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*Distribution: Fifth Dist News Media*  
4:30 p.m. 8/4/69

GERALD R. FORD  
FIFTH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

MICHIGAN OFFICE:  
425 CHERRY STREET SE.  
GRAND RAPIDS 49502

**Congress of the United States**  
**Office of the Minority Leader**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

NOTE TO NEWS MEDIA:

I have received the following reply from F.B.I. Director J. Edgar Hoover in response to my request that the F.B.I. render the greatest assistance possible in connection with solution of the series of co-ed slayings in the Ypsilanti-Ann Arbor area. I thought Mr. Hoover's letter would be of interest to you. You may make whatever use of it you wish.

Gerald R. Ford, M.C.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR



*Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.*

**August 1, 1969**

**Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515**

**My dear Congressman:**

I have received your letter of July 30, 1969, and certainly appreciate the deep interest and concern which prompted you to write me regarding the series of murders of young women in the State of Michigan.

Our Detroit Field Office has been in very close contact with Michigan authorities regarding these atrocious crimes; and as recently as July 30th, at the instructions of Attorney General John N. Mitchell, Mr. Paul H. Stoddard, our Special Agent in Charge in Detroit, contacted Governor William G. Milliken and State Attorney General Frank J. Kelley to reiterate the immediate and continuing availability of the FBI's cooperative facilities--including the scientific services of our Laboratory and Identification Divisions--as well as our preparedness to cover investigative leads in these murders outside the State of Michigan.

Mr. Stoddard was also instructed to determine what facts had been established to indicate a possible violation of Federal law. In the absence of such facts, the FBI does not have the authority to assume jurisdiction over these or any other local crimes; and Attorney General Mitchell accordingly advised Governor Milliken by telegram yesterday.



Honorable Gerald R. Ford

I want to assure you that every item of information obtained by this Bureau--including criminal intelligence data furnished by our confidential informants--having any possible bearing whatsoever on these murder cases has been, and will continue to be, disseminated immediately to the appropriate officials and agencies of your state. I also want you to know that we in the FBI share your deep personal concern in this matter; and you may be assured that, within its rightful jurisdiction and authority, this Bureau will continue to extend every form of cooperation possible to the law enforcement agencies of Michigan to help identify and bring to justice the individual or individuals responsible for these vicious murders.

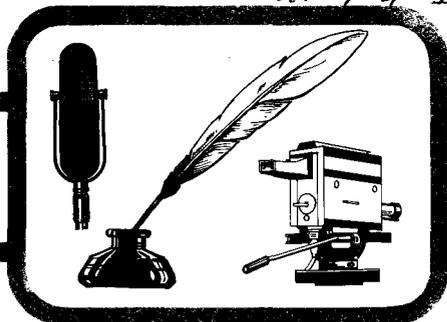
Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



*Distribution: 5th Dist. Air Mail 3:30 p.m.  
7/30/69  
UP & UPI Acc 3:15 p.m.  
7/30/69*

*M Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**



--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--  
July 30, 1969

NOTE TO NEWS MEDIA: I have today formally requested that the F.B.I. investigate the series of murders in the Ypsilanti-Ann Arbor area of Michigan. This request is based on the Lindbergh Law as statutory authority. My letter to the F.B.I. follows:

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am writing you to formally request that the F.B.I. join in investigating the series of seven kidnapping-murders which have occurred in the Ypsilanti-Ann Arbor area of Michigan over a two-year period to the present.

The latest victim was Karen Sue Beineman, an 18-year-old Eastern Michigan University student from Grand Rapids, Michigan, in my congressional district.

There is reason to believe that all of the slayings were committed by the same killer, a sex fiend who strangles and beats his victims.

Since the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area is less than 50 miles from Toledo, Ohio, I think there can be a presumption that the killer has at some time or other crossed the state line with one or more of the girls he has lured to an early and horrible death.

Col. Frederic Davids, head of the Michigan State Police, has informed me that the Beineman case has offered local and State police authorities the best lead yet in this series of murders. That lead is the fact that Karen Sue Beineman was seen getting on a motorcycle behind a curly-haired young man and was never seen alive again.

The fact that Miss Beineman last was seen riding on a motorcycle leads me to believe that the killer may have crossed the Ohio state line with her. Certainly we can make that presumption, and this would provide the basis for the F.B.I. entering the case.

I have been besieged with telephone calls and telegrams from Grand Rapids parents urging that the F.B.I. come into the case. I personally feel that this is a case which requires a total mobilization of Federal, State and local investigative effort if it is to be solved.

There is even talk among some Grand Rapids residents to the effect that parents with young girls attending the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University should withdraw their daughters from school until this series of slayings is cleared up.

Please give this matter your immediate and most serious consideration. I hope and pray for a favorable decision.

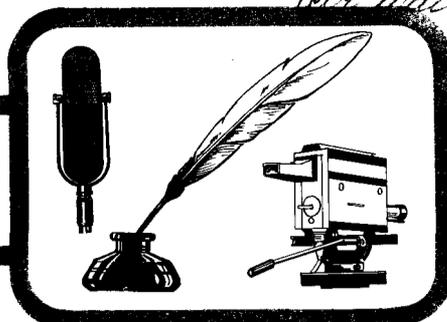
Best regards,

Gerald R. Ford, M.C.

GRF:pc

*distribution: Full  
Halloran - 11:30 a.m. 8/5/69  
Walt Mail - 12 noon 8/5/69*

*M Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

FOR RELEASE AT 12 NOON  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 1969

Remarks by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., in connection with introduction of a bill providing for the minting of a commemorative half-dollar as a proof coin bearing designs honoring the Apollo 11 astronauts and commemorating the Apollo 11 moon flight.

Mr. Speaker, I have today introduced legislation which provides for the minting of new non-silver half dollars as proof coins commemorating the epic flight of Apollo 11.

Mr. Speaker, the new non-silver half dollar I have proposed for minting would not supplant the Kennedy half dollar nor would it circulate in competition with it and thus create confusion. The moon mission half dollar could be obtained only by placing an order with the Treasury Department, which would sell the coins at a price not to exceed \$1.

The moon mission half dollar would be a special commemorative coin with the likenesses of Neil Armstrong, Edwin Aldrin Jr., and Michael Collins on the one side and the lunar module on the surface of the moon on the other.

Under my bill, the Treasury Department would receive orders for the moon mission coin until Dec. 31, 1970. Not only residents of the United States but also residents of foreign countries could buy the coins from the Treasury. I felt this was appropriate since the Apollo 11 moon mission really belongs to the world. As Neil Armstrong said, it was "one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." I think people throughout the world should have an opportunity to buy a moon mission half dollar.

Mr. Speaker, as so often happens in matters of this kind, the sponsor of a bill is not always its originator. In the case of the moon mission half dollar, I would like it known that Hugh Downs, host of the NBC "Today" show, suggested the idea.

One last comment. I think the half dollar is the ideal coin for a moon mission commemorative coin because in a sense it will honor not only all our Apollo astronauts--including the late Roger Chaffee of Grand Rapids, Mich.--but also the late President John F. Kennedy. We all recall that it was Jack Kennedy who in ringing tones told the world America would put men on the moon before the end of this decade. We have realized that dream. We have accomplished that objective. I think Jack Kennedy would have been proud to have a moon flight half-dollar memorialize the reaching of his goal.

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FOR USE ON RECEIPT

*M Office Copy*

Mines began exploding all over the place, like giant firecrackers, and rifle fire ripped the air.

Of 30 Americans sent out from the 198th Infantry Brigade toward the village 10 miles south of Chu Lai, 19 fell as shrapnel tore their bodies. One man, hit by rifle fire as well, died.

Sp/4 Paul Ceton of Grand Rapids, Mich., clutched at his right eye and moaned. By the time the helicopters dropped down on their mercy mission, he was in a state of partial shock.

A whirlybird whisked Paul off to a field hospital in Chu Lai. From there he was taken to the U.S.S. Sanctuary, lying at anchor off the South Vietnam coast. An eye specialist on the ship said there was nothing to do but remove Paul's eye, and he did. The shrapnel had done too much damage.

The year was 1968. Paul Ceton had served in Vietnam for three months when he lost his eye.

From the ship he was taken to Danang, which was hit by Viet Cong rockets that same night.

From Danang Paul was flown as a stretcher case to the Phillipines, Japan, Alaska and to Scott Air Force Base. From Scott he was taken to the Great Lakes Naval Hospital, where he recuperated over a two-month period.

The Army sent Paul home about June 1. Home was 219 Oakley Place N.E., Grand Rapids, where he joined his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gerrit Ceton.

Paul wondered. All of his buddies who were wounded when the platoon ran into the minefield in Vietnam had received Purple Hearts while still there. He had not. But he did nothing.

On July 17, 1968, Paul Ceton was discharged from the Army. Still no Purple Heart.

Meantime his artificial eye worked well. The eye muscles had been attached to it. Anyone not knowing that Paul Ceton had lost an eye in Vietnam would never have guessed it. Paul went to work in August 1968 as a stockman and warehouseman at Horne Building Specialties, Inc., 2768 East Paris S.E., Grand Rapids.

In January 1969 Paul's twin brother, Daniel, was inducted into the Army after graduating from Western Michigan University.

It bothered Dan that Paul had never received a Purple Heart for the wound he suffered in Vietnam, and so Dan wrote to Congressman Gerald R. Ford.

(more)

Ford immediately contacted the Army and urged that their records be searched.

Near the end of May the Adjutant General's Office assured Ford that Paul Ceton was entitled to a Purple Heart and that the decoration would be presented to him in a ceremony at Fort Sheridan, Ill. Ford wrote back asking to be notified when the ceremony had been scheduled.

Weeks passed and Ford's office heard nothing. Finally Ford learned in a letter from Paul Ceton himself that he had received his Purple Heart by mail.

Asked why he had not gone to Ft. Sheridan for the Purple Heart presentation, Paul said simply: "We have about 20 men working here at Horne Building Specialties, and when one guy is gone it makes a difference. I just didn't want to take that much time off from work."

Paul talks casually now about the loss of his eye. He apparently has taken it well.

In a simple yet most eloquent statement, Paul told Ford's office: "I was thankful, because there are a lot of other guys who made greater sacrifices. America has given me 23 years of freedom. That's the least I could do in return."

Paul says his left eye, which had been the weaker, now is stronger because he has to rely on it entirely. Initially he had depth perception problems but he adjusted. He even plays basketball -- and plays it well.

His mother and his girl friend are very pleased that Paul finally received his Purple Heart. So is his twin brother, Dan, now serving with the Army in Heidelberg, Germany.

Paul wrote a two-page letter to Ford, saying in part: "It is truly wonderful that a man in your position would take the time to see that I got my Purple Heart. I can't tell you how much I appreciate what you have done for me." He later added in a conversation with Ford's office: "It's really tremendous that someone high up in Washington would do this for me."

Ford commented: "It's fellows like Paul Ceton who make me very proud to be an American."

What does the future hold for Paul Ceton? He had attended Grand Rapids Junior College for one year when the Army called him on Oct. 11, 1966. He hopes ultimately to return to school and get a college degree, like brother Dan.

# # #

*Distribution: Full*

*Delivered 11:40 a.m. 8/7/69  
Air Mail 12:00 noon 8/7/69*

*M Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE AT 12 NOON--  
August 7, 1969

Statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., to be placed in the Congressional Record of Thursday, August 7, 1969, immediately following the President's Message on Public Transportation.

Mr. Speaker:

Today nearly 80 percent of all Americans live in cities. By the year 2000 it will be 90 percent. In the next 30 years our population will increase by more than 100 million and almost all of it will be in our cities. Imagine, if you will, an urban population twice what it is today.

Urban dwellers depend almost exclusively on the automobile to meet transportation needs. There are now more than 80 million cars in use in the United States. An estimated 160 million will be on the roads in 2000.

As automobile use has grown, public transportation has declined in both quality and availability. This heavy reliance on the automobile for urban transportation has greatly disadvantaged the poor. While nearly all families with incomes in excess of \$10,000 have a car -- and those who don't, rent one as needed -- less than half of those with poverty-level incomes own an automobile.

Most new jobs are opening in suburban or rural industrial areas, locations made feasible in most cases by construction of the Federally-financed Interstate Highway System. If an unemployed person has no car of his own and cannot work out a car pool arrangement, he cannot get the good job unless there is public transportation. If he is lucky enough to have public transportation, it is usually low quality, increasingly expensive, very often so indirect that a 20-mile ride takes an hour and a half and several transfers.

If urban residents are to have a real choice in how they move about, and whether they move at all, an estimated \$20 billion is going to have to be spent on public transportation in the next 12 years.

Our cities, alone, cannot carry this burden. State and local public debt now exceeds \$100 billion. Over the next 10 years it may well exceed \$250 billion. Federal funding for public transportation must be substantial and available on an assured basis.

Funding must be sufficient to help finance major urban transportation projects and to provide aid for medium and small cities.

(more)

The need is great and time works relentlessly against us. This is ample reason to back the public transportation legislation proposed by President Nixon.

With his Message on Public Transportation, President Nixon has laid down a blueprint for action -- action not only by the Federal Government but by the States and local units of government. For the legislation he proposes would not simply improve existing facilities and provide for new facilities and more research. It would also supply urgently needed financial support to the states and local bodies for the advance acquisition of property rights-of-way.

The President's proposals would start the country moving to solve its public transportation problems.

This 12-year program proposed by Mr. Nixon would amount to \$10 billion in Federal funds, actually a meager sum when compared with our space effort, our war effort and our highway effort.

The time has passed for us to study and re-study our public transportation problems. It is time to act -- now.

I ask that this legislation be given speedy approval. We must back up this program with our votes.

There is hardly a state in the Nation that does not have a complaint about transportation. In fact, you now have to go into remote parts of our country to escape from congestion, smog and the masses of people trying to get from their homes to work and back home again.

Now is the time to show the great mass of Americans that we know and recognize their dilemma and that we are determined to do something about it.

# # #

*Distribution: Gull*

*Call time 11:45 p.m. 8/11/69  
Air Mail 12:10 noon 8/11/69*

*Office Copy*

Statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., regarding President Nixon's Message on Welfare Reform, to be placed in the Congressional Record of August 11, 1969

For Release at 12 Noon, August 11, 1969

Mr. Speaker, I strongly agree with President Nixon that the present welfare system is a complete failure and should be abolished. I further agree with him that it is far better to develop an entirely new system of family assistance than to try to patch up and improve the existing system.

Mr. Speaker, President Nixon's Message on Family Assistance, sent to the Congress today, is an historic document in more than the usual sense. It is an historic declaration because it breaks new ground in the history of American government and our attempts to perfect the American system.

There are several features in the President's new family assistance plan which I believe especially commend it to the American people and to the Congress.

One of these features is the enlargement of opportunities which the President's Family Assistance Plan offers to those now on welfare but able to work and to the working poor who need an assist to enter the economic mainstream of this country.

Another is the emphasis that the President's plan places on keeping families together. The family is the basic building block of our society. The President's Family Assistance Plan furnishes the foundation for economically deprived American families to stay together and thus serves to undergird our society as a whole.

Finally, although the Family Assistance Plan initially would cost more than the present welfare system, the President's new assistance program means greater equity for the taxpayer.

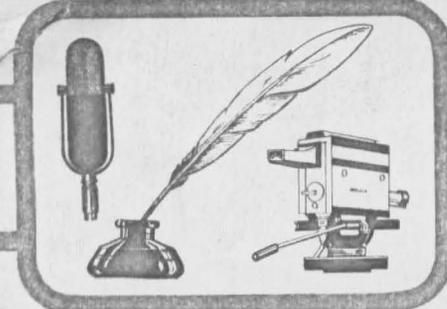
We are telling the taxpayer that those who are able to work must work or take training if they are to receive Government assistance, except in the case of mothers with children under six.

Mr. Speaker, President Nixon's program is a bridge to full opportunity for the able-bodied welfare recipient and for the working poor and a stride toward equity for the taxpayer.

Looked at in the aggregate, the Family Assistance Program is designed to break the vicious cycle of welfarism and at the same time provide those who cannot work with a basic economic floor.

