The original documents are located in Box 41, folder "8/28/74 - Press Conference: Question and Answer Briefing Sheets (1)" of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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(FROM MY MESSAGE TO THE JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS ON AUGUST 12, 1974)

To our Allies of a generation in the Atlantic community and Japan, I pledge continuity in the loyal collaboration on our many mutual endeavors.

I HAVE AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT TO MAKE:

THERE WAS A LITTLE CONFUSION ABOUT THIS DATE. MY WIFE, BETTY HAD SCHEDULED HER FIRST PRESS CONFERENCE FOR TODAY -- AND I HAD SCHEDULED MY FIRST PRESS CONFERENCE FOR TODAY.

So Betty's was postponed. (EYES TO HEAVEN TAKE)

WE WORKED THIS OUT BETWEEN US IN OUR USUAL CALM, ORDERLY WAY. SHE'LL POSTPONE HER PRESS CONFERENCE UNTIL NEXT WEEK AND UNTIL THEN, MAKE MY OWN BREAKFAST --- AND MY OWN LUNCH ---AND MY OWN DINNER ---.

BURNING TREE

(QUESTION PROBABLY FROM AP'S FRANCES LEWINE (LEW-IN))

ANSMER: I HAVE BEEN A MEMBER AND HAVE PLAYED FREQUENTLY AT BURNING TREE FOR MANY YEARS. I AM SURE PEOPLE WANT THEIR PRESIDENT TO GET REGULAR EXERCISE. I UNDERSTAND I CAN PLAY THERE WITH ANYONE, AS LONG AS HE IS MALE. IT'S TRUE THAT I AM NOT ALLOWED TO PLAY WITH THE LADIES THERE. BUT LET ME SAY TO YOU LADIES OF THE PRESS: WHY DON'T YOU LET ME SEE WHAT I CAN DO ABOUT THE GRIDIRON CLUB AND YOU LET BURNING TREE ALONE.

(FROM MY MESSAGE TO THE JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS ON AUGUST 12, 1974)

IF WE CAN MAKE EFFECTIVE AND EARLIER USE OF MORAL AND ETHICAL WISDOM OF THE CENTURIES IN TODAY'S COMPLEX SOCIETY, WE WILL PREVENT MORE CRIME AND MORE CORRUPTION THAN ALL THE POLICEMEN AND PROSECUTORS GOVERNMENTS CAN EVER DETER. IF I MAY SAY SO, THIS IS A JOB THAT MUST BEGIN AT HOME, NOT IN WASHINGTON. Our Constitution works; our great Republic is a Government of Laws and not of men. Here the people rule. But there is a higher power, by whatever name we honor him, who ordains not only rightousness but love, not only justice but mercy.

As we bind up the internal wounds of Watergate, more painful and more poisonous than those of foreign wars, let us restore the Golden Rule to our political process, and let brotherly love purge our hearts of suspicion and of hate.

IN THE BEGINNING, I ASKED YOU TO PRAY FOR ME. BEFORE CLOSING, I ASK AGAIN YOUR PRAYERS, FOR RICHARD NIXON AND FOR HIS FAMILY. MAY OUR FORMER PRESIDENT, WHO BROUGHT PEACE TO MILLIONS, FIND IT FOR HIMSELF. MAY GOD BLESS AND COMFORT HIS WONDERFUL WIFE AND DAUGHTERS, WHOSE LOVE AND LOYALTY WILL FOREVER BE A SHINING LEGACY TO ALL WHO BEAR THE LONLY BURDENS OF THE WHITE HOUSE. (Taken from remarks of the President double P

(Taken from remarks of the President in the East Room, August 9, 1974)

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IF WE CAN MAKE EFFECTIVE AND EARLIER USE OF MORAL AND ETHICAL WISDOM OF THE CENTURIES IN TODAY'S COMPLEX SOCIETY, WE WILL PREVENT MORE CRIME AND MORE CORRUPTION THAN ALL THE POLICEMEN AND PROSECUTORS GOVERNMENTS CAN EVER DETER. IF I MAY SAY SO, THIS IS A JOB THAT MUST BEGIN AT HOME, NOT IN WASHINGTON.

