

**The original documents are located in Box 7, folder “4/8/75 - Reception for National Alliance of Businessmen” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *RF*

RECEPTION FOR  
NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF BUSINESSMEN

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 1975

IT IS A PLEASURE AND A PRIVILEGE FOR ME  
TO WELCOME YOU TO THE WHITE HOUSE FOR THIS RECEPTION.  
IT IS THE LEAST WE IN GOVERNMENT CAN DO TO THANK YOU FOR  
THE OUTSTANDING WORK YOU ARE ACCOMPLISHING FOR AMERICA.

LAST SUMMER, I SPOKE AT YOUR NATIONAL CONFERENCE  
HERE IN WASHINGTON AND PREDICTED THAT YOU WOULD NOT LET  
THE PROBLEMS OF INFLATION AND ECONOMIC DOWNTURN PREVENT YOU  
FROM MEETING YOUR OBJECTIVE OF FINDING JOBS FOR AMERICA'S  
DISADVANTAGED ADULTS, VIETNAM VETERANS, AND NEEDY YOUNGSTERS.

NOW, AFTER THE REPORTS I HAVE HEARD ON THE PROGRESS  
YOU HAVE MADE DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THIS FISCAL YEAR,  
I AM CONVINCED THAT MY PREDICTION LAST SUMMER WAS ONE OF THE  
MOST ACCURATE ONES I COULD HAVE MADE.

IN SPITE OF THE PRESENT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS,  
YOU ARE RIGHT ON YOUR TARGET OF PROVIDING JOBS AND TRAINING  
FOR SOME FOUR HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE THOUSAND ADULTS  
THIS FISCAL YEAR. LAST SUMMER, YOU EXCEEDED YOUR GOAL  
OF TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND SUMMER JOBS FOR NEEDY YOUNGSTERS  
BY MORE THAN TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT.

I COMMEND YOUR EFFORTS AND SALUTE YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS.

THE KEY TO THE AMERICAN SUCCESS STORY, FOR  
NEARLY TWO HUNDRED YEARS NOW, HAS BEEN A SINGLE WORD --  
OPPORTUNITY. GENERATION AFTER GENERATION, THAT OPPORTUNITY  
HAS BEEN EXPANDED. IT HAS BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO  
MORE AND MORE PEOPLE WITH FEWER AND FEWER BARRIERS.

BUT SOME BARRIERS STILL REMAIN -- BARRIERS OF  
POVERTY, IGNORANCE, PREJUDICE, TO MENTION A FEW.  
THESE ARE BIG BARRIERS -- BARRIERS THAT GOVERNMENT CANNOT  
OVERCOME ALONE. HOWEVER, THANKS TO THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE  
OF BUSINESSMEN, PROGRESS IS BEING MADE.



THE PRODUCTIVITY PARTNERSHIP YOU HAVE FORMED  
WITH AMERICAN BUSINESS, LABOR AND GOVERNMENT HAS PROVEN  
WHAT CAN BE DONE WHEN ALL SEGMENTS OF OUR AMERICAN SYSTEM  
WORK TOGETHER TOWARD COMMON OBJECTIVES. OVER THE PAST  
SEVEN YEARS, YOU HAVE DEVELOPED THE SKILL, THE KNOW-HOW  
AND THE COMMITMENT NECESSARY TO HELP THOSE LEAST LIKELY TO  
SUCCEED UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

YOUR OBJECTIVE IS A SIMPLE ONE -- TO PLACE  
VETERANS, THE HANDICAPPED AND DISADVANTAGED PEOPLE IN  
PRIVATE SECTOR JOBS -- JOBS THAT WILL BE THEIR FIRST STEP  
UP THE LADDER TO DIGNITY AND PROSPERITY.

SPECIFICALLY, YOU ARE TAKING THE LEAD IN FINDING JOBS  
FOR VETERANS -- MORE THAN SIX HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND  
TO DATE -- AND YOU ALSO CONDUCT AN ENORMOUSLY SUCCESSFUL  
SUMMER JOBS CAMPAIGN FOR NEEDY YOUNGSTERS. I THINK  
THESE TWO ALLIANCE PROGRAMS ARE VITALLY IMPORTANT.  
WE CANNOT -- AND MUST NOT -- FORGET THE VETERANS OF THE  
VIETNAM WAR NOR CAN WE IGNORE AMERICA'S YOUNGSTERS.

I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU ACHIEVED ALL THIS WITH ONLY THIRTY-FIVE PROFESSIONAL STAFF MEMBERS PAID BY FEDERAL FUNDS. ALL OF THE THOUSANDS OF OTHER PEOPLE WHO HAVE MADE THIS PROGRAM WORK WERE ON FREE LOAN FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR, WHICH HAS MADE AN INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE BETTERMENT OF AMERICA.

I AM PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO SEE YOUR CURRENT  
SLOGAN -- "HELP AMERICA WORK." THAT IS REALLY THE  
GOAL OF OUR COUNTRY AND I DEEPLY APPRECIATE WHAT EACH OF YOU  
HAS CONTRIBUTED TOWARD MAKING THAT SLOGAN A REALITY.

TODAY, YOU ARE FACED WITH THE REWARD THAT  
SO OFTEN GOES WITH A JOB WELL DONE: I ASK YOU TO DO MORE.

AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AMERICAN BUSINESS SYSTEM,  
OUR ECONOMY, OUR GOVERNMENT AND OUR PEOPLE NEED YOUR EFFORTS  
MORE THAN EVER BEFORE. THEREFORE, I URGE YOU TO JOIN  
WITH ME IN RENEWING AND REAFFIRMING OUR COMMITMENT AND  
DEDICATION TO THE PURPOSES OF THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF  
BUSINESSMEN IN ORDER TO TRULY HELP AMERICA WORK.

THANK YOU.

END OF TEXT

CLEARANCE FORM FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH MATERIAL

TO:- THE PRESIDENT  
VIA: ROBERT HARTMANN  
FROM: PAUL A. THEIS  
SUBJECT: W.H. Reception for National Alliance of  
Businessmen

TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF PRESIDENTIAL USE: 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 8, 1975, the White House

SPEECHWRITER: Aram Bakshian

EDITED BY: Paul Theis

BASIC RESEARCH/SPEECH MATERIAL SUPPLIED BY:

Research and Scheduling Offices

CLEARED BY (Please initial):

- ( ) OPERATIONS (Rumsfeld) \_\_\_\_\_
- (X) CONGRESSIONAL/PUBLIC LIAISON (Marsh) Jm
- ( ) PRESS (Nessen) \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) LEGAL (Buchen) \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) ECONOMIC POLICY BOARD (Seidman) \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (Lynn) \_\_\_\_\_
- (X) DOMESTIC COUNCIL (Cannon) Wlt for J.C.
- ( ) NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL (Scowcroft) \_\_\_\_\_
- (X) RESEARCH (Waldron) P.P.
- (X) JERRY WARREN (FYI) \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) ENERGY RESOURCES COUNCIL (Zarb) \_\_\_\_\_
- (X) BILL BAROODY D.W. for Baroody
- (X) TED MARRS T.M.

MR. W. F. ROCKWELL, JR. - CHAIRMAN

MR. CARL E. HARTNACK - VICE CHAIRMAN  
(INCOMING CHAIRMAN)

MR. JOHN P. CONDON - PRESIDENT

MR. RICHARD J. WILSON - SECRETARY TREASURER



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