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This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from Washington. This is my first weekly radio report of 1973, and so I want to begin by wishing you all a Happy New Year.

Congress began ^{the} a new year by convening on Jan. 3, a day when all members-elect were sworn into office. 43 — 26

Currently both Houses of the Congress are in the process of getting organized--and this process will take most of this month. It involves assigning members of Congress to the various legislative committees. It is in the committees of the Congress that much of the work takes place--the work of taking testimony, questioning witnesses and putting legislation together for consideration by the House and the Senate.

House Republicans have elected me their floor leader for a fifth consecutive two-year term. I am grateful for that honor. In addition, I am chairman of the Committee which makes House Republican committee assignments, ~~so~~ so I will be very busy in that connection all this month.

The Committee on Committees had its first meeting just this past week, which means that the job of assigning House Republicans to various committees is under ~~way~~ way. The Democrats, of course, are engaged in their own committee assignment ~~tasks~~ tasks.

There has been no business in the House thus far, but on opening day there was a debate over a ~~move~~ move by the Democrats to change the rules by which the House operates. What the Democrats proposed is that twice as much time be allotted this year to taking up bills under a procedure which limits debate to 40 minutes--20 minutes to a side--and closes all such bills off from amendment.

Other Republicans and I fought this rules change because it meant that there would be ^{more} a time when important bills would be brought up under a "gag rule"--twice as much time as in the previous Congress. We pointed out that complex bills involving hundreds of millions



of dollars were brought up under this procedure--called suspension of the rules--in the 92nd Congress. And now the Democrats were seeking to [redacted] give more time to doing the same thing in the 93rd Congress. Well, we lost--208 to 204--despite our most strenuous efforts.

I have introduced two bills since Congress convened--bills I consider to be of [redacted] much importance.

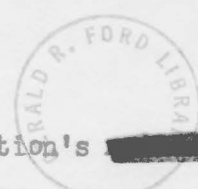
One [redacted] of these bills would help parents bear the financial burden of sending their children to nonpublic schools--and, in the process, would help to keep nonpublic schools open and operating. This bill would provide a 50 per cent tax credit--up to \$200--for tuition paid by [redacted] parents to send their youngsters to [redacted] a nonpublic school. I feel that parents have a constitutional right to send their children to the school of their choice. That right is impaired when the [redacted] cost of exercising ^{such} freedom of choice is [redacted] unusually great. Parents of nonpublic school children bear a double burden.

They pay public school taxes and at the same time pay nonpublic school tuition. I think it is [redacted] only fair that we subtract from their Federal income tax bill part of what they pay [redacted] to send their children to nonpublic school.

The other bill I have introduced would give states the discretion to require [redacted] dual signatures in connection with welfare checks. This would apply to aid to families with dependent children. The idea behind it is to [redacted] make sure that [redacted] merchants who sell [redacted] welfare recipients an appliance such as a stove or refrigerator get paid for their wares. We must prevent welfare cheating. [redacted] When people see welfare cheating, even by a few, they get the impression that such cheating is widespread. I think preventing welfare cheating would be for the good of the general public [redacted] and the welfare recipient, as well as the [redacted] merchant. [redacted]

This [redacted] is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the Nation's [redacted] capital. I'll be talking with you again next week--same time, same station.

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Congress is getting organized. Committee assignments are being made, and members of Congress now are waiting for the President to send his budget and his State of the Union Message to Capitol Hill. No date has been set for the State of the Union Message but the fiscal 1974 Budget ~~is~~ is due on Jan. 29.

Meantime there have been two big news developments--the Presidential order setting up Phase III of price and wage controls and the Presidential announcement that all bombing, shelling and mining of North Vietnam have been halted.

I am most gratified at the ~~the~~ obvious progress which has been made toward finalizing a negotiated settlement of the Vietnam War.

As for Phase III of ~~the Presidential announcement~~ price and wage controls, I think there is a good chance that the new system will work.

Let me point out that when the present Administration took office four years ago, the inflation rate was an ~~an~~ unbearable 6 per cent. President Nixon's vigorous actions during Phase I and Phase II of price and wage controls have effectively reduced ~~that~~ that rate of inflation. The Phase III goal is to bring the inflation rate down to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent by the end of 1973--and I certainly endorse that objective.

It should be made clear that Phase III does not mean that all restraints have been abandoned. What the President has done is--in effect--simply to ~~to~~ make the Price Commission and the Pay Board divisions of the Cost of Living Council. The big change is that labor and management ^{in most cases} will not have to come to the Federal Government and ask permission before proceeding with price and wage changes. However, a pattern of restraints will be in effect--and the Government will act to roll back ~~price and~~ price and wage rises that ^{seriously} ~~that~~ feed inflation.

The success of Phase III will depend on a determined self-restraint both



within the Federal Government and among the general public. I believe the Congress must act on the Federal budget with ~~maximum~~ a sharp sense of fiscal responsibility that the ~~the~~ general public should ~~demonstrate a spirit of voluntary~~ cooperate in the fight against inflation. If we ~~we~~ do this, I think we can bring the inflation rate down to 2½ per cent.

I might also mention the fuel oil shortage and actions that are being taken to alleviate it. I have been very much concerned about the fuel oil shortage and so I have written to Secretary of Interior Rogers Morton and ~~to~~ Gen. George Lincoln, director of the Office of Emergency Preparedness, urging that immediate steps be taken to alleviate the fuel crisis. Hopefully, the Administration's recent action to increase oil imports will be a first step in solving the immediate oil problem.

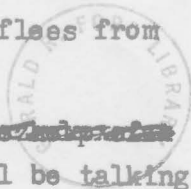
In recent weeks the Midwest has undergone a critical fuel shortage--both in oil and natural gas. Fortunately, the Administration announced on January 8th that it has authorized more than a fourfold increase in heating oil imports to help ease the fuel shortages threatened in the Midwest.

Now I would like to turn to legislation I am sponsoring. Last Thursday I reintroduced what I call my "runaway pappy" bill. This is a piece of legislation aimed at ~~the~~ fathers who have fled to other states to escape paying child support.

My bill would ~~we~~ make child support orders enforceable in Federal courts. It would bring Federal authority to bear on the problem of non-support by husbands and fathers who ~~we~~ shirk their parental responsibilities.

The main purpose of my bill is to try to deter a man from leaving a state to avoid paying for child support under a court order obtained against him. My bill grants jurisdiction to Federal officials to act in those cases where a man flees from one state to another to avoid his parental obligations. ~~It is the purpose of the bill to~~

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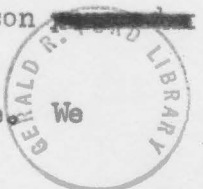
The long nightmare of Vietnam is over for Americans. ^{Here and elsewhere,} A sigh of relief has gone up ~~up~~ that has been heard around the world.

I am very happy about the peace settlement. I am happy not ^{only} because the fighting has stopped--at least as far as America is concerned--but because we have achieved the kind of peace which will give South Vietnam a chance to survive as a non-Communist entity. We have achieved an honorable peace, a peace that has a chance to stick, a chance to last.

And I am delighted that the 587 American POW's will be returning home by March 28 and that there will be the fullest possible accounting of the 1,200 Americans missing in action. It is cause for rejoicing, too, that the 23,700 remaining U.S. troops in Vietnam will be coming home by March 28.

There will be some Americans, particularly those who wanted peace in Vietnam on any terms, who will ^{pay} we could have had peace long ago. ^{Maybe so but America would have solved nothing.} That attitude ignores our ^{basic} original commitment in Vietnam--the fact that we went to South Vietnam's aid with the purpose of thwarting Communist aggression in Vietnam. ~~I think~~ This original commitment was important. ~~I think~~ It was vital to the future peace of the world. Vietnam was actually the final and pivotal battle in the Cold War. It may prove to be one of the building blocks of a future generation of peace for all the peoples of the world.

It was a curious coincidence--and most fitting--that the President's announcement of a ceasefire in Vietnam and the scheduled signing of the peace agreement should have come at a time when the Nation was mourning the death of former President Lyndon Johnson. ^{military} Although I disagreed with the tactics Lyndon Johnson employed in Vietnam, I admired him for his determination to stay the course. We



became close ~~_____~~ friends while he was President--and I cherished that friendship.

There have been ~~_____~~ so many momentous events in recent days. ~~_____~~ One of these was the second inauguration of Richard Nixon as ~~President~~ 37th President of the United States. More than ~~_____~~¹⁰⁰ people from the Fifth Congressional District came to

Washington for the inauguration, including 34 young Latvian dancers who performed during a Salute to America's Heritage program at the Corcoran Gallery of Art. Mrs.

