The original documents are located in Box 40, "10/15/76 - Remarks outside Fisher Theatre, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa" of the President's Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY,

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1976

- -THANK YOU, GOU RAY
- DR. PARKS
- Mrs. PETERSON
- -JILL WAGNER
- CONG GRASSLEY

- MAYOR FELLINGER
- KEN FULK
- STUDENTS, FACULTY AND GUESTS

IT'S GREAT TO BE AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY, AND IN THE

HEART OF AMERICA'S FARM BELT.

THIS FINE UNIVERSITY HAS A LONG TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

and a great day against the air force Congressation

IF THE STATE OF IOWA WERE AN INDEPENDENT COUNTRY, IT

WOULD RANK SECOND ONLY TO THE UNITED STATES IN THE

PRODUCTION OF CORN.

I COULDN'T HAVE PICKED A BETTER WEEK - OR DAY --

TO COME TO IOWA.

JUST THREE DAYS AGO, ON TUESDAY, THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

RELEASED ITS OCTOBER FORECAST PREDICTING THE SECOND LARGEST

WHEAT CROP AND THE LARGEST CORN CROP -- 5.9_BILLION

IN AMERICAN HISTORY.

WHAT'S MORE, THIS NEW RECORD WILL BE ACHIEVED IN SPITE

OF SERIOUS DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN MANY AREAS. I'M

DELIGHTED TO BE IN THE HEART OF AMERICA TODAY TO SEE SOME

OF THAT BUMPER CROP BEING HARVESTED.

THIS RECORD CORN CROP IS A GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION OF AN NON-POLITICAL FACT THAT TRANSCENDS ALL OF THE OVERRIDING. AND THE RHETORIC OF THIS ELECTION YEAR: NOISE AMERICA IS BLESSED WITH FARM LANDS AND FARM KNOW-HOW

UNEQUALED ANY PLACE ON EARTH.

THE CORN BELT - AND THE OTHER GREAT GROWING AREAS

OF OUR BOUNTIFUL COUNTRY - ARE RENEWABLE, NON-DEPLETING

ASSETS - WORTH FAR MORE THAN ALL THE DIAMONDS IN AFRICA,

ALL THE OIL OF THE MIDDLE EAST, AND ALL THE GOLD IN FORT

TODAY A SINGLE AMERICAN FARMER CAN FEED 56 PEOPLE.

NO OTHER NATION ON EARTH EVEN COMES CLOSE TO THAT

RECORD. THE SOVIET UNION HAS ONE-THIRD OF ITS

PEOPLE ENGAGED IN AGRICULTURE, AND THEY FREQUENTLY FALL SHORT

OF THEIR NEEDS.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURE HAS MAINTAINED AN AVERAGE

SIX PERCENT INCREASE IN PRODUCTIVITY YEAR AFTER YEAR.

THAT IS SOMETHING NO OTHER SEGMENT OF AMERICAN SOCIETY,

OR ANY OTHER SOCIETY, HAS BEEN ABLE TO DO, AND I CONGRATULATE

YOU, POR 17.

YOU BEEN SO SUCCESSFUL? BECAUSE YOU HAVE BEEN YOUR OWN INVENTIVENESS YOUR OWN INITIATIVE, OWN INGENUITY. Freedom to produce the finest and most abundant

FOOD AND FIBER IN THE WORLD.

IF YOU ARE TO CONTINUE MEETING THE NEEDS OF THIS

COUNTRY AND OUR TRADING PARTNERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD,

YOU MUST CONTINUE TO HAVE THIS KIND OF FREEDOM }- FREEDOM

FROM THE MEDDLING HAND AND THE LONG ARM OF GOVERNMENT.

WHAT ARE THE RESULTS OF THIS POLICY SO FAR?

AVERAGE

FARM INCOME OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS HAS BEEN HIGHER THAN

EVER BEFORE IN HISTORY. FOR THE FARMER IN IOWA, TOTAL

about 6,911

NET INCOME ON THE AVERAGE HAS RISEN FROM 6,896 DOLLARS

about 14, 800

IN 1965 TO 14,733 DOLLARS IN 1975.

YOU NO LONGER HAVE HEAVY GOVERNMENT HELD FARM

SURPLUSES HANGING OVER THE MARKET, DEPRESSING YOUR PRICES

COSTING THE TAXPAYERS ONE BILLION DOLLARS A YEAR OR THREE

MILLION DOLLARS A DAY IN STORAGE AND HANDLING FEES.

