

REMARKS BY GOVERNOR EDWARDS  
REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION  
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI  
AUGUST 16, 1976, 7:45 P.M.

MADAM CHAIR-LADY, MARY LOUIS SMITH, FELLOW DELEGATES, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, MY FELLOW AMERICANS; I AM INDEED HONORED TO SHARE THIS EXCITING EXPERIENCE OF ~~THIS~~ REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION WITH YOU.

I AM HAPPY TO STAND HERE TONIGHT AND EXPRESS MY PRIDE IN BEING A MEMBER OF THE ~~POLITICAL~~ PARTY THAT HAS BEEN THE GUARDIAN OF FISCAL INTEGRITY, THE PROTECTOR OF THE FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM, A STALWART DEFENDER OF OUR NATION'S CONSTITUTION, AND AN ADVOCATE OF A STRONG MILITARY DEFENSE, THAT WILL KEEP THE PEACE AND INSURE THAT WE WILL NEVER HAVE TO CRAWL ON OUR KNEES TO ASK FAVORS OF OUR ENEMIES.

THE BATTLE AHEAD IS A TOUGH ONE. <sup>MUST</sup> WE MUST FIGHT TO PREVENT THE DEMOCRAT DOMINATED CONGRESS FROM FURTHER WEAKENING THE RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS AND CONTINUING ITS TRAGIC COURSE OF WASTEFUL SPENDING AND HOLLOW PROMISES.

WE ARE MOST FORTUNATE TO HAVE TWO ~~VERY~~ DECENT, HONORABLE, CAPABLE MEN OFFERING THEMSELVES TO THIS CONVENTION TO BECOME THE NOMINEE OF OUR PARTY.

THESE MEN HAVE RECORDS OF PROVEN ACCOMPLISHMENTS/-- ONE IN WASHINGTON, THE OTHER IN THE GREAT STATE OF CALIFORNIA, THEY ARE MEN OF RESPONSIBILITY, / OF COURAGE / AND GREAT MORAL STRENGTH. THEY ARE MEN WHO HAVE A STRONG BELIEF IN GOD. THEY ARE MEN THE NATION CAN BE PROUD OF / AND PLACE THEIR FAITH IN.

I KNOW THAT EACH DELEGATE HERE TONIGHT HAS A FAVORITE CANDIDATE / -- I HAVE MINE AND YOU HAVE YOURS. AS WE CARRY OUT OUR DELIBERATIONS THIS WEEK, / LET'S DO IT WITH FEVOR AND DEDICATION TO THE CANDIDATE OF OUR CHOICE, / AND AFTER THE FINAL VOTE IS CAST ON WEDNESDAY, / LET'S ALL JOIN TOGETHER, / BEHIND THE NOMINEE OF THIS CONVENTION / AND MAKE SURE HE IS ELECTED IN NOVEMBER.

WE CANNOT HAVE // THIS COUNTRY CANNOT AFFORD / AN IRRESPONSIBLE DEMOCRAT PRESIDENT / TO GO ALONG WITH THE SAME KIND OF CONGRESS,

ONE THING I'VE LEARNED IN POLITICS // - THAT IS, / POLITICAL MEMORIES ARE OFTEN VERY SHORT. MANY PEOPLE HAVE FORGOTTEN THE TERRIBLE PROBLEMS THAT EXISTED IN THIS COUNTRY DURING THE YEARS OF PREVIOUS DEMOCRAT ADMINISTRATIONS // YES, TOO MANY ~~WAS~~ HAVE FORGOTTEN THE YEARS OF CAMPUS UNREST, / THE ~~WAR~~ ANARCHY IN THE STREETS, / THE PROTEST MARCHES, / THE RIOTS, / THE BURNING, / THE ENTRY INTO AN UNFORTUNATE WAR IN SOUTHEAST ASIA // AND THE ESCALATION OF THAT WAR -- THE TERRIBLE SACRIFICES OF SO MANY BRAVE MEN. SACRIFICES MADE WITHOUT GOALS ~~AND OBJECTIVES~~ OF VICTORY.

MIGHT I REMIND YOU ALL / THAT IN THE LAST CENTURY / NO REPUBLICAN PRESIDENT HAS LED OUR NATION INTO A WAR / AND IN THE TWO MOST RECENT CONFLICTS THEY WERE REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTS WHO GOT US OUT.