Nixon witnessed the ~~_____~~ performance by the Latvians from Grand Rapids and ~~was absolutely~~ *personally commended them.*
~~entranced.~~

Turning to other matters, I would like to report that the United States will ask Canada to join in making adjustments in water levels in the Great Lakes. Great Lakes levels have been critically high, and some corrective action ~~is~~^{is} imperative. I can

tell you authoritatively that the Nixon Administration acted in this matter because of a letter to the President sent by 34 other congressmen and me ~~myself~~^{myself}. I am most pleased--

and I hope that the International Control Commission, which is the body that must *take remedial action,*
~~take remedial action,~~ now will respond.

I would like to mention now a piece of legislation I introduced in the House last Wednesday--a bill ~~I~~^I call the Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining Act of 1973. This bill is aimed at eliminating the sad situation that arose last fall when Michigan apple growers felt forced to picket fruit processors to get "living-income"

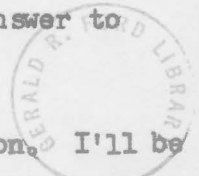
prices for their apples. The bill I have introduced would create a National Agricultural Bargaining Board, which would set standards to qualify associations of producers for bargaining purposes and would generate the proper climate for good

faithful bargaining between farm producers and farm product processors. I hope the Congress will see fit to adopt my legislation and that it will prove the answer to

the woes of Michigan's apple growers.

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This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the Nation's capital.

President Nixon has sent his fiscal 1974 budget to the Congress. The budget sets guidelines for Federal spending. It also proposes a set of priorities which the Congress can accept, modify or reject.

In my view, the President's Budget for 1974 points the way toward better government and continued economic progress.

At the same time, it would keep Federal spending within the ^{reasonable} limits required if we are to avoid higher taxes or increased inflation.

The President has urged the Congress to set a rigid ceiling of \$268.7 billion on fiscal 1974 outlays before any spending bills are considered. ~~I fully concur~~

in that recommendation makes sense

The Congress should adopt that spending limitation and then consider the ~~President's~~ budget proposals in the light of the goals and objectives that have shaped it. Whatever action the Congress then takes on the budget, all of the appropriations bills should fit under the \$268.7 billion ceiling.

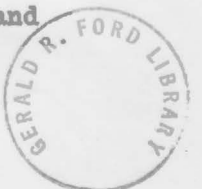
The President has said firmly and vigorously that Federal spending can and should be held down. ^{His} ~~I agree.~~ ^{one way} ~~The~~ 1974 budget indicates how this can be done.

It is true that the President plans ~~to~~ ^{to} reduce ~~or~~ ^{or} terminate ~~some~~ ^{some} programs, but he also recommends continued and increased support of many effective and

needed programs. *Wine mgt about the cutbacks - here are some increases
Heart + Cancer - 25% / Crime - 8%*

In many respects ^{where cutbacks} the course the President has outlined is difficult and painful. But consider what would happen if we do not make the kind of choices represented by the ~~President's~~ budget recommendations.

The President currently is holding fiscal 1973 outlays to \$250 billion, and he is proposing fiscal 1974 outlays totalling \$268.7 billion. Without the



restraints being employed currently and those proposed in the 1974 budget, 1973 spending would be over \$10 billion greater and 1974 spending would be almost \$20 billion more.

And, most importantly, these higher spending levels would mean either an across-the-board personal income tax surcharge of at least 15 per cent or an added deficit which would fuel the fires of inflation.

The President's efforts to hold back Federal spending are holding the fiscal 1973 deficit to \$25 billion. The fiscal 1974 deficit will be roughly half that, under the President's budget.

The President has put the tax and inflation monkey squarely on Congress's back. He has said, bluntly: If there is a tax increase because of Federal spending in excess of my budget, Congress will be to blame. If there is no tax increase but a larger deficit, which adds to inflation, Congress will be to blame for the higher cost of living.

The President sent his annual Economic Report to the Congress last Wednesday. He said 1972 was a very good year and that 1973 can be a great year if the Congress agrees to hold down Federal spending.

The President's Council of Economic Advisers predicted continued overall expansion and some decline in unemployment ^{and} inflation. "The problem," the Council said, "will be to prevent this expansion from becoming an economic boom."

Specifically, the Council predicted a 10 per cent increase in the Gross National Product to \$1.3 trillion; a real growth in the economy--after inflation--of 6 and 3/4 per cent, an annual increase in prices of 3 per cent, and a reduction in unemployment "to the neighborhood of 4 1/2 per cent by the end of the year."

This is good news.

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be talking with you next week -- same time, same station.

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This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the Nation's capital.

• Starting Feb. 1, the power facilities on the St. Mary's River at Saulte Ste. Marie ~~were~~ shut down. This was done to reduce the flow of water from Lake Superior to the lower Great Lakes. And it will continue over a three-month period, from Feb. 1 to April 30. Reducing the flow of water from Lake Superior into the lower Great Lakes will lower the levels of Lakes Michigan, St. Clair, Huron and Erie. During the three-month period of reduced outflows from Lake Superior, the International Joint Commission will be considering a new plan for regulating the level of Lake Superior. It will be the first time that the condition of the lower Great Lakes will be taken into account as part of a Lake Superior regulation plan.

The action I have described is a temporary emergency measure, taken because the levels of the lower Great Lakes are from 2 to 2½ feet higher than their longterm average at this time of year.

This emergency action didn't just happen. It was taken because 33 other congressmen and I wrote a letter to President Nixon urging remedial measures to lower the levels of the lower Great Lakes. The President responded with a formal application to the International Joint Commission to reduce the outflow from Lake Superior. And the International Joint Commission ~~then~~ approved the application.

This does not solve the problem of the high levels of lower Great Lakes. It merely alleviates the situation. I will continue to work on this problem until a permanent solution is achieved.

I would like to turn now to moves being made in the Congress to fight the President on his efforts to hold Federal spending to \$250 billion in this fiscal year and \$268.7 billion in fiscal 1974.

The battle of the budget is on...ranging from House action to force the spending

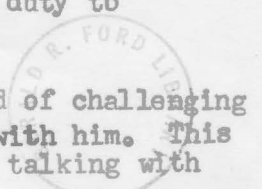


of \$205 million for the Rural Environmental Assistance Program to the Senate's insistence on the spending of \$593 million for various water projects. The President is refusing to spend the rural environmental assistance money. He vetoed the water project bill on economy grounds last year. The Senate is also readying a confrontation with the President by voting to make the job of Office of Management and Budget director subject to Senate confirmation.

I am not taking the position that every cutback and impoundment ordered by the President is the right one. *Congress has an equal responsibility.* But I do believe that Federal spending should be held to the \$250 billion level this fiscal year and to \$268 billion in fiscal 1974. I am absolutely opposed to an increase in individual Federal income taxes. *I think* The American people already pay more than enough taxes. And if the only way to avoid future tax increases is to cut some programs, then we will have to cut.

The President is absolutely right in telling Congress to set a rigid ceiling on overall government spending. The Congress has a right to decide what programs to cut and which programs to increase, and its decisions may not agree with the President's recommendations. But the fact remains that Federal spending has to be held down. We cannot just go ahead and authorize and appropriate as much as we would like to. *There isn't that much top money available* The competition for the Federal dollar is tremendous. Members of Congress simply have to make a lot of tough decisions on priorities and stick to them.

I'm convinced the Nixon Administration is not going to spend as much money as Congress has appropriated for fiscal 1973 regardless of whether Congress re-authorizes the spending by overriding a Presidential veto. The Congress appropriates but the President is charged by law with expending--and the laws impose on him the duty to make savings and to spend only at a rate which is not wasteful. Instead of challenging the President, the Congress should try to do a little saving right along with him. This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from Washington. I'll be talking with you again next week--same time, same station.#####



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under the Democrat leadership

The House of Representatives has mounted its first challenge to the President over his impoundment of appropriated funds. *if increased spending*

The House last Wednesday voted 251 to 142 to require the Secretary of Agriculture to fund the Rural Environmental Assistance Program, otherwise known as REAP. Present law allows the Agriculture Secretary to use his own discretion in making payments or grants or other aid to agricultural producers.

