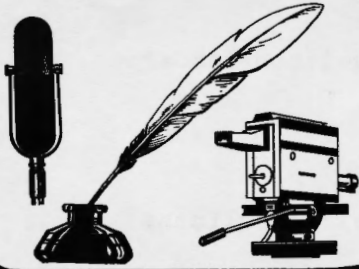


The original documents are located in Box D19, folder “Newport News, VA, February 10, 1966” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
RELEASE**

Newport News, Va. Feb. 10, 1966

For release at time speech is made

EXCERPTS

As President Johnson directs the war, Republicans support a position of strength against Communist aggression. We will oppose those Democrats in the Congress who support a policy of appeasement, a weakness which led to World War II.

Republicans have long supported bipartisanship in foreign policy, and most especially at a time when the lives of Americans are at stake. But, bipartisanship is a two-way affair. It does not involve accepting decisions without first demanding a full, frank and public disclosure of the facts upon which those decisions are made.

As the late Senator Arthur Vandenberg once said, a fundamental prerequisite for a truly acceptable bipartisan policy is that "total information must be made available to Congress and the country and that Congress must completely explore and approve the measures by which the President's policy is to be implemented."

From the public viewpoint, there has not been this completeness of disclosure during the Viet Nam struggle.

The American people were not told in 1964 of the Hanoi peace overture. They were not fully advised of the degree and duration of the buildup of United States participation in the Viet Nam ground war.

Not until the 1966 State of the Union Message was there full, official Presidential indication of the distressing possibility that shedding American blood in Viet Nam could well last "for years."

Whereas Republican Congressional leaders were invited to meet with the President prior to his decision to resume bombing of North Viet Nam, there was not the same degree of communication when the President decided to order an extended pause in such bombings.

As Senator Vandenberg said upon another occasion: "We'll stand by you on the crash landings but would like to be consulted at the take-off."

* * *

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Excerpts from a speech by Congressman Gerald R. Ford, House Republican Leader

The management of the "war on poverty" is a national disgrace. Republicans are working very hard to expose the mistakes, the poor administration, the political bossism.

I am not opposed to the idea of helping the poor to help themselves, but I am critical of the haphazard way the program is being managed by a Democrat Administration.

Unless there is prompt Congressional action to insure the soundness of the poverty program, the plan will continue to be mired in confusion and eventually be pushed aside by the economic demands of the Viet Nam war.

* * *

These are a few stunning examples of poor management of the war on poverty:

In Newport, Rhode Island, enrollees in the Youth Corps included the sons of a surgeon, businessmen, an executive, a school official, a lawyer, and Naval officers.

The New York Times reported that in our largest city the Harlem Youth Project had overspent \$2 million in funds contributed to the program by taxpayers.

The director of the Camp Breckinridge, Ky., Job Corps training center was fired when it was learned his wife and the wives of 51 other middle management employees were on the payroll. The camp had 350 staff members for the 358 trainees.

It was disclosed in Omaha, Nebraska, that 90 percent of the youths employed in a neighborhood poverty project were not from low-income families.

* * *

Republicans believe in moving ahead toward equality for all citizens, improving government and its services, increasing jobs and production without inflation. We believe that each State should determine its own kind of Legislature and its own laws.

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These are the hours of destiny and Republicans are deeply concerned with the preservation of our Republic.

The problem of keeping our Republic strikes at the very heart of every American's future and welfare. It is a problem demanding the immediate and undivided attention of Americans.

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