Mr. Speaker, I think all members of Congress recognize that the present welfare system is a colossal failure. I urge that members of both bodies look at the President's Family Assistance Plan as the handle which will enable America to lift itself out of the rut of welfarism and to move ahead to a brighter day.

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CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

~~FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE~~  
August 8, 1969

Statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, Republican Leader, U.S. House of Representatives

*August 11, 1969*

I believe all Americans will welcome the bold new initiatives outlined by President Nixon tonight ~~as~~ a move to relax the muscle-bound Federal Government's stranglehold on people, programs and money.

What I see in the President's proposals in the areas of welfare, manpower training and sharing of federal revenue with the states and cities is an attempt to make government at all levels work better for all the people of America.

The course the President has charted is a far better way of solving problems in America than the path we have been pursuing.

I would describe the President's welfare plans as Family Assistance Reform, or FAR, because I see his proposals for welfare reform lifting economically handicapped Americans out of the slough of despair and placing them on a road to a better life.

FAR is an effort to give every Americanable to work the incentive to work, the desire to stand on his own two feet. For the first time, if the President's proposals are enacted, it would always pay an American to work instead of going on welfare. This is the true spirit of America.

The old welfare system born in the depression days of the Thirties perpetuates welfarism and kills decency in man. In addition, it taxes working Americans so that others may live in idleness. Like the tax reform bill just passed by the House, President Nixon's welfare reform program will be a great leap forward for the taxpayer.

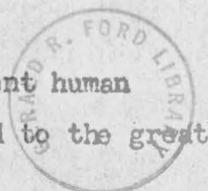
I also applaud the President's plans to reorganize Federal manpower training programs to make them perform better and to give the States and localities the opportunity to operate them in a manner geared to local needs.

Establishing innovation as the primary role of the Office of Economic Opportunity in the war against poverty also will serve to promote our national objectives.

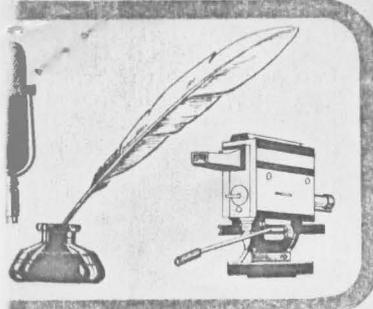
I was particularly impressed with the overall theme of the President's message to the people--that of a New Federalism, the placing of more power and responsibility in the hands of the States and the cities.

If the States and cities are to assume more responsibility, they must have more funds. Sharing of Federal revenue with them is the best way to solve the many domestic problems which confront us.

Overall, the proposals outlined by President Nixon tonight represent human investment--and investment in people--and for people--which will redound to the great good of the country.



Hunter NYT



CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

NEWS  
RELEASE

10 p.m.  
--FOR ~~10 p.m.~~ RELEASE--  
August 8, 1969

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Overall, the proposals outlined by President Nixon tonight represent human investment--and investment in people--and for people--which will redound to the great good of the country.

Remarks by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., to be placed in the body of the Congressional Record of Monday, August 11, 1969.

Mr. Speaker:

I believe all Americans will welcome the bold new initiatives outlined by President Nixon last Friday night as a move to relax the muscle-bound Federal Government's stranglehold on people, programs and money.

What I see in the President's proposals in the areas of welfare, manpower training and sharing of federal revenue with the states and cities is an attempt to make government at all levels work better for all the people of America.

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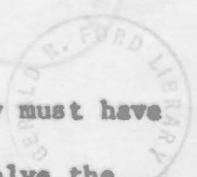
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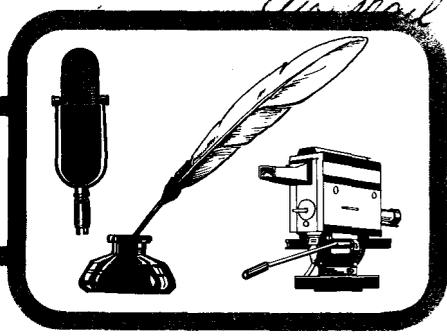
Overall, the proposals outlined by President Nixon tonight represent human investment -- an investment in people and for people -- which will redound to the great good of the country.

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*Distribution: Full.  
Balances 12:00 noon 8/12/69  
Air Mail 12:30 p.m. 8/12/69*

*M Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**



--FOR RELEASE AT 2 P.M. EDT--  
August 12, 1969

Statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., to be placed in the Congressional Record of August 12, 1969, immediately following the President's Manpower Training Message.

President Nixon's manpower training message is a vital part of the overall formula he has produced to bring disadvantaged Americans into the economic mainstream and to bring more funds and greater responsibilities to the states and local communities.

With this message, President Nixon has declared it a national objective that we extend to every American the opportunity to learn a job skill and to fulfill all of his capabilities. This, I believe, is a national goal the Congress should endorse and embrace.

There is no question that the most efficient and effective implementation of our manpower training programs is necessary if we are to meet our commitment of helping people get off welfare rolls and onto payrolls.

Every feature of the President's 7-point Comprehensive Manpower Training Act is important, but I would call attention especially to the need for flexible funding, the provision for decentralized administration "as Governors and Mayors evidence interest, build managerial capacity and demonstrate effective performance," proposed establishment of a National Computerized Job Bank long advocated by the House Republican Leadership, and proposed use of the comprehensive manpower training system as an economic stabilizer.

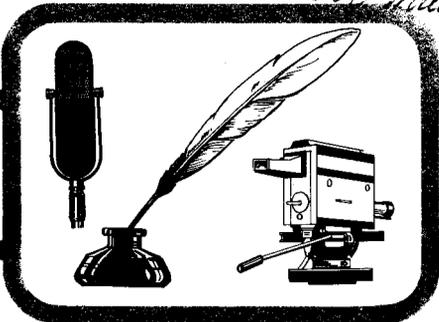
The last of these points is one which deserves the closest possible congressional attention.

While many economic stabilizers have been built into the American economic system, we cannot have too many safeguards against potential economic problems.

President Nixon's proposal that appropriations for manpower services be increased by 10 per cent if the jobless rate rises to 4.5 per cent or more for three consecutive months is one that appears to have great merit. It would be a welcome addition to an economic arsenal that for too long has contained little else but pump-priming mechanisms.

*Distribution: Full .  
Hallways 11:45 a.m. 8/13/69  
by Mail 12:05 p.m. 8/13/69*

*Media Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**



--FOR RELEASE AT 2 P.M. EDT--  
August 13, 1969

Statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., to be placed in the Congressional Record of August 13, 1969, immediately following the President's Message on Revenue Sharing.

Mr. Speaker:

Incentive and extra effort have always been essential elements of success.

It is just those elements that would be generated by Federal revenue sharing, as proposed today by President Nixon.

Throughout the President's proposal for diversion of an assured portion of Federal income tax revenue to the states and local units of government is woven the idea of greater responsibility for those units of government, for governing bodies closer to the people than is the Federal Legislature.

As a supplement to other Federal aid, revenue sharing can be the catalyst for problem-solving on a scale we have never yet witnessed in America, problem-solving at the local level on the basis of priorities viewed as local people see them in their own communities.

The House Republican Leadership has long urged the adoption of Federal revenue sharing. Together with the President's new Family Assistance Program and his Comprehensive Manpower Training Act, revenue sharing would supply the cement for the building of a better America.

This is the New Federalism the President spoke of last Friday night--a channeling of new funds and new responsibilities to states and local communities, a movement which will return government to the people.

Mr. Speaker, any proposal as bold as Federal revenue sharing will require deep study and concentration within the Congress. I am hopeful that hearings on the President's revenue sharing plan will begin very soon in the House and move steadily to a favorable conclusion.

President Nixon's revenue-sharing plan is a proposal which speaks to the future of America, a program which is needed to revitalize the American political system and the people it serves.

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[Aug. 1969]

All levels of government, industry, schools and other interested organizations must launch a concerted effort to end economic stagnation and poverty in rural America, Rep. Gerald R. Ford of Grand Rapids said today.

Ford said there is a tremendous imbalance with regard to how fully rural and urban America share in the economic product of the Nation. He cited lower income levels and lessened economic opportunities in rural America and the disproportionate number of rural citizens living in poverty.

One of the best ways to end this imbalance, Ford said, is to attract industry to rural locations.

Rural areas have much to offer industry as the location for new plants, Ford declared, but they need the help of all governmental units to bring in new industry and the jobs it would generate.

Not only would new industry provide needed jobs for the rural poor; it would also, Ford said, establish an adequate economic base for future development of rural areas.

The Federal Government should provide economic development assistance to these areas, Ford said, so that they can exploit their natural advantages--a willing work force, uncrowded living and working conditions, and abundant natural resources.

Ford said rural areas need assistance to provide better transportation services, better schools and better public utilities. With such assistance, Ford said, rural areas could compete with their urban neighbors for industry.

Ford said the establishment and expansion of area technical schools is highly important in this connection. Such schools, he said, produce a skilled work force available to industry in rural America.

Ford said another key weapon against rural stagnation is improvement of farm income.

He pointed out that the rural economy lost \$11 billion between 1963 and 1968 due to failure of farm income to keep pace with non-agricultural income.

A substantial boost in farm income, he said, would be a tremendous help in combatting rural poverty. He noted that this would generate increased business activity and thus create many new jobs and new business opportunities. Finally, he said, this would in turn produce additional tax revenues for rural towns, which then could provide their people with better transportation, schools and other services.

Ford said: "I hope and trust that these matters are receiving full consideration by United States Agriculture Department planners as they develop a farm program to be presented to the Congress shortly."

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All levels of government, industry, schools and other interested organizations must launch a concerted effort to end economic stagnation and poverty in rural America, Rep. Gerald R. Ford of Grand Rapids said today.

Ford said there is a tremendous imbalance with regard to how fully rural and urban America share in the economic product of the Nation. He cited lower income levels and lessened economic opportunities in rural America and the disproportionate number of rural citizens living in poverty.

One of the best ways to end this imbalance, Ford said, is to attract industry to rural locations.

Rural areas have much to offer industry as the location for new plants, Ford declared, but they need the help of all governmental units to bring in new industry and the jobs it would generate.

Not only would new industry provide needed jobs for the rural poor; it would also, Ford said, establish an adequate economic base for future development of rural areas.

The Federal Government should provide economic development assistance to these areas, Ford said, so that they can exploit their natural advantages--a willing work force, uncrowded living and working conditions, and abundant natural resources.

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8/29/69

Congressional hearings will begin Sept. 25 on anti-obscenity legislation, including three bills on the subject by Congressman Gerald R. Ford of Grand Rapids.

Ford's bills are among those on which testimony will be taken by a subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee. Ford's legislation is based on an Anti-Obscenity Message sent to the Congress May 2 by President Nixon.

"I hope the Judiciary Committee finds it possible to agree rather quickly on legislation which will prove effective," Ford said. "I found that anti-obscenity legislation was one of the chief topics of conversation when I visited my congressional district during the August congressional recess."

Congressional interest in anti-obscenity measures parallels that of the folks back home. More than 200 anti-obscenity bills have been introduced in the 91st Congress.

Ford has sponsored three bills--the Administration bills recommended by President Nixon to halt the mailing of obscene literature and advertisements.

The first bill would place a flat ban on the sending of any obscene material to a person under 18 years of age.

The second bill would require those sending pandering advertising materials through the mail to first purchase from the Post Office Department a list of all families which do not want such mail. Any smut peddler who then persisted in sending pandering advertisements to such families would be subject to fine or imprisonment.

The third Ford bill makes it a Federal crime to mail or transport in interstate commerce an advertisement intended to produce a market for obscene materials by stimulating prurient interest in the recipient.

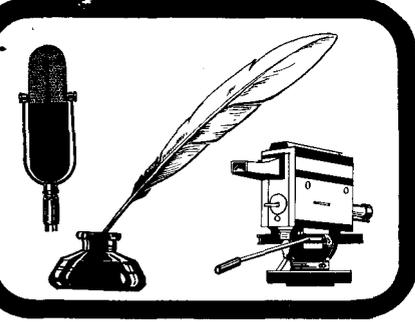
The Ford bill dealing with obscene mailings to persons under 18 is based on a New York statute which has been upheld by the Supreme Court. Violation would be punishable with a prison term of up to five years and a \$50,000 fine.

Ford commented: "These Administration bills calling for a crackdown on mail peddlers of pornography and smut have strong support in the 91st Congress. The need for this legislation is well-established. The Administration has requested these laws and will enforce them. The Congress should move promptly to enact these measures."

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[Sept. 1969]



CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE ON RECEIPT--

Rep. Jerry Ford Plays Cupid  
In Trans-Atlantic Romance

The fellow who first remarked that the course of true love seldom runs smooth might have added: If you have a problem, take it to your congressman.

That's what sweet young Maureen Szymczak of Grand Rapids did when she ran into bad luck with love last Spring. With the help of Rep. Gerald R. Ford, wedding bells will ring for her in October.

For Maureen, love was a grand adventure that happened to her in Europe in the summer of 1967. It budded and bloomed in Munich when she remained on the continent after a three-week Grand Rapids Junior College tour in 1966.

She lived in Europe for a year and a half, first visiting with a sister married to a U.S. serviceman stationed in Bremerhaven and then working in Copenhagen. She vacationed in Greece and Spain during the summer of 1967 and then found work at a hotel in Munich, Germany when she ran out of money.

It was at the hotel that she met Giancarlo Vanin, an Italian who was an on-the-job trainee in hotel administration.

"I was working as a chambermaid," she said, "and I literally met Giancarlo over my mop and pail."

They fell madly in love, and when Maureen returned to Grand Rapids last Christmas and then enrolled at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo it was with plans for a Fall, 1968 wedding.

Maureen and Giancarlo agreed that he should come to Grand Rapids on a visitor's visa in August so he could meet her family and they could be married in September at St. James Catholic Church. After their marriage, they would travel to Munich where Giancarlo would resume his training in hotel administration.

But then the blow fell. Giancarlo was turned down cold when he went to the American consulate in Munich and applied for a visitor's visa so he could go to Grand Rapids to marry Maureen. The official at the consulate told him he would have to apply for an immigrant visa under the quota system, a procedure which would take years because of the long waiting list.

(more)

Maureen wrote to the Immigration and Naturalization Service Office in Detroit but received no help.

Then she appealed to Congressman Ford, detailing how the American consulate official in Munich insisted there was no assurance that Giancarlo would marry during his visit to the United States and that he would return to Europe with his bride.

Ford went to work on the case. Four months, seventeen letters, three telephone calls and one notarized statement later, the American consulate informed Ford that a visitor's visa had been granted to Giancarlo. With Ford's assistance, Maureen and Giancarlo had finally satisfied the consul that they would in fact be married in Grand Rapids and would then leave for Europe.

Bubbling over with happiness, Maureen wrote Congressman Ford:

"I would like to sincerely thank you for your assistance in helping my fiance obtain the visa. We are so thrilled and excited. It's hard to believe he actually has it! It's a nice feeling to know that when you have a problem you can take it to your congressman--and get results!"

Expressing his gratitude, Giancarlo wrote Ford: "I want you to know that all my life I will never forget you. I will never forget what you did for me. I will never forget the man who with his help gave me the opportunity to go to America and marry the girl I love so much."

A daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Szymczak, 731 Stocking, N.W., Maureen will be married to Giancarlo Vanin at 6 p.m. Oct. 17 at St. James Catholic Church with Msgr. Walter Grill reading the Nuptial Mass. There will be a reception at St. Hyacinth's Club.

True to the word given the American consul in Munich, Germany, Maureen and Giancarlo will make their home there for four months after the wedding and then will live for two or three years in Rome where Carlo will complete his hotel management training. They plan ultimately to live in America.

Mrs. Szymczak hasn't met her future son-in-law yet but already she is proud of him.

"He speaks five languages," she said. "I am very happy for Maureen although I am sad at losing her." "You should have seen all the letters they wrote to each other after she came home last Christmas. This just has to be the real thing."

And that is how the course of true love was made smooth by a congressman.

[Sept. 1969]

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Ford's bills are among those on which testimony will be taken by a subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee. Ford's legislation is based on an Anti-Obscenity Message sent to the Congress May 2 by President Nixon.

