The original documents are located in Box 29, “4/23/76 - Indiana Broadcasters Association” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SPOKEN....

INDIANA BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION

FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1976

THANK YOU, MR. AHERTON
MEMBERS AND GUESTS OF

IT IS A VERY GREAT PLEASURE TO BE HERE THIS MORNING

AT THE SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF THE INDIANA BROADCASTERS
ASSOCIATION.
LET ME THANK YOU FOR YOUR INVITATION, AND ALSO

FOR SHOWING UP AT THIS HOUR. ACTUALLY, AS YOU MAY KNOW,

WE CAME INTO TOWN LAST NIGHT -- LIKE KELLY ATHERTON,

I LIKE TO GET IN A DAY EARLY.

-2a-

I'M NO STRANGER TO INDIANA BROADCASTERS.

MY OWN TELEVISION ADVISOR, BOB MEAD, USED TO BE ONE,

AND THEN OF COURSE IN THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS CORPS

WE HAVE FORMER INDIANA NEWSMEN LIKE PHIL JONES,

FORREST BOYD, AND JIM McMANUS.
I look forward to answering your questions this morning, but first let me say a few words.

The broadcasting industry you represent holds a position of unique importance in American life. Radio and television provide services which are absolutely essential to the people of this country.
THE PEOPLE OF INDIANA RELY ON YOU FOR INFORMATION

AS WELL AS FOR ENTERTAINMENT, AND THIS GIVES YOU

A UNIQUE RESPONSIBILITY TOWARDS THEM.

BECAUSE OF THIS RESPONSIBILITY, BROADCASTING

IS ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST WIDELY REGULATED INDUSTRIES.
AND IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY IN WASHINGTON TO MAKE SURE THIS REGULATION GENUINELY SERVES THE PUBLIC INTEREST, AND DOES NOT MERELY REPRESENT BUREAUCRATIC INTERFERENCE IN YOUR AFFAIRS.

AT THE SAME TIME, BROADCASTING IS A HIGHLY COMPETITIVE INDUSTRY. I AM A FIRM BELIEVER IN COMPETITION. BUT I AM ALSO A FIRM BELIEVER IN COOPERATION, AND I THINK YOUR ORGANIZATION IS A FINE EXAMPLE.
YOUR ASSOCIATION INCLUDES BROADCASTERS OF
ALL TYPES -- AM AND FM, RADIO AND TELEVISION, UHF AND VHF,
PRIVATE AND PUBLIC.

BUT DESPITE THE COMPETITION, DESPITE YOUR DIFFERENCES, YOU
ARE WISE ENOUGH TO RECOGNIZE YOUR COMMON INTERESTS, AND
TO WORK TOGETHER AT MEETINGS LIKE THIS ONE. I WISH YOU
THE BEST OF LUCK IN YOUR CONTINUING EFFORTS.

NOW I WILL BE GLAD TO ANSWER SOME OF YOUR
QUESTIONS.