INSTEAD OF STORING GRAIN IN GOVERNMENT BINS, WE ARE

SELLING IT IN A FREE MARKET IN RECORD VOLUME. FARM EXPORTS

HIT A RECORD HIGH OF OVER 22 BILLION DOLLARS IN THE LAST FISCAL

YEAR - OUR SIXTH STRAIGHT YEAR OF RECORD FARM EXPORTS.

EXPORTS ARE EXPECTED TO BE ABOUT 22 BILLION DOLLARS AGAIN

THIS FISCAL YEAR.

WE WILL EXPORT NEARLY THREE BILLION BUSHELS OF WHEAT

AND FEED GRAINS IN THIS MARKETING YEAR, AN ALL-TIME RECORD.

ME DID IT WITHOUT ANY GOVERNMENT BOARD SELLING YOUR

EXPORTS. WE DID IT WITHOUT ANY INTERNATIONAL RESERVE

WHERE THIS COUNTRY COULD BE OUTVOTED BY A HUNDRED TO ONE.

WE HAVE WORKED OUT A LONG-TERM AGREEMENT WITH THE

SOVIET UNION WHICH COMMITS THEM TO BUY AT LEAST SIX MILLION

METRIC TONS OF GRAIN EVERY YEAR FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

IN DOLLARS AND CENTS, THAT IS AT LEAST A BILLION DOLLARS

WORTH OF GRAIN SALES EVERY YEAR.

THIS AGREEMENT GIVES US A STABLE, LONG-TERM

FOREIGN MARKET. IT ASSURES A MORE CONSISTENT FLOW

OF PAYMENTS FROM ABROAD.

IT ASSURES THE AMERICAN FARMER THAT THE SOVIET UNION

WILL BE A STEADY CUSTOMER WHETHER THEY HAVE GOOD CROPS OR

BAD. IN THE PAST, SOVIET GRAIN PURCHASES HAVE BEEN

ERRATIC, SECRETIVE AND UNPREDICTABLE, CAUSING PRICES TO

FLUCTUATE WILDLY AND LEAVING THE AMERICAN FARMER ON THE

SHORT END.

THE SOVIETS HAVE ALREADY BOUGHT OVER SIX AND A HALF

MILLION METRIC TONS OF WHEAT AND CORN FOR THE FIRST YEAR OF

THE AGREEMENT. TO DATE, WE HAVE SOLD THE SOVIET UNION

MORE THAN EIGHT MILLION METRIC TONS OF GRAIN AND SOYBEANS

FROM THIS YEAR'S CROP.

BY THIS ARRANGEMENT, THE PRIVATE MARKETING SYSTEM

MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION, TOWARD GREATER PROSPERITY

FOR THE AMERICAN FARMER
AND WE'LL KEEP MOVING IN THAT

DIRECTION FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

THESE GOOD SALES AND GLOWING PROSPECTS ARE THE

FRUITS OF FREE TRADE. THEY ARE ALSO THE BENEFITS OF

PEACE, AND OF AGGRESSIVE SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS.

THEY ARE THE JUST REWARD OF THE IOWA FARMER'S HARD WORK.



NEVER USE THE BOUNTY OF AMERICA'S FARMERS AS A PAWN

IN INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY.

TODAY, I REPEAT THAT STATEMENT.

I ALSO SAID IN KANSAS CITY, THERE WILL BE NO

EMBARGOES. I REPEAT THAT STATEMENT TODAY

THERE IS A FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MR. CARTER AND ME

ON THAT QUESTION. IN AN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED JUST TWO-MONTHS

AGO, ON AUGUST 8, 1976, MR. CARTER WAS ASKED: 'WOULD

YOU FAVOR USING OUR ECONOMIC LEVERAGE TO . . . GET THE RUSSIANS

TO CEASE AND DESIST" FROM AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS?

IN OUR SECOND DEBATE, HE TOLD 90 MILLION AMERICANS

THAT A NEW ARAB OIL EMBARGO WOULD AMOUNT TO "AN ECONOMIC

DECLARATION OF WAR," AND THAT HE WOULD INSTANTLY RESPOND

WITH A TOTAL EMBARGO AGAINST THE OFFENDING COUNTRY,

MR. CARTER REPLIED. "YES. I WOULD."

