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WHITE HOUSE PRESS OFFICE STAFF ROOM LIST - CROWN CENTER HOTEL
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI - August 15-20, 1976

1210 BARBIERI, Jan
1220 BLASER, Douglass
1212 BOURKE, Mary

1211 CAMPBELL, Gail
1202 CARLSON, John

1236 DIVITTE, Jessie

1213 GERRARD, Connie
1256 GILBERTSON, LeRoy

1253 HALTERMAN, Gay
834 HOWARD, Jon

745 KELLY, John

1236 LAW, Bob

1233 MANNING, Robert
834 MARCEAUX, Charles
903 MCGRATH, Jewell
1211 MONTAGUE, Carol

1212 PIROZZI, Gay
1253 PREWITT, Kathy

1214 ROBERTS, Bill

1214 SMITH, Thym
1202 SPEAKES, Larry
1210 STOUFFER, Jean

1213 THUMMA, Connie

745 WEAVER, Gary
1220 WRIGHT, Gary
1256 WRIGHT, Michael

1233 ZOOK, Ray

WHITE HOUSE PRESS ROOM LIST - CROWN CENTER HOTEL KANSAS CITY

August 15-20, 1976

1152	ABRAMSON, Rudy	Los Angeles Times
1228	ALBRIGHT, Joe	Cox Newspapers
1248	ALLMOND, Doug	ABC TV
1028	ARGENTIERI, Aldo	NBC Radio Engineer
1252	ARRINGTON, Percy	NBC TV
811	BARGAMIAN, Al	CBS TV
614	BARNES, Fred	Washington Star
1209	BECKMAN, Aldo	Chicago Tribune
1204	BENEDICT, Howard	Associated Press
1244	BOYD, Forrest	Mutual Broadcasting System
1252	BOYD, John	NBC TV
833	BUCKLEY, John	Western Union
1139	BULL, John David	ABC Radio Engineer
742	BURLBAUGH, George	NBC Producer
1028	COCHRAN, John	NBC
1243	COMPTON, Ann	ABC
1204	CORMIER, Frank	Associated Press
1205	COX, Merrilee	UPI - Audio
848	D'AGOSTINO, Frank	ITT
1229	DeFRANK, Thomas	Newsweek
1203	DOBBIN, Muriel	Baltimore Sun
1247	DURICKA, John	AP - Photos
1201	FOY, Louis	Agence France- Presse
1255	GERLACH, Eugene	CBS TV
827	GIBSON, Charles	ABC
602	GROWALD, Richard	United Press International
1224	HALSTEAD, Dick	Time Photos
1249	HARRIS, Ed	ABC Producer
1244	HARRIS, Ralph	Reuters
1209	HEALY, Paul	New York Daily News
1248	HILL, Norman	ABC TV
1249	HODGES, Ed	Durham Morning Herald
1203	HOOVER, Susan	NBC Producer
827	JARRIEL, Tom	ABC
1056	JONES, Phil	CBS
1208	KELSEY, Dale	CBS Radio Engineer
1246	LEONARD, Robert	Voice of America
1229	McNAMEE, Wally	Newsweek Photos
1247	MURPHY, Tim	UPI - Photos

1152	O'ROURKE, Larry	Philadelphia Bulletin
1208	PIERPOINT, Robert	CBS
1228	RODGERS, Walt	AP Radio
1155	SCHIEFFER, Bob	CBS
602	SHABECOFF, Phil	New York Times
1224	SMALL, Jerry	UPITN
1246	SULLIVAN, Al	United States Information Agency
734	TALBOTT, Strobe	Time
1205	THOMAS, Helen	United Press International
1055	VENARDOS, Lane	CBS Producer
614	WALSH, Ed	Washington Post
742	WARD, Russ	NBC Radio
1139	WARNER, Charles	Pool Lighting Technician
903	WELLS, Fay-Gillis	Storer Broadcasting Company
1243	ZABALA, Teresa	New York Times - Photos

August 15, 1976

WIRES:

Frank Cormier	Associated Press
Howard Benedict	Associated Press
Helen Thomas	United Press International
Richard Growald	United Press International
Ralph Harris	Reuters
Louis Foy	Agence France Presse

NEWSPAPERS:

Ed Walsh	Washington Post	
Fred Barnes	Washington Star	<u>(JOIN KCITY)</u>
Muriel Dobbin	Baltimore Sun	
Larry O'Rourke	Philadelphia Bulletin	<u>(OFF KCITY)</u>
Phil Shabecoff	New York Times	<u>(OFF KCITY)</u>
James Naughton	New York Times	<u>(JOIN KCITY)</u>
Paul Healy	New York Daily News	<u>(OFF KCITY)</u>
Jeff Antevil	New York Daily News	<u>(JOIN KCITY)</u>
Patrick Sloyan	Newsday	<u>(JOIN KCITY)</u>
Ed Hodges	Durham Morning Herald	<u>(OFF KCITY)</u>
Aldo Beckman	Chicago Tribune	
James Deakin	St. Louis Post-Dispatch	<u>(OFF KCITY)</u>
Curt Matthews	St. Louis Post-Dispatch	<u>(JOIN KCITY)</u>
Joseph Lastelic	Kansas City Star	<u>(JOIN KCITY)</u>
Margaret Mayer	Dallas Times-Herald	
Rudy Abramson	Los Angeles Times	
Joe Albright	Cox Newspapers	<u>(OFF KCITY)</u>
Ted Knap	Scripps-Howard	<u>(JOIN KCITY)</u>
Naomi Nover	Nover News Service	
Al Sullivan	United States Information Agency	
Lester Kinsolving	United Features/WAVA	<u>(OFF KCITY)</u>

MAGAZINES:

Thomas DeFrank	Newsweek	<u>(JOIN KCITY)</u>
Strobe Talbott	Time	
Michael Wright	U. S. News & World Report	<u>(JOIN KCITY)</u>
John Buckley	Western Union	
Frank D'Agostino	ITT	<u>(OFF KCITY)</u>

RADIO & TELEVISION COMMENTATORS & PRODUCERS:

Ed Harris	ABC-Productions	<u>(OFF KCITY)</u>
Katherine Harting	ABC-Productions	
Thomas Jarriel	American Broadcasting Company	
Charles Gibson	American Broadcasting Company	
Ann Compton	American Broadcasting Company	<u>(OFF KCITY-VAIL)</u>
Walt Rodgers	AP-Radio	
Lane Venardos	CBS-Productions	<u>(OFF KCITY;-VAIL)</u>
Bob Schieffer	Columbia Broadcasting System	<u>(OFF KCITY;-VAIL)</u>
Phil Jones	Columbia Broadcasting System	
Robert Pierpoint	Columbia Broadcasting System	
Forrest Boyd	Mutual Broadcasting System	

(CONTINUED)

George Burlbaugh	NBC-Productions	
John Cochran	National Broadcasting Company	<u>(OFF KCITY, VAIL)</u>
Marilyn Berger	National Broadcasting Company	<u>(JOIN KCITY)</u>
Russ Ward	NBC-Radio	
Merrilee Cox	UPI-Audio	<u>(OFF KCITY)</u>
Roger Gittines	UPI-Audio	<u>(JOIN KCITY)</u>
Robert Leonard	Voice of America	
Cliff Evans	RKO General Broadcasting	<u>(JOIN KCITY)</u>
Fay Gillis Wells	Storer Broadcasting	<u>(OFF KCITY)</u>
<u>STILLS, MINI-CAMERAS & TECHNICIANS:</u>		
Tim Murphy	UPI-Photos	
John Duricka	AP-Photos	
Wally McNamee	Newsweek-Photos	
Dirck Halstead	Time-Photos	
Teresa Zabala	New York Times-Photos	<u>(OFF KCITY)</u>
Doug Allmond	ABC-Mini-Camera	<u>(JOIN KCITY)</u>
Norman Hill	ABC-Mini-Camera	<u>(JOIN KCITY)</u>
John David Bull	ABC-Radio Engineer	
Al Bargamian	CBS-Mini-Camera	<u>(OFF KCITY, VAIL)</u>
Eugene Gerlach	CBS-Mini-Camera	<u>(OFF KCITY)</u>
Dale Kelsey	CBS-Radio Engineer	<u>(ADW-VAIL)</u>
Jerry Adams	CBS-Mini-Camera	<u>(JOIN KCITY)</u>
Steve Nelson	CBS-Mini-Camera	<u>(JOIN KCITY)</u>
Jim Duffy	CBS-Mini-Camera	<u>(JOIN KC & VAIL)</u>
John Boyd	NBC-Mini-Camera	
Percy Arrington	NBC-Mini-Camera	
George Fridrich	NBC-Mini-Camera	<u>(JOIN KCITY)</u>
LeRoy Johnson	NBC-Mini-Camera	<u>(JOIN KCITY)</u>
Marvin Purbaugh	NBC-Electrician	
Aldo Argentieri	NBC-Radio Engineer	
Charles Warner	Network Pool Lighting (ABC)	
Gerald Small	UPITN-Camera	<u>(OFF KCITY)</u>

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
UPON HIS ARRIVAL AT
THE CROWN CENTER HOTEL

6:22 P.M. CDT

It is wonderful to be back in Kansas City. What a wonderful welcome, and I can say without any hesitation or qualification, this is the kind of enthusiasm that will give us a victory on Wednesday night.

Now, let me say I am not going to make a speech, but I do want to introduce some very good, some very close friends of mine, first the Vice President of the United States, Nelson Rockefeller. Then, one of my best friends and one of the most ardent and effective supporters, a great Governor of my State, Governor Bill Milliken and Mrs. Milliken. Then, another very good friend -- and you can't miss him -- the Chairman of the President Ford Committee, Rog Morton.

I have a few of the members of my wonderful family here. First a young lady who is going to be a temporary resident of the great State of Kansas when she goes to -- she will be entering Kansas University this fall. She loves her photography like I love those uncommitted delegates. (Laughter)

Then a third son, Steve, he likes to ride the ranges up in Montana or Utah or California. He promised to stay in the saddle for the next four years. (Laughter)

Then Jack, who has been out campaigning month after month after month. Jack Ford.

And then last but not least, the most effective campaigner in the Ford family, she has more President Ford buttons with her name on it than I do. (Laughter)

Mike and his wonderful wife, Gayle, are going to come out here on Tuesday. The whole Ford family will be here for a reunion before we win on Wednesday night.

Thank you all. We are really just tremendously impressed with the warmth, the numbers and the wonderful welcome you have all given us. Let me say we will not let you down, and we know we are going to win. Thank you very much.

END (AT 6:27 P.M. CDT)

Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE
THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE
Sunday, August 15, 1976

- 6:00 p. m. President arrives Kansas City Municipal Airport
- 6:15 p. m. President arrives Crown Center Hotel
- 6:45 p. m. Dinner with the Family
- 7:45 p. m. Meeting with Governor Kit Bond of Missouri
- 8:00 p. m. Meeting with Ford Political Strategy Management Team
- 8:45 p. m. Meeting with Leaders of the Platform Committee
- 9:30 p. m. Meeting with Leaders of the Rules Committee

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Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE

THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE
Monday, August 16, 1976

8:00 a. m. Meeting with Members of Political Staff

8:30 a. m. Meeting with Hawaii Delegation
Centennial Room

9:30 a. m. Depart for Trade Mart

9:45 a. m. Meet "The Presidentials" (President Ford Youth Group)
Trade Mart

10:30 a. m. Return to Crown Center Hotel

5:30 p. m. Depart for the Raddisson-Muehlebach

5:40 p. m. Attend Reception Hosted by Rep. John Rhodes
Raddisson Muehlebach Hotel

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AUGUST 15, 1976
8:45 p. m.

Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Kansas City, Missouri)

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

PRESS BUSES: To preposition at Trade Mart. Those wishing to cover the President's meeting with "The Presidentials" at the Trade Mart will meet in Press Center at 8:45 a. m. to board buses.

