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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

REMARKS TO THE NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1975

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

-- THANK YOU, MR. KING , MR. STOTZ

(Ed King, President, New England Council)

-- DISTINGUISHED GOVERNORS:

(Dukakis, Longley, Salmon, Grasso, Noel, and Thompson)

-- DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS:

Conte (Conte and Heckler)

-- MEMBERS OF THE NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL

-- MY OLD FRIEND JOHN McCORMICK

-- LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

I AM HONORED TO BE WITH YOU AT THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL MARKING A HALF CENTURY OF
REGIONAL PROGRESS. YOUR COUNCIL HAS GENERATED MANY
INSTANCES OF MUTUAL COOPERATION THAT TYPIFY THE YANKEE SPIRIT
OF PRACTICAL PROBLEM SOLVING.

NEW ENGLAND HAS HAD ITS UPS AND DOWNS SINCE THIS

ORGANIZATION WAS FOUNDED, BUT HOPEFULLY WE HAVE STARTED

ON ANOTHER "UP" NOT ONLY FOR NEW ENGLAND BUT FOR THE

ENTIRE COUNTRY.

THE PRESENCE HERE TODAY OF SIX DISTINGUISHED

GOVERNORS, MY GOOD FRIENDS: GOVERNOR DUKAKIS (DO-KAC-KISS)

OF MASSACHUSETTS; GOVERNOR GRASSO (GRASS-O) OF CONNECTICUT;

GOVERNOR LONGLEY (LONG-LEE) OF MAINE; GOVERNOR NOEL (NO-EL) OF

RHODE ISLAND; GOVERNOR SALMON (SAMON) OF VERMONT; AND

GOVERNOR THOMSON (TOM-SON) OF NEW HAMPSHIRE IS AN

ADDED PLEASURE.

I HAVE MET WITH YOUR GOVERNORS IN WASHINGTON AND
INDIVIDUALLY ON MY VISITS TO YOUR BEAUTIFUL STATES FOR
BICENTENNIAL -- AND OTHER PURPOSES. I HAVE TRIED TO
EDUCATE MYSELF ABOUT THEIR PROBLEMS AND CAN ASSURE YOU
THEY HAVE BEEN VERY VIGOROUS INSTRUCTORS.

WHILE THE PROBLEMS OF EACH STATE ARE DIFFERENT,
EVEN IN NEW ENGLAND WHICH HAS PRESERVED ITS UNIQUE IDENTITY
SINCE COLONIAL TIMES, THE EXISTENCE OF THIS COUNCIL IS PROOF
OF HOW MANY PROBLEMS YOU HAVE IN COMMON.

YOU DEMONSTRATE THE ADVANTAGE OF DEALING WITH THEM WITH
COMMON RESOURCES AND OLD-FASHIONED COMMON SENSE.

YOU PROVIDE A SHOWCASE OF COOPERATION THAT OTHER PARTS
OF OUR COUNTRY CAN WELL ENVY.

OF THE MANY TOPICS THAT I MIGHT DISCUSS WITH YOU

THAT ARE OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO NEW ENGLAND, I AM

STRONGLY TEMPTED TO SPEAK OF TAXATION IN THE IMMEDIATE

VICINITY OF BOSTON HARBOR WHERE AMERICAN PATRIOTS FIRST

DEMONSTRATED WHAT TO DO ABOUT EXCESSIVE AND UNFAIR TAXES WITH

DEEDS, NOT WORDS.

FEDERAL TAXES ARE TOO HIGH, AND AS YOU KNOW I HAVE PROPOSED

A 28 BILLION DOLLAR INCOME TAX REDUCTION FOR THE NEXT YEAR --

PROVIDING CONGRESS WILL COUPLE IT WITH A 28 BILLION DOLLAR

REDUCTION IN THE GROWTH OF FEDERAL SPENDING.

