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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THANK YOU, JOHN (JOHN DWYER, CUYAHOGA GOP CHAIRMAN)
INTRODUCES YOU

GOVERNOR RHODES

SENATOR TAFT

REP. BILL STANTON

REP. RALPH REGULA

MAYOR PERK

MY OLD FRIEND, RAY BLISS

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...

CUYAHOGA GOP DINNER

THURSDAY, JULY 3, 1975

MR. PRESIDENT -

SOMEWHERE IN YOUR SPEECH

YOU MAY WISH TO MENTION THE FACT

THAT JIM LYNN IS FROM CLEVELAND.

FIRST, I WANT TO TELL YOU HOW GRATEFUL I AM THAT YOU'VE
MADE THIS EVENING SO DELIGHTFULLY INFORMAL. THE WORD "SUPPER"
HAS SUCH A NICE RELAXED RING TO IT. PEOPLE SOMETIMES SEEM TO
GET UPTIGHT AT DINNERS -- SELDOM AT SUPPERS. IN FACT, I STILL
FEEL FOR THE MASTER OF CEREMONIES AT AN INDIANAPOLIS DINNER I ATTENDED
LAST YEAR.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE PROGRAM, SO THAT WE COULD
KEEP TO OUR SCHEDULE, THE M.C. HAD TO ASK MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE
TO STAY IN THEIR SEATS UNTIL THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY HAD LEFT.
BUT HIS ACTUAL WORDS DIDN'T QUITE COME OUT THAT WAY. WHAT
HE SAID WAS, "LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THIS CONCLUDES OUR PROGRAM
BUT WOULD YOU PLEASE REMAIN IN YOUR SEATS -- WHILE THE PRESIDENT
IS REMOVED FROM THE HALL!"

I AM DELIGHTED TO BE HERE IN CLEVELAND AND IN THE GREAT
BUCKEYE STATE ONCE AGAIN. AS ALWAYS, YOU'VE GIVEN ME A VERY
WARM WELCOME, AND I CAN SEE THAT I AM AMONG FRIENDS HERE
TONIGHT.

EVEN THOUGH THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF OHIO AND
CUYAHOGA (KI-AH-HOE-GAH) COUNTY IS SPONSORING THIS GREAT
INDEPENDENCE FESTIVAL SUPPER, I UNDERSTAND IT ISN'T REALLY SUPPOSED
TO BE A POLITICAL EVENT.

SO I'M NOT GOING TO REMIND THE SO-CALLED POLITICAL
EXPERTS -- THE ONES WHO WERE SAYING NOT LONG AGO THAT REPUBLICANS
WERE AN ENDANGERED SPECIES -- THAT THERE ARE AT LEAST 1,300
REPUBLICANS HERE TONIGHT -- ALIVE, WELL AND ENTHUSIASTIC.

AND I'M NOT GOING TO TAKE THIS PARTICULAR OPPORTUNITY
TO URGE THE PEOPLE OF CLEVELAND TO RE-ELECT MAYOR RALPH PERK,
WHO IN HIS FIRST YEAR AS MAYOR REDUCED CRIME IN THIS CITY BY
26 PERCENT AND WHO HAS RESTORED FINANCIAL STABILITY TO THE CITY'S
GOVERNMENT.

AND -- TONIGHT -- I'M NOT GOING TO ENDORSE THE
RE-ELECTION OF OTHER OUTSTANDING REPUBLICAN MAYORS LIKE
JACK HUNTER OF YOUNGSTOWN, JOHN BALLARD OF AKRON,
STANLEY CMICK (KA-MIK) OF CANTON, AND TOM MOODY OF COLUMBUS.

AND FAR BE IT FROM ME TO SAY THIS EVENING WHAT A
GREAT JOB JIM RHODES IS DOING AS GOVERNOR OF THIS GREAT STATE,
OR COMPLIMENT HIM ON HIS OUTSTANDING PROGRAM TO BRING NEW
JOBS TO OHIO THROUGH NEW INDUSTRY, INCREASED HOUSING
CONSTRUCTION, IMPROVED TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS AND URBAN
RENOVATION.