TRAVEL POOL (Posted): For the Trade Mart will meet in Press Center at 9:00 a. m.

MONDAY BRIEFING: Press Secretary Ron Nessen will brief in the Press Center following the President's return from the Trade Mart. This is expected at about 11:00 a. m.

RECEPTION HOSTED BY REP. RHODES: A travel pool will accompany the President. The pool will meet in the Press Center at 5:15 p. m. This will be Travel Pool only and there will be no coverage inside.

PRESS OFFICE DESK: There is a desk in the Press Center which will be staffed by a Press Office Secretary from 9:00 a. m. to 9:00 p. m. daily. There is a direct telephone line to the Press Office. Those reporters of the press desiring to see Press Staff members will be escorted to the Press Office.

THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE: The President's schedule will be posted each day at about 8:00 p. m.

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OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE
REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
TO
THE PRESIDENTIALS
THE TRADE MART

9:50 A.M. CDT

Wow, what a meeting. What a Convention. What a victory Wednesday night.

Let me serious just a minute. On behalf of Mike and Gayle, Jack, Steve, and Susan and, of course, Betty, and especially on my own behalf, I want to thank all the great Presidentials for being here on your own and doing a great job.

We have had a tough two years. We have done a good job. But, everytime the going got rougher and rougher, everytime we had a hard, tough decision to make -- and we did.-- I had the feeling that the young people in this country understood the problems and were on our side.

But, let me, if I might, take just a minute. Your parents, your grandparents, have made a great effort over their lifetime to make this a good country. But, they wanted to make it a good country for one single reason -- because they wanted their grandchildren to have a better America for themselves than they did for themselves.

That is what you want for your children and that is why you are so idealistic, that is why you have a cause, that is why you are here -- because you believe in something, something good about America,

You want peace at home and you want peace throughout the world. I am on your side. In the last two years we have healed America at home, and in the last two years we have achieved peace abroad, and we are going to keep ot abroad.

Our nation is trusted, respected. We have the military capability and the diplomatic skill to keep that peace, and with the strength and the hopes and the aspirations and the visions of the American people, including all of the wonderful young people, America will continue to be the leader of the world and we will keep the peace.

The young people of this country want their environment at home expanded. They want it better -- more parks, a better life for them when they go on vacation, a better life when they live in their urban centers or on their farm. They want an environment that will make this country the kind of a country where we can have a quality of life; not today, not tomorrow, but during this next century. I am on your side.

MORE

The American people, especially our youth, want to help the economy with jobs. I am on your side. The opposition party talks about statistics as far as unemployment is concerned. The only criteria that I use is that every American -- white or black, old and young -- who wants a job has a job.

The thing that all of us want -- our country has grown from 13 poor, struggling colonies with less than 3 million people 100 years ago. For the first 100 years of our history, we developed the greatest form of government in the history of mankind. Then, in the second 100 years of America's history, we were the leaders of an industrial revolution that made it possible for us to lead the world in worldly goods. But it is my feeling that in our third century -- and I think this came through during that wonderful Fourth of July celebration -- we have to make the third century of America the century of the individual so that he lives -- we have to have the opportunity for that individual, wherever he or she may live, a century where we have peace abroad and peace at home, where we have the environment where a quality of life is meaningful to each and everyone of us, where a job is not just a Government-promised job, but a job with some real common sense with an opportunity for advancement and permanency -- a third century where you and your children and your grandchildren can have a vision for a broadened opportunity for each and every one of you every day of every year.

We have to have that vision of a better America. Our forefathers gave us much -- a good government, the opportunity to increase our worldly goods -- but if we don't keep and strengthen the opportunity for individual liberty all of which we believe in won't have much meaning. And so I say to you, Jerry Ford is on your side.

I will stand with you, work with you and we will win a great victory on Wednesday.

You have a thousand wonderful young people here today, but we have to multiply and multiply and multiply our efforts so we win on November 2nd.

END

(AT 10:04 A.M. CDT)

AUGUST 16, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H.R. 14234 - Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1977. This bill appropriates \$5,296,417,578 in new budget authority for 1977 and \$15,421,779 in advance 1978 budget authority for the activities of the Department of Transportation, the United States Railway Association, and Civil Aeronautics Board, the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Panama Canal, the National Transportation Safety Board, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, and the National Transportation Policy Study Commission.

1977 Budget Authority
(in millions of dollars)

	<u>Amount provided in bill</u>	<u>1976 Appropriation</u>
Department of Transportation:		
Coast Guard.....	1,277	+174
Federal Aviation Administration.....	1,982	+56
Federal Highway Administration.....	128	+99
Federal Railroad Administration.....	963	-70
Urban Mass Trans- portation Adminis- tration.....	529	+252
Other, DOT.....	138	+7
United States Railway Association:		
Payments for purchase of Conrail securities.....	---	-1,061
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority:		
Federal contribution*.	7	-3
Other, related agencies.	273	+8
Total.....	<u>5,296</u>	<u>-538</u>

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AUGUST 16, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed:

H.R. 2565 - Relief of Luisa Marillac Hughes, Marco Antonio Hughes, Maria del Cisne Hughes, Maria Augusta Hughes, Miguel Vincente Hughes, Veronica del Rocio Hughes, and Ivan Hughes;

H.R. 5052 - Relief of Yolanda E. Vez;

H.R. 6687 - Relief of Doo Hoon Park;

H.R. 11076 - Relief of Ok Ja Choi;

The four bills will define the ten beneficiaries as "children" for purposes of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) and permit them status as permanent residents of the U.S., thus facilitating their adoption by U.S. citizens.

The President has signed H.R. 2399 - Relief of Leonard Alfred Brownrigg -- which permits a permanent resident alien to remain in the United States despite a conviction for possession of marihuana.

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AUGUST 16, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed S. 1689 - Amendments to the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation Act of 1972. This bill authorizes appropriations for the operating and administrative expenses of the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation (PADC) and for partial implementation of the Corporation's development plan.

S. 1689 authorizes \$1,300,000 for 1976, \$325,000 for the transition quarter, and \$1,500,000 each for 1977 and 1978 for the operating and administrative expenses of the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation (PADC).

The bill also authorizes \$38,800,000 to commence implementation of the Pennsylvania Avenue Plan which was prepared by the PADC.

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AUGUST 16, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed:

- H.R. 1507 - Relief of Marisa Marzano;
- H.R. 2411 - Relief of Alinor Anvari Adams;
- H.R. 2502 - Relief of Peter Olav Mesikepp;
- H.R. 6392 - Relief of Koviljka C. Clendenen;
- H.R. 7908 - Relief of Edward Drag;
- H.R. 5500 - Relief of Rafael Strochlitz Wurzel;
- H.R. 5648 - Relief of Violetta Cebreros;
- H.R. 3372 - Relief of Tze Tsun Li;
- H.R. 2940 - Relief of Maria Sylvia Macias Elliott;
- H.R. 2495 - Relief of Miss Malgorzata Kuzniarek Czapowski;
- H.R. 2118 - Relief of Cheryl V. Camacho; and
- H.R. 7882 - Relief of Miss Leonor Young.

These bills grant immediate relative status to aliens who have been or are in the process of being adopted by United States citizens.

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AUGUST 16, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H. R. 1394-Relief of Suk Chin and Hae Suk Chin; H. R. 1395-Relief of Mee Kyung Cho and Hee Kyung Cho; H. R. 1396-Relief of Sang Kook Chung and Hwa Soon Chung; H. R. 1397-Relief of Ae Sook Song and Mi Yun Lee.

The beneficiaries of these four bills are eight Korean children who reside with their parents in St. Lazarus Village, a community established for lepers in Korea. While their parents have leprosy, all of the children are healthy and show no signs of the disease.

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AUGUST 16, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H. R. 2278-Relief of Mrs. Mary Saxton (Mary Nuku); which grants the status of immediate relative to the alien widow of a United States citizen.

The beneficiary is a 34-year-old native and citizen of Tonga who currently resides in Indiana.

The President has signed H. R. 8557-Relief of Carmen Thomas, of Guyana; H. R. 10076-Relief of Mrs. Kazuko Scillion, of Japan. These bills grant immediate relative status under the Immigration and Nationality Act to widows of U. S. citizens, and thus allow them permanent residence in the United States. Because of the deaths of their husbands, they are no longer eligible for immediate relative status.

The President has signed H. R. 2941-Relief of Susan Rosemary Harwood, of England. The beneficiary was last admitted to the U. S. on August 21, 1974, as a nonimmigrant visitor.

H. R. 2941 will deem the beneficiary to have been a returning resident alien at the time of her admission to the United States on August 21, 1974.

The President has signed H. R. 7404-Relief of Christine Donnelly. H. R. 7404 will waive the residence and physical presence requirements of the Immigration and Nationality Act for naturalization and allow Mrs. Donnelly to be naturalized at any time after its enactment.

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AUGUST 16, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H. R. 1425-Relief of Juliet Elizabeth Tozzi, of Bloomfield, New Jersey; H. R. 1645-Relief of Kevin Patrick Saunders, of Great Britain; H. R. 4053-Relief of Roderic Patrick Stafford, of Canada.

The bills will waive a section of the Immigration and Nationality Act which excludes aliens convicted of any drug law violation from entry into the United States, authorize the issuance of immigrant visas to the beneficiaries, and permit their admission into the United States for permanent residence if otherwise admissible under the Act.

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AUGUST 16, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H. R. 6093-Relief of Maria D'Arpino.

Maria D'Arpino is a 53-year-old native and citizen of Italy who is mentally retarded and illiterate. The beneficiary would like to remain in the U. S. to stay with her only close relative, her sister, who is a U. S. citizen.

H. R. 6093 will allow Miss D'Arpino to be issued a visa and granted permanent residence provided that (a) her exemption from the provisions of the INA shall apply only to a ground for exclusion on which State or Justice had knowledge prior to enactment of this bill, and (b) a bond, approved by the Attorney General, shall be posted to assure that she will not become a public charge.

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August 16, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H. R. 7494--Relief of Luigi Santaniello.

The bill will authorize a visa to be issued to Luigi Santaniello and his admittance to the United States for permanent residence notwithstanding his ineligibility under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) as an alien who has been convicted of a crime of moral turpitude. The bill will also limit this exemption to a ground for exclusion known to the Department of State or the Department of Justice prior to enactment.

The President has signed H. R. 8695-Relief of Eugene Homsy Phillips.

The beneficiary is a 29-year-old native and citizen of Lebanon.

The bill will provide that the beneficiary be held and considered to be the natural-born son of his adoptive parents. This would permit him to enter the United States for permanent residence and rejoin his adoptive parents. In addition, the bill provides that the natural parents and siblings of the beneficiary are not accorded any special rights or status under the Immigration and Nationality Act by virtue of their relationship to the beneficiary.

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August 16, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H. J. Res. 738 - Tule elk preservation, California. This bill provides for Federal participation in the conservation and restoration of the Tule elk population in California.

The bill directs the Secretaries of the Interior, Agriculture, and Defense to cooperate with the State of California in making the lands under their respective jurisdictions reasonably available for the preservation and grazing of Tule elk as may be consistent with Federal law.

H. J. Res. 738 will require the Secretary of the Interior to report annually to Congress concerning the size and condition of the Tule elk herds including the nature and condition of their habitats.

Finally, the bill will direct the Secretary of the Interior to coordinate and develop a plan for Tule elk restoration and conservation, including habitat management in California.

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AUGUST 16, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H. R. 13121--District of Columbia Code. This bill directs the House of Representatives Law Revision Counsel to continue to prepare and publish the District of Columbia Code through publication of Supplement V to the 1973 edition. The Council of the District of Columbia would be responsible for preparation and publication thereafter.

Public Law 93-554, approved December 27, 1974, created the Office of the Law Revision Counsel in the House of Representatives to develop and keep current a codification of U. S. laws.