-9- *Some* preferring a cut in taxes
rather *than* *reducing* a \$50 billion growth
in spending

CONGRESS SEEMS A LITTLE COOL TO MY PROPOSAL, BUT I

WOULD MAKE THIS NONPARTISAN OBSERVATION TO THE DESCENDANTS

OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE BOSTON TEA PARTY: IF THEY WON'T

DO ANYTHING ABOUT YOUR TAXATION MAYBE YOU OUGHT TO DO

SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR REPRESENTATION.

I COULD ALSO TALK TO YOU ABOUT ENERGY AND THE
ECONOMY, BECAUSE THEY ARE INSEPARABLE, AND BOTH ARE ACUTE
PROBLEMS IN THIS AREA. IT HAS BEEN MY CONTINUOUS EFFORT
TO KEEP THE UNIQUE SITUATION OF NEW ENGLAND IN MIND AS WE
ENDEAVOR TO REDUCE OUR NATIONAL DEPENDENCE ON UNRELIABLE
FOREIGN OIL.

NEW ENGLAND HAS A UNIQUE ENERGY PROBLEM IN YOUR

DEPENDENCE ON OIL FOR HEAT AND POWER. IT IS MY HOPE

THAT YOU TAKE A NEW LOOK AT THE BILL I RECENTLY SUBMITTED FOR A

FEDERAL ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AUTHORITY.

IT WOULD HELP NEW ENGLAND, ESPECIALLY BY SUPPLEMENTING
AND ENCOURAGING PRIVATE CAPITAL INVESTMENT TO MEET YOUR
GROWING ENERGY NEEDS.

NEW ENGLAND'S PROPOSAL FOR AN ENERGY RESEARCH

AND DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE IS BEING CLOSELY STUDIED.

I AM IMPRESSED WITH YOUR PLANS TO TAP SUCH ALTERNATIVE

ENERGY SOURCES AS SOLAR, WIND, OCEAN THERMAL

GRADIENTS, WAVES, AND TIDES.

I BELIEVE NEW ENGLAND SHOULD SUPPORT NATURAL GAS

DE-REGULATION.

WHILE NEW ENGLAND DOES NOT CONSUME MUCH

NATURAL GAS, IT HAS MUCH TO LOSE BY KEEPING PRICES

in interstate commerce

ARTIFICIALLY LOW.

YOUR TRADITIONAL NEW ENGLAND INDUSTRIES,

SUCH AS PAPER, LEATHER GOODS, TEXTILES, ELECTRONICS,

AND PLASTICS ARE HIGHLY ENERGY-INTENSIVE.

BUT THE HIGH COST OF OIL AND ELECTRICITY IS STEADILY DRIVING

THESE INDUSTRIES OUT OF YOUR REGION.

INDUSTRY IS MOVING

WHERE GAS IS ABUNDANT AND RELATIVELY CHEAPER ALTHOUGH

UNCONTROLLED.

ALTHOUGH MOST ECONOMIC INDICATORS SUGGEST THAT
WE HAVE ALREADY BEEN ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY FOR SIX MONTHS,
I RECOGNIZE THAT SUCH STATISTICS ARE SMALL COMFORT TO AMERICANS
WHO ARE STILL WITHOUT WORK IN AREAS OF HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT
SUCH AS NEW ENGLAND.

WE MUST NOT ALLOW A RESURGENCE OF INFLATION, WHICH ROBS

BOTH THE EMPLOYED AND THE JOBLESS. I AM DETERMINED

TO KEEP INFLATION UNDER CONTROL BY EVERY MEANS POSSIBLE,

INCLUDING MY VETO POWER OVER INFLATIONARY FEDERAL SPENDING.

BUT I HAVE DECIDED TO TALK TODAY ABOUT ANOTHER TOPIC,
ONE OF SUPREME IMPORTANCE TO ALL AMERICANS AND INDEED THE WORLD.
THAT IS THE NATIONAL SECURITY POSTURE AND POLICY OF THE
UNITED STATES AS I SEE IT.

IT IS ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS DEFENSE
IN NEW ENGLAND, AND IN MASSACHUSETTS, AND IN BOSTON,
BECAUSE IT WAS HERE THAT AMERICANS FIRST TOOK UP ARMS IN
DEFENSE OF THEIR PERSONAL LIBERTIES AND THEIR NATIONAL
INDEPENDENCE.

