

The original documents are located in Box 22, “1/21/76 - Talking Points: FY 1977 Budget and Budget Message Signing Ceremony” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN . . .

TALKING POINTS

FY-1977 BUDGET AND BUDGET MESSAGE

SIGNING CEREMONY

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1976

(BEFORE SIGNING)

BEFORE I SIGN THE BUDGET LET ME JUST SAY

A FEW WORDS CONCERNING IT●

THE FEDERAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL 1977 REPRESENTS

WHAT WE HOPE WILL BE A MAJOR TURNING POINT IN THE COURSE

FOLLOWED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN RECENT DECADES●

THIS BUDGET DOES NOT HOLD OUT THE FALSE PROMISE
THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL IMMEDIATELY SOLVE
EVERY PROBLEM OR REALIZE EVERY AMBITIOUS AND
WELL-INTENTIONED GOAL OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

INSTEAD, IT REFLECTS ON EVERY PAGE THE COMMON SENSE,
THE NEW REALISM, THE BETTER BALANCE BETWEEN PUBLIC AND
PRIVATE INITIATIVES AND BETWEEN THE VARIOUS LEVELS
OF GOVERNMENT TO WHICH I REFERRED IN MY STATE OF THE UNION
ADDRESS.

NO DEPARTMENT OR AGENCY HAS BEEN EXEMPTED

FROM OUR COST-SAVING EFFORT. NONE HAS BEEN UNFAIRLY

OR UNREASONABLY SINGLED OUT TO BEAR THE BRUNT OF THAT EFFORT.

WE HAVE ARRESTED A SPENDING TREND THAT INCREASINGLY

THREATENED OUR NATIONAL ECONOMIC STABILITY.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO KEEPING THE LEVEL OF FEDERAL SPENDING

WITHIN RESPONSIBLE, AFFORDABLE LIMITS.

BUT WE ARE ALSO COMMITTED TO ACHIEVING A BETTER,
MORE BOUNTIFUL LIFE FOR ALL AMERICANS. AFTER A GREAT DEAL
OF CAREFUL PREPARATION, WE HAVE STRUCK A WORKABLE,
HONEST BALANCE.

THIS BUDGET PROPOSAL PROMISES ONLY WHAT WE KNOW

WE CAN DELIVER -- NOTHING MORE AND NOTHING LESS THAN

394.2 BILLION DOLLARS WILL BUY. WE WILL BE FAITHFUL

TO THAT PROMISE WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE CONGRESS AND

THE SUPPORT OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

IN THIS SPIRIT, I WILL NOW SIGN THE BUDGET PROPOSAL
FOR FISCAL YEAR 1977, FOR SUBMISSION TO THE CONGRESS.

(AFTER SIGNING)

I HAVE SPENT MANY HOURS WITH JIM, PAUL, DALE AND
YOUR ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS IN REACHING DECISIONS ON THIS BUDGET●

IT HAS BEEN VERY CLEAR TO ME THAT THE ENTIRE
O.M.B. STAFF HAS WORKED VERY HARD AND VERY EFFECTIVELY
TO MAKE OUR NEW BUDGET A RESPONSIBLE, WORKABLE, REALISTIC
BLUEPRINT FOR PROGRESS●

I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I DEEPLY APPRECIATE
THE LONG HOURS AND HARD WORK YOU HAVE CONTRIBUTED
TO HELPING ME REACH SOUND DECISIONS. I THANK YOU
FOR A JOB VERY WELL DONE.

