### The original documents are located in Box 33, "5/25/76 - Remarks at Public Forum, Walnut Creek, CA (Includes drafts) (1)" of the President's Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.

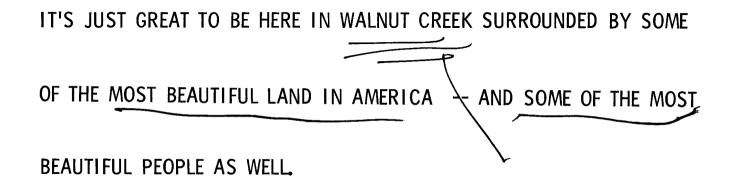
## WALNUT CREEK

# TUESDAY - MAY 25, 1976

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR WARM AND WONDERFUL WELCOME.



YOUR OPEN SPACE PURCHASE PROGRAM WAS A GREAT

COOPERATIVE EFFORT BY THE PEOPLE OF WALNUT CREEK. IT SHOWED

THE SAME VITALITY AND INITIATIVE THAT WE SEE RIGHT HERE IN YOUR BUSINESS DISTRICT. YOU HAVE SHOWN YOUR DEDICATION TO CIVIC ACHIEVEMENT, PROBLEM-SOLVING AND THE CAN-DO SPIRIT -- AND I SALUTE YOU FOR IT.



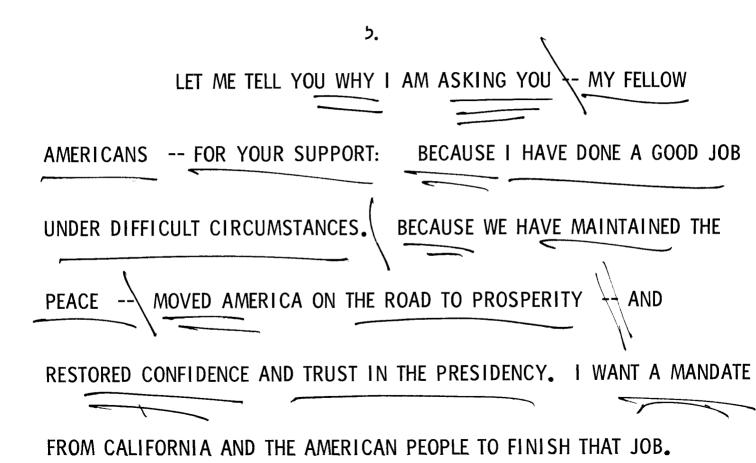
CAN BE SUMMED UP IN JUST A FEW WORDS:

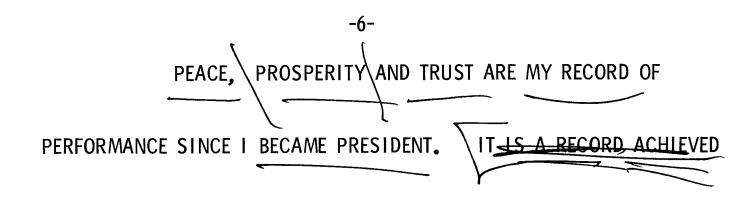
AS MUCH AS I BELIEVE IN A STRONG AND PROSPEROUS

AMERICAN AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY, I HAVE COME HERE TO SAY THAT

THIS YEAR -- THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO REASON TO TRADE IN YOUR

RELIABLE FOR D -- FOR A FLASHIER MODEL.

