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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT

NATIONAL YOUTH GOVERNORS OF THE YMCA'S

YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT PROGRAM

THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 1975

- 1 -

GOOD MORNING. IT IS ALWAYS GOOD TO MEET WITH A
NEW GENERATION OF AMERICANS. YOU REPRESENT OUR COUNTRY'S
HOPES AND HORIZONS.

IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT THE FUTURE IS NOT A MATTER OF
CHANCE: IT IS A MATTER OF CHOICE. YOU WILL MAKE MANY OF
THOSE CHOICES.

YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE YMCA'S YOUTH AND
GOVERNMENT PROGRAM WILL HELP YOU TO MAKE THESE CHOICES ALL
THE MORE WISELY. THE INSIGHTS YOU GAIN WILL BENEFIT YOU
AND OUR NATION. I COMMEND THE YMCA AND THE READER'S
DIGEST FOUNDATION FOR CONTINUING THESE OUTSTANDING PROGRAMS.

I UNDERSTAND YOU ARE SPENDING THIS WEEK IN
WASHINGTON STUDYING THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS -- CONCENTRATING
CHIEFLY ON THE SUBJECT OF ENERGY.

AS YOU ARE WELL AWARE, OUR COUNTRY FACES VERY SERIOUS ENERGY PROBLEMS. WE MUST START AT ONCE ON THE ROAD TO ENERGY INDEPENDENCE. WE MUST MAKE THE HARD CHOICES TODAY. WE CANNOT WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW OR NEXT YEAR OR THE NEXT GENERATION.

AS YOU ARE ALSO WELL AWARE, THERE ARE THREE CO-EQUAL BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT. BUT THE PROMISE OF TRIPARTITE GOVERNMENT SPELLED OUT IN THE CONSTITUTION ASSUMED THAT EACH OF THE BRANCHES WOULD CARRY ITS OWN WEIGHT, WOULD JOIN IN COMMON EFFORTS FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD AND WOULD COOPERATE WITH THE OTHER BRANCHES WHEN COOPERATION WAS VITAL TO SURVIVAL.

BUT IT HASN'T ALWAYS WORKED OUT THIS WAY.

TAKE ENERGY. MORE THAN FIVE MONTHS AGO --

LAST JANUARY -- I SENT TO THE CONGRESS A COMPREHENSIVE
ENERGY PACKAGE DESIGNED TO START THIS NATION AT ONCE ON THE
WAY TO ENERGY INDEPENDENCE BY INCREASING PRODUCTIVE
CAPACITIES AND EFFECTING CERTAIN CONSERVATION MEASURES.

THESE MEASURES CALLED FOR SOME SACRIFICES FROM THE AMERICAN
PEOPLE. BUT THEY WILL WORK.

I HAVE PRODDED THE CONGRESS ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS
SINCE FOR ACTION -- EITHER ON THE PROGRAM I SUBMITTED OR ONE
OF ITS OWN.

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I HAVE BEEN TOLD WEEK AFTER WEEK -- AND MONTH AFTER MONTH --
THAT THE CONGRESS WOULD DEVELOP AN ENERGY BILL. THE FACT IS
-- AFTER PLEAS FOR MORE TIME AND PROMISE AFTER PROMISE --
THE CONGRESS HAS OFFERED THE AMERICAN PEOPLE NO
ENERGY LEGISLATION.

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TODAY, THE CONGRESS IS PREPARING TO DEPART
WASHINGTON ON ANOTHER RECESS -- A TEN-DAY VACATION OVER
THE INDEPENDENCE DAY PERIOD. I AM DELIGHTED THE CONGRESS
CAN GET AWAY FOR A BRIEF VACATION -- BUT I AM UNHAPPY THAT
IT IS AT THE EXPENSE OF ACTION ON THE ENERGY PROBLEMS FACING US.

THE WORLD HAS NOT STOOD STILL IN THESE MANY MONTHS.

OUR OIL IMPORTS HAVE RISEN TO NEARLY FORTY PERCENT AND ARE
EXPECTED TO INCREASE FURTHER. THE ORGANIZATION OF
PETROLEUM EXPORTING COUNTRIES SUGGESTS THAT OIL PRICES MAY
BE INCREASED NEXT SEPTEMBER.