> Taken from remarks by the President to a joint session of Congress August 12, 1974 - The House Chamber

1. Do you foresee the Council on Wage and Price Stability using wage-price guidelines?

A. Guidelines are one of the options the Economic Summit Conference will be examinging. I would not want to guess in advance that guidelines would be established, but obviously the Stability Council is going to be using some kind of yardstick in monitoring proposed wage and price increases. 2. C. Jackson Grayson says the Stability Council may do a little good but could even do some harm. What is your reaction to that?

A. I think the Stability Council has the potential to do considerable good and I fail don't see how it can do any harm. We need a group like that to **ridezhers** keep a sharp eye on the economy and to tell us when we're straying off course.

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3. Have you absolutely ruled out wags mandatory wage and price size controls?

A. I think all options should be open to the Economic Summit Conference. But there is no **me** question that we have had some very bad experiences with wage and price controls. And it also seems obvious that there is no prospect the 93rd Congress will adopt controls. 4. How can we wait for the economic package you expect the Economic Summit Conferende to develop? Aren't you going to take some action in the meantime to combat inflation?

A. I want to engage in a coordinatedk attack on inflation--an attack fashioned with the help of the best brains in the country. And so I am looking to the Economic Summit to develop that. But certainly there are some actionsmexe we can take in the meantime. The Wage and Price Stability Council is one of those actions. And I think it will be helpful. 5. Arthur Burns keeps talking about a \$10 billion cut in the fiscal 1975 budget. Canaxum Is it possible to make that deep a cut in the budget?

A. I'm sure we can bring the fiscal 1975 budget down below \$300 billion from the original figure of \$305 billion. It remains to be seen whether we can achieve a \$10 billion cut. 6. Roy Ash says a budget cut would have a minimal effect on prices. Resyx Do you agree?

A. A budget cut would not have an immediate effect on prices but it would ultimately have considerable impact. There is no question in my mind that e_x cessive Federal spending and gazagix accumulated Federal deficits are a major cause of inflation. 7. It is reported that you are actively considering a program to spend up to \$4 billion a year on public service jobs if the unemployment rate gets worse. Just what is your thinking on public service jobs?

A. A program of public service jobs is something we have to seriously consider if unemployment approaches let's-say 6 per cent. And unemployment may get worse as we move to fight inflation. It's a tradeoff we can expect as we bring the rate of inflation down. So, yes, a program of public service jobs is something we might very well have to prepare for. 8. What role do you plan for Rockefeller, assuming he is confirmed as Vice President?

A. I see an activist role for Mr. Rockefeller. He brings tremendous personal ability and resources to the Vice Presidency, and that ability and those resources should be employed for the good of the country.

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9. There is Thunder on the Right in your party, Mr. President, as a result of some of the actions you have taken **terme** recently--your call for conditional amnesty and your nomination of Mr. Rockefeller to be Vice President. What are you going to do to to pacify them?

A. I think it will be found that Mr. Rockefeller is far closer to the center of the road than some people & think. Also, actions will be taken by this Administration Ex which conservatives can be happy about--for instance, budget-cutting. We are determined to submit a balance budget for fiscal 1976. As for maximum conditional amnesty, I understand that some of the major veterans organizations are coming around to my way of thinking--and this could be persuasive as far as others are concerned.

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10. Would you veto a G.I. Bill providing a 23 per cent increase in benefits?

A. I don't think I'm going to be faced withkad that problem. The House has cut back the Senate bill by \$200 million, which makes the House bill far more to my liking. I am hopeful I will get a bill I can sign. Certainly action must be taken to offset the cost-of-living increases veterans enrolled in school have been hit with inx since the last increase in benefits. 11. Mr. President, Mr. Rockefeller has urged that all mass transit fares throughout the country be p frozen at present levels. Do yray you agree?

A. This is a natural position for Mr. Rockefeller to take in view of his background as a longtime governor of New York. However, there is no authority for a nationwide freeze on mass transit fares. And I feel sure that the mass g transit bill which will be enacted by the 93rd Congress will be very helpful in connection with the problem of transit fares. 12. Mr. President. The possibility **KMRR** remains that Richard Nixon will be prosecuted for his role in the **MRR** Watergate Affair. Nelson Rockefeller says Mr. Nixon has suffered enough. Do you agree with Mr. Rockefeller?

