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57
IT'S GREAT TO BE BACK IN ST. LOUIS AND IN THE GREAT STATE
OF MISSOURI.

ONE OF YOUR MOST OUTSTANDING SONS HAS BEEN TRAVELING
AROUND THE COUNTRY WITH US THE PAST FEW DAYS.

-1B-

HE HAD A COMMITMENT HE COULDN'T GET OUT OF TODAY, BUT
HE TOLD ME TO SAY HELLO TO EVERYBODY IN ST. LOUIS.

I'M DELIGHTED TO DELIVER THAT MESSAGE FROM ONE OF THE
MOST OUTSTANDING PEOPLE I EVER MET -- JOE GARAGIOLA.

WHILE I'M HERE, LET ME EXTEND A SPECIAL INVITATION

TO COME TO WASHINGTON, D.C. NEXT JANUARY FOR THE

INAUGURATION OF JERRY FORD AND BOB DOLE.

As we come to the final count-down

YOU KNOW WHERE I STAND.

I STAND ON YOUR SIDE:

FOR LIMITED GOVERNMENT, FOR FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY, FOR
RISING PROSPERITY, FOR LOWER TAXES, FOR MILITARY STRENGTH,
FOR PEACE IN THE WORLD. NOT A SINGLE YOUNG AMERICAN

IS FIGHTING AND DYING TODAY ON ANY FOREIGN BATTLEFIELD --

AND I INTEND TO KEEP IT THAT WAY.

AFTER SO MANY YEARS IN WHICH AMERICA'S DEFENSIVE
NEEDS WERE SHORTCHANGED, I PROPOSED THE TWO LARGEST
DEFENSE OUTLAYS IN AMERICA'S HISTORY - AND CONVINCED
THE CONGRESS TO STOP SLASHING AWAY AT MILITARY SPENDING.

AFTER SO MANY YEARS OF RUNAWAY GROWTH IN THE FEDERAL
BUDGET, I SUBMITTED A BUDGET FOR THIS FISCAL YEAR WHICH
CUT THAT RATE OF GROWTH IN HALF.

I HAVE HELD THE LINE ON GOVERNMENT SPENDING WITH
66 VETOES AND SAVED YOU, THE HARD PRESSED TAXPAYERS, MORE
THAN NINE BILLION DOLLARS. THOSE VETOES SAVED EACH
AMERICAN FAMILY ABOUT 200 DOLLARS IN FEDERAL SPENDING.

BECAUSE I HAVE NOT BEEN AFRAID TO SAY "NO"
TO EXCESSIVE SPENDING, WE WILL SUBMIT A BALANCED FEDERAL
BUDGET BY 1978. AND WE'LL HAVE ANOTHER TAX DEDUCTION
FOR THE AMERICAN TAXPAYER IN THE MEANTIME.

MY IDEA OF TAX REFORM IS TAX REDUCTION.

I PROPOSED RAISING YOUR INCOME TAX EXEMPTION FROM
750 DOLLARS TO 1,000 DOLLARS. CONGRESS DIDN'T ACT
THIS YEAR, BUT I'LL KEEP THE PRESSURE ON. THE MIDDLE
INCOME TAXPAYER HAS BEEN SHORT CHANGED LONG ENOUGH.

AFTER SO MANY YEARS OF UNCONTROLLED INFLATION,
WE HAVE CUT INFLATION IN HALF IN THE PAST TWO YEARS,
AND WE WILL DO EVEN BETTER IN THE FUTURE.

AFTER THE WORST ECONOMIC RECESSION IN FORTY YEARS,
WE HAVE ADDED FOUR MILLION JOBS TO THE AMERICAN ECONOMY IN THE
PAST TWO YEARS -- NOT BY CREATING DEAD-END JOBS AT THE
TAXPAYER'S EXPENSE BUT BY STIMULATING JOBS WITH A FUTURE
IN THE PRIVATE ECONOMY, WHERE FIVE OUT OF SIX JOBS
ARE FOUND.

