

"As Americans, we believe in the equal dignity of all our people, whatever their racial origin or background may be; in their equal right to freedom and opportunity and the benefits of our common citizenship. Now, during this Administration, we have advanced far -- on every front of our daily life -- the factual application of our belief. We have demonstrated a dynamic loyalty to the principles on which the Republic is founded.

"All of us realize that much must still be done. All of us, whatever our position or our party may be, must still work tirelessly toward the goal of a stronger and more warmly human unity. But all of us have reason for just pride in the tremendous advances of the past thirty months. The credit should be widely shared.

"You, and millions of others like you, have contributed greatly by an outstanding devotion to the Republic and by unfaltering service to it; thereby, the esteem, the respect of your fellow citizens has been earned. The Republican Party has been firm in its insistence that there can be only one class of citizenship and has been effective in its practice of this conviction; thereby it has proved itself, in our day, a vigorous and productive champion of the ideals and purposes of Lincoln.

"But I am sure, the major credit must go to the people of the United States. Their sense of fair play, their recognition that all our citizens are bound in a common destiny, their spiritual faith in the dignity of all men under God -- these deeply rooted characteristics of the American people are the ultimate source of the achievement reported by you.

"My thanks are yours for the report you have made. My best wishes to you and to all associated with you on the Committee and in the field.

"Sincerely,

"Dwight D. Eisenhower (signed)

"Mr. Val J. Washington
Republican National Committee
1625 Eye Street, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C."

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