A. I will repeat what I said in my recent address to the Congress. I hope that Richard Nixon, who did so much to bring peace to this Nation and to the world, will himself find peace. As for the prospect of prosecution, the that is in the hands of Special Prosecutor Leon Jaworski. 13. Your son, Jackx, says the First Lady is upset about your decision to run for the Presidency in 19762. Will that change your x mind?

A. W_ell, it's understandable, I think, that Betty was a bit upset. But I also know that she wants whatever I want...so I think that's is the best answer I can give you. 14. Greek-Americans are fux fupious because you didn't max act to halt the Turkish invasion of Cyprus. Why didn't you take some action to stop it?

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15. There are hints that U.S. relations with Cuba may be normalized. Are you contemplating such a move?

A. Whatever action might be taken along that line will be a joint action Organization of American States.... by ourselves and our partners in the **definition for proportion the action**

3. I am not considering any unilateral action in that

regard.

16. Attorney Kunna General Saxbe has said, in effect, that we're losing the war against violent crime. What are you going to do about it?

A. Crime-fighting is primarily a state and local responsibility. The Federal Government faxfamxcan which help, but there is certainly never going to be a national police former force--not while I have anything to say about it. We must step up our efforts. That much is clear. We have suffered more setbacks. But I feel sure we can regain the initiative and make some progress. 17. The housing industry is in a depression, not a recession. What do you plan to do about it?

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18. How much campaigning are you and Rockefeller going to do in the fall election?

A. Mr. Rockefeller needs to be confirmed first, so his role will be limited. I believe I will do little or no campaigning...because the problems are here in Wa shington and that is where I should stay. QUESTIONS LIKELY TO COME UP AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE

ECONOMIC

<u>Question:</u> Do you intend to have the Cost of Living Council operate a wageprice guideline system as well as monitor wage-price actions?

<u>Question</u>: Do you favor creation of a public service job program? The POST this morning says the Administration is thinking of an 800,000 job program in this field.

<u>Question:</u> Do you really expect you can solve the nation's problems of inflation and the high cost of living through the Economic Summit meeting ? It seems like a lot of window dressing to many people.

ECONOMIC (Continued)

<u>Question</u>: Is it true that you failed to get the Bi-Partisan leaders of Congress to agree on your proposed statement that neither you or the Congress would favor wage-price controls?

<u>Question:</u> Are you going to make the budget cut that you need to get the 1975 Budget under \$300 Billion? Will the cuts come out of domestic programs, leaving the Pentagon untouched?

Question: Secretary Simon and others in your Administration seem to be keeping alive the possibility of a 10¢ per gallon increase in the gasoline tax, supposedly to reduce further consumption and thereby save energy. Are you planning such a tax?

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NATIONAL SECURITY AND FOREIGN POLICY

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<u>Question:</u> Reports from Cyprus are that your Administration did not stop the Turks from seizing a good part of the island, and that therefore the Administration is anti-Greek on this issue. Is this true?

<u>Question:</u> The cease-fire between Israel and Egypt and Syria is very fragile and both sides seem to be threatening to fight again. What are you going to do about it?

<u>Question:</u> Besides your plans to go to Japan late this year, do you have any other foreign travel plans this year or next?

NATIONAL SECURITY AND FOREIGN POLICY (Continued)

<u>Question</u>: The French President has criticized the United States, particularly your Administration for not showing sufficient concern about our European allies? Do you have a response?

<u>Question:</u> Were you aware that Defense Secretary Schlesinger and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs apparently shortened the lines of Command at the Pentagon to prevent your predecessor, or his aides at the White House, from bypassing them in some military way?

GENERAL

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Question: How long is General Haig staying on and other Nixon holdovers?

<u>Question</u>: Do you think former President Nixon should be immune from prosecution on Watergate matters and would you grant him clemency if he were indicted?

<u>Question:</u> Should the Nixon tapes and records be considered his property or governmental property? If they are his, why is your White House holding them? -- Or, do you plan to send them to San Clemente?

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<u>Question:</u> Will you be campaigning for Republican candidates to Congress and the Senate, and for Governors this year?

