

**The original documents are located in Box 26, “3/20/76 - Remarks at a Breakfast Meeting in Honor of Mr. James Martin, Charlotte, N.C.” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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~~THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN~~

MARTIN BREAKFAST

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THANK YOU, CONGRESSMAN JIM MARTIN

GOVERNOR HOLSHOUSER  
DR. MARTIN  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

*Charlie Jonas*  
*Zach Smith*

NOTE:

Sunday is Jim Martin's mother's birthday.

IT IS A PLEASURE TO BE BACK IN CHARLOTTE

AND IN THE GREAT STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA TODAY.

THIS IS THE THIRD TIME I'VE BEEN TO CHARLOTTE

IN THE PAST TWO YEARS.

THE LAST TIME I WAS HERE, IN MAY OF 1975, JIM MARTIN

ASSEMBLED 105,000 OF HIS CLOSEST FRIENDS TO MEET ME FOR

MECKLENBURG COUNTY'S BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

YOU GAVE ME A VERY WARM WELCOME THEN, AND

I APPRECIATE THE ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION YOU'VE GIVEN ME

TODAY.

I AM ESPECIALLY GLAD TO JOIN YOU IN THIS

WELL-DESERVED TRIBUTE TO MY FRIEND AND YOUR OUTSTANDING

CONGRESSMAN, JIM MARTIN.

WHILE I'M HERE, THERE ARE A FEW OTHER

PEOPLE I WOULD LIKE TO SALUTE.

FIRST OF ALL, LET ME WISH JIM MARTIN'S

MOTHER A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TOMORROW. "MOM" AND

"POP" MARTIN ARE WELL KNOWN IN WASHINGTON, THANKS TO

THEIR SON. JIM IS EVERY BIT AS PROUD OF YOU AS I KNOW

YOU ARE OF HIM, AND IT'S EASY TO SEE WHY.

ANOTHER OUTSTANDING TAR HEEL WORTHY OF

TRIBUTE IS YOUR GREAT GOVERNOR, JIM HOLSHOUSER•

THE SAME GOES FOR MY OLD FRIEND AND YOUR

FORMER CONGRESSMAN, CHARLIE JONAS, AND HIS LOVELY

WIFE, ANNIE ELLIOTT•

*Appropriation*

AND LET ME PUT IN A GOOD WORD, TOO, FOR

CORNBREAD MAXWELL, LEW MASSEY, AND THE "FORTY-NINERS"

OF U.N.C. - CHARLOTTE.

THE NINTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH

CAROLINA HAS MORE THAN ITS SHARE OF WINNERS.



I CAN PERSONALLY VOUCH FOR THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE QUITE

A REPUTATION IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN

WASHINGTON.

YOU DON'T SETTLE FOR GOOD CONGRESSMEN TO

REPRESENT YOU -- YOU INSIST ON GREAT CONGRESSMEN.

THE PEOPLE OF THIS DISTRICT HAVE SHOWN

THEIR GOOD TASTE AND THEIR COMMITMENT TO GOOD

GOVERNMENT BY SENDING CHARLIE JONAS TO THE CONGRESS TEN

TIMES, AND JIM MARTIN TWICE.

I HOPE YOU'LL CONTINUE THAT GREAT RECORD

AND ELECT JIM MARTIN TO A THIRD TERM ON NOVEMBER 2, 1976.

YOU HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO BE PROUD OF

JIM MARTIN, AND I KNOW YOU ARE.

SINCE HE FIRST WENT TO THE CONGRESS IN

JANUARY OF 1973, JIM HAS DEMONSTRATED AN OUTSTANDING

CAPABILITY TO DEAL WITH THE ISSUES FORCEFULLY, INTELLIGENTLY,

AND WITH A GREAT DEAL OF PLAIN OLD NORTH CAROLINA COMMON

SENSE.

AS THE FIRST NORTH CAROLINIAN TO SIT ON THE  
HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE SINCE 1950, JIM HAS PROVEN  
BEYOND ANY DOUBT THAT HE IS A DEDICATED AND POWERFUL  
ADVOCATE OF FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY IN GOVERNMENT.

I WISH WE HAD MORE JIM MARTINS ON THAT  
COMMITTEE AND IN THE CONGRESS AS A WHOLE.

IN ADDITION TO THAT PRESTIGIOUS AND VERY

IMPORTANT COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT, JIM HAS JUST BEEN NAMED

CHAIRMAN OF THE REPUBLICAN TASK FORCE ON HEALTH, WHICH WILL

INVESTIGATE THE PROBLEMS OF HEALTH CARE IN AMERICA, AND

HELP DETERMINE WHAT PROPER ROLE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

SHOULD PLAY IN THIS FIELD.

JIM HAS ALREADY INTRODUCED LEGISLATION TO

HELP MEET THE STAGGERING COSTS OF CATASTROPHIC OR

PROLONGED ILLNESS.

HE TAKES A LITTLE DIFFERENT APPROACH THAN THE  
ONE I PROPOSED IN MY STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS, BUT WE  
HAVE THE SAME GOAL, AND I APPRECIATE HIS INTEREST AND  
INVOLVEMENT IN THIS AREA OF CRITICAL IMPORTANCE TO YOU AND  
TO MILLIONS OF AMERICANS.



