

The original documents are located in Box 34, “5/26/76 - 33rd Presidential News Conference, Columbus, Ohio” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

COLUMBUS, OHIO

PRESS CONFERENCE

STATEMENT

WEDNESDAY - MAY 26, 1976

1.

BEFORE TURNING TO YOUR QUESTIONS THIS EVENING,

I HAVE A BRIEF STATEMENT.

2.

EARLY NEXT WEEK THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED

STATES WILL RETURN FROM MEMORIAL DAY RECESS.

FOR MANY AMERICANS, SUMMER WILL HAVE OFFICIALLY

BEGUN AND THE TIME FOR A VACATION WILL BE AT HAND.

3.

HOWEVER, IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT THIS
NOT BECOME A VACATION TIME FOR THE CONGRESS.

THERE IS AN IMMENSE AMOUNT OF WORK PILING UP ON THE
CONGRESSIONAL CALENDAR, AND THE COUNTRY NEEDS
AND DESERVES -- PROMPT LEGISLATIVE ACTION IN A
NUMBER OF IMPORTANT AREAS.

4.

~~FIRST OF ALL,~~ THE TEMPORARY TAX CUT ENACTED

LAST YEAR WILL EXPIRE AT THE END OF JUNE. THAT TAX

CUT MUST BE EXTENDED.

5.

I HAVE RECOMMENDED THAT THE CONGRESS NOT
ONLY EXTEND THE TAX CUT PERMANENTLY, BUT INCREASE
IT BY 10 BILLION DOLLARS. AMONG THE BENEFITS EVERY
TAXPAYER WOULD RECEIVE UNDER MY PROPOSAL, IS AN
INCREASE IN THE PERSONAL EXEMPTIONS FROM 750 DOLLARS
TO 1,000 DOLLARS — ENOUGH FOR MANY PEOPLE TO CATCH
UP ON THEIR BILLS AND BEGIN SAVING MORE FOR THE FUTURE.

WHEN WE CUT TAXES, WE MUST ALSO CUT FEDERAL
SPENDING. THE CONGRESS HAS NOT YET SHOWN THE ~~KIND~~
~~OF~~ DISCIPLINE NECESSARY TO HOLD THE LINE ON FEDERAL
SPENDING. THAT IS WHY I HAVE VETOED SO MANY SPENDING
BILLS AND MY VETOES SO FAR HAVE SAVED THE TAXPAYERS
13 BILLION DOLLARS. I WILL CONTINUE TO USE MY VETO
UNTIL CONGRESS GETS THE MESSAGE AND FEDERAL SPENDING
IS BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL.

7.

ANOTHER MAJOR LEGISLATIVE ITEM URGENTLY

AWAITING CONGRESSIONAL ACTION IS THE RE-ENACTMENT

OF FEDERAL REVENUE SHARING. THERE HAS ALREADY BEEN

AN INEXCUSABLY LONG DELAY IN PASSING THIS MEASURE.

UNLESS REVENUE SHARING IS RE-ENACTED BEFORE IT

EXPIRES AT THE END OF THIS YEAR, COMMUNITIES IN

OHIO AND ACROSS THE COUNTRY WILL BE SEVERELY

PENALIZED.

8.

COMMUNITIES AND STATES WOULD BE FORCED TO RAISE

LOCAL PROPERTY TAXES AND STATE TAXES IN ORDER TO

CONTINUE VITAL PUBLIC SERVICES WHICH REVENUE SHARING

WOULD PROVIDE. THE CONGRESS MUST RE-ENACT MY

REVENUE SHARING PROGRAM WITHOUT DELAY.

9.

TWO OTHER ITEMS MUST ~~ALSO~~ BE GIVEN ~~CAREFUL~~

CONGRESSIONAL ATTENTION IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

10.

ONE IS THE B-1 BOMBER PROGRAM. IN CONSIDERING

THE MILITARY PROCUREMENT BILL ~~FOR THE COMING YEAR,~~

THE SENATE RECENTLY VOTED TO DELAY THE B-1 PRODUCTION

UNTIL FEBRUARY OF NEXT YEAR.

THAT VOTE WAS BOTH UNNECESSARY AND UNWISE.

OUR ARMED FORCES ARE THE BEST TRAINED MEN AND WOMEN

IN THE WORLD, BUT THEY MUST HAVE THE TOOLS TO DO

THE JOB. WE NEED TO GET ON WITH THE B-1 BOMBER

THIS YEAR -- NOT NEXT YEAR.

FINALLY, I URGE THE CONGRESS TO VOTE IN THE
NEXT FEW WEEKS FOR A FULL P.L. 480 PROGRAM,
OVER THE YEARS THE FOOD FOR PEACE PROGRAM, IN ADDITION
TO PLAYING AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
OUR FOREIGN POLICY, HAS PROVIDED EXPANDED MARKETS
FOR AMERICAN FARM PRODUCTS.

13.

A PROVISION OF THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE ~~AUTHORIZATION~~

BILL PRESENTLY PENDING IN THE CONGRESS WOULD IMPOSE

A 175 MILLION DOLLAR CEILING ON P.L. 480 ASSISTANCE

TO KOREA.