Question: How can an "Open Administration" be against the Freedom of Information Bill now before Congress?

<u>Question:</u> Your Administration appears to be against the Consumer Protection legislation pending in Congress. You appear to have taken the pro-business side. Why?

Question: Do you plan to appoint a woman to your Cabinet? -- Or a Black? --Or a Democrat?

<u>Question:</u> We all know how much you like to swim. Do you plan to build a new pool at the White House or do away with the Press Room so you can reclaim the old one?

<u>Question:</u> Your new Veteran's Administration Director, Mr. Roudebush, is supposed to have been a member of the Ku Klux Klan and is reported to have been anti-Black. Were you aware of this when you appointed him last week?

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Question: What will Governor Rockefeller's role be in the Ford Administration? Do you agree with his views on abortion and clemency for Mr. Nixon?

<u>Question:</u> You have said you probably will run for the Presidency in 1976 -will Gov. Rockefeller be your running mate?

<u>Question:</u> Your Transition Team has given you recommendations for reshaping the structure of the White House. Can you tell us how you plan to do this?

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<u>Question:</u> You like playing golf at the Burning Tree Country Club. Are you aware that the Club disciminates against women and minorities? Do you plan to continue to use the Club?

<u>Question:</u> There are reports that you will Veto a Veteran's Benefit Bill that would give Vietnam Veterans the same kind of benefits that those of World War II and Korea received. Isn't this discriminating against men who happened to fight in an unpopular war?

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

August 28, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JERRY tER HORST

FROM:

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ASH L.

Attached are 3 questions and answers for the President's News Conference.

QUESTION: Secretary Simon said yesterday that he expected that this year's budget would be reduced to \$298 billion. Is that your plan?

<u>ANSWER</u>: As I've stated before, I have set as a target a reduction in this year's budget total to a level below \$300 billion. Of course, if we can reach the \$298 billion level that would be desirable but our general target is to try to get below \$300 billion.

- Q. Secretary Simon and Federal Reserve Chairman Burns have both suggested that some form of wage and price guidelines is all but inevitable. What is your view on this issue?
- A. A part of the problem here may be one of definition. We do not foresee any return to rigid numerical guidelines as was used in the past. Such a step I would view as a move towards reimposing mandatory controls, and we are not going in that direction. The new Council on Wage and Price Stability will focus on educating all sectors of the public on the problems and causes of inflation, and it will try to identify actions that are inconsistent with price stability wherever they find them. The Council will not review all wage and price actions against a set of preordained standards or guidelines.

- Question: Secretary Simon and Arthur Burns have recommended that you procede with a major expansion of the Public Service Jobs Program. Have you made a decision?
- Answer: No, I have not. I have scheduled a meeting with my economic advisers for this Tuesday to discuss Public Service jobs and I intend to look very carefully at the pros and cons of such an approach.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 27, 1974

MR. PRESIDENT:

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Attached is the analysis of the August 22 floor action on the GI Bill. It confirms that Teague did not accomplish all he claimed.

Al Haig

Attachment

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

INFORMATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

L. Ash

AUG 2 6 1974

THROUGH: Rov Paul H. O'Neill FROM:

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SUBJECT: August 22 House Floor Action on the GI Bill Amendment

The House accepted a point of order on the Conference Report. An amendment was proposed and accepted (386-0) which deleted the direct loan and 45-month entitlement provisions and reduced the 22.7% rate increase for the vocational rehabilitation and on-the-job/apprenticeship programs to 18.2%. The 22.7% rate increase for all other G.I. bill participants (the overwhelming majority) was not reduced. All major provisions are tied to a September 1 effective date.

Budgetary Impact

The House bill would cost \$714 million in FY 1975. While this is a marked improvement as compared to the Conference bill, (a savings of \$265 million) it is still \$514 million over the FY 1975 budget and would increase the VA's FY 1976 budget by \$444 million in uncontrollable entitlement outlays.

If the House had agreed to reduce the rate to 18.2% for all eligibles, the budget overrun in FY 1975 would have been further reduced to about \$400 million.

Recommendation

Indicate to the Senate that you cannot accept a bill which adds back any cost to the House-passed bill and urge them to consider the possibility of holding the G.I. bill rate increase to 18.2% for all eligibles.

