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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

REMARKS TO U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MONDAY, APRIL 26, 1976

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

THANK YOU, MR. MORRISON

(Clint Morrison is Chairman of the Board, U.S. Chamber of Commerce)

MR. LESHER

,

(President, U.S. Chamber of Commerce)

DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS AND GUESTS OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

IT WAS EXACTLY ONE YEAR AGO, LESS A COUPLE OF DAY THAT WE LAST MET HERE IN CONSTITUTION HALL. THERE WERE DIRE PREDICTIONS BY DISTINGUISHED LABOR AND POLITICAL LEADERS THAT WE WERE HEADED PELL-MELL INTO A DEEP DEPRESSION, THAT UNEMPLOYMENT WOULD SOON EXCEED TEN PERCENT. AND THAT ONLY MASSIVE FEDERAL ACTION COULD AVERT CALAMITY.

NOT ALL OF US KNEW IT THEN, BUT <u>MOST EXPERTS</u> NOW <u>AGREE</u> THAT WAS THE VERY TIME WE HIT THE BOTTOM OF THE WORST RECESSION IN FORTY YEARS. BETWEEN LAST APRIL AND MAY THINGS TURNED AROUND AND BEGAN GETTING BETTER INSTEAD <u>OF WORSE</u>.

CONSIDER WHAT HAS HAPPENED SINCE OUR

LAST MEETING.

THE RATE OF INFLATION HAS BEEN CUT MORE THAN HALF,

AND FOR THE LAST THREE MONTHS HAS HELD STEADY AT AN ANNUAL

RATE OF 2.9 PERCENT.

THE PERSONAL SPENDABLE INCOME OF AMERICAN FAMILIES

INCREASED BY ONE HUNDRED BILLION DOLLARS.

FARM INCOME IS AT AN ALL-TIME HIGH.

AND SO IS PRODUCTION.

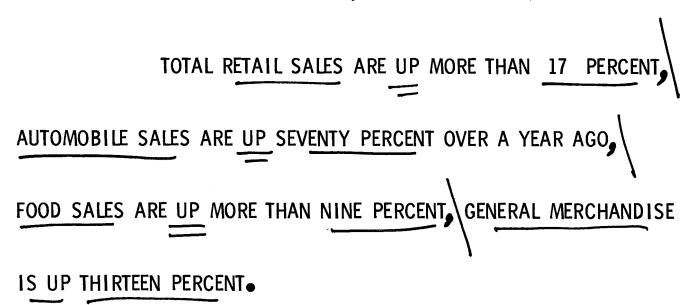
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THE GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT ROSE DURING THE

FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR AT AN ANNUAL RATE OF 7.5 PERCENT,

WHILE A YEAR AGO IT WAS OVER 1.4 TRILLION DOLLARS.

TODAY IT IS ESTIMATED AT OVER 1.6 TRILLION DOLLARS.



TODAY, MORE AMERICANS ARE GAINFULLY EMPLOYED

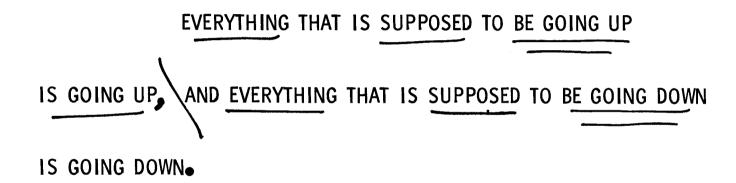
THAN EVER BEFORE IN THE 200 YEARS OF OUR NATIONAL HISTORY --A TOTAL OF 86 MILLION, 700 THOUSAND AT LATEST RECKONING. THAT MEANS TWO MILLION, 600 THOUSAND MORE MEN AND WOMEN ARE WORKING TODAY THAN WHEN WE MET A YEAR AGO. UNEMPLOYMENT IS DOWN FROM A NATIONAL RATE OF NEARLY NINE PERCENT IN MAY OF 1975 TO SEVEN AND A HALF PERCENT -- STILL MUCH TOO HIGH, BUT MOVING IN THE RIGHT

DIRECTION.