The bill reinstates the House Law Revision Counsel as the agent of Congress for continuing publication of the District of Columbia Code through the remaining supplements to the 1973 edition.

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August 16, 1976

PRESS CONFERENCE
OF
JAMES A. BAKER, III
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN/DELEGATES

THE CROWN CENTER HOTEL

4:46 P.M. CDT

MR. BAKER: Ladies and gentlemen, we have an update for you on our delegate count. There should be some sheets of paper at the back of the room with names and addresses of new delegates who have committed to the President. A couple of these have been on the wire. I think that three or four of them have not been.

We are announcing five new delegates. One that I know has been on the wire is an alternate from the State of New York named Odin Carlson, who is taking the place of a delegate who will not attend from New York.

We have an uncommitted delegate from South Carolina, Sherry Martschink, who has committed to the President; an uncommitted delegate from the State of Virginia, Lois Kindt; an uncommitted delegate from the State of Pennsylvania -- I believe this has been on the wire -- Ed Byrne; and an uncommitted delegate from the State of Missouri, Bill Skaggs.

With those additions to our count, we now show the President with 1139, Governor Reagan with 1033 delegates, and with 87 delegates remaining uncommitted, including the full 30 in the Mississippi delegation.

I will be delighted to take your questions.

Q What effect has the withdrawal of delegate Buckley had on your account?

MR. BAKER: It has had no effect.

Q How many delegates has the President met with today?

MR. BAKER: I don't know how many he has met with today. He is still meeting with them, but my recollection is he had some 35 to 40 on the schedule.

MORE

Q What States, and also, is Mrs. Ford meeting delegates?

MR. BAKER: The First Lady has met some delegates. I don't have the totals on that for you.

Q Did the President meet with Mississippi delegates?

MR. BAKER: The President was scheduled to meet with some Mississippi delegates at 1:30. His schedule was running about an hour and a half late, but he did meet with some Mississippi delegates.

Q If the Convention forced the President to name his Vice President before his nomination, what effect could that have on his nomination?

MR. BAKER: I can't say that, Tom. I don't think that is going to happen. It is hypothetical, and I can't give you an answer.

Q Could we go back to a previous question? The 35 or so delegates he met with, could you cover the States they came from and also what was the burden of his message to them?

MR. BAKER: He met this morning with the Hawaii delegation and the Guam delegation. He met with some delegates from Mississippi this afternoon. He met with some delegates from Minnesota; some delegates from Wyoming. He is presently meeting with some delegates from Kansas, Arizona, Missouri, and he will meet with a few delegates from Virginia later this evening.

Q Are all those uncommitted?

MR. BAKER: No, they are not all uncommitted. Many of them, as in the case of Hawaii, are committed to the President. The Guam delegation is committed to the President. A number of them are delegates that have not had an opportunity to meet with the President, who have never been uncommitted, never been in the soft category. They are Ford delegates.

Q Was there any discussion with them of his possible running mate, and if so, could you tell us about it?

MR. BAKER: I didn't sit in on all the meetings, and I would rather imagine if there was any, he simply told them the same thing he has been telling you; that is, he is going through an orderly process, considering a large number of people. He will pick someone with whom he is philosophically compatible, and someone in the mainstream of the party.

MORE

Q One of the Mississippi delegates is quoted as having said he told the President he was for him in the hopes it would produce a Ford-Reagan ticket. What statement did he reply?

MR. BAKER: I don't know. I was not in that meeting. Many delegates have expressed, as you know, over the past two months in their meetings with the President, their preference for the Vice Presidency. That would not be an unusual expression.

Q What do you think about a floor test on 16-C?

MR. BAKER: We feel any floor test on 16-C we would win.

Q What is your nose count on that?

MR. BAKER: We think we have a satisfactory margin without getting into the actual numbers on that count, but we have done a lot of counting over the course of the last 24 hours.

Q What are you going to do on the foreign policy plank?

MR. BAKER: We heard about that, or saw that, I guess, for the first time at 1:30 or 2:00 this afternoon. I personally have not seen it. I think our people are still studying it.

Q Do they favor it?

MR. BAKER: We are still looking at it. I don't believe we have taken a position on it.

Q Is there any common denominator on those five new delegates that you are announcing that caused them to announce for Ford?

MR. BAKER: I don't think so. A couple of them were people who had leaned -- they were in the uncommitted category, but we felt they were leaning pretty heavily our way. They indicated they would make their decision shortly after they got to Kansas City.

Q Would you tell us what the division of labor is among the people around the Strategy Committee? In advance of the voting on the floor, you have a number of people on the Strategy Committee. We all know what you do, but what does Bryce Harlow do? What do the others on the Strategy Committee actually do? What has been their responsibility?

MORE

MR. BAKER: Many of them, as you know, like Bill Timmons, Dean Burch and Dick Herman, have been out here in the pre-Convention week, working the Rules Committee, working the Platform Committee, working the Credentials Committee. We have been meeting late every evening and we will now meet every evening after the Convention sessions, as a committee, to discuss the strategy meetings for the next day.

Q With the President?

MR. BAKER: We meet with the President normally around 8:00 or 8:30 in the evening.

Q Can you hazard any guess as to how many --

MR. BAKER: Excuse me. We won't, of course, be doing that during the sessions.

Q Have you any idea of how many of those remaining 87 uncommitted delegates you expect to be committed by the time the nomination vote comes?

MR. BAKER: I said two days ago I thought we would get roughly half of the then uncommitted and it seems to me it has broken out pretty much that way. I still think we will get roughly half of those uncommitted. I don't think we have to get half of them to win on the first ballot.

Q Mr. Baker, do you think that Reagan has lost any delegate votes because of picking Schweiker?

MR. BAKER: Yes, we do believe he has. We have picked up some votes in Virginia; we have picked up some votes in Louisiana; we have picked up votes in Mississippi that, of course, are not now counted as committed delegate votes, but we do believe he has lost some strength in the South and in the West as a result of that selection.

Q Do you still count 20 in West Virginia?

MR. BAKER: We still count 20 in West Virginia and we will stand by that until it is proven erroneous, Rudy.

I might say that after our statement of two days ago, I noted a report in The New York Times by one of those delegates who calls himself uncommitted, Robert Harmon, in West Virginia, saying he was still uncommitted. We didn't mention any names and I don't plan to mention any names here today, but I might suggest that you might want to recheck with Robert Harmon to see where he stands in West Virginia.

MORE

Q What discussions have you had with the President about how 16-C would affect you if it were passed. How have you begun to approach it?

MR. BAKER: We oppose 16-C, without getting into the question of how it might affect the nomination.

Q If it did get approved, you would have overnight, according to the way it is written, just overnight in order to disclose a choice and you would have to handle the delegates in that eventuality. Have you done no planning on that at all?

MR. BAKER: He has done a great deal of planning on the selection of his running mate and I think we have a pretty good feel on who the delegates prefer. I think we would be in a position to make a choice were that required, but we don't think that will be required.

Q The five delegates, or six if we add Robert Harmon, is not a very big flood given the fact many of those delegates were simply paid to be waiting until they got here. Why are you not producing more?

MR. BAKER: We are producing more than they are and we are 80 to 90 delegates ahead of them. I think we are doing pretty good with the hard-core uncommitted. We may have a few more for you here, shortly.

Q Jim, what is the strategy behind not telling us who will nominate the President?

MR. BAKER: I didn't realize there was a strategy there, Bob. Has that announcement not been made?

Q No. Maybe you could make it for us.

MR. BAKER: It is not mine to make.

Q Do you know who it is?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

Q Who?

MR. BAKER: It is not my announcement to make.

Q Who will make the announcement?

MR. BAKER: Either the chairman of the campaign or the President will make it.

MORE

Q Why not give us a count on 16-C? What is your reason for not giving us a hard count on your assessment of the way the votes will go on 16-C?

MR. BAKER: We just prefer not to get into giving you as hard figures as we are giving you here on procedural counts. In the first place, they are not as exact. In giving you our counts and in doing it on a State-by-State basis, we have given you names and addresses of delegates when we bring them in and ask that you go check with them.

It is a little bit different when you are counting or polling on a procedural issue.

Q Who will announce who the nominator will be?

MR. BAKER: I said I thought it would be either the Campaign Chairman's announcement to make or perhaps the President's announcement to make.

Q Did the President see today any delegates that are committed and, in addition, if he did, were any of the five delegates brought on board today among those he saw committed to Reagan?

MR. BAKER: The President didn't see any of these delegates today. He did see delegates today that were committed to Governor Reagan and, by the way, our announcement -- the paper you can pick up in the back of the room -- also includes two Reagan delegates in Arizona that have switched to the uncommitted status.

Q Without mentioning the names of the person who will nominate the President, do you know how many seconders there are?

MR. BAKER: Yes, I do, but that is not my announcement to make.

Q Besides 16-C, does your organization anticipate any other tests of strength with Reagan before the balloting begins?

MR. BAKER: That is the one I think, Tom, that everyone is talking about, and that is the one we most anticipate. I like to think we are going to be prepared for wherever the test comes. If it is platform, it could be.

MORE

Q You said the President saw some Reagan delegates today. Does that mean two or 35?

MR. BAKER: He saw roughly 35 to 43, and I would have to go through a name list to tell you exactly.

Q Just running down yourself, could you, at a glance, tell who the Reagan delegates were?

MR. BAKER: No, because I don't have a list of the delegates he saw. All I have is the States and numbers. The majority of the delegates he saw today, as I indicated earlier, were Ford delegates or uncommitted delegates.

Q Are you concerned about the black delegates who have suggested they might abstain unless they get to see the President? Will they see the President?

MR. BAKER: I thought they were going to see the President. I thought that announcement had already been made.

Q Have you just made it?

MR. BAKER: I have just made it.

Q When are they going to see him?

MR. BAKER: I would have to check the schedule. I don't have it with me.

Q They are going to see him?

MR. BAKER: He has promised to see those black delegates to this Convention who support his candidacy.

Q How many is that?

MR. BAKER: I think there are 76 delegates to the Convention, and I think 74 of them support the President.

Q Is there an oversight in the lateness of that invitation?

MR. BAKER: No, that was one of the first things on the schedule.

Q When will it take place? You say it is on the schedule. Presumably you know when he will meet with them?

MR. BAKER: My recollection is it will be Tuesday afternoon, but I wouldn't want you to hold me to that until I get a copy of his schedule and look at it.

MORE

Q Is he going to address the Illinois delegates tomorrow morning at a breakfast?

MR. BAKER: I think so. Again, I will have to check the schedule. I will do it right after we are through here. I am pretty sure he is.

Q On this foreign policy plank the Reagan people are going to try to push through, you say you are studying it now, but you don't seem to have any immediate reaction of opposition to it?

MR. BAKER: That is because I personally haven't seen it. It was only announced, as I understand it, at 2:00 this afternoon.

Q You seem to be toying around again today with figures on delegates. What is your strength in Mississippi?

MR. BAKER: I think our strength in Mississippi is substantial. I think it has been building over the last five or six weeks, and without presuming to tell Mississippi how to cast their vote, I think we have an excellent chance to carry the State under the unit rule. If they choose not to vote, as a unit, I think we will get a substantial proportion of the vote.

Q Why was the President an hour and a half late?

MR. BAKER: I don't know, Margaret. I don't know what happened that bogged the schedule down.

Q How do you figure out which delegates he should meet with? I am not talking about the small group of delegates like Hawaii and Guam, but the ones from Illinois and the ones from Virginia. How do you select them?

MR. BAKER: These decisions were made a week or ten days ago, John, in the light of the importance which we put upon those delegates at that time, and I believe that is holding up pretty well. Some of them he is seeing frankly because he hasn't had an opportunity to see them. Some of them, as in the case of Hawaii and Guam, are loyal supporters he has had and has had no opportunity to see.

MORE

Q Mr. Baker, how many delegates has John Connally met with on your behalf in the last 24 hours?

MR. BAKER: Do you want an exact number? Can I give a ball park figure?

