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1974 WOMEN'S FORUM ON NATIONAL SECURITY
AT THE WASHINGTON HILTON HOTEL, 7:30 P.M.,
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1974

TONIGHT I WISH TO EXPRESS MY PROFOUND
APPRECIATION TO THE WOMEN'S FORUM ON NATIONAL
SECURITY FOR DEDICATING THIS BEAUTIFUL DINNER
diplomatic + national security
TO THE LEADERSHIP OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF
PRESIDENT RICHARD ~~M.~~ NIXON.



I AM HONORED TO APPEAR BEFORE YOU AS
SPOKESMAN FOR THIS ADMINISTRATION.



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*Because history
tells us - peace is
based on strength not
weakness.*

YOU ARE GENUINE ADVOCATES OF PEACE.
OUR ASPIRATIONS FOR PEACEFUL RELATIONS WITH
ALL OTHER NATIONS REST UPON THE SENSE OF
SECURITY AND PATRIOTISM YOU HELP TO GENERATE
THROUGH YOUR MANY CHAPTERS AND POSTS FROM
THE ATLANTIC COAST TO THE SHORES OF THE
HAWAIIAN ISLANDS. YOUR DEVOTION TO THE
PRESERVATION OF FREEDOM ^{*through strength*} IS IN THE FINEST
TRADITION OF THE UNITED STATES.

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I WISH TO ADDRESS MYSELF TONIGHT TO
THE ROLE OF DEFENSE IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE.
DR. HENRY KISSINGER, OUR SECRETARY OF STATE,
WILL GO NEXT MONTH TO MOSCOW TO CONTINUE
EFFORTS THAT HAVE ALREADY PRODUCED REMARKABLE
PROGRESS ON THE ROAD TO LASTING PEACE. *1st in VN*
Now on the
middle East
DR. KISSINGER IS TRULY OUR SECRETARY OF
PEACE. AND OUR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE,
DR. SCHLESINGER, HAS STRENGTHENED



DR. KISSINGER'S HAND BY SUBMITTING A NEW
DEFENSE BUDGET THAT REINFORCES THE
CREDIBILITY OF AMERICAN POWER.



OUR CABINET INCLUDES THREE PROFESSORS.
YOU MIGHT SAY THE PEACE MOVEMENT -- PEACE
THRU STRENGTH AND NEGOTIATION, NOT
CONFRONTATION -- HAS TAKEN OVER THE NIXON
ADMINISTRATION. DR. KISSINGER FLIES TO
THE CORNERS OF THE EARTH IN PURSUIT OF
PEACE.



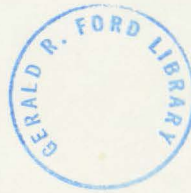
DR. SCHLESINGER GUIDES A DEFENSE
ESTABLISHMENT TO ASSURE PEACE. AND
DR. SHULTZ, OUR SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,
PAYS THE BILLS.



THE NEW DEFENSE BUDGET IS THE FIRST
IN OVER 10 YEARS THAT DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR
THE SUPPORT OF AMERICAN FORCES ACTIVELY IN
That is solid evidence of sound policy & real world leadership.
COMBAT. IT IS A BUDGET DESIGNED TO CARRY US
THROUGH THE DELICATE TRANSITION FROM LONG
AND ARDUOUS WAR TO A PERIOD OF ENDURING
PEACE.

TO HAVE PEACE, WE MUST BE CAPABLE OF
DEFENSE TO DETER AGGRESSION. UNLESS THE
UNITED STATES MAINTAINS ITS STRENGTH AND
RESOLVE, THERE IS LITTLE INCENTIVE FOR
POTENTIAL ADVERSARIES TO KEEP THE PEACE.
THAT IS WHY OUR FIRST DEFENSE BUDGET OF
THE POST-VIETNAM ERA IS SO IMPORTANT.

all



WE HAVE EXTRICATED OURSELVES FROM THE
WAR IN VIETNAM. WE ACHIEVED PEACE WITH
HONOR AND LIBERATED OUR BRAVE MEN WHO
SUFFERED SO LONG AS PRISONERS OF WAR. WE
ENDED THE DRAFT AND CREATED AN ALL-VOLUNTEER
ARMED SERVICE. ^{MIA's} WE REACHED UNDERSTANDINGS
WITH THE SOVIET UNION THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN
UNTHINKABLE YEARS AGO. WE NEGOTIATED A NEW
RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
CHINA. AND -- BY A MASTERPIECE OF DIPLOMACY--
WE SEPARATED THE ARMIES OF THE EGYPTIANS AND
ISRAELIS, BRINGING THE WORLD BACK FROM THE
BRINK OF CATASTROPHE.



WE ARE NOT THE POLICEMAN OF THE WORLD.
BUT WE CONTINUE TO BE THE BACKBONE OF FREE
WORLD COLLECTIVE SECURITY. WE ARE AWARE
THAT THE SOVIET UNION CONTINUES TO PURSUE
AN EXTENSIVE PROGRAM TO DEVELOP POWERFUL NEW
MILITARY WEAPONS.