IN SHORT, INSTEAD OF MEETING IN THE GLOOMY DEPTHS OF RECESSION, WE ARE ASSEMBLED THIS SPRING IN THE FULL SURGE OF RECOVERY. RATHER THAN WONDERING HOW MUCH WORSE THINGS WILL GET, TODAY WE SEE EVERY SIGN CONFIRMING AND RECONFIRMING THAT A STRONG AND STABLE PROSPERITY IS RETURNING

ACROSS THIS GREAT LAND.

THE INDEX OF CONSUMER CONFIDENCE IS DOUBLE WHAT IT WAS A YEAR AGO. NEW FACTORY ORDERS HAVE RISEN FROM 77 TO 90 BILLION DOLLARS. INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES ARE SPENDING AND INVESTING THEIR MONEY WITH FAITH INSTEAD OF FEAR. THERE HAS BEEN AN EXPLOSIVE RELEASE OF PENT-UP ENERGY IN THE PRIVATE ECONOMY - AMERICA'S FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHTER DAY BY DAY.



AND ALL THIS HAS HAPPENED BECAUSE THE

AMERICAN PEOPLE DID NOT PANIC, BECAUSE THE GREAT AMERICAN SYSTEM OF FREE ENTERPRISE IS WORKING. IT IS BEING ALLOWED TO WORK WITHOUT MASSIVE DOSES OF THE WRONG MEDICINE PRESCRIBED BY POLITICAL QUICK-FIXERS FOR FAR TOO MANY YEARS. IT IS WORKING EVEN BETTER THAN I HOPED WHEN I PUT MY FAITH IN THE VITALITY OF PRIVATE INITIATIVE AT THE ONSET OF THE RECESSION. YOU ARE HERE AS REPRESENTATIVES OF MILLIONS AND MILLIONS OF AMERICANS WHO BELIEVE IN PRIVATE INITIATIVE

MAKE IT WORK. I THANK YOU AND SALUTE YOU FOR WHAT YOU HAVE DONE IN THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS BUT I AM NOT HERE TO CELEBRATE WITH YOU A BATTLE THAT HAS BEEN WON.

AND THE FREE ECONOMIC SYSTEM. YOU ARE THE PEOPLE WHO

I AM HERE TO TELL YOU THE BATTLE HAS ONLY BEGUN.

WE HAVE JUST BEGUN TO FIGHT FOR THE FULL RECOVERY AND LASTING PROSPERITY THAT CAN BE OURS, WITH BENEFITS EVER MORE WIDELY SHARED AMONG THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, ONLY IF WE CONTINUE ON THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW COURSE WHICH WE ARE

THERE ARE MANY HAZARDS FOR THE HELMSMAN

.

ON THAT COURSE.

ON THE ONE SIDE LIES INFLATION, WHOSE CRUEL ROCKS

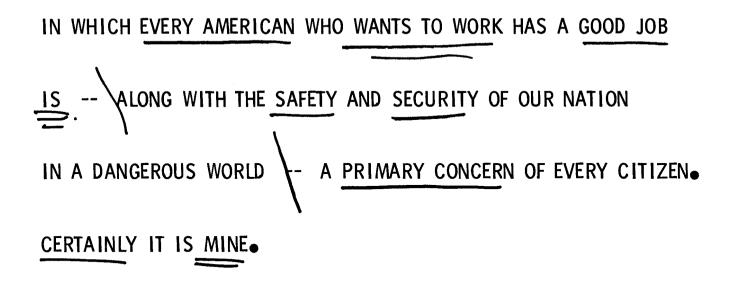
BUT TODAY WE FACE A TOUGHER TEST, SUSTAINING THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY THAT HAS BEGUN AND ENSURING STEADY, STABLE GROWTH WITHOUT STARTING ANOTHER CYCLE OF INFLATIONARY BOOM THAT LEADS INEVITABLY TO ANOTHER RECESSIONARY BUST. ON THE OTHER SIDE LOOM THE DREAD SHOALS OF UNEMPLOYMENT. IT NEVER DID REACH TEN PERCENT, BUT THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IS STILL SEVERE, ESPECIALLY AMONG YOUNGER WORKERS, MINORITIES, AND IN CERTAIN KEY INDUSTRIES

AND METROPOLITAN AREAS.

