

Excerpts of Remarks by
Senator Barry Goldwater (R-Arizona)
Before the North Carolina Republican State Convention
Greensboro, North Carolina

I want to emphasize right now the great importance of a two-party system in the South. The Republican Party, for too long a time, has been a political party of the East, the North and the West. It hasn't been a truly national party because it couldn't count the South. Now that situation is beginning to change and I believe the 1964 election is crucial to its complete fulfillment. I suggest that unless the South goes Republican in 1964 our party will be defeated and its future obscured for many years to come. And I doubt if our party can win the South if it puts up a candidate who is only a little different from the incumbent.

What America needs and what the South demands is a choice. A choice is needed, not only from a strictly political standpoint but from the standpoint of our domestic economy and our policies overseas. A choice is needed in the method of conducting the cold war with International Communism. A choice is needed between deficit spending and balanced budgets, between a strong foreign policy based on our military, economic and psychological strength and a policy of accommodation and appeasement toward our enemies.

Now what has the South to gain or lose in the coming months? By choosing the wrong candidate, the South can lose its two-party voice which is only now beginning to be heard. The South can lose

its political independence and slip back into the status of chattel to the northern liberals. The South can lose the opportunity to elect the right people to local, state and national office. It can forfeit the selection of more Republicans in Congress, more Republicans in the State Houses, more Republicans in the county courthouses, and more Republicans to local offices.

To my way of thinking, the development of a truly two-party system in the South is the most important ingredient needed for the future of this area.

I believe it will greatly accelerate the South's growing industrial and commercial importance. I believe it will add impetus to the development of an economic climate that will encourage business, create new jobs and provide a higher standard of living. I believe it will give public expression to the rising middle class of the South which is turning to the Republican Party as the only vehicle moving in the direction of economic conservatism.

This has been our experience in Arizona. You know for many years my State was a one-party State. At the time of my first election to the Senate in 1952 the registration margin against the Republicans was seven to one. And the Democrats still hold a better than two to one lead in registration. But we manage to preserve our hard-won two-party status by electing Republicans to the Governor's office, to the Congress and to local offices. I don't mean we elect them all. We still have Democrats in office, but they are no longer regarded as sure bets for election if they happen to win the nomination of their party. Every Democrat elected in Arizona these days has to fight tooth and nail to win. And, I want to stress that since this happy development occurred--

since we have become a truly two-party state--the economy of Arizona has blossomed. We are today the fastest growing industrial state in the Union. Just let me give you one statistic. In the capital city of Phoenix there are now twice as many people as there were when I was first elected to the Senate. The State, as a whole, has grown in population by about seventy per cent between 1950 and 1963. Our economy is growing by leaps and bounds. Our outlook for the future is as bright as the Arizona sunrise.

So I believe the South has a tremendous stake in the political situation that prevails today. I believe the stake is economic as well as political, not only for the South alone but for the entire country. We can no longer close our eyes to the deficiencies which have put us on the wrong path. We can no longer blink at the gains being made by our International Communist enemies. We can no longer hide from the fact that our gold reserve is dwindling, that our international payments are off-balance, that our national debt is becoming a source of concern even in foreign countries. We can no longer pretend that Castro isn't a serious enemy, that South Vietnam will take care of itself, that our NATO friends still trust us completely.

It is for these and related reasons that I have offered myself as a candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination. I want the people of this country to have a choice between what I believe is the wrong--the disastrous--course for America and what I believe is the right course. And let me say that I believe that other Republican leaders who are concerned about the future should get out and try to

do something about it. [I am thinking of those who are rumored to be interested in the Presidential nomination but have not officially announced themselves as candidates. I believe that those with deep-held convictions about what is wrong with the present state of affairs should come out in the open as avowed candidates so that the people of the United States can weigh their arguments and consider their answers.]

When the future of America is at stake it is no time to be coy or reluctant. What the Republican Party is faced with today is more than a political game. It involves the future and the security of our entire country. The Republican Party today is the only instrument available to the American people to correct a foreign policy situation that could see us buried by communism without a shot being fired. It is the one avenue available to fiscal sanity. It is the last best hope in America for the preservation of individual freedom and a limited national government.

The Republican Party, I can assure you, is the South's best bet. And I believe the people of the South have come to realize this. I believe the South is through--once and for all--with being taken for granted by a political party which is owned lock, stock and barrel by the union leaders and the big city radicals. And what's more, I believe the South will prove this conclusively when the votes are counted next November.