EVEN AS WE HAVE REDUCED U.S. FORCES
AND DEFENSE SPENDING --- MEASURED IN DOLLARS
OF CONSTANT PURCHASING POWER --- SOVIET FORCES
AND SPENDING HAVE INCREASED. TO PREVENT A
SERIOUS IMBALANCE, WE MUST CONTINUE TO
MODERNIZE AND IMPROVE THE READINESS OF OUR
COMBAT FORCES.

I'm certain the Congress will respond.





PRESIDENT NIXON HAS CREATED A CLIMATE OF PEACE. SECRETARY KISSINGER IS A SUPERB NEGOTIATOR. THE SOVIET UNION, BY WORD AND DEED, HAS INDICATED A READINESS TO NEGOTIATE. THEREFORE, I SINCERELY HOPE THAT NEGOTIATIONS TOWARD STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATIONS AND MUTUAL AND BALANCED FORCE REDUCTIONS WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IN PRESERVING THE PRESENT BALANCE AND IN FURTHER REDUCING THE THREAT OF WAR.

IT IS ESSENTIAL TO MAINTAIN ADEQUATE
FORCE LEVELS AND A TECHNOLOGICAL LEAD WHILE
NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE. IF NEGOTIATIONS FAIL
AND THE SOVIET UNION SEEKS MILITARY ADVANTAGE,
THE UNITED STATES MUST BE PREPARED TO INCREASE
ITS FORCES QUICKLY AND EFFECTIVELY.

And we must be prepared to do so.





DECISIONS MADE IN 1974 WILL SHAPE THE
ABILITY OF OUR FORCES TO MAINTAIN THEIR
STRENGTH 5 TO ^{lead -} 10 YEARS FROM NOW. THIS IS
BECAUSE OF THE [^] TIME REQUIRED FOR DEVELOPMENT
AND DEPLOYMENT OF MAJOR WEAPONS SYSTEMS.

WE LEARNED MUCH FROM THE TRAGIC MIDDLE
EAST WARFARE LAST OCTOBER. SPECIFIC MATERIAL
SHORTAGES WERE BROUGHT TO LIGHT DURING THE
CRISIS. THE NEW BUDGET WOULD ELIMINATE THOSE

SHORTAGES. AS A RESULT OF THE EVENTS IN OCTOBER, WE ARE INCREASING THE READINESS OF SHIPS, AIRCRAFT, AND WEAPONS, HAVING ADOPTED MORE REALISTIC ESTIMATES.



A SUPPLEMENTAL DEFENSE REQUEST REFLECTS THE MOST URGENT DEFICIENCIES OF OUR FORCES. WE MUST INCREASE OUR AIRLIFT CAPACITY AND ^{procure}~~BUY~~ CERTAIN WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT NOW IN SHORT SUPPLY.

LESSONS OF THE MIDDLE EAST WAR WILL BE APPLIED BY GIVING HIGH PRIORITY TO PROGRAMS SUCH AS MODERN ANTITANK WEAPONS, TANKS, AIR DEFENSE OF LAND FORCES AND ITS OPPOSITE, DEFENSE SUPPRESSION, IMPROVED MUNITIONS AND MORE SUBSTANTIAL STOCKS.



THERE ARE INNOVATIONS TO MEET POSSIBLE EMERGENCIES.

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WE ARE PROPOSING, FOR INSTANCE, IN THE NEW BUDGET TO MODIFY SOME COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT IN ORDER THAT THEY MIGHT HAVE THE REQUIRED CAPACITY TO MEET MILITARY CARGO REQUIREMENTS. BECAUSE OF OUR MIDDLE EAST EXPERIENCE, WE INTEND TO IMPROVE OUR AIRLIFT CAPACITY TO DEPLOY FORCES OVERSEAS IN TIME OF CRISIS.

CSA



OUR FORCE STRUCTURE IS MUCH SMALLER THAN IT HAS BEEN SINCE THE KOREAN WAR. IT IS REDUCED BY ALMOST 40% FROM THE 1968 VIETNAM PEAK. IF WE ARE TO HAVE A CREDIBLE PEACETIME DETERRENT FORCE, WE CANNOT ALLOW OUR DEFENSE TO SHRINK FURTHER. BY STRENGTHENING AIRLIFT CAPACITIES AND THE STRATEGIC RESERVE, WE WILL HAVE FEWER FORCES TIED TO A SPECIFIC THEATER AND GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN ASSIGNMENT DURING A CRISIS.