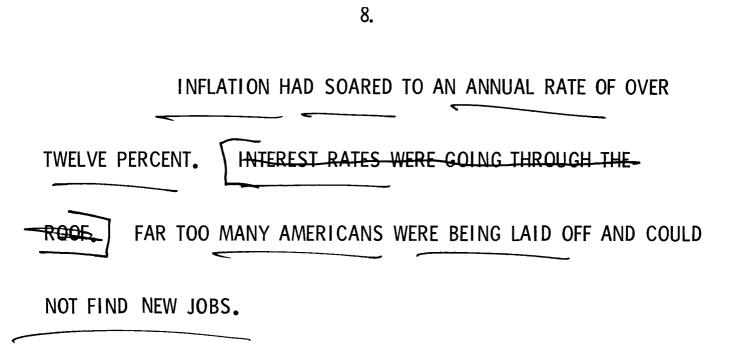




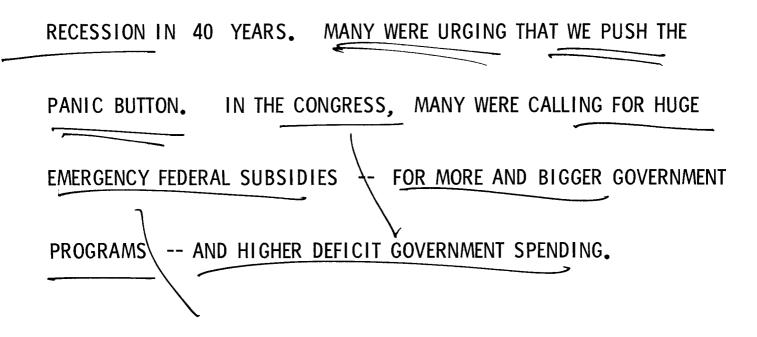
- AGAINSE WHAT SEEMED LIKE INSURMOUNTABLE OBSTACLES.

CONSIDER FOR A MOMENT WHERE WE WERE IN THE VERY

FIRST MONTHS OF MY PRESIDENCY.



JUST ABOUT A YEAR AGO WE HIT THE BOTTOM OF OUR WORST



# BUT THOSE WHO WOULD TRY TO SOLVE EVERY PROBLEM BY

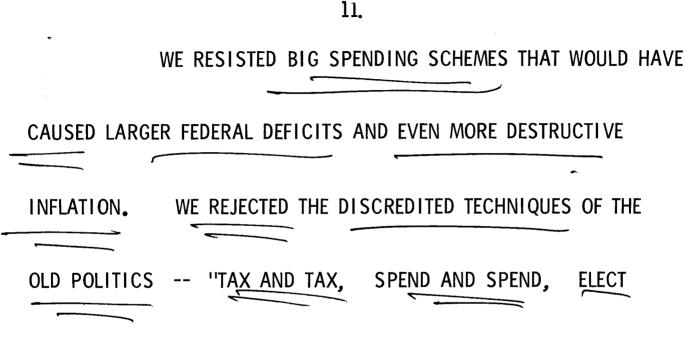
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WERE WRONG  $\subseteq$  WE DID NOT PANIC. I NEVER LOST SIGHT OF A

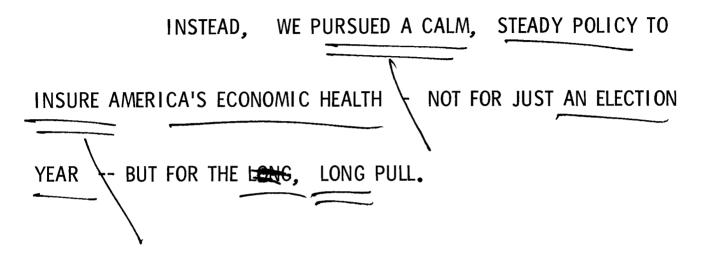
BELIEF I HAVE HELD FOR ALL OF MY POLITICAL LIFE: THAT A

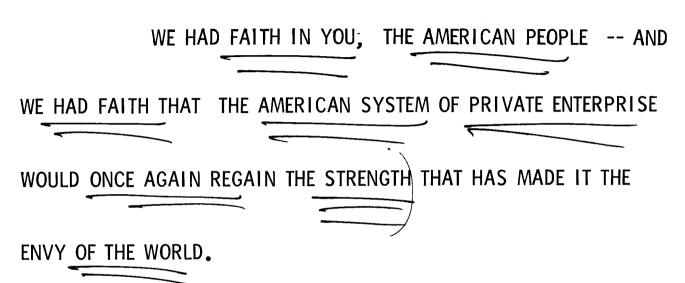
GOVERNMENT BIG ENOUGH TO GIVE YOU EVERYTHING YOU WANT -- IS A

GOVERNMENT BIG ENOUGH TO TAKE FROM YOU EVERYTHING YOU HAVE.



' AND ELECT."

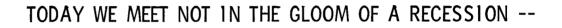




-13-

YOU KNOW FROM YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT IS



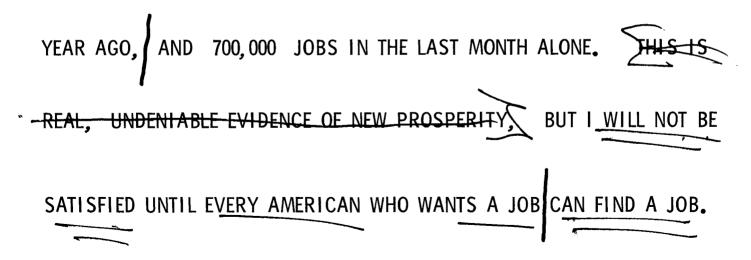


BUT IN THE FULL SURGE OF ECONOMIC RECOVERY.