Q If you include today.

MR. BAKER: Sure. Louisiana, North Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia, and Virginia. There are probably at the outside 16 to a dozen.

Q Jim, you may have been asked this earlier, but did Buckley's withdrawal produce any delegate votes for you?

MR. BAKER: It didn't produce any delegate votes, but we hadn't lost any to his entry.

MORE

Q When Buckley announced, or when the announcement was made on Buckley's behalf, the PFC said, this really clinches it for the President. Now that Buckley has pulled out, is it unclinched or clinched tighter?

MR. BAKER: It certainly isn't unclinched. I think, at the time he entered, or said he might let his name go in, was absolutely correct, that is that it hurt the Reagan campaign or would tend to hurt it far more than it would hurt ours.

Q Will the nominator be from your home State?

MR. BAKER: That is not my announcement to make.

I might say, I have been passed a note here that Roger Campbell, an uncommitted delegate in Pennsylvania, has just re-announced his support for the President.

Q Re-announced?

MR. BAKER: Yes, he was in our column at one time and moved to uncommitted and we reduced our count. I am told that he is now back with us. I don't have that on personal knowledge.

Q Just as a matter of simple arithmetic, I thought you said before you had 1135.

MR. BAKER: That is right.

Q Then, I think you said you had 1139.

MR. BAKER: That is right.

Q Then, you picked up five today. That should be 1140.

MR. BAKER: That is right.

I moved one in North Dakota out of our column today.

Q Who was that?

MR. BAKER: John Skelley.

Q Is it 1139 or 1140?

MR. BAKER: 1139 is what we are claiming.

Q How about Inez Eddings of South Carolina?

MR. BAKER: Dr. Inez Eddings is a Ford delegate who may not attend the Convention. Until we resolve the question of the seating of her alternate, we count that vote.

MORE

Q What about this Campbell? Doesn't that bring it to 1140?

MR. BAKER: This would. This would bring it to 1140.

Q Where did the other delegate go, to uncommitted or Reagan?

MR. BAKER: Uncommitted. He had been carried in some of the public counts in uncommitted for a period of time and we had not confirmed that and had not moved him out of our count. We are doing it now. We talked to him last night.

Q What about the three men who formed the Buckley Steering Committee? It was a New York delegate for Reagan who said, if Buckley didn't go he would vote for the President.

MR. BAKER: I am not aware of who you are talking about.

Q He was a former Reagan delegate from New York.

MR. BAKER: He said he was a Ford Delegate who --

Q He was a Buckley delegate but said if Buckley didn't run, he would vote for the President.

MR. BAKER: It sounds good to me. I wasn't aware of that.

Q A moment ago, you held up that piece of paper. I take it that is the Roger Campbell vote?

MR. BAKER: That is the Roger Campbell note.

Q With that, you are making it a tentative 1140?

MR. BAKER: I am not really. I am just saying I was passed a note that says Roger Campbell is back on board. Until I talk to Roger Campbell, we won't put him in our count.

Q Could you tell us something about the narrowing down of the Vice President popularity contest, the five or six candidates?

MR. BAKER: As I indicated two days ago, that is a matter, really, for the President. He is the person that is really involved in that.

MORE

Q What about what the surveyors are showing?

MR. BAKER: I am not sure I understand your question.

Q This morning, we were told that the survey of the Vice Presidential popularity contest had shown that five or six persons out of what, 20, 22, 18, however many were named, were in the lead, bunched together. I am asking you to tell us about those five or six.

MR. BAKER: I am not the person that ought to comment on the Vice Presidential selection. That is the President's responsibility and he would be the guy to ask that question.

I might say one other thing. There has been some question of our Wyoming count and I think John Oslen today made an announcement on the Convention floor that he does indeed support the President, as we have claimed all along.

Q Will this alternate delegate replace a Reagan delegate? Was the New York delegate that was replaced on your list, was the original delegate a Reagan delegate?

MR. BAKER: Yes, the original delegate was a delegate named Muldoon.

Q Was Howard Baker asked to delete a line on Watergate from his keynote speech?

MR. BAKER: I have no knowledge of that. I don't know anything about the keynote speech.

Q How do you explain the difference between your count and the count given by the AP and the major magazines?

MR. BAKER: Our count doesn't differ significantly from the major magazines, both of which, or at least Time and Newsweek, have right up there at 1130. I am claiming only 1139. That is not a whole lot of difference. As I pointed out, two days ago, maybe six of the difference is West Virginia. We are standing by our count in West Virginia and you might want to check with those West Virginia delegates.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END

(AT 5:10 P.M. CDT)

August 16, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Kansas City, Missouri)

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

Monday afternoon the President met with delegates from several states including Mississippi, Minnesota, Wyoming, Kansas, Arizona, Missouri, and New Mexico.

The President met with about 35 delegates in small groups in his suite.

#

August 16, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE
THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE
Tuesday, August 17, 1976

8:15 a. m. Meeting with Regional Whips
Presidential Suite

9:15 a. m. Drop-by Meeting of Regional and State Whips
Centennial Room A

10:40 a. m. Depart for Hilton Plaza Hotel

11:00 a. m. Meeting with members of the Illinois Delegation

11:30 Depart Hilton Plaza Hotel

11:50 Arrive Crown Center Hotel

2:30 Meeting with members of the Alaska Delegation
Centennial Room A

3:15 Meeting with members of the West Virginia Delegation
Centennial Room A

5:00 Attend reception for Black Delegates
Centennial Room A

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FOR YOUR USE AND INFORMATION

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

PRESS POOLS

Tuesday, August 17, 1976

8:00 a.m. - MEETING WITH REGIONAL WHIPS - Presidential Suite

AP - Cormier/Benedict	New Yorker - E. Drew
UPI - Thomas/Growald	NBC Correspondent - M. Berger
AP Photo - J. Duricka	Philadelphia Bulletin - L. O'Rourke
UPI Photo - T. Murphy	NBC Minicam Crew (2)
Time Photo - D. Halstead	CBS Minicam Crew
Newsweek Photo - W. McNamee	ABC Minicam Crew (2)
N. Y. Times Photo - T. Zabala	NBC Radio Engineer
Time - S. Talbott	CBS & NBC Lighting Technicians

Note: Pool assemble in the Press Filing Center, Century Ballroom
at 7:45 a.m.

10:45 a.m. TRAVEL POOL FROM THE CROWN CENTER TO THE HILTON
PLAZA

AP - Cormier/Benedict	New Yorker - E. Drew
UPI - Thomas/Growald	U.S. News - M. Wright
AP Photo - J. Duricka	ABC Correspondent
UPI Photo - T. Murphy	ABC Minicam Crew (2)
Time Photo - D. Halstead	CBS Minicam Crew (2)
Newsweek Photo - W. McNamee	NBC Minicam Crew (2)
Detroit News - S. Friedman	ABC Radio Engineer
	Lighting Technician

Note: Pool assemble in the Press Filing Center, Century Ballroom,
at 10:30 a.m.

#

AUGUST 17, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Kansas City, Missouri)

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

LEFT TO RIGHT (Clockwise from the President)

Photo of the President with Regional Floor Whips.

The President
Rogers Morton
Carla Coray (Hawaii)
Senator Tower
Frederick Biebel (Connecticut)
Richard Ogilvie (Illinois)
Tom Kean (New Jersey)
Cong. Robert Michel
William McLaughlin (Michigan)
Senator Beall (Maryland)
Elsie Hillman (Pennsylvania)
Senator Griffin

Also attending: Cliff White, Jim Baker, Bill Timmons

#

August 17, 1976

PRESS CONFERENCE
OF
ROBERT GRIFFIN
SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF MICHIGAN

THE CROWN CENTER HOTEL

2:08 P.M. CDT

MR. GREENER: A number of you have asked if we would have someone down to discuss the floor situation and, as you know, Senator Griffin is the Floor Manager and floor leader and so he has made himself available for some questions now.

Q Senator, are you expecting a battle on the floor over the foreign policy issue in the platform?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: We are expecting there will be an amendment offered along the lines of the one, exactly the same as was brought up in the Platform Committee, as far as we know. I think some have referred to it as an international morality plank, and to the extent that we can determine that will be brought up, and apparently there is some controversy about it.

Q Are you against it or for it, this international morality?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I am for international morality and otherwise. Our druthers, of course, would be to change the language in it. We may have some efforts on our side to do that. What we will do from there on, I really don't know. The decision hasn't been made.

Q What about the defente issue?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: Beyond saying that we would rather not have this language, there are only a few changes that would have to be made in it to make it acceptable.

Q Are you going to offer changes?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: We are giving that consideration.

Q Senator, there was a tally made today apparently of the vote counts on 16-C as the whips were leaving the meeting that the President addressed. How did that tally come out? How would you do on 16-C?

MORE

SENATOR GRIFFIN: We did get a fairly good report, but there were unfortunately some States whose whips could not get their for one reason or another, and there were some who did attend who were not in a position to give us their tally because of later State caucuses in the day.

We are generally pleased with the results. They are not complete. In general, they are running State-by-State pretty close to the figures that we have for the balloting for President, and we expect to win on 16-C tonight.

Q How much of a fall off is there between you on your estimates State-by-State on the nomination. and what you have so far on reports on 16-C?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: Not very much, if any.

Q Question?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: Whether there was a fall off and how much, and I said very little.

Q Isn't the foreign policy amendment as it is presently drafted totally unacceptable to the Ford people inasmuch as it is a total repudiation of the Ford-Kissinger diplomacy for the past two years?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: As I said, if we had our druthers, we would just as soon it would go away. There were some changes in language that could be acceptable. There are some efforts to do that underway, and the decision as to what we will do about it later tonight has just not been made yet.

Q Do you see the submission of the minority plank as related in any way to a fight over the Presidential nominee?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I can only speculate and assume it probably does have some relation to it.

Q If I could follow up, do you see this as a means of the Reagan side seeking to embarrass the President with a supposed repudiation of his foreign policy and using that as a means to gather delegates?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I can't evaluate the motivation of the people involved. I really don't know.

MORE

Q Speaking of the 16-C count, you said there is very little fall off in your vote for --

SENATOR GRIFFIN: We are picking up in some States. We are getting more in some States than we had been counting for the nomination. In other words, there are significant numbers of Reagan supporters who really aren't for 16-C and are going to vote that way, and there is some slippage as far as our Ford delegates are concerned, but in general it is running pretty close.

Q Will a victory by the Reagan forces on 16-C effectively eliminate Ronald Reagan as a possible running mate since the running mate would have to be named in advance of the nomination?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: If 16-C is rejected -- or are you saying if 16-C is adopted?

Q Adopted. Would that eliminate Ronald Reagan as a possible running mate?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: It seems to me it would. One of the problems with 16-C, as I see it, is it locks Schweiker in and locks Reagan out. I believe Governor Reagan when he says he doesn't want to go on the ticket.

As I said earlier, I think he will still believe that at 9:00 on Wednesday morning. He won't want to go on the ticket. But, I think it would be a disservice to adopt a rule such as this, which would make it impossible, in effect, for him to change his mind Thursday morning. It might be a disservice to the party and the country for him to do so.

MORE

Q What do you mean, lock Schweiker in? Isn't he already locked in?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: If you adopt this rule, I suppose it would be the Convention locking him in rather than Governor Reagan.

Q Are you suggesting Mr. Reagan might change his mind on the question?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: No, but I think there are a lot of Reagan delegates who are not very satisfied with that choice of Governor Reagan.

Q Senator, there is still the possibility the Convention would reject whoever the nominee of the Presidential candidate is and elect someone else. If they really want Ronald Reagan, regardless of 16-C, the Convention could have him as Vice President.

SENATOR GRIFFIN: That is true, theoretically, although obviously, if the Convention would take that position and actually adopt 16-C, it seems to me that they have gone a way down the road toward locking Schweiker in if Mr. Reagan should happen to get the nomination, which he won't.