ADMIRAL MOORER, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, REPORTED TO THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE THAT SOVIET MODERNIZATION PROGRAMS "COULD PLACE THE UNITED STATES IN A POSITION OF STRATEGIC INFERIORITY IN THE FORESEEABLE YEARS AHEAD." THE ADMIRAL POINTED OUT THAT A MAJOR SHIFT IN THE NAVAL BALANCE IS TAKING PLACE. THE U.S. NAVY'S CARRIER AND AMPHIBIOUS TASK FORCES STILL GIVE US THE EDGE IN THE GLOBAL REACH OF OUR FLEETS. THE SOVIET UNION,



HOWEVER, IS BUILDING A POWERFUL NAVY, INCLUDING AN AIRCRAFT CARRIER FORCE THAT BRINGS A NEW ERA IN THE PROJECTION OF RUSSIAN SEAPOWER. THE SOVIET CARRIERS ARE NOT YET COMPARABLE TO U.S. CARRIERS. BUT, WITH OTHER NEW SOVIET WARSHIPS, THEY STRENGTHEN THE ABILITY OF SOVIET FORCES TO OPERATE WORLDWIDE.



MOSCOW IS PLACING NEW EMPHASIS ON PROJECTING MILITARY POWER FROM THE SEA AS A NATIONAL POLICY. SOVIET NAVAL FORCES ARE MORE FREQUENTLY DEPLOYED IN AREAS OF SERIOUS INTERNATIONAL CONCERN.

Having pointed out certain problem areas, let me emphasize



However,
n DETENTE IS OUR GOAL. n ITS ACHIEVEMENT
REQUIRES THAT WE BE STRONG ENOUGH TO NEGOTIATE
WITH CONFIDENCE. WE MUST INSURE THAT OUR ~~GOALS~~



GOODWILL IS NOT MISCONSTRUED AS LACK OF WILL.

AN ERA OF PEACE IS WITHIN REACH. TO REACH
THAT OBJECTIVE, WE HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT
TO MAINTAIN A STRONG DEFENSE.

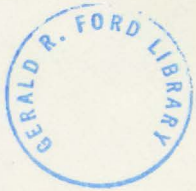


YOUR MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES SUCH GROUPS AS THE GOLD STAR MOTHERS AND THE GOLD STAR WIVES AND THE LADIES AUXILIARY OF THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART. YOU HAVE EXPERIENCED AT FIRST HAND THE SACRIFICES OF WAR. WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT NOT A SINGLE ADDITIONAL MOTHER OR WIFE EVER RECEIVES THE TRAGIC TELEGRAMS THAT YOU RECEIVED.

I WANTED TO SHARE WITH YOU MY THINKING
ON WHY WE MUST NOT RISK THE PEACE THAT OUR
PRESIDENT AND OUR SECRETARY OF STATE HAVE
DONE SO MUCH TO PROMOTE. *Let me assure you -*
WE WILL NOT BETRAY
YOUR DEDICATION TO PEACE. //

TOMORROW IS THE 165TH ANNIVERSARY OF
ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY. WE STRIVE TO
FULFILL ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S VISION OF BINDING
UP THE NATION'S WOUNDS AS WE MOVE FORWARD ---
IN THE AFTERMATH OF VIETNAM --- TO MEET THE
CHALLENGES OF OUR TIME.





IN HIS SECOND INAUGURAL ADDRESS,
ABRAHAM LINCOLN ADVOCATED "A JUST AND LASTING
PEACE, AMONG OURSELVES, AND WITH ALL NATIONS."
LINCOLN ADDRESSED HIMSELF TO A NATION THEN
DIVIDED. TODAY --- 100 YEARS LATER --- WE
FACE DIFFERENT KINDS OF DIVISION AND
DISSENSION. WE SEARCH FOR NEW ANSWERS TO
NEW PROBLEMS.

I WANT TO TELL YOU TONIGHT OF MY
CONFIDENCE THAT WE WILL SOLVE THE VERY
SERIOUS PROBLEMS OF TODAY --- THE ISSUES OF
THE ENERGY SHORTAGE, INFLATION, UNEMPLOYMENT,
AND EVEN THE TRANSIENT READJUSTMENT CRISIS
RESULTING IN SUCH UPHEAVALS AS THE INTERSTATE
TRUCK STRIKE.



OUR TASK IS NOT EASY. BUT I HAVE FAITH IN AMERICA. THIS IS THE SAME NATION THAT RE-UNITED AFTER THE CIVIL WAR TO BECOME THE GREATEST AND MOST INSPIRING REPUBLIC THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN. THIS IS THE SAME NATION THAT --- THROUGH ITS SYSTEM OF DEMOCRACY AND FREE ENTERPRISE --- ACHIEVED TECHNOLOGICAL AND HUMAN GROWTH WHICH WE GENEROUSLY SHARED WITH ALL MANKIND. THIS IS THE SAME NATION THAT TRANSCENDED RECESSIONS AND DEPRESSIONS TO MOVE FORWARD TO EVEN HIGHER



LEVELS OF EXISTENCE. AND THIS IS THE SAME NATION THAT RECOVERED FROM THE CALAMITY OF DECEMBER 7, 1941, AT PEARL HARBOR TO DEFEAT POWERFUL ENEMIES.