MY LAST VISIT HERE WAS ON THE TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE SIGNAL FROM OLD NORTH CHURCH TO PAUL REVERE AND HIS

COMPANIONS WHO CARRIED THE WARNING TO THE EMBATTLED FARMERS

OF LEXINGTON AND CONCORD.

I SAID THEN AND I SAY AGAIN:

"FROM A NATION VIRTUALLY ALONE, AMERICA IS NOW

ALLIED WITH MANY FREE NATIONS IN COMMON DEFENSE

WORLD LEADERSHIP WAS THRUST UPON AMERICA AND WE HAVE ASSUMED

IT.

IN ACCEPTING THAT ROLE, THE UNITED STATES HAS ASSUMED
RESPONSIBILITY FROM WHICH IT CANNOT, AND WILL NOT, RETREAT.
FREE NATIONS NEED THE UNITED STATES, AND WE NEED FREE NATIONS."

THE NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY OF THIS COUNTRY,

LONG A SOLID NON-PARTISAN POLICY AND THE POLICY I HAVE SUPPORTED

ALL OF MY ADULT LIFE, IS THAT WEAKNESS INVITES WAR, THAT

STRENGTH IS THE ONLY SURE FOUNDATION FOR PEACE, AND THAT

AMERICA IN CONCERT WITH OUR ALLIES MUST MAINTAIN A DEFENSE

CAPABILITY SECOND TO NONE.

THAT POLICY HAS NOT CHANGED

AND WILL NOT CHANGE.

I REITERATE THIS POLICY BECAUSE THERE HAS BEEN SOME
CRITICISM AND SPECULATION, FOLLOWING MY ANNOUNCEMENT ON
MONDAY OF SEVERAL NEW APPOINTMENTS AMONG MY TOP NATIONAL
SECURITY ADVISORS, THAT SUCH PERSONNEL CHANGES SIGNAL A
POLICY CHANGE BY THE UNITED STATES IN THIS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT
AND SENSITIVE AREA.

I WANT TO BE ABSOLUTELY SURE THAT THESE DOMESTIC POLITICAL

POTSHOTS ARE NOT 'HEARD ROUND THE WORLD.' OUR ALLIES

AND OUR ADVERSARIES MUST NOT BE CONFUSED OR MISLED.

THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE IN MY LIFELONG DEVOTION TO AMERICA'S

STRENGTH AND VIGILANCE AS WE SEEK A SAFER AND SANER WORLD.

THERE IS NOT NOW, \ THERE HAS NEVER BEEN, \ AND

THERE WILL NOT BE AS LONG AS I AM PRESIDENT, ANY SOFTNESS OR

WEAKNESS IN MY ADMINISTRATION ON THE SUBJECT OF THE

NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES AND ITS VITAL SECURITY

INTERESTS AT HOME AND ABROAD.

AMONG THE NEW MEMBERS OF MY ADMINISTRATION TEAM

ARE DON RUMSFELD, WHOSE DEDICATION TO A STRONG DEFENSE POLICY

WAS AMPLY DEMONSTRATED IN THE CONGRESS AND AS OUR

REPRESENTATIVE TO NATO, AND GEORGE BUSH, WHO WAS BORN IN

CONNECTICUT AND NOW HOLDS AN EXTREMELY SENSITIVE POST AS

HEAD OF OUR MISSION IN PEKING.

YOUR OWN FORMER LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR AND

ATTORNEY GENERAL, ELLIOT RICHARDSON, WHO HAS SERVED AS

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE HIMSELF, WILL BECOME SECRETARY OF

COMMERCE.

MOST SIGNIFICANTLY, WHEN THE UNITED STATES SENATE
CONFIRMED AMBASSADORS RUMSFELD, BUSH AND RICHARDSON
FOR KEY FOREIGN POLICY POSTS AT NATO, THE UNITED NATIONS AND
THE UNITED KINGDOM, IT WAS WITHOUT ANY DISSENT.

