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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FEBRUARY 17, 1970

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

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THE WHITE HOUSE

PRESS CONFERENCE  
OF  
SENATOR HUGH SCOTT  
AND  
CONGRESSMAN GERALD R. FORD  
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM

AT 11:07 A.M. EST.

SENATOR SCOTT: Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Leadership meeting today heard a discussion by the President and Dr. Kissinger of the President's forthcoming message on the state of the world, which will be designated as A New Strategy for Peace, and which, you know, will go up tomorrow at noon.

There will be a Bipartisan Leadership meeting for a briefing at 4:30 this afternoon. The President will discuss the various regions of the world and the American posture in those regions. He will point out how the new foreign policy for the United States differs or varies from earlier foreign policy attitudes of post-World War II.

He will outline some very definite American positions with regard to the Pacific, the Western Hemisphere, Europe and other areas. The details of the message, of course, are not available until tomorrow.

Q Will the President do these things in the message or in the Leadership meeting?

SENATOR SCOTT: There will be a briefing to the Bipartisan Leadership at 4:30 today, and the message will come up for release at noon, tomorrow and will be accompanied by a breakdown or analysis.

Q Is the briefing here in the White House with the President?

SENATOR SCOTT: It is on the Hill. The briefing will be conducted by White House officials. It will include Dr. Kissinger.

Q Senator, did the President express any concern to you or did you express concern to him about the economy? Was there any discussion about the economy at all?

SENATOR SCOTT: Not directly, no. This was a discussion generally on foreign policy.

Q Will this be the foreign policy group on the Hill, Armed Services, Foreign Affairs and so on, or will it be larger?

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SENATOR SCOTT: I think it will be the Leadership, plus Chairmen and ranking Members of the Foreign Policy and, I assume, Armed Services.

Q Did you talk about pending legislation?

SENATOR SCOTT: There was discussion of the new HEW-Labor bill, yes.

Q What was said or what is the outlook?

SENATOR SCOTT: I think Mr. Ford can comment on that first.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: The matter of the Labor-HEW appropriations bill was discussed. The Administration does support the main thrust of this appropriations bill. Secretary Finch is appearing before the House Committee on Rules this afternoon, I understand, at 2:00. There will be an attempt made to get a rule waiving all points of order so that the bill can come up tomorrow, with the language additions that were made in the Committee as a whole.

Q What was the President's position on the Whitten Amendment?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: As I said, the President does support the main thrust of the bill. He does feel that the provisions that were included basically coincide with the points he has made in the last week; one, that you should not bus for the purpose of racial balance. He does believe firmly in the neighborhood school concept, and the language in the bill does seem to be helpful in that regard.

The bill also seeks to equally apply the decisions that have been made by the Supreme Court on a nation-wide basis. So, basically, the Administration is supporting the bill as it has been reported by the full Committee, although I think I should say we are taking a careful look at the language to see whether there should be any minor modifications or any additions to it.

Q Jerry, are you saying the Administration now does support the Whitten Amendment contrary to what happened in the Senate last year?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: No. What I am saying is that the Administration does support the basic thrust of the bill as it has been reported.

Q But does that include the Whitten Amendment?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: We do feel that the provisions in the bill coincide with the President's statements of the last week. I add, as I did a minute ago, we are carefully studying the language and I would not rule out entirely the possibility of an addition or some minor modifications.

Q Where, Mr. Ford, are the differences between the Whitten Amendment and what the President believes?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Quite frankly, we are in the process right now of analyzing the bill which was just reported yesterday. The Secretary of HEW, Members of the Rules Committee, Members of the Committee on Appropriations, have been working since the bill was reported yesterday, and I cannot give you a categorical answer.

SENATOR SCOTT: A little later today I will be able to give you some further information on some amendments that I presently plan to offer in the Senate with reference to the two Stennis Amendments, the bussing amendment and the general application of the laws amendment. I can say that on the bussing, what I propose will be in line with the President's clearly stated views, views that I believe to be the views of a majority in both Houses of Congress, and that is that no local education agency shall be forced or required to bus purely to achieve racial balance or to overcome racial imbalance.

The language is still in preparation. I have only a rough draft, but I will have an amendment to that Stennis Amendment, and an amendment to the other Stennis Amendment, if the parliamentary situation permits.

Q What is the difference between that and Senator Stennis' amendment on bussing?

SENATOR SCOTT: Well, I am not yet fully prepared to discuss all of the differences, because we have had only some preliminary thought given to it, but the basic difference is to make it clear that the Congress does not favor required bussing to overcome racial imbalance. To a degree it is a restatement of the 1964 Act.

Q To how much of a degree?

SENATOR SCOTT: It is largely a restatement. The wording will be different.

Q Did the President comment to you on Secretary Laird's report to him?

SENATOR SCOTT: He did not.

Q Was the Carswell nomination and its scheduling discussed at all?

SENATOR SCOTT: It was not.

Q What is the President's position, as you understand it, about the other equal application amendment? Is he for it or against it?

SENATOR SCOTT: I am certainly not in a position to speak for the President in that regard. Speaking for myself, I will have an amendment to offer at the proper time.

Q Could you give us some idea of what the amendment is going to say?

SENATOR SCOTT: In an hour or two I will be able to give you some idea on that. It will be a very simple change in phraseology. I can't tell you yet.

Q Senator, where do you stand on the reported Voting Rights Bill proposal that you are supposed to have worked up. Does the President approve that?

SENATOR SCOTT: I have not asked the President whether he approves or disapproves some compromises which are being prodded about but have not yet been brought formally before the Judiciary Committee. There will be some suggestions made, and I will go into those suggestions, with regard to a possible solution of the problems since the Senate and the House might well disagree on the wording, and I hope through some wording of my own to avoid that, by advocating an extension of the Voting Rights Act with certain features which the Administration would certainly like to see included.

Q Are you working with the White House on the wording of these two amendments which you propose to put up?

SENATOR SCOTT: No, I am not working with the White House on the wording of the amendments, but whatever I do, I hope they will not be regarded as contentious or argumentative. It is an effort to achieve a compromise.

Were you referring to the Voting Rights Amendment?

Q Yes.

SENATOR SCOTT: My answer was to the Voting Rights Amendment. On the School Aid Bill, I have had some discussions with officials of the Department of HEW.

Q Senator, do you favor the thrust of the Whitten and Jonas Amendments on the HEW bill?

SENATOR SCOTT: I would be inclined to have somewhat a differing view, but it may not be necessary by the time it comes to the Senate. I don't know of the form in which the bill will leave the House. You heard Mr. Ford say that broadly the President supports the thrust of the bill.

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Q Could either one of you explain how it is that last year the Administration very vigorously opposed the Whitten Amendment, worked against it, finally got it defeated and this year you say that the President is in general agreement with the thrust of it now? How do we come to this turn-around?

SENATOR SCOTT: I think Mr. Ford's answer to that was that the President is in general agreement with the thrust of the bill. I do not regard it as a turn-around. My views in the Senate remain as before and we will have to see whether these can be worked out.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: If I might add a comment to that, I think in the interim we have had several Court decisions that are very narrow in scope, but at least in my opinion -- and I emphasize, in my opinion -- have been very impractical as to application.

I think it is fundamentally wrong for a court to decide that a child or many children should be taken out of one school during a term or a semester and arbitrarily transferred to another school.

Now, in my judgment, this impractical kind of court decision requires the Congress -- and I emphasize, the Congress -- to take a fresh look at what the Federal role should be in the overall problem.

Q Senator, could you tell us what difference you see, if you do see a difference, between bussing to achieve racial balance, or to obviate racial imbalance, and bussing to achieve an integrated school?

SENATOR SCOTT: Well, I think you have stated a question that is more philosophical than factual. The Vice President will head a Commission for the purpose of determining whether any injustices or maladjustments have been brought about by virtue of court decisions, State court decisions in most cases.

The Supreme Court has not yet ruled on de facto segregation and therefore, the whole question of bussing is somewhat up in the air since it has been pointed out by a number of people that the very word is confusing semantically. Almost all children are taken to school by buses nowadays, but required bussing to achieve racial imbalance is philosophically undesirable and I think the President has firmly taken a position on that.

I have, too. If we can get a vote on that issue alone as distinguished from Freedom of Choice and other issues as raised by the Stennis Amendment, I think there would be less difficulty in getting Senate approval of that single issue. I think that often each school district will have to be treated as a separate entity and I believe that is what the Vice President's commission will address itself to, school district by school district, particularly where they have been affected by a court decision and particularly in view of the fact that the Supreme Court has not yet ruled on the issue of de facto segregation.

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Q Does that mean, Senator, that in certain districts bussing would be proper for integrating schools?

SENATOR SCOTT: In certain districts voluntary bussing is used now and in certain districts an agreement might be worked out for voluntary bussing. But to require bussing is, in my judgment, something the Congress has already acted on in the 1964 Act and will probably reassert, perhaps more broadly this time.

Q And that is the President's view as you understand it?

SENATOR SCOTT: As I understand it, that is the President's view.

Q Senator, why is it necessary to restate it? If it is already the law, why is it necessary to restate it?

SENATOR SCOTT: Because there are attempts to unstate it by adding to that established principle other features in a single amendment. I think we had better get back to the single restatement of that issue rather than amendments which combine bussing with Freedom of Choice or bussing with other objectives, some of which might be contrary to the court's decision.

Q Senator, this Administration has taken the position in several appeals in the Supreme Court that the 1964 Amendment does not apply to the dis-establishment of a dual system where that was established by law or policy.

Would your amendment overturn that?

SENATOR SCOTT: You are asking me to sit as a court and I am entirely unable to perform the judicial function. I am a member of the legislature and I would not be able to answer that.

Q How do you distinguish between voluntary bussing and forced bussing?

SENATOR SCOTT: One is required and one is not. I used to understand in school the difference between what was voluntary and what was required. I learned the hard way.

Q I am getting to this point: If the local school board determines that bussing is at least part of the answer for an integration program and that feature of the plan would be ratified by a court, is that voluntary or required?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I think you have to differentiate -- if I may interject here -- if the local school authorities, with local funds, with the concurrence of the local people, decide that they want to bus for any purpose, that is their prerogative.

What we at the Federal level, and particularly in the Congress, are saying is that you cannot, with Federal funds, require bussing to eliminate racial imbalance. What the local people want to do with their own approval is one thing. But we are saying at the Federal level you cannot require this bussing to eliminate racial imbalance.

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SENATOR SCOTT: Moreover, as I understand the President's viewpoint now, and undertaking to speak for him, he is in favor of the concept of neighborhood schools, and even at the lower level, if there were a system of bussing entered into which was disruptive of the neighborhood school system, that also might come under the review of the Vice President's committee.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END

(AT 11:25 A.M.)



MARCH 3, 1970

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

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THE WHITE HOUSE

PRESS CONFERENCE

OF

SENATOR HUGH SCOTT

AND

CONGRESSMAN GERALD R. FORD

THE ROOSEVELT ROOM

AT 10:45 A.M. EST.