against his will
action to preserve the Union. ABRAHAM LINCOLN WAS FORCED TO ~~WAGE~~ *take strong*
~~A WAR.~~ HIS DEEPER INSTINCTS WERE THOSE OF
CONCILIATOR, MEDIATOR, AND MODERATOR.
ABRAHAM LINCOLN WOULD BE VERY PROUD OF THE
President Nelson's diplomacy
~~WORK THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS DONE OVERSEAS TO~~
RECONCILE DIFFERENCES AND PROMOTE PEACE.

all Americans should ²⁷ be proud of policies

I ~~AM PROUD TO BE PART OF AN~~
~~ADMINISTRATION THAT HAS~~ *have* OPENED THE WAY FOR
PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. IT IS MY FERVENT
HOPE THAT FROM SUCH A PEACE WILL FLOW A
SPIRIT OF GREATER COOPERATION NOT ONLY
BETWEEN THE ARABS AND ISRAELIS BUT AMONG
ALL PEOPLES. WE ARE NOW HOST TO AN
INTERNATIONAL MEETING HERE IN WASHINGTON ON
THE OIL CRISIS. *Hopefully it will lead to cooperation
for the benefit of all.*



TO SOLVE THE ENERGY CRISIS, WE ARE
CONCENTRATING ALL OUR ENERGIES --- AT HOME
AND IN RELATIONS WITH OTHER NATIONS --- TO
CONCILIATE, MODERATE, AND MEDIATE. WE ARE
PROCEEDING, IN THE SPIRIT OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN,
WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE.



WE HAVE RUN SHORT OF GASOLINE. BUT
WE HAVE NOT RUN SHORT OF OUR TRADITIONAL
AMERICAN DETERMINATION TO OVERCOME
ADVERSITY. AND WE HAVE NOT RUN SHORT OF
AMERICAN KNOW-HOW. OR AMERICAN INITIATIVE.
OR AMERICAN COURAGE. OR AMERICAN PATRIOTISM.



AS WE CELEBRATE ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S
BIRTHDAY, WE SEEK THE MORAL AND SPIRITUAL
IDEALISM THAT INSPIRED LINCOLN. WE SEEK
TO RECONCILE DIFFERENCES WITH ALL NATIONS
AND AMONG OURSELVES.



conflict & confrontation OUR GREAT CHALLENGE IS NOT ~~IN SEEKING~~ *to seek*
~~FIGHTS~~ WITH ANYONE IN THE WORLD. IT IS IN
AVOIDING CONFLICT AND IN BUILDING PEACE AND
FRIENDSHIP WITH ALL PEOPLE.

OUR TRUE TASK IS TO HARNESS THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND PRODUCTIVE GENI~~I~~US OF HUMANITY TO ASSURE BETTER LIVES FOR ALL AMERICANS AND ALL MANKIND.

JUST AS WE NOW TAKE PRIDE IN THE FIRST PEACEFUL LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY IN MANY YEARS, WHEN NO AMERICANS ARE FIGHTING ABROAD, SO WE DEDICATE OURSELVES TO RECONCILING DIFFERENCES AND ACHIEVING SOLUTIONS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES.



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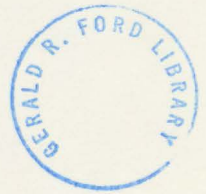
I BELIEVE IN THE UNITED STATES AND
IN OUR CAPACITIES.

I DRAW FRESH INSPIRATION FROM THIS
PATRIOTIC ASSEMBLY.

LET US GO FORTH FROM HERE WITH A NEW
DEDICATION TO AMERICA WHICH HAS BEEN SO RICHLY
BLESSED BY THE SUPREME CREATOR.



I PRAY THAT GOD BLESS OUR EFFORTS TO
PROMOTE PEACE AND JUSTICE AT HOME AND
ABROAD AND THAT HE STRENGTHEN THE BONDS OF
FRIENDSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP AMONG THE
INHABITANTS OF ALL LANDS.



~~***~~



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

February 11, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE VICE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Itinerary For Your Appearance at the Women's
Forum on National Security, 7:30 P.M.,
February 11, 1974

The Women's Forum on National Security includes the most prestigious women's service organizations. The theme of this annual session is "Security, Let It Begin With Leadership," and this session is honoring the President, yourself, and the members of the Cabinet. The President will not be in attendance, and you will be the ranking honored guest.

The schedule of events is as follows:

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Reception for honored guests in the Cabinet Room, Washington Hilton Hotel. You should plan to arrive at 7:30 p.m. in the Cabinet Room.
7:30 p.m.	Introduction of Head Table to delegates and processional to Head Table. You will be introduced last. I will inform the organization that Mrs. Ford will not be in attendance.
Approximately 8:00 p.m.	Banquet session begins.
Approximately 9:00 p.m.	Your introduction and address to the Women's Forum. You may depart following your remarks.

