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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.....

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS

TO THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

CINCINNATI, OHIO

JULY 3, 1975

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THANK YOU GOVERNOR RHODES

GOVERNOR CARROLL

BILL LIGGETT

SENATOR TAFT

DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

- Bill Gradison
- ~~Don Clancy~~
- ~~Clarence Brown~~
- Gene Snyder
- John Breckinridge

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS
LADIES & GENTLEMEN

(ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS)

I APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH YOU TODAY
AS PART OF THE OHIO RIVER VALLEY WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE.
AS YOU HAVE ALREADY HEARD FROM OTHER SPEAKERS, THERE ARE
ANSWERS TO OUR MANY PROBLEMS -- BUT NO EASY ANSWERS.

THE CLOSEST WE'VE EVER COME TO AN EASY ANSWER WAS THE DAY

SECRETARY SIMON TOOK VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER THROUGH THE

TREASURY AS THEY CAME TO THE END OF THE TOUR,

BILL SIMON SAID, "THE TREASURY IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT

ASPECTS OF OUR ECONOMIC POLICY." VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER

SAID, "I'LL BUY THAT!" . . . AND SIMON SAID, "SOLD!"

I KNOW THAT YOU HAVE ALREADY HAD A VERY FULL DAY
AND HAVE HEARD FROM A NUMBER OF MY TOP ADVISERS AND KEY
ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS ON A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS. SO
INSTEAD OF ANOTHER LENGTHY SPEECH COVERING A LOT OF THE SAME
TERRITORY, I WILL TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO TALK ABOUT SOMETHING
I FEEL STRONGLY ABOUT -- AMERICA'S DOMESTIC WELL-BEING.

AS EACH OF YOU ARE WELL AWARE, THE PAST YEAR HAS
BEEN A DIFFICULT AND PERPLEXING ONE. WE HAVE BEEN THROUGH
A SERIES OF CRISES. BUT WE HAVE SURVIVED AS A NATION AND
HAVE BECOME STRENGTHENED AS A PEOPLE.

FOR THREE STRAIGHT MONTHS NOW, THE INDEX OF
LEADING ECONOMIC INDICATORS HAS BEEN HEADING STEADILY UPWARD.
GAINS HAVE BEEN IMPRESSIVE IN RETAIL SALES, PERSONAL INCOME,
HOUSING STARTS AND IN THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS AT WORK -- ALL
REFLECTING THE INHERENT CONFIDENCE OF THE PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY
AND ITS FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM.

ONCE AGAIN, OUR PEOPLE, OUR POLITICAL SYSTEM
AND OUR ECONOMY HAVE DEMONSTRATED THE STRENGTH THAT MADE US
THE MOST BOUNTIFUL NATION IN THE WORLD. ONCE AGAIN, THE
PESSIMISTS HAVE BEEN PROVEN WRONG ABOUT AMERICA.

BUT WE MUST NOT ALLOW THE GOOD NEWS TO OBSCURE

THE PITFALLS STILL AHEAD. ALTHOUGH ALL INDICATORS SAY WE HAVE

that's not good enough.
BROUGHT THE RECESSION TO A HALT, THERE ARE OTHER PROBLEMS

THAT REQUIRE PROMPT ATTENTION.

TAKE INFLATION -- ONE OF THE MOST PERNICIOUS ECONOMIC
ILLS OF THE POST-WAR ERA. WHEN I VISITED CINCINNATI LAST
YEAR ABOUT THIS TIME, INFLATION WAS OUR BIGGEST WORRY. WE
WERE ANXIOUS ABOUT THE DOUBLE-DIGIT INCREASE IN THE COST OF
LIVING -- AN ANNUAL RATE OF INFLATION OF MORE THAN 12 PERCENT.

TODAY, THAT RATE OF INFLATION HAS BEEN REDUCED TO
LESS THAN SIX PERCENT. BY THE END OF THE YEAR, WE HOPE IT
WILL BE EVEN LOWER. IF WE SUCCEED, IT WILL BE -- IN LARGE
MEASURE -- BECAUSE WE HELD THE LINE AGAINST A NUMBER OF NEW
FEDERAL SPENDING PROGRAMS THAT WOULD HAVE FANNED THE EMBERS
OF INFLATION BACK INTO A RAGING FIRE.

BY USING THE PRESIDENTIAL VETO, THE TAXPAYERS WILL
HAVE BEEN SAVED AN ESTIMATED 6 BILLION DOLLARS BY 1977.