SENATOR SCOTT: Ladies and Gentlemen, as you know, the President is sending up the message to Congress on Education Reform. You have it and you will be briefed right after this, I understand, by Dr. Moynihan and Dr. Allen. He will propose a National Institute of Education, a Commission on School Finance, he will discuss a Corporation for Public Broadcasting. They will be \$52 million further funds for early learning, and on the Right to Read, \$200 million will be requested in Titles II and III.

There will be \$116 million in Title III, Supplementary Education; \$50 million in Title II for books and similar tools of the trade, and \$34 million extra money for initiating reading programs,

The Right to Read is stressed strongly. There are about 15 million school children in this country who can't read well enough to understand adequately what is going on. There are 8 million adults who are functional illiterates. The Right to Read Program is one where the Federal Government can marshal the resources. It is looked upon not merely as a Federal program, but a nationwide effort whereby all of the school systems will be engaged.

This is very much of a reform and innovative program which examines the school systems of America, and wherein they have failed, with particular attention to the early learning process. We heard today that a child's educational capacity is about half formed at the age of two years and three months. So that is a rather significant factor, and that will be taken into consideration in dealing with a child under five.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: As Senator Scott has indicated, Pat Moynihan and Dr. Allen took most of the time briefing us on the situation that is going to be presented in the message.

One set of statistics that impressed me tremendously was the fact that in 1945 the total U. S. commitment to education, Federal, State and local, was about \$4 billion a year, two percent of our GNP. In 1969, the total commitment, Federal, State and local was about \$62 billion and slightly more than seven percent of our GNP, and that the Federal Government contributed only seven percent of the \$62 billion in this total educational effort

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SENATOR SCOTT: The ability to read, Jerry, it was brought out, has not appreciably improved in over 50 years.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: The other subject that was discussed is one that is currently before the House, and it is what to do with the somewhat controversial Department of HEW-Labor appropriations bill.

It is our feeling that the Senate version should be accepted by the House. The White House will accept the Senate version and we will do what we can to see that the House, in one way or another, in a somewhat difficult parliamentary situation, will try to accept the Senate version.

It is not entirely perfect. No bill is, and certainly this one would be difficult to achieve, but it is the best solution to a long and complicated controversy.

Q Senator, you mentioned that a child's capacity for learning is formed at two years, three months, according to whom?

SENATOR SCOTT: Well, according to Dr. Moynihan and Dr. Allen. Dr. Moyniahn made the point first that approximately one-half of the child's capacity to learn throughout life is formed at the age of two years, three months, a fact, he says, which has only recently be developed by the people who do that kind of thing.

Q Was there a discussion of anything else, other than the HEW bill and the educational message?

SENATOR SCOTT: No, there was not.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END

(AT 10:55 A.M. EST.)

MARCH 17, 1970

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
PRESS CONFERENCE  
OF  
SENATOR HUGH SCOTT  
AND  
CONGRESSMAN GERALD R. FORD  
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM

AT 11:03 A.M. EST.

SENATOR SCOTT: Ladies and Gentlemen: This morning one of the Treasury Buildings was evacuated because of a bomb threat. The President is reviewing and giving careful consideration to recommendations with regard to the possible need for Federal legislation to meet the spate of bombings across the country.

The areas, of course, where the Federal Government is concerned, have yet to be worked out, but it could, of course, include Federal buildings, Interstate Commerce, where offices in private buildings are occupied by firms engaged in interstate commerce, and possibly the protection of Federal officials, the protection of vehicles and transportation of explosives across State lines.

So I think you can expect a message or suggested legislation somewhat later on that, in the near future.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: A major part of the meeting this morning involved comments by Dr. McCracken as to the situation as far as the economy is concerned, and that led to a message which will be sent to the Hill today, which is entitled, "A Statement by the President on Combating Construction Inflation and Meeting Future Construction Needs."

This message will point out the things that the President thinks have to be done in the area of vocational education, job training for construction workers.

There was discussion about the state of the economy. It was the consensus of those there, following the report by Dr. McCracken, that the state of the economy was good. The President reaffirmed what he has stated before, that this Administration will be an activist Administration in meeting any problems that might develop in the economy.

We were encouraged by the various reports indicating that the inflationary problems were cooling. At the same time, there was no serious problem developing in the field of unemployment.

The President, in the message, as you will find, is releasing the directive that was put into effect, I think, in September of 1969, the limitation that involved Federally assisted construction programs with State and local Governments. That limitation will be lifted.

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It will have an impact on the construction industry across the country. It will have, however, no serious adverse impact on the budgetary expenditures as far as the Federal Government is concerned for this fiscal year, or for next.

As a matter of fact, this action by the President to release the limitation is a part of the program or plan that has been worked out to meet any inflationary problems or any unemployment problems that might develop.

In addition, the President wrote Senator Scott and myself, as well as the Democratic Leaders, yesterday, indicating that he was recommending legislation that would make available \$250 million for the savings and loans. If that legislation is authorized and funded, it means that some \$6 billion or more would be released for the housing industry and in addition, the President is requesting the Congress to add \$50 million in Federal funding for Sections 235 and 236 in the housing legislation.

All of these steps are taken as a part of a well considered plan to, on the one hand be careful about the problems of inflation, and at the same time, meet any problems related to the future of the economy.

SENATOR SCOTT: Let me add one thing. The President's request for consideration of Federal legislation on bombing was made to his department heads on Friday last.

On the matter of the removal of the freeze on Federally assisted construction, that amounts to \$1.2 billion, and also it releases \$300 million by the States who will be encouraged to do that. Then, other States, hopefully, as the bond market improves, will be able to release money which has been backed up.

New York State, for example, has \$900 million in projects backed up waiting for a favorable bond market.

Q Does the release of this money indicate a fear that the inflation has peaked and you want now to avoid a recession by pumping money back into the economy?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I think the release of the money is aimed at making certain that the construction industry, both broad construction as well as the housing industry.-- they have suffered the most in the last six to twelve months -- and this action is aimed at trying to remedy the problems in that particular area.

As I understand it, the construction industry is about \$100 billion a year, a third of it in housing, a third of it in State and local and Federal projects, and another third in industry. In order to try and equalize the situation for this particular industry, these actions are being taken.

Q But I am speaking of timing now. Why are you doing it now?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Because these industries have suffered the most in the last six or twelve months, and this is an effort to give them an opportunity to get moving in the economy as a whole.

Q I think following Peter's point, that late last Summer when these restrictions were put on, for the purpose of having to deal with inflation, and now the restrictions are being taken off, what has changed in that intervening time to change the President's decision about what should be done?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I think there is a feeling that the problems of inflation have been defeated, and that now we have to try and equalize the development of the economy in the months ahead.

As I said at the outset, the President's message is a rather broad one. It not only provides for the actions that I have indicated in the Federally assisted construction programs, but points out the expansion of training programs, vocational education, manpower training.

I might add, one of the points made in the message, and I understand that Secretary Shultz will emphasize this later, is that the President speaks out about the need to upgrade in the minds of the American people, the craftsmen and skilled workers who are in some of these trades, who have not been adequately recognized in the past.

On Page Four of the message, the President speaks very emphatically about a need to restore pride in a craft and to promote the dignity of skilled labor. I think we have to do something in this area to bring in people who will create a bigger labor market in these particular trades.

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Q Were there any apprehensions expressed this morning about the possibility of a recession?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: None whatsoever. As a matter of fact, the President was very affirmative in his belief that the economy was healthy and that his Administration was going to be an activist Administration in foreseeing any problems that might develop and taking affirmative action ahead of schedule so we would not have any problems in that area of unemployment.

SENATOR SCOTT: We expect 1970 to be a good year in every way.

Q Mr. Ford, could you give us some evidence that inflation has been defeated?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: There will be a briefing by Dr. McCracken later this morning. He is far more familiar than I am with the details as to why, in his judgment, we have dampened down the inflationary problems. But I am sure he can convince you, as he did me and others, that we are on top of the problem and that we can look forward in the months ahead to a decrease in the inflationary pressures that have plagued us for the last five years.

Q Does that mean, Mr. Ford, that the danger of skidding into a recession has been averted?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Absolutely. The danger of any recession as far as the future is concerned is nil. This Administration has affirmatively met the problems of any recession, and from now on, we are going to be building forward on a stable economy rather than on one such as we have had in the past, in the 1950s and the early part of the 1960s. I might point out, the question is always raised about unemployment and my good friend Carl Albert, last week, criticized the Administration for the 4.2 unemployment figure that was announced.

I did a little checking, and I went back to the records of the early 1960s. Let me read to you the unemployment figures for 1961, 6.7 percent; 1962, 5.5 percent unemployment; 1963, 5.7 percent unemployment; 1964, 5.2 percent. As a matter of fact, the average in those four years in the early days of the Kennedy Administration, would indicate over 5.5 percent unemployment. We think that is unacceptable, totally unacceptable. This Administration is going to maximize its effort to keep unemployment down to a minimum.

Q Mr. Ford, it sounds as if you are ready to take on Larry O'Brien in his statement Sunday that the economy would be a major issue.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I didn't hear it. What did he say?

Q He said he thought the major issue in the 1970 elections would be the economy.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: In my judgment it is because the economy is going to be good and healthy in 1970 and it will not be an issue. The Democrats won't have anything to talk about.

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SENATOR SCOTT: Larry O'Brien asked me at the Gridiron Club to lend him ten until just the next day, but he didn't say ten what. (Laughter)

We have a later report on the evacuation of one of Treasury Buildings. It is the Bureau of Engraving and Printing at 14th and C Streets.

Q That legislation you mentioned, will that deal with bombing threats as well as actual bombings?

SENATOR SCOTT: I would expect that the legislation would deal with bombings and with conspiracies to commit that act.

Q Are you satisfied with the security on the Hill?

SENATOR SCOTT: Not entirely, no. I think the security on the Hill could be improved. I would hate for us to be isolated or for anything to be done to prevent free access by constituents, but I think the whole security problem is great in the country and great in Washington, D. C.

Q You mentioned that last Friday the President asked for some report. What did he ask for, legislation to be drawn up?

SENATOR SCOTT: It is my understanding that he has asked for a review and a study to indicate whether legislation in the Federal field is necessary to deal with this spread of bombings across the country. I had mentioned some areas that might well be covered by that study.

Q When is that study suppose to get back to him?

SENATOR SCOTT: I would expect in a few days. He had hoped to have it early this week. It will be very soon.

Q Senator, do you have a head count on the Carswell vote, and can you give it to us?

SENATOR SCOTT: Senator Griffin will be taking a head count very shortly on that. There are enough votes, and more, to confirm Judge Carswell.

Q Senator, did you discuss the President's coming civil rights statement this morning?

SENATOR SCOTT: No, there was no discussion on that.

Q What do you expect to come?

SENATOR SCOTT: Well, I think we had better wait and see what that statement contains. If I am asked, I will discuss it, but at this point I have no knowledge. But I meant if I were asked at the White House, I would discuss it here, but I have no knowledge of it.

Q Did you discuss the Israeli jet decision?

SENATOR SCOTT: That was not brought up today.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 7, 1970

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE  
PRESS CONFERENCE  
OF  
SENATOR HUGH SCOTT  
AND  
CONGRESSMAN GERALD R. FORD  
THE BRIEFING ROOM

AT 10:20 A.M. EST.