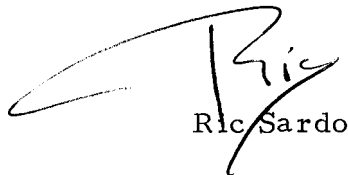


Upon your arrival at the Hotel, you will be met by the following:



- Mrs. Vivian F. Fryk (Chairman, 1974 Women's Forum on National Security. Mrs. Fryk is also the National President of the Polish Legion of American Veterans Auxiliary)
- Miss Violet Paul (Chairman of the Distinguished Guests Committee)
- Mrs. Nelda Koontz (Vice Chairman of the Distinguished Guests Committee)

Appended is a list of the participating organizations in the Women's Forum on National Security.


Ric Sardo



PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

American Legion Auxiliary

American War Dads Auxiliary

American War Mothers

Amvets Auxiliary

Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.

Catholic War Veterans of the USA, Ladies Auxiliary

Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War (1861-1865) Inc.

Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary

Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.

Marine Corps League Auxiliary

Military Order of the Purple Heart USA, Ladies Auxiliary

Navy Club of the USA Auxiliary

Navy Mothers Clubs of America, Inc.

Polish Legion of American Veterans USA, Ladies Auxiliary

The Women Marines Association

Veterans World War I, USA, Ladies Auxiliary

REMARKS BY VICE PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD
AT THE 1974 WOMEN'S FORUM ON NATIONAL SECURITY
AT THE WASHINGTON HILTON HOTEL
7:30 p.m., ~~MON~~ DAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1974



Tonight I wish to express my profound appreciation to the Women's Forum on National Security for dedicating this beautiful dinner to the leadership of the Administration of President Richard M. Nixon .

I am honored to appear before you as spokesman for this Administration.

You are genuine advocates of peace. Our aspirations for peaceful relations with all other nations rest upon the sense of security and patriotism you help to generate through your many chapters and posts from the Atlantic coast to the shores of Hawaii^{THE} ISLANDS. Your devotion to the preservation of freedom is in the finest tradition of the United States .

I wish to address myself tonight to ~~the role of defense in the service of peace~~ the role of defense in the service of peace . Dr. Henry Kissinger, our Secretary of State, will go next month to Moscow to continue efforts that have already produced remarkable progress on the road to lasting peace . Dr. Kissinger is truly our Secretary of Peace. ^{AND} ~~But~~ our Secretary of Defense, Dr. Schlesinger, has strengthened hand Dr. Kissinger's/ by submitting a new defense budget that reinforces the credibility of American power .

Our Cabinet includes three professors. You might say ~~XXX~~ the peace movement has taken over the Nixon Administration. Dr. Kissinger flies to the corners of the earth in pursuit of peace. Dr. Schlesinger guides a Defen^ese establishment to assure peace. And Dr. Shultz, our Secretary of the Treasury, pays the bills .

The new defense budget is the first in over 10 years that does not provide for the support of American forces actively in combat . It is a budget designed to carry us through the delicate transition from arduous long and ~~war~~ to a period of enduring peace.



TO DETER AGGRESSION.

To have peace, we must be capable of defense ~~and~~. Unless the United States maintains its strength and resolve, there is little incentive for potential adversaries to keep the peace . That is why our first defense budget of the post-Vietnam era is so important .

We have extricated ourselves from the war in Vietnam . We achieved peace with honor and liberated our brave men who suffered so long as prisoners of war. We ended the draft and created an all-volunteer armed service. We reached understandings with the Soviet Union that would have been unthinkable years ago . We negotiated a new relationship with the People's Republic of China. And ~~by a~~ **WE SEPARATED THE ARMIES OF** masterpiece of diplomacy --- the Egyptians and Israelis, bringing the world back from the brink of catastrophe .

We are not the policeman of the world. But we continue to be the backbone of free world collective security. ~~and~~ ~~we are~~ . We are ~~aware~~ aware that the Soviet Union **AN EXTENSIVE** continues to pursue ~~program~~ program to develop powerful new military weapons.

WE HAVE REDUCED Even as ~~U.S.~~ U.S. forces and defense spending --- measured in dollars of constant purchasing power --- ~~Soviet~~ Soviet forces and spending have increased. To prevent a serious imbalance, we must continue to modernize and improve the readiness of our combat forces.

President Nixon has created a climate of peace. Secretary Kissinger is a superb negotiator. The Soviet Union, by word and deed, has indicated a readiness to negotiate. ^{Therefore,} I sincerely hope that negotiations toward strategic arms limitations and mutual and balanced force reductions will be successful in preserving the present balance and in reducing further the threat of war.



It is essential to maintain adequate force levels and a technological lead while negotiations continue. If negotiations fail and the Soviet Union seeks military advantage, the United States must be prepared to increase its forces quickly and effectively.

Decisions made in 1974 will shape the ability of our forces to maintain their strength 5 to 10 years from now. This is because of the time required for development and deployment of major weapons systems.

^{MUCH}
We learned from the tragic Middle East warfare last October. Specific material shortages were brought to light during the crisis. The new budget would eliminate those shortages. As a result of the events in October, we are increasing the readiness of ships, aircraft, and weapons, ^{having adopted} more realistic estimates.

A supplemental defense request reflects the most urgent deficiencies of our forces. We must increase our airlift capacity and buy certain weapons and equipment now in short supply.