I REALIZE THAT EACH TIME I USE THE VETO THERE WILL BE
SOME WHO COMPLAIN. EACH SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP IN AMERICA --
AND THERE ARE LITERALLY THOUSANDS OF THEM -- HAS TARGETED BENEFITS

THAT IT WANTS FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. EACH HAS ITS

*good faith **
1 ENERGETIC ADVOCATES IN THE CONGRESS AND *well meaning*
1 LOBBYISTS IN THE

COUNTRY.

THIS, OF COURSE, IS THE AMERICAN SYSTEM. I

UNDERSTAND THIS VERY WELL. BUT I WANT TO MAKE SURE THE

AMERICAN PEOPLE UNDERSTAND WHAT'S HAPPENING.

JUST AS EACH CONGRESSMAN HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO

at 2 did that for 25 yrs *more*
REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF HIS STATE AND DISTRICT, I HAVE A
4

DUTY TO SAFEGUARD THE BROADEST NATIONAL INTEREST. I REFER

TO THE INTEREST OF THE 81 MILLION TAXPAYERS WHO MUST PICK UP

THE TAB FOR EACH OF THESE NEW SPENDING BILLS -- EITHER THROUGH

TAXES OR INFLATION -- OR BOTH.

I TAKE THAT ^{very} RESPONSIBILITY SERIOUSLY. THE

AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE A RIGHT TO EXPECT THEIR PRESIDENT TO

PROTECT THEIR INTERESTS. THAT IS ONE REASON THE VETO

POWER EXISTS IN THE CONSTITUTION AND WHY I WILL USE IT WHEN

NECESSARY.

BUT THERE IS ANOTHER IMPORTANT PART OF THE
PRESIDENTIAL VETO WHICH HAS NOT BEEN ADEQUATELY DISCUSSED.

THIS IS THE POSITIVE SIDE OF THE VETO. THE VETO IS NOT A

NEGATIVE, DEAD-END DEVICE. IN MOST CASES, IT IS A

POSITIVE MEANS OF ACHIEVING LEGISLATIVE COMPROMISE AND

IMPROVEMENT -- BETTER LEGISLATION, IN OTHER WORDS.

FROM MY 25 YEARS IN THE CONGRESS, AND THE TIME I
HAVE SINCE SPENT IN THE WHITE HOUSE, I AM CONVINCED THAT THE
FOUNDING FATHERS PUT THE VETO POWER IN OUR CONSTITUTION AS
A VITAL PART OF THE SYSTEM OF CHECKS AND BALANCES.

RECENT HISTORY BEARS THIS OUT. PRESIDENT TRUMAN

EXERCISED THE VETO 250 TIMES AND WAS ONLY OVER-RIDDEN 12 TIMES.

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER USED IT 181 TIMES. HE WAS ONLY

OVER-RIDDEN TWICE. BUT, AGAIN AND AGAIN, THE RESULT OF

THE INITIAL VETO WAS TO BRING THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS

TOGETHER TO WORK OUT A COMPROMISE MEASURE -- USUALLY A SOUNDER,

MORE RESPONSIBLE MEASURE THAN THE ORIGINAL ONE.

JUST RECENTLY, I ASKED THE CONGRESS TO APPROPRIATE

1.9 BILLION DOLLARS FOR SUMMER JOBS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE PLUS *and*

ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR ADDITIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE JOBS TO DEAL

WITH TEMPORARY UNEMPLOYMENT.

unfortunately or unwisely
CONGRESS ADDED 3 BILLION

DOLLARS ON ITS OWN FOR MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES.

I CONSIDERED THESE ADDITIONS TO BE TOO INFLATIONARY.

THEY COULD NOT BE JUSTIFIED. SO I USED THE VETO.

BUT THAT WASN'T THE END OF THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS.

AFTER MOST REPUBLICANS JOINED WITH ^{many} SOME DISCERNING DEMOCRATS

^{submit} TO SUSTAIN MY VETO IN THE HOUSE, THE CONGRESS WORKED OUT A

⁴ MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE WITH ME.

MOST OF THE SO-CALLED "PORK BARREL" PROVISIONS
WERE ELIMINATED AND, THIS SUMMER, SOME 840,000 YOUNG
AMERICANS WILL HAVE THE JOBS I ASKED FOR. IN ADDITION,
THE LEGISLATION WHICH I REQUESTED AND SIGNED INTO LAW LAST
FRIDAY WILL EXTEND THE PUBLIC SERVICE JOBS PROGRAM AND
PROVIDE 1.6 BILLION DOLLARS TO CONTINUE ANOTHER 310,000 JOBS.

SO THE RESULT OF MY PRESIDENTIAL VETO WAS BETTER
LEGISLATION WHICH ALSO ADHERED TO THE ANTI-INFLATION GUIDELINES
I HAD ORIGINALLY PROPOSED.