SHIPPING THEM NOTHING, INCLUDING FOOD.

THOSE ARE THINGS HE SAID ABOUT HIS PLANS FOR YOUR

PRODUCTS IN THE FUTURE.

BUT JUST AS IMPORTANT IS

WHAT MR. CARTER DIDN'T SAY.

WHEN HE MADE HIS ACCEPTANCE SPEECH AT THE

DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION IN NEW YORK CITY, THERE WAS NO

MENTION OF FARM POLICY.

NOT ONCE IN FORTY MINUTES.

AT THE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION IN KANSAS CITY

HERE'S WHAT I SAID: "WE WILL CARRY OUT A FARM POLICY

THAT ASSURES A FAIR MARKET PRICE FOR THE FARMER,

ENCOURAGES FULL PRODUCTION, LEADS TO RECORD EXPORTS,

AND EASES THE HUNGER WITHIN THE HUMAN FAMILY."

THAT IS A PLEDGE I WAS PROUD TO MAKE IN MY ACCEPTANCE

SPEECH, A PLEDGE I WILL PROUDLY CARRY OUT FOR THE NEXT FOUR

YEARS.

I-KNOW THAT DESPITE THE GOOD OVERALL RECORD I MENTIONED

EARLIER, SOME FARMERS ARE HAVING A HARD TIME OF IT RIGHT NOW.

CATTLE PRICES ARE WAY TOO LOW.

WHEAT PRICES ARE

TOO LOW. THE WEATHER HAS NOT BEEN A VERY GOOD FRIEND TO

A LOT OF FARMERS IN IOWA, NEBRASKA, SOUTH DAKOTA,

MINNESOTA AND OTHER AREAS OF THE COUNTRY.

I HAVE ALREADY DONE SOMETHING ABOUT THE CATTLE

SITUATION. AS YOU MAY RECALL, I TRIED EARLIER THIS YEAR

TO HALT THE IMPORTATION OF FOREIGN BEEF THROUGH A FREE-TRADE

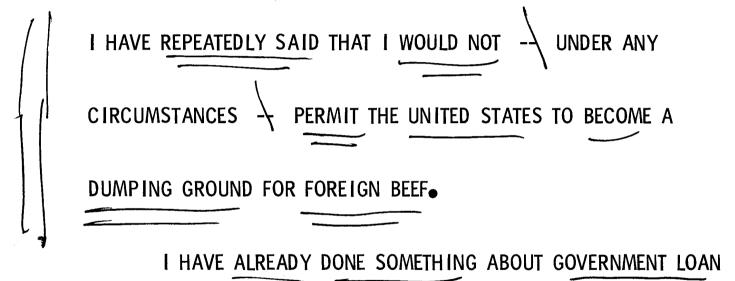
ZONE IN PUERTO RICO. DIPLOMATIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE

INITIATIVES COULD NOT BRING THIS ABOUT.

TO CURB THESE IMPORTS. THEREFORE, LAST WEEK IN DALLAS,

I SIGNED A PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION TO LIMIT BEEF IMPORTS,

AND THEREBY HELP THE AMERICAN BEEF INDUSTRY.



RATES FOR GRAINS.

ON WEDNESDAY I ORDERED AN INCREASE IN THE GOVERNMENT LOAN

RATES FOR WHEAT FROM \$1.50 TO \$2.25 A BUSHEL, AND FOR

CORN FROM \$1.25 TO \$1.50 A BUSHEL. THESE ADJUSTMENTS

WILL PERMIT A MORE ORDERLY MARKETING OF THIS YEAR'S BUMPER

CROPS AND HELP FARMERS TO PROPERLY FINANCE NEXT YEAR'S

TING.

I HAVE ALREADY DONE SOMETHING ABOUT THE FAMILY FARM.

EARLY THIS YEAR I CALLED UPON THE CONGRESS TO INCREASE

THE FEDERAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTION. I FOUGHT HARD FOR IT

AND WAS PROUD TO SIGN IT INTO LAW JUST LAST WEEK.