AND I'M NOT EVEN GOING TO MENTION BOB TAFT, ONE OF
THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND MOST RESPECTED MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES
SENATE -- A MAN WHO KNOWS HOW TO GET THINGS DONE, WHETHER
IT'S A NEW NATIONAL PARK FOR OHIO OR REFORMATION OF THE
REGULATORY AGENCIES OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

AND I'M NOT GOING TO SPEAK ANY WORDS OF PRAISE
TONIGHT FOR THE MAGNIFICENT REPRESENTATION THE PEOPLE OF OHIO
ARE RECEIVING IN WASHINGTON FROM MEMBERS OF CONGRESS LIKE
BILL STANTON, WHO IS HERE TONIGHT, AND THE FOURTEEN OTHER
OUTSTANDING REPUBLICAN CONGRESSMEN FROM OHIO.

UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT WOULD NOT BE

APPROPRIATE TO SAY ON THIS OCCASION THAT THE REPUBLICAN PARTY
STANDS FOR THE SAME THINGS MOST AMERICANS BELIEVE IN + PERSONAL
FREEDOM, LOCAL CONTROL OVER LOCAL CONCERNS, A STRONG NATIONAL
DEFENSE, FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY, FREE ENTERPRISE AND RESPONSIVE
GOVERNMENT.

AND I AM NOT GOING TO PREDICT TONIGHT THAT THIS
MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND THIS GROWING PUBLIC SUPPORT WILL
GIVE THE REPUBLICAN PARTY GREAT VICTORIES IN 1976, HERE IN
OHIO AND ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

NO, SIR. // IF YOU WANT TO HEAR A POLITICAL
SPEECH, YOU'RE IN THE WRONG PLACE TONIGHT. THERE'S NOBODY
HERE BUT A LOT OF GOOD AMERICANS CELEBRATING THEIR INDEPENDENCE.

A CENTURY AGO, IN 1876, AS AMERICA WAS OBSERVING ITS

FIRST HUNDRED YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE, A SON OF OHIO --

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES -- WAS THE REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FOR

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

HAYES WON THAT 1876 ELECTION, BUT THE CAMPAIGN
WAS MARRED BY BITTER PARTISANSHIP, WITH EVEN THE OUTCOME
OF THE ELECTION CAST IN DOUBT BY POLITICAL CHARGES AND
COUNTERCHARGES.

PRESIDENT HAYES, REALIZING THAT THIS KIND OF

EXCESSIVE PARTISANSHIP COULD PRODUCE A STALEMATE IN GOVERNMENT

AS WELL AS DISCORD IN THE NATION, SAID IN HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS:

"HE SERVES HIS PARTY BEST WHO SERVES THE COUNTRY BEST."

TONIGHT, AS WE ENTER OUR 200TH YEAR OF INDEPENDENCE,
WE IN THIS COUNTRY HAVE MORE THAN ENOUGH CHALLENGES TO CONSUME
OUR GREAT ENERGIES AND AMBITIONS WITHOUT GETTING BOGGED DOWN
IN POLITICAL STALEMATE AND DISCORD.

WE MUST BE ABOUT THE BUSINESS OF SERVING OUR
COUNTRY BY GETTING THINGS DONE, MAKING THE HARD DECISIONS IN
BOTH DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICY, MOVING THIS COUNTRY FORWARD.

THOSE HARD DECISIONS HAVE INVOLVED A SERIES OF VETOES
OF UNWISE AND OVER-PRICED LEGISLATION PASSED BY THE CONGRESS.

I REALIZE THAT EACH TIME I USE THE VETO THERE WILL BE
SOME WHO COMPLAIN -- FOR INSTANCE, THE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --
AND THERE ARE LITERALLY THOUSANDS OF THEM -- AND THEIR ADVOCATES
IN THE CONGRESS.

BUT JUST AS EACH CONGRESSMAN HAS A RESPONSIBILITY
TO REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF HIS STATE AND DISTRICT, I HAVE
A 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 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.