The President cut off REAP funds ~~xxxxx~~ last Dec. 22, and the Administration had ~~not~~ spent only \$15 million on the program as of that time. The House had appropriated \$225 million for REAP for fiscal 1973, and it is that amount which the House now is trying to force the President to spend. Prior to the impounding, the Agriculture Department had planned only to spend \$140 million on REAP, in any case.

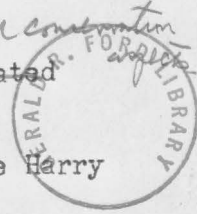
a majority of

So we are talking about saving \$210 million in appropriated funds--or \$125 million in funds that the Agriculture Department had earmarked for ~~REAP~~ the REAP program. Whichever way you look at it, there are only a little over four months left in the 1973 fiscal year--and it doesn't make much sense to talk about spending ~~either \$125~~ \$210 million or even \$125 million on REAP during that four-month period.

SENATE

Assuming the ~~Senate~~ also approves the REAP forced spending bill--and it probably will--the President is believed certain to veto it. And I do not believe those who are seeking to force the expenditure of the ~~se~~ funds can muster up enough votes in the House for a two-thirds override of the President's veto.

What about the REAP program? Is it absolutely essential in our national scheme of things to spend hundreds of millions of dollars for this purpose? The REAP program *mainly a farm production increases practices* ~~involves soil-building and soil and water conservation projects, including related~~ *it does have some conservation* ~~wildlife conservation and pollution abatement practices.~~ Every President since Harry



Truman has been trying to cut it back or abolish it on the ground that it provides a Federal subsidy for projects the good farmers in our country would undertake on their own anyway. ~~The arguments of~~ Those who favor this agricultural subsidy contend that enduring conservation practices will not be engaged in ~~by or for~~ by farmers and ranchers without Federal aid because these practices ~~will not~~ provide no immediate or special benefit to the farmer.

My own position is that REAP is a program which ~~is~~ not critical to our ~~the~~ Nation's welfare at this time. And at this time we are fighting to hold total Federal outlays to \$250 billion and to hold our 1973 fiscal 1973 Federal deficit to \$25 billion. A \$25 billion deficit is bad enough ~~with~~ without spending Federal dollars on programs which are not absolutely necessary.

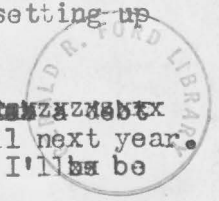
The \$225 million appropriation for REAP is only a small part of the \$11 billion ~~the President must~~ which must be kept out of the Federal trough this fiscal year if we are going to stay below the \$250 billion ceiling. And so we must be consistent. We must shut off the \$225 million for REAP along with the other ~~billions~~ billions in Federal spending which are at stake.

Only one out of five of ~~the~~ the country's farmers participate in the REAP program. It is not critical. We can get along without it during this time of Federal fiscal belt-tightening.

My hope is that Congress will get a handle ^{on} Federal spending ~~and so that we can~~ we can get away from confrontations on fiscal affairs between the Congress and the President.

A joint budgetary control committee of the Congress has moved ~~as~~ a step in that direction by filing an interim report on the problem. That report proposes setting up

a special committee in each house of Congress to establish ^a budget ceilings, ~~and so that we can~~ at the start of each Congress. But this mechanism won't begin operating until next year. This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from Washington. I'll be talking with you again next week--same time, same station.#####



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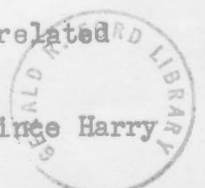
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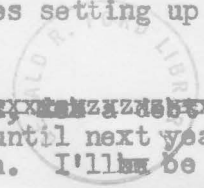
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Before recessing over the Lincoln's Birthday period, Congress passed legislation which ended the one-day old Penn Central railroad strike and ordered the [redacted] strikers back to work for 90 days. Meantime the Administration is to propose a comprehensive plan for railroad operations in the Northeast and to study the specific labor dispute.

This should be the last time that the Congress is forced to take emergency action to end a strike in transportation. What we need is legislation to forestall the possibility of crippling strikes in transportation and to eliminate the need for Congressional strike-ending action on an emergency basis. I favor giving the President the power and the flexibility to achieve settlements of such disputes. I favor legislation which would extend bargaining for 30 days if that seems to the President to be productive. And, most significantly, the legislation [redacted] should provide for [redacted] settlement of the dispute by an arbitration panel on the [redacted] basis of the final and best offer by each of the two sides. When the well-being of the entire nation is at stake--as is the case in a work stoppage like the Penn Central strike--special powers must be employed to prevent such a work stoppage in advance and to bring about a settlement without a shutdown.

I would like to turn now to the recent 10 per cent devaluation of the dollar.

There are some benefits to be derived by the United States from such action, of course. The benefits will flow from the fact that U.S. goods will become more competitive with foreign-produced [redacted] goods--both at home and abroad. But the fact remains that the dollar devaluation indicates the weakness of the American dollar in [redacted] relation to other currencies and some underlying problems facing



the American people.

Devaluation is not a cure-all for the problems that beset our country. We must engage in determined efforts to increase American productivity and to contain inflation--and we must eliminate restrictions on sales of American goods abroad.

So the hardest part of the battle is still ahead of us, and devaluation is only a temporary solution. Devaluation will help us compete with foreign manufacturers but it is only part of the answer.

The next step is to gain trade concessions from other nations. And if it is necessary to arm the President with the authority to impose quotas and higher tariffs in order to win those concessions, then we ought to do that.

The basic problems we face are the barriers to the sale of U.S. goods in Japan and Europe, the big spread between U.S. labor costs and those of foreign producers, and such longterm problems as America's increasing thirst for foreign oil.

We had a \$6.4 billion trade deficit in 1972. In other words, imports exceeded exports by that figure.

U.S. manufacturers still are unable to enter freely into Japanese markets to set up their own sales forces and they face delays in obtaining simple permits to transact certain business. Such discriminatory requirements are the rule in many other countries as well.

So it's not surprising that the President is talking about tough new trade legislation. At the same time we will have to concentrate our efforts on control of inflation. That is the only way we will bring our economic system into proper balance.

--This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from Washington. I'll be talking with you again next week--same time, same station.

#####



*Char - Plz make a
clean copy of this + send a copy
to Mr. Peters.*

This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the nation's capital.

This country is now facing a severe energy shortage.

Already many areas are short of gas and/or fuel oil. Pollution controls are making energy more expensive.

Congress will have to make some decisions on how we are going to meet the challenge of unheated homes and power shortages that now threaten millions of Americans. In short, the controversy between conservationists and those who supply this country with energy must be settled for the benefit of all our people.

A knowledgeable witness before a Congressional committee has said:

~~_____~~
"We want ~~_____~~ low-cost, low-sulphur fuel oil but we don't want ships, pipelines, terminals or refineries on our shores. We want more coal, but don't want surface mining and prohibit coal's use by sulphur restrictions. We demand adequate supplies of electricity but resist setting up nuclear plants."

The fact appears to be at this ~~_____~~ point in time that some of the ~~_____~~ answers which will help solve the energy crisis will hurt the environment, and ~~_____~~ answers which will help clean up ~~_____~~ our air and water will add further complications to our energy troubles.

Congress, with the help of the people of this Nation, will have to sit down with the environmentalists and the energy people and make compromises and changes.

How did we get into this situation?

During the 1930s, the U.S. Government ~~_____~~ advocated a low-cost energy policy. Prices were held down, consumption of energy was pushed relentlessly by advertising ~~_____~~ and, in some cases, through subsidy. We energized everything in sight. Now, due to sudden ~~_____~~ *awakening* ~~_____~~ of ~~_____~~ environmental concerns, plus the realization that our current energy sources are being depleted, we face a crisis.



We have ~~six~~ per cent of the world's population, but we burn up 33 per cent of the world's energy. Projections are for a rapid increase, unless we level off and develop more efficient processes in manufacture, motoring, heating and cooling and other energy uses.

We have 52 billion barrels of oil, about 10 years' supply at today's rate of consumption. We import a lot of oil, about a fourth of what we use. But this supply is subject to the perils of radical governments abroad. Current predictions are that 38 per cent of our oil supplies will have to come from overseas by 1985. This would create a \$20 billion trade deficit in oil alone.

We have on hand 3,000 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, about 11 years' supply. We are talking of bringing in liquefied natural gas from Russia. But it would cost \$1.25 per thousand cubic feet plus transportation charges, compared with 26 cents for U.S.-produced natural gas.

