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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

NOTE FOR:

*Fily*

FROM : RON NESSEN

*Various  
drafts of  
G F statement  
on O P I E C*

Those members of Congress who, for political or ~~the~~ other reasons, refuse to ~~a~~ adopt an energy program, would like the American people ~~to~~ to believe they are trying to hold energy prices down.

<sup>True.</sup>  
That is simply not ~~true~~. During the 4 years of so-called ~~the~~ price controls since 1971 our bill for imported oil has gone up more than 700% ~~every~~

~~Everyday we are finding that we are buying more and more oil from OPEC at higher and higher prices.~~

<sup>✓</sup>  
Everyday we are finding that we are buying more and more oil from OPEC at higher and higher prices.

<sup>Congress</sup>  
~~we~~ must adopt an <sup>Program</sup> energy ~~policy~~ which will permit us to control our own supply and set our own prices.

~~we~~ Until we do, we will be forced to continue to export American dollars and American jobs overseas.

<sup>I</sup> <sup>that</sup>  
Hope ~~that~~ this recent OPEC action will get the ~~the~~ message through to the Congress that we cannot afford to remain vulnerable and without an energy policy.

~~11~~ ~~11~~ ~~11~~



The price increase announced today by OPEC cannot be justified on economic grounds.

But the American people should also recognize that to ~~date~~ <sup>date</sup> Congress has refused to take any step to reduce our vulnerability to the <sup>whims</sup> ~~whims~~ of the OPEC oil cartel. So long as Congress refuses to ~~enact~~ <sup>ENACT</sup> an energy program that will allow Americans to produce its own energy with its own workers and to set its own prices, we will find ourselves increasingly vulnerable to OPEC.

The OPEC countries will continue to raise oil prices — — which will take away billions of American dollars and thousands of Americans' jobs until Congress makes the hard decisions which are required for Americans to regain <sup>Their</sup> ~~its~~ energy independence.

~~Those Members of Congress who vote for political reasons or other reasons~~



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~~H~~ ~~H~~ ~~H~~



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justified on economic grounds. *For many countries etc*

~~But~~ the American people should ~~be~~ recognize that ~~we~~

~~we~~ Congress has refused to take any step to reduce our

vulnerability to ~~the~~ <sup>such whims</sup> of the OPEC oil cartel. ~~So long~~ *and we will continue*

~~as Congress refuses to~~ *to be vulnerable to OPEC price increases* ~~enact an energy program which~~ *will*

~~it will allow America~~ ~~to produce its own energy with its~~

~~own workers and to set its own prices, we will find ourselves~~

~~increasingly vulnerable to OPEC~~

*I insert A*

*We will be continued to be vulnerable to OPEC price increases*

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hard decisions which are required for Americans to regain

~~Their~~ energy independence.

~~Those Members of Congress who~~ ~~are~~ ~~for political reason~~

~~or other reasons~~



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

NOTE FOR: Jack Marsh

FROM : RON NESSEN

We are preparing  
a final draft,

Please indicate  
your suggested changes  
and give to Bill  
Greener for incorporation  
in final version.

RHN



The price increase announced today by OPEC cannot be justified on economic grounds.

But the American people should also recognize that to ~~date~~ <sup>date</sup> Congress has refused to take any step to reduce our vulnerability to the ~~wishes~~ <sup>wishes</sup> of the OPEC oil cartel. So long as Congress refuses to ~~enact~~ <sup>enact</sup> an energy program that will allow Americans to produce its own energy with its own workers and to set its own prices, we will find ourselves increasingly vulnerable to OPEC.

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hard decisions which are required for Americans to regain ~~Their~~ <sup>Their</sup> energy independence.

~~Those Members of Congress who vote for political reasons or other reasons~~



Those members of Congress who, for political or ~~the~~ other reasons,  
refuse to ~~to~~ adopt an energy program, would like the American  
people ~~to~~ to believe they are trying to hold energy prices down.

That is simply not ~~true~~. <sup>true.</sup> During the 4 years of so-called ~~the~~ price  
controls since 1971 our bill for imported oil has gone up more  
than 700% ~~over~~

~~Everyday we are finding that we are buying more and more oil~~

<sup>Y</sup>  
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through to the Congress that we cannot afford to remain  
vulnerable and without an energy policy.

~~H~~ ~~A~~ ~~A~~

This increase again emphasize the necessity for the US to move rapidly to regain control over its own energy destiny.

I deeply regret OPEC's decision to raise oil prices.