Q You are using locking Reagan out as an argument to win Reagan votes, then?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: It happens to be the situation and we want to be sure the Reagan people understand that as they consider the merits of this proposal.

Q Senator, is there any chance you all will name a running mate for the President this afternoon to head off this whole 16-C battle?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: No, I see no possibility of that.

Q No possibility at all?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I would be very surprised if that happened.

Q Can you give us a scenario whereby it might be in the interests of the Republican Party or the country for Reagan to change his mind about the Vice Presidency?

Q Question?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: He asked me to give a scenario. I don't know if I can give a scenario. All I know is President Ford has said over and over, despite Governor Reagan's statements, he is one of those that would be under consideration by President Ford. Beyond that -- this point, I think, is very important -- whether or not President Ford asked Governor Reagan to go on the ticket and whether or not Governor Reagan would be willing to go on the ticket --

MORE

In any event, President Ford, after his nomination, would want to consult with Governor Reagan before he made his decision. That would be the appropriate thing to do in the interest of trying to get as much party unity as possible and 16-C, if it were adopted, would, in effect, preclude that.

Q Do you think Ronald Reagan would make a good Vice Presidential running mate for President Ford?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I am not going to indicate my preference. I am out to get delegates for President Ford and I don't think that would be very wise.

Q I am not asking your preference. I am saying, do you think he would be a good Vice Presidential candidate?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I think he should be considered.

Q Senator, in that event of a floor fight on 16-C, do you see any possibility of a compromise of averting such a division?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: At the moment, I don't see any possibility of a compromise.

Q Senator, can you tell us what is going on with the Mississippi delegation, perhaps a vote for 16-C in return for a 15/16 split?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: The situation changes hour by hour and I am not at all sure I am up to it.

Q What about the last hour you were there?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: The negotiations continue and there is a caucus at 3 o'clock.

Q Is there any possibility the President will say, "I will pick one of these two or three people," this afternoon?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I have no indication whatsoever that the President would do that.

Q You have not discussed that? It has never been discussed?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: That is right. Not in any discussion I have been involved in.

Q Will you identify the States where you say there is some slippage among Ford delegates on 16-C?

MORE

SENATOR GRIFFIN: No, I don't frankly have anything with me that I can refer to and I don't really know of any. There may be a little, but it is a matter of very small numbers.

Q Can you give us an idea where you are picking up some Reagan people? What States are those?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: There are some.

Q Will you indicate the position of Ford forces on the foreign policy amendment?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I think our position is they were taking a good look at it.

Q We have had that for 24 hours. What is this position going to be? You mean you haven't made up your minds yet?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: We are taking a good look at it and we haven't made up our mind.

Q Are you trying to make any changes before you make the decision on the platform?

Q Question?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: We are also in the process of trying to negotiate some changes in the language.

Q With the Reagan people you are trying to negotiate changes?

Q Who is handling the negotiations?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I am not at liberty to say, at the moment.

Q We couldn't hear the question, so the answer didn't have relevance.

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I have forgotten the question.

Q You are negotiating with the Reagan forces for changes in language on what?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: On the foreign policy plank. There has been some discussion and there probably will be some more to see whether or not we can modify the language.

Q There have been some changes in the platform that was adopted in the past in the Platform Committee last week. There is not so much difference, as I see it. What are you trying to negotiate, the Solzhenitsyn thing, the detente thing, the Helsinki agreement phrase? Those are the three things and only one appears to me to be a sticking point. What are the things you are trying to negotiate?

MORE

SENATOR GRIFFIN: You have touched some areas that, if we had our druthers, we would change the language a little bit.

Q Which one, sir, Helsinki?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: Several.

Q If you can't negotiate language changes, are you going to come in tonight with another foreign policy plank of your own?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: We haven't decided yet.

Q John Sears, at a briefing, gave a lot of vague references to moves or things that might happen tonight. Are you expecting any surprises other than 16-C and the foreign policy?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I think we have to always be ready and expect surprises.

Q What do you anticipate?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: It is hard to say. There are, obviously, all kinds of possibilities as far as other rules changes are concerned. We don't think there will be any effort made, but we have to be ready for the possibility.

Q Like which ones?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I don't know. I really don't.

Q Senator Griffin, this morning you referred to 16-C as a ploy by John Sears. Is this foreign policy amendment also a ploy by the Reagan forces?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I don't really know. It may be very sincerely put forth by some people, it could be.

Q You have no doubt about 16-C, but there is a possibility on the foreign policy?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I think 16-C deserves that kind of characterization as far as I am concerned. It is obviously something designed for this particular Convention, not really, I think, put forward as a reform in the selection of Vice Presidents, which many people are for. If this were a good procedure, I suppose it would have been a better procedure if Governor Reagan had indicated his choice of Senator Schweiker months ago when he was running in the campaigns in Texas and in other States, and I wonder how he would have done.

MORE

Q Could you lose on both of these and still get the nomination tomorrow night?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I think it is possible, but we don't expect to lose on 16-C. We expect to win it.

Q Do you think it is possible that either the Ford people or the Reagan people will come forward on the 16-C question with a substitute that would indeed have a prospective impact for 1980?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: It is a possibility, but at this moment I know of no particular move in that direction.

Q You are not preparing some kind of fallback position that would agree to a reform in 1980. You just said you thought many people are interested in that.

SENATOR GRIFFIN: At this point we don't have such an amendment to offer.

Q You spoke of some slippage on both sides concerning 16-C. How about the delegate count itself? What is your count now, and are you absolutely sure of nomination?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I understand that Jim Baker indicated this morning we have picked up several and the count was 1142 or 1143, something in that order.

Q Senator, John Sears said at least twice in his briefing today beginning at 1:10 p.m. that the Reagan people had heard nothing from the Ford people in connection with the foreign policy question. How does one resolve that with what you are saying?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: We are still considering it.

Q You said you were negotiating.

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I see. There are those in the Platform Committee, I think, who are individually perhaps having --

Q Is Roman Hruska working for the Ford forces with the Reagan people in an effort to get some language in the foreign policy plank? Is he your representative in that area?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I am not sure what it is that Roman Hruska has done. I think there is an interest in trying to revise the language. How much has been done, I really can't say. I just know that that is a possibility and we are working in that direction.

MORE

Q Is another possibility, if you don't succeed in compromising on the language, to come in with your own foreign policy that almost goes as far as the Reagan plank?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: That is a real possibility, yes, that we would do that.

Q Who will speak on the foreign policy plank for the President and on this amendment?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: We are in the process of developing our speakers' list and we are having a meeting in another hour to finalize it, but for the most part they would be people who have participated with the platform hearings and deliberations, but there might be others.

Q Do you expect protracted debate on each of these issues?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: We will be interested and try to get a limitation of debate, and I think that is a possible, if not a probable, development. I think both sides genuinely -- the leadership on both sides, at least -- genuinely want to have this Convention appear as it should and not get out of hand and they want the nomination to be worth as much as possible to the nominee.

So, you know we are hopeful that some reasonable period of time can be established and that we would get to a vote within a reasonable time.

Q Have the Reagan people already agreed to a limitation of debate and, if so, what time?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I am not in a position to announce anything yet. That may develop, but it hasn't yet.

Q In the voting this evening on 16-C, do you think you will have 1130 votes?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: That is right.

Q On 16-C, do you need a majority vote?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: A majority of those present voting, as I understand it.

Q Senator, do you see the intensity of the debate on 16-C tonight making a difference in whether or not Ronald Reagan is considered, assuming that Mr. Ford wins on this and doesn't have to disclose just the intensity of the debate? Do you think that could make a difference on whether or not Ronald Reagan is seriously considered for the Vice Presidency?

MORE

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I don't know. I have no way of looking in a crystal ball and telling you what is going to happen or anything. I think it will be a good debate on the merits and we have been pretty proud of what has happened here at this Convention so far. I think we have good reason to believe we will be proud of the debate and what happens tonight.

Q The same subject with Governor Connally, who is going to speak tonight, do you think his performance tonight will make a difference on whether or not he is seriously considered?

Q Question?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: Whether or not Governor Connally's performance would have something to do with the consideration of Governor Connally for Vice President. I don't know. That is something that would be within the mind of President Ford, and I really don't know.

Q Senator, can you confirm that list of five names for the Vice Presidency that was in the Washington Post?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: No, I can't. I am not privy to any list at all.

Q You said Ronald Reagan should be considered for the Vice Presidency. Who else should be considered?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: A number of my Senate colleagues and several Governors, the present Vice President and Governor Reagan and so on.

Q Senator, John Sears has said that they probably have more procedural votes on things like 16-C than they have right now locked up for the nomination. If they lose tonight, will Ronald Reagan's chances be through?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I would think if they lost tonight, that ought to be a clear indication not only here in the Convention but across the country that President Ford will be nominated tomorrow night, and it probably would increase the margin by which he would be nominated.

Q Did you say it only takes a majority of those present voting on 16-C?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I haven't looked that up but that would be my impression and I have an expert shaking his head yes that is the case.

MORE

Q Do you have a vote count on the abortion plank and are the President's forces trying to avoid a fight on that?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: We would like to avoid a fight, but there is an indication that the requisite number of signers having indicated their support for a minority plank that there probably will be a debate on that subject.

I would be supporting the committee's report.

Q Will the Ford position be in support of the committee?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: Yes.

Q You talked about a limitation debate. Are you likely to push for a roll call vote on something like limitation of debate unless you are certain you can win that first or would that be a test vote for the rest of the evening?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: Maybe I am indicating a hope here when I say that. I am not so sure it is just a hope. I found the leadership on the other side in many instances has been very reasonable to deal with, and I think it is in the interest of both sides to agree on a time limit.

Q Agree on rather than --

SENATOR GRIFFIN: We would agree on an hour. We would agree on 45 minutes. We agree on something. I don't think it is in the interest of either side to have this go on into the late hours of the night. We would like to get to a vote. I don't think a long, protracted debate would change many minds.

Q Would it be in their interest for it to go over tomorrow? I mean, to go into the early morning hours, recess until tomorrow and then have an emotional floor fight on a procedural matter just before the vote, for the nomination? Is that a likely possibility?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I suppose we have to be ready for that. Maybe that is the kind of a game they are going to play. I hope not, and I don't think so.

Q Could you tell us, one more question, the President has gone through this long selection process for his Vice Presidential running mate, and he has polled, I think, 5,000 people -- delegates, the Republican leaders such as yourself. He has also had his aides telephone any number -- I guess 15 to 20, just by the Republican ball park figures I have seen -- and now we are within a day or so of the decision and perhaps it could be pushed by the Convention decision to sooner than that. Have you any idea if he has narrowed this down to five or six, or one, in terms of the Vice Presidential selection?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: I can say truthfully, looking you in the eye, I haven't talked to him at all about that subject in quite a long time. I have come here early, worked continuously on the job of making sure the votes are going to be there to get the nomination. I want to be able to tell delegates that I don't know who he is leaning toward, who is on the list, and that is a pretty good position for me to be in.

THE PRESS: Thank you, Senator.

END (AT 2:31 P.M. CDT)

AUGUST 17, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Kansas City, Missouri)

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President's Meeting with Black Delegates

The President mostly circulated and shook hands and spoke only briefly, no more than a minute, and then answered questions.

The President praised Transportation Secretary William Coleman, Senator Edward Brooke and John C. Calhoun, Special Assistant to the President for Minority Affairs, all of whom were present.

The President said, more or less verbatim, "I understand some here support my opposition. But we are all Republicans, and after the Convention we will all go on to win the election as Republicans." There were cheers.

In response to a question, the President described unemployment among black teenagers as "one of the most serious problems we have. It's unbelievable and unnecessary." The President said that he, Vice President Rockefeller and the Domestic Council are all working hard on the problem.

There was some confusion at the beginning of the meeting about admitting black delegates supporting Reagan. When the President heard about this he said, "I plan to unify the party." He wanted all black delegates and alternates admitted. They were.

