

**The original documents are located in Box 39, “10/13/76 - Remarks at White Plains City Hall, White Plains, NY” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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57  
10:55 a.m.

~~THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.~~

REMARKS AT WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1976

- THANK YOU, DICK (ROSENBAUM)
- SEN. JAVITS
- SEN. BUCKLEY
- DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
- MAYOR DELYECCIO
- DISTINGUISHED GUESTS
- LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

-1-

TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO THIS MONTH, YOUNG AMERICANS  
FOUGHT THE BRITISH RED COATS IN THE BATTLE OF WHITE PLAINS.

IN 1976, A DIFFERENT SORT OF BATTLE IS RAGING.

IN THIS BATTLE, THE CITIZENS OF WHITE PLAINS -- AND ALL

AMERICANS -- ARE NOT FIGHTING RED COATS, BUT RED TAPE AND

RED INK.

THAT'S THE BASIC DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PLAINS, GEORGIA,  
AND WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK. MY OPPONENT FROM PLAINS,  
GEORGIA, MAKES THE PROMISES -- YOU HERE IN WHITE PLAINS,  
NEW YORK, WOULD HAVE TO PAY FOR THEM.

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES IN THIS CAMPAIGN  
IS TAXES. YOU HAVE HEARD ALL FOUR SIDES OF THAT QUESTION --  
THREE OF THEM FROM MR. CARTER.

SO FAR THE LIVELIEST DEBATE OF THIS CAMPAIGN HAS BEEN  
THE DEBATE BETWEEN JIMMY CARTER AND JIMMY CARTER.

HE SAYS HE IS FOR A BALANCED BUDGET . . . BUT HE  
REFUSES TO SUPPORT MY VETOES.

HE SAYS AMERICA IS WEAK MILITARILY . . . BUT HE  
WANTS TO CUT THE DEFENSE BUDGET.

HE SAYS HE'S AGAINST INFLATION . . . BUT HE SUPPORTS THE  
DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM WITH ITS 100 TO 200 BILLION DOLLARS IN  
NEW FEDERAL SPENDING.

HE SAYS HE'S FOR TAX REFORM . . . BUT HE RENEGES ON HIS  
PROMISE TO PROVIDE SPECIFICS BEFORE THE ELECTION.

HE SAYS HE'S FOR HIGHER TAXES FOR PEOPLE EARNING OVER

14 THOUSAND DOLLARS A YEAR . . . BUT I SAY THE MIDDLE INCOME

TAXPAYER IS ALREADY OVERTAXED, OVERBURDENED AND

UNDER-REPRESENTED.

FEW THINGS UPSET NEW YORKERS AS MUCH AS YOUR

SKYROCKETING TAXES. THE WAY TO REVERSE THAT TREND IS NOT TO

EXPAND GOVERNMENT SPENDING, BUT TO CUT IT BACK. THANKS TO

MY 60 VETOES YOU KNOW WHICH CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT STANDS

FOR CUTTING BACK.

PROPERTY TAXES IN WESTCHESTER COUNTY ARE CLIMBING, TOO.

WITHOUT THE REVENUE SHARING PROGRAM WHICH I SIGNED INTO LAW IN  
YONKERS THIS MORNING, THEY WOULD CLIMB EVEN FASTER.

REVENUE SHARING IS THE KIND OF SPECIFIC FEDERAL HELP THAT  
ENCOURAGES LOCAL SOLUTIONS TO LOCAL PROBLEMS.

LAST FEBRUARY, MR. CARTER CAME OUT IN FAVOR OF  
ELIMINATING THE DEDUCTION FOR MORTGAGE INTEREST ON YOUR FEDERAL  
INCOME TAX RETURN. TODAY HE HAS RETREATED BACK INTO HIS  
CATALOGUE OF GENERALITIES.

WELL, THERE IS NO SUCH CONFUSION ABOUT MY VIEWS ON

THE DEDUCTION OF MORTGAGE INTEREST.

*that deduction*

-- I HAVE SUPPORTED IT FOR 25 YEARS IN THE HOUSE OF

REPRESENTATIVES AND TWO YEARS AS PRESIDENT.

*the deduction*

-- I AM SUPPORTING ~~IT TODAY~~ IN THIS CAMPAIGN.

-- I WILL SUPPORT IT THROUGHOUT THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

I'M NOT GOING TO LET HOME OWNERS BECOME THE NEWEST

ENDANGERED SPECIES.