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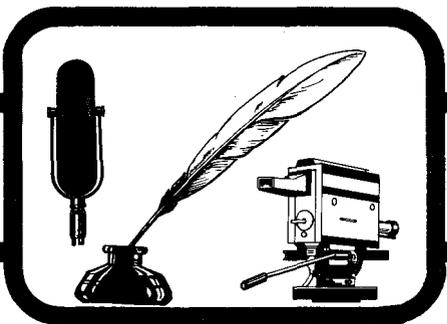
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*Distribution: Full Galleries 10:30 a.m. 9/8/69  
Air Mail 11:15 a.m. 9/8/69*

*M Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

**--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--  
September 8, 1969**

Comment on the death of Senator Dirksen

A great American is dead. Some of the life has gone out of the Congress with the departure from this life of Sen. Everett McKinley Dirksen. Of Sen. Dirksen it must be said he was larger than life. He was the kind of man who not only filled the canvas but spilled over from it. He was so colorful that whether you agreed with him or not you loved to hear him talk. He was a giant in American politics. He had a uniqueness that was peculiarly Dirksen. There was nobody like him before; there will be nobody like him again. I am proud to have been the junior half of the "Ev and Jerry Show."

###

Dirksen

10/8/69

Mr. Speaker: It was with great sadness and a feeling of deep loss that I learned Sunday afternoon of the death of the beloved Republican leader of the Senate, Everett McKinley Dirksen of Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that the skies should be overcast today and should weep, for this reflects the mood of a Nation bereft of the services of the Grand Old Man from Pekin. It is with a somber heart that I address this House today.

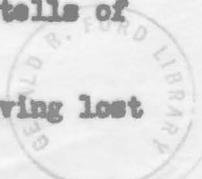
I knew Ev Dirksen well--perhaps better than most. Ours was a close relationship by virtue of our positions. Yet while I am proud to have been the junior half of the "Ev and Jerry Show," I must note that Ev never made me feel that I was junior to him. That was not his style.

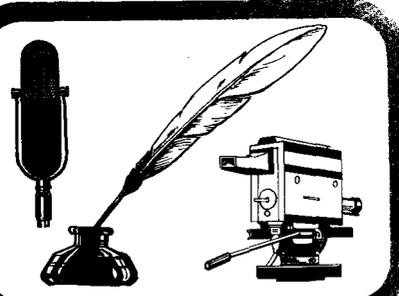
Ev was a giant in American politics. He had ~~needed~~<sup>to</sup> to steal the show from others in order to feel his full stature.

Ev was a giant as a legislator. Perhaps more than any other statesman in modern American history, Ev Dirksen was a master in the art of compromise. He captured the essence of democracy in that he made democracy work. He made manifold and tremendous contributions to the legislative shelves of this Nation.

Ev was a giant as a speaker. I know of no man who was more articulate than Ev Dirksen, whether he was speaking of landmark legislation or reminiscing about his <sup>soldiering</sup> days in ~~the~~ Europe ~~during~~ during World War I. When he was called the Wizard of Ooze, it was a good-natured compliment. It was in fact the supreme compliment

Mr. Speaker, the flag hangs at half-mast over the Capitol today. It tells of what we all feel--the loss of a great American and the heavy sorrow for having lost a dear and good friend. My wife Betty and I extend our deepest condolences to the





**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

September 10, 1969

One appointment to the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, three appointments to the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, and one appointment to the U. S. Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs are available to young men of Kent and Ionia Counties, Congressman Gerald R. Ford announced today.

These all-expense college scholarships are open to high school seniors and graduates who are interested in careers in the armed services of the United States. In addition, applicants must be U. S. citizens, under 22 years of age, unmarried, and able to pass the physical and scholastic requirements.

Applications may be obtained from Ford's Grand Rapids office at 425 Cherry Street, S.E. (telephone 456-9747) and from his Washington office in the Capitol Building. The deadline for filing applications is September 25.

Selection of the appointees from the Fifth Congressional District of Michigan will be based on the results of an open, competitive Civil Service examination to be given on Saturday, October 4th. The examination will be held at Grand Rapids, Lansing, and other cities throughout the country to accommodate those who may be residing temporarily away from home. An examination will also be conducted on Tuesday, November 4, for those who cannot report for the October examination; these applications will be considered if received as late as October 30.

Rep. Ford reported that applications also will be received for appointment to the U. S. Merchant Marine Academy and the U. S. Coast Guard Academy, but selection to these institutions is not limited to congressional districts. Michigan congressmen may nominate ten candidates for the Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York, to compete on a state-wide basis for 12 available scholarships. The Coast Guard makes its own selection of cadets to attend the Academy at New London, Connecticut, from a nation-wide competition.

"The opportunities for training and a career offered by the United States Military, Naval, Air Force, Merchant Marine, and Coast Guard Academies should be seriously considered by many young men in Kent and Ionia Counties, Rep. Ford said. He emphasized that the opportunities offered qualified young men who choose these four-year courses lead not only to a bachelor's degree in science but also to a commission in one of the Services.

"At the present time," Ford stated, "we have at the academies ten young men from Grand Rapids, two from Ionia, and one each from Cedar Springs, Comstock Park, Grandville, and Wyoming. I hope a large number of applications representing every community in the Fifth District will be received this fall."

*Distribution: Fifth District Media*  
FOR USE ON RECEIPT *Dailies - 9/15/69*  
*Weeklies - 9/12/69*

*M Office Copy*

SEE: CORRES-FORD FOR CORRESPONDENCE

Congressman Gerald R. Ford today announced that he will mail out a questionnaire to all 141,491 residences in the Fifth Congressional District to sample the thinking in Kent and Ionia Counties on the issues of the day.

"I am sending out this questionnaire," Ford said, "to get the advice of the people in the district on important questions facing the Congress." "This survey will provide me with a valuable guide in voting on legislation. While I must bear the responsibility for votes I cast, it will be most helpful to me to know what my constituents think."

Ford noted that nine of the 10 questions in the poll will require yes or no answers, with no space for an undecided reply.

"I have done this because my votes in the House of Representatives must be 'yea' or 'nay,'" Ford said. "At no time can I vote 'maybe,' so I am posing these questions to my constituents on much the same basis that I will have to vote on them in the House."

One question -- that on Vietnam -- offers Fifth District constituents a multiple choice.

"I am offering a multiple choice question on Vietnam because it is a policy question which will not come up in the House as a yes or no vote on legislation," Ford explained. "In addition, it is a most complicated question, and I felt that a multiple choice was mandatory."

Ford said he had weighed the formulation of every question most carefully to make sure it was phrased fairly.

"I am not looking for any particular answer to any of the questions," Ford said. "The questions were chosen to reflect the most important issues facing the Congress, and the wording of them is intended to let the respondent make up his mind for himself."

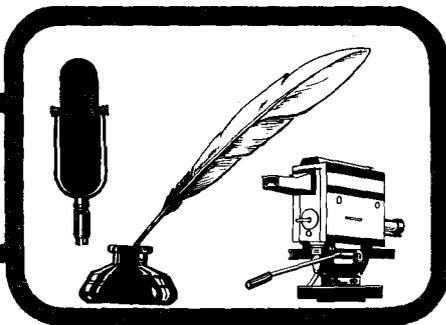
Ford added that the questions in the district poll could not parallel exactly the voting decisions he must make in the House, because the votes in the House will be on legislative language. But the basic issues, he said, will be the same.

Ford noted that his questionnaire card has been designed so that a respondent need only place a six-cent stamp on it in the designated space and mail it back. It will not be necessary to place it in an envelope or to do any addressing.

It will take about a week for all of the questionnaires to be delivered throughout Kent and Ionia Counties, Ford said. As soon as sufficient returns have been received by his office, they will be compiled and the results announced, he said.

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CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--

Remarks by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., Republican Leader, U. S. House of Representatives, on the floor of the House, Wednesday, Sept. 17, 1969.

Mr. Speaker:

President Nixon's statement yesterday concerning further troop withdrawals makes it abundantly clear that the President intends to have peace in Vietnam, but that it will be peace with honor.

Although the emphasis in the press is on the new troop withdrawal, the emphasis in this Administration is that it will not negotiate away the right of the people of South Vietnam to determine their own future, free of outside interference.

In other words, we will not abandon South Vietnam.

However, we will continue to work diligently for peace.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that it would be well to go over the steps this Administration has already taken in that effort.

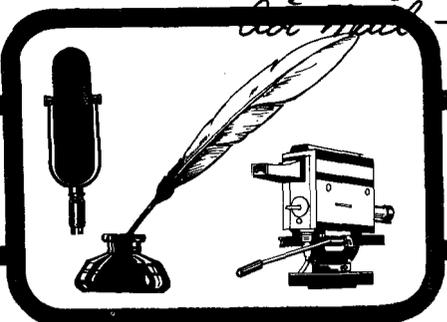
We have renounced an imposed military solution; we have proposed free elections under international supervision; we have said we will retain no military bases; we have offered to negotiate an internationally supervised cease fire; we are willing to settle for the de facto removal of North Vietnamese troops so long as there are guarantees against their return; we are prepared to accept any results of a free election and we are prepared to discuss the 10-point program put forward by the North Vietnamese.

Mr. Speaker, the President is indeed walking the extra mile in the quest for peace. It is up to the North Vietnamese to see that he does not walk it alone and in vain.

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*Distribution: Full  
Galleries - 1:45 p.m. 9/18/69  
Gov. Mich. - 2:10 p.m. 9/18/69*

*M Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--  
September 18, 1969

Remarks by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., Republican Leader, U. S. House of Representatives, on the floor of the House, Thursday, September 18, 1969.

Mr. Speaker, if the United Nations is to be more than a debating society and a propaganda forum, the members of that organization must respond meaningfully to President Nixon's urging that they persuade Hanoi to engage in productive peace negotiations at Paris.

I would like at this time to commend President Nixon for going before the United Nations to make this eloquent appeal for peace, this plea that member nations of the U.N. seek to use their good offices on behalf of an early peace in Vietnam.

Mr. Speaker, there is no problem facing this Nation that is more pressing than the Vietnam War. Any effort, therefore, that the President makes which may have beneficial results is very much to be applauded.

I mentioned yesterday during House discussion of the prisoner of war issue that world opinion counts for something even among Communist nations. I believe that to be true, and it is for that reason I feel that President Nixon's appeal to the United Nations may have some impact on North Vietnam.

If all 126 members of the U.N. were to pressure North Vietnam for more meaningful peace negotiations, I believe the result would be beneficial in the cause of peace.

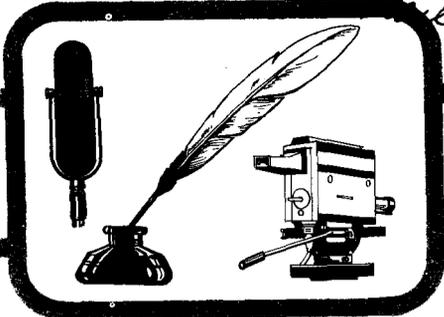
If only a fraction of the U.N. members but a sizable number were to raise their voices in protest against the unyielding position of North Vietnam at Paris, the result might be to move the other side to some degree.

Mr. Speaker, I believe President Nixon's initiative in going before the United Nations on behalf of world peace will have a salutary effect. I feel he deserves the commendation of the entire House.

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*Distribution): Full  
Galleries 11:00 a.m. 9/23/69  
A. Smith 11:20 a.m. 9/23/69*

*M Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--  
September 23, 1969

Remarks by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., Republican Leader, U. S. House of Representatives, on the floor of the House, September 23, 1969.

Mr. Speaker:

One of the underlying causes of youthful unrest in our nation is uncertainty about the future. One of the great reasons for that uncertainty is the present draft system that makes a man eligible for the draft for seven years. We all know that no man can plan his future if he never knows when the long arm of government is going to reach out and take him.

The resulting uncertainty can only breed resentment among our youth, regardless of their race or socio-economic background.

Knowing this, we have gone along with such a system far too long a time.

Finally, the time has come for us to change that system, for it will be done either by Congressional action or -- if we refuse -- by Executive decision.

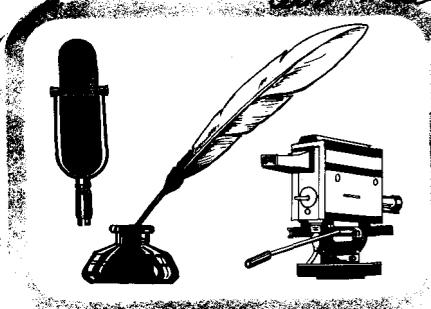
President Nixon asked this Congress in May to provide a random selection system that would limit the draft to 19 year olds. To date we have not acted. As an alternative, the President will take Executive action after the first of the year that will accomplish much the same objective although, in his own words, "not as clearly and as fairly" as legislation would.

Mr. Speaker, Congress has three months to act on this very important matter before the first of the year. I hope we will get on with the job.

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*Distribution: Full  
Hallways 2:45 p.m. 9/24/69  
Air Mail 3:15 p.m. 9/24/69*

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**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--  
September 24, 1969

Remarks by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., Republican Leader, U.S. House of Representatives, on the floor of the House, September 24, 1969.

Mr. Speaker:

Today more than 75 Members of the House, including 7 from the Ways and Means Committee, have joined to introduce legislation that will make federally-collected revenues available for percentage sharing with the states and cities.

When passed, this legislation will effectively carry out the proposal made by President Nixon last August 13 that federal revenues should be made available for use by the states and cities on a no-strings-attached basis.

Mr. Speaker, introduction of this legislation today marks the first time in recent history that a concerted effort has been begun to give states and local governments the funds that will allow them effectively to live up to their commitments and their responsibilities to their citizens.

I think it is generally agreed that the central government until now has increasingly pre-empted the sources of revenue available to states and local governments, thus leaving no alternative except for the federal government also to pre-empt their responsibilities.

Until now, money flowing from the federal government to the states has been sent in the form of categorical grants, with the federal government determining how and where the funds will be spent. Often, in doing so, we have put such grants on matching bases. This forced the recipients to increase their own taxes to take advantage of projects and programs they need less than some for which we have provided no grants.

The legislation we are seeking today will provide additional funds that states and counties and cities can spend as they see fit.

Mr. Speaker, there are those who lack confidence in the ability of states and local governments to spend money effectively or properly. I would agree there will be cases where money is badly spent.

But we have no farther to look than the federal government to see great sums badly spent on poorly devised programs devised for questionable reasons.

(more)

Mr. Speaker, we are a self-governing people. The Constitution ordains our system as such, and the vast majority of Americans want it that way.

Self-governing begins with the government closest to the people -- local, county and state government.

Revenue sharing will make it possible to make that government more effective and more able to meet the needs of those it governs.

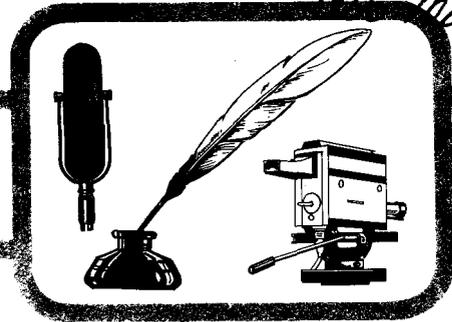
Mr. Speaker, remembering that big government is not necessarily the best government, I urge the members of this House to give this legislation not only their careful study but also their votes of approval.

Our nation will be the stronger for it.

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*Distribution: Full  
Galleries 1:45p.m. 9/26/69  
Air Mail 2:00p.m. 9/26/69*

*M Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

---FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE---  
September 26, 1969

Statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, Republican Leader, U.S. House of Representatives,  
re: President Nixon's press conference comments.

I expect an increasing majority of the American people will support President Nixon's declarations on policy in Vietnam.

The facts cited by Mr. Nixon at his press conference Friday showing progress in Vietnam -- the decline in U.S. casualties, the sharp drop in enemy infiltration as compared with the first nine months of last year, and other indicators -- prove to my satisfaction that the President's Vietnam policy is sound.

I agree with President Nixon that setting an arbitrary date for complete U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam would not only undermine but completely destroy our bargaining position at Paris. Such a pronouncement would be harmful, not helpful.

