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THE IMPRESSION HAS BEEN

PRESIDENT FORD'S UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN SPEECH

SEPTEMBER 15, 1976

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS - UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

- THANK YOU, PRESIDENT FLEMMING
- SENATOR GRIFFIN
- CONGRESSMAN ESCH
- UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN STUDENTS, FACULTY AND GUESTS

*Congressman
Mary Vanhook*

Pres. Fleming I am grateful for the opportunity
to be on this great ^{campus} I am proud of you as its President
and the record of my alma mater.

I am deeply indebted to Senator Bob Griffin, an outstanding Senator, who has been my close personal friend loyal supporter from the very beginning of my political career.

I am delighted to have on the platform with me your effective and ^{very able} ~~independent~~ Congressman Marv Esch, who I ~~believe~~ will be Michigan's next U.S. Senator.

IT'S GREAT TO BE BACK AT THE UNIVERSITY

OF MICHIGAN - HOME OF THE NUMBER ONE WOLVERINES.

AFTER WHAT YOU DID TO WISCONSIN, I'LL TELL YOU

ONE THING - I'D RATHER RUN AGAINST JIMMY CARTER THAN

HARLAN HUCKLEBY ANY DAY OF THE WEEK.

I'M REMINDED OF ANOTHER MICHIGAN FOOTBALL GAME,

I ATTENDED IN 1948. / I HAD JUST WON MY FIRST REPUBLICAN
NOMINATION. / THEN -- \ AS NOW - \ I FACED A TOUGH
CHALLENGE IN NOVEMBER.

MY MIND WASN'T ON POLITICS THAT SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

IT WASN'T EVEN ON FOOTBALL. I WAS ON MY HONEYMOON.

BETTY AND I ^{were} ~~HAD GOTTEN~~ MARRIED THE DAY BEFORE.

AND TONIGHT, I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO MY BRIDE --

BETTY FORD.

THAT WAS SOME YEARS AGO BUT AS YOU'VE INDICATED --

Jerry Ford
MICHIGAN AND I HAVE BEEN WINNERS EVER SINCE.

I HAVE COME HOME TO MICHIGAN TO SHARE WITH YOU MY

VIEWS OF AMERICA IN 1976 AND MY HOPES FOR AMERICA IN THE

NEXT FOUR YEARS AND BEYOND.

DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS, IN THE AFTERMATH OF
A DIFFICULT WAR AND A PAINFUL ORDEAL OF ECONOMIC ADVERSITY
AND POLITICAL CRISIS, WE REACHED A CRITICAL TURNING POINT
IN AMERICA'S HISTORY.

NO PAUSE

ONE THOUGHT

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THROUGHOUT MOST OF YOUR LIVES, AMERICA HAS FACED

TURMOIL. SOME OF OUR MOST BELOVED LEADERS HAVE BEEN

ASSASSINATED. THERE WAS A WAR WE COULD NOT EITHER WIN

OR END. THERE WERE DESTRUCTIVE RIOTS ON OUR STREETS

AND CAMPUSES. WE SUFFERED RUNAWAY INFLATION AND THE

WORST RECESSION IN 40 YEARS. WE WERE BETRAYED BY

CORRUPTION AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT.

Fortunately the skies are far brighter.

My Administration has restored trust in the White House


" " " turned the economy around.

WE ARE in the midst of growing prosperity.

WE have Peace and the capability to maintain it.

ONE THOUGHT...
NO PAUSE

-7-



THROUGH ALL OF THIS, WE FOUND IN OURSELVES A BASIC
STRENGTH WHICH HAS PROVEN MIGHTIER THAN ALL OUR ARMAMENTS,
MORE PRECIOUS THAN OUR GREAT STORE OF NATIONAL WEALTH,
AND AS ENDURING AS OUR CONSTITUTION.

ONE THOUGHT

-8-

AS I SAID ON TAKING THE OATH OF OFFICE AS PRESIDENT

TWO YEARS AGO, "OUR LONG NATIONAL NIGHTMARE IS OVER."

IN THE LAST TWO YEARS, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA HAS

MADE AN INCREDIBLE COMEBACK -- AND WE'RE NOT THROUGH YET.



