

The original documents are located in Box 28, “4/6/76 - Remarks Before the National Alliance of Businessmen” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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~~THE PRESIDENT HAS SAID~~

REMARKS BEFORE THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF

BUSINESSMEN, APRIL 6, 1976

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF BUSINESSMEN RECEPTION

CARL HARTNACK

JOHN CONDON

V. J. SKUTT

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF BUSINESSMEN

-1-

IT'S ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO WELCOME

THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF BUSINESSMEN TO WASHINGTON

AND TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

-2-

I AM PARTICULARLY PROUD OF THE WORK YOU HAVE DONE

AT A TIME WHEN WE ARE ALL SO CONCERNED ABOUT FINDING MORE

AND MORE JOBS FOR AMERICAN MEN AND WOMEN.

THIS ADMINISTRATION IS FULLY AWARE OF THE FACT THAT THE
ECONOMY OF THE NATION DURING THE LAST YEAR HAS NOT MADE YOUR TASK
ANY EASIER -- THAT OF PLACING VIETNAM VETERANS, THE HANDICAPPED,
AND THE DISADVANTAGED IN JOBS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR WHERE THEY HAVE
THE GREATEST OPPORTUNITY TO ENLARGE THEIR CAPABILITIES,
THEIR OPPORTUNITIES, AND THEIR NATURAL TALENTS.

PEOPLE WILL ALWAYS BE AMERICA'S GREATEST SINGLE
RESOURCE. AND PEOPLE WORKING IN REWARDING, PERMANENT
JOBS ARE OUR GREATEST STRENGTH AND ASSURANCE OF FUTURE
PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY.

YOU HAVE FORMED A UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP WITH

AMERICAN BUSINESS, LABOR AND GOVERNMENT TO ACCOMPLISH

YOUR GOALS, AND THE SUCCESS OF YOUR EFFORTS SHOWS WHAT

CAN HAPPEN WHEN THIS COMBINATION WORKS IN CONCERT.

THE MILLIONS OF JOBS YOU HAVE FOUND FOR MEN AND

WOMEN IN AMERICA MUST MAKE YOU DESERVEDLY PROUD, AND

I APPLAUD YOU FOR IT.

SINCE 1968, THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF BUSINESSMEN

HAS FOUND JOBS FOR FOUR AND A HALF MILLION DISADVANTAGED

ADULTS, VIETNAM VETERANS, EX-OFFENDERS, AND DISADVANTAGED

YOUTHS.

AND SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE SUMMER YOUTH

PLACEMENT PROGRAM THE SAME YEAR, ONE MILLION,

475 THOUSAND YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE FOUND WORK THROUGH YOUR

EFFORTS. THIS COMING SUMMER I AM TOLD YOUR GOAL IS

200 THOUSAND FOR YOUR YOUTH PLACEMENT PROGRAM.

THIS IS AN EXCELLENT WAY TO HELP GUARANTEE
THAT OUR DISADVANTAGED YOUTHS WON'T GROW UP TO BE
DISADVANTAGED ADULTS.

SO LET ME TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK YOU
AND THE MANY THOUSANDS OF OTHERS WHO HAVE MADE
THIS PROGRAM WORK. YOU HAVE MADE AN INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTION
FOR THE BETTERMENT OF ALL AMERICA.

THE STEADY IMPROVEMENT OF THE ECONOMY HAS BEEN

A RELIEF TO US ALL, BUT I KNOW IT MUST BE PARTICULARLY

GRATIFYING TO ALL OF YOU --

-- GRATIFYING TO KNOW THAT MORE AMERICANS

ARE WORKING NOW THAN EVER BEFORE IN OUR HISTORY --

86 MILLION, 700 THOUSAND -- AN ALL-TIME RECORD.

-- GRATIFYING TO KNOW THAT WE GAINED 375 THOUSAND
JOBS IN THE MONTH OF MARCH ALONE.

-- AND GRATIFYING TO KNOW THAT THE JOBLESS RATE
HAS TAKEN STILL ANOTHER DIP, DROPPING TO 7.5 PERCENT.

THE PRINCIPAL TASK FOR US ALL CONTINUES TO BE
THE CREATION OF MEANINGFUL, REWARDING, AND PERMANENT JOBS
FOR MORE AND MORE AMERICANS.

THE FACT THAT SPRING IS FAR BRIGHTER THIS YEAR
THAN LAST IS DUE IN NO SMALL WAY TO YOUR EFFORTS,
YOUR CONTINUED FAITH IN A FREE ECONOMY, AND YOUR
CONSTANT BELIEF IN AMERICA.

AND AS A RESULT, I EXPECT YOU TO PAY THE PRICE
FOR HAVING DONE THE JOB SO WELL, I'M ASKING YOU
TO CONTINUE DOING IT.

AND I KNOW THAT NEXT YEAR/AMERICA WILL BE

EVEN STRONGER BECAUSE OF THE DETERMINATION AND PRIDE WHICH

YOU BRING TO THE TASK OF HELPING AMERICANS HELP THEMSELVES.

THANK YOU.

END OF TEXT