SENATOR SCOTT: Ladies and Gentlemen: Much of the discussion today turned on the agreement reached between the postal unions and the Government,--and this agreement stresses the importance of the collective bargaining provisions--the immediate general pay raise to Government employees and some subsequent pay adjustments which are tied to the postal reorganization proposals.

As you know, this agreement was entered into and in many ways perhaps greatly facilitated by the help of Mr. George Meany, whose whole approach was very statesman-like.

Since Congressional action is called for, in our view it is essential that what is sent to the White House shall include postal reorganization as well as the other features, since the postal unions have agreed, and Mr. Meany has agreed, to give their support to a package treatment.

Also, it must include Congressional action on a pay-as-you-go proposal, which will include a new postage stamp -- We might put Larry O'Brien's face on it -- and acceleration of estate and gift taxes.

The entire package is essential, and to send down simply a pay raise would be entirely out of consonance with the agreements which have been entered into.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Let me just reiterate what Senator Scott said. It was the strong feeling of the President, and I think we all share it, that the agreement which was reached -- and a copy of it has been made available publicly -- is fair to postal employees and to Government employees.

It also provides fiscal responsibility in the proposed increased revenues through the Post Office Department as well as through the Internal Revenue Code.

But thirdly, and probably as important as any of the other two, is the fact that there is an agreement to get postal reform. This legislation, hopefully, will materialize in the Congress in the very near future. Unions have agreed to be for it rather than to oppose it.

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Speaking of Larry O'Brien, he was, a few years ago, the initiator of postal reform. Of course, up until the assumption of his new responsibilities, he was one of two who was leading the campaign across the nation to try and achieve postal reform.

One other subject was discussed. The Secretary of Labor did call to our attention the absolute necessity of Congressional action before the end of the week on the legislation recommended by the President in the area of the labor-management dispute in the railroad industry.

The Senate Committee took action yesterday and hopefully it will be programmed in not only the Senate but in the House, so that we can have this matter settled once and for all by the agreement in legislative form that was agreed to by both the labor negotiators and the management people who were responsible.

SENATOR SCOTT: Today I am going to ask Senator Mansfield to expedite the listing on the calendar of the Senate Committee action on the railway labor legislation.

Q Is there any realistic prospect for a ten-cent stamp?

SENATOR SCOTT: I think there is considerable prospect that postal rates will be increased, and it is hoped that the agreement will be for a ten-cent stamp.

Q Do you two gentlemen favor the ten-cent stamp?

SENATOR SCOTT: I am going to favor whatever postal rate increase is essential to make this a pay-as-you-go situation. When you increase peoples' pay, and they very much need it, it has to be approached in this sense. It is fair, it is over-due, it is just. But in order to do it, you have to find a means to pay for it.

Q Did you discuss what will happen to the President's budget if you don't get that ten-cent stamp and you do go ahead with the six percent wage increase for all the employees?

SENATOR SCOTT: Obviously there was a good deal of discussion and there was a general feeling, and I think the President shares it, that it would be irresponsible to act on a pay increase without providing the means to pay for it also. It would not be in keeping with the agreement made by the Government and the postal unions.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: As I understand it, the total annual impact of the pay increases will be approximately \$2-1/2 billion. If we are going to have a responsible fiscal policy, there has to be some means found to raise additional revenue, otherwise you are going to undermine totally our effort to do something effectively about problems of inflation as far as the Federal budget is concerned.

Therefore, as far as I am concerned, I intend to support the kind of package recommended by the President for both the speed up of the estate and gift taxes and the additional revenue needed and necessary through the increased rates in first, second, third and fourth class mail.

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SENATOR SCOTT: The post office reorganization is a real bonanza because it will save the Government, as a self-contained unit, about \$1 billion a year. It becomes very important, and I think most people agree that even three weeks ago it did not look likely of achievement. But now that it has labor and Government support, its chances are vastly improved.

Q Do you feel that the unions are living up to what you describe as their agreement to push for postage increases?

SENATOR SCOTT: There is strong evidence that they are actively living up to their agreement.

Q Senator Scott, does the Administration have any alternative way of paying for this increase, or if the pay increase should come back here without the accompanying legislation on raising the price of stamps, would the whole agreement be out of the window and would we be back where we started?

SENATOR SCOTT: I think that is anticipating something that at this time I cannot answer, but I can only say that it would not be responsible in the Congress to pass the pay increase without the means to pay for it.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: As I understand it, the additional revenue features of the overall package were not a part of the agreement between the union negotiators and the Government negotiators. They did agree on the pay increase, six percent for all employees and eight percent for postal employees, tied with postal reorganization.

The additional revenue features are the recommendations of the Administration which is a fiscally responsible position and hopefully the union representatives would be helpful, but it was not a part of the particular agreement that I understood was signed.

Q Did you discuss this morning any action you might take if this chain of events happens where just one of those bills comes back to you?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I think it is premature to pass judgment on what might happen. We do have in hand an agreement signed by the postal employee representatives as well as the department. This does include the six percent for everybody, and the eight percent for the postal employees, tied in with postal reorganization.

We would expect, with the Administration back of the agreement, and with the labor unions, including Mr. Meany supporting it, that this kind of a package ought to go through the Congress and there should not arise that contingency that you suggest.

The revenue side is another matter, but I personally think it is absolutely essential.



Q Senator, the postal reform has nothing to do with the six percent increase, is that not correct? It is only tied to the additional eight percent?

SENATOR SCOTT: It is tied only to the eight percent, the postal reform. The six percent was a separate thing, but all of it was negotiated as a part of the total agreement.

Q What can you tell us about G. Harrold Carswell?

SENATOR SCOTT: I can say that the President is confident that Judge Carswell will be confirmed.

Q Do you share that, Senator?

SENATOR SCOTT: I share that, yes.

Q Will you vote in favor of him?

SENATOR SCOTT: I will vote in favor of the confirmation. I have said that before.

Q Do you have a nose count as to how much it will pass by?

SENATOR SCOTT: I think we had better wait until tomorrow. There are some people yet to be talked to, pro and con, and for an actual nose count, it will probably be better to wait until tomorrow.

I can say to you that I gave you a correct one yesterday, exactly.

Q Is there any significant opposition to postal reform? Is it increasing?

SENATOR SCOTT: There was opposition originally, but I think it is decreasing. It is decreasing because it appears to be the one way the Congress and the Government can extract themselves from an exceedingly difficult condition under the present circumstances.

MORE

CONGRESSMAN FORD: As I understand it, Postmaster General Blount and the union representatives are finalizing a total agreement as to details in the next day or two. Once this is done I think you will find that the Congress will be very helpful and will expedite affirmative action. The main thing we have to achieve through postal reform is to get rid of the old political tradition in the Post Office Department and to get some efficiency into the Post Office Department. If you do, you will get better service and you will also be able to get better service, I think, in the long run for fewer dollars and lesser increases in postal rates.

Q Senator, could you clarify for me again, please, the agreement with George Meany and with the union? Did that have anything to do with the increase from six cents to ten cents?

SENATOR SCOTT: The agreement which is available to you, the first paragraph says "The general wage increase of six percent retroactive to December 27, 1969, for all postal employees." Then there is, among the various subheadings, Section (b), "An additional 8 percent wage increase for postal workers effective as of the date the enabling legislation becomes law." referring to a postal authority of some kind, a self-contained postal authority.

Q My question, Senator, was whether they indicated any agreement to go along with the increase in postage from six cents to ten cents.

SENATOR SCOTT: That is an undertaking by the Administration as to how to raise the money. The unions do not, in this agreement, undertake a commitment as to how the money is to be raised. But obviously, they are aware that if they are to get a pay increase it has to come from somewhere and that means the taxpayer.

Q Senator, has there been any discussion about minimums inasmuch as the ten-cent stamp appears to be headed for trouble? Has there been talk about what the Administration possibly might settle for?

SENATOR SCOTT: No, there has been no great discussion on any shrinkage there. The ten-cent stamp seems to be a good target to shoot for and they can develop Congressional sentiment from there.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I don't think it is fair to say at this stage that the ten-cent first class stamp is doomed. I believe when the facts are laid out before the committee there is a possibility that the committee will act affirmatively on the proposals. I don't think that we should assume at this date that the package for fiscal responsibility is doomed.

Q Was there any element here at any time of any of your members saying "Why was the agreement made with the unions and not with the committees of Congress?"

SENATOR SCOTT: That was not discussed.

Q The Members of Congress feel their place is being usurped by the unions.



SENATOR SCOTT: I think the Members of Congress are in close touch with the White House so they are fully aware of what is going on. I am sure they are consulted from time to time.

Q Chairman Dulski, the Democratic Chairman of the House Committee, said at no time had he been invited to any meeting at the White House and he did not know why.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I believe the immediate need was for action between the unions and the management of the Post Office Department. There was nothing Congress could do about the problems of the strike. This had to be between management and labor representatives.

Once that agreement has been achieved, then I think it is the proper thing to do to bring in the Congress and to get us to help to implement this agreement between the two sides in the dispute.

Q Senator Scott, earlier you said it would be irresponsible to have a pay increase without the means to pay for it. Can we take that to mean that the President would not accept one without the other?

SENATOR SCOTT: I think you can take it to mean that the President feels that his Administration and his Party's position is that we should operate on a pay-as-you-go basis. I don't attempt to say what would happen to legislation when it comes down here because it is impossible to say what form it will take. The going phrase here is "pay as you go." That is the intention of the Party leadership and of the President, I am sure.

Q Would you say that under no circumstances the President will accept a deficit in the budget?

SENATOR SCOTT: I can only say that I have not asked him, but I know that the thought is quite abhorrent to him.

Q Senator Scott, is this something new, that government services must pay for themselves?

SENATOR SCOTT: Since the Republicans came in it has been revived, yes.

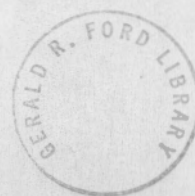
Q Do you subscribe to that?

SENATOR SCOTT: Generally speaking, yes. I would like to see it. All of us have our own individual aberrations at times. Consistency is still only a semi-precious jewel, but I would say by and large it ought to be adhered to.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END

(AT 10:40 A.M. EST)



JUNE 9, 1970

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
PRESS CONFERENCE  
OF  
SENATOR HUGH SCOTT  
AND  
CONGRESSMAN GERALD R. FORD  
THE BRIEFING ROOM

AT 10:35 A.M. EDT.

MR. ZIEGLER: The Leadership Meeting has just concluded. It lasted about two hours. Senator Scott and Congressman Ford are late now for a meeting, so we would like to keep this session relatively short.

We will begin with Senator Scott.

SENATOR SCOTT: We discussed the proposed revisions to go to the Senate Finance Committee on the Family Assistance Program on which some background information will be released to you tomorrow, I understand.

This was discussed with Senator Williams as well as representatives of the Administration.

We also discussed the Byrd Amendment and the Cooper-Church Amendment. I reported that it would appear that there are sufficient votes -- no guarantees -- but it looks as if there are sufficient votes, very probably, to pass the Byrd Amendment.

We have a further concern, and that is Subsection 3 of the Cooper-Church Amendment, which operates as sort of a Congressional amendment to the Guam or Nixon doctrine in that it would inhibit Asians helping Asians, and therefore, this is a matter of continuing concern.