RESPONSE TO FORD-ROCKEFELLER TICKET IN 1976:

Please, you're worrying about what I'm going to be doing in 1976. I'm worrying about what I have to be doing right now. Let's face it, I've only had this job for two and a half weeks. I'm still trying to find the way to the washroom!

Well, at this point Governor Rockefeller is only Mill the Vice Presidential Designate and it may be a number of months before the Congress legally marries us. So I think it's a little unseemly to consider what we might be doing on the honeymoon.

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RESPONSE TO FOOD PRICE QUESTION:

Well, you're talking to the father of four healthy, hungry young Americans --- three boys and a girl --and each one of them has a stomach without a memory.... We have a refrigerator on the second floor where the light never goes out.... So I'm well aware of the price of food. At this point, I don't <u>know</u> what the future price of food will be. I doubt if anyone does. But I can tell you that as a breadwinner -- and as President, I'm going to do everything I can to keep them as low as possible.

DRAFT August 23, 1974 Ross ides

We are shocked to learn that, by continuing to provide military assistance to Turkey, the U.S. Government is in direct violation of the Foreign Assistance Act. The matter goes beyond a difference of opinion as to appropriate policies; it becomes a question of compliance with or violation of the laws of our country.

Ever since her invasion of Cyprus on July 20, 1974 and flagrantly since her second attack on August 14, 1974, Turkey has been using defense articles furnished to it by the United States under the military assistance program in wholesale violation of the provisions of the Act, especially those stating the purposes for which military assistance is to be used (as specified in Section 2302, Volume 22 USCA (1974 Supplement)). She has thus become ineligible for further assistance, in accordance with Section 2314 (d) (22 USCA), and all shipments of defense articles to it should have ceased immediately.

The purposes for which defense articles and services provided by the United States may be used are clearly and unequivocally stated in the law. Turkish military operations, from the very start, and flagrantly since August 14, have not been in pursuance of any of them. No internal security or legitimate self-defense is involved. There is no question of participation in collective measures requested by the United Nations. To the contrary, military action was undertaken in utter disregard of UN

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decisions and in direct opposition to the UN forces on the island. Finally, the Turkish military action was not undertaken in pursuance of any regional arrangement consistent with the UN Charter. The Zurich Treaty of Guarantee, sometimes invoked by Turkey, is not relevant. It is obviously not a regional arrangement in the sense of Articles 52 & 53 of the UN Charter. It is furthermore debatable, at the very least, whether the Zurich Treaty allows forceable intervention and whether if it may be interpreted to do so, it is valid--since it would then be in violation of the UN Charter. Moreover, Turkey herself has not claimed that her action was taken under Articles 52 or 53 of the Charter. It would have been hard for her to make such a claim, since Article 53 specifically prohibits any enforcement action, under regional arrangements, unless authorized by the UN Security Council. In this instance, the Security Council, far from authorizing the Turkish action, has repeatedly sought to stop it. Its calls for a cease fire were contemptuously ignored by Turkey until her military objectives were attained.

We have urged in the past for a policy decision by the President and the Secretary of State to stop further military aid to Turkey in order to give clear expression to U.S. disapproval of Turkey's actions. This is not a mere case of action by a foreign government with which the U.S. happens to disagree. It is a case of aggression perpetrated with the weaponry furnished by the U.S. We now, however, realize with dismay

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that much more than a difference in judgment as to the proper U.S. policy is involved. The very same laws that authorize the President to furnish military assistance specifically direct that the assistance be stopped immediately when its purposes are not being served. They leave no room for a separate policy determination by the Executive, on the basis of whatever considerations he deems relevant. Once a country is in substantial violation of the provisions of the Act, including those exhaustively listing the purposes for which assistance may be used, she is no longer eligible for further assistance. And the President, who is otherwise given a wide margin of discretion, is authorized to furnish military assistance only to countries which are eligible.

Failure to interrupt the flow of military assistance to Turkey constitutes, therefore, a direct violation of U.S. laws. The Secretaries of State and of Defense have competent legal advisors who cannot have missed the implications of the situation. It is then highly regrettable that an Administration that has affirmed its acute sensitivity to law and morality starts its foreign policy record in such a manner.

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