TO ME, TAX REFORM MEANS TAX REDUCTION. NINE DAYS

AGO, I SIGNED A LAW WHICH EXTENDED THE TAX CUTS I INITIATED

LAST YEAR. BUT THE TAX REFORM ACT OF 1976 FAILS TO INCLUDE

MY PROPOSALS FOR PERMANENT DEEPER CUTS.

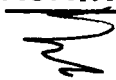
THIS YEAR I URGED THE CONGRESS TO INCREASE THE PERSONAL

INCOME TAX EXEMPTION FROM 750 DOLLARS TO ONE THOUSAND

DOLLARS. CONGRESS REFUSED.



NEXT YEAR, I WILL AGAIN SUBMIT LEGISLATION TO INCREASE



THE PERSONAL EXEMPTION FROM 750 DOLLARS TO ONE THOUSAND

DOLLARS.

IF THE CONGRESS WILL CUT SPENDING

ON ITSELF --

ON THE BUREAUCRACY

ON WASTEFUL PROGRAMS

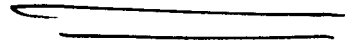
THEN WE CAN

HAVE THIS VITALLY NEEDED TAX REFORM.



WE'VE HEARD A LOT OF TALK IN THIS CAMPAIGN ABOUT ~~THE~~

~~SUBJECT~~ OF COMPASSION.



OUR GOVERNMENT MUST ALWAYS SHOW COMPASSION TOWARDS

THE TRULY NEEDY. ~~BUT I THINK~~ THE TIME HAS COME TO SHOW JUST

AS MUCH COMPASSION TOWARD THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE THE GENEROSITY

OF GOVERNMENT POSSIBLE IN THE FIRST PLACE. HOW ABOUT A ~~LITTLE~~ *lot*

COMPASSION FOR THE TAXPAYERS OF AMERICA?

THE PEOPLE OF WHITE PLAINS WORK HARD FOR EVERY DOLLAR

THEY MAKE. YOU ARE THE PEOPLE WHO GET UP EARLY EVERY DAY AND

GO TO BED TIRED EVERY NIGHT, QUIETLY BUILDING A BETTER LIFE FOR

YOUR FAMILIES AND FELLOW CITIZENS. YOU PAY THE TAXES AND

OBEY THE LAWS. YOU ARE THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE POSSIBLE EVERY

GOOD THING THAT GOVERNMENT DOES.

SO WHEN A FEDERAL SPENDING BILL REACHES MY DESK,

I KEEP YOU IN MIND. IT MAY BE CONGRESSIONAL COMPASSION.

BUT IT IS YOUR MONEY.

THAT'S WHY I VETOED EXCESSIVE CONGRESSIONAL SPENDING  
SCHEMES AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN.

MY VETOES SAVED YOU 9.4 BILLION DOLLARS.

IF CONGRESS HAD BEEN AS INTERESTED IN SAVING YOUR MONEY AS I AM,

MY VETOES WOULD HAVE SAVED YOU 16 BILLION DOLLARS MORE.

AMERICA CANNOT AFFORD TO HAVE LEADERS WHO TRY TO BE  
ALL THINGS TO ALL PEOPLE. THE PRESIDENT MUST BE THE SAME  
THING TO ALL PEOPLE.

WHEN VOTERS LOOK AT THE RECORD OF THE LAST TWO YEARS,  
THEY WILL SEE THAT AMERICA HAS MADE AN INCREDIBLE COMEBACK.  
WE ARE TODAY ON THE STEADY ROAD TO PEACE, PROSPERITY AND  
TRUST.

BUT ON NOVEMBER 2nd WE WILL REACH A FORK IN THAT  
ROAD. WE CAN CONTINUE THE POLICIES AND THE LEADERSHIP THAT  
HAVE BROUGHT US BACK FROM A NATIONAL NIGHTMARE -- BACK FROM  
RECESSION -- BACK FROM INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT.

OR WE CAN TAKE INSTEAD THE OLD PATH THAT LEADS TO BIGGER  
GOVERNMENT, HIGHER TAXES, MORE INFLATION AND MORE  
UNEMPLOYMENT.

THE CHOICE IS YOURS.

THROUGH TWO DIFFICULT YEARS I HAVE STOOD FOR THE LITTLE  
TAXPAYER AND AGAINST THE BIG TAX SPENDER. IT IS FROM YOUR  
RANKS THAT I COME AND ON YOUR SIDE THAT I STAND.  
ON NOVEMBER 2nd, I ASK EACH OF YOU TO STAND WITH ME.

END OF TEXT