

**The original documents are located in Box D34, folder “Annual Meeting, American Mining Congress, Statler Hilton, January 15, 1973” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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*Speech*

Jerry: Allan Overton would like you to "flesh out" in your own words, some comment along the following lines: (this is for annual meeting...welcoming ~~back~~ <sup>back</sup> of the American Mining Congress, 12 noon, Mon., Jan. 15, at Statler Hilton.)

1913

Leaders in the mining industry should be ever mindful of their right to petition the Congress.

Roughly half of the present members of Congress have been in their legislative seats for six years or less.

This means that ~~min~~ mining industry leaders have a great deal of missionary work to do.

There is an urgent need for the leadership of the mining industry to make Congress and the public aware of what mining means to this country. What industry leaders have to do is to explain their case anew--to the Congress and to the people.

The mining industry faces two new constituencies--new officials in the Executive Branch and the many new members of Congress. These people will be looking at the subject matter in detail for the first time.

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Overton also wants you to talk off the cuff about Congress and ~~in~~ the White House and prospects for legislation in the 93rd Congress.

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Apart from this...your overall theme should be one of "communications"--the need for improved ~~comm~~ communications between industry and government and between industry and the public at large.

Mining industry leaders should make the public aware of the significance of mining--that the construction business alone during the coming decade will absorb an estimated 4 million tons of aluminum and copper...16 million tons of clay and cement...and nearly 200 million tons of sand and gravel. Production and installation ~~of~~ of greatly expanded numbers of telephones and TV sets and other ~~fx~~ furnishings in the American home will make massive requirements on the mining industry--not to mention the wire and piping needed to carry water and power. The demand for minerals may well double or triple over the next 30 years.

Meantime the economy is steadily improving. The Administration is working to create an atmosphere of economic stability and growth. The purpose is to create jobs...to increase industrial productivity...to stabilize consumer prices...and to encourage capital investment.

These efforts on the part of the Administration must be matched by those in industry--in mining as well as other industries.

It is essential that we increase exploration ~~for new~~ for new ~~min~~ mineral deposits because we are almost wholly dependent upon foreign mines for certain minerals, such as tin. And we must step up our capability to meet more of our mineral needs through recycling and the reclamation of mineral products.

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Cont'd next page.

You might also put in a plug for the President's proposal to create a Department of Natural ~~re~~ Resources "into which all major responsibilities for energy and mineral resources would fall."

~~Make~~ the point that the Administration wants to work with the mining industry...to promote growth and the proper development of America's mineral resources.

You might make the point that the Mining and Minerals ~~Policy~~ Policy Act of 1970 reads in part: "It is the continuing policy of the ~~6x~~ Federal Government in the national interest to foster and encourage private enterprise." This is, of course, a clear-cut restatement of traditional American economic philosophy.

The Department of Natural Resources would not only stimulate industrial productivity but would provide the scientific ~~x~~ capability and regulatory responsibility to insure that proper environmental considerations are ~~xxx~~ taken into account.

Suggest~~x~~ you wind up by saying...

"I know~~x~~ you consider the stewardship of American's natural resources an awesome responsibility and an immense public trust." "That also is the feeling of the Nixon Administration~~xxxx~~ and of the Congress of the United States.

"We must make that stewardship wise. We are capable of such stewardship. And the mining industry can help ~~us~~ to provide that kind of stewardship for the American people and a great and ~~gxxx~~ growing nation."

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