The price increase [announced today] by OPEC cannot be justified on economic grounds. For many countries it will hamper the fragile process of economic recovery, and it will worsen international inflation. — especially the poorer countries.

But the American people should also recognize that to date Congress has refused to take any step to reduce our vulnerability to the whims of the OPEC oil cartel. So long as Congress refuses to enact an energy program that will allow Americans to produce its own energy with its own workers and to set its own prices, we will find ourselves increasingly vulnerable to OPEC.

will continue to be vulnerable to future arbitrage

The OPEC countries will continue to raise oil prices — —

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Their energy independence.

~~Those Members of Congress who act for political reasons or other reasons~~

This country cannot no longer



Those members of Congress who for political or ~~other~~ other reasons,  
refuse to <sup>a real</sup> adopt an energy program would like the American  
people to believe they are trying to hold energy prices down.  
They are simply not telling it like it is.

~~That is simply not true.~~ During the 4 years of so-called price  
controls since 1971 our bill for imported oil has gone up more  
than 700% ~~XXXXX~~

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vulnerable and without <sup>a real</sup> energy ~~policy~~ program.

~~It~~ ~~It~~ ~~It~~

OPEC Price Increase

Q: What is the Administration's reaction to the price increase announced by OPEC?

A: The President feels that the United States has worked hard to establish a sound and cooperative basis for resuming the dialogue between oil-producing and oil-consuming countries on vital economic issues. Our participation in the formal conference with the producers later this year will be based on this philosophy. While some members of OPEC in this same spirit of constructive cooperation did not support this price increase, others regrettably insisted upon a large increase.

*Revised*

## STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I deeply regret this OPEC action to raise oil prices. I don't believe this, or any other price increase by OPEC, is justified on economic grounds. For many countries it will hamper the fragile process of economic recovery, and it will worsen international inflation.

The United States has worked hard to establish a sound and cooperative basis for resuming the dialogue between oil-producing and oil-consuming countries on vital economic issues. Some members of OPEC in this same spirit of constructive cooperation did not support this price increase. Others regrettably insisted

upon a large increase. Although we were extremely disappointed

by the final outcome <sup>AT VIENNA</sup> we shall continue to seek cooperation <sup>WITH THE OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES</sup> not

confrontation. Our participation in the formal conference with the

producers later this year will be based on <sup>THAT</sup> ~~the~~ philosophy.

At the same time, this increase is a stark reminder of OPEC's continuing exclusive control over oil prices. It again reemphasizes the necessity for the U. S. to move rapidly to regain control over its own energy destiny. The only way to regain that control is by adopting a coherent, effective national energy policy and by working together with the other major oil-consuming nations to reduce our dependence on imported oil.

It is my sincere hope that this price increase will at last stimulate Congressional action. It has yet to enact the legislation necessary to spur domestic energy production and induce conservation -- legislation which I proposed nine months ago.

During the four years of so-called price controls, your oil bill has gone up 200 percent. And some members of Congress want to continue such controls. If we do so we will virtually guarantee greater increased U. S. dependence on foreign oil. Every day we will be forced to buy more and more oil from OPEC... with the risk of future arbitrary price increases. That is what will continue if Congress fails to act.

This country can no longer be deceived by promises that if we merely sit tight and control oil prices the energy problem will go away. It will not. I have proposed a program which will enable America to control its own oil supply and its own oil prices. I have worked tirelessly to get the Congress to act on it. If it does not--if we continue the present course--our energy situation will erode progressively year after year. Arbitrary actions by others will have an ever greater potential for disruption of the American economy.



DRAFT  
September 26, 1975

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I don't believe this, or any other, price increase by OPEC is justified on economic grounds.

But I want the American people to know who they should really blame for the higher gasoline prices and the higher home heating oil prices they will now be forced to pay. They should blame those Members of Congress who refuse to approve an energy program that will allow America to produce its own energy with its own workers and to set its own prices.

OPEC has accepted an open invitation from those Members of Congress to raise your oil prices higher and higher and higher. You can be sure that OPEC will keep raising your oil prices, taking away billion of American dollars and thousands of American jobs, until Congress starts making America independent of the foreign oil cartel.

Americans have been misled about our energy problem. The true story is not being told and I want to set the record straight right now.

Those Members of Congress who are ducking and dodging their obligation to America...for political or other reasons...would like you to believe they are fighting to hold energy prices down. That is simply not true. Let's look at the record.