THE <u>STATISTICS ARE IMPROVING</u>, BUT THE <u>CORROSIVE EFFECT</u> OF JOBLESSNESS CANNOT BE <u>COMPREHENDED</u> BY <u>STATISTICS ALONE</u>. <u>UNEMPLOYMENT AFFECTS PEOPLES' PRIDE</u>, <u>THEIR HOPE</u>, THEIR <u>WHOLE ATTITUDE</u> TOWARD THE FREE SOCIETY AND <u>POLITICAL SYSTEM</u> WHOSE 200th BIRTHDAY WE CELEBRATE

THIS YEAR.

CLEARLY, THE CREATION OF AN ECONOMIC CLIMATE



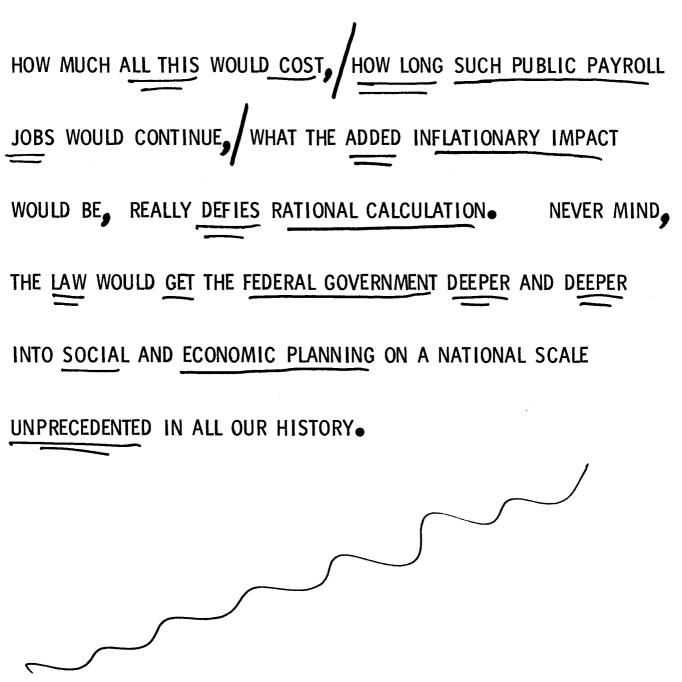
BUT <u>PUTTING AMERICA TO WORK IS NOT A JOB</u> FOR THE <u>PRESIDENT ALONE</u> OR FOR THE <u>CONGRESS ALONE</u> THOUGH <u>SOMETIMES SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN</u> SEEM TO THINK THEY CAN <u>ABOLISH UNEMPLOYMENT BY PASSING NEW LAWS</u> SUCH AS THE <u>DANGEROUSLY DECEPTIVE HUMPHREY-HAWKINS</u> BILL

NOW PENDING.

THIS HUMPHREY-HAWKINS BILL, FOR WHICH THE CONGRESS HAS BUDGETED START-UP MONEY, IS A CLASSIC EXAMPLE OF THE WAY THE MISGUIDED MAJORITY IN RECENT CONGRESSES REACTS. ANYTHING THAT SEEMS WRONG WITH THE ECONOMY, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MUST RUSH IN AND FIX, MAINLY BY SPENDING MORE BILLIONS OF DOLLARS.