TOO MANY PEOPLE ARE STILL OUT OF WORK. WE ARE NOT
SATISFIED WITH THE PROGRESS WE'VE MADE. BUT MORE AMERICANS
WERE ON THE JOB IN 1976 THAN EVER BEFORE IN THE HISTORY OF THIS
COUNTRY -- NEARLY 88 MILLION -- AND THAT'S A TREMENDOUS
COMEBACK FROM WHERE WE WERE JUST A YEAR AND A HALF AGO.

AFTER SUFFERING A TRAGIC BETRAYAL OF PUBLIC TRUST
TWO YEARS AGO, AMERICA HAS HAD ITS FAITH RESTORED IN THE
WHITE HOUSE. MY ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN OPEN, CANDID,
FORTHRIGHT. AND WE'LL KEEP IT THAT WAY.

-11-, -12 & 13-

IN EVERY FIELD; AMERICA IS ON THE MOVE; ON THE MARCH.
THIS NATION IS SOUND. THIS NATION IS SECURE. THIS
NATION IS ON THE WAY TO A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL
AMERICANS. AND THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS EARNED THE TRUST
OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

MY RECORD IS ONE OF PROGRESS, NOT PLATITUDES;
PERFORMANCE, NOT PROMISES.

WE HAVE OUR PROBLEMS, BUT IN THE PAST TWO YEARS WE
HAVE COME A LONG, LONG WAY.

AT HOME AND ABROAD, WE ARE PUTTING OUR OLD DIFFERENCES
ASIDE. WE ARE PUTTING OLD PROBLEMS BEHIND US, AND HEALING
OUR WOUNDS.

I AM PROUD TO BE A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA -- AND I THINK YOU ARE TOO.

WE HAVE A RECORD I AM PROUD TO RUN ON, A RECORD THE PEOPLE
OF MISSOURI AND CONCERNED CITIZENS THROUGHOUT AMERICA -- DEMOCRATS,
INDEPENDENTS AND REPUBLICANS -- WILL SUPPORT ON NOVEMBER SECOND.

GIVE ME YOUR MANDATE, AND WE WILL REDUCE THE GROWTH OF
GOVERNMENT STILL MORE.

GIVE ME YOUR MANDATE, AND WE WILL ENSURE THE INTEGRITY
OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM. WE WILL IMPROVE MEDICARE
SO THAT OUR OLDER CITIZENS CAN ENJOY THE HEALTH AND HAPPINESS
THAT THEY HAVE EARNED. THERE IS NO REASON THEY SHOULD HAVE
TO GO BROKE JUST TO GET WELL.

GIVE ME YOUR MANDATE, AND WE WILL CREATE A TAX
STRUCTURE THAT IS FAIR TO ALL, THAT WILL PRESERVE THE FAMILY
HOME, THE FAMILY BUSINESS, THE FAMILY FARM, THAT WILL GIVE
BUSINESS THE TAX INCENTIVES TO BUILD NEW PLANTS, MODERNIZE
OLD ONES AND CREATE MORE JOBS.

GIVE ME YOUR MANDATE, AND I WILL LEAD THIS NATION
ON THE PATH OF PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH, AND WE WILL LIVE
IN PEACE AND IN FREEDOM IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

I HAVE NO FEAR FOR THE FUTURE OF THIS COUNTRY.
FOR AMERICA, THE FUTURE IS A FRIEND.

AS WE GO FORWARD TOGETHER, I PROMISE YOU ONCE MORE
WHAT I PROMISED BEFORE: TO UPHOLD THE CONSTITUTION, TO DO
WHAT IS RIGHT AS GOD GIVES ME TO SEE THE RIGHT, AND TO DO THE
VERY BEST THAT I CAN FOR AMERICA.

GOD HELPING ME, I WILL NOT LET YOU DOWN.

END OF TEXT