During the two years of so-called price controls your energy bill has gone up      percent. And that is what Congress wants to continue. Every day we are forced to buy more and more oil from OPEC...at higher and higher prices. And that is what Congress wants to continue.

Congress wants to allow OPEC to control our oil supply and to raise our oil prices.

I want America to control its own oil supply and set its own oil prices.

Which do you want?

Contact your Senator and your Congressman today. Tell them you want them to stop helping OPEC and to start helping you.

Maybe you and I together can get that message across to Congress.

#      #      #



DRAFT  
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#        #        #



DRAFT  
September 26, 1975

PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENTS  
REGARDING OPEC PRICE INCREASE

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) today announced that oil prices will be increased by \$\_\_\_\_\_ a barrel or \_\_\_\_% on \_\_\_\_\_, and an additional \$\_\_\_\_\_ a barrel or \_\_\_\_% on \_\_\_\_\_.

~~I regret this OPEC action to raise world oil prices. The world economy has not as yet fully absorbed the abrupt and massive increases in OPEC oil prices of 1973 and 1974 which seriously depressed economic output and accelerated inflation.~~ There is no economic justification for this latest increase. Actions taken by OPEC between October 1973 and today have raised the price of OPEC oil by \_\_\_\_%, nearly a six-fold increase in two years.

This new increase could hamper the fragile process of recovery for the rest of the world and impose additional burdens on U.S. consumers. These price increases will be particularly onerous for the developing countries.

The United States has worked hard to establish a sound and cooperative basis for resuming the dialogue between oil-producing and oil-consuming countries on vital economic issues we all face: energy, commodities, development, and finance. Some members of OPEC in this same spirit of constructive cooperation did not support this price increase. Others regrettably insisted upon a large increase. Although

we were extremely disappointed by the final outcome we shall continue to seek cooperation, not confrontation. Our participation in the formal conference with the producers later this year will be based on this philosophy.

At the same time, this stark reminder of OPEC's continuing exclusive control over oil prices reemphasizes the necessity for the U.S. to move rapidly to regain control over its own energy destiny. The only way to regain that control is by adopting a coherent, effective national energy policy and by working together with the other major oil-consuming nations to reduce our dependence on imported oil.

hail  
~~BB~~  
pgn  
Congress must share the responsibility with OPEC for today's price increase, because it has yet to enact the legislation necessary to spur domestic energy production and induce conservation -- legislation which I proposed nine months ago.

This not only includes long-delayed action on the domestic oil price issue but also on the development of the Nation's naval petroleum reserves for a strategic storage program, the deregulation of new natural gas production, the enactment of mandatory energy-saving building construction standards, and the badly needed reinstatement of the FEA's authority to order mandatory power plant conversion from oil to coal. Congress must also squarely face the Nation's urgent need for striking a

responsible balance between environmental and energy priorities.

Today's OPEC price increase also makes clear the fallacy of those in Congress who promise America's consumers cheap energy through permanent government price controls -- controls with a proven track record of encouraging consumption and discouraging production.

The Congress must recognize that the real issue over price controls on oil is not between cheap energy or expensive energy. It is between keeping America's wealth at work in America or watching it drained away in ever-increasing quantities.

In 1970, America paid \$3.0 billion for foreign oil. In 1974, we paid \$25 billion -- more than \$400 for every American family. If no action is taken, we could pay \$32 billion -- even if the Cartel doesn't increase prices again.

The money spent in 1974 could have paid the salaries of 1.6 million workers or built more than 600,000 brand new homes. It is these jobs, these salaries, these homes, not to mention our growing vulnerability, which we should keep in mind in reflecting on our failure to take strong energy action in the past and the urgent need to do so in the future.



*Draft*  
*Sept 26, 1975*

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT.

I DON'T BELIEVE THIS, OR ANY OTHER, ~~PRICE~~ PRICE INCREASE BY OPEC IS JUSTIFIED ON ECONOMIC GROUNDS.

BUT I WANT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO KNOW ~~THEY ARE NOT TO BE MISLED~~  
~~THEY ARE NOT TO BE MISLED~~ WHO THEY SHOULD REALLY BLAME FOR THE  
HIGHER GASOLINE PRICES ~~THEY ARE NOT TO BE MISLED~~ AND THE HIGHER HOME HEATING OIL PRICES.  
*NOW* THEY WILL ~~BE~~ BE FORCED TO PAY. ~~THEY ARE NOT TO BE MISLED~~ THEY SHOULD BLAME THOSE MEMBERS  
OF CONGRESS WHO REFUSE TO APPROVE AN ENERGY PROGRAM THAT WILL ~~BE~~ ALLOW  
AMERICA TO PRODUCE ITS OWN ENERGY WITH ITS OWN WORKERS *TO* AND SET ITS OWN PRICES.