Lessons of the Middle East war will be applied by giving high priority to programs such as modern antitank weapons, tanks, air defense of land forces and its opposite, defense suppression, improved munitions and more substantial stocks .



~~There are innovations to meet possible emergencies .~~
~~We are proposing , for instance, in the new budget to modify~~
~~SOME COMMERCIAL~~
~~aircraft in order that they might have the required capacity~~
~~to meet military cargo requirements.~~
~~BECAUSE OF our~~
~~East experience, WE INTEND~~
~~to improve our airlift capacity~~
~~to deploy forces overseas in time of crisis.~~

There are innovations to meet possible emergencies .
We are proposing , for instance, in the new budget to modify **SOME**
COMMERCIAL
~~aircraft~~ aircraft in order that they might have the required capacity
to meet military cargo requirements. **BECAUSE OF** our
East experience, **WE INTEND** to improve our airlift capacity
to deploy forces overseas in time of crisis.

Our force structure is much smaller than it has been since the Korean war. It is reduced by almost 40% from the 1968 Vietnam peak. If we are to have a credible peacetime deterrent force, we cannot allow our defense to shrink further . By strengthening airlift capacities and the strategic reserve, we will have fewer forces tied to specific theater and greater flexibility in assignment during a crisis .

Admiral Moorer, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, reported to the Senate Armed Services Committee that Soviet modernization programs "could place the United States in a position of strategic inferiority in the foreseeable years ahead . " The admiral pointed out that a major shift in the naval balance is taking place. The U.S. Navy's carrier and amphibious task forces still give us the edge in the global reach

of our fleets. The Soviet Union, however, is building a powerful navy, including an aircraft ~~carrier~~ ^{BRINGS} carrier force that ~~brings~~ a new era in the Russian projection of/seapower. ~~They~~ The Soviet carriers are not yet comparable to U.S. carriers. But, with other new Soviet warships, ~~they~~ they strengthen the ability of Soviet forces to operate worldwide.



L Moscow is placing new emphasis on projecting military power from the sea as a national policy. Soviet naval forces are more frequently deployed in areas of serious international concern.

Detente is our goal. Its achievement requires that we be strong enough to negotiate with confidence. We must insure that our good will is not misconstrued as lack of will. An era of peace is within reach. To reach that objective, we have no alternative but to maintain a strong defense.

Your membership includes such groups as the Gold Star Mothers and the Gold Star Wives and the Ladies Auxiliary of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. You have experienced at first hand the sacrifices of ~~Americans~~ ^{war.} We want to ~~make~~ ^{MAKE} sure that ~~no mother or~~ ^{no} ~~wife~~ wife ever receives the tragic telegrams that you received.

I wanted to share with you my thinking on why we must not risk the peace that our President and our Secretary of State have done so much to promote. We will not betray your dedication to peace.

~~_____~~



Tomorrow is the 165th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birthday. We strive to fulfill Abraham Lincoln's vision of binding up the Nation's wounds as we move forward ---in the aftermath of Vietnam --- to meet the challenges of our time .

In his Second Inaugural Address , Abraham Lincoln advocated "a just and lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations. " Lincoln addressed himself to a nation then divided . Today ---- 100 years later ---- we face different kinds of division and dissension. We search for new answers to new problems .

I want to tell you tonight of my confidence that we will solve the very serious problems of today --- the issues of ~~the~~ ^{inflation} ~~the~~ energy shortage, ~~the rise in prices~~ ^{resulting in} unemployment, and even ~~the~~ the transient readjustment crisis ~~manifested by~~ such upheavals as the interstate truck strike .

faith

Our task is not easy . But I have ~~in~~ faith in America. This is the same Nation that re-united after the Civil War to become the greatest and most inspiring republic the world has ever known . This is the same nation that --- through its system of democracy and free enterprise --- achieved technological and human growth which we generously shared with all mankind . This is the same Nation that transcended recessions and depressions to move forward to even higher levels of existence . And this is the same Nation that recovered from the calamity of December 7 ,



1941, at Pearl Harbor to defeat powerful [REDACTED] enemies .

[REDACTED] ^{WAS FORCED TO}
[REDACTED] Abraham Lincoln wage
a war. [REDACTED] His deeper instincts were those of
conciliator, mediator, and moderator . Abraham Lincoln would be very
proud of the work this Administration has done overseas to reconcile
differences and [REDACTED] PROMOTE PEACE.

I am proud to be part of an Administration that has opened the way
for peace in the Middle East. It is my fervent hope that from such a
peace will flow a spirit of greater cooperation not only between the
Arabs and Israelis but among all peoples . We are now host to AN INTERNATIONAL
[REDACTED] meeting [REDACTED] here in Washington on the oil crisis .

To solve the energy crisis, we are concentrating all our energies
---at home and in relations with other Nations --- to conciliate, moderate,
mediate
and [REDACTED] . We are proceeding, in the spirit of Abraham Lincoln, with
malice toward none.

