

The American people are a great people, proud of their individuality and diversity. But still our strength is in unity. And now, as ever, a unity of leadership is imperative to restore the unity of America.

And unity in our relationship depends on unity of leadership. Richard Nixon offers that kind of leadership, and I am honored to share in it.

Now I want to assure you of one thing: As a political animal, and a relatively sensitive individual who hopes he will never lose his sensitivity, I am not unaware of what took place in this great Convention Hall tonight.

I am aware that the reasons that motivated it were not directed at me in any personal sense and were merely responsive of the opinions of those that took part in the nomination of that great Governor of Michigan whom I consider my personal friend — Governor Romney.

Those motives were simply to provide the strongest ticket for the Republican Party in November. I recognize also that a Vice-Presidential nominee does not come to the successful fruition of his nomination by virtue of his personality, or his attractiveness, or his ability to generate a wave of enthusiasm on his own.

He comes here because he is the selection of the man who does all those things on his own — the Presidential nominee. And I am privileged that that great future President of the United States, Richard M. Nixon, has seen fit to invest in me his confidence to do the job.

But I will not be satisfied, ladies and gentlemen, I will not be satisfied under any circumstances until I prove to you that I am capable of doing a job for the Republican Party and the American people in November.

I fully recognize that I am an unknown quantity to many of you. I can only tell you of my dedication to work for Republican tickets and Republican principles from now until the election.

And it is my fervent hope, my good friends, that when I visit your states, you will allow me to contribute in the way you consider most beneficial to that purpose that we all endorse, that we all aspire to, total change through a completely Republican-dominated political family, county, state, city and Federal, in November.