I think that is all I have to say at this time.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: In the course of the meeting this morning, the new Secretary of HEW, Elliot Richardson, was introduced. He did not try to solve all the problems this morning, but he was there and certainly got a warm welcome for the new responsibilities.

The Postmaster General was present to discuss the situation involving postal reform. That, of course, probably will come before the House tomorrow and Thursday, depending, of course, upon the granting of a rule by the Committee on Rules. It is not entirely certain that the Rules Committee will act today and if not, why then postal reform will go over probably until next week.

The President, the Postmaster General and all of us are anxious that the House bring the matter up and approve postal reform so we can start remedying some of the problems in the Post Office Department.

MORE

Q Senator, you said that this Family Assistance Plan would be given to us tomorrow. Is there anything you can tell us about it today?

SENATOR SCOTT: I don't think we can go into many details today, because it was a matter of much detailed discussion and it turned on how to remove disincentives from the program, in other words, how to make the program structurally work and how to phase it in with other existing programs.

But I don't think it would serve any purpose to go into detail today. You will have all of that tomorrow.

Q Senator, can you tell us how this provision of the Cooper-Church Amendment prohibits Asians from helping Asians?

SENATOR SCOTT: Well, it would forbid, after June 30, the furnishing of aid in the form of supplies or funds to any government which in turn might wish to extend aid to the Cambodian government. It would put Cambodia in a unique position in that it would be the only country in the world where such prohibition applies, and therefore, would amend the doctrine under which Asians, for example the Thai's, might want to help other Asians. They would be prohibited from doing it under Subsection 3 because the Thai's are receiving some military aid from the United States.

Q What are the chances of eliminating that?

SENATOR SCOTT: We have taken no count on that. Senator Griffin and I, if you lump our two opinions together, we would have to say about 50-50.

Q Do recent developments in Indochina indicate that that is what is happening, that there is a movement for several nations to act together in mutual defense?

SENATOR SCOTT: That, we believe, is a decision for the Asian nations to make. If they do, we think that Asians should, under the Nixon doctrine, be permitted to help other Asians if they wish to do so. I would assume they do.

Q Do you have any count yet on the Byrd Amendment, Senator? Do you know how many votes you will have on that? You said you thought you had enough.

SENATOR SCOTT: We think we have enough. There are only about four of five undecided, but I would think in view of the way these will go that we have enough.

I do call your attention to the Djarkata Conference as an illustration of the desire of the nations to help themselves.

Q Would you say the Administration is enthusiastically behind the Byrd Amendment?

SENATOR SCOTT: Well, you have seen the President's letter to me. It speaks for itself. He has said that it goes a long way toward removing an important part of his objection. I don't think there has been any question that he has so indicated and I would expect he would get a lot of support because of that.

Q Ron, what information will we receive here tomorrow on the Family Assistance Program?

MR. ZIEGLER: As you recall, the Senate Finance Committee, in the testimony there, requested the Administration, the Executive Branch, to look at several aspects of the Family Assistance Program as it affects Medicaid, Housing and Food Stamps. We have done that. We have completed a very exhaustive study of that and are now prepared to begin our discussions again with the Finance Committee on the Family Assistance Program.

We will provide you the details of this tomorrow morning here at the White House in a very extensive briefing.

Q Do you know what time?

MR. ZIEGLER: At the regular 11:00 briefing.

Q Will that be Dr. Moynihan?

MR. ZIEGLER: Perhaps. I am quite sure he would be one of those who would be here.

THE PRESS: Thank you, gentlemen.

END

(AT 10:45 A.M. EDT.)



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUNE 23, 1970

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

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THE WHITE HOUSE

PRESS CONFERENCE  
OF  
SENATOR HUGH SCOTT  
AND  
CONGRESSMAN GERALD R. FORD  
THE BRIEFING ROOM

AT 10:40 A.M. EDT.

MR. ZIEGLER: The Leadership Meeting this morning began at 8:30 and ended at about 10:35. Congressman Ford and Senator Scott are here to discuss it with you.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Thank you, Ron. Ladies and Gentlemen:

The meeting with the President this morning primarily involved a briefing on two tentative reorganization messages that will be sent from the President sometime after the 4th of July.

I will briefly discuss one of them and Senator Scott will discuss the other.

One is a proposed pulling together of a number of various agencies, subagencies that exist around the Federal Government and will be coordinated under what we will call the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration. It will be the bringing together of these various agencies that are spread around the Government into an agency under the Department of Commerce.

It will, for example, undoubtedly include the Sea Lab Grant Program which is just a small program at the present time, but one, undoubtedly, as we expand our efforts in the oceans throughout the world, which will become a very large agency, something comparable to the Land Grant College programs, but even substantially greater in research and otherwise.

This is a step that I think is needed and necessary to emphasize the problems we face in the ocean areas and the related problems thereto. I think there will be support in the Congress for a reorganization plan of this sort.

Q Is that the Sea Lab?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Yes, that is part of it.

Q Can you tell us what some of the other agencies are?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I think at this point we will not get into the details of it. I think there will be a briefing sometime probably next week when the plans are finalized.

MORE

Q You say problems we face in the oceans. What kind of problems are you talking about?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: There are a great many people who believe that the greatest resources on the globe exist in the ocean. We have not, in the past, spent nearly enough money in trying to explore the potential that exists for man as far as the oceans are concerned.

In order to do it properly, I think we have to pull all of the agencies that have any connection whatsoever in this area together so we can do it in a sounder way than we have in the past.

Q The Navy does a lot of that work. Will you pull the work out from there?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: The Navy is not involved in this particular transfer, but the other agencies that have connection with the oceans are.

Q What about the atmospheric aspect of this?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: May I let Senator Scott explain the other one, and then we will take your questions.

SENATOR SCOTT: Yes, Mr. Siciliano called the NOAA project a sort of wet NASA. That may give you a general idea.

The other program is the Environmental Protection Agency, and we were briefed by Mr. John Whitaker. There are some 84 bureaus that claim some jurisdiction in this field. It has been described in magazines as an environmental jungle. But there will be brought together a number of the different projects affecting air pollution, water pollution, water quality control type of things, solid waste disposals, pesticides, from various agencies will be brought under one head, and when the report comes in that will be itemized.

Q Then you are both talking about the same thing?

SENATOR SCOTT: No, one is the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Agency and the other is the Environmental Protection Agency.

The President also discussed the 18-year-old vote and as you know, has always been in favor of the 18 year olds voting. It is in the Republican platform. I am in favor of it. I am sure Jerry is, too.

There is this question of Constitutionality. There was an overriding importance attached to the Scott Voting Rights Bill which I, needless to say, was delighted to see approved, and the 18-year-old matter is subject to and can be, and undoubtedly will be tested in the Courts, and perhaps we ought to go ahead with a Constitutional amendment in any event. But there will be a court test, I would think, before the elections of next year.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Time is of the essence in testing the Constitutionality. I brought out in my remarks last week, when the matter was up in the House, that time was important because there are roughly 3,000 to 4,000 bond issue votes throughout the country each year involving some \$6 billion in local and municipal and school board elections and programs and projects in building.

Unless there is a test and a decision before the first of the year, then many of these bond issues and millage votes could be placed in jeopardy until there is a decision by the court.

So, the President said that the proper action would be taken as quickly as possible within the law to get a test before the court as rapidly as possible.

Q Congressman, do you think that Congress will wait on working on a Constitutional amendment before the test or will they go ahead as the President suggested and try to submit a Constitutional amendment?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I would hope as back-up that the House Committee on the Judiciary would move quickly to hold some hearings and hopefully take some action on the 18-year old vote amendment to the Federal Constitution.

I think it would be unwise to gamble on what the court may or may not do. I am for the 18-year old vote. The President is. The Republican Party, in its platform, has indicated its approval. I believe the Democrats likewise, according to the vote, believe in it. So, I see no reason why we should not do it in the traditional way in order to make sure that 18-year olds do have the right to vote in the Presidential election of 1972.

SENATOR SCOTT: I feel the same way, in the Senate Judiciary Committee and on the Senate Floor about the Constitutional Amendment. If we can get one, we should.

Q What is the atmospheric aspect of NOAA?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: There are a number of sub-agencies that get into that particular problem. For example, as I recollect, the Weather Bureau is presently in the Department of Commerce. It will be included as a part of this new agency. That is one example.

Q Is NOAA going to take in all male and female, too? (Laughter)

SENATOR SCOTT: There are at least two of every kind in this new office.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: We did have a review of the legislative program in both the House and the Senate. I might bring you up to date on the House side. We are in good shape on appropriations bills. We only have three out of fourteen yet to pass and one will pass tomorrow.

MORE

There will be a delay in the consideration of the Defense Department appropriations bill, awaiting the conclusion of legislative action on the military procurement authorization. I might say, in speaking of the military, that the House of Representatives, if and when the Senate gets the present bill they are considering over to the House for the appointment of conferees and the like, I am absolutely convinced will totally sustain the President's position that there should be no hamstringing or restricting of his authority as Commander-in-Chief to meet the many and difficult potential problems that we, as a nation, face in our dealings with any enemies, whoever they might be.

The House, I think, is reflecting the views of the American people who, in my opinion, are supporting the President in this situation.

Q Senator Scott, what is the thinking of the GOP Leadership on the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution? Is there a change in the thinking at this point?

SENATOR SCOTT: Well, I think it has been made clear in Congress by Republicans and perhaps, I believe the same thing down here, that the Tonkin Resolution is not relevant to the foreign policy of this Administration.

It was deemed relevant to another Administration which was in the process of escalating a war. This Administration is in the process of de-escalating. I personally intend to vote for repeal of the Tonkin Resolution. I think it is a good time to clear the decks of a lot of these things and let's get rid of them and go on to something else.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I think the House of Representatives would likewise reflect that view. If the repeal is added to the legislation they are discussing now and comes to the House, I would strongly favor the repeal of the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution. We ought to clear the decks. As Senator Scott says, the Tonkin Resolution has no relevancy to the foreign policy of this Administration. It is obsolete and it ought to be cleaned off the statute books.

THE PRESS: Thank you, gentlemen.

END

(AT 10:50 A.M. EDT.)

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Date July 7, 1970

TO: Jerry Ford

FROM: William E. Timmons

Please Handle \_\_\_\_\_

For Your Information XX

Other



*Rec.  
8:50 am  
7/8/70*

JULY 7, 1970

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
PRESS CONFERENCE  
OF  
SENATOR HUGH SCOTT  
AND  
CONGRESSMAN GERALD R. FORD  
THE BRIEFING ROOM

AT 10:55 A.M. EDT.

MR. ZIEGLER: The Leadership Meeting this morning lasted from 8:35 until 10:45. Congressman Ford will begin the briefing this morning.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: We had an extensive briefing this morning by Dr. Paul McCracken and others as to the situation facing the country from the economy point of view. The news was encouraging.

The point was made that we were in a period of transition from a wartime economy with inflation to one of peace, hopefully, and, at the same time, we were doing it without any recession and achieving, hopefully, relative price stability.

