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Quotes by Nixon, Richard M.

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Richard Milhous Nixon (January 9, 1913 – April 22, 1994) was the 37th President of the United States, serving from 1969 to 1974. He was also the 36th Vice President (1953-1961) serving under Dwight D. Eisenhower. Nixon redefined the office of Vice President, making it for the first time a high visibility platform and base for a presidential candidacy. He is the only person to have been elected twice to the Vice Presidency and twice to the Presidency, and the only president to have resigned that office. His resignation came in the face of imminent impeachment related to the Watergate scandal.

The finest steel has to go through the hottest fire.

- Nixon, Richard M.

Defeat doesn't finish a man -- quit does. A man is not finished when he's defeated. He's finished when he quits.

- Nixon, Richard M.

Life isn't meant to be easy. It's hard to take being on the top -- or on the bottom. I guess I'm something of a fatalist. You have to have a sense of history, I think, to survive some of these things. Life is one crisis after another.

- Nixon, Richard M.

Finishing second in the Olympics gets you silver. Finishing second in politics gets you oblivion.

- Nixon, Richard M.

Only if you have been in the deepest valley, can you ever know how magnificent it is to be on the highest mountain.

- Nixon, Richard M.

People react to fear, not love --they don't teach that in Sunday School, but it's true.

- Nixon, Richard M.

Yet we can maintain a free society only if we recognize that in a free society no one can win all the time. No one can have his own way all the time, and no one is right all the time.

- Nixon, Richard M.

If you think the United States has stood still, who built The largest shopping center in the world?

- Nixon, Richard M.

For its part, Government will listen. We will strive to listen in new ways -- to the voices of quiet anguish, to voices that speak without words, the voices of the heart, to the injured voices, and the anxious voices, and the voices that have despaired of being heard.

- Nixon, Richard M.

Those who hate you don't win unless you hate them; and then you destroy yourself.

- Nixon, Richard M.

Always remember, others may hate you, but those who hate you don't win unless you hate them-and then you destroy yourself.

- Nixon, Richard M.

I don't think that a leader can control to any great extent his destiny. Very seldom can he step in and change the situation if the forces of history are running in another direction.

- Nixon, Richard M.

I was under medication when I made the decision not to burn the tapes.

- Nixon, Richard M.

This is the greatest week in the history of the world since the Creation, because as a result of what happened in this week, the world is bigger, infinitely.

- Nixon, Richard M.

I often thought that if there had been a good rap group around in those days, I might have chosen a career in music instead of politics.

- Nixon, Richard M.

The lesson of all history warns us that we should negotiate only when our military superiority is so convincing that we can achieve our objective at the conference table, and deny the aggressor theirs.

- Nixon, Richard M.

The greatest honor history can bestow is that of peacemaker.

- Nixon, Richard M.

A man is not finished when he's defeated; he's finished when he quits.

- Nixon, Richard M.

Nobody is a friend of ours. Let's face it.

- Nixon, Richard M.

I played by the rules of politics as I found them.

- Nixon, Richard M.

I am not a crook.

- Nixon, Richard M.

The one thing sure about politics is that what goes up comes down and what goes down often comes up.

- Nixon, Richard M.

If you want to make beautiful music, you must play the black and the white notes together.

- Nixon, Richard M.

When the President does it, that means that it is not illegal.

- Nixon, Richard M.

The more you stay in this kind of job, the more you realize that a public figure, a major public figure, is a lonely man.

- Nixon, Richard M.

A public man must never forget that he loses his usefulness when he as an individual, rather than his policy, becomes the issue.

- Nixon, Richard M.

It is necessary for me to establish a winner image. Therefore, I have to beat somebody.

- Nixon, Richard M.

The sky is no longer the limit.

- Nixon, Richard M.

A man who has never lost himself in a cause bigger than himself has missed one of life's

mountaintop experiences. Only in losing himself does he find himself. Only then does he discover all the latent strengths he never knew he had and which otherwise would have remained dormant.

- Nixon, Richard M.

Once one determines that he or she has a mission in life, that's it's not going to be accomplished without a great deal of pain, and that the rewards in the end may not outweigh the pain --if you recognize historically that always happens, then when it comes, you survive it.

- Nixon, Richard M.

Once you get into this great stream of history you can't get out. You can drown. Or you can be pulled ashore by the tide. But it is awfully hard to get out when you are in the middle of the stream -- if it is intended that you stay there.

- Nixon, Richard M.

Let us move from the era of confrontation to the era of negotiation.

- Nixon, Richard M.

We cannot learn from one another until we stop shouting at one another -- until we speak quietly enough so that our words can be heard as well as our voices.

- Nixon, Richard M.

The easiest period in a crisis situation is actually the battle itself. The most difficult is the

period of indecision -- whether to fight or run away. And the most dangerous period is the aftermath. It is then, with all his resources spent and his guard down, that an individual must watch out for dulled reactions and faulty judgment.

- Nixon, Richard M.

The average American is just like the child in the family. You give him some responsibility and he is going to amount to something. He is going to do something. If, on the other hand, you make him completely dependent and pamper him and cater to him too much, you are going to make him soft, spoiled and eventually a very weak individual.