### WE HAVE ADDED ALMOST THREE AND A HALF MILLION JOBS

### TO THE AMERICAN ECONOMY SINCE THE BOTTOM OF THE RECESSION A



INFLATION HAS BEEN CUT IN HALF DURING THE PAST

21 MONTHS, AND WE WILL KEEP THE PRESSURE ON SO THAT IT WON'T

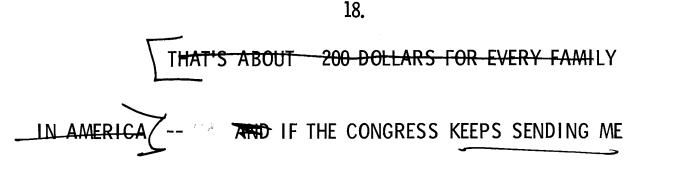
THREATEN OUR ECONOMIC STABILITY AGAIN.



I VETOED 49 BILLS THAT THE CONGRESS SENT ME,

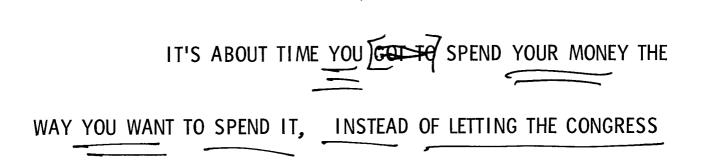
AND 42 OF THOSE VETOES WERE SUSTAINED, SAVING THE AMERICAN

TAXPAYER 13 BILLION DOLLARS.



THESE BIG-SPENDING, BUDGET-BUSTING BILLS, I WILL USE MY VETO

AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN.



-19-

SPEND IT FOR YOU.

### I AM DETERMINED THAT YOUR TAX DOLLARS WORK AS

HARD FOR YOU AS YOU WORKED FOR THEM.

WHEREVER POSSIBLE, I WANT THE GOVERNMENT TO SPEND

LESS AND TAX LESS.

20 a.

LAST YEAR WE REDUCED FEDERAL INCOME TAXES.

THIS YEAR I PROPOSED ANOTHER TEN BILLION DOLLAR TAX CUT TO BEGIN

ON JULY FIRST WHICH WOULD RAISE THE PERSONAL EXEMPTION ON

YOUR INCOME TAXES FROM 750 TO 1,000 DOLLARS.

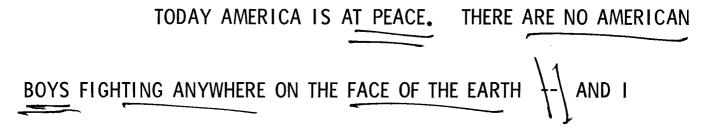
Middle marme tappagers deserve a fair

### LET ME ASSURE YOU I WILL FIGHT THE CONGRESS

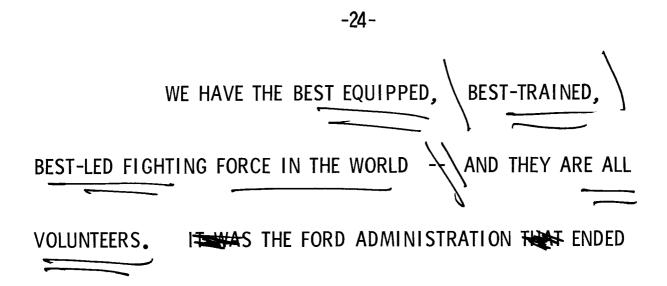
EVERY STEP OF THE WAY TO GET YOU THE TAX RELIEF YOU DESERVE.

about strengthen

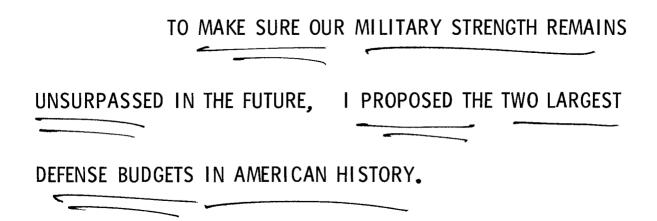




INTEND TO KEEP IT THAT WAY.



