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AN ADDRESS BY REP. GERALD R. FORD, R-MICH.
REPUBLICAN LEADER, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
BEFORE A LINCOLN DAY DINNER
AT PEKIN, ILLINOIS
FEBRUARY 14, 1972

FOR RELEASE AT 6:30 P.M. MONDAY

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To make the truth known--this is what we must do to win the hearts and minds of the American people in this most important election year.

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The North Vietnamese have been insisting that we collaborate on turning South Vietnam over to them.

Another truth also became clear. Some candidates for the Democratic presidential nomination are not only willing but are urging that we make peace on the enemy's terms. They are, I believe, unwittingly prolonging the war.

I say they are prolonging the war because I believe the North Vietnamese would accept President Nixon's basic peace plan if they were not encouraged to believe they will do better by holding out. They might very well buy the idea of an election in South Vietnam if some Democratic leaders did not lead them to believe we eventually will simply turn South Vietnam over to them.

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The Vietnam War ultimately is going to end through negotiations. The greater the number of Americans who talk of ending the war through surrender, the farther off the day of settlement will be.

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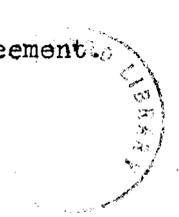
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There is a whole host of Nixon Administration reforms awaiting congressional action: A workfare program in place of the welfare scandal; Federal revenue sharing, giving the States and cities a percentage slice of Federal tax receipts so they can zero in on their own problems free from Federal red tape; reorganization of cabinet departments so government will be more responsive to the people; a consolidation of manpower training programs, to be turned over to the states and local communities as they become equipped to handle them; a re-examination of Federal aid to schools to achieve quality education; and a revamping of our labor laws to improve handling of national emergency labor disputes in transportation.

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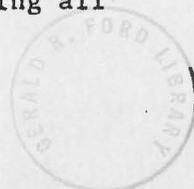
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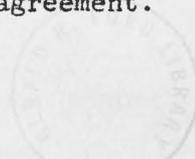
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Every one of these reforms will be an issue in the 1972 campaign unless the Democrats in Congress join Dick Nixon in his crusade to improve the quality of life in America.

The best way to help Dick Nixon is to elect Republicans to Congress next November 7 so he will have the team he needs to turn America in the right direction.

The hour of truth is upon us, and the time is now. Truth is our greatest weapon in the 1972 campaign. Our success at the polls will be measured by our success in impressing the truth upon the American people.

So tell the Republican story. Tell the Richard Nixon story. Let the American people know what Dick Nixon has done to bring them peace abroad and progress at home.

That is the truth you must make clear. So let us do the job. Together we can. We are on the march--we and Dick Nixon. Let us prove that our party is a winning one. Let us move forward together.

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