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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN. 

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS TO  
THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 1975

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WELCOME TO WASHINGTON  
AND THE WHITE HOUSE.

YOUR VISIT THIS YEAR IS WELL-TIMED. WE ARE IN  
THE MIDST OF MANY IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING YOU  
AND ALL YOUR READERS. BECAUSE OF YOUR ROLE, WE WANT  
TO SHARE THIS ADMINISTRATION'S PLANS WITH YOU. WE ALSO  
WANT TO LEARN FROM YOU.

*Dr. CARLTON  
Goodlett  
President of  
Publishers of*

AS NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS SERVING THE BLACK  
COMMUNITY, YOU OCCUPY A UNIQUE PLACE IN THE COMMUNICATIONS  
INDUSTRY. YOU HAVE SPECIAL INSIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

SOMETIMES IN WASHINGTON, IT IS POSSIBLE TO FORGET  
THE PRESS IS MUCH MORE THAN THE LIMITED NUMBER OF NEWSPAPERS,  
MAGAZINES AND NATIONAL NETWORKS WHICH COVER THE WHITE HOUSE  
DAILY. BUT YOU REPRESENT THE HUNDREDS OF NEWSPAPERS  
THAT LOOK OUT NOT ONLY ON WASHINGTON AND THE WORLD, BUT  
INWARD TO THE CITIES, TOWNS, AND NEIGHBORHOODS.

BECAUSE OF MY YEARS AS A CONGRESSMAN, I UNDERSTAND  
THAT PAVED STREETS AND GARBAGE COLLECTIONS ARE AS IMPORTANT  
TO READERS AS OIL IMPORTS.

YOU ARE THERE, WHERE IT COUNTS, CHANNELING  
LOCAL NEWS TO YOUR COMMUNITIES AND CHALLENGING THEM TO  
SOLVE MUTUAL PROBLEMS.

ONE OF THE MOST EXCITING TRENDS IN RECENT YEARS  
HAS BEEN THE INCREASING PARTICIPATION OF AMERICANS IN  
THEIR LOCAL AFFAIRS. THIS HAS BEEN SEEN IN EVERYTHING  
FROM THE FORMATION OF BLOCK ASSOCIATIONS TO REVISION OF  
CITY CHARTERS.

THIS INCREASED INTEREST REINFORCES MY FAITH IN  
DEMOCRACY. THIS RENEWED CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY  
PROBLEMS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE  
GOOD WORK OF THE NEWS ORGANIZATIONS YOU REPRESENT.

LOCAL NEWSPAPERS AS WELL AS TELEVISION AND  
RADIO STATIONS ARE VEHICLES FOR COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS.  
BECAUSE YOU PUBLISH SPECIFICALLY FOR BLACK COMMUNITIES,  
WHICH WERE NEGLECTED FOR TOO MANY YEARS, YOU HAVE HAD  
TO ASSUME EVEN GREATER RESPONSIBILITIES.

LONG BEFORE THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT BECAME  
A NATIONAL CAUSE, YOU WERE COMMUNICATING TO YOUR  
READERS THE DIFFICULTIES FACED BY BLACKS. NOW WITH  
GREATER NATIONAL AWARENESS OF BLACK PROBLEMS, YOUR ROLE  
IS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN BEFORE.

YOU ARE "ON THE CASE" DAY IN AND DAY OUT --  
AND THIS CONTINUED ATTENTION IS VITALLY NEEDED.

BLACKS IN OUR SOCIETY HAVE TOO OFTEN BEEN MENTALLY  
SEGREGATED BY SOME THINKERS AND PLANNERS, WHO ACTED AS IF  
BLACKS DID NOT HAVE THE SAME EXPECTATIONS AND PROBLEMS AS  
OTHER AMERICANS.

I PROMISED AT THE BEGINNING OF MY ADMINISTRATION  
TO BE PRESIDENT OF ALL THE PEOPLE. I AM KEEPING THAT  
PLEDGE -- AND INTEND TO CONTINUE TO DO SO.