THE DRAFT.



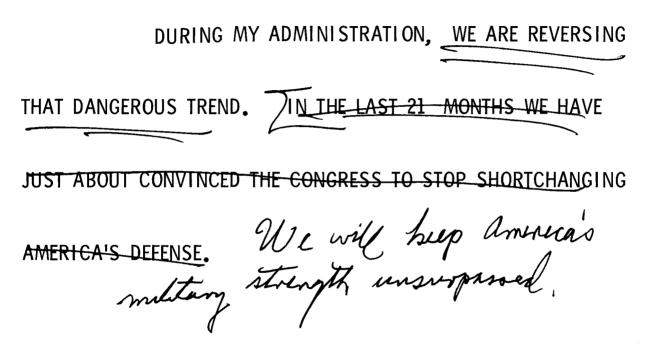
BETWEEN 1964 AND 1974, THE CONGRESS CUT

FIFTY BILLION DOLLARS FROM DEFENSE SPENDING, AND REDUCED

THE NATIONAL DEFENSE SHARE OF THE FEDERAL BUDGET TO ITS LOWEST

POINT SINCE PEARL HARBOR.

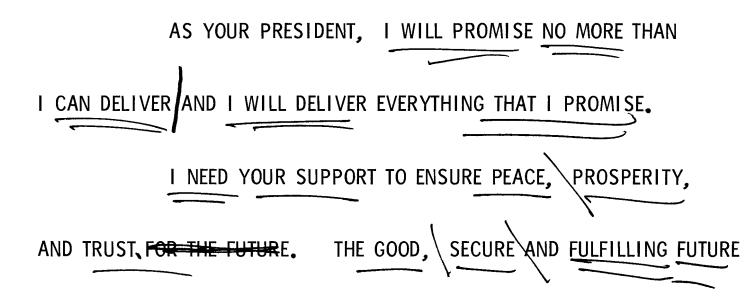




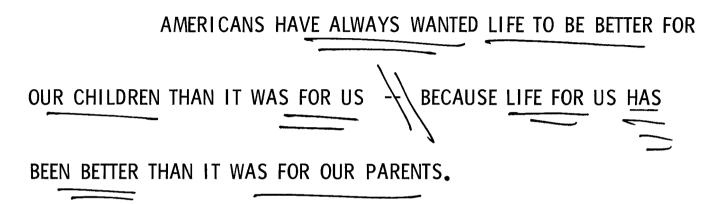
29. Und a mondate from you FINALLY, I WILL FINISH MY MOST IMPORTANT JOB

RESTORATION OF TRUST IN THE PRESIDENCY FEELF.



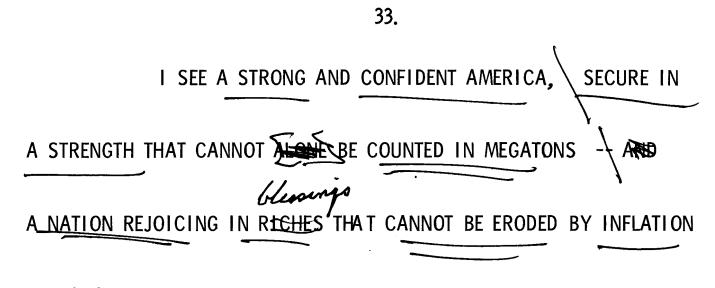


THAT WE OWE TO OUR CHILDREN.

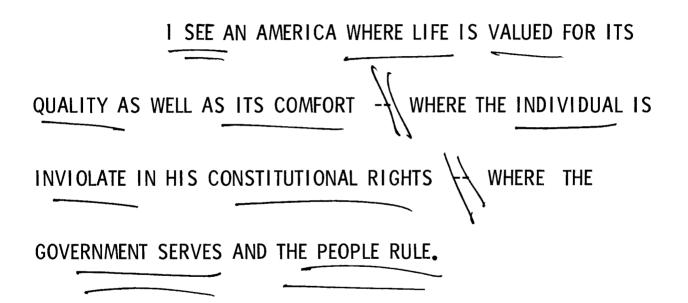




-OURSAS WE ENTER THE THIRD CENTURY OF OUR INDEPENDENCE?







WE HAVE ALL SHARED THE BLESSINGS OF FREEDOM.

LET US NOW ROLL UP OUR SLEEVES AND JOIN IN THE WORK OF

PRESERVING IT.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

END OF TEXT