AND PLEASE MAKE A POINT OF TELLING THOSE
WHO PERSEVERED WITH YOU THAT I APPRECIATE THE LONG HOURS,
AND REALIZE THAT YOU HAVE MISSED MEALS WITH YOUR FAMILY
AND CHILDREN, THAT YOU HAVE INTERRUPTED YOUR SOCIAL LIVES,
AND THAT YOU HAVE HAD ABSENCES FROM YOUR FRIENDS●
I APPRECIATE THEIR UNDERSTANDING AND EXTEND TO THEM
MY THANKS●

END OF TEXT

Serry

1976 REVENUE AND BUDGET

TALKING POINTS

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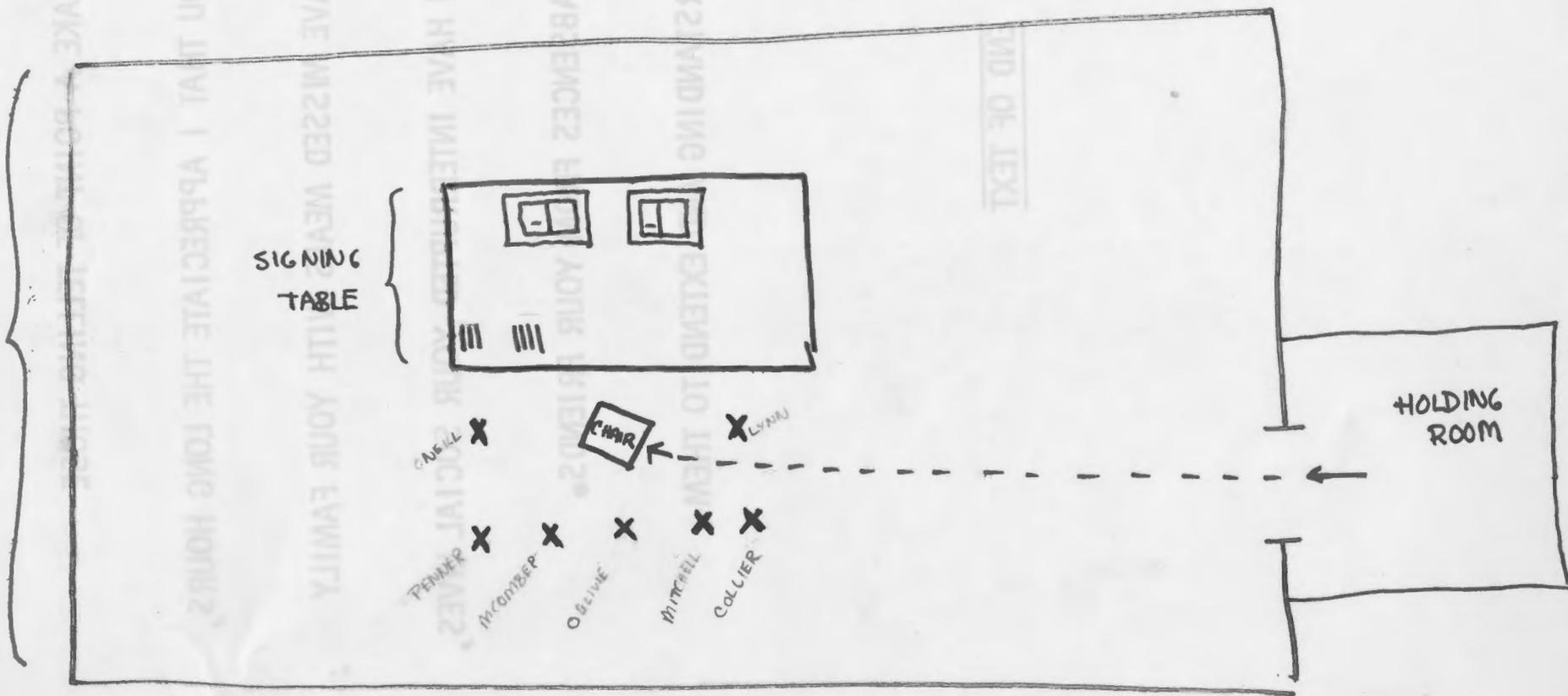
PRESS



AUDIENCE

-10-

STAGE



HOLDING ROOM

SIGNING TABLE

CASH

LYNN

PENNER

MCOSBER

OBLINE

MITCHELL

COLLIER

CASH

AND OF TEXT