IN FACT, MY USE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL VETO OVER THE

LAST TEN MONTHS ALONE WILL SAVE AMERICAN TAXPAYERS SIX BILLION

DOLLARS BY 1977.

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

THE POSITIVE SIDE. 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.

FOR EXAMPLE, I RECENTLY ASKED THE CONGRESS TO

APPROPRIATE 1.9 BILLION DOLLARS FOR SUMMER JOBS FOR YOUNG

and
PEOPLE ~~PLUS~~ ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR ADDITIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE

JOBS TO DEAL WITH TEMPORARY UNEMPLOYMENT. 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 SOME DISCERNING DEMOCRATS

TO SUSTAIN MY VETO IN THE HOUSE, THE CONGRESS WORKED OUT A

MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE WITH ME.

THIS SYSTEM OF CONSTITUTIONAL CHECKS AND BALANCES,
WHICH OUR FOUNDING FATHERS SO CAREFULLY CONSTRUCTED, IS
ESSENTIAL TO GOOD GOVERNMENT IN THIS COUNTRY.

IN A LARGER SENSE, ANOTHER BASIC TENET OF OUR
FOUNDING FATHERS -- INDEPENDENCE -- CAN BE THE INSPIRATION
FOR OUR POLICIES HERE AT HOME, JUST AS "INTERDEPENDENCE"
IS THE FOUNDATION OF OUR POLICIES ABROAD.

AS A FIRST STEP, I BELIEVE IT IS TIME FOR US TO
DECLARE OUR INDEPENDENCE FROM GOVERNMENTAL BUREAUCRACIES
GROWN TOO LARGE, TOO POWERFUL, TOO COSTLY, TOO REMOTE
AND YET TOO DEEPLY INVOLVED IN OUR DAY-TO-DAY LIVES.

EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE MANY THINGS GOVERNMENT
MUST DO FOR PEOPLE, THERE ARE MANY MORE THINGS THAT PEOPLE
WOULD RATHER DO FOR THEMSELVES.

WITH THE DEPRESSION OF THE 1930'S BEGAN THE POLICY
OF CREATING A NEW LAYER OF FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY FOR EVERY
PROBLEM IN AMERICA AND THEN SPENDING MILLIONS -- AND THEN
BILLIONS -- OF DOLLARS IN THE HOPE THAT MONEY ALONE WOULD
SOLVE THE PROBLEM.

BUT THE DEPRESSION POLICIES OF THE 1930'S --
ON WHICH DEMOCRATIC-CONTROLLED CONGRESSES HAVE BASED THEIR
PROGRAMS EVER SINCE -- CANNOT SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF THE 1970'S.

IF THOSE POLICIES WERE EFFECTIVE IN THEIR DAY,
THEY ARE OLD AND TIRED AND INEFFECTIVE NOW.

THE GREATEST MISTAKE THIS COUNTRY CAN MAKE IS TO
TURN ITS BACK ON ITS OWN NATIVE GENIUS, ITS CREATIVITY,
ITS INDUSTRY AND ITS COMPASSION, AND LOOK SOLELY TO THE
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR SOLUTIONS OR SALVATION.

WHAT WE NEED IN THIS COUNTRY IS NOT A NEW DEAL

BUT A FRESH START.

WHAT WE NEED IS NOT MORE FEDERAL

CONTROL, BUT THE ADVENTURE OF PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT AND

THE REBIRTH OF THE SELF-CONFIDENT PIONEERING SPIRIT THAT

MADE AMERICA THE GREAT NATION IT IS TODAY.

THE GOVERNMENT WILL DO ITS PART, OF COURSE,

DECLARING OUR INDEPENDENCE FROM TOO MUCH GOVERNMENT

DOES NOT MEAN SOUNDING A RETREAT FROM THE LEGITIMATE

RESPONSIBILITIES WHICH GOVERNMENT MUST AND OUGHT TO ASSUME.

QUITE THE CONTRARY, TIGHTENED SPENDING MEANS MORE FUNDS

WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR ESSENTIAL PROGRAMS.