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AUGUST 17, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Kansas City, Missouri)

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE
Wednesday, August 18, 1976

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Staff and Strategy Meetings.
12:15 p.m.	Drop-by United Republican Victory Luncheon. Radisson Muehlebach Hotel
5:30 p.m.	Attend Pennsylvania/New Jersey Delegate Reception. Centennial Room - A
Evening	Watch Nomination on TV

NOTE: The Press Secretary will brief at about 11 a.m. At that time we will announce coverage plans for the events on the schedule.

Additions to the schedule may be posted in the morning.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 18, 1976

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
TO THE PFC STAFF

THE LIBERTY ROOM
CROWN CENTER HOTEL

8:45 A.M. CDT

Let me just thank all of you that I didn't have a chance to express my appreciation with a handshake.

It was a great night last night and it came about because of all the hard work of people like yourselves, not only here, but all over the country. It is a big step toward the result that we are going to get tonight and the more important result we are going to get November 2nd.

Thank you very much.

END

(AT 8:46 A.M. CDT)

AUGUST 18, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

LEFT TO RIGHT

9:00 a.m. Meeting with Republican Governors

The Presidential Suite

The President
Governor Bond (Missouri)
Governor Godwin (Virginia)
Governor Bowen (Indiana)
Governor Ray (Iowa)
Governor Holshauser (North Carolina)
Governor Milliken (Michigan)
Governor Hammond (Alaska)
Governor Evans (Washington)
Governor Rhodes (Ohio)
Governor Bennett (Kansas)

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REMARKS OF GOV. WILLIAM G. MILLIKEN
UPON NOMINATING GERALD R. FORD
TO BE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
KEMPER ARENA, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

Ladies and gentlemen, it is my honor tonight to nominate the present and future President of the United States.

Two years ago, a man from Michigan was called forward by circumstance to lead this Nation. I am here to urge that he now be called forward by this convention--called to be our nominee to retain the high position he has so effectively held, and to lead a resurgent America.

He already has re-established our leadership, revived our economy and restored our honor. He brought strength in time of crisis, order in time of chaos. Faced with one of our Nation's greatest challenges, he responded with wisdom, fairness, compassion, courage and integrity.

How fitting it is in this bicentennial year that Republicans should have the opportunity to offer to the people a leader who has already done so much to restore faith in the world's oldest constitutional democracy. That man is President Ford.

He has demonstrated to all the world that government can be conducted openly, honestly and successfully. He has shown that the historic American principle of government by the consent of the governed is workable in this modern age of incredibly complex problems.

Millions of Americans who are watching us tonight, and those who will be watching our candidate in the weeks ahead, know that there are no simple and superficial solutions to these problems. I suspect they know, or soon will, that solutions will not come from the maybe-I-will-maybe-I-won't nominee of the other party. They know it was President Ford who took charge of a paralyzed government and quickly got it moving again. They know it is President Ford who is fighting excessive spending of a congressional majority which has controlled the federal budget for the last 20 years. They know that President Ford has led this Nation to an economic recovery that many believed would take years longer to accomplish, that inflation and unemployment have been reduced and that, at long last, the national recession is ending. They know that President Ford is committed to advancing the cause of social justice and equality for all Americans. They know that we are not at war abroad, and we are at peace with ourselves at home.

President Ford has united this country and as our candidate he will unite this party. We have been through a vigorous and, I believe, essentially healthy primary campaign. We have seen that the Republican Party is, as it should be, a party that embraces a wide spectrum of thought. In this, we reflect America. We can now best serve America by keeping President Ford right where he is. We want a candidate who can wage an affirmative campaign--and win.

The performance of President Ford speaks of the compelling need for this convention to nominate him far more eloquently than any words I could speak. The Nation awaits our decision. Let us answer that we intend to lead from strength. Let us give Gerald Ford the nomination that will unite the Republican Party and return him to office. Let us help him finish what he has begun.

He first became President without our nomination, and without the American mandate. Now, he has earned both. So that we may give him our nomination, so that the Nation can give him its mandate, I do now exercise the honor and privilege of placing in nomination for the Presidency of the United States of America the name of Gerald R. Ford.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 18, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

The President condemns the vicious and unprovoked murder of two American officers last night in the demilitarized zone near Panmunjon in Korea.

These officers were peacefully supervising a work detail in the neutral zone when they were subjected to a brutal and cowardly attack totally without warning.

Total responsibility for the consequences of these murders rests with the North Korean Government.

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OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE
REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
AND
QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION
WITH
RONALD REAGAN

THE ALAMEDA PLAZA HOTEL

2:05 A.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: Governor Reagan, I came over to the hotel for the purpose of congratulating you on a very fine campaign and expressing to you our compliments for the outstanding organization that you had. You really got us in shape.

I think the campaign you waged and the organization you put together was beneficial to the campaign that we have, beginning right away to defeat the Democratic nominees and to make certain that our philosophy prevails for the next four years.

I thank you for your indication of full support and again, I congratulate you for a fine campaign. Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR REAGAN: Mr. President, my congratulations to you.

It was a good fight, Mom, and he won.

My congratulations and, of course, you know that as we both agreed all the way from the very beginning, once the fight was over, we are on the same side and we go forward together.

QUESTION: Mr. President, did you discuss the Vice Presidency with Governor Reagan?

THE PRESIDENT: I talked about a number of possibilities. We had a discussion in that regard, yes.

QUESTION: Mr. President, was Mr. Reagan one of those possibilities you discussed?

THE PRESIDENT: That is a private matter between Governor Reagan and myself and I don't think we should comment further.

MORE

QUESTION: Governor Reagan, are you prepared to campaign actively for President Ford in the election?

GOVERNOR REAGAN: Yes, as I said before, and that is what I have always done and believed in with regard to the party and I will do all I can.

QUESTION: Governor Reagan, your wife said earlier this evening that she would be happy to get back to the ranch when this is all over. Is that what is going to happen, sir?

GOVERNOR REAGAN: I want to tell you I will be happy to get back to the ranch, too, but I don't think we mean permanently settle down on the ranch, but I know what she meant. We are both tired -- I think we are all tired -- having been through this campaign. We are looking forward to a breathing spell.

QUESTION: Governor Reagan, are you going to stand by your statement you would not accept the Vice Presidency?

GOVERNOR REAGAN: I shall stand by that statement, yes.

QUESTION: Governor Reagan, could you turn down a draft by the Convention?

GOVERNOR REAGAN: Well, now you are asking, Barry, one of those hypothetical questions. I will answer that if and when it comes.

QUESTION: Mr. President, why did you send Ben Becker out to California to negotiate the pardon of Mr. Nixon when he was under investigation for criminal tax fraud at the time?

THE PRESIDENT: I think we are discussing matters that are of much more interest at this time. I have answered it in the past. If you go back and look at the record, you will find out.

QUESTION: Mr. President, is there a place for Ronald Reagan in your Administration?

THE PRESIDENT: Of course there is. As came out during the campaign, I wanted Governor Reagan to be a part of my Administration and there certainly would be. He is a person whose philosophy is virtually identical with mine and he certainly has indicated a great capability as an executive of the largest State in the Union. The answer is yes.

MORE

QUESTION: Mr. President, how long is the Vice Presidential list?

THE PRESIDENT: We will make the announcement tomorrow.

QUESTION: Mr. President, you now in principle have the votes of approximately 20 percent of the electorate. How do you propose to go about getting the votes of another 31 percent?

THE PRESIDENT: That is very simple. Our philosophy, I think, is believed in by a majority of the American people today. In my opinion, the Democratic ticket, the nominees for President and Vice President, have embraced the Democratic platform. They have embraced the record of the Democratic Congress. Both are very vulnerable and I don't think they coincide with the views, the philosophy of the American people today and we are going to go out and campaign against them as candidates, against the Democratic platform and against the Democratic Congressional record. I think the American people will support us and defeat them.

QUESTION: Will you debate Jimmy Carter, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT: We don't rule it out.

QUESTION: Mr. President, you haven't said whether you have or you have not made up your mind yet about a Vice President.

THE PRESIDENT: I have not.

QUESTION: Can you tell us who is on your Vice Presidential list?

THE PRESIDENT: I will tell you who the choice is tomorrow.

QUESTION: What time?

THE PRESIDENT: How early do you want it? (Laughter)

QUESTION: Now. It is past 2:00 a.m.

THE PRESIDENT: We will advise you at the appropriate time.

QUESTION: Mr. Reagan, do you consider your philosophy almost identical with that of the President?

GOVERNOR REAGAN: I think basically it has to be pretty much the same philosophy, as I said it was when I picked Senator Schweiker, or we wouldn't be in the same party. I think there are differences. I think we have different approaches to a number of things, but I think, basically, a basic philosophy, yes.

MORE

QUESTION: Would you be willing to serve in the Ford Administration?

GOVERNOR REAGAN: I had the honor of having that offered to me once and turned it down because there was something else that I thought I would rather do and I still believe I would rather take up again what I was doing before I became a candidate, which was in the communications field.

QUESTION: If the Convention were to draft you, sir, would you reject any move by the Convention?

GOVERNOR REAGAN: I just said that that is a hypothetical question. I haven't seen any signs of such a thing happening. I will answer when I see any such signs.

QUESTION: Since most of his campaign has been fought, do you think you would have any trouble selling Mr. Reagan to the American people, I mean, as bitterly as you have contested him?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think our fight has been a bitter one. It has been a very hotly contested campaign. I happen to think the campaign was beneficial. It took a lot of time and a lot of effort, but the net result is good for the Republican Party.

QUESTION: Governor Reagan, are you saying you will permit your name to be entered for the Vice Presidential nomination tomorrow night?

GOVERNOR REAGAN: No.

QUESTION: You will not permit it?

GOVERNOR REAGAN: No.

QUESTION: Mr. President, could you reflect on the course of the campaign and would you explain why you think it was so difficult for you, an incumbent President, to get the nomination in your own fight to --

THE PRESIDENT: Governor Reagan is probably the most effective campaigner in the United States today and when you are competing against a man with that skill, ability and dedication, of course it is a tough contest. I have complimented him for a fine campaign. He had a good organization. That makes it very difficult.

QUESTION: Governor Reagan, you seem to have left the door open for a draft, or at least not closed it entirely?

GOVERNOR REAGAN: No.

MORE

QUESTION: Are you going to instruct the States not to enter your name in nomination tomorrow evening?

GOVERNOR REAGAN: I am not going to be so presumptuous as to go out there and suggest that maybe they are going to do it. That is what I meant by I haven't seen any signs of that. I will treat it at that time, but I am not going to go running out and saying don't you dare do something and they might look at me very astounded and say, "We didn't have any intention of doing that."
(Laughter)

QUESTION: Mr. President, will Governor Reagan be invited to address the Convention tomorrow?

THE PRESIDENT: Quite frankly, I haven't thought about it.

QUESTION: What is your instinct about that?

THE PRESIDENT: I will talk to the Governor about it.

QUESTION: Mr. President, do you still feel that Governor Reagan's comments about the Panama Canal in the campaign were irresponsible?

THE PRESIDENT: I support the Republican platform, which was agreed to by his people and by my people.

QUESTION: I don't think that answers the question.

THE PRESIDENT: That is the way I will answer it.
(Laughter)

QUESTION: Mr. President, California, Texas and several other States were very solid for Ronald Reagan. Tonight after the nomination, I was quite pleased to see Texas, who fought so hard, waving Ford signs. How do you plan on carrying these States, being sure they go to Ford in November?

THE PRESIDENT: I think all during the campaign the Ford people that I talked with indicated they would have supported Governor Reagan and the Reagan people that I had the opportunity to talk with or heard from otherwise said they would support President Ford. I think that is true across the spectrum as far as the Convention is concerned. Our principles transcend personalities, and I think we can solidify the party, strengthen it and win in November.

Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR REAGAN: Thank you.