- Nixon, Richard M.

In our own lives, let each of us ask not just what government will do for me, but what can I do for myself?

- Nixon, Richard M.

Our idea is to create a situation in which those lands to which we have obligations or in which we have interests, if they are ready to fight a fire, should be able to count on us to furnish the hose and water.

- Nixon, Richard M.

To make it possible for our children, and for our children's children, to live in a world of peace. To make this country be more than ever a land of opportunity of equal opportunity, full opportunity for every American. To provide jobs for all who can work, and generous help for those who cannot work. To establish a climate of decency and civility, in which

each person respects the feelings and the dignity and the God-given rights of his neighbor. To make this a land in which each person can dare to dream, can live his dreams not in fear, but in hope proud of his community, proud of his country, proud of what America has meant to himself and to the world.

- Nixon, Richard M.

Nothing matters more to the future of this Nation than insuring that our young men and women learn to believe in themselves and believe in their dreams, and that they develop this capacity that you develop this capacity, so that you keep it all of your lives. I believe one of America's most priceless assets is the idealism which motivates the young people of America. My generation has invested all that it has, not only its love but its hope and faith, in yours.

- Nixon, Richard M.

Red China and Russia are having their differences. But we cannot take too much comfort in the fact that what they are debating about is not how to beat each other but how to beat us. They are simply arguing about what kind of a shovel they should use to dig the grave of the United States.

- Nixon, Richard M.

We must maintain the integrity of the White House, and that integrity must be real, not transparent. There can be no whitewash at the White House.

- Nixon, Richard M.

There are these and other great causes that we were elected overwhelmingly to carry forward in November of 1972. And what we were elected to do, we are going to do, and let others wallow in Watergate, we are going to do our job.

- Nixon, Richard M.

I seriously doubt if we will ever have another war. This is probably the very last one.

- Nixon, Richard M.

A riot is a spontaneous outburst. A war is subject to advance planning.

- Nixon, Richard M.

If, when the chips are down, the worlds most powerful nation, the United States of America, acts like a pitiful, helpless giant, the forces of totalitarianism and anarchy will threaten free nations and free institutions throughout the world.

- Nixon, Richard M.

I would rather be a one-term President and do what I believe is right than to be a two-term President at the cost of seeing America become a second-rate power and to see this Nation accept the first defeat in its proud 190-year history.

- Nixon, Richard M.

But also out here in this dreary, difficult war, I think history will record that this may have been one of Americas finest hours, because we took a difficult task and we succeeded.

- Nixon, Richard M.

But above all, what this Congress can be remembered for is opening the way to a new American revolution a peaceful revolution in which power was turned back to the people in which government at all levels was refreshed and renewed and made truly responsive. This can be a revolution as profound, as far-reaching, as exciting as that first revolution almost 200 years ago and it can mean that just 5 years from now America will enter its third century as a young nation new in spirit, with all the vigor and the freshness with which it began its first century.

- Nixon, Richard M.

I made my mistakes, but in all of my years in public life, I have never profited, never profited from public service I have earned every cent. And in all of my years of public life, I have never obstructed justice. And I think, too, that I could say that in my years of public life, that I welcome this kind of examination, because people have got to know whether or not their President is a crook. Well, I am not a crook. I have earned everything I have got.

- Nixon, Richard M.

You think of those kids out there. I say kids. I have seen them. They are the greatest. You see these bums, you know, blowing up the campuses. Listen, the boys that are on the college campuses today are the luckiest people in the world, going to the greatest universities, and here they are burning up the books, I mean storming around about this issue mean you name it get rid of the war; there will be another one. Out there we've got kids who are just doing their duty. I have seen them. They stand tall, and they are proud. I am sure they are scared. I was when I was there. But when it really comes down to it, they stand up and, boy, you have to talk up to those men. And they are going to do fine;

weve got to stand back of them.

- Nixon, Richard M.

Why would anyone want to be President today? The answer is not one of glory, or fame; today the burdens of the office outweigh its privileges. Its not because the Presidency offers a chance to be somebody, but because it offers a chance to do something.

- Nixon, Richard M.

When I am the candidate, I run the campaign.

- Nixon, Richard M.

There is no such thing as a nonpolitical speech by a politician.

- Nixon, Richard M.

It is not enough just to be for peace. The point is, what can we do about it?

- Nixon, Richard M.

We are not bent on conquest or on threatening others. But we do have a nuclear umbrella that can protect others, above all the states to which we are allied or in which we have a great national interest.

- Nixon, Richard M.

Let historians not record that when America was the most powerful nation in the world we

passed on the other side of the road and allowed the last hopes for peace and freedom of millions of people to be suffocated by the forces of totalitarianism. And so tonight to you, the great silent majority of my fellow Americans I ask for your support.

- Nixon, Richard M.

The power of impeachment is, of course, solely entrusted by the Constitution to the House of Representatives. However, the Executive Branch is clearly obligated, both by precedent and by the necessity of the House of Representatives having all of the facts before reaching its decision, to supply relevant information to the Legislative Branch, as it does in aid of other inquiries being conducted by committees of the Congress, to the extent compatible with the public interest.

- Nixon, Richard M.



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