JIM MARTIN KNOWS, AS YOU AND I KNOW, THAT

THERE'S NO REASON PEOPLE SHOULD HAVE TO GO BROKE JUST TO

GET WELL OR STAY WELL IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

AS ONE OF ONLY A HANDFUL OF SCIENTISTS IN THE

CONGRESS, JIM HAS HAD A SPECIAL ROLE TO PLAY IN THE

CRITICAL FIELD OF ENERGY INDEPENDENCE, AS WELL.

HE RECOGNIZES, BETTER THAN MOST PEOPLE,

JUST HOW SERIOUS OUR ENERGY SITUATION REALLY IS, AND MORE

IMPORTANT, HE'S DOING SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

HIS AMENDMENTS TO ENERGY LEGISLATION HAVE

HELPED RESCUE THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY HERE IN NORTH CAROLINA

AND THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY FROM THE PROSPECT OF VERY

ADVERSE DEVELOPMENTS.

HE HAS ALSO BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN THE EFFORT  
TO ACHIEVE ENERGY INDEPENDENCE THROUGH PROGRAMS OF  
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEW ENERGY SOURCES.

JIM IS ALSO A STRONG CHAMPION OF THE GENERAL  
REVENUE SHARING PROGRAM WHICH HAS MEANT SO MUCH TO  
NORTH CAROLINA.

I HELPED LEAD THE FIGHT FOR THIS PROGRAM AS REPUBLICAN LEADER  
OF THE HOUSE IN 1972, AND I INTEND TO FIGHT JUST AS HARD  
TO EXTEND THAT PROGRAM IN 1976.

IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS, NORTH CAROLINA HAS RECEIVED  
OVER 600 MILLION DOLLARS IN GENERAL REVENUE SHARING FUNDS.

THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE HAS RECEIVED OVER 20 MILLION DOLLARS,

AND MECKLENBURG COUNTY MORE THAN 10 MILLION DOLLARS.

I'VE PROPOSED A FIVE AND THREE-QUARTER YEAR

EXTENSION OF THE GENERAL REVENUE SHARING PROGRAM, AND AN

INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM.

UNDER THE NEW BILL, ~~NORTH CAROLINA WOULD RECEIVE~~

~~ABOUT 96.7 MILLION DOLLARS,~~ <sup>WOULD RECEIVE</sup> CHARLOTTE 31.6 MILLION DOLLARS,

AND MECKLENBURG COUNTY 15 MILLION DOLLARS.

JIM MARTIN KNOWS THAT THIS PROGRAM HAS WORKED WELL,

AND IT'S WORKED WITHOUT A LOT OF WASHINGTON BUREAUCRATS

TELLING LOCAL PEOPLE HOW TO SOLVE LOCAL PROBLEMS.

THAT'S A TREND I WANT TO ENCOURAGE IN EVERY  
POSSIBLE WAY, AND REVENUE SHARING HAS BEEN A VERY GOOD  
PLACE TO START.



IN FIGHTING FOR REVENUE-SHARING AND IN MANY

OTHER LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS, JIM HAS PROVEN HE HAS THE

EXPERTISE AND THE DEEP COMMITMENT TO SERVICE THAT MAKE

HIM A TRULY OUTSTANDING REPRESENTATIVE OF YOUR INTERESTS

AND YOUR BELIEFS.

*damn*  
HE'S A GOOD MAN, AND I HOPE YOU'LL

KEEP HIM WORKING FOR YOU IN WASHINGTON.

AND THAT BRINGS ME TO ANOTHER,

INCIDENTAL REASON I'M IN NORTH CAROLINA TODAY.



THERE'S A RUMOR GOING AROUND THAT NORTH

CAROLINA IS PLANNING TO HOLD A PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

NEXT TUESDAY. I HEARD ABOUT IT ON THE PLANE.



WE'VE BEEN THROUGH SOME BAD TIMES IN AMERICA

IN RECENT YEARS. THERE'S NO DENYING IT, BUT THERE'S ALSO

NO USE IN DWELLING ON IT.

I'M LOOKING TO THE FUTURE, AND THAT FUTURE,

AS I SEE IT, IS FILLED WITH HOPE AND PROMISE AND

FULFILLMENT FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

I'M DARN PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN, AND

I'M PROUD OF AMERICA, AND I THINK YOU ARE, TOO.

IN THE LAST 19 MONTHS, AMERICA HAS MADE

SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IN MANY, MANY IMPORTANT AREAS

OF OUR NATIONAL LIFE.

AMERICA TODAY IS AT PEACE• TODAY THERE

ARE NO AMERICANS IN COMBAT ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD } AND

I INTEND TO KEEP IT THAT WAY•

I AM PURSURING A POLICY OF PEACE THROUGH

STRENGTH•



AMERICA'S DEFENSES TODAY ARE SECOND TO NONE -- AND

THEY WILL CONTINUE TO BE SECOND TO NONE AS LONG AS I AM

YOUR PRESIDENT.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trump", written in a cursive style.