THESE ACTIONS COULD SERIOUSLY HAMPER THE NATION'S ECONOMIC
RECOVERY AND INCREASE THE RATE AT WHICH AMERICAN DOLLARS
AND AMERICAN JOBS LEAVE THIS COUNTRY TO BENEFIT OTHER
NATIONS.

THE MIDEAST SITUATION IS STILL EXPLOSIVE. IF IT
BLOWS, THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE FACED WITH AN IMMEDIATE
CUT OFF OF OIL FROM THAT AREA OF THE WORLD. AND IT COULD
HAPPEN SOON.

ALTHOUGH THE CONGRESS IS OBVIOUSLY AWARE OF
THESE PROBLEMS, IT STILL FAILS TO ACT. THE TRAGIC FACT
IS IN THE TWO YEARS SINCE THE LAST ARAB EMBARGO IN 1973,
THERE HAS BEEN NO MEANINGFUL CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON ENERGY.
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DESERVE BETTER THAN THIS.

THE TRIPARTITE SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT WE HAVE HERE
MAY NOT BE PERFECT -- BUT IT HAS WORKED FOR NEARLY 200
YEARS. SURE, LEGISLATIVE DECISIONS ARE SOMETIMES
AGONIZINGLY SLOW. YET THEY ARE THE HEARTBEAT OF DEMOCRACY.

WHEN THE DECISION-MAKING COMES TO A STOP -- WHEN CHOICES
ARE NO LONGER OFFERED -- DEMOCRACY DIES. LET US MAKE
SURE THAT DOESN'T HAPPEN HERE.

AS YOU YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN RETURN TO YOUR
HOMES ACROSS AMERICA, PUT YOUR VIGOR AND VOICE TO WORK --
FOR AMERICA. GET INVOLVED. SPEAK OUT FOR DECISIONS
AND FOR NEEDED CHOICES.

WE CAN -- AND MUST -- MAKE SURE THIS SYSTEM
OF OURS CONTINUES TO WORK. WITH YOUR HELP, IT WILL.
THANK YOU.

END OF TEXT

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

CLEARANCE FORM FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH MATERIAL

TO: THE PRESIDENT
VIA: ROBERT HARTMANN *RTH*
FROM: PAUL A. THEIS *PAT*
SUBJECT: President's remarks greeting YMCA National
Youth Governors

TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF PRESIDENTIAL USE: _____

10:45 a.m., Thursday, June 26, 1975, Rose Garden

SPEECHWRITER: Casserly

EDITED BY: Theis

BASIC RESEARCH/SPEECH MATERIAL SUPPLIED BY:

Scheduling, Research

CLEARED BY (Please initial):

- (X) OPERATIONS (Rumsfeld) _____
- (X) CONGRESSIONAL/PUBLIC LIAISON (Marsh) _____
- (X) PRESS (Nessen) *RHN* _____
- () LEGAL (Buchen) _____
- (X) ECONOMIC POLICY BOARD (Seidman) *LWS* _____
- () OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (Lynn) _____
- () DOMESTIC COUNCIL (Cannon) _____
- () NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL (Scowcroft) _____
- (X) RESEARCH (Waldron) *AW* _____
- (X) JERRY WARREN (FYI) _____
- (X) ENERGY RESOURCES COUNCIL (Zarb) *y (with Greenpan)* _____
- (X) Pam Needham _____
- (X) Pam Powell/Sandy Laughlin *PAP cum* _____

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 25, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: PAUL THEIS *PT.*
SUBJECT: YMCA Remarks

Since Congress is still dragging its feet on energy, the point was raised the other day at the Senior Staff meeting that it would be well for you to hit this inaction again -- before the Congress leaves for its July 4th holiday. The best forum for this purpose seems to be your meeting Thursday morning with YMCA youth leaders in the Rose Garden. These young people are in Washington for one week studying government in general and concentrating in particular on the problems of energy.

Frank Zarb, in particular, feels it is important to get the message of Congressional inaction out once again. The senior staff members who have gone over these remarks are listed on the attached clearance form. Their comments and suggestions have been incorporated.