THIS INCREASES THE ESTATE TAX EXEMPTION FROM 60 THOUSAND

DOLLARS TO THE EQUIVALENT OF 175 THOUSAND DOLLARS. THE NEW

LAW ALSO PERMITS ESTATE TAX PAYMENTS ON FAMILY FARMS TO BE

STRETCHED OUT OVER AN EXTENDED PERIOD. THESE TAX REFORMS

WILL GO A LONG WAY TO HELP SAVE THE FAMILY FARM FROM THE TAX

ECTOR.

CONGRESS FAILED TO GO ALONG WITH MY PROPOSAL TO PERMIT TAX EXEMPT TRANSFERS FROM SPOUSE TO SPOUSE YEAR I'M GOING RIGHT BACK been there until they pass the istal legislation. I'M ALSO TRYING TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE DROUGHT.

I HAVE JUST SIGNED LEGISLATION AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT -- OF A NATIONAL POLICY

TO DEVELOP NEW METHODS OF COMBATTING THE CRIPPLING DROUGHT

CONDITIONS THAT HAVE CUT FARM PRODUCTION.

UNDER THIS NEW PROGRAM THE COMMERCE DEPARTMENT WILL CONDUCT

RESEARCH -- AND DEVELOP MEANS OF MODIFYING THE EFFECTS

OF SEVERE WEATHER CHANGES TO PROTECT THE FARMER.

THIS IS IN ADDITION TO THE INCREASES I APPROVED FOR OTHER AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN NEXT AT A TIME WHEN WE HAD TO KEEP THE LID ON OR CUT BACK ON MOST OTHER PROGRAMS.

THOSE ARE SOME OF THE THINGS THAT OUR GOVERNMENT CAN

AND SHOULD DO TO HELP YOU.

THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD NEVER TRY TO DICTATE TO

FARMERS HOW TO FARM

I HAVE FAITH IN THE ABILITY OF AMERICA'S FARMERS

TO MAKE THEIR OWN DECISIONS - TO DETERMINE WHAT AND HOW

OS YOUR PRISIDENT

MUCH THEY WILL PLANT.

AS LONG AS I REMAIN IN THE NATION!

HECHEST OFFICE AGRICULTURE WILL HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING FRIEND

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

OF COURSE, MR. CARTER SAYS HE'S THE FARMER'S

FRIEND TOO. WHAT KIND OF A FRIEND IS HE?

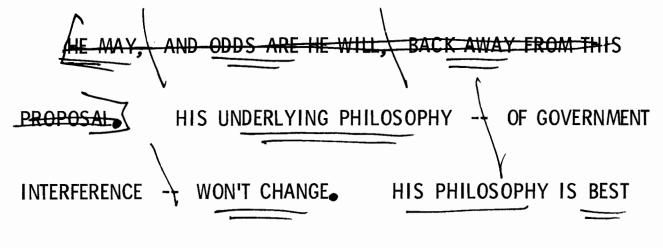
MR. CARTER WANTS TO GO BACK TO THE OLD DISCREDITED

SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT MEDDLING IN THE FARMER'S AFFAIRS.

HE WANTS TO BUILD UP A STOCKPILE OF FARM SURPLUSES ONCE

AGAIN. HE HAS PROPOSED A STOCKPILE OF 25 MILLION METRIC

TONS OF GRAIN, WITH HALF OF IT TO BE HELD IN GOVERNMENT BINS.



MR. CARTER WHICH ENVISIONS EXPORT CONTROLS AND LICENSING

EXEMPLIFIED BY THE HUMPHREY-HAWKINS BILL EMBRACED BY

UNPRECEDENTED IN A PEACETIME ECONOMY.

MY FRIENDS, MR. CARTER DOES HAVE A STRANGE WAY OF

CHANGING HIS ACCENT AS HE MOVES ABOUT THE COUNTRY.

IN CALIFORNIA, HE TRIES TO SOUND LIKE CAESAR CHAVEZ.

IN CHICAGO, HE SOUNDS LIKE MAYOR DALEY.

IN NEW YORK, HE SOUNDS LIKE RALPH NADER.

THEN, MR. CARTER COMES TO THE FARM BELT AND TRIES TO

WHEREVER HE GOES. THAT'S THE KIND OF PRESIDENT I HAVE BE

AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

A LITTLE OLE PEANUT FARMER.

