l!S& to the NEWS

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REAG}J'lI S FINEST HOUR

Proof that Ronald neagan is a man with the potential to rise to the opportunities that fate brings was demonstrated at the closing session of the Republican National Convention.

Reagan had rejected two invitations to address that Thursc1r.!y session because, gentleman that he is, he did not want to encroach on President Ford's evening of glory or delay his acceptance speech scheduled for prime-time television. When, at the very end of the session, Ford spontRneously turned the microphone over to Ileagan, the former actor starred in one of the mort dramatic moments in political history.

J1.c,ngan demonstrated that he nr!eds n€ ither ghost writers nor prompters nor long preparation nor rehearsals in order to deliver a masterful, meaty, relevant, and eloquent speech.

Ccagan showed that he clearly unCerstands that his 1,070 delegates hau not come to ansas City because they are pawns of the political patronage system willing to do the bidding of their bosses, or even just because they like Reagan personally or believe he is a more attractive candidate.

Heagan's speech showed that he understands that his supporters car:ie to Kansas City because there are major moral, patriotic, and political differences between Ford and Reagan, and that those ,lifferences were not erased by Ii'ord' s 117-vote margin of victory.

I eagan diplomatically but firmly used that exciting uoment before the asserabl ed delegate , to point with pride to their trerncn dous victory in forcing into the Platform a foreign policy section whicll repudiates the core of the JCissinger-Nixonl"'lFo.r.d

(more)

foreign polio;r, namely, detcmto, -t:'he ·· ellout agree:me:nts w:t th tho Soviets, tlrn d.el iberate snul; of Solzhe11i·tsyn, aud the be-ti·ayal. o::i": the Captive Nations a·t lt'el:11.n}d.

That needed to be said because, when the Ford forces capi-

tuletect late Tuesday night to the Reagan Minority Report on foi·Rign policy, they thereby avoided a rollcall vote which would have visibly brought home to the television viewing audience the feot that the Uepurllican Nat.tonal Conve:icrf,hm had gone o:n record aga:.l.rwt those crucial features of the sainger policies.

Finally, Reagan's brief clos: speech showed that he understands that the overriding issue of this 1976 election is the survival of America in race of tho gigantic Soviet missile threat, and that how we meet 11 e in tlH, months ahead l determine whethe:r our eount:ry i.•:J ;;: :ill around during ee.n.t .

ny the conspiuuous slou o: Geral Ford's n300, Reagan it clear tbat the survl of America dor·s not depend on election of Gerald Ford over Jimmy Carter. Reagan emphasized that the challenge to our country's survival can be met only if his supporters continue to work together for the same principles and policies that·brought them **to** K.ansas City.

nonald Reagan's finest hou.:r waf<J thfl leader.sldp lrn cdsplHyeli. :itn. def<-)at anti hts decl.i.catlon ·to a cause la:.rger t.hari li:i.s O\<J.il Ct1;!H).:.i.riacy.

If his :f&ttBXIIX:gJl:.Ui::t su1,porters ·will :f.::>ll0\1r his e::11:am_p le, cn,allow their disappointment, and continue the battle that he hrrn led during the past year, they can bring about the same changes in the Kissinger-Ford policies in Washington that they so successfully forced in the Kissinger- Ford policies in Kansas City.

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