We have run short of gasoline. But we have not run short of our
traditional American determination to overcome adversity. And we have
not run short of American know-how. Or American initiative. Or
American courage . Or American patriotism .

Abraham Lincoln's birthday,
As we celebrate [REDACTED] we seek the
moral and spiritual idealism that inspired Abraham Lincoln . We
seek to reconcile differences with all nations and among ourselves .

Our great [REDACTED] challenge is not [REDACTED] in seeking fights
with anyone in the world . It is in avoiding conflict and in building peace
and friendship with all people .

Our true ~~challenge~~ is to harness the natural resources and ~~intelligence~~ genius of humanity to assure better lives for all Americans and all mankind .

so
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we dedicate ourselves to reconciling differences and achieving solutions within the United States . [REDACTED]

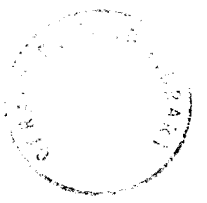
I believe in the United States and in our capacities .
I ~~am~~ draw fresh inspiration from this patriotic assembly •

FROM HERE
[REDACTED]. Let us go forth with a new [REDACTED]
^
dedication to America which has so richly been blessed by the
Supreme Creator.

I pray that God bless our efforts to promote ~~peace~~^{and justice} at home and abroad ~~and~~ and that He strengthen the bonds of friendship and fellowship among the inhabitants of all lands .



REMARKS BY VICE PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD
AT THE 1974 WOMEN'S FORUM ON NATIONAL SECURITY
AT THE WASHINGTON HILTON HOTEL
7:30 p.m. MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1974



FOR RELEASE AT 7:30 p.m. MONDAY

Tonight I wish to express my profound appreciation to the Women's Forum on National Security for dedicating this beautiful dinner to the leadership of the Administration of President Richard M. Nixon.

I am honored to appear before you as spokesman for this Administration.

You are genuine advocates of peace. Our aspirations for peaceful relations with all other nations rest upon the sense of security and patriotism you help to generate through your many chapters and posts from the Atlantic coast to the shores of the Hawaii Islands. Your devotion to the preservation of freedom is in the finest tradition of the United States.

I wish to address myself tonight to the role of defense in the service of peace. Dr. Henry Kissinger, our Secretary of State, will go next month to Moscow to continue efforts that have already produced remarkable progress on the road to lasting peace. Dr. Kissinger is truly our Secretary of Peace. And our Secretary of Defense, Dr. Schlesinger, has strengthened Dr. Kissinger's hand by submitting a new defense budget that reinforces the credibility of American power.

Our Cabinet includes three professors. You might say the peace movement has taken over the Nixon Administration. Dr. Kissinger flies to the corners of the earth in pursuit of peace. Dr. Schlesinger guides a Defense establishment to assure peace. And Dr. Shultz, our Secretary of the Treasury, pays the bills.

The new defense budget is the first in over 10 years that does not provide for the support of American forces actively in combat. It is a budget designed to carry us through the delicate transition from long and arduous war to a period of enduring peace.

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To have peace, we must be capable of defense to deter aggression. Unless the United States maintains its strength and resolve, there is little incentive for potential adversaries to keep the peace. That is why our first defense budget of the post-Vietnam era is so important.

We have extricated ourselves from the war in Vietnam. We achieved peace with honor and liberated our brave men who suffered so long as prisoners of war. We ended the draft and created an all-volunteer armed service. We reached understandings with the Soviet Union that would have been unthinkable years ago. We negotiated a new relationship with the People's Republic of China. And -- by a masterpiece of diplomacy -- we separated the armies of the Egyptians and Israelis, bringing the world back from the brink of catastrophe.

We are not the policeman of the world. But we continue to be the backbone of free world collective security. We are aware that the Soviet Union continues to pursue an extensive program to develop powerful new military weapons.

Even as we have reduced U.S. forces and defense spending -- measured in dollars of constant purchasing power -- Soviet forces and spending have increased. To prevent a serious imbalance, we must continue to modernize and improve the readiness of our combat forces.

President Nixon has created a climate of peace. Secretary Kissinger is a superb negotiator. The Soviet Union, by word and deed, has indicated a readiness to negotiate. Therefore, I sincerely hope that negotiations toward strategic arms limitations and mutual and balanced force reductions will be successful in preserving the present balance and in further reducing the threat of war.

It is essential to maintain adequate force levels and a technological lead while negotiations continue. If negotiations fail and the Soviet Union seeks military advantage, the United States must be prepared to increase its forces quickly and effectively.

Decisions made in 1974 will shape the ability of our forces to maintain their strength 5 to 10 years from now. This is because of the time required for development and deployment of major weapons systems.

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We learned much from the tragic Middle East warfare last October. Specific material shortages were brought to light during the crisis. The new budget would eliminate those shortages. As a result of the events in October, we are increasing the readiness of ships, aircraft, and weapons, having adopted more realistic estimates.