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THIS VAST ELECTION-YEAR BOONDOGGLE WOULD DECREE THAT UNEMPLOYMENT MUST BE NO HIGHER THAN THREE PERCENT BY THE END OF FOUR YEARS. NEVER MIND THAT THIS RECESSION WILL BE LONG FORGOTTEN BY THEN. IF NOT ENOUGH PRIVATE JOBS ARE AVAILABLE, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE WORK by law to conjuic up "make-work" jobs.



I AM AGAINST THE HUMPHREY-HAWKINS BILL

INSTEAD I HAVE PROPOSED TAX REDUCTIONS AND OTHER TAX INCENTIVES TO CREATE MORE AND BETTER JOBS IN PRIVATE ENTERPRISE. SOME WERE ENACTED LAST YEAR AND ARE OBVIOUSLY WORKING. OTHERS ARE LANGUISHING IN THE CONGRESS AND SHOULD BE PASSED PROMPTLY TO ACCELERATE EMPLOYMENT IN HARD-HIT AREAS. MY BUDGET PROVIDES FUNDS TO SUPPORT ADEQUATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND PROVEN JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS UNTIL EVERY AMERICAN WHO WANTS WORK CAN FIND IT. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MY APPROACH AND THAT OF THE CONGRESS COULDN'T BE MORE CLEAR-CUT, AND I AM GLAD TO JOIN THE ISSUE.

PUTTING AMERICA TO WORK IS A CHALLENGE

FOR ALL OF US WHO REALLY BELIEVE IN THE FREE ECONOMIC SYSTEM OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE THAT HAS DEVELOPED OVER 200 YEARS IN THE FREE POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT OF THIS COUNTRY. PREVENTING A RESURGENCE OF INFLATION

AS RECOVERY PROCEEDS AND OUR ECONOMY EXPANDS IS ALSO

A CHALLENGE FOR ALL OF US.

TO SUCCEED DEMANDS NOTHING LESS THAN REVERSAL OF THE POLITICAL TRENDS OF RECENT DECADES WHICH HAVE BROUGHT CONTINUOUS GROWTH OF FEDERAL SPENDING, HIGHER DEFICITS, MORE BORROWING AND AN EVER-INCREASING ECONOMIC ROLE FOR GOVERNMENT AT THE EXPENSE OF THE PRIVATE ECONOMY. THIS IS PERHAPS THE DECISIVE ISSUE OF OUR

ON CAPITOL HILL EVEN AS OUR ECONOMIC RECOVERY CONTINUES.

THE BEST PLACE TO EXAMINE THIS ISSUE NOW,

BEFORE IT BECOMES WILDLY EXAGGERATED IN ELECTION-YEAR ORATORY, IS IN THE FEDERAL BUDGETS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1977, WHICH BEGINS NEXT OCTOBER FIRST, AS PROPOSED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BY THE CONGRESS.



THIS YEAR FOR THE FIRST TIME THERE IS NOT

ONE FEDERAL BUDGET RECOMMENDATION BUT TWO -- MINE AS PRESIDENT

AND THE SENATE.

THE SENATE HAS SET ITS TENTATIVE TARGET FIGURES AND THE HOUSE IS SCHEDULED TO ACT THIS WEEK. SINCE THE TWO BUDGET COMMITTEES' RECOMMENDATIONS DIFFERED ONLY SLIGHTLY,

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AS BUSINESSMEN AND BUSINESSWOMEN,

YOU KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THE BUDGETARY PROCESS. YOU KNOW THAT A BUDGET IS SORT OF A REAL-WORLD SUBSTITUTE FOR A CRYSTAL BALL, A CAREFUL COMPILATION OF CURRENT DECISIONS AND BEST ESTIMATES THAT DETERMINES THE WAY WE WANT TO GO

IN THE FUTURE.