At the same time in the discussion we talked about the legislative program that the President mentioned in his economic report. There were five or six specific legislative proposals that the President indicated were absolutely essential if we were to go from this wartime economy to a peacetime economy.

One, improved unemployment compensation legislation. This Congress has not taken final action on this important legislation. It is apparently languishing in a conference, or there is no action from the conference, after the House and Senate have passed the bill.

There is an eight-month lag in the necessary Emergency Housing legislation.

There has been relatively little legislative action on the highly important Manpower Training legislation.

Thirdly, the President had recommended improved Social Security legislation. The House has passed it to give an increase in the cost-of-living benefit to the 30 million social security recipients. No action has been taken in the Senate.

There has been no action of any material benefit in the area of Occupational Safety legislation.

It seems to us, I believe, that the Congress can be legitimately blamed for not acting affirmatively quickly enough on these important legislative proposals which, if law today, would help this transition from a wartime economy

MORE

to a peacetime economy.

SENATOR SCOTT: Had the Housing Bill been acted upon early instead of an eight-month delay, the \$250 million involved would have been expanded into \$6 billion available for new housing starts. We understand that the money is there, that the business community is prepared to take care of these starts if Congress will enact the Housing Bill.

The transitional period in the fight on inflation is working. The wholesale price index is now markedly down, from 5.4 percent in the fourth quarter of last year, to 1.4 percent this year. The retail price index as normally expected should follow that down with the resulting easing in the cost of consumer goods. The policies, in other words, are beginning to work.

The Administration has noted a paragraph in Fortune magazine, which seems to summarize what is going on. That paragraph says, "It seems clear that without either stumbling into a deep recession or renewing the inflationary boom, the Nation is successfully negotiating a massive redeployment of priorities and resources from an economy based on defense and business investment to one directed more towards consumption, housing, and social welfare."

Q Senator, would you repeat that figure of \$200 million, did you say, that would release \$6 billion?

SENATOR SCOTT: \$250 million in the Housing Bill would release \$6 billion in the business community to make it available for housing starts.

Q Would you explain that to those of us who can't conceive of things in those large figures?

SENATOR SCOTT: Well, by now you should be able to -- you have been here under the Democrats long enough -- from what we are paying for in the decade of the spend-thrift 60's.

The amount which is made available by Congress results in lending much larger sums of money for the purchase of homes for mortgage loans and for extension of credit, for construction, for ownership and, therefore, it expands by that geometrical proportion.

I don't have a chart to show you exactly how a given \$10,000 expands into a \$50,000 house or \$60,000 house, but anybody who bought one knows that is the way it works.

Q Senator, how long do you expect this transition period to last?

SENATOR SCOTT: I would say it is turning now. It is definitely improving. The situation should become more and more obvious with each passing month. I think by the end of this second quarter, and as you enter the third quarter, you will notice more and more improvement.

Q What is the expectation of the unemployment rate? Did Dr. McCracken give you any idea on that?

SENATOR SCOTT: He discussed it, but as an economist he said he did not undertake to make a specific prediction. The intent is to keep it stabilized as closely as possible.

The status of the Housing Bill, I believe, is that it is in conference.

Q What was that wholesale rate again?

SENATOR SCOTT: The wholesale rate, fourth quarter 1969, 5.4 percent; in the first quarter of 1970, 5.3 percent; in the second quarter of 1970, a drastic reduction to 1.4 percent.

Q That is rate of increase?

SENATOR SCOTT: That is the annual rate of increase in the wholesale price index. What you draw from it is that wholesale prices of raw materials have been declining.

I think you might expect that the overall GNP price index in the second quarter may be a bit lower than the first, also.

Q Sir, having concluded that Congress can legitimately be blamed for a good deal of this, did you come across any method of speeding up what Congress does?

SENATOR SCOTT: Yes, some of these things we are doing and saying now will speed them up. For example, at a recent press conference here in the White House, Gerald Ford and I pointed out with some acerbity the delay in crime legislation.

You will notice the House acted immediately after that on one of the most important of the crime control bills.

I would like to point out that some of them are still being unconscionably held up, in my view. We are keeping the heat on that. I would like to suggest now that the Family Assistance plan ought to receive more attention in the Senate Finance Committee because the House has passed it. It is highly desirable legislation. It is a complete reform of the welfare system and a Democratic Congress ought to act to bring that bill out, too.

Yes, when the leadership mentions these things in both Houses, we find an instant defensive reaction on the part of the Democratic majorities and shortly thereafter you begin to see some action.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I might add on that particular point that the best evidence lately was the criticism that was, I think, appropriately leveled at the Chairman of the Committee on Banking and Currency in the House who literally sat on this Emergency Housing legislation for



too long a time and when we started to criticize the delay and the tardiness it was within a week or so programmed and passed by the House.

I hope and trust that the prodding we are giving today will expedite the consideration of this legislation in the conference. I understand they are having a conference on Thursday.

I believe the demand by the public is such that if we prod them we will get some action out of that conference right away. Otherwise, it will languish and hang there for too long a time. A little criticism in this case has been very meaningful and very productive.

Q Senator Scott, how do the Republicans stack up on the Family Assistance program?

SENATOR SCOTT: I would be pretty certain that a very substantial majority of Republicans will support it.

Q There is one report that it is blocked in the Senate by the Republicans on the Senate Finance Committee, the Family Assistance plan. Have you any report on that?

SENATOR SCOTT: It sounds like a Democratic rumor to me. Whose ever fault it is it ought to get out. But the Finance Committee is controlled by a majority of the Democrats. I have never found them having any trouble getting a bill out if they really want it.

Q Mr. Ford, did the President mention the need to keep appropriations in line with his requests? Did he say that he would veto any appropriation bills that were not in line?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: The President did bring up the problem of the Congress appropriating or authorizing more money than he had requested in his budget. He pointed out that if this trend continues, it will be very harmful in his attempt to win the battle against inflation.

He didn't forecast any additional vetoes, but he did very specifically say that this Congress, if it continues to appropriate and authorize more money than he has requested, the problems of inflation will multiply rather than be brought under control.

Q Was any estimate made of the budget deficit that would result from this trend continuing?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: No, no specifics, but certainly the implication was there, that if this spend-thrift Congress under the Democrats continues to appropriate and authorize more money than he has requested, and particularly if they include these mandatory spending provisions, certainly the deficit will be more than was anticipated and more than was desirable.

SENATOR SCOTT: The President made the point on the short form deficit that that is due to the reduced income coming in rather than to the spending recommendations of the Administration. They have kept the lid on spending down here. There has been a reduction in income.

Q But you are talking about the \$1.3 billion deficit, I take it, and not the reported \$10 billion that it could result in?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: There was no discussion of any figure of that magnitude. The figure was in relationship to the \$1.3 billion or \$1.2 billion.

SENATOR SCOTT: I would hope the \$10 billion estimate could be related more to drug abuse than to facts, personally.

Q Did the President join the leadership in putting the blame on Congress?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: There is no question that the President was very firm in his condemnation that this Congress on several occasions has gone above his budget figure, and he felt that if this trend continued or magnified, it certainly would be a contributing factor to the problems of inflation.

Some of us believe that if this Democratic Congress continues in too many areas to be a spendthrift Congress, it will be a very legitimate political campaign issue in 1970.

Q Mr. Ford, if you haven't already discussed it, would you tell us whether you think the House will hold to its previous version on Postal Reform?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I believe the Postal Reform legislation will be sent to conference this afternoon. There will be, as I understand it, an effort made to instruct the House conferees to insist upon the House version, particularly in the so-called right-to-work provision. I believe there will be bipartisan vote to insist upon that retention in the bill.

Q Mr. Scott, what do you think will happen then?

SENATOR SCOTT: Well, Sarah, to tell you the truth, I was talking to Mr. Ziegler and I did not hear your question. Would you be good enough to repeat it?

Q If the House sustains its previous action on the right to work and postal reform, what do you think the Senate conferees will do?

SENATOR SCOTT: I would hope the Senate conferees would do what the Senate did, in my personal opinion.

By the way, what I was talking about was to continue to plug for the Bicentennial. That is why my attention wandered. I want to express my appreciation

for the favorable trend that seems to be taking toward Philadelphia, the greatest of all American cities, as the focal point of the exposition.

Q Was there any discussion of foreign policy at all this morning?

SENATOR SCOTT: None.

Q Sir, did the Republican leadership in the House and Senate support the Republican nominee in Virginia?

SENATOR SCOTT: Yes. As far as the Senate was concerned, I am sure the Republican Senators would welcome any accession to their ranks. I have not met delegate Garland but he is coming up this week to meet, hopefully, his future Republican colleagues.

We would certainly support all Republican nominees throughout the country and welcome the additions to our ranks.

Q Since you were good enough to open up the Bicentennial, did the President tell you over breakfast whether he is going to accept the Commission's report and recommend the exposition to be put into Philadelphia?

SENATOR SCOTT: I think Ron can answer that better than I can. I can tell you that I did discuss it with the President and I feel very good about it.

Have you any idea when it will occur, Ron?

Sometime soon, is that right?

MR. ZIEGLER: Exactly what I was going to say.

Q In the report by Dr. McCracken and others on the economy, what expectation were you given on the consumer price index for the rest of this year?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: The feeling was that with the tremendous improvement in the wholesale price index rise relating the last quarter of 1969 and the first quarter of 1970 to the second quarter of 1970, that the prospects were that instead of the six percent in 1969 for the consumer price index, it would be far lower, but no specific figure was given.

THE PRESS: Thank you very much.

AUGUST 11, 1970

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

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THE WHITE HOUSE

PRESS CONFERENCE  
OF

SENATOR HUGH SCOTT

AND

CONGRESSMAN GERALD R. FORD

THE BRIEFING ROOM

AT 10:46 A.M. EDT

MR. ZIEGLER: The Leadership Meeting this morning began at 8:40 and ended at 10:40.

Senator Scott.

SENATOR SCOTT: Ladies and gentlemen:

Among the things considered was the record of Congress and the Administration in certain areas and notably in the reform measures which this Administration has recommended and which have been acted on, the extension and reform of unemployment insurance, postal reform, draft reform, for example.

There was full discussion of the President's consideration of the various bills pending before him. He consulted all of us there on those matters as he has been considering them at Camp David and here in the course of making up his mind.

As I said yesterday on the floor of the Senate, there is a connection between the SALT talks and the Military Procurement bill, and in my judgment, it is most important that the Senate support the Administration and Armed Services Committee's recommendation with regard to ABM and we will take up other matters as they come along.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: We also discussed the legislation that the House passed that fits into the President's reform package. The House has passed a good farm bill. The House has passed a good family assistance program. And the House has passed a good maritime bill.

And it is important from the point of view of the country, the Administration, and the Congress that affirmative action be taken on all three of these bills in the Senate as quickly as possible.

As Senator Scott indicated, there was considerable discussion, give and take between those in the Executive Branch and the Congress on the President's decision on whether or not to veto one or more bills, particularly the two appropriations bills that when you total up that amount over and above his budget recommendations, the figure is \$1 billion.

MORE

As Senator Scott said, this matter had been discussed in depth at the meeting at Camp David over the weekend and we spent the better part of two hours with members of the House and Senate making their recommendations and suggestions.