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IT WAS A REPUBLICAN ADMINISTRATION THAT QUIETED DOWN THE CAMPUS UNREST / AND RESTORED PEACE AND HARMONY TO THE STREETS OF AMERICA. IT WAS A REPUBLICAN ADMINISTRATION THAT / FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS / BROUGHT "BALANCE OF POWER" / DIPLOMACY / BETWEEN THE COMMUNIST SUPER POWERS / MAKING OUR PEACE MORE SECURE. AND LESS EXPENSIVE

\* YES, IT WAS REPUBLICAN ADMINISTRATIONS THAT <sup>RECONSTITUTED</sup> ~~RESTRICTED~~ THE SUPREME COURT / BY APPOINTMENTS OF STRICT CONSTRUCTIONISTS / WHO HAVE A RESPECT FOR OUR CONSTITUTION. A COURT WITH A SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY.

MANY MAY HAVE FORGOTTEN THAT IT WAS OUR REPUBLICAN ADMINISTRATION THAT BROUGHT OUR <sup>PRISONERS</sup> ~~PEOPLE~~ HOME FROM THEIR BAMBOO CAGES -- AND HOW PROUD WE WERE WHEN THOSE FIRST BRAVE MEN STOOD / ONCE AGAIN ON AMERICAN SOIL / AND SALUTED THE FLAG WHILE ALL THE WORLD WATCHED.

MTA. <sup>WAS</sup> IT ~~HAS BEEN~~ A REPUBLICAN ADMINISTRATION THAT RECENTLY USED THE VETO POWER ON 54 OCCASIONS // SUCCESSFULLY SAVING THE TAXPAYERS OF AMERICA OVER \$13 BILLION.

DESPITE ~~THE ROADBLOCKS PLACED IN ITS PATH~~ THE DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS / THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION HAS WORKED TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF INFLATION / AND TO REVITALIZE OUR NATION'S ECONOMY.

<sup>Pause</sup> INFLATION STILL REMAINS OUR BIG PROBLEM / AND IT IS CAUSED BY THE WILD, IRRESPONSIBLE SPENDING OF A DEMOCRAT CONGRESS. EVER SINCE THE DAYS OF THEIR GREAT SOCIETY / -- LARGE GROUPS OF PEOPLE HAVE BEEN GIVEN ALL THE NECESSITIES OF LIFE / WITHOUT REQUIRING <sup>THEM</sup> ~~THESE PEOPLE~~ TO PRODUCE GOODS AND SERVICES IN RETURN. THIS HAS CREATED AN ABUNDANCE OF MONEY / AND A SHORTAGE OF GOODS AND SERVICES -- UNDER THE LAW OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND / ~~AS LONG AS WE HAVE THESE "GIVE AWAY"~~

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~~PROGRAMS OPERATING~~ / INFLATION WILL CONTINUE TO EAT AWAY AT THE BUYING POWER OF THE WORKINGMAN'S PAYCHECK.

BY THE WORKING MAN I MEAN THAT <sup>Forgetters</sup> MIDDLE AMERICAN, / - MALE OR FEMALE // WHO LABORS ALL WEEK PRODUCING GOODS AND SERVICES. <sup>THOSE OF</sup> ~~THE PEOPLE~~ WHO STRUGGLE TO CLOTHE. / EDUCATE. / FEED. / AND HOUSE THEIR FAMILIES; // PEOPLE WHO GO TO CHURCH ON THE WEEKEND / AND RETURN TO WORK ON MONDAY KNOWING THAT 43% OF THEIR LABORS GO TO A GOVERNMENT THAT IS INSENSITIVE TO THEIR PROBLEMS. // WHILE OUR COUNTRY CRIES OUT FOR LESS GOVERNMENT -- LOOK WHAT THE DEMOCRAT RECORD IS. CONGRESS HAS CREATED 236 NEW FEDERAL AGENCIES IN THE PAST 25 YEARS; <sup>AND</sup> // THEY HAVE INCREASED OUR FEDERAL DEFICIT BY MORE THAN \$100 BILLION IN THE LAST TWO YEARS.

LET'S REVIEW OUR BUDGET HISTORY. IT TOOK US 180 YEARS TO REACH AN ANNUAL BUDGET OF \$100 BILLION -- THIS HAPPENED IN 1962, IT TOOK ONLY 9 MORE YEARS TO REACH \$200 BILLION. THIS HAPPENED IN 1971. IT TOOK ONLY 4 YEARS MORE TO REACH \$300 BILLION. THIS TOOK PLACE IN 1975 / AND THIS YEAR IT <sup>WILL</sup> ~~WILL~~ EXCEED \$350 BILLION.

