

**The original documents are located in Box 34, “6/7/76 - Remarks at the Anderson Arena Memorial Hall, Bowling Green, OH” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

REMARKS AT BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

MONDAY, JUNE 7, 1976

- THANK YOU, CONGRESSMAN DEL LATTA
- DR. MOORE (PRESIDENT, BGSU)
- GOV RHODES
- SENATOR TAFT
- CONGRESSMAN BROWN
- CONGRESSMAN WHALEN
- MR. SHANKLIN
- STUDENTS, FACULTY AND GUESTS OF  
BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

IT'S GREAT TO BE AT BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY --

HOME OF THE FALCONS•

WHEN I LEFT HOME TO GO TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

A FEW YEARS AGO, SOME PEOPLE CALLED IT "LEAVING THE NEST"•

HERE AT BOWLING GREEN, I HEAR YOU HAVE A NEST

OF YOUR OWN THAT SOME PEOPLE NEVER SEEM TO LEAVE•

BUT I'M NOT SURE WHETHER THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT

THE FALCON'S NEST / OR THE CAMPUS CEMETERY.

RATHER THAN MAKE A <sup>major</sup> ~~BIG~~ <sup>straight</sup> SPEECH TODAY, LET ME ~~JUST~~

TAKE A MOMENT OR TWO TO EXPLAIN WHAT WE HAVE TRIED TO DO

OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS AND WHAT WE WANT TO DO IN THE

NEXT FOUR.

TWO YEARS AGO, AMERICA WAS FACING SOME OF  
THE MOST SERIOUS PROBLEMS IN ITS HISTORY. WE WERE ENTERING  
INTO A PERIOD WHEN OUR ECONOMY SEEMED TO GO HAYWIRE --  
WITH RECESSION COSTING US JOBS ON THE ONE HAND  
AND RUNAWAY INFLATION ROBBING OUR PAYCHECKS AND  
STEALING OUR SAVINGS ON THE OTHER.

TWO YEARS AGO, OUR ALLIES AND ADVERSARIES ALIKE  
WERE UNCERTAIN ABOUT THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES.

TWO YEARS AGO, THERE WAS A GREAT CRISIS OF  
CONFIDENCE IN THE GOVERNMENT, ESPECIALLY IN THE WHITE HOUSE,  
IN THE WAKE OF THE WATERGATE SCANDALS.

THIS WAS THE SITUATION FACING ME IN MY EARLY

MONTHS IN OFFICE.

IT WAS NOT THE EASIEST TIME TO ASSUME

THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT.

BUT IN THE TWO YEARS SINCE THEN, WE HAVE TURNED  
AMERICA AROUND AND POINTED IT IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.  
OUR ECONOMY IS IN THE MIDST OF A STRONG RECOVERY AND INFLATION  
HAS BEEN CUT IN HALF. WE HAVE MADE THAT ECONOMIC PROGRESS  
BY CUTTING TAXES AND STIMULATING PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, RATHER  
THAN TRYING TO DOMINATE THE ECONOMY WITH GOVERNMENT SPENDING  
AND GOVERNMENT CONTROLS.

AS A RESULT, THE PROSPERITY WE ARE ENTERING  
WILL BE AN ENDURING ONE - NOT JUST LASTING FOR A FEW MONTHS  
OR FOR AN ELECTION YEAR, BUT FOR MANY YEARS TO COME.

YOUR JOB PROSPECTS THIS YEAR IN MOST FIELDS ARE BETTER  
THAN THEY HAVE BEEN IN A LONG TIME.

THE LABOR DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED LAST WEEK

THAT THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS ON THE JOB IN MAY HAD REACHED

A NEW RECORD FOR THE FOURTH STRAIGHT MONTH.

87 MILLION, 700 THOUSAND PEOPLE ARE GAINFULLY EMPLOYED

IN AMERICA TODAY, ~~AND~~ THAT IS WELL OVER THREE MILLION MORE

THAN WERE WORKING AT THE BOTTOM OF THE RECESSION

JUST ABOUT A YEAR AGO.

INTERNATIONALLY, AMERICA IS GAINING A NEW PRESTIGE

IN THE COMMUNITY OF NATIONS.

WE ARE MAKING OUR INTERNATIONAL DECISIONS

ON THE BASIS OF WHAT IS RIGHT FOR AMERICA'S INTEREST,

NOT ON THE BASIS OF DOMESTIC POLITICS.

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WE HAVE GREATLY IMPROVED OUR RELATIONS

WITH OUR MAJOR WESTERN ALLIES AND JAPAN;

~~AND~~ WE WILL CONTINUE THAT PROCESS THROUGH SUCH MEANS

AS THE ECONOMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE I WILL HOST LATER THIS MONTH

IN PUERTO RICO.

WE HAVE CONCLUDED A GOOD AGREEMENT

WITH THE SOVIET UNION TO PERMIT AND CONTROL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS

FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES. WE ARE CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS

IN THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATIONS TALKS TO REDUCE THE DEADLY LEVEL

OF TERROR AND THE COSTLY BURDEN OF ARMAMENTS WHICH WEIGH

ON BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION.

WE ARE CONTINUING TO PLAY THE ROLE OF PEACEMAKER

IN THE MIDDLE EAST, *successfully keeping* ~~TRYING WITH SOME SUCCESS TO KEEP~~ THE LID

ON THAT VOLATILE SITUATION AND *giving* ~~GIVE~~ PEACE A CHANCE IN A REGION

THAT HAS SEEN SO MUCH OF WAR.

WE ARE MAKING INITIATIVES FOR PEACE AND STABILITY  
*of economic initiatives*  
IN SOUTHERN AFRICA THROUGH DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS, NOT BY  
*1,*  
INFLAMING EMOTIONS OR BY ~~SENDING~~ *committing* AMERICAN TROOPS TO ~~FIGHT~~  
*conflict.*  
AN AFRICAN ~~WAR~~.

AMERICA IS AT PEACE, AND I INTEND TO KEEP IT  
THAT WAY.

FINALLY, BECAUSE I HAVE MADE MY ADMINISTRATION

~~AS~~ OPEN, ~~AS~~ CANDID AND ~~AS~~ FORTHRIGHT ~~AS POSSIBLE~~,

WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY TOWARD RESTORING THE PEOPLE'S

CONFIDENCE AND TRUST IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT.

THIS RECORD OF PEACE, PROSPERITY AND TRUST

HAS BEEN MY PERFORMANCE IN OFFICE OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS.

IT IS A SOLID FOUNDATION ON WHICH TO BUILD  
A BETTER AMERICA IN THE NEXT FOUR YEARS. LET'S WORK  
TOGETHER.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

WITH THOSE GENERAL COMMENTS, MAYBE WE HAVE  
TIME FOR A FEW QUESTIONS.

END OF TEXT