The thing that bothers all of us is that the Congress has appropriated in these two bills nearly \$1 billion more than what the President recommended. And the Congress apparently is in the mood to put a ceiling on the Executive Branch, but none on its own actions.

For that reason, I reiterate that if these two bills are indicative, the one for education and the one for independent offices in HUD, the Congress can be legitimately categorized as a spendthrift Congress.

SENATOR SCOTT: I might add that we do expect early action on the farm bill. There is a possibility that the Senate may take the House bill unchanged or relatively unchanged.

The President made the point very strongly that he is most anxious to get the Family Assistance Plan out of the Senate Finance Committee and enacted in this Congress. He regards it as an essential part of his reform program.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I might add that yesterday Representative Frank Bow and myself, along with a number of the House Republican leaders and a number of the members of the Committee on Appropriations on our side, did introduce a new ceiling proposal that had been basically put together by the Executive Branch, but modified to some extent by ourselves. It would take the budget ceiling of \$205 billion 600 million and that would be the ceiling except for uncontrollables.

It would say anything appropriated by the Congress over that figure would have to be reduced in a formula way. It would also wipe out any mandatory expenditure provisions in any other law.

We hope that we can put this on the supplemental in the House, which will probably come some time in late September or around the first of October.

SENATOR SCOTT: We expect the same bill to be introduced in the Senate today, perhaps by Senator Williams and probably co-sponsored by myself and several other Senators.

Q Did the President indicate whether he was going to veto the education bill?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: There was no definite decision indicated at the meeting this morning.

Q What about the housing bill?

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CONGRESSMAN FORD: The same on that. The President is taking a look at this \$1 billion package over and above his budget and there was no clear indication after a two-hour discussion as to whether he was going to or not going to veto one or both of those bills.

Q Mr. Ford, did anyone suggest he should veto the education bill?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: As I said, there were a number of suggestions on both bills. Some wanted a veto and some did not. I would not want to identify the individual who made the specific recommendations.

Q But some did recommend a veto of the education bill?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Yes.

SENATOR SCOTT: Everybody there, I think, had a comment on these various bills which are before the President.

Q Senator, did anyone in the room recommend the President sign the education bill without identifying those people?

SENATOR SCOTT: As Gerry has said, there were recommendations both ways on each of these bills. The President pretty well went around the table and got everybody's viewpoint and we had the impression that he is still in the process of making up his mind.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I think the point can also be made that many members were sympathetic to the programs in both the education bill as well as in the Independent Offices HUD bill. But when you look at a \$1 billion package over and above a President's budget and the ramifications and implications when we are trying to win the battle against inflation and a responsible fiscal policy in the Federal Government is a part of that battle, if a decision is made to veto one or both of these bills, it will be on the basis of a responsible fiscal policy, not an indication of opposition to many of the good programs in both bills.

SENATOR SCOTT: And an increase in the Federal budget is sure to be reflected as an increase in the family budget of every American family. That is the reason for the necessity for some ceiling on the Congress, as well as a ceiling on the Executive.

Q How does this \$205.6 billion compare with the last ceiling and was that effective? The last ceiling was what, \$195 billion?

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CONGRESSMAN FORD: I believe that figure of \$195 billion is the figure that was included in the legislation. But that ceiling was really of no consequence because it didn't put a ceiling on what the House and the Senate might do.

Every time a new appropriation bill went through over and above the President's budget, which was \$196 billion, then the ceiling went up automatically.

So it in effect was a meaningless ceiling. For that reason we put \$205.6 billion and say that is it, except for some uncontrollables, interest on the national debt, et cetera. But it says that if the Congress goes above that ceiling, then there has been a formula reduction and it also removes the mandatory spending provision.

Q The President doesn't have to spend money except when it is made mandatory and this would repeal all the mandatory provisions in the appropriation bills. Is that correct?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: In all the appropriation bills and in all of the authorization bills. It would be a clean sweep across the whole spectrum of legislation and would knock out all or any of the mandatory spending provisions in any law at the present time.

Q Would that include mandatory formula grant programs?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I said it is all-encompassing, across the board, categorical grants, et cetera. It would totally eliminate mandatory spending provisions.

Q Congressman Ford, you talk as though the battle against inflation is continuing to rage, or whatever. I thought that it was about over from what other Administration officials have told us.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: My own impression, Pete, is that we are making significant headway in the battle against inflation. In the last several months, the cost of living has gone up around 4.5 percent per annum or thereabouts instead of over 6 percent as it was in 1969.

We are making the kind of headway that is going to be meaningful. But when you are about to score a touchdown, I don't think you want to fumble the ball. And for that reason, we are trying to continue to act responsibly in the fiscal sense by the kind of action the President may take on some of these appropriation bills.

We just have to be responsible fiscally, if we are going to not only win the battle against inflation, but also make sure we have a sound economy to provide jobs.

Q Senator Scott, did you report to the President on what the outlook is for tomorrow on the ABM vote?

SENATOR SCOTT: Yes. I indicated that we felt that

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the Administration position would prevail and that the amendment would not carry.

Q I wonder whether any other topics came up, because, Senator Scott, you met the other day with Clarence Mitchell and I know Congressman Ford's interest in Supreme Court Justice Douglas. Did anything else come up in there?

SENATOR SCOTT: No, they didn't discuss my remark about holding within blue line, if that is what you mean.

Q On a broader base, did anything come up?

SENATOR SCOTT: Not on that. There was a wide-ranging general discussion on the bills pending before the President; references to these reform measures, to the Family Assistance Plan, suggestions made as to some possible future legislative programs that are still too inchoate for discussion, but there was discussion on some of the things the Administration may be doing in the future.

Q Senator Scott, you were quoted yesterday as saying that only you stand as a barrier between the "southern strategy" and the people legislatively. What do you mean by that?

SENATOR SCOTT: Just about what I said. But I think maybe the "only" was a little presumptuous on my part. At least my views are well known and have been for 27 years and I will stand on them.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END

(AT 11:00 A.M. EDT)



SEPTEMBER 22, 1970

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

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THE WHITE HOUSE

PRESS CONFERENCE

OF

SENATOR HUGH SCOTT AND  
CONGRESSMAN GERALD R. FORD

THE BRIEFING ROOM

AT 10:55 A.M. EDT

MR. ZIEGLER: The meeting this morning began at eight o'clock and lasted until 10:45. Congressman Ford and Senator Scott are here to discuss the meeting with you. First, Congressman Ford.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Good morning.

The subjects were two in number, primarily. The first I will discuss. It involves legislation which the Administration has recommended which is at the very present time being considered in the House Committee on the Judiciary, to provide a means by which the Federal Government can move in on college and university campuses where Federal funds are involved to take precautionary action and seek criminal indictments against those who use bombs or other incendiaries to destroy property and to injure individuals.

Some interesting statistics were made available by Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, who cited the following facts: For example, the SDS in the last academic year, in one way or another, threw bombs or other incendiaries on college campuses, created incidents of about 500-plus, resulting in almost 500 personal injuries.

This provision will be added to the House version of the Organized Crime Act. There is no doubt whatsoever that the House Committee on the Judiciary will approve this provision as an addition to the House version of S. 30. It is badly needed legislation. It will give the FBI and the Federal authorities the opportunity to move in immediately, not on an advisory or secondary basis, but on an initial basis.

We feel where there is a bombing, where there is the use of other incendiaries, at a federally-financed institution, the Federal Government has a responsibility to move and to move quickly.

SENATOR SCOTT: The legislation, of course, is directed toward federally-assisted institutions which, of course, includes federally-assisted personnel at the institutions.

The Senate Judiciary Committee is now meeting on crime legislation. They may also discuss this morning the same proposals.

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The President took personal action to recommend, while Mr. J. Edgar Hoover was present, the addition of 1,000 new FBI agents, the purpose of which will be to implement the new crime legislation, and to assist in the anti-hijacking measures as well.

Mr. Hoover again very strongly did not want to have it thought of as any national police force. These are simply to take care of any legislation Congress sends down, including, among others, the items I mentioned, and it will come up in a supplemental appropriations bill, the message for which will go up this afternoon.

This is not directed against any organization or any group particularly, this crime legislation, but it is simply a matter of controlling outbreaks of violence and doing something about them.

Q Would you clear up where that legislation is? Has it passed the Senate and is now before the House, S. 30?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: S. 30 passed the Senate, I think in January of this year. It has been unfortunately languishing in the House Committee on the Judiciary. It is now about to be reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary.

As an added feature there will be this anti-bombing legislation recommended by the President and now this new proposal which I just described to give the Federal authorities the right to move in at a federally-financed institution where there is evidence of arson, the use of incendiaries or bombing.

This legislation will be approved either today or tomorrow by the House Committee on the Judiciary. Mr. McCulloch, who is taking the initiative in this, indicated that within a week, at the most two weeks, that legislation would be on the floor of the House. I am sure it will be approved.

Q Are most U. S. colleges and universities federally-assisted? Is that the case?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I can't give you the number, but I can cite, for example, because I noticed the figures just the other day, that the University of Michigan, my alma mater, is about fourth on the list and received approximately \$63 million in either the last fiscal year or the last academic year, I am not sure which.

I believe in one of the recent issues of U. S. News & World Report there was a long, long list of colleges and universities that have received substantial sums from the Federal Government. Those institutions will come under the jurisdiction of this legislation so the Department of Justice and the FBI can move in immediately where there is an instance of bombing or the use of other incendiaries.

Q Congressman Ford, most colleges actually receive some form of Government subsidies. For example, for the building of dormitories. Does that mean that any

college campus where there is some form of violence and where there is a subsidy in the building of dormitories or any other form of Federal funds, will be eligible for this kind of protection?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Wherever Federal funds go to a college or university, an institution of higher learning, involving not only structures but research, grants to departments or individuals within a department. That university or that college would qualify for Federal intervention where there is a bombing, where there is the utilization of an incendiary of one sort or another.

This is important because of the capability of the FBI and the Department of Justice to move perhaps more quickly where there is the destruction of property or the injury to individuals by the use of bombs or other incendiaries.

SENATOR SCOTT: It doesn't go to all forms of violence necessarily. It will be pointed toward bombing, arson and terrorist actions of that kind.

Q Congressman Ford or Senator Scott, I just want it clear on this: Will the FBI and the Department of Justice come in at the invitation of the college authorities or will they automatically come in because there are Federal funds in that school?

The other thing is will they come in after the overt act has been done, the bombing or the incendiaries accomplished, or will they be there to watch out for plots that are hatching before they occur?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Where there is Federal funding as I have described, and where there is an overt act, the use of incendiaries, but primarily bombs, then there is an immediate Federal jurisdiction and the Federal authorities have the right to take the initiative regardless of local authorities.

Q Mr. Ford, the FBI apparently, according to their own statements, are not using undercover agents as students, having the appearance of students, on campuses. Under the circumstances of this type of legislation, would you suggest that it might behoove the FBI to employ such people to learn of possible bomb plots coming up?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I don't think the FBI should change its policy in this regard.

Q Senator, will that supplemental message going up this afternoon include other items besides the additional FBI agents?

SENATOR SCOTT: I understand there are several items in the supplemental. I believe so. I am not aware of what they are.