THE POLICY WHICH MY ADMINISTRATION HAS FOLLOWED,

AND WILL FOLLOW IN THE FUTURE IS CONSISTENT, CLEAR, AND

UNCHANGED.

LET ME DISCUSS THE ELEMENTS OF THIS POLICY

WITH YOU.

HISTORY TEACHES ONE UNAVOIDABLE LESSON.

NO NATION CAN PRESERVE ITS NATIONAL INTERESTS UNLESS IT CAN
DEFEND THEM. IN AN ERA OF BALLISTIC MISSILES AND

NUCLEAR WARHEADS, WHEN WEAPONS BRIDGE CONTINENTS IN MINUTES,

AMERICA'S DEFENSE REQUIRES THE UTMOST OF OUR INDUSTRIAL SKILLS
AND TECHNOLOGICAL GENIUS.

THE TIME WHEN AMERICA COULD SPEND ONE OR TWO YEARS GEARING

UP FOR WAR IS GONE FOREVER.

TODAY OUR SECURITY,

OUR PROSPERITY, INDEED THE VERY SURVIVAL OF THE IDEALS

FOR WHICH THIS COUNTRY STANDS DEPENDS ON OUR ABILITY TO

COUNTER ANY POTENTIAL AGGRESSOR ON LITTLE MORE THAN A

MOMENT'S NOTICE.

IN MY YEARS OF GOVERNMENT SERVICE, I HAVE BEEN

SECOND TO NONE IN MY FIRM AND CONSISTENT SUPPORT FOR A

POWERFUL NATIONAL DEFENSE.

AS CONGRESSMAN, VICE PRESIDENT,

AND AS PRESIDENT I HAVE RESISTED THE POWERFUL ECONOMIC

AND POLITICAL PRESSURES TO CRIPPLE OUR DEFENSE BUDGET.

YOU CAN BE CERTAIN I HAVE JUST BEGUN TO FIGHT. AMERICA'S

ARMED FORCES TODAY ARE SECOND TO NONE. AND I WILL TAKE

WHATEVER STEPS ARE NECESSARY TO SEE THAT THEY REMAIN

SECOND TO NONE.

I'M WORRIED AND YOU SHOULD BE WORRIED ABOUT

THE DEFENSE SITUATION IN CONGRESS TODAY. LAST JANUARY,

I SUBMITTED A DEFENSE BUDGET CALLING FOR ~~EXPENDITURES~~ DURING

~~THIS FISCAL YEAR OF~~ 97.8 BILLION DOLLARS. *in fiscal year 1976*

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CUT THIS BY 7.6 BILLION DOLLARS.

THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE HAS VOTED TO RESTORE

ONLY 564 MILLION DOLLARS OF THIS CUT. UNDER THE

MOST OPTIMISTIC CIRCUMSTANCES, THERE COULD BE A REDUCTION

IN OUR DEFENSE BUDGET OF MORE THAN SEVEN BILLION DOLLARS!

IN MY JUDGMENT, THAT BIG A REDUCTION IS TOO

MUCH. IF THE UNITED STATES IS GOING TO REMAIN STRONG IT

WILL REQUIRE THE COOPERATION OF THE CONGRESS. I DEPLORE

WHAT THE CONGRESS HAS DONE TO THE DEFENSE BUDGET TO DATE AND

I URGE THAT THE SENATE AS A WHOLE RESTORE THOSE ESSENTIAL FUNDS

THAT THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT HAS DEEMED VITAL TO OUR SECURITY.

IT'S NOT JUST THIS YEAR'S CUTS THAT WORRY ME.

LET'S LOOK AT THE TREND:

10
TEN YEARS AGO, EXPENDITURES

41
FOR DEFENSE REPRESENTED FORTY-ONE PERCENT OF THE TOTAL FEDERAL

5 36
BUDGET; FIVE YEARS LATER, IT WAS THIRTY-SIX PERCENT.

