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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN . . .

MESSAGE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

MONDAY, MARCH 22, 1976

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SINCE ITS BEGINNING, AMERICA HAS  
DERIVED GREAT BENEFIT FROM THE INVENTIVENESS AND  
CREATIVITY OF ITS PEOPLE●

FROM BENJAMIN FRANKLIN'S FIRST  
EXPERIMENTS WITH ELECTRICITY / TO THE MOST RECENT  
DISCOVERIES IN SPACE-AGE MEDICINE, / RESEARCH AND  
DEVELOPMENT HAVE BEEN CRUCIAL ELEMENTS IN OUR NATION'S  
REMARKABLE GROWTH●

THEY HAVE NEVER BEEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN  
THEY ARE NOW●

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ARE DAILY BECOMING  
MORE AND MORE VITAL FOR THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF  
OUR COUNTRY -- AND FOR THE WORLD●

IT IS NO EXAGGERATION TO SAY THAT THE  
FUTURE WELL-BEING OF OUR NATION DEPENDS ON PUTTING OUR  
BEST MINDS TO WORK NOW TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF  
TOMORROW.

IN RECENT YEARS, WE HAVE MADE MAJOR  
INVESTMENTS IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. AND THIS  
INVESTMENT HAS PAID DIVIDENDS IN ECONOMIC GROWTH,  
IN THE QUALITY OF OUR LIVES, AND IN THE STRENGTH OF OUR  
DEFENSE. BUT WE MUST DO MORE.

THE BUDGET WHICH I SUBMITTED TO THE CONGRESS

IN JANUARY IS ONE MEASURE OF THE IMPORTANCE I ATTACH TO  
A CONTINUED NATIONAL INVESTMENT IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

IN IT, I REQUESTED 24.7 BILLION DOLLARS FOR RESEARCH

AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES, / AN INCREASE OF 11 PERCENT

OVER 1976 ESTIMATES.



IT FOCUSES SPECIAL ATTENTION ON RESEARCH  
AND DEVELOPMENT FOR ENERGY AND DEFENSE AND ON BASIC  
RESEARCH. IT CONTINUES OR INCREASES SUPPORT IN  
AGRICULTURE, SPACE, HEALTH AND OTHER AREAS THAT SHOW  
PROMISE IN MEETING THE CHALLENGES WE FACE.

AT THE SAME TIME, WE MUST MAKE SURE WE HAVE  
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL EXPERTISE AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS  
OF GOVERNMENT. TO DO THIS, I HAVE SUBMITTED LEGISLATION  
TO ESTABLISH AN OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY  
IN THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT.

IT IS VITAL THAT THE CONGRESS ACT  
PROMPTLY AND POSITIVELY ON THIS PROPOSAL AND ON MY  
1977 BUDGET REQUESTS. LET US MAKE CERTAIN THAT SCIENCE,  
ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY A MAJOR  
PART IN ASSURING OUR FUTURE STRENGTH AND PROSPERITY.

END OF TEXT