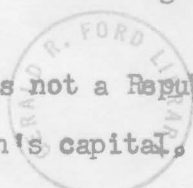
We have anywhere from 160 billion to 600 billion barrels of shale oil on hand. But crude oil prices would have to rise 150 per cent to make it economically feasible to extract this oil. The Department of Transportation has estimated that, within a few years, gasoline will go up to \$1 per gallon.

We have ~~1 1/2~~ trillion tons of coal on hand, enough for a 500-year supply. But little of it is low-sulphur. And coal strip mining is under attack from environmentalists, as it should be.

We have 450,000 tons of uranium, enough for 13 years. But atomic power produces only 1 per cent of our power today--and can be expected to produce only 13 per cent by 1985.

There will be many developments on the energy crisis during this session of Congress, and I will do my best to keep you informed of these developments. This is not a Republican or Democratic problem. It is a United States problem. This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the nation's capital. I'll be talking with you again next week--same time, same station.

#####



10:30 Wednes.

OK

This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the Nation's Capital.

criticism from some sources

With all the fuss that's being made about ~~the~~ the President's efforts to

hold down Federal spending, many Americans are unaware that the proposed Federal budget

for fiscal 1974 ~~earmarks~~ earmarks 47 cents out of the Federal dollar ^{for} human resources

programs as compared with 30 cents for defense.

5 years ago was reversed, so Pres. Nixon has put greater emphasis on solving domestic problems & at the same time is helping America strong & healthy

A great ~~to do~~ to do is being made about the fact that the Office of Economic Opportunity

Some concern has been expressed

is being abolished and its major functions ~~transferred~~ transferred to various Government

Departments. The facts about the anti-poverty program are that ^{annual} anti-poverty expenditures

have grown from ~~less~~ less than \$8 billion in 1964 to more than \$30 billion in the proposed

budget for fiscal 1974.

Furthermore, Headstart is not being terminated. It goes to the Dept. of Education. The health programs of OEO will be continued thru the Dept. of H.E.W.

And the truth about the anti-poverty activities being shifted from O.E.O. to the

~~old-line~~ ^{other} departments is that this reorganization will increase the efficiency of the

various programs by grouping them with other ~~related~~ related Federal efforts and cutting

overhead costs. ~~In~~ In the past, ~~too~~ too much anti-poverty money has been diverted

from human needs into staff payrolls and administrative expenses.

at the Federal level

The only major O.E.O. program tagged for termination ^{is} Community Action. It will

Unless some compromise is agreed to

be up to the local communities whether to fund Community Action Programs and keep them

going. Most C.A.P.'s have existed for more than 7 years. In that time, they have had

a chance to demonstrate their value to people at the local level. If local people

believe their C.A.P. program should be continued, that is their decision--and properly so.

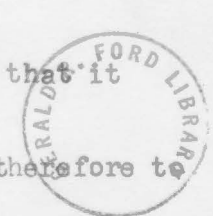
~~Further Federal spending on this program beyond the \$2.8 billion spent on it since 1965--~~

~~seems no longer desirable or necessary.~~

There is one other economic opportunity program that deserves special mention and

that is Legal Services. ~~I think~~ Legal Services is very much needed and ~~that~~ that it

should continue to be ~~funded~~ funded at the Federal level. I was very pleased therefore to



learn just recently that the Legal Aid and Defender Association of Kent County will receive a Federal grant of \$207,188 for calendar year 1973. The Federal Government has been funding the Legal Aid program in Kent County since 1965. The Legal Aid Society provides roughly \$56,000 in local in-kind services and receives about \$22,000 in cash from the United Fund. ~~The Legal Aid Society serves~~ thousands of poor people who otherwise would be without legal assistance.

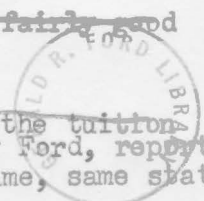
Let me turn now to Federal aid to help students go to college. The proposed Federal budget earmarks \$1,750,000,000 for this purpose in fiscal 1974. ^{Some} But college and university officials are protesting that this is not enough. The budget includes \$959 million in basic educational opportunity grants, \$250 million in work-study funds, \$310 million in guaranteed student loans interest money, ^{and} \$150 million for Direct Student Loans. That's a lot of money.

The Administration contends that the budgeted amounts are sufficient so that no qualified student seeking postsecondary education would be ^{deprived of a college education} left out for lack of funds. The Appropriations Committees of the Congress will be taking testimony and will make a judgment as to whether the budgeted amounts are adequate. I personally believe a young person wanting to go to college should have ^{governmental assistance - a loan or grant - but also} some financial responsibility.

~~Many young people have been through the rigors of the Big Depression because they were determined to make it.~~

I have two more comments on education at this point. I will renew and step up my efforts to ban the forced busing of students from one neighborhood to another simply to satisfy some judge's notion of proper racial balance. And I am delighted that the ^{President's} Federal budget for fiscal 1974 includes funds to implement my proposal to help parents who send their children to nonpublic nonprofit schools. ~~I think there is a fairly good~~

~~chance for approval of my bill which would provide a tax credit for part of the tuition paid to send children to nonpublic schools.~~ This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from Washington. I'll be talking with you again next week--same time, same station.



#####

This is your congressman, Jerry ~~_____~~ Ford, reporting to you from the Nation's capital.

A recent ~~_____~~ nationwide poll showed that the two problems Americans are most concerned about are inflation and crime.

We are fighting inflation with a holdback on Federal spending, a system of modified price and wage controls, and efforts to increase food supplies so as to bring down food prices.

We have been fighting crime with stepped-up anti-crime activities, and now the President has proposed new legislation as additional weapons against crime.

The jurisdiction of the Federal Government ~~_____~~ in the area of law enforcement is limited, but the ~~_____~~ Administration legislation should be of some help. I like the look of it.

The President has called for a revision of the entire Federal Criminal Code. His proposals would modernize and strengthen the Code, giving us tougher penalties and stronger weapons in the war against organized crime and dangerous drugs.

The ~~_____~~ Administration is proposing that the death penalty be restored for certain Federal crimes. This statute will provide ~~_____~~ capital punishment for cases of murder over which the ~~_____~~ Federal Government has jurisdiction, and for treason and other war-related crimes.

I have always felt that the death penalty can be an effective deterrent against certain crimes. I was therefore ~~_____~~ dismayed when the Supreme Court ruled it out. The capital punishment statute which has now been drafted by the Attorney General is said to ~~_____~~ be consistent with the Supreme Court's recent decision.

The proposed new capital punishment statute will make it clear that the ~~_____~~ person committing certain Federal crimes ~~_____~~ ^{may} be ~~_____~~ ^{given} the supreme penalty upon conviction.



~~I personally believe~~ this will serve as a deterrent to ~~some~~ potential hijackers, kidnappers, fire-bombers, and persons ~~who~~ ^{who otherwise might} plotting to assault a prison guard or an officer of the law.

Let us ~~now~~ turn now to the Administration proposals in the area of drug abuse.

I firmly endorse the recommendation that a five-year prison sentence be mandatory for anyone convicted of selling heroin. In fact, I question whether a five-year sentence is severe enough. The Administration ~~also~~ ^{also} calls for a sentence of 10 years to life imprisonment for major drug traffickers, and life imprisonment without parole for offenders with a prior conviction for a drug felony.

There is definite need for a mandatory prison sentence in drug conviction cases. A recent study by the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs showed that over 25 per cent of the federally convicted narcotics offenders were not even sentenced to jail. This softness on pushers gives them little reason to ~~stop~~ ^{stop} get out of the drug racket or stay out of it.

We are making progress in the fight against crime, however, and I feel that actions ~~taken by the Administration--as well as local officials--are responsible for this improvement.~~ taken by the Administration--as well as local officials--are responsible for this improvement.

The latest FBI figures show that the ~~growth~~ ^{growth} rate for serious crime in America was reduced to 1 per cent for the first nine months of 1972--the lowest rate of crime increase since 1960. In 83 of our major cities, crime has actually been reduced.

We don't have to live with lawlessness--not if we are determined to reduce it to the lowest possible figure. The Federal government can help in the war against crime but the most significant and lasting battles are fought every day on the streets of our cities and the roads of our rural areas. We are all soldiers in this war, and we can win it. This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the Nation's capital. I'll be talking with you again next week--same time, same station.#####



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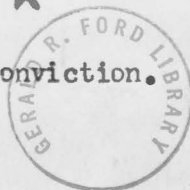
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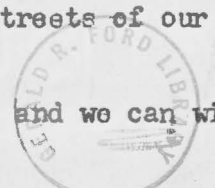
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This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the Nation's capital.