USING DOLLAR FIGURES, IT FIXES PRIORITIES IN EVERY AREA OF PUBLIC POLICY. THESE BUDGETS ARE FAR MORE REALISTIC AND REVEALING THAN POLITICAL PARTY PLATFORMS EVER WERE. MY BUDGET AND THE BUDGET THIS CONGRESS IS ABOUT TO ADOPT SET FORTH IN STARK CONTRAST THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE WAY I WANT TO GO AND THE WAY THEY WANT TO GO. IN PROVIDING FUNDS FOR NEW MILITARY WEAPONS AND OVERALL NATIONAL SECURITY NEEDS, AN AREA OF THE FEDERAL BUDGET THAT CONGRESSES <u>HAVE SYSTEMATICALLY SHORTCHANGED</u> BY FIFTY BILLION DOLLARS OVER THE PAST DECADE, THE PRELIMINARY CONGRESSIONAL FIGURES ARE SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME AS THE RECORD 114 BILLION DOLLAR DEFENSE BUDGET <u>I RECOMMENDED</u> IN JANUARY.

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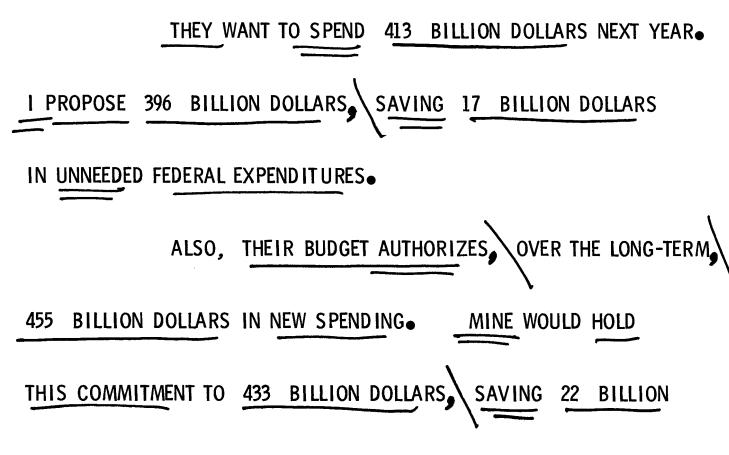
This pow 01 FOR THE PAST THREE MONTHS I'VE WORKED ON THE CONGRESS

AND I'M GLAD THEY ARE GETTING THE WORD.

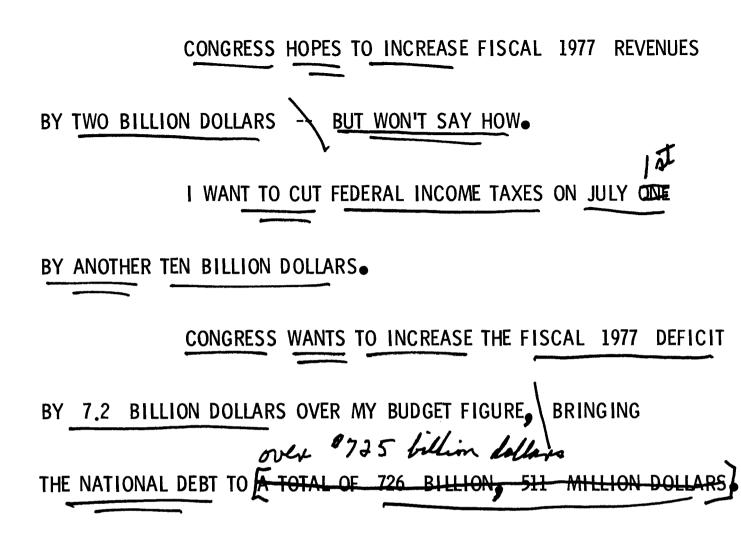
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT THE FINEST ARMY NAVY AIR FORCE AND MARINE CORPS MONEY CAN BUY AND THEY DON'T WANT OUR UNSURPASSED POWER FOR PEACE TO BECOME A POLITICAL FOOTBALL THIS YEAR. I AM ENCOURAGED BY THE CONGRESS' REFLECTION OF THIS CONCERN.