OPEC HAS ~~BEEN~~ ACCEPTED ~~THE~~ *AND* OPEN INVITATION *FROM* THOSE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS  
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~~STARTS~~ *MAKING* AMERICA  
INDEPENDENT OF ~~THE~~ THE FOREIGN OIL ~~CARTEL~~ CARTEL.

~~THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE BEEN MISLED ABOUT OUR ENERGY~~  
*15* *BC 129*  
PROBLEM. THE TRUE STORY ~~IS~~ NOT ~~BEING~~ TOLD AND I WANT TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT  
RIGHT NOW.

*Insert*

CONGRESS WANTS TO ALLOW OPEC TO ~~CONTROL~~ CONTROL OUR OIL SUPPLY AND ~~DETERMINE~~

TO RAISE OUR OIL PRICES.

I WANT ~~INTERFERENCE~~ AMERICA TO CONTROL ~~IN~~ ITS OWN OIL SUPPLY AND SET ITS OWN

OIL PRICES.

WHICH DO YOU WANT?

WASHINGTON  
THE WHITE HOUSE



THOSE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WHO ~~REDACTED~~ ARE DUCKING AND DODGING THEIR

*America*  
~~THE~~ OBLIGATION TO ~~MILITARY SERVICE~~...FOR POLITICAL OR OTHER REASONS...

WOULD LIKE YOU TO BELIEVE ~~THEY~~ THEY ARE FIGHTING TO HOLD ENERGY PRICES DOWN. THAT IS  
SIMPLY NOT TRUE.

~~REDACTED~~ LET'S LOOK AT THE RECORD.

DURING THE TWO YEARS OF SO-CALLED PRICE CONTROLS ~~REDACTED~~ YOUR

ENERGY BILL HAS GONE UP \_\_\_\_\_ PER CENT. ~~TEXT THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN DELETED FROM~~

~~REDACTED~~ AND THAT IS WHAT CONGRESS WANTS TO CONTINUE. EVERY DAY WE ~~REDACTED~~

ARE FORCED TO BUY MORE AND MORE OIL FROM OPEC...AT HIGHER AND HIGHER PRICES.

AND THAT IS WHAT CONGRESS WANTS TO CONTINUE.

*INSERT*

~~REDACTED~~

~~REDACTED~~

CONTACT YOUR SENATOR AND YOUR

CONGRESSMAN TODAY. TELL ~~REDACTED~~ THEM YOU WANT THEM TO STOP HELPING OPEC

AND TO START HELPING YOU. (MAYBE YOU AND I TOGETHER CAN GET THAT MESSAGE

ACROSS TO CONGRESS. ~~REDACTED~~

~~REDACTED~~

*A A A*

DRAFT - September 27, 1975

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

The price increase announced today by OPEC cannot be justified on economic grounds <sup>for</sup> ~~and~~ many countries, especially poorer countries, it will hamper the fragile process of economic recovery and will worsen ~~international~~ inflation.

*-Insert-*  
The American people should realize that Congress has refused to take any step to reduce our vulnerability to such whims of the OPEC oil cartel. So long as Congress refused <sup>3</sup> to enact <sup>1</sup> a program which will allow America to produce its own energy <sup>with</sup> its own workers and to set its own prices, we will find ourselves increasingly vulnerable to OPEC.

We will continue to be vulnerable to <sup>arbitrary</sup> ~~deliberate~~ OPEC price increases -- which will take away billions of American dollars and thousands of America's jobs -- until Congress faces up to the energy problem and makes the hard decisions for Americans to regain their energy independence.

(MORE)

Those members of Congress who, [for political or other reasons,]  
refuse to adopt an energy program would like the American people  
to believe they are trying to hold energy prices down. *They are wrong!*

Today's action by OPEC demonstrates the fallacy of that  
view.

[In fact the opposite is true.]

During the four years of so-called price controls since 1971  
our bill for imported oil has gone up more than 700 percent.  
*on wrong*  
Inaction by the Congress means higher prices and increased  
dependence.

Everyday, ~~we are finding that~~ *forced to* we are buying more and  
more oil from OPEC at higher and higher prices.

