President Nixon has succeeded in getting people to lower their voices...and their arms, too.

Again in quest of domestic tranquillity, Dick Nixon has launched a strong crackdown against organized crime and is seeking enactment by the Congress of more major anti-crime legislation. He has sent Congress a detailed program dealing with organized crime and reorganization of the courts. He has made the fight against crime one of his central concerns. The Nixon Administration recognizes, as do all of you, that the first civil right of every American -- black or white -- is the right to protection against crime and violence.

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The Nixon Administration's policies are taking hold of inflation. This is shown by the economic indicators. What a rotten tactic it is for liberal Democrats to point with alarm at the latest unemployment figures! They know full well it is Democratic inflation that is forcing the Nixon administration to cool off the economy.

We are on the edge of tax reform and tax relief because the Nixon Administration has made it possible.

I really don't think the liberal Democrats would want to go back to the days of LBJ, if they were to tell the truth.

We now have order in this country, because President Nixon has brought order to the Presidency. The days of government by crisis have been replaced by crisis prevention.

But the greatest problem remains. Vietnam remains.

We are winding down the war; we are Vietnamizing it while seeking a negotiated settlement. And despite what the cut-and-run boys say, the biggest obstacles to peace lie not in Saigon but in Hanoi. I wish the cut-and-run boys and the American radicals who want the Communists to take over South Vietnam would get Hanoi to negotiate in a meaningful way at Paris.

I hope that all Americans, Democrats and Republicans alike, will join ranks behind our President and help him achieve peace with honor in Vietnam.

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1969



Eagles Auditorium, North Eighth St., Lebanon, Pa.

Masonic Hall, North Eighth St., Lebanon, Pa.



