

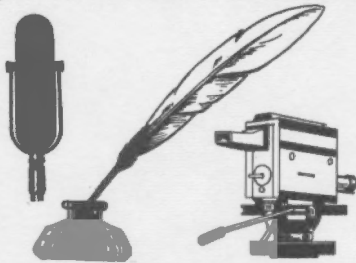
The original documents are located in Box D7, folder “Ford Press Releases - Demonstrations, 1971” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--
May 3, 1971

The tactics being engaged in by the radical demonstrators now operating in Washington are foreign to America, and I feel sure the American people roundly condemn them.

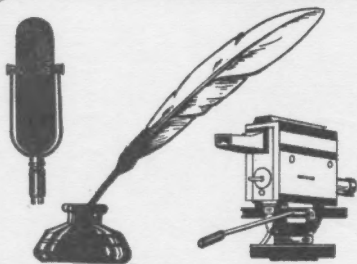
The attempts the radicals are making to shut down the Nation's capital stand in sharp contrast with the peaceful peace march of April 24, when upwards of 175,000 persons made their point without infringing on the rights of others.

To try to block traffic and keep others from getting to their jobs is an action which cannot be tolerated. Such tactics are counter-productive.

I congratulate the authorities for handling the situation as skillfully as they have. Law-abiding citizens owe them a debt of gratitude.

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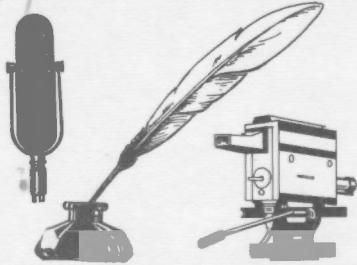
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**NEWS
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--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--
Monday, May 17, 1971

One hundred and sixty-two Republican members of the House have signed a statement congratulating the Nixon Administration on keeping the Federal Government functioning during the May Day Tribe disturbances.

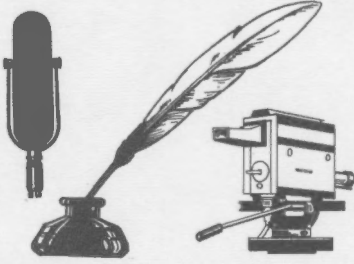
Another group of 48 Republican congressmen declared their support for the President's "determination not to permit policy to be made in the streets" and asserted that the protest against his Vietnam policy "is not at all representative of the sentiments felt in our respective districts."

In a "Thank you, Mr. President" statement, the larger group extended to Mr. Nixon their "gratitude and congratulations for the successful efforts in keeping the United States Government open and functioning" in the face of attempts to shut the government down.

This group also expressed their "thanks to Attorney General John Mitchell and Police Chief Jerry Wilson for their excellent planning and cooperation in preserving orderly procedures in a very trying situation."

The group went on to say: "We think that all America watched as our patience was tested once again on the streets of our Nation's capital, and we are confident that all your Administration's efforts deserve a hearty 'well done.' Every American must be concerned at attempts to disrupt the important, necessary and vital processes of the United States Government. We are proud to say that the maintenance of order with the minimum use of force serves as a tribute to the constitutional sanctity of those processes."

The group of 48, in their letter to the President, said that contrary to the impression created by the demonstrators "criticism of your (Mr. Nixon's) Vietnam policy is more muted (back home) than at any time since your inauguration." ###



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