Congress must adopt an energy program which will permit  
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*construct*  
Until Congress acts, we will continue to lose American  
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← insert

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to be in  
the

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(MORE)

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During the four years of so-called price controls since 1971 our bill for imported oil has gone up more than 700 percent. Inaction by the Congress means higher prices and increased dependence.

Everyday, we are ~~flirting with the danger of~~ buying more and more oil from OPEC at higher and higher prices.

Congress must adopt an energy program which will permit us to control our own supply and set our own prices.

Until Congress acts, we will continue to lose American dollars and American jobs to foreign energy producers. I hope that today's OPEC action will finally get the message through<sup>to</sup> the Members of Congress that we cannot afford to remain vulnerable and without an energy policy.

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DRAFT - September 27, 1975

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(MORE)

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(MORE)

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During the four years of so-called price controls since 1971 our bill for imported oil has gone up more than 700 percent. Inaction by the Congress means higher prices and increased dependence.

Everyday, we are ~~finding that we are~~ buying more and more oil from OPEC at higher and higher prices.

Congress must adopt an energy program which will permit us to control our own supply and set our own prices.

Until Congress acts, we will continue to lose American dollars and American jobs to foreign energy producers. I hope that today's OPEC action will finally get the message <sup>to</sup> through the Members of Congress that we cannot afford to remain vulnerable and without an energy policy.

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Today's action by OPEC demonstrates the fallacy of that view.

Those members of Congress who, for political or other reasons, refuse to adopt an energy program would like the American people to believe they are trying to hold energy prices down.

In fact,

~~they are simply not telling it like it is.~~

The

opposite is true.

~~That is simply not true.~~ During the 4 years of so-called price

controls since 1971 our bill for imported oil has gone up more

than 700%. ~~IN~~action by the Congress means higher prices and increased dependence.

~~Everyday we are finding that we are buying more and more oil from OPEC at higher and higher prices.~~

Everyday we are finding that we are buying more and more oil from OPEC at higher and higher prices.

Congress

Program

~~must~~ must adopt an energy ~~policy~~ which will permit us to control our own supply and set our own prices.

Congress acts

lose

Until we do, we will ~~be forced~~ to continue to ~~lose~~ American dollars and American jobs ~~to~~ to foreign energy producers.

I that today's

Finally

Hope ~~this~~ recent OPEC action will get the ~~message~~ message through to ~~the members of~~ Congress that we cannot afford to remain vulnerable and without an energy policy.



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DRAFT - September 27, 1975

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

(<sup>strongly</sup>  
Integrit

<sup>even though</sup>  
~~it reflects a moderating influence by some oil producing countries~~  
The price increase announced today by OPEC ~~cannot be~~  
While the increase was NOT <sup>as</sup> large as some expected, ~~nevertheless it will have a significant impact~~  
~~justified on economic grounds, and many countries, especially poorer countries, it will hamper the fragile process of economic recovery and will worsen international inflation.~~ <sup>in all countries, including the poorer countries that are most</sup>

INSERT

The American people should realize that Congress has refused to take any step to reduce our vulnerability to such whims of the OPEC oil cartel. So long as Congress refused <sup>to</sup> enact a program which will allow America to produce its own energy <sup>with</sup> its own workers and to set its own prices, we will find ourselves increasingly vulnerable to OPEC.

We will continue to be vulnerable to <sup>arbitrary</sup> ~~the~~ OPEC price increases -- which will take away billions of American dollars and thousands of America's jobs -- until Congress faces up to the energy problem and makes the hard decisions for Americans to regain their energy independence.



(MORE)

Those members of Congress who ~~for political or other reasons,~~

refuse to adopt an energy program would like the American people

to believe they are trying to hold energy prices down. *They are*

*wrong, as today's OPEC decision demonstrates.*

~~Today's action by OPEC demonstrates the fallacy of that~~

~~view.~~

~~In fact, it is true.~~

During the four years of so-called price controls since 1971

our bill for imported oil has gone up more than 700 percent.

*OR ~~WAS~~ ~~WAS~~ ACTION*

Inaction by the Congress means higher prices and increased dependence.

*FORCED to*

Everyday, we are ~~forced to~~ buy more and more oil from OPEC at higher and higher prices.

Congress must adopt an energy program which will permit us to control our own supply and set our own prices.

*CONSTRUCTIVELY,*

Until Congress acts constructively, we will continue to lose American dollars and American jobs to foreign energy producers. I hope that today's OPEC action will finally get the message through <sup>to</sup> the Members of Congress that we cannot afford to remain vulnerable and without an energy policy.

# # #