THIS ADMINISTRATION WILL NOT SLICE OFF A SMALL  
PORTION OF THE PIE -- AND SAY THIS IS ENOUGH FOR THE  
TWENTY-FIVE MILLION AMERICANS WHO ARE BLACK. WE KNOW  
THAT MANY OF THE SERIOUS PROBLEMS FACING AMERICANS --  
UNEMPLOYMENT, UNSAFE STREETS, AND UNEQUAL EDUCATION --  
TOO OFTEN PRESS MORE HEAVILY ON BLACKS AND OTHER MINORITIES.

IN DRAFTING THE TAX REBATE PROPOSAL, ONE OF THE MAJOR CONCERNS WAS TO SEE THAT THE BURDEN OF THE RECESSION DID NOT FALL ON THOSE LEAST ABLE TO AFFORD IT -- OUR LOW-INCOME CITIZENS.

BUT AT THE SAME TIME, MILLIONS OF MIDDLE-CLASS AMERICANS, BLACK AND WHITE, HAVE BEEN CAUGHT BETWEEN INFLATION AND RECESSION. WE CANNOT PENALIZE THOSE WHO HAVE WORKED THEIR WAY UP -- BECAUSE OF THEIR SUCCESS.

I KNOW THAT YOU SHARE WITH ME A DEEP BELIEF IN PRESERVING THE UPWARD MOBILITY OF OUR SOCIETY. IN RECENT YEARS, BLACKS HAVE MADE ECONOMIC AND EDUCATIONAL GAINS THAT MUST NOT BE WIPED OUT BY LEAVING THE MIDDLE CLASS OUT OF TAX RELIEF.

THERE ARE OTHER AREAS OF BLACK PROGRESS THAT WE WILL NOT IGNORE BECAUSE OF THE ECONOMY.

ONE OF THE CONTINUING COMMITMENTS THAT MUST BE

HONORED IS FULL POLITICAL EQUALITY FOR ALL AMERICANS.

FOR THIS REASON, I TOLD CONGRESS LAST WEEK THAT I PLAN TO

ASK FOR ANOTHER FIVE YEAR EXTENSION OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT.

THIS LAW MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO EXPIRE IN AUGUST OF THIS YEAR.

THE VOTING RIGHTS LAW HELPED OPEN THE WAY FOR THE  
ELECTION OF BLACKS IN ALL PARTS OF THE NATION. THAT MOVEMENT  
MUST CONTINUE.

AS I LOOK BACK ACROSS THE PAST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS,  
I AM REMINDED OF HOW FAR AMERICA HAS COME . . . OF HOW MANY  
BARRIERS HAVE FALLEN . . . AND THE NUMBER OF PREJUDICES THAT  
HAVE BEEN LAID TO REST.

BUT AS I LOOK AHEAD . . . I KNOW MUCH WORK  
REMAINS BEFORE EVERY CHILD BORN IN AMERICA HAS THE  
SAME OPPORTUNITIES FOR LONG LIFE . . . ECONOMIC SECURITY . . .  
AND EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT.

MUCH HAS BEEN DONE.      MUCH REMAINS.

TOGETHER WE WILL MAKE PROGRESS.

END OF TEXT

CLEARANCE FORM FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH MATERIAL

TO: THE PRESIDENT  
VIA: ROBERT HARTMANN  
FROM: PAUL A. THEIS  
SUBJECT: Presidential draft remarks to the  
National Newspaper Publishers

TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF PRESIDENTIAL USE: 5 p.m.,  
Thursday, January 23, 1975

SPEECHWRITER: Kaye Pullen

EDITED BY: Casserly / Theis

BASIC RESEARCH/SPEECH MATERIAL SUPPLIED BY:  
Bill Nicholson, Scheduling Office, Research

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- (X) OPERATIONS (Rumsfeld) \_\_\_\_\_
- (X) CONGRESSIONAL/PUBLIC LIAISON (Marsh) Jm
- (X) PRESS (Nessen) R.N.
- ( ) LEGAL (Buchen) \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) ECONOMIC POLICY BOARD (Seidman) \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (Lynn) \_\_\_\_\_
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- ( ) NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL (Scowcroft) \_\_\_\_\_
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- (X) OTHER Stan Scott Stan Scott
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