I share the tremendous feelings of elation and pride that have gripped Americans since our POW's have been coming home. I ~~especially~~ want to ~~share~~ voice a ^{special} welcome-home for Major Joe Shanahan of Kentwood and to tell his wife, Barbara, and the Shanahan youngsters, Jim and Theresa, how happy I am that Major Shanahan ^{is going to be} back home with his family.

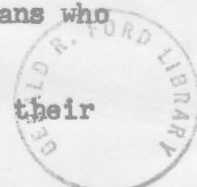
Major Shanahan ~~enlisted~~ in the Air Force in October 1956. He entered officer training school and was commissioned a second lieutenant in December 1960. He then entered air navigation training. On completing that training, he served with a number of units and on May 31, 1968, was assigned to Southeast Asia with the 14th Tactical Reconnaissance ~~Squadron~~ Squadron at ~~Udorn~~ Udorn Air Force Base in Thailand. On August 15, 1968, while on a combat mission over North Vietnam, Joe Shanahan's RF4C was hit by hostile fire and he was captured by the North Vietnamese. I am ~~delighted~~ delighted that Major Shanahan now is back home. He has served his country valiantly and well.

Major Shanahan and his fellow POW's have been welcomed home as heroes--and rightly so. They can truthfully be called "All-Americans."

It is quite a contrast when you compare these former POW's with those men who call themselves Americans but who live in Canada or ~~Sweden~~ Sweden or "underground U.S.A." because they refused to answer the call of their country.

Now there are many who are demanding total forgiveness for Vietnam ^{Era} draft evaders. In fact, there are some members of Congress who are seeking total amnesty ^I for these men, ~~saying~~ claiming that history speaks in their favor.

The facts ~~are~~ are otherwise. History offers clear evidence that Americans who in the past have refused to serve their country have been held accountable for their



mistake

acts.

The United States never has granted unconditional forgiveness to those who ducked military service.

Not even Abraham Lincoln, whose generosity of spirit is often cited by proponents of amnesty, went that far.

Although the totals may not be precise, the Defense Department's latest count lists 32,557 Vietnam Era deserters. [redacted] A recent tally by the White House

lists

1,950 fugitive draft dodgers in Canada and 450 in other countries, primarily

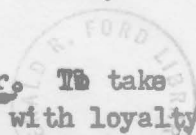
Sweden. The biggest *number* [redacted] of draft-dodger fugitives--2,100--are presumed to have gone underground in this country.

By spurning their country's call to arms, were these men answering a higher moral call? *The vast majority of Americans* President Nixon *Pres. Nixon* thinks not, and studies indicate that most of his White House predecessors felt the same way about deserters and draft dodgers in their day. I agree with the position taken by these Presidents.

In the Civil War and its aftermath, Presidents Lincoln and Johnson offered amnesties of varying types to Confederate soldiers and Union Army deserters. But none of the amnesties was unconditional.

Following World War I, no amnesty was provided for thousands of wartime deserters or draft evaders. In 1933, 15 years after the end of the war, President Roosevelt pardoned about 1,500 violators of the Espionage Act and draft laws who had completed their prison sentences. This restored voting and other civil rights usually denied ex-convicts. In 1947, President Truman pardoned 1,523 out of 15,803 draft evaders in line with recommendations from his amnesty board. These men were serving prison sentences. No amnesty was given to deserters. No amnesty of

any kind was granted to deserters or draft dodgers after the Korean War. To take a different course today would be a disservice to all of the men who served with loyalty and distinction in Vietnam, and an affront to the former POW's who now have come back. This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting from Washington. I'll be talking with you again next week--same time, same station.#####



This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the nation's capital.

Let there be no mistake about it. Republicans support a sound vocational rehabilitation program. They always have, and they always will. But Republicans in the House, by and large, will vote to sustain the President's veto of S. 7, the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1972, because S. 7 is overly-ambitious and ^{fiscally} irresponsible legislation.

As the President has pointed out, S. 7 would result in an increase in Federal outlays of some \$1 billion above the budget for fiscal years 1973-1975.

Said the President in his veto message: "To some members of the Congress, a \$1 billion increase in Federal spending may seem only a small crack in the dam. But there are more than a dozen other bills already before the Congress which also carry extravagant price tags. And more seem likely to follow during the remainder of the year.

"If we allow the big spenders to sweep aside budgetary restraints, we can expect an increase of more than \$50 billion in Federal spending before the end of fiscal year 1975. This would force upon us the unacceptable choice of either raising taxes substantially--perhaps as much as 15 per cent in personal income taxes--or inviting a hefty boost in consumer prices and interest rates."

I personally am very much opposed to the kind of budget-busting represented by S. 7. I challenge the backers of this legislation to come up with a bill which is in line with the President's budget.

There are some Americans who are being led to believe that the present Administration is gutting our social programs. Nothing could be further from the truth. There have been tremendous increases in social program spending during the past four years.



Here are the facts:

--Federal outlays ~~for the Vocational Rehabilitation Program~~ would total \$650 million under the President's fiscal 1974 budget--an increase of 75 per cent over outlays for vocational "rehab" four years ago.

-- Federal outlays for the elderly will total \$63.5 billion in 1974, an increase of 71 per cent since 1970.

--Federal food aid ^{has} increased nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ times--from \$1.2 billion in 1969 to \$4.1 billion in 1974.

--Total Federal funds benefitting the sick have grown from \$18.1 billion to \$30.3 billion--up 67 per cent in the last four years.

--Federal outlays for direct benefits to low-income persons increased 88 per cent--from \$16.1 billion to \$30.3 billion--since the present Administration took office.

--In 1969, outlays for income security programs were \$37.7 billion; by 1974, they will have more than doubled, to \$87.6 billion.

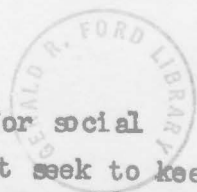
--Research on cancer and heart disease, the two greatest causes of death in the United States, has increased 117 per cent since 1969 to a new total of \$765 million.

--Federal funds for drug abuse prevention and drug law enforcement programs have increased from ~~\$82 million~~ to \$785 million since 1969--a ten-fold increase.

--Since 1969, funds for student grants and work-study have increased nearly four-fold--up \$700 million--with the number of awards increasing by more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ million.

--Federal outlays for anti-pollution programs have increased from \$700 million in fiscal 1969 to \$3.1 billion in fiscal 1974, and outlays for waste treatment grants have risen from \$135 million to \$1.6 billion in these same years.

Those are the facts--and they show unmistakably that Federal outlays for social programs have increased tremendously in the last four years. Now we must seek to keep all Federal spending under control. This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the nation's capital.####



This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the nation's capital.

There is no question about it. Inflation is our number one problem. The rise in ~~meat prices in~~ recent weeks demanded action, and so the President slapped a ceiling on the price of all beef, veal, pork, sheep and lamb products.

Why ^{only} meat? Well, the record shows that during Phase II of the Economic Stabilization Program, red meat prices rose at almost twice the rate of all food prices. Grocery store ~~food~~ prices--excluding red meat--increased less than 3 per cent during Phase II, a rate below the overall increase in consumer prices and within the goals of the Stabilization Program. In February, prices of red meat increased an additional 5.4 per cent at retail, threatening to erode the substantial gains in the purchasing power of labor's weekly paychecks in Phase II.

The President's action, imposing a ceiling on meat prices, was most welcome. I don't have to ^{##} tell you how meat prices ~~went~~ ^{went} up prior to the President's decision. The retail value of beef had risen 16 per cent since November 1972. The retail value of pork had increased 11 per cent since November 1972, despite declines in the farm-wholesale and the wholesale-retail ~~price~~ price spreads.

Higher red meat prices have contributed about half of the increase in the Consumer Price Index since December 1972. Price increases for processed red meat have accounted for 15 per cent of the Wholesale Price Index rise during the first two months of 1973.

The problem of rising food prices ~~demands~~ demands a concerted counterattack by ~~both~~ both consumers and the Government. The Federal Government now is doing everything within its power to bring ~~this~~ this problem under control.

Despite the current seriousness of the problem, we can reasonably expect an improvement in food prices within a few months. The heart of our problem today is a ~~shortage~~ shortage.



of food supplies to meet rapidly increasing consumer demands. We cannot end this shortage overnight.