A supplemental defense request reflects the most urgent deficiencies of our forces. We must increase our airlift capacity and buy certain weapons and equipment now in short supply.

Lessons of the Middle East war will be applied by giving high priority to programs such as modern antitank weapons, tanks, air defense of land forces and its opposite, defense suppression, improved munitions and more substantial stocks.

There are innovations to meet possible emergencies.

We are proposing, for instance, in the new budget to modify some commercial aircraft in order that they might have the required capacity to meet military cargo requirements. Because of our Middle East experience, we intend to improve our airlift capacity to deploy forces overseas in time of crisis.

Our force structure is much smaller than it has been since the Korean war. It is reduced by almost 40% from the 1968 Vietnam peak. If we are to have a credible peacetime deterrent force, we cannot allow our defense to shrink further. By strengthening airlift capacities and the strategic reserve, we will have fewer forces tied to a specific theater and greater flexibility in assignment during a crisis.

Admiral Moorer, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, reported to the Senate Armed Services Committee that Soviet modernization programs "could place the United States in a position of strategic inferiority in the foreseeable years ahead." The admiral pointed out that a major shift in the naval balance is taking place. The U. S. Navy's carrier and amphibious task forces still give us the edge in the global reach of our fleets. The Soviet Union, however, is building a powerful navy, including an aircraft carrier force that brings a new era in the projection of

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Russian seapower. The Soviet carriers are not yet comparable to U. S. Carriers. But, with other new Soviet warships, they strengthen the ability of Soviet forces to operate worldwide.

Moscow is placing new emphasis on projecting military power from the sea as a national policy. Soviet naval forces are more frequently deployed in areas of serious international concern.

Detente is our goal. Its achievement requires that we be strong enough to negotiate with confidence. We must insure that our good will is not misconstrued as lack of will. An era of peace is within reach. To reach that objective, we have no alternative but to maintain a strong defense.

Your membership includes such groups as the Gold Star Mothers and the Gold Star Wives and the Ladies Auxiliary of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. You have experienced at first hand the sacrifices of war. We want to make sure that not a single additional mother or wife ever receives the tragic telegrams that you received.

I wanted to share with you my thinking on why we must not risk the peace that our President and our Secretary of State have done so much to promote. We will not betray your dedication to peace.

Tomorrow is the 165th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birthday. We strive to fulfill Abraham Lincoln's vision of binding up the Nation's wounds as we move forward -- in the aftermath of Vietnam -- to meet the challenges of our time.

In his Second Inaugural Address, Abraham Lincoln advocated "a just and lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations." Lincoln addressed himself to a nation then divided. Today -- 100 years later -- we face different kinds of division and dissension. We search for new answers to new problems.

I want to tell you tonight of my confidence that we will solve the very serious problems of today -- the issues of the energy shortage, inflation, unemployment, and even the transient readjustment crisis resulting in such upheavals as the interstate truck strike.

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Our task is not easy. But I have faith in America. This is the same Nation that re-united after the Civil War to become the greatest and most inspiring republic the world has ever know. This is the same nation that -- through its system of democracy and free enterprise -- achieved technological and human growth which we generously shared with all mankind. This is the same Nation that transcended recessions and depressions to move forward to even higher levels of existence. And this is the same nation that recovered from the calamity of December 7, 1941, at Pearl Harbor to defeat powerful enemies.

Abraham Lincoln was forced to wage a war. His deeper instincts were those of conciliator, mediator, and moderator. Abraham Lincoln would be very proud of the work this Administration has done overseas to reconcile differences and promote peace.



I am proud to be part of an Administration that has opened the way for peace in the Middle East. It is my fervent hope that from such a peace will flow a spirit of greater cooperation not only between the Arabs and Israelis but among all peoples. We are now host to an international meeting here in Washington on the oil crisis.

To solve the energy crisis, we are concentrating all our energies -- at home and in relations with other Nations -- to conciliate, moderate, and mediate. We are proceeding, in the spirit of Abraham Lincoln, with malice toward none.

We have run short of gasoline. But we have not run short of our traditional American determination to overcome adversity. And we have not run short of American know-how. Or American initiative. Or American courage. Or American patriotism.

As we celebrate Abraham Lincoln's birthday, we seek the moral and spiritual idealism that inspired Lincoln. We seek to reconcile differences with all nations and among ourselves.

Our great challenge is not in seeking fights with anyone in the world. It is in avoiding conflict and in buiding peace and friendship with all people.

Our true task is to harness the natural resources and productive genius of humanity to assure better lives for all Americans and all mankind.

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Just as we now take pride in the first peaceful Lincoln's birthday in many years, when no Americans are fighting abroad, so we dedicate ourselves to reconciling differences and achieving solutions within the United States.

I believe in the United States and in our capacities.

I draw fresh inspiration from this patriotic assembly.

Let us go forth from here with a new dedication to America which has been so richly blessed by the Supreme Creator.

I pray that God bless our efforts to promote peace and justice at home and abroad, and that He strengthen the bonds of friendship and fellowship among the inhabitants of all lands.



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