IF WE CAN PUT GOVERNMENT TO WORK DOING WHAT

WE WANT IT TO DO, WE CAN KEEP IT FROM DOING WHAT IT HAS

NO BUSINESS DOING. MY AIM IS TO DECLARE AMERICA'S

INDEPENDENCE FROM INFLATION SPAWNED BY DECADES OF

GOVERNMENT OVERSPENDING.

AND, AS PART OF THE BARGAIN, WE CAN DECLARE
OUR INDEPENDENCE FROM HIGHER AND HIGHER TAXES, AND SPEND
A LITTLE MORE OF THE MONEY WE EARN THE WAY WE WANT TO SPEND IT --
AND MAYBE EVEN SAVE A LITTLE FOR A CHANGE.

IF WE CAN STIMULATE PRIVATE ENTERPRISE WITHOUT ADDICTING

IT TO CONTINUOUS GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION, IF WE CAN ESTABLISH

GUIDELINES FOR BUSINESS WITHOUT OVER-REGULATION, IF WE CAN

UNLEASH THE GREAT POWER OF AMERICAN FREE ENTERPRISE AND GET THE

GREAT AMERICAN LABOR FORCE BACK TO WORK AT FULL STRENGTH IN A

SOUND AND FREE ECONOMY. . . THEN WE CAN DECLARE OUR INDEPENDENCE

FROM RECESSION AND HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT HERE IN THE UNITED STATES.

WE CAN DECLARE AMERICA'S INDEPENDENCE FROM THE FEAR

AND THE ALARMING GROWTH OF CRIME.

WE CAN DECLARE AMERICA'S

INDEPENDENCE FROM FOREIGN OIL AND ENERGY SOURCES.

I AM CONFIDENT THAT, TOGETHER, WE CAN BRING FORTH

RICH NEW HARVESTS FROM THIS LAND OF OPPORTUNITY.

WE CAN

INVITE ALL AMERICANS -- WHATEVER THEIR RACE OR SEX OR STATION IN

LIFE -- TO SIT AT THE TABLE OF AMERICA'S BOUNTY AND PARTAKE MORE

FULLY OF ITS ABUNDANCE.

I TRULY SEE AMERICA'S FUTURE AS BRIGHT WITH HOPE AND
PROMISE. I SEE A NATION THAT WORKS. I SEE PEOPLE TAKING
PRIDE IN THEIR WORK AND IN THEIR LIVES.

I SEE A NATIONAL GOVERNMENT THAT RESPONDS TO PEOPLE'S
NEEDS BUT DOES NOT ORDER PEOPLE'S LIVES. AND DON'T FORGET THAT

A GOVERNMENT BIG ENOUGH TO GIVE US EVERYTHING WE WANT IS A
GOVERNMENT BIG ENOUGH TO TAKE AWAY EVERYTHING WE HAVE.

I SEE A RE-EMERGENCE OF THE OLD VALUES -- VALUES LIKE

SIMPLE HONESTY AND COMMON DECENCY -- AS NEW NATIONAL RESOURCES

WITH WHICH TO BUILD A NOBLER, SAFER, MORE SUCCESSFUL SOCIETY.

THERE IS NO REASON IN THE WORLD WE CAN'T LIVE THE

KIND OF LIFE WE WANT: A LIFE OF OPTIMISM AND FAITH, A LIFE

OF CLOSE KINSHIP WITH OUR NEIGHBORS, A LIFE WITH ROOM FOR JOY,

A LIFE OF PEACE WITHIN OURSELVES AND WITH THOSE ABOUT US.

I BELIEVE IN AMERICA. I BELIEVE IN THE AMERICAN

PEOPLE. AND I BELIEVE THAT, AS WE START OUR THIRD CENTURY OF

INDEPENDENCE, WE CAN TAKE RENEWED CONFIDENCE IN OUR FUTURE --

A FUTURE THAT CALLS US TO NEW ACHIEVEMENT AND GLORY AND GREATNESS.

END OF TEXT