IN 200 YEARS AS A FREE PEOPLE, MUCH HAS CHANGED

IN OUR NATION BUT AMERICA'S BASIC GOALS REMAIN THE SAME: /

| AMERICANS WANT A JOB WITH A GOOD FUTURE.

JOBS

AMERICANS WANT HOMES IN DECENT NEIGHBORHOODS -- /

AND SCHOOLS WHERE OUR CHILDREN CAN GET A QUALITY EDUCATION /

AMERICANS WANT PHYSICAL SECURITY -- SAFETY AGAINST

WAR AND AGAINST CRIME / -- SAFETY AGAINST POLLUTION IN THE

WATER WE DRINK AND THE AIR ~~THAT~~ WE BREATHE. /

WE WANT MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL CARE WHEN WE ARE SICK,
AT COSTS THAT WILL NOT WIPE OUT OUR SAVINGS.

WE WANT THE TIME AND OPPORTUNITY TO ENLARGE OUR
EXPERIENCE THROUGH RECREATION AND TRAVEL.

WE AMERICANS ARE A PROUD PEOPLE. WE CHERISH OUR
INALIENABLE RIGHTS: THE RIGHT TO SPEAK OUR MINDS -- THE
RIGHT TO CHOOSE THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO ENACT AND ENFORCE
OUR LAWS -- THE RIGHT TO STAND EQUAL BEFORE THE LAW,
REGARDLESS OF SEX, AGE, RACE, OR RELIGION -- THE RIGHT
AS A FARMER, BUSINESSMAN, WORKER AND CONSUMER TO
BARGAIN FREELY IN THE ECONOMIC MARKETPLACE -- THE RIGHT
TO WORSHIP AS WE CHOOSE.

IT ALL ADDS UP TO THE "AMERICAN DREAM."

THESE ARE THE GOALS WHICH EVERY POLITICIAN

AND EVERY CITIZEN HAS FOR AMERICA. THEY ARE NOT

SOME MYSTIC VISION OF THE FUTURE. THEY ARE THE

CONTINUING AGENDA FOR ACTION TODAY.

ONE THOUGHT
NO PAUSE

-14-

AND SO, THE QUESTION IN THIS CAMPAIGN OF 1976

IS NOT "WHO HAS THE BETTER VISION OF AMERICA." THE

QUESTION IS "WHO WILL ACT TO MAKE THAT VISION A REALITY?"



THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE READY FOR THE TRUTH,

SIMPLY SPOKEN, ABOUT WHAT THE GOVERNMENT CAN DO FOR THEM

AND WHAT IT CANNOT AND SHOULD NOT DO.

THEY WILL DEMAND PERFORMANCE - NOT PROMISES;

SPECIFICS - NOT SMILES.

THERE ARE SOME IN THIS POLITICAL YEAR WHO CLAIM
THAT MORE GOVERNMENT, MORE SPENDING, MORE TAXES AND
MORE CONTROLS ON OUR LIVES WILL SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS.

MORE GOVERNMENT IS NOT THE SOLUTION. BETTER

GOVERNMENT IS.



NO PAUSE

-17-

IT IS TIME WE THOUGHT OF NEW WAYS TO MAKE GOVERNMENT

A CAPABLE SERVANT AND NOT A MEDDLING MASTER.

LET'S GET DOWN TO CASES.

LET'S TALK ABOUT JOBS.



NO PAUSE


-18-

TODAY 88 MILLION AMERICANS ARE GAINFULLY
EMPLOYED MORE THAN EVER BEFORE IN OUR HISTORY•

BUT THAT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH•

MY IMMEDIATE GOAL IS TWO AND A HALF MILLION NEW
JOBS EVERY YEAR -- WITH EMPHASIS ON OUR YOUTH,
ESPECIALLY THE MINORITIES•

F.



NOT DEMEANING, DEAD-END JOBS PAID FOR OUT OF THE FEDERAL
TREASURY, BUT PERMANENT JOBS WITH A FUTURE GENERATED BY
THE DEMANDS OF A HEALTHY ECONOMY.

!! CAN WE DO IT? WE HAVE DONE IT.



WE PROVED ONCE AND FOR ALL THAT YOU CAN CUT

INFLATION IN HALF AND ADD FOUR MILLION NEW JOBS IN

JUST 17 MONTHS.

WE DID IT WITH TAX CUTS THAT ALLOWED

AMERICANS TO SPEND MORE OF THEIR OWN MONEY.