FOR THE FISCAL 1976 BUDGET, DEFENSE REPRESENTS APPROXIMATELY

27
TWENTY-SEVEN PERCENT.

As Defense expenditures go down as a percentage of total federal expenditures - domestic program spending has gone up - a bigger percentage of federal outlays

DEFENSE IS THE ONLY PART OF THE FEDERAL BUDGET THE
CONGRESS CUTS WITH A VENGEANCE. IF THIS TREND CONTINUES
TO THE YEAR 2,000, ACCORDING TO MATHEMATICAL PROJECTIONS,
THE UNITED STATES DEFENSE WILL BE REDUCED TO ONE SOLDIER
CARRYING ONE RIFLE -- JUST LIKE THE STATUE AT CONCORD BRIDGE.

AMERICA'S SECURITY RESTS NOT ONLY IN OUR
STRENGTH AND PREPAREDNESS, HOWEVER, BUT IN THAT OF
OUR ALLIES AS WELL -- AND ON THE SOLIDITY OF OUR TIES
WITH THEM.

OUR ALLIANCES REINFORCE GLOBAL STABILITY AND MAKE THE

WORLD A MORE SECURE PLACE; THEY REINFORCE OUR OWN

STRENGTH.

IN DEALING WITH OUR ALLIES, MY OBJECTIVE HAS BEEN

TO BUILD ON THE UNITY WE HAVE ACHIEVED TOGETHER OVER THE PAST

30

THIRTY YEARS

{

AND TO EXPAND OUR COOPERATION STILL FURTHER.

MY EFFORTS HAVE BEEN WELL RECEIVED AMONG OUR FRIENDS.

15

LAST MAY, I ATTENDED A SUMMIT MEETING OF THE FIFTEEN MEMBER
NATIONS OF NATO, WHERE WE REPLEDGED OURSELVES TO THE
COMMON DEFENSE.

~~_____~~

NEXT WEEK, I WILL MEET WITH THE LEADERS OF BRITAIN, FRANCE,

WEST GERMANY, ITALY AND JAPAN -- NATIONS WHICH, ALONG

WITH OUR OWN, REPRESENT ABOUT HALF OF THE TOTAL WORLD

TRADING VOLUME.

THESE MEETINGS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL REFLECT A NEW

INTENSITY OF ALLIED COOPERATION.

THE INDUSTRIALIZED

DEMOCRACIES OF THE WORLD SHARE COMMON VALUES, A COMMON

POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SYSTEM, AND A COMMON INTEREST

IN AN OPEN AND COOPERATIVE WORLD ORDER.

TODAY, AS PERHAPS NEVER BEFORE, THESE NATIONS PERCEIVE

THE NEED TO REVITALIZE THE BONDS BETWEEN US, NOT ONLY

MILITARILY BUT ECONOMICALLY.

THE POLICIES OF FIVE AMERICAN PRESIDENTS BEFORE ME

FOR STRONG NATIONAL DEFENSE, | FOR REDUCTION OF EAST-WEST

TENSIONS | AND THE THREAT OF THERMO-NUCLEAR WAR, | AND FOR THE

BOLSTERING OF OUR ESSENTIAL ALLIES HAVE HAD THE UNSWERVING AND

NONPARTISAN SUPPORT OF THE CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

I WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK THAT SUPPORT, THE KIND EXEMPLIFIED

FOR SO MANY YEARS BY MY DEAR FRIEND, SPEAKER

JOHN MC CORMACK.

WITHOUT A CLEAR CONSENSUS AMONG THE 214 MILLION

AMERICANS, THE UNITED STATES COULD NOT CONTINUE AS THE

CHAMPION OF FREEDOM AND PEACE IN THE WORLD. THE ABILITY OF

A PRESIDENT TO CARRY OUT HIS CONSTITUTIONAL DUTIES WOULD

BE DANGEROUSLY DIMINISHED.

THE TEMPTATION TO POTENTIAL ADVERSARIES TO TAKE ADVANTAGE
OF ANY APPARENT WEAKNESS, DISUNITY AND INDECISION COULD
BECOME IRRESISTIBLE. WITH YOUR SUPPORT AND THAT OF
OTHER AMERICANS, MY ADMINISTRATION WILL GIVE THEM NO
SUCH TEMPTATION.

