

One hundred years ago; our Party met in this very city to nominate a great leader. As President of a war-torn land, he was excoriated and pilloried. He was criticized and maligned. He was caricatured and cursed. But with humility and firm resolve, he ~~stayed~~ ^{held the} course. The Union was saved. The slaves were freed. The words aimed at him ~~have~~ faded away. There remains the imperishable memory of a humble, firm and constant man - Abraham Lincoln.

Eight years ago, our Party met in this same city to nominate a great leader. He too has been criticized and lampooned. He too assailed and impugned. *He too mocked and*

When he came to leadership, a kind of moral fatigue had settled upon the land. The vitality of our faith in our own institutions had been weakened. Leaders were charged ~~off~~ first down one extreme road and then another. Government had become defeatist. There was a yearning to get back on course.

To this vacuum, he brought a new faith, a new simplicity and a fundamental political credo. It was simple enough to vex his pontifical critics and basic enough to keep him high in the hearts of his countrymen.

First came his dedication to peace. With humility and constancy, he pursued this goal. At great risk and with genuine sacrifice, he journeyed to far places to let the warmth of his personality dissolve unfounded fears and doubts, and persuade other peoples of our earnest desire to move steadily toward this golden goal of mankind. *Peace or co-annihilation*

Secondly, came his devotion to individual freedom. He knew that the menace to freedom lay not in the strength of collectivism and its devotees but in the confusion of the defenders of freedom. Over and over, he re-energized that cause.

Third came his resolve to preserve the solvency of this nation. He knew that a nation's economy could be stable only if built upon a sound base. He knew that the equities and the hopes of little people who had invested in homes and farms and insurance policies could only be conserved against the tides of inflation and instability through sound policies. To follow that course required high courage. It meant disapproval of measures with great group appeal. It meant contriving a balanced budget and fighting for that budget. *And he has not faltered*

Fourth, but of equal importance with these other concepts, ^{was} his devotion to national security and defense. It is a nation's oldest problem. The President sought a balanced defense. Special pleaders have sought to upset it. Self-generated groups have issued critical reports. Military men have forsaken government responsibility to accept civilian employment.

ADDRESS OF THE HONORABLE EVERETT MCKINLEY DIRKSEN
MINORITY LEADER, UNITED STATES SENATE
INTRODUCING
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
TUESDAY, JULY 26, 8:50 P.M. CDT

Mr. Chairman.

One hundred years ago the Republican party met in this very city to nominate a great leader -- Abraham Lincoln. As President of a war-torn land, he was excoriated and pilloried. He was criticised and maligned. He was caricatured and cursed. But with humility, determination and firm resolve, he held the course. The Union was saved. The slaves were freed. The wounds were healed. The words aimed at him faded away. There remains and there will always remain the imperishable memory of a humble, firm and constant man with a deep sense of mission -- Abraham Lincoln.

Eight years ago our party met in this same city to nominate another great leader. He too has been criticised and lampooned. He too has been assailed and impugned. He too has been mocked and castigated.

When he came to leadership, a kind of moral fatigue had settled upon the land. The vitality of our faith in our own institutions had been weakened. Previous leaders had charged first down one extreme road and then another. Government had become defeatist. There developed a deep yearning to get the nation back on course.

To this vacuum he brought a new faith, a new simplicity and a fundamental political credo. The articles of his faith were simple enough to vex his critics and basic enough to keep him deeply enshrined in the hearts of his countrymen.

First came his unremitting dedication to peace. With humility and constancy he pursued this goal. At great risk and with genuine sacrifice he journeyed to far places to let the warmth of his personality dissolve unfounded fears and doubts and persuade other peoples of our earnest desire to move steadily toward this golden goal of mankind. He knew that the alternative to peace might be co-annihilation.

Then came his devotion to individual freedom. He knew that the menace to freedom was not in the strength of collectivism and its devotees, but in the confusion of the defenders of freedom. Over and over, he energized and reasserted this cause.

Then came his resolve to preserve the solvency of this nation. He knew that a nation's economy could be stable only if built upon a sound base. He knew that the equities and hopes of little people who had invested in homes, in farms, and in insurance policies could only be conserved against the tides of inflation and instability through sound policies. To follow that course required high courage. It meant disapproval of measures with great group

political appeal. It meant contriving and fighting for a balanced budget. And in this fight he never faltered.

Then came his devotion to national security and defense. Security is any nation's oldest problem And it could be our greatest problem in the years ahead. The President sought a balanced defense. Special pleaders in some cases undertook to upset it. Self-generated groups have issued critical reports. Military men have stepped from government to a civilian role where they might air their special views and frustrations in book or magazine form. But the people -- the people who really are the country -- did not lose faith in the military judgment of the man who was the grand captain of the greatest military venture in the history of mankind.

Finally, he was ever mindful of human needs. So often he uttered the sentiment once expressed by Lincoln that "the legitimate object of government is to do for a community of people whatever they need to have done, but cannot do at all, or cannot do so well for themselves, in their separate and individual capacities".

This then was the simple credo of a great leader -- peace, individual liberty, solvency, security, and devotion to all of the legitimate objects of government.

It has been my privilege to be a part of his team and help him carry the flag, and I am proud and honored to present him -- the President of the United States.