Because of strong actions taken by the Government and the actions of the free marketplace, however, food prices should increase at a much slower rate in the second half of 1973. In fact, it is quite possible that the rate of increase by the end of 1973 will be near zero.

Let me make this point. The President did not freeze meat prices at present high levels. He established a ceiling for meat prices, so they cannot go any higher. It is possible--and in fact likely--that meat prices will come down. Certainly meat prices will come down if we all eat a little less meat.

Did you know that the per capita meat consumption ^{of beef} in this country has increased 39 per cent since 1960?

The ^{most recent} rising demand for food which we have experienced--particularly for red meat--was generated by a vigorous expansion in consumer incomes during 1972 and early 1973. The food-price problem has resulted, in part, from the basic health of our economy.

One additional element has been an increase in demand from other countries, ~~which~~

Unfortunately, this rising demand at home and abroad has been accompanied by a falling supply of food on our farms, particularly in the second half of 1972. The consequence has been a sharp upsurge in the prices of raw farm products.

During the remainder of 1973, food supplies should expand significantly, although most of the expansion will occur in the second half of the year.

Once additional supplies reach the market, farm prices should move down quickly and we should have a flattening out of retail prices.

This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the nation's capital.

I'll be talking with you again next week--same time, same station.

#####



This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the Nation's capital.

★ Food ~~costs~~ costs are high--especially meat prices--but if we are going to find the answers to the problem we must keep the issue in proper perspective.

The meat boycott was related to the basic problem, which is that ~~supply~~ ^{demand} has been exceeding ~~demand~~ ^{supply}. But I personally believe we should be cutting ~~back~~ back demand on a ~~proportionate~~ proportionate continuing basis. ~~rather than~~ I don't believe it helps to put thousands of butchers out of work and to declare war on the farmer and cattleman.

To attack food prices by moderating demand makes good sense. But let's not attack the farmer and the stockman. A quick review of the record ~~reveals~~ ^{reveals} that the farmer has led the fight against inflation for the past 20 years, and has suffered especially from inflation himself.

Here are the facts: Farm prices for food ~~are~~ are up only 6 per cent from 20 years ago. ~~Wholesale~~ Wholesale prices for food are up 20 per cent from 20 years ago. Retail food prices ~~are~~ are up 43 per cent from 20 years ago. At the same time, the average wage rate per ~~hour~~ hour for the nonfarm worker ~~was~~ was \$1.33 in 1950; \$3.65 in 1972; and \$3.78 in January of 1973.

The truth is that the farmer only recently began getting for his crops what he had received 20 years ago. Meanwhile, the costs of items that go into his production have doubled--and, in some cases, tripled.

If the cost of farm products had risen as fast as other items, the American housewife would ~~not~~ be screaming much louder. In 1950, choice steers in the Midwest markets were bringing \$28.88 per hundredweight. If choice steers had gone up as much since 1950 as a first class postage stamp, they would now be ~~bringing~~ bringing \$72.34 per hundredweight instead of the current price of \$45. And if choice steers ~~were~~



had gone up as much as hourly wage rates have--percentage wise--steers now would be \$80.69 per hundredweight, instead of \$45.

realize it is little comfort to the
~~It doesn't pacify the angry~~ housewife, but the truth is that American farmers have

given the rest of us the lowest ~~and~~ food bill ~~in the history~~ of any major nation.

The best quality food in our history takes about 16 per cent of our disposable income.

In 1950, food took 23 per cent of our disposable income. The fact that we are spending

7 per cent less on food now than in ~~the~~ 1950 means we had \$51.7 billion to ~~spend~~ spend on

consumer and luxury items which created jobs and higher incomes for nonfarm workers.

~~People~~ People of other countries spend far more *of their income* ~~for~~ for food than we do. The

~~British spend 22.5 per cent~~ Germans spend 22.5 per cent of their disposable income

for food; the British, 29 per cent; the Italians, 31.9 per cent; ~~and~~ and the

Japanese, 33.2 per cent. In fact, ~~in~~ in Japan right now the people cannot buy beef

or pork for less than \$5 a pound, and it has even gone as high as \$17 a pound.

Is the farmer getting rich as a result of higher food prices? According to the

Department of Agriculture, 66 cents of every dollar spent ~~by~~ by the American consumer for farm-originated food in ~~1972~~ 1972 went to pay the marketing bill--not the farmer.

The marketing bill includes the cost of transportation, processing and distribution--and

~~it~~ accounted for \$77 billion out of a total expenditure for food of \$116 billion.

Labor was the most ~~costly~~ costly element in the marketing bill--some \$37 billion.

Since 1947, wages in the food industry have tripled. This is why the President has

ordered that wage increases in the food industry must be cleared with the Cost of

Living Council. So let's not make the farmer the scapegoat for high food prices. He

doesn't deserve it.

This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the Nation's capital.

I'll be talking with you again next week--same time, same station.

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SCRIPT FOR USE BY FIFTH DISTRICT RADIO STATIONS THE WEEKEND OF APRIL 14-15, 1973.

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The meat boycott was related to the basic problem, which is that supply has been exceeded by demand. But I personally believe we should be cutting back demand on a proportionate continuing basis. I don't believe it helps to put thousands of butchers out of work and to declare war on the farmer and cattleman.

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Here are the facts: Farm prices for food are up only 6 per cent from 20 years ago. Wholesale prices for food are up 20 per cent from 20 years ago. Retail food prices are up 43 per cent from 20 years ago. At the same time, the average wage rate per hour for the nonfarm worker was \$1.33 in 1950; \$3.65 in 1972; and \$3.78 in January 1973.

The truth is that the farmer only recently began getting for his crops what he had received 20 years ago. Meanwhile, the costs of items that go into his production have doubled--and, in some cases, tripled.

If the cost of farm products had risen as fast as other items, the American housewife would be screaming much louder. In 1950, choice steers in the Midwest markets were bringing \$28.88 per hundredweight. If choice steers had gone up as much since 1950 as a first class postage stamp, they would now be bringing \$72.34 per hundredweight instead of the current price of \$45. And if choice steers had gone up as much as hourly wage rates have--percentage wise--steers now would be \$80.69 per hundredweight, instead of \$45.

I realize it is little comfort to the housewife, but the truth is that American farmers have given the rest of us the lowest food bill of



any major nation. The best quality food in our history takes about 16 per cent of our disposable income. In 1950, food took 23 per cent of our disposable income. The fact that we are spending 7 per cent less on food now than in 1950 means we had \$51.7 billion to spend on consumer and luxury items which created jobs and higher incomes for nonfarm workers.

People of other countries spend far more of their income for food than we do. The Germans spend 22.5 per cent of their disposable income for food; the British, 29 per cent; the Italians, 31.9 per cent; and the Japanese, 33.2 per cent. In fact, in Japan right now the people cannot buy beef or pork for less than \$5 a pound, and it has even gone as high as \$17 a pound.

Is the farmer getting rich as a result of higher food prices? According to the Department of Agriculture, 66 cents of every dollar spent by the American consumer for farm-originated food in 1972 went to pay the marketing bill--not the farmer. The marketing bill includes the cost of transportation, processing and distribution--and accounted for \$77 billion out of a total expenditure for food of \$116 billion.

Labor was the most costly element in the marketing bill--some \$37 billion. Since 1947, wages in the food industry have tripled. This is why the President has ordered that wage increases in the food industry must be cleared with the Cost of Living Council. So let's not make the farmer the scapegoat for high food prices. He doesn't deserve it.

This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the Nation's capital. I'll be talking with you again next week--same time, same station.

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This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from [redacted] the nation's capital.

As the budget issue is debated, the amount of Federal money spent for defense purposes is of great concern. The argument is made that defense spending should be cut sharply, with the funds lopped off to be used for domestic purposes.

I favor keeping the tightest possible rein on defense spending. I hope that substantial reductions can be made in the fiscal 1974 defense budget. [redacted] But I feel very strongly that the entire question of defense spending should be put in the proper perspective.

By that I mean that those who advocate deep cuts in defense outlays are ignoring several facts.

First, while state and local governments pump billions of dollars into the same social problem areas that are dealt with in federal programs, the Federal Government alone [redacted] must bear the responsibility for national defense. In this context, it seems remarkable that we can maintain a national defense second to none by [redacted] devoting only 30 per cent of our total Federal outlays to defense. Ye that is precisely what we have been able to do under the present Administration.

Second, the critics are ignoring the fact that the present Administration already has made significant gains in slicing the fat from the defense budget.

