The original documents are located in Box D16, folder “No Occasion, 1964?” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice
The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. The Council donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.
Ladies and gentlemen, fifteen years ago a legislative proposal was presented in the Executive Branch and sent to Congress after many months of intensive study. It was a massive bill, numbering several score pages and containing extremely complex language.

The essence of and essence part of this measure was a one-sentence item. It provided that when and if any President declared an emergency for any reason whatsoever, he could thereupon spend every dollar in the Treasury and more besides, and the Congress would be obligated to restore the funds so expended.

That does not come to relinquishing completely control by the people over the public purse.

Your Congress denied this request. Control still resides in the people. We do not grant the executive branch and all control will disappear.

We have to decide. Trust the people, or trust uncontrolled power.

I think I know your choice. Let mine be your Congress strong.