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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

NAACP SPEECH

TUESDAY, JULY 1, 1975

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THANK YOU ROY (ROYWILKINS)
MARGARET WILSON
CLARENCE MITCHELL
SECRETARY COLEMAN
REV. HOPE
DISTINGUISHED GUESTS
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

I WANT TO THANK ROY WILKINS FOR INVITING ME
TO SPEAK TO THIS UNIQUE ORGANIZATION AND TO SHARE THIS PLATFORM
WITH SO MANY DISTINGUISHED LEADERS.

ROY SAID SUNDAY ON T-V THAT YOU COULD EXPECT
FROM ME TODAY "A LOT OF RHETORIC BUT NO SPECIFICS."

HE IS WRONG ABOUT THE RHETORIC, BUT RIGHT ABOUT THE SPECIFICS.

I HAVE COME HERE NOT TO OFFER A CHECKLIST OF
SPECIFIC PROGRAMS AND PROMISES FOR BLACKS.

I COME AS PRESIDENT OF ALL THE PEOPLE TO TALK WITH YOU

ABOUT COMMON PROBLEMS AND COMMONSENSE APPROACHES --

ABOUT WHAT WE CAN ACHIEVE TOGETHER FOR AMERICA.

THE N-A-A-C-P HAS A PROUD RECORD THAT SPANS 65 YEARS
WITH MARKERS OF ACHIEVEMENT IN RACIAL EQUALITY UNMATCHED
BY ANY OTHER ORGANIZATION. YOUR COALITION OF AMERICANS
HAS NEVER BEEN CONTENT TO STOP WITH ONE SUCCESS.
YOU MOVE FROM ONE GOAL, OF RACIAL PROGRESS TO THE NEXT.

AS A RESULT, GREAT STRIDES HAVE BEEN MADE IN
ACHIEVING THE GOALS LAID DOWN BY THE N-A-A-C-P IN 1910:

EQUAL RIGHTS, PARTICULARLY VOTING RIGHTS; EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES
FOR JUSTICE, FOR EDUCATION, FOR EMPLOYMENT.

BY MAKING OUR SYSTEM WORK THROUGH LEGISLATION AND
COURT DECISION, THE N-A-A-C-P HAS HELPED AMERICA KEEP ITS
PROMISES TO ALL ITS CITIZENS. TODAY, LAWS ENSURE THE RIGHTS
OF ALL AMERICANS.

THE 1910 COMMITMENT OF YOUR ORGANIZATION
HAS BECOME THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT OF 1975 --
TO CONTINUE BLACK PROGRESS THROUGHOUT AMERICA.

TODAY, BLACKS ARE BETTER EDUCATED, BETTER HOUSED
AND EMPLOYED IN BETTER JOBS. BLACKS ARE MAKING IMPORTANT
CONTRIBUTIONS AT ALL LEVELS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, CIVILIAN
AND MILITARY.

THE END OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION BY LAW HAS PAVED
THE WAY TO THE BEGINNING OF FULL PARTICIPATION. I COMMEND
THE N-A-A-C-P FOR ITS NEW EMPHASIS ON THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS
OF BLACKS.

BUT THE PROGRESS YOU HAVE MADE HAS BEEN

THREATENED BY A TROUBLED ECONOMY. THE ECONOMIC RECESSION

WE HAVE BEEN GOING THROUGH HAS UNQUESTIONABLY HIT HARDEST

AT BLACKS AND OTHER MINORITIES. THE RESULT: TWELVE

PERCENT OF BLACK ADULTS ARE JOBLESS COMPARED WITH 7.5 PERCENT

OF WHITES WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED. FORTY PERCENT OF BLACK

TEENAGERS ARE JOBLESS COMPARED WITH 20 PERCENT ^{OF} WHITE YOUNGSTERS.
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THE UNPLEASANT REALITY IS THAT RECESSION HITS AND
HURTS FIRST THOSE WHO CAN LEAST AFFORD ECONOMIC SETBACKS.
AND RECESSION AND INFLATION TOGETHER DEAL A DOUBLY CRUEL BLOW.
IF RECESSION HITS HARDEST AT LOW-INCOME WORKERS, WHO ARE
MOST LIKELY TO BE LAID OFF, INFLATION SEVERELY SAPS THEIR
BUYING POWER AND CREATES SPECIAL HARDSHIPS.

THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS CALLS THIS

ECONOMIC SITUATION "OUR COMMON DILEMMA." IT GOES ON

TO STATE IN ITS LEGISLATIVE AGENDA:

"IT IS NOT RICH AGAINST POOR, BLACK AGAINST WHITE.
INSTEAD, THERE IS MUTUAL RECOGNITION THAT ANY OF US MAY BE
THE NEXT VICTIM OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND THAT ALL OF US WILL MOST
CERTAINLY BE THE NEXT VICTIMS OF INFLATION."

IN SHORT, INFLATION IS NO LESS A HUMAN PROBLEM
THAN RECESSION.

THE COLD STATISTICS OF THE TWELVE PERCENT RISE
IN THE COST OF LIVING LAST YEAR TRANSLATE INTO A CUT OF THIS
AMOUNT IN THE PAYCHECK OF EVERY WORKING AMERICAN,
AND FOR PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION,
WELFARE OR SOCIAL SECURITY CHECKS, IT TRANSLATES INTO THE
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SUSTENANCE AND SUBSISTENCE.

WHAT YOU AND YOUR ORGANIZATION HAVE CONTRIBUTED
TO AMERICA IS INVALUABLE: YOU HAVE HELPED TURN THIS NATION
AROUND ON THE ISSUE OF RACIAL EQUALITY. YOU HAVE HELPED
TO CREATE A CLIMATE IN WHICH PROGRESS CAN BE MADE.

NOW, TOGETHER, WE MUST CREATE THE OTHER NECESSARY
CONDITIONS TO TURN THE LEGAL RIGHT TO EQUALITY INTO THE REALITY
OF EQUALITY -- A STABLE, GROWING ECONOMY THAT ALLOWS
ALL OF OUR PEOPLE TO REALIZE THEIR FULL POTENTIAL.

AN UNSTABLE ECONOMY IS THE ENEMY OF EQUAL
OPPORTUNITY. WHILE IMPORTANT ADVANCES CAN BE MADE DURING
ECONOMIC GOOD TIMES, THEY CAN BE QUICKLY, AND CRUELLY,
ERASED DURING HARD TIMES.

EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY CAN BE SUSTAINED ONLY IN
THE CONTEXT OF ECONOMIC STABILITY.

IN THE PAST 15 YEARS, HUGE FEDERAL DEFICITS HAVE
FINANCED UNPRECEDENTED DOMESTIC SPENDING. TOO MANY OF
THOSE EXPENDITURES PRODUCED SHORT-TERM BENEFITS FOR SOME
AMERICANS, BUT WITH LONG-TERM HIDDEN COSTS FOR ALL AMERICANS.

TOO MANY OF THOSE WHOM THE PROGRAMS SOUGHT TO HELP -- THE
POOR, THE ELDERLY AND THE DISADVANTAGED -- ARE NOW BEARING
THE INFLATIONARY BURDEN OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S SPENDING
SPREE.

AMERICA IS AN ECONOMIC FAMILY. WE MUST LIVE
BY THE RULES THAT ANY FAMILY MUST FOLLOW. WE CANNOT
SPEND MORE THAN WE EARN BY ENDLESS BORROWING. WE MUST
END OUR PROPENSITY FOR SHORT-TERM SOLUTIONS AT THE EXPENSE
OF LONG-RANGE SETBACKS.

THERE ARE SOLID SIGNS THAT THE RECESSION IS COMING

TO AN END. FOR EXAMPLE:

-- CONSUMER CONFIDENCE IS UP, BOOSTING RETAIL

SALES IN MAY TO 2.2 PERCENT OVER APRIL.

-- THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS AT WORK ROSE BY

553,000 BETWEEN MARCH AND MAY.