WHEN THE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT WAS CREATED BY

ABRAHAM LINCOLN IN 1862, ITS MOTTO WAS: "AGRICULTURE IS

THE FOUNDATION OF MANUFACTURING AND COMMERCE. IT WAS TRUIT

THEN. IT'S WIST AS TRUE TODAY.

THE FARMER IS THE MAINSPRING OF THE AMERICAN ECONOMY.

U.S. FARM EXPORTS HAVE PROVIDED THE FOUNDATION FOR OUR

ECONOMIC RECOVERY NOW UNDERWAY.

IT HAS TAKEN MANKIND COUNTLESS CENTURIES TO REACH

A WORLDWIDE POPULATION OF FOUR BILLION. BUT JUST 35 YEARS

FROM NOW, THERE WILL PROBABLY BE FOUR BILLION MORE PEOPLE

LIVING ON THIS EARTH.

WE INITIATED A WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE IN ROME IN

1974 AND ONE OF OUR DELEGATES WAS SENATOR BOB DOLE,

OUR NEXT VICE PRESIDENT.

CANADA AND AUSTRALIA COMBINED THE THREE BIGGEST FOOD

EXPORTING COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD COULD NOT HOPE TO MEET THE

FOOD DEMANDS OF THE WORLD IF THE POPULATION DOUBLED IN THAT

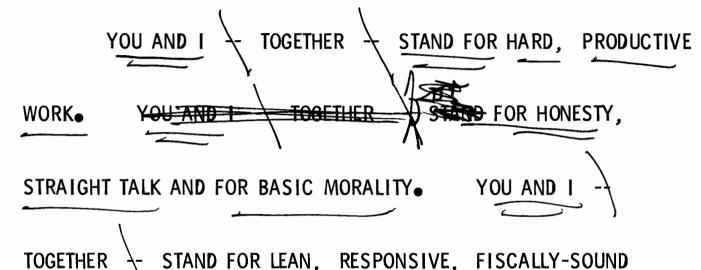
SHORT A TIME.

AND YET WE MUST.

| | BELLEYE | THE AMERICAN FARMER CAN DO ANYTHING HE SETS

OUT TO DO IF THE GOVERNMENT WILL LET HIM.

THE FORD ADMINISTRATION AND THE AMERICAN FARMER SHARE THE SAME CONFIDENT APPROACH TO THE FUTURE, THE SAME IDEALS, THE SAME BELIEF IN OUR LAND AND THE SAME CONCERN FOR THE UNDERNOURISHED AND STARVING MILLIONS OF OUR WORLD.



GOVERNMENT.

WE BELIEVE IN A MINIMUM OF BUREAUCRATIC CONTROL OVER

FARMING. WE BELIEVE IN AGRICULTURAL POLICIES GEARED TO THE

FREE MARKET PHILOSOPHY. WE BELIEVE THAT THE FARMER HIMSELF

SHOULD DECIDE HOW TO USE HIS LAND, CAPITAL AND LABOR TO MAKE

A PROFIT. WE DON'T BELIEVE THAT PROFIT SHOULD BE

CAPRICIOUSLY BE TAXED AWAY FROM HIM OR HIS FAMILY.

THE CHOICE IS CLEAR. GOVERNMENT IS ALREADY

TOO LARGE, TOO POWERFUL, TOO COSTLY AND TOO DEEPLY INVOLVED

IN THE LIVES OF EVERY AMERICAN. MR. CARTER CANNOT CARRY

OUT HIS PROMISES WITHOUT BIGGER BUREAUCRACIES AND HIGHER

TAXES.

I WANT A NEW GENERATION OF FREEDOM IN AMERICA --

FREEDOM FOR ALL OF US TO DO WHAT WE WANT TO DO AND WHAT WE

OUGHT TO DO.

THE KIND OF AMERICA YOU WANT AND I WANT IS AN ONE OF RECORD FARM INCOME, ABUNDANT AMERICA RECORD EXPORTS AND RECORD ACREAGE BACK IN **PRODUCTION** AND FREEDOM FOR THE FARMER TO MAKE HIS OWN DECISIONS AND TO REAP THE REWARDS OF HIS LABORS.

I HAVE COME HERE TORAN TO ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT --

AND FOR YOUR VOTE ON NOVEMBER 2nd.

YOU KNOW WHERE I STAND. I WILL NOT LET YOU DOWN.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

END OF TEXT