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DINNER MENU

Fruit Cup

*Celery—Carrots
and Olives*

ROAST TURKEY

Potato Filling

Gravy

Peas

Pepper Cabbage

Soft Rolls

ICE CREAM AND APPLE PIE

Coffee

Mints

Catered by

THE LEBANON COUNTY SOCIETY OF FARM WOMEN

PROGRAM

EAGLES AUDITORIUM AND
MASONIC HALL

THE HON. H. JACK SELTZER, *Master of Ceremonies*

EAGLES AUDITORIUM

INVOCATION, REV. DR. PRICE M. COLLINS

EAGLES AUDITORIUM

DANIEL E. LONG, JR. *Master of Ceremonies*

MASONIC HALL

INVOCATION, REV. ROBERT R. LEE

MASONIC HALL

DINNER

IMMEDIATELY AFTER DINNER THOSE IN MASONIC HALL MOVE
TO BALCONY OF EAGLES AUDITORIUM

PRAYER Rev. Father George W. Rost

PLEDGE TO FLAG Led by W. Nevin Hess

STAR SPANGLED BANNER Led by Mrs. Harvey S. Schell

INTRODUCTIONS

The Honorable H. Jack Seltzer, *Master of Ceremonies*

I. M. Long, *County Chairman*

INTRODUCTION OF THE PRINCIPAL SPEAKER

The Honorable Edwin D. Eshleman

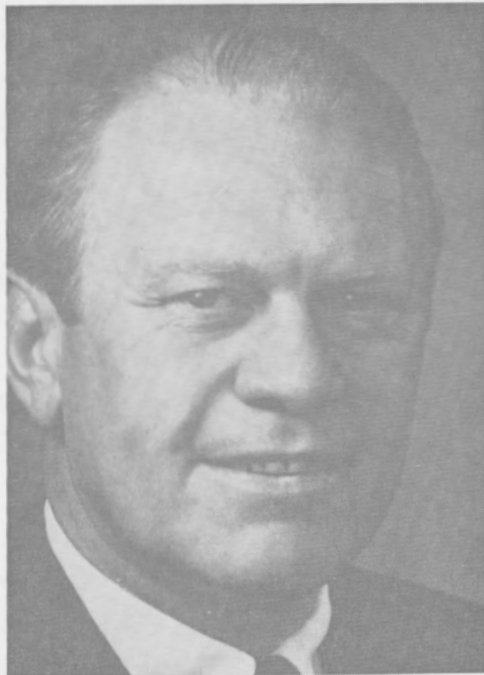
ADDRESS The Honorable Gerald R. Ford

GOD BLESS AMERICA Led by Mrs. Harvey S. Schell

BENEDICTION Rabbi Dr. David Rubin

Dinner Music by Mr. Larry Fenner at the Organ

GERALD R. FORD



Member of Congress since January 3, 1949. Was elected Minority Leader of the House of Representatives at the opening of the 89th Congress on January 4, 1965. Has delivered nearly 200 speeches a year throughout the country since becoming minority leader. Served as Permanent Chairman of the 1968 Republican National Convention. During the 88th Congress (1963-64) was Chairman of the Republican Conference of the House. Before becoming Minority Leader, served on the House Appropriations Committee as senior Republican on the Defense Subcommittee and a member of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee. Has been a member of the House Republican Policy Committee for eight years and has served as a member of The Republican Leadership of the Congress since January, 1963. In November 1963 was appointed to the Warren Commission by President Johnson. Is the author (with John R. Stiles) of the book, "Portrait of the Assassin" (1965).

Was called a "Congressman's Congressman" by the American Political Science Association in September 1961 when the Association conferred on him its "Distinguished Congressional Service Award" for outstanding work in the Congress. In May 1966 was given the "George Washington Award" by the American Good Government Society.

Known to his friends as "Jerry." Was born July 14, 1913, at Omaha, Neb., but spent his childhood in Grand Rapids, Mich., where he was graduated from South High School and won all-city and all-state football honors.

Won three varsity football letters at the University of Michigan. A member of Michigan's undefeated national championship teams in 1932 and

1933. Was named Michigan's most valuable player in 1934. Graduated from the University of Michigan with a B.A. degree in 1935, a member of Michiganama, top senior honor. Was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by Michigan State University, and by Albion, Aquinas, and Spring Arbor Colleges in 1965 and by Buena Vista College and Grove City College in 1968. Was also awarded the degree of Doctor of Jurisprudence by Parsons College in 1966 and the degree of Doctor of Public Administration by the American International College in 1968.

On January 1, 1935, participated in the Shrine East-West Crippled Children's benefit football game at San Francisco. In August of that same year, played in the All-Star game in Chicago against the Chicago Bears. In 1959 was selected by "Sports Illustrated" to receive its "Silver Anniversary All-American Award" as one of the 25 football players of 25 years prior who had contributed the most to their fellow citizens in the quarter century.

Received law degree from Yale University Law School in 1941. As law student at Yale, was assistant varsity football coach. Was admitted to the Michigan State Bar in 1941 and has been admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court.

In 1942 he entered the U.S. Navy, served 47 months on active duty in World War II. Served aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Monterey (CVL-26) for two years. Participated in the 3rd and 5th fleet carrier operations. Following shore duty with the Naval Aviation Training Program, was released to inactive duty in January of 1946 with the rank of Lieutenant Commander.

Returning to Grand Rapids, resumed the practice of law, and in 1948 received the Grand Rapids Junior Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Service Award for participation in various community projects. In 1949 was selected by U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce as one of "America's Ten Outstanding Young Men" and received its Distinguished Service Award.

Holds active membership in the American Legion, VFW, and AMVETS. Is a 33rd Degree Mason. Is a member of Grace Episcopal Church, Grand Rapids.

On October 15, 1948, married Elizabeth Bloomer of Grand Rapids. The Fords have four children: Michael Gerald (March 15, 1950), John Gardner (March 16, 1952), Steven Meigs (May 19, 1956), and Susan Elizabeth, born July 6, 1957.

Gerald Ford defeated the incumbent in the 1948 primary and won the November election to become the Representative in the 81st Congress from the Fifth District of Michigan, until 1965 composed of Kent and Ottawa Counties. In 1965, Ionia County replaced Ottawa County in the Fifth Congressional District.

During his first term, served on the House Public Works Committee. In 1951, was assigned to the Appropriations Committee where he served on the Army Civil Functions Subcommittee and the Emergency Agency Subcommittee. During the 83rd and 84th Congresses Ford was a member of the Subcommittees on Foreign Operations and the Department of Defense and was on the Army panel, serving as Chairman of the panel in the 83rd Congress. In the 85th, 86th, 87th, and 88th Congresses Ford remained a member of both subcommittees (Defense, Foreign Operations). During the 85th Congress he was appointed to the Select Committee on Astronautics and Space Exploration.

Rep. Ford has maintained an attendance record of 90.9 percent during 20 years in office (1949-1968) missing only 486 roll calls out of a total of 5,346.



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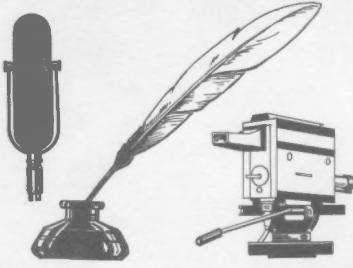
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