Q How much money is involved, do you know?

SENATOR SCOTT: I believe some figure for the remainder of fiscal '71 is in the neighborhood of \$14.1 million and for the full year of fiscal '72,

approximately \$23 million. I think it is \$22.9 million.

Q Congressman Ford, you referred to some statistics that were provided by J. Edgar Hoover concerning SDS involvement in 500 incidents on campuses.

Did he mention what he was considering an incident? Was this a bombing, incendiary or arson case, or was it just some students throwing rocks?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: From the notes that I have, in the last academic year, the SDS was directly involved in 247 cases of arson, and they were involved in 462 cases of personal injury on college campuses.

There were approximately 300 other incidents that involved the destruction of facilities or property on various college campuses at the instigation or involvement of SDS.

Q On those 462 cases of personal injury, are they directly related to arsons or bombings, or are they just beatings?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: My best recollection is that they were involved with arson, bombings, et cetera. I could not be absolute and categorical about it.

Q Mr. Ford, wouldn't it be adequate for the FBI to intervene under this type of legislation to allege a conspiracy is being formed on the campus to undertake a bombing?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I would strongly disagree with that. As a practicing lawyer, to prove a conspiracy is much more difficult.

Q Is that precluded by this legislation?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I can't recall whether the conspiracy portion is included or not. But we all know that it is most difficult to prove a conspiracy.

What we are seeking to do is to take an overt act, a bombing or the use of an incendiary, on a college campus where the Federal Government has provided funds in one way or another, and this is a crime that can be proved.

I think the Congress will approve it. I think it will have a beneficial impact.

Q Would past overt acts on any of these campuses be the predicate for this type of intervention?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: You can't have ex post facto legislation.

Q You are only providing for a trigger, though?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: We are providing for legislation that can be utilized in the future against the organizations

or individuals that commit these crimes of violence.

Q Does that include most of the college campuses in the United States?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I think most institutions in one way or another do receive Federal funding. I know of very few that have refused such Federal assistance.

Q Where did this idea initiate?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: The Attorney General was at the meeting this morning, and I believe that this legislation is the outgrowth of a deep concern in the Department of Justice.

The Attorney General spoke up and described it. J. Edgar Hoover was there for the purpose of citing the facts that in the past would justify such action. I would say that this is a recommendation of the President and the Department of Justice, and I hope the Congress will pass it on a bipartisan basis.

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Q Were there any recommendations from the colleges or universities? Was there any report on their attitude?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: There was no discussion of that.

SENATOR SCOTT: To answer your question, it will be part of a new Title XI in the new Crime Bill.

Q Is this a new proposal today? Is this what we are getting?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: This proposal that we have been describing today is a new proposal which is in addition to the anti-explosives, anti-bombing bill that was anticipated would be added to S. 30, but this is an additional feature that I think recent facts justify, such as the tragic bombing and the loss of life at the University of Wisconsin campus at Madison, Wisconsin.

Q Congressman Ford, this might be hopefully academic, but in view of the stories that are coming out about FBI performance on the campus at Orangeburg, who is going to review the services that are performed under this sort of an act by the FBI?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: The FBI will not get into any overt acts until such an act has taken place. Their performance in handling these kind of matters, in my opinion, is an excellent one. I have no fear but that they will handle themselves very properly.

Q If a college administrator asks them to leave the campus, should they leave?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Not if there has been a bombing. Not if there has been the use of an incendiary. Not if there has been the destruction of property. Not if the institution receives federal funds.

Q Congressman, will there be hearings on this?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: You will have to ask Chairman Celler and Congressman McCulloch. I just don't know. The matter is being considered, as I understand it, right in the committee at the present time. There certainly will be ample opportunity for discussion on the Floor of the House when the legislation gets to the floor.

Q Wouldn't you think that Congress would like to hear the opinions of administrators of colleges around the country?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I don't believe that where federal funds are involved and there has been the use of a bomb or an incendiary, where buildings are destroyed and lives are lost or injuries result, that any American, a college president or anyone else, would be reluctant to apprehend and try those who are allegedly involved.

Q Mr. Ford, in his Law Day speech in Detroit in 1969, the Attorney General, if I recall correctly, indicated that this sort of thing should really be left to the local police and urged college administrators to call local police. Is this just a failure, that local police have been unable to contain this sort of thing and investigate properly?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I think that the statistics that the FBI will be releasing very shortly indicate that because of the increased tempo, number and seriousness, that there has to be federal legislation of this kind rather than to leave it to the local authorities.

SENATOR SCOTT: The President made it clear that in the first instance the responsibility for maintenance of order is on the college presidents and the college administrators. This kind of violence is something which may be beyond the purview of normal precautions.

Q Senator Scott, would you favor hearings on this to find out how college administrators feel about it?

SENATOR SCOTT: I think if college administrators want to be heard they could designate a spokesman and arrangements could be made in one House or another for them to be heard.

Q Senator Scott, do you believe this kind of thing will lead to more or less violence on the part of those students who are prone to violence?

SENATOR SCOTT: I think that the use of preventive measures and the use of the FBI in the event of an overt action should serve to diminish violence. But I think in the first place an orderly campus is the responsibility of the campus administrators.

Q How many FBI agents do we have currently?

SENATOR SCOTT: 7,000, I believe.

Q Senator Scott, you said this was aimed at bombings, incendiaries and other acts of terrorism. Is there anything in addition to bombings and arson that we are talking about?

SENATOR SCOTT: You are not talking about rock throwing, for example.

Q But what is included in other acts of terrorism?

SENATOR SCOTT: Well, the legislation has not been drafted yet. I can only say that the throwing of rocks and broken glass, for example, would not be included.

Q How about gunfire?

SENATOR SCOTT: The general intent is to control

bombing and arson. Whether the legislation includes gunfire will depend on whether the House Judiciary Committee inserts that language.

Q Did you discuss the Middle East today?

SENATOR SCOTT: Well, the President gave us a briefing on it, brought us up to date. We are satisfied from that that he is on top of the situation and is handling it judiciously and responsibly.

Q On the anti-bombing feature, what is new in that? What will be done by the Judiciary Committee on the separate anti-bombing, anti-crime? You mentioned the two proposals.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: For the last week the Subcommittee Number Five of the Committee on the Judiciary has been putting together the House version of S. 30. There isn't very much different from what the Senate passed and the House version to date. They are, right now, adding the anti-bombing legislation, the broad anti-bombing legislation, recommended by the Administration, and they are incorporating in it this provision that we have been discussing this morning.

Q Senator, just where does the Middle East situation stand? Would you characterize the President's briefing?

SENATOR SCOTT: I don't think it is necessary to characterize the President's briefing. I would say what he told us indicates that he is prepared to preserve the proper interests of the United States, and he told us what was being done. As I said, I think it ought to suffice that we are satisfied that he is on top of the situation. I would rather not go into details. It is a very touchy situation. I don't think we ought to go further.

Q What do you mean preserve the proper interests? Do you mean at the point of intervention?

SENATOR SCOTT: I don't think I would want to go into that. I certainly wouldn't indicate by refusing to go in that it was even considered.

Q Did the President give any indication that he plans to keep his trip to the Mediterranean on schedule?

SENATOR SCOTT: It wasn't brought up at all.

Q Were you briefed by Secretary Rogers and Secretary Laird or only by the President?

SENATOR SCOTT: Only in this instance by the President.

Q How do you feel about the situation over there?

SENATOR SCOTT: I would say parlous.

Q Gentlemen, I remain a little confused on the distinction between precautionary Federal intervention and



intervention after an overt act. Is there some distinction there? Could they move in ahead?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: As I understand the legislation, the Federal Government will not move in in advance. They only move in when there has been the use of a bomb or some other incendiary at an institution that is the beneficiary of Federal funds. There is no authority given under this proposed legislation for them to move in in advance of an overt act.

Q If a college administrator requested them to move in in advance of an act, could they, under this legislation?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I don't think there would be any authority under this legislation for them to move in under those circumstances.

THE PRESS: Thank you, gentlemen.

END

(AT 11:15 A.M. EDT)

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
PRESS CONFERENCE  
OF  
SENATOR HUGH SCOTT  
AND  
CONGRESSMAN GERALD R. FORD  
THE BRIEFING ROOM

AT 9:55 A.M. EST

MR. ZIEGLER: The Leadership Meeting this morning began shortly after eight o'clock. The leaders met with the President for an hour and a half. Congressman Ford gave a report on the House and Senator Scott gave a report on the Senate.

Congressman Ford.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Good morning.

As Mr. Ziegler announced, we had a very thorough discussion of the legislative situation in this lame duck session. Some might categorize it as a ruptured duck session. It seems to me that there are a good many things that have to be done. I hope we can accomplish more than what appears on the surface might be achieved.

The things that are absolutely essential, of course, are the six undone appropriation bills. Only two have not passed the House: The Independent Offices HUD appropriation bill, which was vetoed and sustained, and the Supplemental Appropriation Bill, which is, of course, the last thing that comes before the House.

Then, we have a Federal Highway Act, the Housing Bill, a trade bill, an Occupational Safety Bill, a Manpower Training Bill and then a number of the other legislative proposals which were submitted over the last several years by the President that are in various stages of consideration.

But the overall record so far is somewhat disappointing. I hope that in the remaining weeks of this session we can speed up and expedite the consideration of the things that are absolutely essential, plus as much as we can of the President's program.

It is my judgment that the earliest adjournment would be the 15th and the more likely date is somewhere around the 22nd or 23rd of December.

SENATOR SCOTT: I agree with Jerry's estimate of adjournment.

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Senator Mansfield said yesterday at his caucus as far as they were concerned the present convening is regarded solely as a windup and urges, and I agree, that the Administration and the Congress concur in putting over those things that cannot be done in this time reasonably to the next Congress. However, I have, of course, gone over with Mike the so-called rock bottom wish list, you might say.

Obviously, the most important matters are the six appropriation bills that he and I have come to an agreement on -- the legislation -- which we will do our best to get through and past experience would indicate some of these will be casualties and will nevertheless go over.

But we are naturally, and the President naturally is anxious to have action on the Family Assistance Plan, Social Security and an acceptable trade bill. And we are urging action by the Judiciary Committee on the Obscene Advertising Bill and, of course, we hope the hijacking taxing authority will be passed.

There will probably be a vote on the veto on the TV bill. If we can get other matters through, we will.

Over in the House, the Emergency School Aid is an extremely important matter to furnish the funds for completion of integration. And I hope that that can be acted on.

Q Senator Scott, did you give the President any prediction on the possibility of overriding his veto on the TV bill?

SENATOR SCOTT: We told him that a whip count is in progress and we expect to have a better reading later today. I think myself that the bill should be vetoed. It is discriminatory in applying only to a part of the media and does not seem to me to be a particularly fair bill.

I hope that we can sustain a veto and we will certainly make every effort to do that in the Senate.

Q What about you, Mr. Ford? How do you feel about that?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I voted for the bill twice in the House when it was before us. I admit that it is a bill that is deficient in many respects. On the other hand, it can be called a step in the right direction.