Since [redacted] the present Administration took office, our armed forces have been reduced by 1.3 million persons. This means that today we have the smallest armed force since 1950, the year before we were forced into the Korean War.

More than half of the current defense budget is devoted to personnel costs--not to wild-eyed weapons procurement schemes, as some critics would have the public believe.



Much of the reason for these high personnel costs is the increase in military pay--
legislated by Congress--which is designed to take us the full way to an all-volunteer
army.

Third, and perhaps the most critical point, is that deep cuts in defense spending
would gouge into the muscle of the system that keeps this nation the
strongest on earth.

We can look back on 1972 as ^{one of} the most significant years in the history
of American diplomacy. After 20 years of tense silence, the doors of communication
were opened with China. An arms limitation agreement was signed with the Soviet Union.
An honorable settlement was reached in Vietnam.

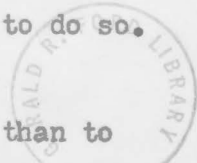
None of these could have happened--nor would we have the hope for continued
relaxation of international tensions--if America had been forced to negotiate from a
position of weakness.

We were able to achieve what we did in diplomacy because we were a strong nation
able to convince our adversaries that there was less risk in negotiation than in
confrontation.

This year we are embarking on even more critical negotiations than in the past.
Talks already have begun with the Soviets on further limitation of nuclear weapons--
the SALT II talks. Plans are being laid for discussions that hopefully will lead to
Mutual Balance Force Reductions in Europe.

Any serious lowering of our national defense posture will jeopardize these talks
and our future hopes for peace. Why, after all, would a nation like the Soviet
Union talk arms reductions with us if its leaders knew they were superior to us in
military strength? The answer is simple. They would have no reason at all to do so.

There is no more certain way to doom our hopes for a peaceful world than to
make deep cuts now in our defense budget.
This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the nation's capital.
I'll be talking with you again next week--same time, same station.#####



April 28-29, 1973.

This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the nation's capital.

The draft has ended. Induction authority will expire next July 1.

The enactment of the draft extension bill in 1971 provided two years to make a transition to an All-Volunteer Force. This transition has been made in 18 months, and further extension of induction authority beyond July 1, 1973, will not be necessary.

In part, this remarkable achievement has been made possible by continuing reductions in Active Force military strength required to meet our national security commitments.

From a Vietnam War peak of 3.55 million, Active Forces have declined to an end of fiscal year [#]1974 baseline strength of 2.23 million.

From a level of 229,000 in 1968, at the height of the Vietnam War, draft calls have rapidly declined to zero. Inductions ended last December.

A favorable trend in male enlistments for all of the military Services and especially the trend in true volunteers, coupled with a decline in required Active Force strength, have eliminated the need to continue the draft.

Despite ~~the~~ ^{drop in the} sharp draft and finally the end of draft calls, overall enlistments have increased. And the proportion of true volunteers among those who enlisted has increased from 59 per cent in fiscal year 1971 to an estimated 84 per cent in fiscal year 1973. With the ~~the~~ end of draft calls last December, virtually all current enlistees are true volunteers.

What has brought about this improvement? Congress increased military entry pay effective in November 1971, and this helped. Conditions of service ~~and~~ life have been improved; the training of personnel has been modernized; and there is a renewed ~~emphasis~~ emphasis on professionalism in the Services. These have also helped.

But the factor that has contributed the most to increases in the number of volunteers is the improved military recruiting system. The quality of military recruiting has been



improved, and the recruiting force has been expanded.

With the help of special legislation and continued public support, it should not be necessary to reinstate the draft in the future to meet our ~~our~~ peacetime manpower needs.

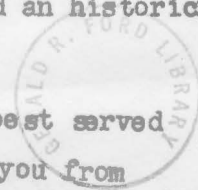
Enlistment levels reached during the past year match total requirements through fiscal year 1974. The quality of enlistments has been maintained. Moreover, as favorable enlistment trends continue, the military Services will be able to reduce the number of disciplinary problems by increasing the proportion of high school graduates among future enlistees.

Increases in the number of highly qualified women enlistees, and the replacement of military members of civilians in support-type jobs, will further reduce the ~~requirements~~ requirements for enlisting men ~~into~~ into the Armed Forces.

The effectiveness of an enlistment bonus as a means of attracting new members to skills that are in short supply has been demonstrated by the successful Army and Marine Corps test of the ground combat arms ~~bonus~~ bonus. More extensive experience with the reenlistment bonus has established its usefulness in ~~maintaining~~ keeping more men in the Service who possess critical skills. The authority to use special bonuses for attraction and retention in critical skills is important insurance against having to reinstate the induction authority at some future time to meet peacetime manpower needs.

There will be a shortage of military physicians unless special pay incentives are provided. The Military Services will reduce the health services shortage by improving the efficiency of military health care. Such improvements--combined with additional medical scholarships and special pay incentives--should be sufficient to solve this problem.

Moving to an All-Volunteer Force from a 30-year-old draft system is indeed an historic and major achievement. I feel that our nation's security during peacetime is best served by an All-Volunteer Force. This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the nation's capital. I'll be talking with you again next week--same time, same station.#####



This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the Nation's capitol.

The ~~topic~~ ^{in the Washington headlines is, of course,} topic that has been on everybody's lips here is, of course, the

the Watergate Affair.

^{Several} Early this week top White House aides resigned, ~~and~~ I described this development as a necessary first step in clearing the air on the Watergate Affair.

The President then followed up by going on radio and television and announcing that he has given Attorney General-designate Elliot Richardson authority to appoint a special ~~prosecutor~~ prosecutor to ~~supervise~~ supervise the investigation and prosecution of the Watergate ~~matter~~ matter.

I personally have all the confidence in the world in Elliot Richardson. He is a man of the highest integrity. But there ~~is~~ probably are people who would never be satisfied unless somebody ~~is~~ is brought in from the outside to investigate the Watergate Affair. ~~_____~~

~~_____~~ The Watergate Affair has been damaging to ~~the~~ the Nation from a number of standpoints. It is eclipsing matters that are ~~vital~~ vital to the future of the Nation. ~~_____~~ It has had a numbing effect on the processes of government. It would be good if we would all now let ^{Board of the Senate} the investigation proceed ^{unconditionally} ^{naturally} while we concern ourselves ~~in~~ in proper measure with other matters of far greater importance to our welfare as a people and a Nation.

Let me turn now to the tax reform ~~proposals~~ proposals outlined last week by the Nixon Administration.

One of these proposals is virtually identical with a bill I introduced last Jan. 3, the opening day of the 93rd Congress. This legislation would give parents who earn up to \$18,000 annually a tax credit of 50 per cent for tuition paid to send their youngsters to a nonprofit nonpublic elementary or secondary school, up to a limit



\$200 per child. The House Ways and Means Committee approved a similar bill late last fall, but Congress adjourned without acting on it. I think the chances for passage of this legislation this year or next are fairly good, particularly since this bill has the backing of Ways and Means Chairman Wilbur Mills.

The Administration's tax reform proposals also would provide tax relief for the elderly. The legislation would permit moderate-income persons over 65 to deduct up to \$500 a year for property taxes or 5 per cent of their annual income as a tax credit. Elderly tenants could deduct 15 per cent of their rent.

The Administration also proposed a way to reduce to "close to zero" the number of wealthy individuals who use tax shelters to avoid paying any Federal income tax.

The Administration's tax plan would reduce the number of tax shelters by restricting the amount of taxes individuals could avoid by combining certain deductions and exclusions from taxable income. The new system would replace the minimum income tax established in 1969 with a minimum taxable income and a limitation on artificial accounting losses.

Under the current system, an individual pays a 10 per cent tax on all but \$30,000 of his income derived by such a preference. The new Administration plan would require that everyone be taxed at normal, graduated rates on at least one-half of his income, regardless of its source.

The Administration also has proposed changes that would make it easier for millions of people to figure out their income taxes at tax time. The plan for simplifying the figuring of income taxes involves a new tax form, 1040-S. This new form would be longer than the present "short form," but shorter and less complicated than the regular Form 1040. About 20 million taxpayers could shift to the new simple Form 1040-S.

This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the Nation's capital. I'll be talking with you again next week--same time, same station.

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This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from Washington.

I am most pleased with Attorney General Elliot Richardson's announcement that he will appoint a special prosecutor in the Watergate Case.

This means we will no longer have a situation where the Administration is in the position of investigating itself. This means that all Americans can rest assured that the entire truth will be brought out in connection with the Watergate Affair.