There is an unfortunate tendency among some Americans to abandon that objective which the President has declared as "non-negotiable" -- the right of the South Vietnamese people to decide for themselves who their leaders shall be.

Any willingness to junk that objective plays into the enemy's hands and encourages them to drag the war out instead of negotiating a political solution.

As President Nixon has repeatedly made clear, we are pursuing a negotiated settlement in Vietnam. The only ingredient lacking at present is enemy willingness to negotiate.

The other side will negotiate, as the President said, when the enemy becomes convinced they have nothing to gain by waiting us out.

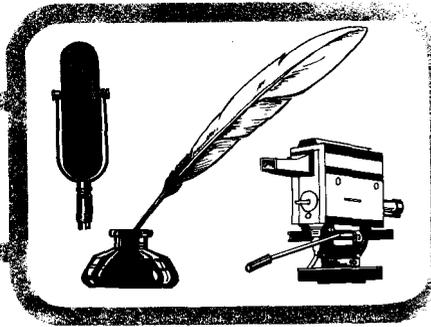
On another subject, I would also like to comment on President Nixon's prospects for winning congressional approval of automatic cost-of-living increases in Social Security benefits.

It should be emphasized that both the Democratic and Republican platforms of 1968 contained planks endorsing automatic rises in Social Security payments to keep pace with the cost-of-living.

Under the circumstances, I think chances for enactment of such legislation are good. Any failure will be the responsibility of the Democratic Congress.

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**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE FRIDAY AM's--  
September 26, 1969

Statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., to be placed in the Congressional Record of September 25, 1969

Mr. Speaker, if it is possible to be both amused and saddened simultaneously, this best sums up my reaction to the dramatic by-play which has been diverting some of my dear Democratic friends of the Majority side in recent weeks. The theme of this mini-melodrama seems to have been "Are We a Do-Nothing Congress?" And their resounding denials of such a horrid accusation were given added dignity and stature in the September 17th Congressional Record by the distinguished Majority Leader, the gentleman from Oklahoma.

Mr. Albert appears to have been alarmed by what he terms "reports in the morning press that Republican colleagues are hoping President Nixon will try to pin the 'do-nothing' label on Democratic members of the 91st Congress."

I cannot pretend to bespeak the secret hopes of all my Republican colleagues, any more than my friend from Oklahoma can divine the designs of all his Democratic colleagues. But I wonder who first suggested a "Do-Nothing" description for this 91st Congress. Was it President Nixon? Not that I know of. Certainly I have never leveled any such charge against my friends across the aisle; on the contrary, I have been generous in my praise, both public and private, for the cooperation which you, Mr. Speaker, and the Majority Leadership of this Congress has given on several outstanding occasions, such as the extension of the 10% income tax surcharge. Nor do I think the late Senate Minority Leader was ever party to a "Do-Nothing" accusation, although it is perhaps true that the other body has dilly-dallied in this session a bit more than we have. In fact I know of no leader of my party who has branded this a "Do-Nothing Congress" although

some allegations of "foot-dragging" and "stalling" have, not without justice, been made by Republican legislators.

So who started all this "Do-Nothing Congress" charge and countercharge? Why, my friends, it was planted by no less an authority than the last Democratic candidate for President, the Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey.

I would like to quote from the eminent national columnist, Marquis Childs, in the Washington Post of September 17th, reporting on a closed-door session which the former Vice President had with Senate Democrats before the Labor Day recess. Mr. Childs quotes Mr. Humphrey as saying:

"In 1970 President Nixon can go to the country with the same battle cry that President Truman used in 1948. He can talk about the legislative failures of a Congress with solid Democratic majorities. The President has put one program after another up to you and you haven't acted. He can appeal for the election of Republicans to help him get his programs through. And if the Republicans make substantial gains in the Senate and the House the chances for a Democrat winning in 1972 will be a lot worse than they are today. Unless the record of Congress improves in the second session and unless the Democratic Party gets behind its own legislative program, I can see Nixon aiming a campaign at the '90-worst' Congress just as Truman went after the '80-worst' Congress and won against all the odds."

So, the alarm having been sounded in the first place by their own Mr. Humphrey, my friends on the other side have now indignantly and officially denied that they are running a "Do-Nothing Congress." While I am loath to take sides in fights among Democrats, I must point out for the record that this entertaining side-show has been scripted solely by them. It is histrionics, not history. As the Biblical Proverb puts it so well: "The wicked flee when no man pursueth."

My good friend Mr. Albert compared the number of Presidential messages sent up to the 89th and 90th Congresses by Former President Johnson and to this Congress by President Nixon. I do not think this numbers game is particularly relevant, but I wonder why the distinguished Majority Leader limited himself to the first 3 months of each of these Congresses, during which he says President Johnson

submitted 25 messages in 1965, 23 in 1967, and President Nixon only 12 in 1969. Is there extra merit in Administration plans that have only baked, or half-baked, 90 days or less? If the Democrats' researchers had brought the record up to date, they would have logged 30 Presidential messages from President Nixon during his first eight months in the White House. This compares with 31 and 28 messages, respectively, for the first 8 months of 1965 and 1967 from President Johnson. In President Nixon's 30 messages there are, of course, many more than 30 specific legislative proposals, of which the Democrat-controlled 91st Congress has completed action on only four.

But, Mr. Speaker, we all know that the workload of Congress cannot be measured so easily. I have said before and I say again that I would like this 91st Congress to be known as a Quality Congress rather than a Quantity Congress. My friend from Oklahoma in his recent remarks laid great stress upon the Great Society legislative proposals which were rubber-stamped into law in 1965 by the lopsided 89th Congress. That was the Congress with 295 Democrats to 140 Republicans in the House and 68 Democrats to 32 Republicans in the Senate.

I believe the wise words of the distinguished Majority Leader of the other body, Sen. Mansfield, about the legislative landslide of 1965 are still eminently worth repeating:

"We have passed a lot of major bills at this session, some of them very hastily, and they stand in extreme need of a going-over for loopholes, rough corners, and particularly for an assessment of current and ultimate cost in the framework of our capacity to meet it."

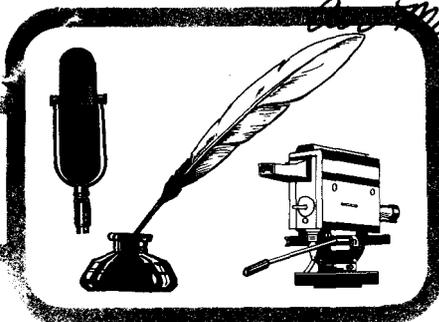
So I, for one, don't think there is any magic merit in sheer quantity of Presidential messages or Public Laws enacted by any particular Congress. And I, for one, intend to withhold judgment on the record of this session of the 91st Congress until we are finished. If it turns out then that this has been a "Do-Nothing Congress", I will have to agree with Former Vice President Humphrey that the American people will know who was responsible and will know what to do about it.

*Distribution: Full*

*Galleries 9:45a.m. 9/26/69*

*Air Mail 10:15a.m. 9/26/69*

*M Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**



**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR FRIDAY PM's RELEASE--  
September 26, 1969

Statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich.

I think all members of Congress would agree that social security benefits today are terribly inadequate. The questions facing the Congress, then, are how much benefits will be increased, when that increase will take effect, and how the increase will be financed.

In his message sent to the Congress Thursday, President Nixon has gone beyond these questions by proposing that future increases in social security benefits be made automatic, in line with the cost of living. I not only fully endorse that proposition at the present time but point out that I joined with the Republican National Coordinating Committee in calling for cost-of-living social security in 1966, and thereafter. Cost-of-living social security also became part of the Republican platform adopted at the 1968 Republican National Convention.

This is the only way that we can make sure the social security system will fill its role in helping to provide our elderly and other beneficiaries with an adequate income -- by tying it to the cost of living.

I also endorse without hesitation the President's proposal that future increases in social security benefits be financed by automatically increasing the base on which social security taxes are levied.

It seems to me eminently fair that we finance future benefit increases in this way. Not only have social security tax rates reached extremely high levels, but to increase them further would impose an unreasonable burden on our young people when they are just starting their careers and families. To increase the taxable base would be to act in accordance with the principle we have employed in the past in the field of income taxation -- taxing most heavily those most able to pay.

The President's social security proposals not only point toward an adequate income for our elderly and other social security beneficiaries but also toward an end to political opportunism in the social security field.

(more)

It is long past time when the Congress should remove social security from the political arena -- eliminate it as a biennial political exercise aimed at winning the votes of senior citizens through an auction-type bidding up of benefits.

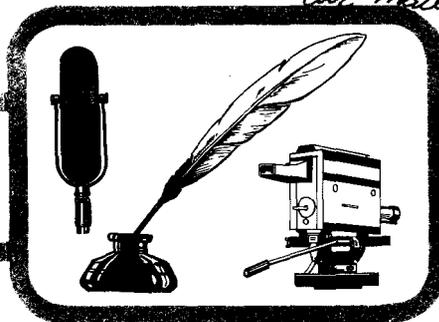
Let neither major political party seek political profit out of the plight of our elderly.

Let us aid our elderly and improve our social security structure simply because it is right -- and let us provide for automatic adjustments in the name of equity for the future.

# # #

Distribution: Full  
Galleries 1:00 p.m. 9/29/69  
Air Mail 2:30 p.m. 9/29/69

Office Copy



CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

---FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE---  
September 29, 1969

Statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, Republican Leader, U.S. House of Representatives,  
on the floor of the House, September 29, 1969.

Last Friday the Chairman of the Democratic National Committee joined a small group of Congressmen who would limit the President's options in Vietnam by demanding a specific timetable for a United States withdrawal -- a withdrawal without terms and without honor, a withdrawal tantamount to surrender.

The National Chairman, who also is a Democratic Senator from Oklahoma, presumably speaks for a segment of the Democratic Party when it is out of power.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot believe that Chairman Harris speaks or acts for all the members of his Party, or even a majority of it.

I cannot believe he speaks for the Speaker of the House, or for the Majority Leader, or for hundreds of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, there was a time when politics in the Congress stopped at the water's edge. There was a time when Republicans and Democrats alike supported our Presidents in their conduct of foreign affairs and in the waging of war.

I hope that era has not ended. Today, with a Republican President in office, there are those who would intensify the effort to make war and foreign affairs matters for partisan politics.

But, Mr. Speaker, I still do not believe that any one man, regardless of his party position, does speak or can speak for the Democrats in this Congress and in this nation, especially in an area where national commitments and national integrity are at stake.

Mr. Speaker, I am convinced that for most Americans, of both parties, politics still does end at the water's edge. And I am sure that the leadership in both parties agrees with that position.

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*M Office Copy*

*Distribution: All Fifth District Newspapers*  
*10/10/67*

Congressman Gerald R. Ford today reported the results of balloting on his congressional questionnaire by students at Lowell Senior High School, St. Patrick's High in Portland, and Kelloggsville government classes in Wyoming.

"At the request of principals and government teachers, I sent thousands of copies of my questionnaire to high schools in Kent and Ionia Counties," Ford said. "I found the initial results as reported to me most interesting, and I will be comparing the school balloting with the public responses to my questionnaire as the overall results are tabulated."

Ford said the responses at Lowell and Kelloggsville pretty much paralleled each other, particularly on Vietnam. But the voting on Vietnam at St. Patrick's took a somewhat different tack.

At Lowell, students voted 56 per cent in favor of President Nixon's policy of phasing out U.S. combat troops in Vietnam and 13 per cent for his policy of pursuing the peace talks at Paris...for a combined total of 69 per cent. Only 10 per cent voted for immediate withdrawal of U.S. forces and only 16 per cent for resuming bombing of North Vietnam.

At Kelloggsville, the balloting was 51 per cent for the phaseout and 12 per cent for pursuing the peace talks...for a combined total of 63 per cent. Of the rest, 20 per cent favored immediate withdrawal and 17 per cent resumption of the bombing.

At Portland's St. Patrick's, 44 per cent favored the phaseout while 8 per cent were for pursuing the peace talks, giving a combined total of just 52 per cent for the Nixon policies. Of the remainder, 31 per cent favored immediate withdrawal and 17 per cent wanted to resume bombing the North.

In balloting on the other nine questions in Ford's questionnaire, students involved at all three schools heavily favored President Nixon's Family Assistance and Welfare Program, his plan to give cities and states a percentage slice of Federal income tax revenue to use as they see fit, a cutoff of Federal aid from students disrupting college classes and administration, direct popular election of the President, and a constitutional amendment giving 18-year-olds the right to vote.

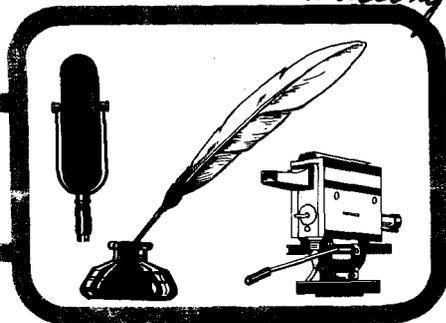
Students at all three schools favored deployment of the Safeguard anti-ballistic missile system--62 per cent in favor at Lowell; 60 per cent at St. Patrick's; and 55 per cent at Kelloggsville.

The students opposed increased space spending to put a man on Mars, drafting young men by random selection (lottery), and creation of a government-owned self-supporting postal corporation. Ford said he believes students might not have understood the question involving the government postal corporation.

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*Distribution: House Galleries Sat. A.M. 10/11/69  
Mailing Mon. A.M. 10/13/69*

*M Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**



--FOR RELEASE AT 6:30 P.M.--  
Saturday, October 11, 1969

Statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., Republican Leader, U.S. House of Representatives, in comment on the President's Message.

Sunday is Columbus Day, but it should be with no sense of discovery that Congress receives President Nixon's Message detailing the tremendous amount of work yet to be done by the 91st Congress.

It should, however, be with a sense of public-minded cooperation and a spirit of deep determination that Congress considers the tasks remaining as spelled out by the President.

I personally pledge that I will bend every ounce of my energies to the goals enunciated by the President, and I fervently hope that the Democratic Leadership of the Congress will do likewise in a spirit that eschews partisanship in favor of what is best for the country.

I think the President has set a splendid example for the Congress by displaying in his Message exactly the kind of nonpartisan spirit now needed to get the Congress moving on the President's program and to get this country moving ahead.

I agree with the President that "neither the Democratic Congress nor the Republican Administration is without fault for the delay of vital legislation."

It is because I wished to proceed affirmatively and positively with the President's program that I have repeatedly refused to call the 91st Congress a "do-nothing Congress" and have counseled waiting until the final scorecard is in before we judge the 91st.

The 91st Congress is potentially a great Congress, and the President has made clear how the 91st can achieve greatness.

The route to greatness for the 91st Congress is to enact President Nixon's excellent reform proposals -- his proposals which would turn the country into New Directions, away from centralism to a New Federalism and away from recognized failures to new successes.

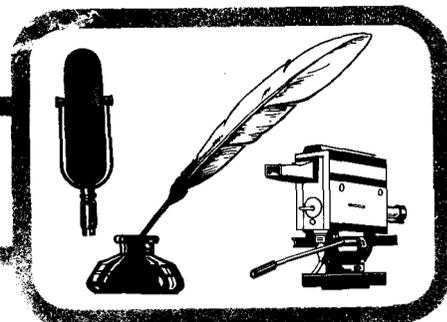
I have spoken of the Nixon Administration throughout the country as a Reform Administration -- and that is what we must have at this juncture in our history. But we cannot have those reforms unless the Congress implements the President's program.

I therefore join with President Nixon in urging the 91st Congress to act on the administration program -- and to act now.

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*Distribution: House Galleries 2:30 p.m. 10/15/69  
Air Mail 3:00 p.m. 10/15/69*

*M Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE AT 12 NOON EDT--  
October 15, 1969

HOUSE AND SENATE LEADERS SPONSOR RESOLUTION  
REPUDIATING OPEN LETTER FROM NORTH VIETNAM

House Majority Leader Carl Albert, D-Okla., and House Minority Leader Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., today joined in sponsoring a resolution calling upon the House of Representatives to repudiate North Vietnamese Premier Pham Van Dong's open letter to the American people.