-- PERSONAL INCOME ROSE IN MAY BY 9.3 BILLION

DOLLARS -- THE BIGGEST JUMP IN EIGHT MONTHS.

-- INTEREST RATES ARE DOWN -- THE PRIME RATE FROM

12 PERCENT TO 7 PERCENT.

-- HOUSING IS SHOWING SIGNS OF RECOVERY WITH A
34 PERCENT INCREASE IN BUILDING PERMITS BETWEEN MARCH AND MAY.
HOUSING STARTS WERE UP 14.2 PERCENT IN MAY OVER APRIL.

AND THE INFLATION RATE IS DOWN -- FROM AN AVERAGE
ANNUAL RATE OF MORE THAN TWELVE PERCENT LAST YEAR TO LESS THAN
SIX PERCENT TODAY. AND THAT'S TANTAMOUNT TO SIX PERCENT MORE
PURCHASING POWER.

OBVIOUSLY, SOME INDICATORS WILL CONTINUE TO BE DEPRESSED FOR A FEW MONTHS, BECAUSE THEY RECORD ONLY WHAT IS PAST. BUT I AM CONFIDENT THE ECONOMIC DECLINE IS OVER.

WE MUST MAKE CERTAIN THAT OUR RECOVERY IS BASED ON SOUND ECONOMIC POLICIES -- OR WE STAND IN DANGER OF SETTING OFF ANOTHER MASSIVE RISE IN INFLATION -- AND EVEN DEEPER RECESSION AND GREATER UNEMPLOYMENT AND HARDSHIP IN THE FUTURE.

A POLICY OF FISCAL RESTRAINT DOES NOT MEAN THIS

NATION WILL TURN ITS BACK ON MAJOR PROBLEMS OF EMPLOYMENT,

HOUSING, TRANSPORTATION, HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATION.

IN FACT, MY BUDGET FOR THE 1976 FISCAL YEAR INCREASES

THE TOTAL OF THESE HUMAN RESOURCES PROGRAMS BY MORE THAN

17 BILLION DOLLARS OVER 1975.

THE CRITICAL AREA OF JOBS REQUIRES ACTION TO MEET

IMMEDIATE NEEDS WITHOUT UPENDING LONG-TERM PROGRESS.

THE TEMPORARY AID MEASURES I PROPOSED HAVE SOUGHT TO KEEP

THIS BALANCE. FOR EXAMPLE:

THIS SUMMER, SOME 840,000 YOUNG AMERICANS WILL
BE WORKING BECAUSE OF CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON MY REQUEST
FOR 473 MILLION DOLLARS FOR SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND
RECREATION PROGRAMS.

LAST FRIDAY, I SIGNED INTO LAW LEGISLATION WHICH
I REQUESTED TO EXTEND FOR ONE YEAR THE PUBLIC SERVICE JOBS
PROGRAM AND TO PROVIDE 1.6 BILLION DOLLARS TO CONTINUE
310,000 JOBS. YESTERDAY, I SIGNED LEGISLATION TO EXTEND
THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROGRAM TO PROVIDE UP TO
65 WEEKS OF COMPENSATION TO PERSONS WITHOUT JOBS.

BUT THESE ARE TEMPORARY MEASURES TO CUSHION THE
BLOW. THEY DO NOT ANSWER THE NEED FOR PERMANENT JOBS.
THESE JOBS MUST COME FROM FULL PRODUCTION IN THE PRIVATE
SECTOR.

ONE INITIATIVE IN THIS AREA IS PROMOTION OF
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR MINORITY BUSINESS. REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE N-A-A-C-P HAVE BEEN HELPFUL IN DEVELOPING PLANS TO
COORDINATE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS IN THIS AREA.

IN FISCAL 1975, MINORITY ENTERPRISE PROGRAMS OF THE
SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION ALONE CREATED OR SAVED 63,000
JOBS. TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF ALL S-B-A LOANS AND 16 PERCENT
OF THE TOTAL LOAN DOLLARS WENT TO MINORITY BUSINESS.

TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN THE
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ARE OPEN TO ALL AMERICANS, EACH
DEPARTMENT AND AGENCY WILL VIGOROUSLY ENFORCE THE EQUAL
EMPLOYMENT LAWS.

TO MAKE SURE JOB OPPORTUNITIES ARE OPEN IN THE
PRIVATE SECTOR, I HAVE EMPHASIZED TO LOWELL PERRY, THE NEW
CHAIRMAN OF THE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION,
THIS ADMINISTRATION'S COMMITMENT TO THE ELIMINATION OF ALL
VESTIGES OF JOB DISCRIMINATION BECAUSE OF RACE, RELIGION OR
SEX. THE E-E-O-C BUDGET IN FISCAL 1976 IS OVER SIXTY MILLION
DOLLARS, UP 6.5 MILLION FROM 1975. FEDERAL CIVIL RIGHTS
ENFORCEMENT OUTLAYS FOR FISCAL 1976 ARE 395 MILLION DOLLARS,
34 MILLION MORE THAN THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

BUT EQUAL EMPLOYMENT AND CIVIL RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT
ARE MOST MEANINGFUL WHEN THE ECONOMY IS STRONG AND VIBRANT.
AND FULL RECOVERY WILL BE POSSIBLE ONLY IF WE ACT RESPONSIBLY.

I WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THE CONGRESS
TO BALANCE FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AGAINST MEASURED ECONOMIC
STIMULATION.

BUT THIS ADMINISTRATION AND THE CONGRESS CANNOT
ACHIEVE A SENSIBLE, LONG-TERM APPROACH TO THE NATIONAL
ECONOMY WITHOUT YOUR HELP AND THE HELP OF ALL AMERICANS.
YOUR LEADERSHIP AND INFLUENCE ARE NEEDED IN WORKING
TO IMPLEMENT A SOUND FISCAL POLICY.

WE MUST WORK TOGETHER TO INSURE THE FINANCIAL
SOUNDNESS OF OUR NATION THAT MAKES EQUALITY AND FREEDOM
POSSIBLE FOR ALL AMERICANS.

AMERICA IS STRONGER BECAUSE OF THE VITALITY OF
YOUR ORGANIZATION. AMERICA IS MORE CREATIVE BECAUSE
OF YOUR IMAGINATION. AMERICA IS CLOSER TO ACHIEVING
ITS CONSTITUTIONAL PROMISE OF "THE BLESSINGS OF LIBERTY"
FOR ALL ITS CITIZENS BECAUSE OF YOUR DEDICATION AND SPIRIT.

THE ENTIRE NATION IS AT LAST WAKING UP TO THE
CONTRIBUTIONS AND POTENTIAL OF BLACK PEOPLE. AND ALONG
WITH ROY WILKINS, I BELIEVE THAT "IF AMERICA'S BLACKS ARE
PERMITTED TO DO FOR THEMSELVES, ACCORDING TO THEIR OWN
LIKES, THEY WILL DO LIKE NOBODY EVER DREAMED."

END OF TEXT

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

CLEARANCE FORM FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH MATERIAL

TO: THE PRESIDENT
VIA: ROBERT HARTMANN
FROM: PAUL A. THEIS *PK*
SUBJECT: N.A.A.C.P. Address

TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF PRESIDENTIAL USE: _____

10:00 a.m., Tuesday, July 1, 1975, Washington Hilton

SPEECHWRITER: Pullen

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- (X) CONGRESSIONAL/PUBLIC LIAISON (Marsh) Jm
- (X) PRESS (Nessen) _____
- () LEGAL (Buchen) _____
- (X) ECONOMIC POLICY BOARD (Seidman) JWS
- (X) OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (Lynn) J.L.
- (X) DOMESTIC COUNCIL (Cannon) Dick Parsons
- () NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL (Scowcroft) _____
- (X) RESEARCH (Waldron) AW
- (X) JERRY WARREN (FYI) _____
- () ENERGY RESOURCES COUNCIL (Zarb) _____
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