

PRESS POOL #27  
PFC RECEPTION AND MAYORS RECEPTION

Kent McGough, Ohio Republican State Chairman, said there were county committee leaders all over the state on hand and told the President "On June 8, we are going to give you a resounding victory." He said, "Our people from Governor Rhodes and Senator Taft, as well as our congressional delegation, all the way down to the precinct are going all out for you." There were about 200 present.

The President told them he was grateful for the help of the Republican leadership and that he wants the nomination for two reasons. "If I'm nominated, I can do a much better job than anyone else in helping elect other Republicans to public office." He said that if a governor or a President is going to do a good job, he needs legislature or a congress made up of members of his own party in the majority. The second reason he wants the nomination, he said, "I think I've done a good job."

At the mayors' reception, McGough said the President has been endorsed by 42 mayors, and these include nearly every major city in this state. Among them are Cincinnati, Cleveland, Akron, Youngstown, and Dayton. One of those present was Clifton Brown, a black, who was Mayor of Marysville, population 5,000. Somebody gave him a basket of apples when he came in.

The President made a pitch to the mayors to "Light a fire under this Congress on general revenue sharing." He said while public officials have supported it, the program "Hasn't gotten a groundswell of public support."

Declaring that cities will need to either increase taxes or cut services if the program is not adopted by Congress, Ford predicted "It will be a real shock to lots of people." He said Congress, "Dawdles and dawdles and dawdles." He urged the mayors to tell the people "A Democratic-dominated Congress is about to triple municipal government and state government." Not all of the 42 mayors were present.

Tom Foley - U.S. News & World Report