F

WE DID IT WITH TAX INCENTIVES THAT ENCOURAGED JOB

PRODUCTION. WE DID IT BY LETTING OUR FREE ECONOMIC

SYSTEM DO WHAT IT DOES BETTER THAN ANY OTHER SYSTEM IN

THE WORLD -- PRODUCE!

BUT I WON'T BE SATISFIED UNTIL EVERY AMERICAN WHO

WANTS A JOB CAN FIND A JOB.



I AM PARTICULARLY CONCERNED THAT THERE ARE TOO
MANY YOUNG AMERICANS WHO CANNOT FIND A GOOD JOB, OR
GET THE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE THEY NEED TO FIND A GOOD JOB.

AMERICANS HAVE LONG SINCE RECOGNIZED THE IMPORTANCE

OF ASSURING THAT EVERY HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE WHO IS WILLING,

ABLE AND QUALIFIED BE ABLE TO GO TO COLLEGE. WE HAVE

DONE SO THROUGH GRANTS, LOANS AND SCHOLARSHIPS.



I BELIEVE WE CAN APPLY THIS SAME PRINCIPLE TO

CREATE A PROGRAM FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WHO CHOOSE NOT TO GO

TO COLLEGE, BUT WANT A JOB AT WHICH THEY CAN LEARN A TRADE,

A CRAFT OR PRACTICAL BUSINESS SKILLS.

LET'S PUT AMERICA -- ALL OF AMERICA -- TO WORK!

ONCE A GOOD JOB IS SECURED, IT'S AN AMERICAN
TRADITION TO PUT SOME OF THOSE EARNINGS TOWARD A FAMILY
HOME. BUT NOWADAYS, WITH INTEREST RATES TOO HIGH,
DOWN-PAYMENTS TOO HIGH, AND EVEN MONTHLY PAYMENTS ~~TOO~~
TOO HIGH HOME-OWNERSHIP IS NOT WITHIN THE REACH OF
MANY AMERICANS, PARTICULARLY YOUNG AMERICANS BEGINNING
A CAREER OR MARRIAGE.



MY GOAL ~~IS~~ HOME-OWNERSHIP FOR EVERY AMERICAN

FAMILY THAT WANTS TO OWN A HOME AND IS WILLING TO WORK

AND SAVE FOR IT.

HERE IS HOW I WILL MEET THAT GOAL: FIRST -- I WILL

CONTINUE TO PURSUE ECONOMIC POLICIES, INCLUDING TIGHT

CONTROL OF UNNECESSARY FEDERAL SPENDING, WHICH WILL HOLD

INFLATION DOWN, REDUCE INTEREST RATES, CUT YOUR TAXES,

INCREASING YOUR PURCHASING POWER AND MAKING MORE FUNDS

AVAILABLE FOR HOME MORTGAGES.



SECOND - IT'S TIME WE DID SOMETHING MORE ABOUT

THE DOWN-PAYMENT REQUIREMENTS WHICH SO MANY PEOPLE

CAN'T AFFORD. I WILL RECOMMEND CHANGES IN THE F.H.A. LAW

TO REDUCE DOWN-PAYMENTS ON LOWER AND MIDDLE-PRICE ~~HOUSES~~,
homes

BY UP TO 50 PERCENT.

THIRD -- I WILL DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT TO ACCELERATE IMPLEMENTATION
OF A NEW FEDERAL GUARANTY PROGRAM TO LOWER MONTHLY
PAYMENTS IN THE EARLY YEARS OF HOME-OWNERSHIP AND
GRADUALLY INCREASE THEM AS FAMILY INCOME GOES UP.

A GOOD JOB•

A GOOD HOME•

NOW LET'S TALK

ABOUT THE GOOD HEALTH WE MUST HAVE TO APPRECIATE BOTH•

MY GOAL IS AN AMERICA WHERE HEALTH CARE IS NOT ONLY THE

BEST IN THE WORLD

BUT IS BOTH ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE•

BUT RAISING FEDERAL TAXES BY 70 BILLION DOLLARS A YEAR

FOR A GOVERNMENT-DOMINATED NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE

PROGRAM IS NOT THE WAY TO DO IT.

THAT PATH LEADS TO

MORE BUREAUCRACY

MORE FRAUD

MORE TAXES

AND SECOND

CLASS MEDICAL CARE.