Ford drafted the resolution in cooperation with Senate Minority Leader Hugh Scott, R-Pa. Scott introduced an identical resolution in the Senate.

The resolution resulted from a meeting of House Democratic and Republican Leaders, House Foreign Affairs Chairman Thomas E. Morgan, D-Pa., and House Foreign Affairs ranking minority member E. Ross Adair, R-Ind.

Albert read the resolution to the House, expressing the hope that the House would adopt it later Wednesday under unanimous consent procedure.

The resolution not only repudiates Pham Van Dong's letter but also calls upon the American people to disassociate themselves from "North Vietnam's insolent and intolerable declaration" that the Vietnam Moratorium is "their fall offensive" aimed at forcing immediate U.S. withdrawal from South Vietnam. At the same time, the resolution upholds the right of every American to dissent from public policy.

The resolution is attached.

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91st Congress  
1st Session

House Res. \_\_\_\_\_

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

October 15, 1969

Mr. Albert, for himself and Mr. Gerald R. Ford submitted the following House resolution; which was referred to the Committee on

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H O U S E   R E S O L U T I O N

Relating to demonstrations for peace

Whereas responsible dissent and freedom of speech are among the most sacred traditions of the American people; and

Whereas many Americans are demonstrating their concern for peace pursuant to rights enjoyed under the Constitution of the United States, from which springs our nation's deep commitment to peaceful debate, the essence of our free political system; and

Whereas the Premier of North Vietnam has publicly described the Vietnam Moratorium in an open letter to the American people as "their fall offensive" aimed at forcing the United States "to withdraw completely and unconditionally" from Vietnam; and

Whereas the said Premier greatly misjudges Americans, and deceives himself if he believes that those who demonstrate are doing so with a desire to assist Hanoi; and

Whereas the said Premier's letter to the American people is a blatant and insolent intrusion into the affairs of the American people by an enemy;

Resolved by the H O u s e of Representatives, That we support the inherent right of all Americans to responsible and peaceful dissent, but we abhor the attempt of Premier Pham Van Dong to associate those Americans who demonstrate for peace with the cause of our enemy; and resolved further that we repudiate the premier's letter and call upon all Americans to disassociate themselves from North Vietnam's insolent and intolerable declaration.

FOR RELEASE ON RECEIPT

Congressman Gerald R. Ford of Grand Rapids today said he has sent the estimated 20,000 responses to his congressional questionnaire to a computing firm for tabulation and is waiting to see if there is a generation gap in Kent and Ionia Counties.

While marking time on the general results, Ford meantime announced questionnaire returns from four high schools -- Catholic Central in Grand Rapids, Rockford Public Schools, and Godwin Heights and Godfrey-Lee in Wyoming. Ford last week announced results from Lowell High School, St. Patrick's High in Portland, and Kelloggsville in Wyoming.

"I am anxious to get back the tabulations on votes cast by the general public because this will indicate whether there is a generation gap between the young people and the older generation on the issues posed by my questionnaire," Ford said. "The school voting thus far has pretty much formed a pattern."

At Catholic Central, 945 students were involved in the questionnaire balloting, although all did not vote on each and every question.

The voting took place before the Oct. 15 Vietnam Moratorium, but it seems significant that on the Vietnam question only 17 per cent of Catholic Central's students favored immediate withdrawal of American forces. Another 13 per cent favored resuming and expanding the bombing of North Vietnam. Of the remaining 70 per cent, 52 per cent were for President Nixon's policy of gradually phasing out U.S. troops and turning more combat duties over to the South Vietnamese, and 18 per cent favored Nixon's policy of carrying on limited military action while pursuing the Paris peace talks.

The Vietnam pattern was the same at Rockford and the two Wyoming schools. At Rockford, 53 per cent favored phaseout and 7 per cent pursuit of the Paris peace talks for a combined total of 60 per cent supporting present Nixon policies. Of the rest, 33 per cent favored immediate withdrawal and 7 per cent were for resuming the bombing. Students voting at Rockford numbered 206.

At Godwin Heights, where 214 students voted, 49 per cent favored phaseout, 8 per cent pursuit of the peace talks, 22 per cent immediate withdrawal, and 21 per cent bombing of North Vietnam.

Godfrey-Lee's 39 participants voted 49 per cent for phased withdrawals, 15 per cent for pursuing the peace talks, 21 per cent for immediate withdrawal, and 15 per cent for resumed bombing of the North.

(more)

Students at Catholic Central, Godwin Heights and Godfrey-Lee Schools favored Nixon's Safeguard anti-ballistic missile system by substantial margins but Rockford students opposed it 56 to 44 per cent.

Students at all four schools favored Nixon's new Family Assistance Program in place of the present welfare system, percentage sharing of Federal income tax revenue with cities and states, a cutoff of federal aid from students disrupting college classes and administration, election of the President by direct popular vote, and amending the U.S. Constitution to give 18-year-olds the vote.

All four schools opposed creation of a government-owned, self-supporting postal corporation, selection of draftees by lottery and an increase in Federal space spending to put a man on Mars.

Including those schools previously reporting results to Ford, Rockford is the first school to oppose the Safeguard ABM system. Results from the other schools were similar to the current batch on Vietnam and all other questions.

# # #

FOR USE ON RECEIPT

The Nixon Administration has come up with a novel plan aimed at saving the Great Lakes from slow death, Congressman Gerald R. Ford of Grand Rapids said today.

Ford said the program involves picking a lake, making a laboratory out of it and testing a variety of ways to control certain kinds of pollution now threatening to kill Lake Michigan and the other Great Lakes.

The program has been developed by the National Council on Marine Resources and Engineering Development.

The testing planned by the Council for the laboratory lake will take about two years. The Council will decide during the next several months what lake to use for the tests and what testing techniques to employ.

"Whatever techniques are finally developed for controlling certain kinds of pollution in Lake Michigan and the other Great Lakes will be no substitute for the regulatory type of pollution control," Ford warned. "Both kinds of pollution control will have to go forward at the same time. In fact, we must step up all our efforts."

Lake Michigan and the other Great Lakes are threatened with slow strangulation because nutrients in municipal sewage cause algae to grow fast and this growth takes oxygen from the water that the fish need. Ultimately, the weeds die and form a marsh.

How do you deal with this "slow death" for the Great Lakes?

The best answer is to turn off the pollution.

If you can't do that sufficiently, what is the alternative? This is what the Marine Council is determined to find out with its laboratory lake.

Some of the methods to be tried to keep the "slow death" weeds and algae from flourishing include pumping air into the water as is done in home aquariums; coating the bottom with a thin film of plastic or with asphalt to prevent weeds from taking root; getting the lake water to "turn over" by heating the bottom layers of water and thus generating currents that rise to the top and cause the air near the surface to move to the bottom. Still another method is filtering the lake inflows to remove chemicals before they hit the lake. Another is "harvesting" the lake weeds as is presently done with seaweed.

The lake laboratory program is estimated to cost \$35 to \$50 million, according to the Marine Council. First funding would be in President Nixon's fiscal 1971 budget. But preparations will begin immediately with presently available funds, Ford said.

*distribution): Full  
Galleries) - 11:15 a.m. 10/22/69  
Mail - 11:30 a.m. 10/22/69*

*M Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**



--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--  
October 22, 1969

I have been polling my constituents during the past few weeks and have been amazed to find how few Americans are fully aware of what President Nixon has done to promote peace in Vietnam.

There are, in fact, some who profess to see no difference in President Nixon's Vietnam policies and those of his predecessor in the White House. This of course is an unfortunate indication of blindness to the facts.

Now we have a summing up of Nixon Policy facts on Vietnam from the White House, and this White House paper is one which should be studied by all Americans. It spells out succinctly how different the Nixon Policy on Vietnam has been and the results which have been obtained. It is most timely and much needed.

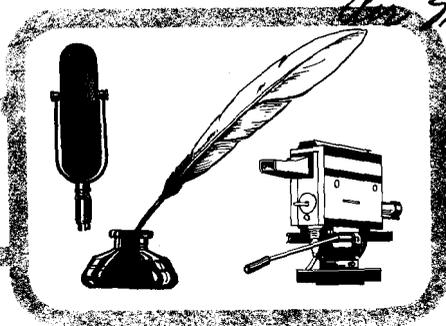
One of the results should have been a breakthrough at Paris. Logic would indicate this, in view of President Nixon's announced willingness to negotiate on every point raised by the other side and his willingness to make every issue negotiable except the right of the South Vietnamese to determine their own future through free elections.

The White House paper makes clear the dual track that the Nixon Administration has followed in pursuing peace in Vietnam -- a wide-open agenda at Paris, and a Vietnamization process that has us turning the war over to the South Vietnamese.

The unspoken element in the White House paper is this: We will not simply hand over South Vietnam to the Communists -- not at Paris or in the field. And for this as well as his great pursuit of an honorable peace I salute the President.

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*Distribution: Full  
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Air Mail - 12:45 p.m. 10/23/69* *Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**



--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--  
October 23, 1969

For the first time since the Eisenhower years, America has a positive program to again bring this Nation into the front rank of seafaring countries.

That is the significance of the merchant ship building program which President Nixon has outlined in the message he sent to the Congress today.

This is a program which gives American shipyards the incentive to modernize and expand. Unlike the previous Administration, President Nixon is not throwing our shipbuilding business into foreign shipyards. Instead he is offering American shipbuilders -- industry and labor -- a challenge and an opportunity.

Under the Nixon maritime program, American shipbuilders have the opportunity to invest \$4 billion in modernizing their yards over the next 10 years so they can become truly competitive with other shipyards throughout the world...in techniques, facilities, and production.

If American shipbuilders accept the challenge and avail themselves of the opportunity, the program outlined by President Nixon will succeed. But it must be remembered that the Nixon program is predicated on a responsible response from industry and labor. The Federal Government cannot carry this program forward alone, because it is not just another subsidy program. It is a program under which the Federal Government is providing the leadership and incentive for a great surge forward in America's maritime fortunes.

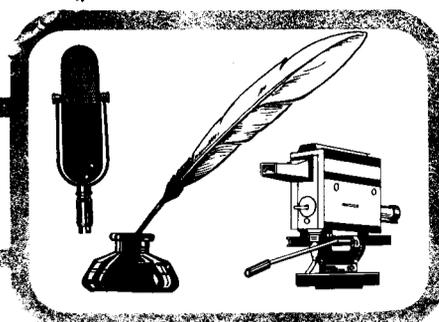
This is a program of deeds and not words -- a multi-year shipbuilding program to make longrange planning possible, a trebling of Federal mortgage insurance from \$1 billion to \$3 billion, payment of construction differential subsidies directly to shipbuilders instead of through ship owners, extension of subsidy payments to bulk carriers.

I think the Nixon maritime program will revitalize the American merchant marine and revive our shipbuilding industry. If industry and labor respond, we can once more make our merchant fleet a source of pride for every American.

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*Distribution: Fifth District  
Sat. Oct. 25, 1969*

*M Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**



--FOR RELEASE AT 12 NOON WEDNESDAY--  
October 29, 1969

A solid majority of Kent and Ionia County citizens responding to his questionnaire favor President Nixon's Vietnam policies, Congressman Gerald R. Ford of Grand Rapids reports.

Ford today released the complete results of his poll, which drew answers from 24,360 people in the Fifth Congressional District. The questionnaires were tabulated by a Washington, D.C. computer firm (the Aztech Corp.) at no expense to the government.

Ford found that 50.2 per cent of those sending back questionnaires endorsed the Nixon policy of gradually phasing out American troops in Vietnam and replacing them with South Vietnamese. Another 4.3 per cent favored limited military action while pursuing the peace talks in Paris. This produced a combined total of 54.5 per cent in favor of policies now being carried out by the Nixon Administration.

Roughly one out of five (21.4 per cent) favored immediate withdrawal from Vietnam. Only 13 per cent wanted to resume and expand the bombing of North Vietnam. Others gave multiple answers or none.

"I feel that the Fifth District voting on Vietnam probably reflects sentiment nationwide," Ford said. "Although the actual balloting took place before the Vietnam Moratorium, it indicates to me that a majority of the American people support the policies President Nixon is pursuing in an effort to end the Vietnam War on honorable terms."

The narrowest division of opinion on the questionnaire issues came on Nixon's projected anti-ballistic missile system, already approved by the Congress. Slightly more than half of those answering the question opposed the Safeguard ABM system. The totals were 44.8 per cent "no;" 42.2 per cent "yes;" and 12.9 per cent, no opinion. Many of those leaving the question unanswered commented that the subject was too technical for them to vote on.

The Senate narrowly approved the Safeguard proposal but the House overwhelmingly endorsed it.

Fifth District residents responding to the poll heavily favored Nixon's proposed welfare plan (72.15 per cent), return of a percentage of Federal income tax revenue to the cities and states (63.6), election of the President by direct

(more)

popular vote (88.5 per cent), establishment of a government-owned self-supporting postal corporation in place of the present postal system (71.9), and a cutoff of federal aid to disruptive college students (89.6 per cent).

A majority of Kent and Ionia citizens favored Nixon's proposed lottery or random selection system for the draft, with 52.4 per cent for it, 36 per cent opposed and the rest undecided.

"This tells me that the people in my district want the reforms that President Nixon has laid before the Congress," Ford declared.

Fifth District residents emphatically rejected any stepup in space spending to put a man on Mars (86.7 per cent against, 10.6 per cent for, and the rest undecided).

The poll revealed a generation gap in the Fifth District on draft changes, giving 18-year-olds the vote, and creating a government-owned postal corporation.

Adults balloting on Ford's questionnaire opposed giving 18-year-olds the vote (63.9 to 33.4 per cent, with the rest undecided), while favoring postal and draft reform.

Results from Kent and Ionia County high schools reporting on Ford questionnaire balloting showed them heavily in favor of 18-year-old voting and opposed to a lottery system for the draft and a government-owned postal corporation.

Student and adult views on the other Ford questionnaire issues pretty much paralleled each other except that the school balloting generally favored Nixon's Safeguard ABM system. Voting at Rockford Public Schools was the only case where the adult and student balloting ran about the same on ABM.

Ford said he was extremely pleased with the response to his questionnaire. He sent the questionnaire to all 141,491 mailing addresses in Kent and Ionia Counties and received replies from 24,360.

"That's a return of better than 17 per cent, as compared with the 10 per cent that most congressmen get," Ford said. "It proves to me that Fifth District residents are more interested in good government than the average citizen."

Ford added: "I want to thank everyone who took the time to fill in and send back my questionnaire, with special thanks to the thousands of people who wrote comments on their questionnaires or sent me letters. I am very much gratified, because this gives me a good idea of what the people in my district are thinking."

10/23/69  
 QUESTIONNAIRE ANALYSIS FOR HOUSE MINORITY LEADER  
 BY AZTECH CORP.



THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS PER ANSWER AND THEIR PERCENT OF THE TOTAL IS CALCULATED.

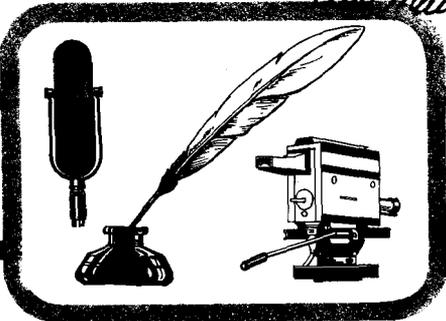
QUESTION #	SUMS				PERCENT		
	YES	NO	UNANSWERED	TOTAL	YES	NO	UNANSWERED
1	17576	3762	3022	24360	72.15%	15.44%	12.41%
2	15491	7098	1771	24360	63.59%	29.14%	7.27%
3	21818	2065	477	24360	89.56%	8.48%	1.96%
4	21547	2117	696	24360	88.45%	8.69%	2.86%
5	8143	15553	664	24360	33.43%	63.85%	2.72%
6	17512	5190	1658	24360	71.89%	21.31%	6.80%
7	12754	8780	2826	24360	52.36%	36.00%	11.64%
8	2582	21119	659	24360	10.60%	86.70%	2.70%
9	10284	10933	3143	24360	42.22%	44.88%	12.90%

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QUESTION #	A	B	C	D	UNANSWERED	MULTIPLE ANSWERS	TOTAL
10	1050	12233	3183	5229	982	1683	24360
PERCENT	4.31%	50.22%	13.07%	21.47%	4.03%	6.91%	

Distribution: Full  
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CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER



--FOR RELEASE AT 12 NOON EST--  
October 30, 1969

I congratulate President Nixon on his proposed Buyer's Bill of Rights. The proposals the President has outlined in the consumerism message sent to Congress today are easily the most far-reaching of any consumer protection measures yet laid before the Federal Legislature.