The urgency of overall review and improvement in our legislation involving expenditures and receipts and limitations, I think, is highlighted by the problem we face. And the next Congress, in my judgment, has a major responsibility to review and revise and update the Corrupt Practices Act that really hasn't had any consideration by the Congress for almost half a century.

MORE

Q Senator Scott, what do you mean by an acceptable trade bill and specifically, did the President indicate whether he would veto a bill if it came before him with shoe quotas in it?

SENATOR SCOTT: There was no statement or discussion about a veto of the trade bill. There was a broad general discussion of the bill and it is well known that the President's views are well known with regard as to why there should be quotas on textiles.

I spoke yesterday of the necessity for the Senate exercising some restraint and it would be better if we could have a trade bill that was not loaded down with Christmas tree proposals.

We will try to see whether that can be done.

Q Did you gentlemen discuss the next session or did the President outline in any way his thoughts about legislative proposals in the next session?

SENATOR SCOTT: That wasn't the purpose of the meeting and was not discussed.

Q Did you discuss the recent election?

SENATOR SCOTT: No. That has been pretty well discussed since the 3rd. It was not a subject for discussion this morning.

Q What is the outlook on Family Assistance?

SENATOR SCOTT: Uncertain at this point, because the committee has not yet acted on whether to add it to the Social Security Bill, or report it independently. It may come before us in the form of a test plan. It may there be converted into the substantive proposal which the President has asked for. This is truly one of the most innovative proposals made in many years and that is what we would like to have. Time may not permit it.

THE PRESS: Thank you very much, gentlemen.

END

(AT 10:03 A.M. EST)

Rep. Ford -

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WILLIAM E. TIMMONS

ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

- B.T.

THE WHITE HOUSE

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

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THE WHITE HOUSE

PRESS CONFERENCE  
OF  
SENATOR HUGH SCOTT  
AND  
CONGRESSMAN GERALD R. FORD

THE BRIEFING ROOM

AT 10:19 A.M. EST

MR. ZIEGLER: The Leadership Meeting this morning began at 8:15 and ended at about ten minutes after ten.

Senator Scott, and Congressman Ford are here to give you a general report on that meeting.

Senator Scott.

SENATOR SCOTT: The meeting was a discussion of the extra session and the agenda and in the Senate the President supports, as you know, and is anxious to have action on the Social Security bill.

The Trade Bill somewhat in the House form -- that is, with textiles, without shoes and he would like to see the BISC and the American selling price included -- but he would like a bill substantially similar with those comments to the House bill and, of course, is still very much in support of the Family Assistance Plan, the substantive bill.

And Senator Griffin and I have indicated that we will do all we can to get these three measures out in the time remaining. And we expect to pass the appropriations bills and perhaps some consumer legislation.

The outlook for some of the other things is cloudy for the extra session, but we will be in session again, it is expected, on January 20, subject to the approval of the Speaker and the House leadership.

Q Senator, did you say he would like a bill substantially like the House bill on trade?

SENATOR SCOTT: What he sent up to the House is the bill he would like and I said, therefore, that that would be the textile feature, not the shoes, and the retention of certain items which were tentatively dropped in the Senate committee.

Q What do you think is the chance of getting that kind of a bill?

SENATOR SCOTT: I think it is a reasonable chance.

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Q How about the oil provision?

SENATOR SCOTT: Well, it was not discussed per se this morning. So, I have no new comment on it.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Another item on the agenda was the President's request for the military assistance authorization and funding. The prospects are encouraging in the House that we will get both the authorization, pretty much like the authorization the President recommended, and the appropriations that would coincide.

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs is meeting today and this week and we hope that a bill will come out which will be programmed on the House floor. And in addition, the House Committee on Appropriations will undoubtedly make its recommendations for the funding of the President's request. This is a vitally important part of our overall foreign policy if we are going to carry out Vietnamization or deAmericanization in Southeast Asia.

If we are to continue the kind of a role that I think we have to play in the Middle East, it is vitally important that the necessary funds be made available for Israel and for Jordan.

I believe that the House will measure up to its responsibilities and pass both an authorization and an appropriation bill to help the Administration implement its overall Nixon policy as far as Southeast Asia and the Middle East are concerned.

SENATOR SCOTT: And I would like to add that I would hope that the Senate would then act affirmatively. It seems to me the continued orderly withdrawal of American troops depends upon our providing that kind of support which the President has indicated is essential in his Message.

So, for all those who really do want the withdrawal of American forces as rapidly as possible, it would seem to me that the same thing to do would be to support this bill.

Q What do you think are the chances, Senator?

SENATOR SCOTT: It depends on the timing. If we can get it over from the House quickly enough, we would have about an even chance of getting it through. It also depends on how much obstructionism arises in the Senate. I would hope that we would treat it responsibly.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I should add a feature that is vitally important.

As you well know, the President asked for additional funds for Southeast Asia, plus the money for the Middle East, the \$500 million for Israel and the additional funds for Jordan.

The President feels that this is a package that ought to be considered as a whole and not separable.

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If we are to implement the policy world-wide, the funds have to be in a package so that he can implement it both in the Middle East, as well as in Southeast Asia and a division of the program would be a handicap and not liked as far as the Administration is concerned.

Q Senator Scott, on the Trade Bill, I get the impression that the President supports the measure as it came out of the Senate Finance Committee yesterday.

SENATOR SCOTT: No, he supports the measure which he originally sent to the House. And that was the measure which contained certain provisions pertaining to textiles and the D.I.S.C. provisions and the American selling price.

There have been some changes made in the Senate committee which have not met with the approval of the White House.

Q But you say he substantially supports the measure as approved by the House.

SENATOR SCOTT: With the exceptions I noted, yes. I mentioned the ones which were not particularly additions. I restated that the President does favor the bill he sent up originally and that would be the best guideline.

Q Did he indicate he might veto anything less than that or more than that?

SENATOR SCOTT: He said nothing about veto whatever, one way or another. That was left entirely up to the future.

Q Senator, did you discuss the economy?

SENATOR SCOTT: Only very generally. Mr. Ziegler will have a statement pertaining to a matter of inflation, of inflation left, following this session with Congressman Ford and myself. And we discussed that matter briefly.

Q Did you discuss Sontay or the Lithuanian seaman?

SENATOR SCOTT: The President is very much concerned about the matter of the Lithuanian seaman and has ordered a thorough investigation of that. We did not discuss Sontay, I suspect because there would probably have been total and unanimous agreement that what was done there was right. And I would be sure it had support. It wasn't necessary to discuss it.

Q Senator, yesterday a couple of Congressmen called for Congressional investigations concerning the Lithuanian seaman. Was this brought up?

SENATOR SCOTT: It was not brought up in that context, but the President is very much concerned about it and has ordered an investigation. So, if that is what the Congressmen want, that is what they are getting.

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Q Do you think that the President should have had better information and sooner?

SENATOR SCOTT: I don't think it is possible for me to answer that at all. I don't imagine that the President can manage to be on every vessel that is plying the high seas. That is part of the difficulty, I suppose.

Q Senator, and Mr. Ford, was there any discussion of ways in which the Congress could support the President's Inflation Alert statement today?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: There was no discussion on what the Congress could do. I think it is generally known that the President feels that the Congress should be more responsible in a fiscal way. That would be an affirmative action that the Congress could take that would be helpful in the battle against inflation.

Q Was there any talk about the upcoming budget in that context?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: There was no discussion of the upcoming budget in that context.

Q Do you agree with Senator Aiken, Senator Scott, that there should be more consultation with the Senate when the President is planning foreign policy moves or major military moves?

SENATOR SCOTT: Senator Aiken's speech was very thoughtful and had a lot of common sense in it, as I have told him. And I am sure that the Senators and the President would agree that so far as time permits, there ought to be continuing consultation and there is a great deal of that. And, of course, the more consultation there is on foreign policy between the Senate and the Executive, probably the better for the country.

But my feeling is that that is going on.

Q Did you discuss campaign spending reform, especially this bill that Representative Anderson has said he will introduce?

SENATOR SCOTT: No, not directly. I had intended to. There wasn't time. But I am working on a bill and I have been in touch with the counsel for the Republican and Democratic National Committees, both. I talked to Joe Califano yesterday and earlier to Fred Scribner and we are discussing it with foundations and groups and others and I am going to talk to Congressman Anderson about his bill.

Then I will have a comprehensive bill introduced either at the end of this session or more likely the beginning of the next one.

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CONGRESSMAN FORD: I might add on that point, that since 1965, the House Republican Policy Committee has repeatedly endorsed campaign expenditure reform, legislation that was initiated in 1965 and 1966 by the late Congressman Glenn Lipscomb. That proposal and those that were introduced in subsequent Congresses had the endorsement of the Republican Policy Committee in the House.

We have been roadblocked in the House in the last six years by a failure on the part of the House Administration Committee to act and then on one other occasion, I think, the matter never got out of the Rules Committee.

So, we in the House, on our side, have been pushing for six years to get a complete and total reform of campaign expenditure legislation. I hope that in the next Congress the Democrats will cooperate in some way to get a comprehensive review and change in the basic campaign expenditure legislation.

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SENATOR SCOTT: I personally believe that the only way we are going to get this legislation is through a bipartisan approach. That is why I was talking to Joe Califano.

I believe that if we can get a bipartisan approach whereby both parties recognize the entirely unsatisfactory present system whereby much too much money is solicited and spent, much too much talk occurs and the campaigns run entirely too long and reform is desperately needed.

The way to get it, however, I believe is for full bipartisan cooperation.

Q Senator Scott, was there any discussion of personnel changes in the Nixon Administration?

SENATOR SCOTT: Nothing, no. We hear some rumors, but nothing in the meeting. (Laughter) No. I hesitated because anything that happened occurred after the meeting and Jerry and I engaged in some rumors. But we don't really know anything.

Q Senator Scott, I believe that Senator Mansfield has indicated that they will split off the Israeli aid request because the funds are already authorized. Are you trying now to block this?

SENATOR SCOTT: I am trying to make it clear that it would be better for all the countries involved, Korea, Israel and all the others, if this bill could be kept indivisible and if the Congress would act on the entire implementation suggested in the President's foreign policy in the Middle East and in the Far East.

And I would hope that that is done. I don't want to project what might happen if it is separated. But it really would be better for all concerned if it is kept together.

Q Can you stop the separation?

SENATOR SCOTT: Only time will tell that. It would be far better if we don't have it, because we want this money for Israel as soon as we can get it. And I would hate to see anything happen that delayed any part of this program.

Q Did you people discuss a Republican National Chairman?

SENATOR SCOTT: No. We just congratulated Morton on being relieved of the burdens of his office.

Q Who is going to be the next chairman?

SENATOR SCOTT: We have not been advised that the National Committee has any candidate as yet, nor have any names been brought out in this meeting here.

And as you know, the National Committee would have to convene. Some name would be suggested to them, I am sure.

I myself have a feeling that a full-time national chairman would be a good thing. But this is a personal opinion resulting from my own experience in the office where it is difficult to be in the Congress and national chairman at the same time. I believe in a full-time chairman.

Q Have you got any candidate?

SENATOR SCOTT: None that I want to ventilate right now.

MR. ZIEGLER: Thank you very much.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END (AT 10:33 A.M. EST)