END (AT 2:22 A.M. CDT)

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE

EXCHANGE OF REMARKS
BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT
ROBERT DOLE
SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF KANSAS
THE VICE PRESIDENT
ROBERT GRIFFIN
SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF MICHIGAN
AND
PAUL LAXALT
SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF NEVADA

THE CROWN CENTER HOTEL

12:05 P.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: It is a very great occasion for me, it is a very proud moment for me, to have the opportunity of introducing my running mate for this campaign in 1976.

I am really thrilled with the opportunity of having Bob Dole as my running mate. I am enthusiastic for a number of reasons. I have known Bob Dole a good many years. I served with him in the House of Representatives for eight years. He served with great distinction not only in the House but in the Senate of the United States, representing the great State of Kansas.

Bob Dole, of course, had an outstanding record in the military service in World War II. Bob Dole has been a team player. Bob Dole's philosophy and mine coincide identically. Bob Dole is a good campaigner. Bob Dole will help to heal any divisiveness within the party.

I have talked to Governor Reagan and told him of my selection. Governor Reagan has endorsed my selection of Bob Dole as my running mate. I have consulted with others who were very, very strong as potential candidates as my running mate and all of them have indicated their support, their endorsement, of Bob Dole.

So, it is a great pleasure, privilege and I am extremely proud to introduce to you Senator Bob Dole of the great State of Kansas as my running mate for victory in 1976.

Bob?

MORE

SENATOR DOLE: Thank you, Mr. President.

Mrs. Ford, Mr. Vice President, let me first introduce my wife, Elizabeth, from the State of North Carolina, and that will be part of our Southern strategy. (Laughter)

Let me also indicate that I did not expect to receive a phone call this morning, but I am very pleased that we were in. (Laughter)

I have known, of course, President Ford at a time when I could call him Jerry. As he has indicated, we served in the House together. He has been in many places in Kansas on my behalf, and I remember in 1974 when the going was tough and I was trying to be re-elected one of the President's -- I think the President's last -- campaign stops was in Wichita, Kansas, in the rain, and he came there to help me and I won by a very narrow margin after trailing some 12 points in the polls.

I say that to indicate his great help and also the fact that you can catch up if you are behind. (Laughter)

The Vice President, of course, was one of my earliest supporters in Kansas, and he came to Kansas, I think, to visit Alf Landon, and while he was there I had him do a little work for me. That was very helpful, too.

One of my other great supporters was Governor Reagan. He came to Wichita and did an outstanding job on my behalf. He is a great Republican, and I am certainly pleased that he has indicated that I will be all right. (Laughter)

So, I am just very pleased to be here. I am very proud to be on the ticket with President Ford for many, many reasons that I will go into as I go along the campaign trail.

I think he has an outstanding record. I am realistic. I know there is work to be done between now and November -- in fact, in a little over eight weeks -- but I want to be a part of a winning combination.

It is my opinion that we can win based on his leadership. I am not certain what I can add to the ticket but I will work hard and do the best I can, not just for the Republican Party, but because I think America needs President Ford's leadership for four more years.

Thank you very much.

MORE

THE PRESIDENT: We have on the podium, just to indicate and to show the unity that has come out of a tough struggle and very hard competition, some people that I think will be extremely helpful and beneficial in the 74 days between now and November 2nd.

Of course, the Vice President has, himself, been a tower of strength in the two years that I have been President. He has not only done a great job as Vice President, but he has been of inestimable help to me in making some tough decisions. He fully supports this choice. He was in on the final decision-making. But I think, in addition to that kind of support, we are fortunate to have here two outstanding United States Senators who, for the last few months, have been on the opposite side, but who have, while they were performing their Senatorial duties, worked together on many occasions.

I think the fact that Senator Paul Laxalt, who was Chairman of Governor Reagan's campaign, and Senator Bob Griffin, who has been a long-time friend and supporter of mine and the Minority Whip in the United States Senate, can be here indicates their joint efforts. I think it would be nice if Bob and Paul came forth and maybe said a word together, or individually.

Bob?

SENATOR GRIFFIN: Paul and I have been very good, close friends in the United States Senate and one of the great experiences of my participation in this campaign is to work with a counterpart like Paul Laxalt, who is always straightforward, who is always responsible and whose word was as good as gold.

Paul, you have been a great leader of the opposition. We are so happy that we are going to be working together from now on.

SENATOR LAXALT: Thank you, Bob, very much.

We worked for months in an effort to have a harmonious Convention and I think we achieved that and it has been due, in great part, to Bob Griffin.

I might say, also, that I couldn't be more delighted than to hear the news this morning about Dole's selection. In my judgment, he is going to make a tremendous candidate. He is sound philosophically. My daughter, and others, consider him to be a fox. (Laughter) And he is going to bring to the campaign, I think, a delightful sense of humor which we are going to need in the next eight weeks. (Laughter.)

I think we have in these two men the potential of a winning combination and I am looking forward to working with both of them in the next several weeks.

Thank you.

MORE

THE PRESIDENT: Last, but not least, as I said, a man who has done a super job as Vice President. I would like to introduce to all of you, so he can indicate his feelings, the Vice President of the United States.

VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER: Mr. President, Vice President-designate, distinguished ladies and gentlemen:

To me, this is a very important moment for every American and for the world because the United States has been through, as have other countries of the world, a most difficult period. If we think back two years ago where this country was and where the world was and think what President Ford has done to restore the confidence of the American people in Government, to restore the vitality and dynamism of our economy, to stop inflation, to move forward on employment, to regain the confidence of the leaders of the world, of the people of the world and America -- America has been waiting and the world has been waiting -- for this decision. I think we are fortunate, ladies and gentlemen, that the people of this country and, therefore, the people of the world, are going to have the chance to select these two leaders to carry on the kind of responsible Government in which America, and the world, can have trust and confidence; to preserve freedom, respect for dignity and equality of opportunity for all.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: I thought you might like to get a picture of the beauty of the Ford-Dole team and I think both Bob and I couldn't be happier to have them out helping and assisting. And believe me, the Ford-Dole team is not just the two of us, we have four of us.

We have some other members of the Ford family -- Mike and Gayle, Steve and Susan, I don't know whether we have got Jack or not, yet, but he, as you all know, has been doing quite a bit -- and Michelle, Senator Laxalt's daughter. I think you ought to get a good chance to see what this kind of outfit is going to be and we are going to get Bob's daughter. We didn't have much time to get that coordinated, but she will be here.

Thank you all very much. You will see a lot of us. We will be out there battling. We will be out there doing a good job. I couldn't be happier having Bob Dole as Vice President.

Thank you all very much.

END

(AT 12:17 P.M. CDT)

[8/19/76]

MARY ELIZABETH HANFORD DOLE

Mary Elizabeth Hanford Dole, wife of Senator Robert Dole, was born on July 29, 1936, in Salisbury, North Carolina. She was graduated from Duke University, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She has also studied at Oxford University and holds an M. A. from the Harvard Graduate School of Education and an L. L. B. from Harvard Law School. She married Senator Robert J. Dole on December 6, 1975.

Mrs. Dole became Deputy Director of the Office of Consumer Affairs upon its creation in February, 1971, and before that served as Associate Director for Legislative Affairs, then as Executive Director of its predecessor organization, the President's Committee on Consumer Interests. Prior to that, she was engaged in the private practice of law and served one year as Staff Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare. She became a member of the Federal Trade Commission on November 26, 1973.

In 1972, Mrs. Dole was the recipient of the Arthur S. Flemming Award for outstanding Government service. In 1970, she was selected as an Outstanding Young Woman of America and the Outstanding Young Woman of the District of Columbia.

8/19/76

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[8/19/76]

SENATOR ROBERT J. DOLE

Robert J. Dole, born in Russell, Kansas, July 22, 1923, son of Mr. and Mrs. Doran R. Dole; married Mary Elizabeth Hanford, member, Federal Trade Commission, December 6, 1975; one daughter, Robin; graduate of Russell public schools; attended University of Kansas, Lawrence; A. B. Washburn Municipal University, Topeka, 1952; L. L. B., Washburn, 1952; enlisted U. S. Army, 1943; served 5-1/2 years in World War II as 10th Mountain Division platoon leader in Italy; twice wounded and twice decorated for "heroic achievement"; discharged with rank of captain, 1948; at age 26, elected to Kansas Legislature, 1951-53; elected four terms as Russell County attorney, 1953-61; elected to U. S. House of Representatives, 1960; reelected 1962, 1964, and 1966; elected to U. S. Senate 1968; reelected 1974; Republican National Committee chairman, 1971-73; adviser, U. S. delegation to United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization Conference, Rome, Italy, 1975; member, Congressional delegation to survey food crisis in India at request of President Johnson, 1966; Congressional delegation to study Arab refugee problem, Middle East, 1967; member, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Disabled American Veterans; member of the board for National Society of Autistic Children; member, Advisory Committee of the National Association for Retarded Children.

8/19/76

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August 19, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Kansas City, Missouri)

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

Bus transportation to the Kemper Arena for the President's Acceptance Speech will be available this evening for White House Press credential holders only. The buses will depart from the Grand Avenue entrance to the Crown Hotel at 8:00 p.m. Members of the Press planning to use the buses should assemble in the Press Filing Center at 7:45 p.m. Thursday. Only those with White House press credentials will be able to board the buses. There will be a reserved section of gallery seats for the evening's Convention session, for all bus passengers, with no convention credentials needed.

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OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
AT THE
CROWN CENTER HOTEL

THE LOBBY

2:25 A.M. CDT

It is really awfully hard to express adequately my deep appreciation, that of Betty, all of the family. As we have traveled in every one of the 50 States, you have been wonderful in helping and assisting. You have been tremendous here as an inspiration in the closing minutes of a tough ball game.

When things didn't go as well as we would have liked, we knew that we had literally millions and millions of people -- young and old -- all kinds of Americans who were out there willing to go to the mat to help us and I want you to know that helped us get through and win, and win on November 2nd.

I want you to know that I just returned from a meeting with Governor Reagan. I complimented him on a real good campaign. (Laughter) I indicated that we certainly wanted him to be standing shoulder to shoulder with us in the months ahead. And I am glad to report that he indicated he would be there fighting just as hard as I am.

So, I think we can leave that arena tomorrow night unified, vigorous, determined to win for the American people on November 2nd.

Thank you.

END

AT 2:30 A.M. CDT)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 19, 1976

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
TO THE
1976 REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

KEMPER ARENA

10:40 P.M. CDT.

Mr. Chairman, delegates and alternates of this Republican Convention:

I am honored by your nomination, and I accept it, with pride, with gratitude and with a total will to win a great victory for the American people. We will wage a winning campaign in every region of this country from the snowy banks of Minnesota to the sandy plains of Georgia.

We concede not a single State. We concede not a single vote. This evening I am proud to stand before this great Convention as the first incumbent since Dwight D. Eisenhower who can tell the American people: America is at peace.

Tonight, I can tell you straightaway this nation is sound, this nation is secure, this nation is on the march to full economic recovery, and a better quality of life for all Americans.

I will tell you one more thing. This year the issues are on our side. I am ready, I am eager to go before the American people and debate the real issues face to face with Jimmy Carter.

The American people have a right to know first hand exactly where both of us stand. I am deeply grateful to those who stood with me in winning the nomination of the party whose cause I have served all of my adult life. I respect the convictions of those who want a change in Washington. I want a change, too. After 22 years of majority misrule, let's change the United States Congress.

My gratitude tonight reaches far beyond this Arena to countless friends whose confidence, hard work and unselfish support have brought me to this moment. It would be unfair to single out anyone, but may I make an exception for my wonderful family -- Mike, Jack, Steve and Susan, and especially my dear wife Betty.

MORE

(OVER)

We Republicans have had some tough competition. We not only preach the virtues of competition, we practice them. But tonight, we come together not on a battlefield to conclude a cease-fire, but to join forces on a training field that has conditioned us all for the rugged contest ahead.