THIS ACTION WOULD HURT THE AMERICAN FARMER,
WHO DEPENDS ON STABLE MARKETS FOR HIS CROPS, AND
WOULD SERIOUSLY RESTRICT THE ECONOMIC GROWTH POTENTIAL
OF ONE OF OUR KEY ALLIES. WE NEED STRONG AGRICULTURAL
EXPORTS, AND WE NEED A FULL FOOD FOR PEACE PROGRAM.

I STRONGLY URGE THE CONGRESS TO REMOVE THIS
LIMITATION.

NOW I WILL BE HAPPY TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
~~GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON AGING~~
PRESS CONFERENCE

~~THANK YOU, JIM:~~

(Governor Rhodes introduces you.)

DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THE OHIO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION:

SAM DEVINE

CHALMERS WYLIE

BILL HARSHA

TENNYSON GUYER

CHUCK MOSHER

~~RALPH REGULA~~ RALPH REGULA

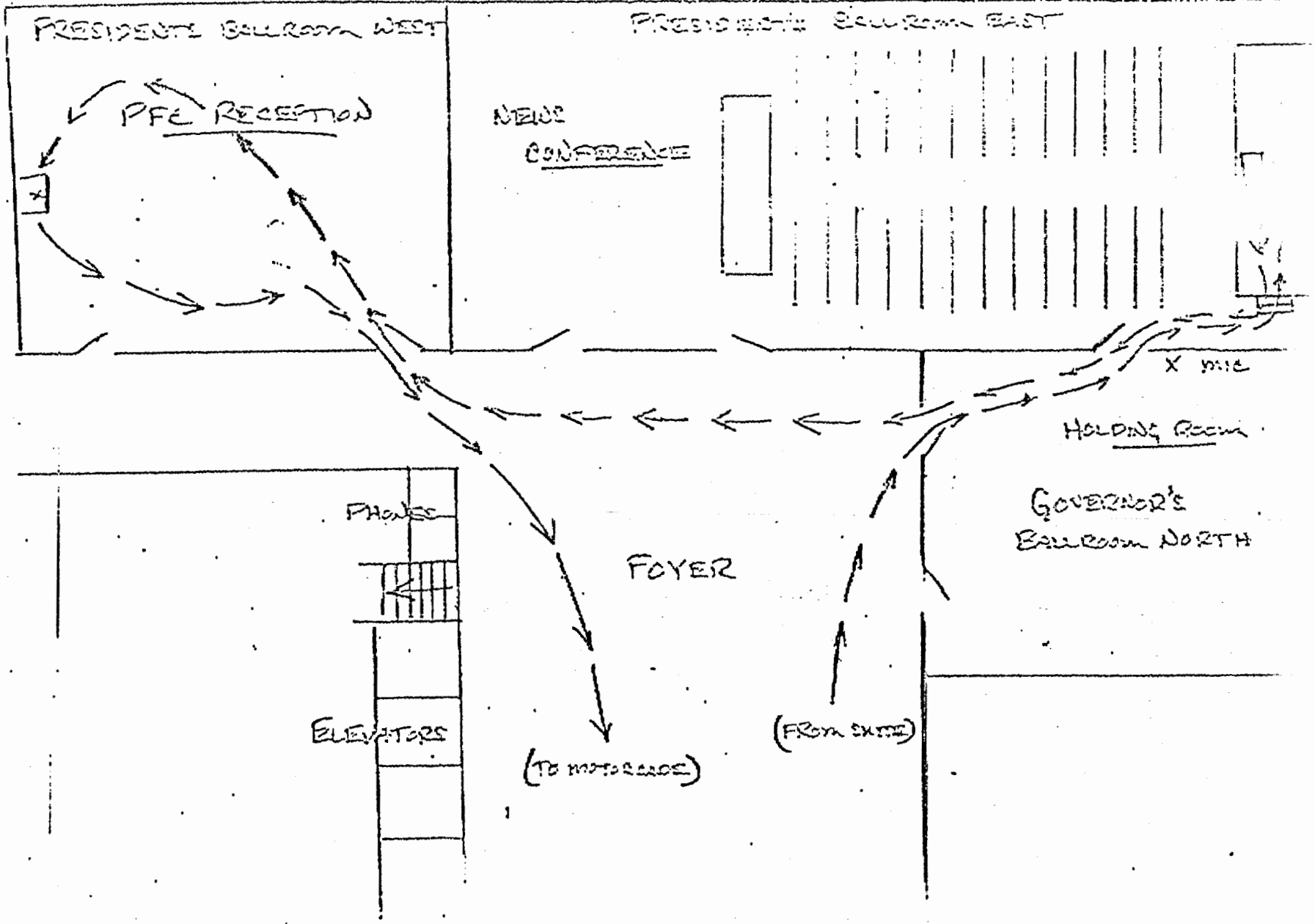
CLARENCE BROWN

TOM KINDNESS

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

COLLEGIANS 8-1-5
NEWS CONFERENCE AND
PFC RECEPTION
MAY 24, 1976



MEETING WITH STATE GOP
HOUSE & SENATE LEADERSHIP
STATE HOUSE - CABINET ROOM
COLUMBUS, OHIO
MAY 26, 1976