And let me remind you that the President specifically gave Mr. Richardson the authority to name a special Watergate prosecutor. In appointing Mr. Richardson as attorney general, the President said he had confidence Mr. Richardson would be "fair and fearless in pursuing the Watergate case wherever it leads." I agree with that assessment of Mr. Richardson.

Mr. Richardson has taken a number of actions which tend to restore public confidence in the Justice Department. He has stated, for instance, that he wants the Senate Judiciary Committee to agree with his choice of a special prosecutor and that he wants the Senate to endorse his appointment. These are wise actions on Mr. Richardson's part--and he is to be commended for them.

And now I am delighted to report to you that the ⁱinitial response to my questionnaire has been great. The returns have been pouring in. I hope everyone in my district will take the time and trouble to fill out my questionnaire because the more returns I get the better the sampling of opinion in the district.

In scanning the questionnaire returns, it is already obvious that people in the Fifth District overwhelmingly favor a congressional ceiling on Federal spending, even if this means cutting existing programs. In short, people in my district favor economy in government. And so do I.



In that connection, let me point out that some Americans believe the whole problem of deficit spending can be solved if we will only make deep cuts in defense spending.

The answer, unfortunately, is not ^{that} simple.

I have always been in favor of a strong defense--and I make no apologies for that.

At the same time, I have always sought to make cuts in the defense budget laid before the Congress--but I have always believed these cuts should be judicious reductions.

There are those who would have Americans believe that the Pentagon gets whatever it wants. The truth is that Congress cut the fiscal 1973 defense budget by \$5,221,208,000, reduced the fiscal 1972 defense budget by \$3,025,366,000, cut the fiscal 1971 defense budget by \$2,149,729,000, reduced the fiscal 1970 defense budget by \$5,637,632,000, and cut the fiscal 1969 defense budget by \$5,204,172,000.

Don't let anybody kid you that the defense budget can be the source for all extra funding. This is just not the truth. Here are a few basic facts:

The 1974 defense budget is at the lowest percentage of Federal outlays since 1950.

Fifty-six per cent of the defense budget is manpower cost.

The pay schedules for military personal have increased as incentives to build up an all-volunteer army. For example, a private made \$85 a month in 1963.

In 1973, he gets \$350 a month.

Income security outlays in the 1974 Federal budget total \$82 billion--just for that one category alone.

The recommended 1974 budget outlay for the elderly is \$64 billion, indicating that almost one-fourth of our total Federal spending is earmarked for just one-tenth of our population.

And, remember this...most domestic programs are funded by the Federal, state and local governments, but defense funding is the sole responsibility of the Federal Government. This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the nation's capital. I'll be talking with you again next week...same time, same station. #####



This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the nation's capital.

Returns from my questionnaire are continuing to pour in, and ~~in~~ along with them I am receiving many letters.

A number of the letters are, of course, focusing on the Watergate Affair, which is still very much in the news.

I would like to point out that some good may come out of the Watergate Affair, sordid though it is. By saying it could produce something beneficial I mean that it may result ~~in~~ reform of American campaign practices.

A number of campaign reform proposals have already been made in the Congress and all of them deserve very careful scrutiny. There is a need for reform in campaign financing. There is a need to shorten the duration of political campaigns. There ~~is~~ is ~~a~~ a need to cut down on the cost of campaigning. There is a need to shorten the time during which campaign advertising would be allowed. And most of all there is a need for adherence to a ~~code~~ code of ~~campaign~~ high campaign ethics, for that really is what the Watergate Affair ~~is~~ is all about...dirty campaigning...apart from the petty criminality involved.

Let's remember this ~~is~~ about the Watergate Scandal. It is different from the other great scandals that have besmirched government officials at various times during American ~~history~~ history. No one was "on the take" in the Watergate Affair. No ~~one~~ one was accepting ~~bribes~~ bribes. No ~~one~~ one was selling government secrets. It was simply, in short, a political crime...~~a~~ a crime that went far beyond the surface crime of breaking and entering. And so now we must look at our campaign laws to make sure that Watergate never happens again. ~~The rest of the world is looking at the Watergate~~



We must ~~be~~ overhaul our whole approach to campaign financing. We must never again have shadowy political figures carting large amounts of cash around in suitcases or stashing large secret cash contributions away in a safe.

To get the ball rolling on campaign reform legislation, the President has recommended that the Congress and the White House cooperate in enacting new legislation that would tighten up our existing election laws. I strongly favor this ~~joint~~ joint effort to produce clean election legislation.

These are some of the comments I am making in answering my mail on the Watergate Affair. I am also receiving some mail on the bombing in Cambodia.

The House of Representatives last week voted, in effect, against U.S. bombing in Cambodia. The House thus broke a long record of staunch support for American military policies in Southeast Asia.

The ~~vote~~ vote on the Cambodian bombing issue was 219 to 188.

The House, in contrast with the more dovish Senate, has been a bulwark of strength over the years for American military policies in Vietnam and as recently as last fall firmly rejected moves to withdraw remaining U.S. forces from Vietnam or to cut off funds for the prosecution of the war.

The House last week first voted to deny the Defense Department the authority for a transfer of funds within the defense budget. This involved \$25 million for the bombing of Cambodia. The House later voted 224 to 172 to bar the use of any funds in the Second Supplemental Appropriation Bill for any ~~U.S.~~ U.S. military action in or over Cambodia.

The House also rejected an attempt by Rep. Sam Stratton, Democrat of New York, to delay the effect of the no-funds-for-Cambodia action for 60 days.

I hope this congressional act will not undercut the ~~Vietnam~~ peace agreement affecting Vietnam, Laos and, hopefully, Cambodia. I pray that that this vote will not interfere with American efforts to find obtain all possible information on our Missing In Action.

This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the nation's capital. I'll be talking with you again next week--same time, same station.

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This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from Washington.

My mail indicates to me that the people in my congressional district are becoming increasingly worried about the gasoline shortage. Many of those who are writing me are asking why there is a shortage at all.

It was just several years ago that the United States could produce all the petroleum it needed. The situation has changed rapidly as the national use of oil and petroleum products has increased at the rate of 5 per cent or more a year.

One reason for this increased consumption of petroleum products is that our new cars with anti-pollutant devices built into them are regular gas-guzzlers. They simply deliver less miles per gallon of gas. Another reason for the oil products shortage is that power plants which formerly used coal to generate electricity are now using fuel oil, when they can't get natural gas. They are burning fuel oil or natural gas because coal is the dirtiest of the fuels.

The result is that now we not only can't produce all the crude oil we need but we also don't have the refinery capacity to make all the finished petroleum products we need.

One hopeful development is that since the President's energy message on April 18 five companies have announced plans to build or expand refineries in the United States.

In moving to alleviate the problems caused by the gasoline shortage, the Administration has called upon the major oil companies to allocate gasoline supplies among their various customers in the same proportion as before the shortage.



The plan is voluntary now but it could be made mandatory if persuasion doesn't work. Farmers are being ~~gg~~ given number one priority in the allocation plan but Michigan Agriculture Department officials say they are running out of the ^{tractor} fuel they need to plant their crops. The State Agriculture Department has appealed to all firms ^{tractor} which supply fuel to farmers, urging them to meet the voluntary Federal priorities for supplying farmers. If the oil companies do not respect the Federal priorities, we will have to institute a plan for mandatory allocation of gasoline and fuel supplies.

Steps are being taken to overcome fuel shortages in this country. Importation of more finished products will help. Construction of the trans-Alaska oil pipeline and the building of a trans-Canadian gas line to bring ~~natural~~ natural gas to the Lower 48 States from Alaska would be a tremendous benefit. Incentives for building refineries in this country, instead of abroad, would help too. By 1980, electric utilities expect to be able to use high sulphur coal and still meet clean-air standards. By 1990, more than half of our electric power will come from nuclear power. And research is being stepped up to produce natural gas from coal.

But that doesn't mean our energy picture looks bright. The days of cheap and abundant power are over. We must learn to conserve energy. The best way you and I, as individuals, can do that...is to drive our cars less and drive them at slower speeds.

One of my constituents sent me an interesting suggestion. He said the Congress should impose a 50 mile per hour speed limit on the entire nation. Congress probably has the authority to set a speed limit for the interstate highways, ~~but it would seem that limit should be 60 miles an hour rather than 50. Even that,~~ of course, would be a big help.

This is your congressman, Jerry Ford, reporting to you from the nation's capital. I'll be talking with you again next week--same time, same station.



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