IN THE CASE OF HOUSING, I SENT AN EXTRAVAGANT,
MULTI-BILLION DOLLAR MEASURE BACK TO THE CONGRESS, WHICH THEN
SUSTAINED MY VETO AND PROCEEDED TO COME UP WITH FAR MORE
RESPONSIBLE LEGISLATION. I SIGNED THIS BETTER BILL INTO LAW
YESTERDAY.

LET ME EMPHASIZE THIS: THE BUSINESS OF GOVERNMENT

IS TO HELP -- NOT INTERFERE WITH -- THE LIVES, THE BUSINESSES,

THE OCCUPATIONS, THE PROFESSIONS AND THE FAMILY LIFE OF THE

AMERICAN PEOPLE. THERE ARE TIMES WHEN THE PRESIDENT'S VETO

MUST BE USED TO KEEP THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FROM OVEREXTENDING

ITSELF AT THE INDIVIDUAL'S EXPENSE -- IN TERMS OF SUCH INFRINGEMENTS

AS LOST DOLLARS AND LOST INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS.

THE EXCESSIVE GROWTH OF FEDERAL SPENDING AND
INTERFERENCE HAS ALREADY INFLICTED AN INCREDIBLE TOLL IN TAXES,
LOSS OF INCENTIVE AND ECONOMIC DAMAGE ONTO THE PUBLIC.
THE ROOTS OF THE PROBLEM DATE BACK MORE THAN A GENERATION.
A TREND WAS SET BY POLITICIANS AND THEORISTS WHO ADVOCATED
MASSIVE FEDERAL SPENDING AS A SURE-FIRE CURE FOR EVERYTHING
THAT AILED US.

IN THE PAST 15 YEARS ALONE, ENORMOUS FEDERAL DEFICITS

WERE USED TO FINANCE UNPRECEDENTED DOMESTIC SPENDING. TOO

MANY OF THESE EXPENDITURES PRODUCED SHORT-TERM BENEFITS FOR

SOME AMERICANS, WHILE INFLECTING LONG-TERM DAMAGE ON ALL

AMERICANS.

MANY OF THOSE WHOM THE PROGRAMS SOUGHT TO HELP --

THE POOR, THE ELDERLY AND THE DISADVANTAGED -- ARE NOW BEARING

THE INFLATIONARY BURDEN OF UNCLE SAM'S 15-YEAR SPENDING SPREE.

AND PEOPLE ARE WAKING UP. THEY ARE BEGINNING

TO REALIZE THAT OUR SOCIETY -- OUR NATIONAL ECONOMIC FAMILY --

MUST LIVE BY THE SAME RULES THAT EVERY OTHER FAMILY DOES.

WE CANNOT SPEND MORE THAN WE EARN WITHOUT ENDLESS BORROWING.

THE BORROWING AND SPENDING SPREE MUST END.

WE MUST STOP FALLING FOR SHORT-TERM SOLUTIONS AT THE COST OF

LONG-TERM SETBACKS.

IN ADDITION TO OVER-SPENDING, RECENT YEARS HAVE SEEN
A DANGEROUS AND COSTLY TREND TOWARD OVER-REGULATION BY THE
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

OVER A PERIOD OF 90 YEARS, WE HAVE GRADUALLY ERECTED
A MASSIVE FEDERAL REGULATORY STRUCTURE. SOME OF THE BASIC
REGULATIONS ARE STILL NECESSARY, BUT MANY ARE NOT. AND THE
WHOLE REGULATORY STRUCTURE IS ENCRUSTED WITH CONTRADICTIONS,
EXCESSES AND RULES THAT HAVE OUTLIVED ANY CONCEIVABLE VALUE.

LET ME GIVE YOU AN EXAMPLE OF HOW OVER-REGULATION
FROM WASHINGTON AFFECTS YOU HERE IN THE OHIO VALLEY. BACK
IN THE DAYS WHEN NATURAL GAS WAS A SEEMINGLY INEXHAUSTIBLE
RESOURCE, THE CONGRESS DECIDED TO REGULATE IT.

SINCE THEN, CONDITIONS HAVE CHANGED DRASTICALLY,
BUT THE CONGRESS HAS DONE NOTHING. AND THIS CONGRESSIONAL
INACTION -- THIS STUBBORN CLINGING TO AN OBSOLETE REGULATION --
HAS RESULTED IN A SERIOUS GAS SHORTAGE THAT IS DAMAGING YOUR
LOCAL BUSINESSES AND INDUSTRIES AND COSTING YOU JOBS.