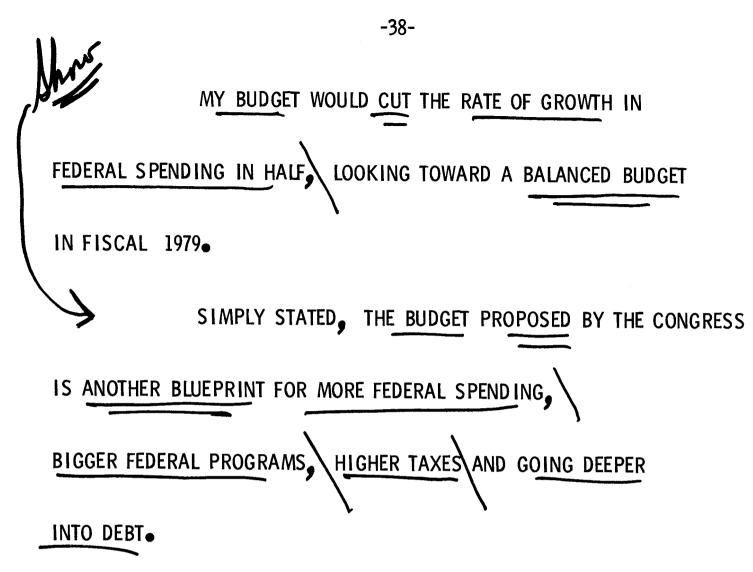
BUT THERE ARE PLENTY OF OTHER DIFFERENCES

BETWEEN CONGRESS' BUDGET AND MINE.



DOLLARS







MY BUDGET IS A BALANCED PLAN TO CUT IN HALF THE GROWTH OF FEDERAL SPENDING, WHICH HAS RUN ABOUT 50 BILLION DOLLARS ANNUALLY IN RECENT YEARS, TO FURTHER REDUCE TAXES, AND TO START REDUCING THE ROLE OF

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN EVERYBODY'S AFFAIRS.

IF MY PLAN IS FOLLOWED, WE CAN HAVE

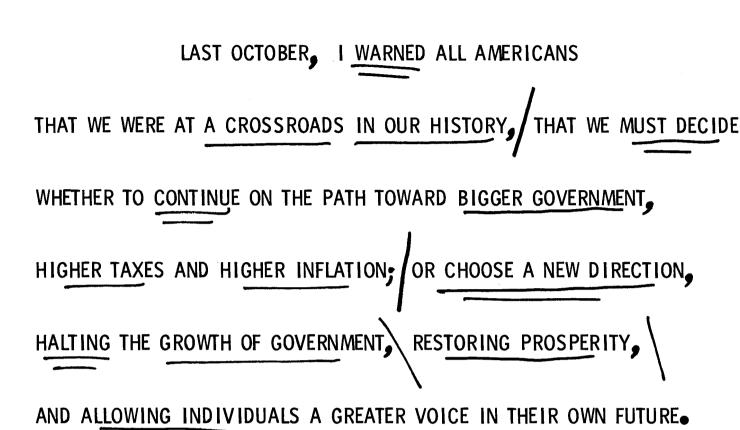
A BALANCED FEDERAL BUDGET AND FURTHER TAX REDUCTIONS

BY FISCAL 1979.

IF THE CONGRESS HAS ITS WAY, THERE IS EVERY REASON

TO EXPECT THAT OUR PRESENT RECOVERY WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A NEW ROUND OF INFLATION AND THEN AN<u>OTHER RECESSION</u> WITH HIGHER UNEMPLOYMENT, IN THE <u>SAME OLD ROLLER-COASTER PATTERN</u>