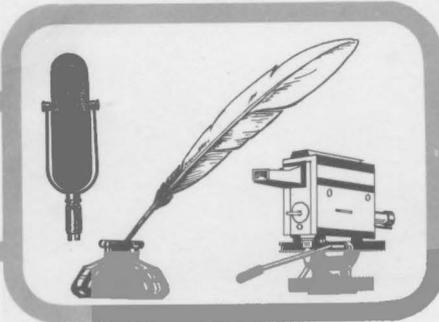
Under the President's proposals, the American consumer at last would have full protection under the law and laws that would fully protect him. He would have complete representation in Washington and access to product testing information which Federal agencies have gathered over the years.

President Nixon's consumer protection package is indeed an historic stride forward, a step that will cultivate greater confidence in U.S. consumer products and thus benefit not only the buyer but the seller. A byproduct doubtless will be increased world confidence in the quality of American goods, already recognized in world markets as outstanding.

In my view, Mr. Nixon is the first American President to take complete cognizance of the buyer's problems in all of their ramifications. He has struck a blow for the consumer that will have permanent and most beneficial impact.

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CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--  
November 5, 1969

Remarks by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., Republican Leader, U. S. House of Representatives, of the floor of the House, Wednesday, November 5, 1969.

Mr. Speaker, we have all heard considerable comment recently about special election trends, so perhaps I may be permitted to do some vote analyzing of my own today, on the first anniversary of President Nixon's victory in 1968.

It seems plain to me that the great silent majority of Americans who went to the polls yesterday continued and intensified the Republican tide which began to flow in the Congressional elections of 1966 and will inevitably lead, I am confident, to further gains in the 92nd Congress and in other State and local elections next year.

While a spot poll shown me at the White House this morning showed that 77 percent of the American people rallied behind President Nixon on his Vietnam policy of peace with honor, it is hard to say what effect, if any, this had on yesterday's balloting. What is obvious is that the impressive Republican victories rolled up were not restricted to any local district or to one region of the country. As David Broder observed in this morning's Washington Post:

"Republican candidates have won important victories in two important states, one the most urbanized state of the populous Northeast, and the other a former Democratic bastion in the South. Local GOP candidates ran well in Philadelphia, Newark and a number of other major cities."

Republicans will now hold 32 of the 50 State governorships, and I want to congratulate our colleague, Bill Cahill, on his impressive victory in New Jersey (where the contest for a vacant Democratic seat in the House is still a cliff-hanger) and also Lin Holton, and the other successful Republicans in Virginia, for their fine showing.

One further point: let it be remembered that President Nixon campaigned vigorously and personally for both Governors-elect. Had either of these candidates been defeated, it certainly would have been widely interpreted as a rebuke to the President and a repudiation of his Republican Administration policies.

Since they were not defeated, but instead were elected by larger-than-expected majorities, I hope the opposite conclusion will be conceded. It was a great victory for the Nixon Administration and a great day for the Republican Party.

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*Distribution : Fifth District News Media  
11/7/69*

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FOR RELEASE ON RECEIPT

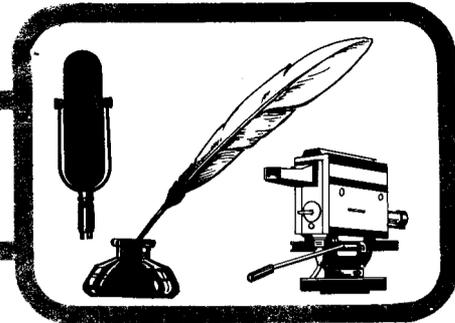
The Creston High School A Cappella Choir will make at least two public appearances in Washington, D.C., next April, Congressman Gerald R. Ford of Grand Rapids announced today.

Ford said arrangements have been made for the choir to sing both on the House and the Senate steps of the U.S. Capitol Building on April 2.

The choral group will sing for about 20 minutes on the Senate steps, beginning at 10:30, and then is scheduled to sing on the House steps starting at 11:30 a.m.

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*Distribution: Fifth District News Media 11/7/69 M Office Copy*



CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

November 8, 1969

NOTE TO NEWS MEDIA: This radio script taped by Rep. Gerald R. Ford for use by Fifth District stations the weekend of November 8-9 is being made available to you for use as you see fit beginning Saturday, November 8.

Today I want to talk with you about a variety of topics...action by the Congress and other important developments here in the Nation's Capital.

The most significant happening here, of course, has been President Nixon's address to the nation on Vietnam, and the show of support for him that followed that speech.

As you know, thousands of telegrams in support of the President's Vietnam policy poured into the White House after Americans heard Mr. Nixon explain why he has chosen to pursue his plan for peace in Vietnam and has rejected immediate withdrawal and surrender.

I think this tremendous show of support for the President was primarily in response to four sentences in his Vietnam speech. "Let us be united for peace. Let us also be united against defeat. Because let us understand: North Vietnam cannot defeat or humiliate the United States. Only Americans can do that."

I agree completely with this statement by President Nixon. And I feel sure that a solid majority of all Americans agree with him too.

That is why I believe the second Vietnam Moratorium, planned for Nov. 13 through 15 will not only fail to arouse greater support for immediate U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam but will boomerang on those who urge a U.S. surrender in Vietnam.

One reason I believe the Vietnam Moratorium next week will boomerang is that while some of the leaders are simply idealistic young men others are dedicated American Communists. It is Communists like David Dellinger and other members of the New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam who will be leading the Moratorium demonstration in Washington on Nov. 15. I believe the American people will feel repelled by this demonstration and will make their feelings known.

President Nixon has made clear what the choice for America is in Vietnam: Defeat by the Communists -- what I call an American Dunkirk in Vietnam -- or his pursuit of a peace with honor either through negotiations or through Vietnamization of the war.

(more)

As the President has said, the consequences of an American defeat in Vietnam would be a disaster of the greatest magnitude -- "a collapse of confidence in American leadership not only in Asia but throughout the world," and, ultimately, it would not bring peace but more war.

Now there are a number of other items to which I would like to call your attention.

The House of Representatives, by an overwhelming vote, has passed a bill which would allow President Nixon to establish a lottery system -- a true random selection system -- for picking draftees. Unfortunately, the Democratic leaders in the Senate have indicated there will be no Senate action on this bill. I hope the members of the Senate will enter into a gentlemen's agreement to approve the one change in the draft law the President is asking for now and to take up comprehensive reform of the draft law next year. This is the course of action which is indicated now. It is vital for the Nation.

In recent actions, the House of Representatives passed a long-needed measure to protect coal miners. It requires mine owners to adopt safety practices recommended by President Nixon and the House Education and Labor Committee.

The House also has passed a bill providing Federal funds to help schools educate their pupils on the dangers of drug abuse. This is a much-needed three-year program in drug abuse education.

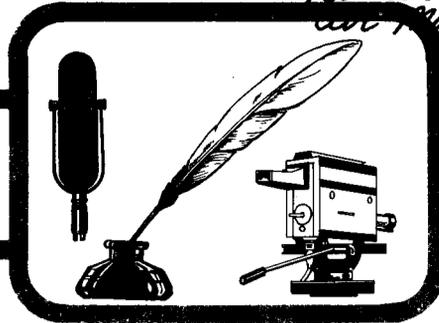
Finally, I want to point out that President Nixon has sent the Congress proposals to greatly strengthen protection for the American consumer. He is asking for a fair deal for the consumer in the market place. He proposes a Buyer's Bill of Rights that would set up a new Office of Consumer Affairs, strengthen the Federal Trade Commission, and in other ways protect the consumer against fraud and dishonesty. I hope the Congress acts soon on the President's consumer proposals.

# # #

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1:00 p.m. 11/19/69

M Office Copy



CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

November 18, 1969

Comment by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, Republican Leader, U.S. House of Representatives, to be placed in the Congressional Record immediately after the President's Message on trade.

Mr. Speaker: President Nixon has today sent the Congress a Message which reaffirms this Nation's devotion to the principles of free trade. I am pleased that the President has outlined a course which will steer us toward the objectives of freer trade but at the same time shows an awareness of the shoals and sandbars along the way.

I believe the trade policies recommended by the President will be helpful in restoring our Nation to a position of trade surplus. There is no question that movement toward freer trade is necessary if we are to move toward the much-desired goal of a favorable balance of trade.

To that end, I fully support the President's request for authority to make limited tariff reductions. The President has quite accurately stated that lack of authority to make such reductions exposes our exports to foreign retaliation.

The Congress also should give serious consideration to the President's request for elimination of non-tariff barriers to trade. As the President stated, a clear statement of Congressional intent in this regard is needed to achieve the reciprocal lowering of non-tariff trade obstacles.

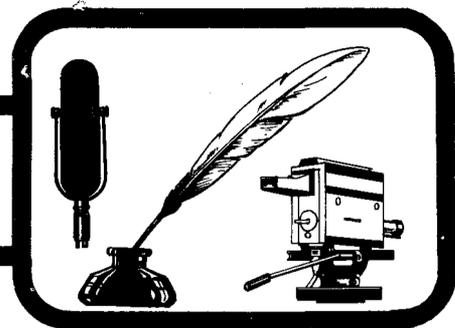
The President's Message on Trade is a prime example of the balance that President Nixon has brought to our domestic and foreign affairs. I refer particularly to his realistic recommendations regarding aid for industries and individuals adversely affected by increased imports and the need to take effective action in cases where American exports are illegally or unjustly discriminated against.

By and large, the President's trade recommendations commend themselves to the Congress. Prompt action on these recommendations is vital to our Nation's future well-being.

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*Distribution: All Fifth District Media  
A.M. of 11/20/69*

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**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

November 20, 1969

NOTE TO NEWS MEDIA: This radio script taped by Rep. Gerald R. Ford for use by Fifth District stations the weekend of November 22-23 is being made available to you for use as you see fit beginning Saturday, November 22.

First I would call your attention to the fact that President Nixon has signed into law a \$610 million bill to provide food stamps for poor Americans. By signing this bill, the President broke a deadlock in Congress. Now the way is open for the Congress to appropriate funds for the food stamp program for the rest of this fiscal year through next June 30.

In another important development, Congress has sent the President a bill which sets up a commission to find out exactly how the Defense Department and the rest of the Federal Government spend \$50 billion a year buying goods, services and facilities. I believe this is a most healthy action by the Congress. It's time we checked up on all of our government procurement practices, and that is what the 12-man commission to be named under this new legislation is going to do.

The House has approved and sent to the Senate a bill which would add another 4.5 million non-farm workers to the unemployment compensation program. The bill raises to about 62.5 million the number of workers who are covered by the joint Federal-state program of unemployment "comp." This is a big step forward, under legislation recommended by the President.

On Nov. 15 we witnessed a peaceful mass march here in Washington. There also was some violent behavior by a relatively small segment of the Anti-Vietnam War demonstrators gathered in Washington during the three-day Moratorium.

I certainly believe in the right of responsible dissent. That is one of the great strengths of America -- the fact that individuals in our country are permitted freedom of expression, guaranteed under the Constitution.

While the mass march itself was peaceful, there was some violence during the three days of protests here, and there were some ugly manifestations of radicalism. The Washington Board of Trade reported upwards of 75 plate glass store windows broken in downtown Washington and the Georgetown section of the city. Coupled with that we had an attempt by the radicals to charge the South Vietnamese embassy, and some nastiness near the Justice Department building.

(more)

It is naive to ignore the ugly occurrences simply because the mass march itself was peaceful.

It is also naive to believe that because an estimated 250,000 or more people gathered in Washington to demonstrate against the war the President of the United States should alter a carefully considered policy based on his desire for a just peace in Vietnam.

Some will choose to ignore the Communist role in the Washington demonstrations, but none of us can afford to ignore the tragic consequences that would ensue from a precipitous U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam. It is precisely because the consequences would be disastrous for the future of world peace that I am supporting the President's policies on Vietnam.

At this point, Congress has completed action on a one-sentence bill of tremendous importance to our Nation's young men. That one-sentence bill will allow the President to institute a system under which men will be subject to the draft only during the year they are 19 years old or their college deferment has expired. Selection will be by the lottery method -- so-called random selection.

In a recent poll I conducted, people in Kent and Ionia Counties voted heavily in favor of the lottery or random selection method of choosing draftees.

This is a means of reducing to only one year's time the period when a young man is vulnerable to the draft. It also limits that one-year period of vulnerability to the period before the young man has to make his important career and marriage decisions. I favor going to an all-volunteer Army. But until it is possible to do so, it is vital that the lottery system of draft selection be instituted.

President Nixon has cancelled the November and December draft calls, and he is making progress in bringing our combat troops home from Vietnam. I expect there will be even more encouraging developments if the President gets the support of the American people in his efforts to extricate us from the war.

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*distribution: All Fifth District News Media Office Copy*  
*11/13/69 P.M.*

FOR USE THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 1969, AND THEREAFTER

In-prison job training of the kind being carried out at the Michigan Reformatory in Ionia is one of the keys to a reduction of crime in America, Congressman Gerald R. Ford of Grand Rapids declared today.

Ford made his comment when the Labor Department announced that three projects involving 36 trainees at the Ionia Reformatory are included in a program to give in-prison occupational trainees job bonding assistance after they get out.

Ford said: "The Nixon Administration program providing vocational training and job placement for prison inmates and ex-offenders promises to be a real breakthrough toward the control of crime and delinquency."

Ford noted that about 60 per cent of the persons released from prisons find themselves back in jail within four years.

"The released prisoner is what I would call a specially disadvantaged person," Ford said. "He needs special help under the Federal Government's manpower training and assistance program, and President Nixon has noted this."

Ford cited the fact that Nixon has directed Attorney General John N. Mitchell to coordinate a 13-point program of prison reform with special emphasis on rehabilitation, particularly of the young offender.

"The reformatory at Ionia fits right into this picture," Ford said.

Ford said the U.S. Labor Department now is funding training programs for more than 4,000 inmates in prisons in 24 states at a cost of over \$5 million. These men are taught to become auto and diesel mechanics, carpenters, electricians, bricklayers, welders, machine operators, computer programmers, electronics mechanics and keypunch operators.

"Manpower development is not the whole answer to the problem of crime," Ford said, "but it holds much promise for a strong attack on it."

Ford said the crime statistics give prisoner rehabilitation programs special urgency.

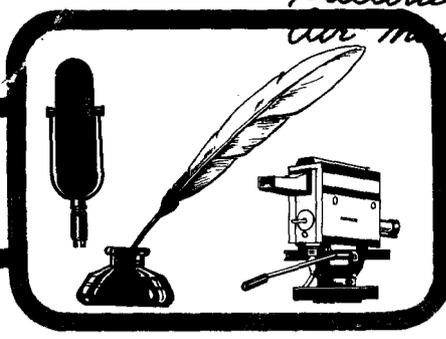
He noted that 4.5 million crimes were committed in the United States in 1968, a 17 per cent rise over 1967. From 1960 to 1968, he said, the volume of serious crime rose 122 per cent while the population increased only 11 per cent. Juvenile crime increased 300 per cent faster than the increase in juvenile population, he reported.

The money spent on rehabilitation seems large, he said, until you consider that crime cost this country at least \$31 billion last year, a rise of \$4 billion over 1967.

# # #

*Distribution: Full  
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*M Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**



--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--  
November 24, 1969

Remarks prepared for delivery by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, Monday, Nov. 24, 1969.

