The original documents are located in Box D8, folder "Ford Press Releases - Multiple Issues, 1970" of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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FOR RELEASE AT 12 NOON, JAN. 19, 1970

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President Nixon is moving the Nation in New Directions that will make the Seventies a decade of "unparalleled growth and new life quality" for America, Rep. Gerald R. Ford, Republican leader of the U.S. House of Representatives, said today.

Ford spelled out these New Directions--Nixon's array of more than 40 reform proposals--in a luncheon speech at the 57th annual meeting of the Compressed Gas Association at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City.

Ford said Nixon's reform proposals were aimed at five major objectives—ending the Vietnam War, making the streets safe again for the American people, curbing inflation, reforming and ultimately ending the draft, and "giving the government back to the people."

Ford urged the Congress to enact Nixon's reforms during its second session opening today. If it does, Ford said, this Congress's "mark on history will be one of the finest."

Discussing the five objectives, Ford noted that Nixon's Vietnamization policy designed to extricate the United States from the Vietnam War with honor is succeeding. He also said Nixon's draft lottery is "a constructive first step in a long overdue reform of the selective service system."

Ford further credited Nixon with laying down a new do-it-yourself foreign policy for Southeast Asia which he said will prevent future Vietnams.

Ford declared that Nixon has succeeded in "cooling it" domestically and has launched a formidable anti-crime campaign. He added, however, that certain members of Congress are sitting on Nixon's anti-crime package.

"The Democrat-contorlled Congress, particularly the House of Representatives, has roadblocked anti-crime action and must assume the responsibility for any crime increase throughout America," he said.

Ford described Nixon's attack on city ills as "a responsible common-sense approach to our urban problems." He said Nixon's answer is jobs and job training. This "Workfare instead of Welfare" approach amounts to "a hand up instead of a hand out," Ford said.

Ford predicted that the Seventies will be a decade "devoted to human betterment."

He said Americans will adopt goals more difficult to reach than the moon-among them rebuilding the Nation's cities and cleaning up its air and water. He forecast a "clean water crusade" led by the Nixon Administration.

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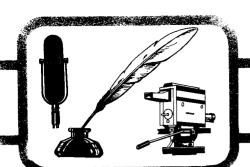
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 22, 1970

Statement of Rep. Gerald R. Ford (R-Mich.) House Republican Leader

The Congress has heard many great and inspiring speeches, but President Nixon's State of the Union message today will rank high among them.

It was a summons to action to a Congress which has been slow to act. rose above narrow partisanship and called for a common advance on behalf of all Americans. He placed our priorities the way the great majority of citizens place them -- peace, solvency, safety and improvement of the quality of life.

There was hope and inspiration in the President's eloquent speech. His are not impossible goals but we can achieve them only by working together in a fresh climate. I hope Congress, even though majority control is in the hands of the President's political opposition, and this is an election year, will rise and respond to President Nixon's statesmanlike appeal in the same constructive and conciliatory spirit. I am sure the American people applaud and support this style of leadership from the White House.



CONGRESSMAN GERALD R. FORD

NEWS RELEASE

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CONGRESSMAN GERALD R. FORD

NEWS RELEASE

--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--February 9, 1970

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

The Democratic State of the Union message can best be described as an indictment of the previous Democratic Administration. It provided no answers but it did raise many questions. The essential question it raised was . . . Where were the Democrats during the eight years before President Nixon came into office?

If we have a mess in our environment, as Senator Jackson stated, where were the Democrats while that mess was developing? Who made the mess? Who was in charge while all of this was going on?

Yes, we are suffering from chronic inflation. But what caused it? The \$57 billion in Democratic deficit spending during the 60's was the chief cause of the inflation we are wrestling with.

The Democrats complain of high interest rates. These interest rates are a direct result of Democratic inflation.

The Democrats talk about the crime problem yet they let the entire First Session of the 91st Congress go by without passing a single Nixon anti-crime bill.

In this State of the Union message, the Democrats have again shown themselves to be a party that talks about problems, spends more than the federal government takes in, but never solves any of the problems. The Democrats spent \$\frac{1}{2}\$ trillion on social needs during the eight years before President Nixon entered the White House, and what do we have to show for it?

Let them answer that question in their next political side show.



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