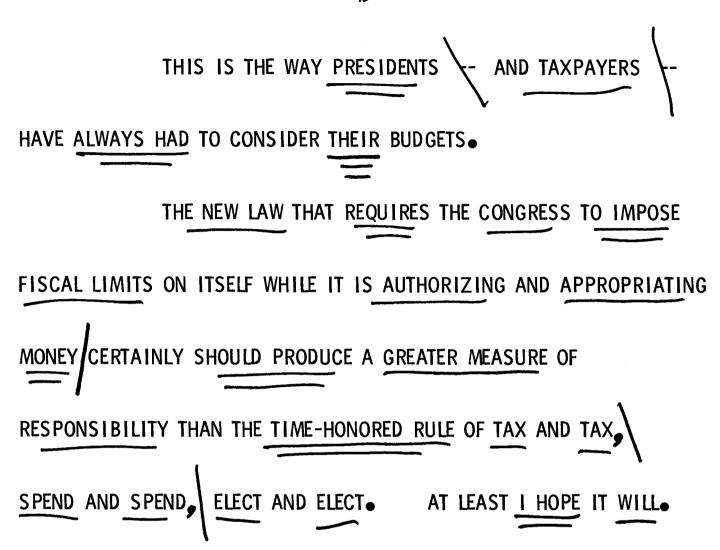
OF THE POST-WAR YEARS.



MY STATE OF THE UNION AND BUDGET MESSAGES

IN JANUARY PROVIDED THE DETAILS OF THE <u>NEW DIRECTION</u> I PROPOSE. NOW, IN ITS <u>NEW BUDGET PROCESS</u>, THE <u>CONGRESS</u> It Looks The <u>CONGRESS</u> HAS ALSO COME TO THE <u>CROSSROADS</u>. AND <u>IT HAS</u> DELIBERATELY DECIDED TO STICK TO THE OLD ROAD + A ROAD THAT LEADS TO RUIN. I SUPPORTED THE IDEA OF A CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET

PROCESS IN THE CONGRESS AND I WELCOME IT AS PRESIDENT. THIS YEAR EACH MEMBER OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE, AND ALL COMMITTEES, ARE <u>COMPELLED</u> TO <u>CONSIDER THE FEDERAL BUDGET</u> AS A WHOLE, AND <u>TO APPORTION EXPENDITURES</u> IN SOME RELATION TO EXPECTED REVENUES AND TOLERABLE DEFICITS.



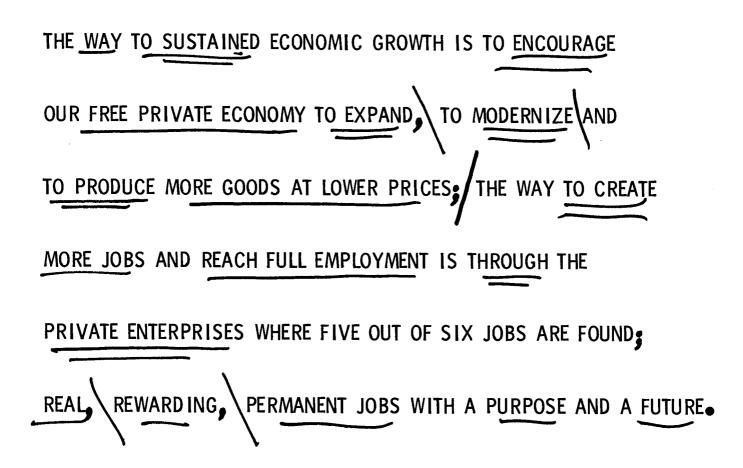
<u>I WELCOME THE CONTRASTING APPROACHES SO CLEARLY</u> <u>REVEALED IN THE TWO BUDGET PROPOSALS</u> \int_{-}^{-} <u>CONGRESSES'</u> <u>AND MINE</u> THE <u>UPCOMING BATTLE</u> OF THE <u>BUDGETS</u> IS A <u>CRUCIAL SHOWDOWN</u> AND WITH THE <u>SUPPORT</u> OF THE <u>AMERICAN PEOPLE</u> I MEAN TO FIGHT IT OUT IF IT TAKES ALL SUMMER \int_{-}^{-} AND MORE AND MORE VETOES. SO FAR I HAVE VETOED 48 BILLS SENT ME BY THIS CONGRESS AND 39 OF MY VETOES HAVE BEEN SUSTAINED, SAVING THE AMERICAN TAXPAYERS SOME THIRTEEN BILLION DOLLARS.