I NEED NOT REMIND THOSE PRESENT / THAT DEMOCRATS CONTROLLED THE CONGRESS DURING THIS ENTIRE PERIOD OF IRRESPONSIBLE BUDGET GROWTH.

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X I CAN'T HELP BUT BE REMINDED OF THE WORDS OF PROFESSOR ~~ALEXANDER~~ TYTLER SPOKEN OVER 210 YEARS AGO. I THINK THEY BEAR REPEATING AT THIS TIME.

"A DEMOCRACY CANNOT EXIST AS A PERMANENT FORM OF GOVERNMENT. IT CAN ONLY EXIST UNTIL THE VOTERS DISCOVER THAT THEY CAN VOTE THEMSELVES <sup>GIFTS</sup> ~~LARGES~~ FROM THE PUBLIC TREASURY. FROM THAT MOMENT ON, THE MAJORITY ALWAYS VOTES FOR THE

THE CANDIDATES PROMISING THE MOST  
BENEFITS FROM THE PUBLIC TREASURY/  
WITH THE RESULT/THAT A DEMOCRACY  
ALWAYS COLLAPSES OVER LOOSE FISCAL  
POLICY, /ALWAYS FOLLOWED BY A DIC-  
TATORSHIP. THE AVERAGE AGE OF THE  
WORLD'S GREATEST CIVILIZATION HAS  
BEEN 200 YEARS."

*THIS IS A VERY SOBERING THOUGHT.*

IN THIS BICENTENNIAL YEAR/WE SHOULD REFLECT ON WHAT AMERICANS WANT, /  
AND I THINK THEY WANT LESS GOVERNMENT, /MORE CONTROL OF THEIR OWN  
AFFAIRS, /MORE SAY SO AS TO HOW THEY SPEND THEIR HARD EARNED MONEY,  
NOT HOW GOVERNMENT SAYS THEY SHOULD SPEND IT.

IN WASHINGTON TODAY/THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE PAYING FOR 63,000  
BUREAUCRATS /IN REGULATORY AGENCIES ALONE, TELLING THE AMERICAN  
PEOPLE WHAT THEY CAN NOT DO. I HAVE LOOKED IN VAIN TO FIND ONE  
BUREAUCRAT WHOSE JOB IT IS TO SAY WHAT WE CAN DO. AMERICA CAN NOT  
LONG ENDURE, /IF THIS OPPRESSIVE OVER REGULATION CONTINUES. AMERICA  
WAS BUILT ON A "CAN-DO" PHILOSOPHY <sup>AND</sup> /OUR PARTY MUST CONTINUE THE  
FIGHT TO RESTORE THIS PHILOSOPHY TO THE FOREFRONT OF AMERICAN  
THINKING.

THE ONLY WAY TO DO THIS IS TO WREST THE CONTROL OF CONGRESS  
FROM THE DEMOCRATS /AND ABOVE ALL, /ELECT A REPUBLICAN PRESIDENT  
WHO WILL CARRY-ON OUR PHILOSOPHY OF LESS GOVERNMENT SPENDING /AND  
LESS REGULATION OF OUR LIVES.

OUR ECONOMY IS GROWING STRONGER -- TODAY 3.5 MILLION MORE AMERICANS ARE WORKING THAN EVER BEFORE. THERE ARE FEWER HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS UNEMPLOYED AT THIS VERY MOMENT THAN AT ANY TIME SINCE 1968 AND WE ARE AT PEACE.

OUR PHILOSOPHY OF FREE ENTERPRISE / OR PRIVATE SECTOR GROWTH / RATHER THAN ARTIFICIAL GOVERNMENT SPENDING GROWTH / WILL CONTINUE TO REDUCE OUR NATION'S UNEMPLOYMENT, WILL INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY AND BRING INFLATION UNDER CONTROL.

THIS BICENTENNIAL YEAR, / OUR TWO HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY, IS INDEED A YEAR OF NATIONAL DESTINY -- THE THINGS WE DO, THE ACTIONS WE TAKE / WILL EFFECT THE WORLD AND ITS FUTURE GENERATIONS. LET'S ASK GOD'S GUIDANCE OVER THESE DELIBERATIONS / AS WE REDEDICATE OURSELVES TO THE PRESERVATION OF THOSE GREAT PRINCIPLES THAT BROUGHT OUR NATION OUT OF A WILDERNESS TO WHAT IT IS TODAY.

TOGETHER, / UNITED IN PURPOSE / AND WITH THE HELP OF THE ALMIGHTY, AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE // THE MIGHT, AND ~~THE~~ MAJESTY OF AMERICA

~~WILL~~ LONG ENDURE.  
*SHALL*