Let me say this from the bottom of my heart. After the scrimmages of the past few months, it really feels good to have Ron Reagan on the same side of the line.

To strengthen our championship line-up, the Convention has wisely chosen one of the ablest Americans as our next Vice President, Senator Bob Dole of Kansas. With his help, with your help, with the help of millions of Americans who cherish peace, who want freedom preserved, prosperity shared, and pride in America, we will win this election.

I seek not a Republican victory, but a victory for the American people. You at home listening tonight, you are the people who pay the taxes and obey the laws. You are the people who make our system work. You are the people who make America what it is.

It is from your ranks that I come and on your side I stand. Something wonderful happened to this country of ours the past two years. We all came to realize it on the Fourth of July. Together, out of years of turmoil and tragedy, wars and riots, assassinations and wrongdoing in high places, America recaptured the spirit of 1776.

We saw again the pioneer vision of our revolutionary founders and our immigrant ancestors. Their vision was of a free man and free woman enjoying a limited Government and unlimited opportunity.

The mandate I want in 1976 is to make this vision a reality, but it will take the voices and the votes of many more Americans who are not Republicans to make that mandate binding and my mission possible.

I have been called an unelected President, an accidental President. We may even hear that again from the other party, despite the fact that I was welcomed and endorsed by an overwhelming majority of their elected representatives in the Congress who certified my fitness to our highest office.

MORE

Having become Vice President and President without expecting or seeking either, I have a special feeling toward these high offices. To me, the Presidency and the Vice Presidency were not prizes to be won, but a duty to be done.

So, tonight, it is not the power and the glamor of the Presidency that leads me to ask for another four years. It is something every hard-working American will understand -- the challenge of a job well begun, but far from finished.

Two years ago, on August 9, 1974, I placed my hand on the Bible, which Betty held, and took the same Constitutional oath that was administered to George Washington. I had faith in our people, in our institutions, and in myself.

"My fellow Americans," I said, "our long national nightmare is over." It was an hour in our history that troubled our minds and tore at our hearts. Anger and hatred had risen to dangerous levels, dividing friends and families. The polarization of our political order had aroused unworthy passions of reprisal and revenge. Our governmental system was closer to a stalemate than at any time since Abraham Lincoln took that same oath of office.

Our economy was in the throes of runaway inflation, taking us headlong into the worst recession since Franklin D. Roosevelt took the same oath. On that dark day I told my fellow countrymen, "I am acutely aware that you have not elected me as your President by your ballots, so I ask you to confirm me as your President with your prayers."

On a marble fireplace in the White House is carved a prayer which John Adams wrote. It concludes, "May none but honest and wise men ever rule under this roof."

Since I have resided in that historic house, I have tried to live by that prayer. I faced many tough problems. I probably made some mistakes, but on balance, America and Americans have made an incredible comeback since August, 1974.

Nobody can honestly say otherwise, and the plain truth is that the great progress we have made at home and abroad was in spite of the majority who run the Congress of the United States.

For two years, I have stood for all the people against a vote-hungry, free-spending Congressional majority on Capitol Hill. Fifty-five times I vetoed extravagant and unwise legislation; 45 times I made those vetoes stick. Those vetoes have saved American taxpayers billions and billions of dollars. I am against the big tax spender and for the little taxpayer.

MORE

I called for a permanent tax cut, coupled with spending reductions, to stimulate the economy and relieve hard-pressed middle income taxpayers. Your personal exemption must be raised from \$750 to \$1,000.

The other party's platform talks about tax reform, but there is one big problem -- their own Congress won't act.

I called for reasonable Constitutional restrictions on court ordered busing of school children, but the other party's platform concedes that busing should be a last resort. But their's is the same problem -- their own Congress won't act.

I called for a major overhaul of criminal laws to crack down on crime and illegal drugs. The other party's platform deplores America's \$80 billion cost of crime. There is the problem again -- their own Congress won't act.

The other party's platform talks about a strong defense. Now, here is the other side of the problem -- their own Congress did act. They slashed \$50 billion from our national defense needs in the last ten years.

My friends, Washington is not the problem, their Congress is the problem. You know, the President of the United States is not a magician who can wave a wand or sign a paper that will instantly win a war or cure a recession or make bureaucracy disappear. The President has immense powers under the Constitution, but all of them ultimately come from the American people and their mandate to him.

That is why, tonight, I turn to the American people and ask not only for your prayers, but also for your strength and your support, for your voice and for your vote. I come before you with a two-year record of performance, without your mandate. I offer you a four-year pledge of greater performance with your mandate.

As Governor Al Smith used to say, 'Let's look at the record.' Two years ago, inflation was 12 percent. Sales were off, plants were shut down, thousands were being laid off every week. Fear of the future was throttling down our economy and threatening millions of families.

Let's look at the record since August of 1974. Inflation has been cut in half. Payrolls are up. Profits are up. Production is up. Purchases are up. Since the recession was turned around, almost 4 million of our fellow Americans have found new jobs or got their old jobs back. This year, more men and women have jobs than ever before in the history of the United States.

MORE

Confidence has returned and we are in the full surge of sound recovery through steady prosperity. Two years ago, America was mired in withdrawal from Southeast Asia. A decade of Congresses had short-changed our global defenses and threatened our strategic posture. Mounting tension between Israel and the Arab nations made another war seem inevitable. The whole world watched and wondered where America was going. Did we, in our domestic turmoil, have the will, the stamina and the unity to stand up for freedom?

Look at the record since August, two years ago. Today, America is at peace and seeks peace for all nations. Not a single American is at war anywhere on the face of this earth tonight.

Our ties with Western Europe and Japan, economic as well as military, were never stronger. Our relations with Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union and Mainland China are firm, vigilant and forward-looking. Policies I have initiated offer sound progress for the peoples of the Pacific, Africa and Latin America.

Israel and Egypt, both trusting the United States, have taken an historic step that promises an eventual just settlement for the whole Middle East.

The world now respects America's policy of peace through strength. The United States is again the confident leader of the free world. Nobody questions our dedication to peace but nobody doubts our willingness to use our strength when our vital interests are at stake, and we will.

I called for an up to date, powerful Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines that will keep America secure for decades. A strong military posture is always the best insurance for peace. But America's strength has never rested on arms alone. It is rooted in our mutual commitment of our citizens and leaders in the highest standards of ethics and morality and in the spiritual renewal which our Nation is undergoing right now.

Two years ago, people's confidence in their highest officials, to whom they had overwhelmingly entrusted power, had twice been shattered. Losing faith in the word of their elected leaders, Americans lost some of their own faith in themselves.

Again, let us look at the record from August, 1974. From the start, my Administration has been open, candid, forthright. While my entire public and private life was under searching examination for the Vice Presidency, I reaffirmed my life-long conviction that truth is the glue that holds Government together -- not only Government, but civilization, itself. I have demanded honesty, decency and permanent integrity from everybody in the Executive Branch of the Government. The House and Senate have the same duty.

The American people will not accept a double standard in the United States Congress. Those who make our laws today must not debase the reputation of our great legislative bodies which have given us such giants as Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, Sam Rayburn and Robert A. Taft.

Whether in the nation's capital, the State capital or city hall, private morality and public trust must go together. From August of 1974 to August of 1976, the record shows steady progress upward toward prosperity, peace and public trust.

My record is one of progress, not platitude. My record is one of specifics, not smiles. My record is one of performance, not promises. It is a record I am proud to run on. It is a record the American people -- Democrat, Independent and Republicans alike -- will support on November 2.

For the next four years I pledge to you that I will hold to the steady course we have begun. But, I have no intention of standing on the record alone. We will continue winning the fight against inflation. We will go on reducing the dead weight and impudence of bureaucracy.

We will submit a balanced budget by 1978. We will improve the quality of life at work and play and in our homes and in our neighborhoods. We will not abandon our cities. We will encourage urban programs which insure safety in the streets, create healthy environment and restore neighborhood pride.

We will return control of our children's education to parents and local school authorities. We will make sure that the party of Lincoln remains the party of equal rights. We will create a tax structure that is fair for all of our citizens, ones that preserve the continuity in the family home, the family farm and the family business.

We will ensure the integrity of the Social Security system and improve Medicare so that our older citizens can enjoy the health and the happiness that they have earned. There is no reason they should have to go broke just to get well.

We will make sure that this rich nation does not neglect citizens who are less fortunate, but provide for their needs with compassion and with dignity. We will reduce the growth in the cost of Government and allow individual breadwinners and businesses to keep more of the money that they earn.

MORE

We will create a climate in which our economy will provide a meaningful job for everyone who wants to work and a decent standard of life for all Americans. We will insure that all our young people have a better chance in life than we had, an education they can use and a career they can be proud of.

We will carry out a farm policy that assures a fair market price for the farmer, encourages full production, leads to record exports and eases the hunger within the human family. We will never use the bounty of America's farmers as a pawn in international diplomacy. There will be no embargoes.

We will continue our strong leadership to bring peace, justice and economic progress where there is turmoil, especially in the Middle East. We will build a safe and saner world, through patient negotiations and dependable arms agreements which reduce the danger of conflict and horror of thermonuclear war.

While I am President, we will not return to a collision course that could reduce civilization to ashes. We will build an America where people feel rich in spirit as well as in worldly goods. We will build an America where people feel proud about themselves and about their country.

We will build on performance, not promises; experience, not expediency; real progress instead of mysterious plans to be revealed in some dim and distant future.

The American people are wise, wiser than our opponents think. They know who pays for every campaign promise. They are not afraid of the truth. We tell them the truth.

From start to finish, our campaign will be credible; it will be responsible. We will come out fighting, and we will win. Yes, we have all seen the polls and the pundits who say our party is dead. I have heard that before. So did Harry Truman. I will tell you what I think. The only polls that count are the polls the American people go to on November 2.

Right now, I predict that the American people are going to say that tonight, "Jerry, you have done a good job. Keep right on doing it."

MORE

As I try in my imagination to look into the homes where families are watching the end of this great Convention, I can't tell which faces are Republicans, which are Democrats and which are Independent. I cannot see their color or their creed. I see only Americans.

I see Americans who love their husbands, their wives and their children. I see Americans who love their country for what it has been and what it must become. I see Americans who work hard, but who are willing to sacrifice all they have worked for to keep their children and their country free.

I see Americans who in their own quiet way pray for peace among nations and peace among themselves. We do love our neighbors and we do forgive those who have trespassed against us.

I see a new generation that knows what is right and knows itself, a generation determined to preserve its ideals, its environment, our nation and the world.

My fellow Americans, I like what I see. I have no fear for the future of this great country. As we go forward together, I promise you once more what I promised before: To uphold the Constitution, to do what is right as God gives me to see the right and to do the very best that I can for America.

God helping me, I won't let you down.

Thank you very much.

END

(AT 11:18 P.M. CDT)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 19, 1976

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Kansas City, Missouri)

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
TO THE
1976 REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION
KEMPER ARENA

10:40 P.M. CDT

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MORE

As I try in my imagination to look into the homes where families are watching the end of this great Convention, I can't tell which faces are Republicans, which are Democrats and which are Independent. I cannot see their color or their creed. I see only Americans.

I see Americans who love their husbands, their wives and their children. I see Americans who love their country for what it has been and what it must become. I see Americans who work hard, but who are willing to sacrifice all they have worked for to keep their children and their country free.

I see Americans who in their own quiet way pray for peace among nations and peace among themselves. We do love our neighbors and we do forgive those who have trespassed against us.

I see a new generation that knows what is right and knows itself, a generation determined to preserve its ideals, its environment, our nation and the world.

My fellow Americans, I like what I see. I have no fear for the future of this great country. As we go forward together, I promise you once more what I promised before: To uphold the Constitution, to do what is right as God gives me to see the right and to do the very best that I can for America.

God helping me, I won't let you down.

Thank you very much.

END (AT 11:18 P.M. CDT)