IN ADDITION TO OUR MILITARY STRENGTH,

AMERICA'S ECONOMIC STRENGTH IS BEING STEADILY RESTORED

AFTER THE WORST RECESSION IN 40 YEARS.

IT'S EASY TO GET LOST IN A SEA OF STATISTICS

WHEN WE TALK ABOUT ECONOMICS. A SIMPLE WAY TO LOOK

AT IT IS TO RECALL THAT 19 MONTHS AGO, EVERYTHING THAT WAS

SUPPOSED TO BE GOING UP WAS GOING DOWN, AND VICE VERSA.

TODAY, HOWEVER, WE'RE HEADED IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

THANKS TO THE COMMON SENSE POLICIES

I INITIATED AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS RECESSION, AND THANKS

TO THE DETERMINATION AND THE COURAGE AND THE INGENUITY

OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, WE ARE WORKING OUR WAY OUT OF

RECESSION.

WE ARE ON THE ROAD TO A NEW PROSPERITY IN  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND I'M NOT ABOUT TO TAKE  
ANY DETOURS NOW.

UNEMPLOYMENT IS GOING DOWN. PRICES  
ARE STABILIZING. INFLATION HAS BEEN CUT IN HALF IN  
THE PAST 18 MONTHS.

≠

IN FACT, THE LABOR DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED JUST

YESTERDAY THAT CONSUMER PRICES INCREASED ONLY ONE-TENTH

OF ONE PERCENT IN FEBRUARY, THE SMALLEST MONTHLY INCREASE

IN MORE THAN FOUR YEARS.

ON AN ANNUAL BASIS, THAT REPRESENTS AN INFLATION  
RATE OF JUST A LITTLE MORE THAN ONE PERCENT, AND THAT'S  
A WHOLE LOT BETTER THAN THE TWELVE PERCENT WE WERE EXPERIENCING  
A YEAR AND A HALF AGO AT THE OUTSET OF MY PRESIDENCY•

I WON'T TRY TO MISLEAD YOU AND SAY THE NEWS

ON INFLATION WILL BE THIS GOOD EVERY MONTH. BUT THIS

NEW ANNOUNCEMENT IS POWERFUL EVIDENCE THAT WE ARE

REALLY GETTING INFLATION UNDER CONTROL, AND WE'RE NOT

GOING TO LET GO NOW, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

THERE'S STILL MORE GOOD ECONOMIC NEWS•

THE RATE OF GROWTH IN FEDERAL SPENDING HAS BEEN CUT IN

HALF IN THE BUDGET I SUBMITTED FOR THE NEW FISCAL YEAR•

THE NUMBER OF JOBS FOR AMERICANS IS

GROWING EVERY DAY• WE'VE RECOVERED 100 PERCENT OF

THE JOBS WE LOST DURING THE RECESSION•



CONSUMER CONFIDENCE IS UP. INDUSTRIAL

PRODUCTION IS UP. HOUSING STARTS ARE UP. THE GROSS

NATIONAL PRODUCT IS UP. REAL EARNINGS FOR THE AVERAGE

WORKER ARE UP.

IN SHORT, JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING IS LOOKING

UP FOR AMERICA THIS YEAR.

THERE'S NO REASON WE SHOULD CHANGE COURSE NOW, NO REASON  
TO TRADE IN YOUR FORD ON A NEW MODEL IN 1976.

OBVIOUSLY, THERE'S A LOT MORE THAT WE NEED  
TO DO IN AMERICA. WE STILL HAVE OUR SHARE OF PROBLEMS,  
AND WE AREN'T AFRAID TO ADMIT THEM OR AFRAID TO FACE THEM.

BUT IT'S ONE THING TO ADMIT OUR PROBLEMS, / AND  
ANOTHER TO BE HYPNOTIZED BY THEM / AND REFUSE TO SEE THE  
STRENGTH / AND THE RESOLVE / AND THE CONFIDENCE / AND THE PURSUIT  
OF PROGRESS WHICH CHARACTERIZE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

THE VERY FACT THAT WE HAVE WEATHERED

SO MANY STORMS IN RECENT YEARS PROVES TO ME THAT THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IS STILL THE GREATEST NATION ON

EARTH.

WE HAVE ENDURED SHOCKS TO OUR SYSTEM  
THAT MIGHT HAVE PARALYZED A LESSER COUNTRY, BUT WE  
HAVE EMERGED STRONGER THAN EVER•

THIS IS A GREAT COUNTRY• WE'RE LUCKY TO BE  
AMERICANS, AND I DON'T THINK ANY OF US WOULD TRADE PLACES  
WITH THE PEOPLE OF ANY OTHER COUNTRY IN THE WORLD•

I WANT TO MAKE AMERICA AN EVEN GREATER

NATION IN THE FUTURE.

I WANT AMERICA TO STAY ON

THE ROAD TO PROSPERITY, TO WALK THE PATH OF PEACE.

THAT IS WHY I AM ASKING FOR YOUR SUPPORT

NEXT TUESDAY, NEXT NOVEMBER, AND IN THE CHALLENGING

YEARS AHEAD.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

END OF TEXT