AND THERE ARE PLENTY MORE VETOES WHERE

THOSE CAME FROM.

BUT MORE IMPORTANT, MY POSITION IS PLAIN

AND MY BUDGET PROPOSALS ARE PRECISES



FURTHERMORE, THE POSITION OF THE MAJORITY

IN THE CONGRESS IS PLAIN AND THEIR BUDGET PRIORITIES ARE PRECISE. THEY BELIEVE THAT MORE DIRECT FEDERAL INTERVENTION IN OUR ECONOMIC RECOVERY IS REQUIRED TO KEEP IT GOING. THEY BELIEVE HIGHER FEDERAL SPENDING ON A HOST OF SOCIAL PROGRAMS

WILL STIMULATE A MORE RAPID RECOVERY AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT

SHOULD PROVIDE JOBS FOR EVERYBODY IF PRIVATE EMPLOYERS

DON'T DO SO FAST ENOUGH.

SOMEHOW THE CONGRESSIONAL MAJORITY STILL BELIEVES, IF THEIR BUDGET CAN BE OUR GUIDE, THAT CONTINUED MASSIVE FEDERAL DEFICITS AND BORROWINGS NEED NOT BE INFLATIONARY. PERHAPS, NOW THAT THE COST OF LIVING HAS STOPPED SKYROCKETING, WHAT THEY ARE REALLY TELLING US IS THAT JUST A LITTLE MORE INFLATION IS GOOD FOR YOU. WELL, THEY ARE WRONG.

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THESE ECONOMIC THEORIES HAVE BEEN WRONG FOR YEARS,

THEY ARE.

EVERY ECONOMIC INDICATOR SAYS WE ARE ON

THE RIGHT COURSE.

I DON'T INTEND TO BE SIDETRACKED NOW.

BUT WE AMERICANS ARE PRACTICAL PEOPLE.

WE ARE INTERESTED IN RESULTS.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WON'T CONCLUDE THAT

THE CONGRESS IS WRONG IN ITS ECONOMIC APPROACH JUST BECAUSE

The american people

I SAY IT IS, OR YOU SAY IT IS.

THEY WANT MORE AND BETTER JOBS

WITH PAYCHECKS THAT ARE WORTH AS MUCH NEXT WEEK AS THEY WERE

LAST WEEK.

215 MILLION AMERICANS WANT UNEMPLOYMENT

TO COME DOWN AND INFLATION TO STAY DOWN.

CONGRESS SAYS THE ANSWER IS ANOTHER QUICK-FIX

LIKE THE HUMPHREY-HAWKINS APPROACH.

YOU AND I KNOW THAT WON'T WORK.

I'LL DO MY PART, BUT THE ANSWER IS UP TO YOU.

you are the real job makers .

I CALL UPON YOU AND MILLIONS LIKE YOU

WHO BELIEVE IN THE FREE PRIVATE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM TO GO HOME

AND PUT AMERICAN, BACK TO WORK.

I CALL UPON YOU AND MILLIONS OF OTHER AMERICANS

TO DEMAND THAT THE CONGRESS HELP CONTROL INFLATION BY CUTTING

FEDERAL SPENDING AND RETURNING MORE TAX DOLLARS TO THE PEOPLE

WHO EARNED THEM.

I CHALLENGE THE BUSINESSMEN AND BUSINESSWOMEN OF AMERICA, AND ALL THE PRODUCTIVE PEOPLE OF THIS GREAT COUNTRY, TO ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES AND SHOW THE WORLD THAT OUR GREAT FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM IS STILL HALE AND HEARTY IN THIS BICENTENNIAL YEAR.

IF WE FAIL NOW, WE MAY NEVER GET ANOTHER CHANCE.

THANK YOU.

END OF TEXT