Mr. Speaker: The march of an estimated 250,000 Vietnam demonstrators down Pennsylvania Avenue on Nov. 15 was a peaceful protest sanctioned by the Constitution. Because it was peaceful, little attention has been paid to the destruction and violence engaged in by the relatively small radical element among the demonstrators.

I take this opportunity to inform the House that the three-day Vietnam Moratorium cost the taxpayers over one and a half million dollars and cost private business interests an estimated \$240,000 to boot.

In addition to detailing these costs, the Justice Department reports that 606 persons were injured during the Moratorium and it was necessary to arrest 361 individuals.

Treatment was administered to individuals at six area hospitals and various first-aid stations for everything from trauma to the effects of tear gassing. Twenty-six police officers were among those receiving treatment.

Total estimated cost of the Moratorium is placed at \$1,816,622 on the basis of reliable estimates made by the Federal Government, the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department, and knowledgeable business firms.

In the aftermath of the demonstrations, 503 area firms placed orders for replacement of broken glass. Of that number, 25 were downtown financial institutions.

In government buildings, 111 windows were broken. There also was paint damage and damage to nine glass doors. Twenty buildings owned or leased by the government were involved. Greatest damage was to the Justice Department and Internal Revenue Service buildings. Repairs will cost an estimated \$10,000.

Damage of up to \$12,000 was done to United States parks property, and \$6,000 damage to 76 law enforcement vehicles.

Overall costs included \$936,088 for standby military support of civil authority; \$473,776 in overtime pay for members of the three major metropolitan area police departments during the three-day Moratorium; \$91,760 in General

(more)

Services Administration costs; \$38,497 for support personnel fo the United States Marshals Service and Justice Department legal divisions; and \$8,500 for debris removal.

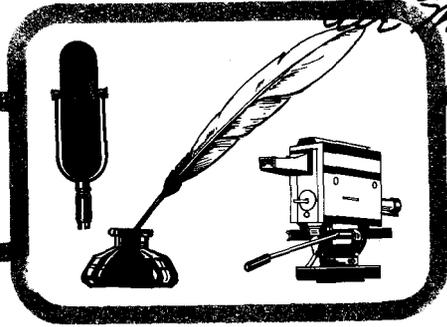
The Moratorium record in terms of injuries, arrests, damage and other costs is as follows:

SUMMARY

Injured	606
Arrests	361
Damage to 503 private buildings	\$240,000
Damage to 20 government buildings	\$ 10,000
Damage to 76 law enforcement vehicles	\$ 6,000
Damage to park property	\$ 12,000
Military operations costs	\$936,088
Law Enforcement overtime pay	\$473,776
Department of Justice support personnel	\$ 38,497
General Services Administration	\$ 91,761
Debris removal	\$ 8,500
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TOTAL	\$1,816,622
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*Distribution: Full Galleries 12:15 p.m. 11/25/69 M Office Copy  
Apt. Mail 12:45 p.m. 11/25/69*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--  
November 25, 1969

Statement prepared for delivery by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, Nov. 25, 1969.

MR. SPEAKER: President Nixon's decision to seek Senate approval of United States participation in the Geneva Protocol banning first use of gases and bacteriological methods of warfare is an initiative toward peace that may have far-reaching effects.

This affirmative action by the White House could have a highly salutary impact on the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks now in progress in their preliminary phase.

In taking the United States out of the field of germ warfare, the President has made abundantly clear to the American people and to peoples throughout the world the great devotion that this Nation has to the objective of universal peace.

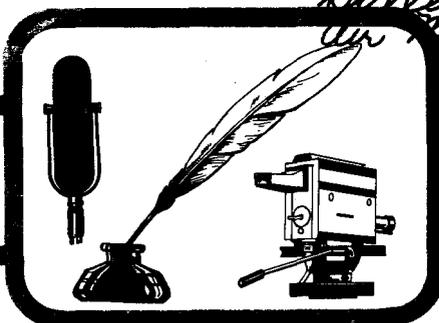
Not only is this action reassuring to our own people but it is also fresh proof to the people of other nations that the United States wants nothing so much as peace for itself and for all countries in the world commonwealth.

I believe this move by President Nixon will greatly enhance the standing of the United States in the eyes of the world. I would go further and say that seldom has the prestige of the United States been greater than at this moment in our glorious history.

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*Distribution): Full  
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Air Mail 5:30 p.m. 12/8/69*

*M Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

**--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--  
December 8, 1969**

Statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, Republican Leader, U.S. House of Representatives

I join with House Majority Leader Carl Albert in inviting the American people and the press to look at the record of the 91st Congress. Look at the record and what do you see? The cupboard is almost bare of legislative achievement.

That is the record of the Democratic-controlled 91st Congress. That is the record that Mr. Albert so proudly points to. It is the record of a Congress that has been spinning its wheels and going nowhere.

As for the Nixon Administration, the President has sent the Congress more than 40 substantive proposals ranging over a wide variety of problems including welfare abuses, the breakdown in the courts, the violence of organized crime, crime in the streets, narcotics traffic, chaos in the postal system, and a host of other defects in our society.

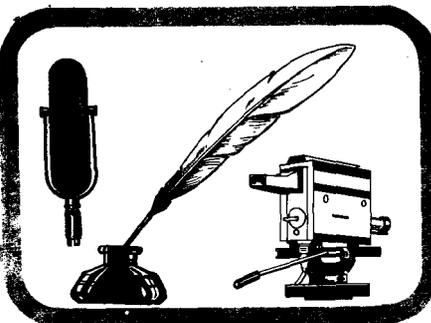
President Nixon has laid a great program of domestic reforms before the 91st Congress, but the only reform on which there has been any final action is the draft. In that case the legislation enacted was a one-sentence repealer. On tax reform, the Democratic-controlled Senate is ranging so far afield from President Nixon's recommendations and the House bill that final enactment of a good meaningful reform bill has been placed in jeopardy.

I am amazed that Mr. Albert would invite attention to the record of this Mark-Time 91st Congress. But to that invitation I say amen. The Democratic-controlled 91st Congress to date has a do-little record. The Administration has a record of which President Nixon may justly be proud.

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*Distribution: House Galleries only  
11:15 a.m. 12/11/69*

*Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Remarks of Rep. Gerald R. Ford (Michigan), House Republican Leader,  
during general debate on the Voting Rights Act Extension.

Mr. Chairman, there are several points upon which I hope we can all agree as we begin this debate.

First, we can surely agree with the statement of the distinguished chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary that "Every American must have an equal right to vote; no duty weighs upon the Congress more heavily than the duty to assure that right."

The gentleman from New York's eloquence was echoed by my friend from Ohio who is the ranking minority member on the committee, who said: "The elective franchise is the cornerstone of our representative Republic."

We must agree with that, also.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was enacted to implement the guarantee of the Constitution that no American's right to vote should be abridged because of his race or color. At the time Congress took this action, it was apparent that the right to vote of many Americans, mainly black Americans, was being abridged on account of color; the remedy was compounded to fit the situation then prevailing. A formula was devised, based upon the registration and voting pattern of the 1964 presidential election. This formula was very carefully fashioned so as to include certain Southern States and exclude others.

Leaping over all the debate of 4 years ago, it was generally accepted then by the Congress that the unprecedented intervention of Federal authority, represented by the Voting Rights Act of 1965, into the constitutional power of States to determine the qualification of voters, would only be temporary. It was felt, quite properly, that the extension of the right to vote would, in time, be self-sustaining for those previously denied the franchise because of racial discrimination. Once they could vote they would, through the power of the ballot box, make certain that they were never disenfranchised again -- this is the theory to which most of us subscribe. Therefore, the key provisions of the 1965 Act were supposed to become unnecessary and to expire in August, 1970 -- although there would still be a probationary period under the law.

It is these key provisions, which single out six Southern States and portions of several others, which the committee bill would have us continue unchanged for another 5 years. We are told we must not even change the existing law so much as to update its triggering formula from 1964 to the 1968 election statistics. Why not?

The answer is incredible, but here it is: The 1964 formula should not be changed because a 1968 formula would permit most, if not all, of those six or seven Southern States to escape further discrimination from the Federal Government. This is because they have now registered or now allow more than half their voting-age citizens to vote -- because they have successfully passed the test Congress set in 1965.

I am highly gratified that 300,000 -- perhaps as many as 1 million black Americans in the seven specially covered States have been registered since the 89th Congress passed the 1965 Voting Rights Act. I believe the 91st Congress should not stop there but should go forward to protect and expand this fundamental right for all citizens, whatever their race, creed, or color, wherever they reside.

But I believe there are other fundamental rights that are equally precious to Americans -- the right of equal justice under law, which surely applies to the 50 States of the Union as well as to individuals -- the presumption of innocence which puts the burden of proof on the accuser -- the principle that there is one law in this land for black and for white, for rich and for poor, for Georgian and for Californian.

If it is agreed we have a duty to implement the voting rights guaranteed by the 15th amendment and elsewhere in the Constitution, if we agree that substantial

progress has been made under the 1965 Act but that much room for improvement remains, and if we are honest enough to admit that the present law, for all its' commendable results, is discriminatory in spirit and in practice against one part of our country, then let us get on with a nationwide standard in the spirit of 1970 rather than 1964.

To do this, President Nixon and his Administration have proposed, and I have introduced -- with my distinguished colleagues -- H.R.12695, the Nationwide Voting Rights Bill which will be before us as a substitute for the Committee Bill.

Mr. Chairman, I have in my possession a letter dated December 10 from President Nixon which I will not read at this point. I will insert it at this point in the RECORD as a part of my remarks:

Hon. Gerald R. Ford  
Minority Leader of the U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, m D. C.

Dear Jerry:

I am aware that the House is considering a five-year extension of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and alternatively, as an amendment, the Administration-proposed nationwide voting rights bill, H.R.12695.

I strongly believe that the nationwide bill is superior because it is more comprehensive and equitable. Therefore, I believe every effort must be made to see that its essence, at least, prevails.

I would stress two critical points:

1. Instead of simply extending until 1975 the present Voting Rights Act, which bans literacy tests in only seven states, as the Committee bill would do, the nationwide bill would apply to all states until January 1, 1974. It would extend protection to millions of citizens not now covered and not covered under the Committee Bill.
2. H.R.12695 assures that otherwise qualified voters would not be denied the right to vote for President merely because they changed their state of residence shortly before a national election.

In short, the nationwide bill would go a long way toward insuring a vote for all our citizens in every state. Under it those millions who have been voteless in the past and thus voiceless in our government would have the legal tools they need to obtain and secure the franchise. Justice requires no less.

For certainly an enlightened national legislature must admit that justice is diminished for any citizen who does not have the right to vote for those who govern him. There is no way for the disenfranchised to consider themselves equal partners in our society.

This is true regardless of state or geographical location.

I urge that this message be brought to your colleagues, and I hope they will join in our efforts to grant equal voting rights to all citizens of the United States.

Sincerely,

RICHARD NIXON

Mr. Chairman, I am motivated not only by the idea of relieving the citizens and authorities of a few States from unjust discrimination, but also by a firm conviction that the laws of the United States, which we write here, ought to be the same for all 50 States; that the benefits of good laws should benefit citizens everywhere; that the penalties for defiance or evasion should be the same North, South, East and West; and that the right to vote may be -- and often is -- abridged in many ways and for many reasons in addition to race or color.

The right to vote for President and Vice President, and for other Federal elective offices, is a nationwide right entitled to nationwide protection. Our Nationwide Voting Rights Bill, to summarize it briefly, is nationwide in all of its parts.

Specifically:

1. It would suspend, nationwide, all literacy tests in all 50 States until January 1, 1974.
2. It would provide, nationwide, a uniform residence requirement for all Americans who want to vote in Presidential elections.
3. It would grant, nationwide, statutory authority to the Attorney General to station voting examiners and observers in any jurisdiction in all 50 States to enforce the right to register and to vote.
4. It would provide, nationwide, statutory authority for the Attorney General to start voting rights lawsuits in Federal Courts to prevent discriminatory practices and suspend discriminatory voting laws in all 50 States
5. It would launch a nationwide study of the use of literacy tests or devices and other corrupt practices which may abridge voting rights in all 50 States. A national voting advisory commission would be created to report its findings prior to the expiring of the nationwide literacy test suspension in 1974.

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There is one provision of my Nationwide Voting Rights Bill which the proponents of a simple 5-year extension do not, so far as I know, openly oppose; that is the provision nationalizing residency requirements for Presidential elections. This simply recognizes the fact of life in the super-highway and jet age; Americans are the most mobile people in the world; more than 5 1/2 million of them were prevented from voting in 1960 because they had recently moved. They thus lost their vote in their place of previous residence too late to reacquire it in their new home.

With all deference to my Vice President's reservations, the news media keep transient Americans just as well (or just as badly) informed of national issues and national candidates as they do voters who stay in one precinct all their lives. It makes no sense to deny anyone his right to vote because his employer, or his child's health, or whatever, transfers him abruptly to another part of the United States. The main argument against this overdue remedy seems to be that it has nothing to do with race or color -- although population movements in recent years clearly have included both black and white voters in large numbers.

Congress should not be precluded from doing anything in the legislation before us simply because it has no racial or color ramifications. Voting rights are voting rights and I have always believed we should be colorblind -- nondiscriminatory; if you will -- about them.

The President is the representative of all the people and all the people should have a reasonable opportunity to vote for him.

Perhaps the most significant change which my Nationwide Voting Rights Bill would effect in comparison with the existing 1965 statute is found in the spirit of it. Today, any State or county which is under the shadow of the 1964 formula cannot make any change in its election laws without coming to Washington for permission. Under the 1965 act it is assumed that any such change is intended to cheat the law and circumvent the Constitution.

The fundamental presumption of innocence is denied these six or seven States, under an arbitrary, outmoded, mathematical formula. They are presumed guilty and prevented -- though 43 other States are not so prevented -- from managing their own electoral affairs until they prove themselves innocent in Federal court -- not their own district courts but in the District of Columbia.

Maybe -- I do not concede it, but maybe -- past sins justified such severity in past legislation. But this is not the Reconstruction Era and neither is this 1965. Four eventful years have passed; evils and errors of another time have yielded. Now, today, it is wrong and it is shameful for this House to perpetuate a punitive and discriminatory provision for another 5 years beyond the point where the original authors of the act intended it to expire.

My Nationwide Voting Rights Bill shifts the burden of proof back where it ought to be -- to the Attorney General -- and empowers him to go after any State which does, in fact, discriminate against voters on racial grounds or which might backslide in the future. Just as we do not want any second class citizens in this country, neither do we want any second class states.

My friends, the choices before us here are usually difficult choices.

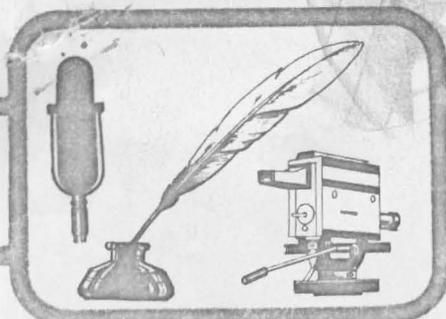
I do not believe they are at all difficult today.

We have before us two proposals -- one to continue unchanged for five more years a measure intended as strong temporary medicine to cure racial discrimination in one part of the country, which in working a commendable and partial cure has itself discriminated in unnecessary ways. The alternative is my Nationwide Voting Rights Bill which builds upon the lessons of the 1965 Act, continues its Federal oversight but eliminated its serious shortcomings.

This Administration with this bill intends to protect all the gains in voting rights protection which have been made in the past four years. More than that, we intend to extend these gains to all states and all Americans who may still be denied their full franchise. The very fact we have made such spectacular gains rules out any notion of standing still, or of singling out a few scapegoat States. We mean to step up and broaden the Federal concern for voting rights anywhere and everywhere in America.



*Office Copy*



CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 12/10+11/69

Remarks of Rep. Gerald R. Ford (Michigan), House Republican Leader, during general debate on the Voting Rights Act Extension.

Mr. Chairman, there are several points upon which I hope we can all agree as we begin this debate.

First, we can surely agree with the statement of the distinguished chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary that "Every American must have an equal right to vote; no duty weighs upon the Congress more heavily than the duty to assure that right."