THE PROBLEM IS BASIC: FOR THE PAST 20 YEARS,
THE FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION HAS SET ARTIFICIALLY LOW PRICES
AT THE WELLHEAD FOR NATURAL GAS SOLD IN INTERSTATE MARKETS.
THE RESULT HAS BEEN THAT GAS PRODUCERS SELL AS MUCH OF THEIR
PRODUCT AS THEY CAN LOCALLY OR INSIDE THEIR STATE BORDERS, AT
FREE MARKET PRICES. REGIONS LIKE THE OHIO VALLEY THAT DO NOT
HAVE ADEQUATE LOCAL SUPPLIES OF NATURAL GAS MUST SUFFER THE
CONSEQUENCES.

STARTING WITH MY STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS, I HAVE
REPEATEDLY URGED THE CONGRESS TO DEREGULATE NATURAL GAS AND
EXPAND THE SUPPLY OF IT NATIONWIDE. BUT THE CONGRESS HAS
DONE NOTHING. SO, THE OHIO RIVER VALLEY AND OTHER AREAS
WILL CONTINUE TO PAY THE PRICE FOR GOVERNMENT OVER-REGULATION.

I WILL CONTINUE TO PROD THE CONGRESS TO ACTION
REMOVING THESE ARCHAIC REGULATIONS THAT MAKE LIFE HARDER FOR
MILLIONS OF AMERICAN WORKERS, BUSINESSMEN AND TAXPAYERS.

LAST WEEK, I MET WITH 24 KEY MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE
TO SEEK MODERNIZATION OF OUR CUMBERSOME REGULATORY AGENCIES.
WE REACHED AGREEMENT IN SOME BROAD AREAS, AND I AM CONFIDENT
THAT, TOGETHER, WE WILL CUT OUT THIS UNNECESSARY RED TAPE
NOW PLAGUING OUR CITIZENS.

I CAN'T THINK OF A BETTER GIFT FOR AMERICA IN OUR
BICENTENNIAL YEAR. AFTER ALL, GOVERNMENT WAS INTENDED TO
HELP US IN THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS -- NOT TO SET UP OBSTACLES.

AMERICA IS ON THE THRESHOLD OF HER THIRD CENTURY
AS A FREE AND INDEPENDENT NATION. ONE HUNDRED AND NINETY-
NINE YEARS AGO TOMORROW, WE OFFICIALLY TOOK THE FIRST GIANT
STEP FROM COLONY TO NATIONHOOD. A BRAVE NEW CHAPTER IN
THE HISTORY OF MANKIND WAS BEGUN ON THAT DAY -- A CHAPTER WE
ARE STILL WRITING, BY WORD AND DEED, IN OUR OWN LIFETIMES,
ALMOST TWO CENTURIES LATER.

THIS GREAT COUNTRY OF OURS STILL HAS SO MANY
WONDERFUL THINGS GOING FOR IT. WE HAVE A FERTILE LAND,
YIELDING UP RICH HARVESTS OF FOOD AND RESOURCES.

WE HAVE AN INDUSTRIAL AND MILITARY MIGHT THAT IS
SECOND TO NONE IN THE WORLD.

WE HAVE A UNIQUE SET OF FREEDOMS HANDED DOWN TO US
BY THE MEN WHO MET IN INDEPENDENCE HALL TWO CENTURIES AGO --
A SET OF FREEDOMS THAT IS STILL VITAL AND ALIVE TODAY.

AND, MOST OF ALL, WE HAVE THE UNSURPASSED NATIONAL
RESOURCE OF THE COURAGE, HARD WORK, MORAL STRENGTH AND FAITH
OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

ON THE EVE OF THE CELEBRATION OF INDEPENDENCE,

I PLEDGE THIS TO THE NATION: TO DO EVERYTHING I CAN TO

MAKE GOVERNMENT THE SERVANT -- AND NOT THE MASTER -- OF THE

214 MILLION FREE MEN AND WOMEN OF AMERICA.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

END OF TEXT

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.....

CLEARANCE FORM FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH MATERIAL

TO: THE PRESIDENT
VIA: ROBERT HARTMANN *RH*
FROM: PAUL A. THEIS *PA*
SUBJECT: Remarks to the White House Field Conference

TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF PRESIDENTIAL USE: _____

4 p.m., Thursday, July 3, Cincinnati, Ohio

SPEECHWRITER: Bakshian

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BASIC RESEARCH/SPEECH MATERIAL SUPPLIED BY:

Jeff Eves

CLEARED BY (Please initial):

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- (X) CONGRESSIONAL/PUBLIC LIAISON (Marsh) Jm
- (X) PRESS (Nessen) W. Greener
- () LEGAL (Buchen) _____
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