OUR POTENTIAL ADVERSARIES ARE CERTAINLY NOT

REDUCING THE LEVELS OF THEIR MILITARY POWER. THE

UNITED STATES WILL REMAIN ALERT AND STRONG.

PEACE IS THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF THE FOREIGN

AND DEFENSE POLICIES OF THE UNITED STATES. IT IS VERY

EASY TO BE A COLD WARRIOR - ESPECIALLY IN PEACETIME.

BUT IT WOULD BE IRRESPONSIBLE FOR A PRESIDENT TO ENGAGE IN
CONFRONTATIONS WHEN CONSULTATIONS WOULD ADVANCE THE
CAUSE OF PEACE. AS I SAID IN HELSINKI, PEACE IS
CRUCIAL BUT FREEDOM MUST ALWAYS COME FIRST. TODAY,
I REITERATE THAT PRIORITY.

WE WILL, THEREFORE, CONTINUE TO SEEK MEANINGFUL
ARMS AGREEMENTS, ON A TWO-WAY STREET, WITH CREDIBLE STRENGTH
OF OUR OWN AND IN CONCERT WITH OUR ALLIES. NOR WILL WE
BE HURRIED INTO A BAD AGREEMENT. ANY AGREEMENTS WE REACH
MUST BE VERIFIABLE.

AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT TO ANY REAL ARMS LIMITATION,
WHETHER OF STRATEGIC SYSTEMS OR CONVENTIONAL FORCES, IS
OUR INTELLIGENCE CAPABILITY. SWEEPING ATTACKS AND
EXPOSES OF OUR INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES JEOPARDIZE VITAL
FUNCTIONS NECESSARY TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY.

I DID NOT TAKE THE SACRED OATH OF OFFICE TO STAND BY PASSIVELY
WHILE THE INTELLIGENCE SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES IS
UNILATERALLY DISMANTLED.

I CERTAINLY DO NOT CONDONE IMPROPER ACTIVITIES
OR VIOLATIONS OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF AMERICANS
BY ANY PERSONNEL OR AGENCY OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

ON THE BASIS OF COMPREHENSIVE STUDIES BY THE ROCKEFELLER
COMMISSION AND BY THE MURPHY COMMISSION ON THE CONDUCT
OF FOREIGN POLICY, I WILL TAKE ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION AND
RECOMMEND LEGISLATION TO THE CONGRESS FOR WHATEVER MUST
BE DONE TO PREVENT FUTURE ABUSES.

BUT INTELLIGENCE IN TODAY'S WORLD IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL

TO OUR NATION'S SECURITY -- EVEN OUR SURVIVAL. IT MAY BE

EVEN MORE IMPORTANT IN PEACE THAN IN WAR. RECKLESS

CONGRESSIONAL ACTION TO CRIPPLE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR

INTELLIGENCE SERVICES IN LEGITIMATE OPERATIONS COULD BE

CATASTROPHIC.

OUR POTENTIAL ADVERSARIES AND EVEN SOME OF OUR FRIENDS OPERATE

IN ALL INTELLIGENCE FIELDS WITH SECRECY, SKILL AND SUBSTANTIAL

RESOURCES. I KNOW -- AND YOU KNOW -- THAT WHAT WE NEED

IS AN AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE CAPACITY SECOND TO NONE.

LET ME SAY IT ONE MORE TIME -- LOUD AND CLEAR:

THERE IS NO STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE CONCEPTS OF

DEFENSE AND DETENTE. WE HAVE BEEN PURSUING BOTH.

BUT TO MAKE DETENTE SUCCEED, WE MUST HAVE STRONG DEFENSE.

WE MAKE THE WORLD SAFER BY BOTH POLICIES.

AND I WILL CONTINUE TO STAND FOR STRENGTH,
SECURITY, AND A SAFER WORLD.

THANK YOU.

END OF TEXT