The gentleman from New York's eloquence was echoed by my friend from Ohio who is the ranking minority member on the committee, who said: "The elective franchise is the cornerstone of our representative Republic."

We must agree with that, also.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was enacted to implement the guarantee of the Constitution that no American's right to vote should be abridged because of his race or color. At the time Congress took this action, it was apparent that the right to vote of many Americans, mainly black Americans, was being abridged on account of color; the remedy was compounded to fit the situation then prevailing. A formula was devised, based upon the registration and voting pattern of the 1964 presidential election. This formula was very carefully fashioned so as to include certain Southern States and exclude others.

Leaping over all the debate of 4 years ago, it was generally accepted then by the Congress that the unprecedented intervention of Federal authority, represented by the Voting Rights Act of 1965, into the constitutional power of States to determine the qualification of voters, would only be temporary. It was felt, quite properly, that the extension of the right to vote would, in time, be self-sustaining for those previously denied the franchise because of racial discrimination. Once they could vote they would, through the power of the ballot box, make certain that they were never disenfranchised again -- this is the theory to which most of us subscribe. Therefore, the key provisions of the 1965 Act were supposed to become unnecessary and to expire in August, 1970 -- although there would still be a probationary period under the law.

It is these key provisions, which single out six Southern States and portions of several others, which the committee bill would have us continue unchanged for another 5 years. We are told we must not even change the existing law so much as to update its triggering formula from 1964 to the 1968 election statistics. Why not?

The answer is incredible, but here it is: The 1964 formula should not be changed because a 1968 formula would permit most, if not all, of those six or seven Southern States to escape further discrimination from the Federal Government. This is because they have now registered or now allow more than half their voting-age citizens to vote -- because they have successfully passed the test Congress set in 1965.

I am highly gratified that 300,000 -- perhaps as many as 1 million black Americans in the seven specially covered States have been registered since the 89th Congress passed the 1965 Voting Rights Act. I believe the 91st Congress should not stop there but should go forward to protect and expand this fundamental right for all citizens, whatever their race, creed, or color, wherever they reside.

But I believe there are other fundamental rights that are equally precious to Americans -- the right of equal justice under law, which surely applies to the 50 States of the Union as well as to individuals -- the presumption of innocence which puts the burden of proof on the accuser -- the principle that there is one law in this land for black and for white, for rich and for poor, for Georgian and for Californian.

If it is agreed we have a duty to implement the voting rights guaranteed by the 15th amendment and elsewhere in the Constitution, if we agree that substantial



progress has been made under the 1965 Act but that much room for improvement remains, and if we are honest enough to admit that the present law, for all its' commendable results, is discriminatory in spirit and in practice against one part of our country, then let us get on with a nationwide standard in the spirit of 1970 rather than 1964.

To do this. President Nixon and his Administration have proposed, and I have introduced -- with my distinguished colleagues -- H.R.12695, the Nationwide Voting Rights Bill which will be before us as a substitute for the Committee Bill.

Mr. Chairman, I have in my possession a letter dated December 10 from President Nixon which I will not read at this point. I will insert it at this point in the RECORD as a part of my remarks:

Hon. Gerald R. Ford  
Minority Leader of the U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, m D. C.

Dear Jerry:

I am aware that the House is considering a five-year extension of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and alternatively, as an amendment, the Administration-proposed nationwide voting rights bill, H.R.12695.

I strongly believe that the nationwide bill is superior because it is more comprehensive and equitable. Therefore, I believe every effort must be made to see that its essence, at least, prevails.

I would stress two critical points:

1. Instead of simply extending until 1975 the present Voting Rights Act, which bans literacy tests in only seven states, as the Committee bill would do, the nationwide bill would apply to all states until January 1, 1974. It would extend protection to millions of citizens not now covered and not covered under the Committee Bill.
2. H.R.12695 assures that otherwise qualified voters would not be denied the right to vote for President merely because they changed their state of residence shortly before a national election.

In short, the nationwide bill would go a long way toward insuring a vote for all our citizens in every state. Under it those millions who have been voteless in the past and thus voiceless in our government would have the legal tools they need to obtain and secure the franchise. Justice requires no less.

For certainly an enlightened national legislature must admit that justice is diminished for any citizen who does not have the right to vote for those who govern him. There is no way for the disenfranchised to consider themselves equal partners in our society.

This is true regardless of state or geographical location.

I urge that this message be brought to your colleagues, and I hope they will join in our efforts to grant equal voting rights to all citizens of the United States.

Sincerely,

RICHARD NIXON

Mr. Chairman, I am motivated not only by the idea of relieving the citizens and authorities of a few States from unjust discrimination, but also by a firm conviction that the laws of the United States, which we write here, ought to be the same for all 50 States; that the benefits of good laws should benefit citizens everywhere; that the penalties for defiance or evasion should be the same North, South, East and West; and that the right to vote may be -- and often is -- abridged in many ways and for many reasons in addition to race or color.

The right to vote for President and Vice President, and for other Federal elective offices, is a nationwide right entitled to nationwide protection. Our Nationwide Voting Rights Bill, to summarize it briefly, is nationwide in all of its parts.



Specifically:

1. It would suspend, nationwide, all literacy tests in all 50 States until January 1, 1974.
2. It would provide, nationwide, a uniform residence requirement for all Americans who want to vote in Presidential elections.
3. It would grant, nationwide, statutory authority to the Attorney General to station voting examiners and observers in any jurisdiction in all 50 States to enforce the right to register and to vote.
4. It would provide, nationwide, statutory authority for the Attorney General to start voting rights lawsuits in Federal Courts to prevent discriminatory practices and suspend discriminatory voting laws in all 50 States
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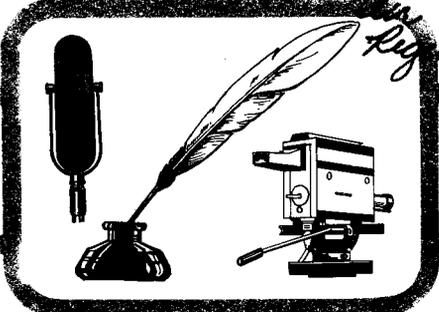
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J. R. H.  
1/1/66



*Distribution: Full*  
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*M Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--  
December 15, 1969

I applaud the 50,000-man U.S. troop cut announced by the President and suggest that the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong can expect to deal with a stronger South Vietnam in the future.

The President's latest cut in U.S. troops in Vietnam should convince even the "most doubting of Thomases" that he has a carefully drawn program to end the Vietnam War and that he is proceeding with that plan on schedule.

It is difficult to understand why the North Vietnamese leaders do not seek to hasten U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam by meaningful steps toward a military and political settlement of the conflict.

The evidence to date indicates that the South Vietnamese are measuring up to what is being demanded of them in connection with Vietnamization of the war. To that the North Vietnamese should pay heed.

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For Congressman Gerald R. Ford of Grand Rapids, Christmas 1969 carries a special note of poignancy.

Ford, who sent Christmas greetings to all overseas Kent and Ionia County servicemen whose addresses were known to him, was surprised and deeply moved when many of these young soldiers, sailors and Marines sent him cards and letters in return.

In many of the notes, the servicemen expressed pleasure over Ford's assurances that "everybody back home is thinking about you as we enter the holiday season" and "everybody in the states who deserves to be called an American is mighty proud of the job you are doing in the service of your country."

Ford went on to say that since it is impossible to have these young men home for the holidays, "let us tell you how much we care about you and how we pray for your safe return at a later time."

Marine PFC Michael G. Littell replied in part from his station in Vietnam:

"I am glad to hear there are some people who are proud of our job over here. At times you really wonder if it is all worth it when you hear of the moratorium at home, all the demonstrations and all the violence. But then when you figure what a great life you have back in the states, you figure it is worth it."

L/Cpl Dennis M. Madden wrote from Vietnam:

"I take heart in the thought of the people back home backing us. As I read the papers, I sometimes wonder. I hope you will not take offense if I state my mind.

"I believe in the United States and I am proud to serve in the forces which protect our way of life. It is not easy to be so far from home. I left my wife and family to be here. I left willingly, though, because I believe in what we are doing here. I do not think I am the exception but the rule for my generation. Often the minority--those who take the easy way out of responsibility--are taken for the whole. I am not what is referred to in the Marine Corps as a 'lifer' but merely one man who believes in his country and is willing to fight for it."

Cpl. Gordon Grabke replied: "What can I say except thank you and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of us servicemen in Vietnam from Michigan."

Pfc. Charles Dykstra penned a note from his duty station in Thailand 100 miles south of Bangkok. Chuck is with the 379th Battalion, a support unit for the 1st Signal Brigade in Vietnam.

S/Sgt. Edwin L. Fiers sent Ford Christmas greetings from Vietnam, and so did Spec. 4 Michael D. Mortensen. S/Sgt. James A. Flak sent a message from Europe.

Keith VanderWerp, who is serving aboard the U.S.S. Batapsco, sent an "Aloha" from Honolulu and a "Mele Kalikimaka" (Merry Christmas), too. # # #

*Distribution: Fifth District News Media  
6:00 p.m. 12/19/69*

*M Office Copy*



CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR RELEASE ON RECEIPT--  
December 20, 1969

NOTE TO NEWS MEDIA: This radio script taped by Rep. Gerald R. Ford for use by Fifth District stations the weekend of December 20-21 is being made available to you for use as you see fit.

I wish you all a happy holiday season. But even as I do so I am saddened by the thought that America is still at war -- and that thousands of our families are separated from sons, brothers and husbands by the realities of that war.

I thank God, therefore, that President Nixon has announced another troop cut that brings to 115,000 the number of U.S. troops he has eliminated from our Vietnam commitment since he took office last January.

Some letter writers ask me why we are still sending new men to Vietnam, now that we are cutting back on our total commitment there. The reason for that is our rotation policy. Our policy is that no man shall serve in Vietnam for more than a year. So we have to send over fresh troops to replace the veterans who are coming home on rotation. Of course, the number of new men we send to Vietnam each month is dropping as the President reduces our overall troop commitment in Vietnam.

One of the saddest aspects of war during this holiday season is that 1,359 Americans are either missing in action in Vietnam or held captive in Communist prison camps. It is pitiful that the families of these men do not even know if they are alive. These prisoners of war are in the hands of a ruthless enemy which completely disregards the accepted standards for humane treatment of war prisoners as laid down by the Geneva Convention of 1949.

Both the United States and North Vietnam are bound by the Geneva Convention. The Convention covers undeclared as well as declared wars. We honor the Geneva Convention but North Vietnam refuses to abide by it.

The House of Representatives has adopted resolutions calling upon North Vietnam to honor the Geneva Convention, and joint teams from the Pentagon and the State Department have been briefing the families of Americans held captive in Vietnam.

What can the people of America do about this prisoner of war tragedy?

Everyone can do as Sen. Robert P. Griffin and I are doing, at the suggestion of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce.

(more)

We can put moral pressure on the North Vietnamese by deluging Xuan Thuy, chief of the North Vietnamese delegation in Paris, with messages.

I, like many others, have sent a Christmas card to Xuan Thuy with a message urging that North Vietnamese leaders abide by the Geneva Convention and make arrangements for the early release of U.S. prisoners of war.

I urge that all of you listening do this, too. Your cards should be addressed to: Project Xuan Thuy, Box 2600, Washington, D.C., 20013. That is the collection point for the cards. The Jaycees will see that they are delivered to the North Vietnamese leaders.

I do have one bright note to comment upon at this time. It is a kind of Christmas present to the elderly in America, to all of those on Social Security.

It is virtually certain that Social Security benefits will be increased by 15 per cent across the board, effective Jan. 1.

Now, something to remember is that the increased payments will not show up in Social Security checks until the check of April 3. The Social Security Administration takes that long to crank up its mechanical operations to write the new checks. And then the retroactive sums for January and February will be sent out in a special check later in the month of April. So it will be a belated Christmas present.

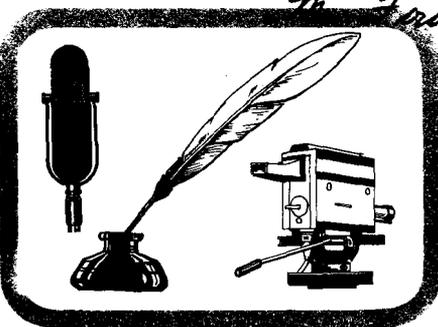
The extra 15 per cent increases the monthly checks of single retired persons from \$100 to \$116. Other average increases are \$170 to \$196 for a couple; \$254 to \$296 for a widow with two children; and \$237 to \$273 for a disabled worker with a wife and two children.

Another piece of good news during this holiday season is that tax cuts are on the way, along with tax reform.

# # #

*Distribution: Galleries 12:15 p.m.  
12/20/69  
m. Ford dictated to Ruth*

*M Office Copy*



**CONGRESSMAN  
GERALD R. FORD  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER**



**--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--  
December 20, 1960**

**Statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, Republican Leader, U.S. House of Representatives**

The House and Senate Republican leaders with Representative John Byrnes and Senator Wallace Bennett met with the President at breakfast to discuss the tax bill.

Because it more nearly conforms to the House version, the tax bill is non-inflationary in its effect in 1970 and 1971. Compared to the Senate version the tax conference report saves approximately \$10 billion in federal revenue in an 18-month period. Enactment into law could help to ease the tight money policy and have a beneficial impact on the housing industry in 1970.

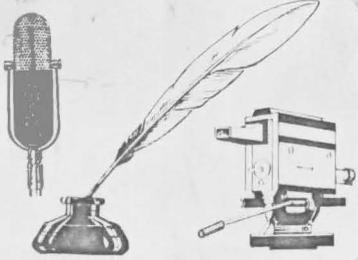
The President's strong leadership in insisting on a non-inflationary tax bill contributed materially to the great improvements in the final version compared to the Senate's high cost of living tax bill.

In some important respects the tax bill conference report follows the President's tax reform message of April 22 in that the federal tax burden on the lowest income taxpayers will be removed or lessened and many loopholes will be closed.

The bad features of the bill--the revenue losses after 1972-- make the final veto decision by the President a very close question. The revenue losses down the road will make it very difficult for the President and the Congress to fund some of the environmental improvement and education programs that badly need attention.

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*M Office Copy*



CONGRESSMAN  
**GERALD R. FORD**  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--  
Dec. 23, 1969

Statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, Republican Leader, U.S. House of Representatives

The 91st Congress will have to come on strong in the second half--the second session--if it is to point to a respectable record of accomplishment.

Overall, this has been a do-little Congress in the first session. In terms of President Nixon's reform proposals, this has been almost a mark-time Congress. Except for the tax bill and draft reform, this has been a treading-water Congress, a stick-in-the-mud assembly.

Of 46 Administration bills, Congress has passed just 14. That is only a .300 average, mighty poor in any league. My chief concern is lack of action on Nixon reforms and initiatives: Anti-crime legislation, welfare reform, postal reform, Social Security reform, consolidation of grants-in-aid, electoral reform, drug control, airport and airways improvement, and a new mass transit program.

The Congress has been sitting on five major anti-crime bills affecting the Nation and six anti-crime measures involving the District of Columbia.

Instead of joining hands with the President to legislate in the best interests of the people, Democrats in the Congress have sought political advantage by turning tax reform into tax relief.

On balance, the tax bill as finally enacted must be counted an achievement of sorts. But it assumed respectable form only because President Nixon insisted that the tax bill itself be reformed to more nearly conform to the House version or it would be vetoed.

Both on revenue matters and appropriations, Democrats flaunted the President's efforts to fight inflation. With House Democrats not altogether faultless, Senate Democrats dropped all pretense at responsible behavior and fattened spending bills in a manner calculated to curry the greatest possible public favor.

I feel the President had no choice but to announce flatly that he would veto the Labor-H.E.W. appropriations bill as passed by the Senate.

Apart from such merit as attaches to the tax bill, the only other Nixon-recommended reform to which Congress responded was draft reform. And that was only a one-sentence repealer making a luck-of-the-draw lottery system possible.

No other assessment can legitimately be made. Except for the tax bill and draft reform, this Congress did little this session. In fact, it almost struck out.

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