THAT'S WHAT I'M AGAINST.

HERE'S WHAT I'M FOR:

AS OUR FIRST PRIORITY, I HAVE RECOMMENDED
PROTECTION AGAINST THE COSTS OF A CATASTROPHIC OR
PROLONGED ILLNESS FOR THE AGED AND THE DISABLED --
ENSURING THAT NEVER AGAIN WILL THEY HAVE TO PAY MORE
THAN 750 DOLLARS FOR MEDICAL CARE IN ANY YEAR.
PEOPLE SHOULD NOT HAVE TO GO BROKE JUST TO GET WELL.

NEXT, I PROPOSED TO THE CONGRESS LAST SPRING,

A MAJOR REFORM IN FEDERAL HEALTH PROGRAMS. WE SHOULD

COMBINE 16 OVERLAPPING AND CONFUSED FEDERAL HEALTH

PROGRAMS -- INCLUDING THE SCANDAL-RIDDEN MEDICAID

PROGRAM -- INTO ONE 10 BILLION DOLLAR PROGRAM THAT

DISTRIBUTES THE FEDERAL FUNDS MORE EQUITABLY AMONG THE STATES

AND ENSURES THAT THOSE WHO NEED THESE SERVICES GET

FIRST CLASS CARE.

AMERICA IS STILL AWAITING ACTION BY THE

CONGRESS ON THIS URGENTLY NEEDED LEGISLATION.

NOW LET'S TURN TO AN AREA OF SPECIAL CONCERN TO THIS

AUDIENCE -- EDUCATION.

ONE OF THE MOST URGENT PROBLEMS IS TO CREATE

A CLIMATE IN EVERY CLASSROOM WHERE TEACHERS CAN TEACH

AND STUDENTS CAN LEARN.

NO PAUSE...

QUALITY EDUCATION FOR EVERY YOUNG AMERICAN IS MY

ADMINISTRATION'S GOAL.

MAJOR REFORMS ARE NECESSARY

IN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE NATIONAL, STATE AND

LOCAL UNITS OF GOVERNMENT SO THAT TEACHERS CAN SPEND

THEIR TIME TEACHING INSTEAD OF FILLING OUT FEDERAL FORMS.

FEDERAL AID IS NECESSARY, BUT FEDERAL AGGRAVATION ~~SHOULD~~ ^{must}

STOP.

STRAIGHT THROUGH.....

NINE MONTHS AGO I PROPOSED TO THE CONGRESS THAT

WE REPLACE (24) PAPER-SHUFFLING, EDUCATIONAL BUREAUCRACIES

WITH A SINGLE FEDERAL PROGRAM, WHICH WOULD PROVIDE

3.3 BILLION DOLLARS IN DIRECT AID TO ELEMENTARY AND

SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

THEY HAVE NOT ACTED•

ONCE AGAIN THIS CONGRESS

HAS SHOWN ITSELF TO BE SITTING DEAD IN THE WATER +

ADDICTED TO THE STATUS QUO•

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

DESERVE BETTER REPRESENTATION THAN THAT!

THEY WILL DEMAND IT ON NOVEMBER 2•

WE MUST ENSURE THAT LOW-INCOME STUDENTS HAVE

ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION•

WE MUST ALSO FIND WAYS THROUGH THE TAX SYSTEM
TO EASE THE BURDEN ON FAMILIES WHO CHOOSE TO SEND THEIR
CHILDREN TO NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND TO HELP FAMILIES
COPE WITH THE EXPENSE OF A COLLEGE EDUCATION.

IN MY ADMINISTRATION THE EDUCATION NEEDS OF AMERICA'S
MIDDLE-INCOME FAMILIES WILL NEITHER BE FORGOTTEN NOR
FORSAKEN.

EDUCATION IS THE KEY TO A BETTER LIFE. THE

PREVENTION OF CRIME IS ESSENTIAL TO MAKING OUR LIVES SECURE.

THE CONSTITUTION DEMANDS THAT WE ENSURE DOMESTIC

TRANQUILITY, AND THAT IS WHAT I CALLED FOR IN MY CRIME

MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

MOST CRIMES ARE COMMITTED BY

HARDENED CAREER CRIMINALS WHO KNOW NO OTHER LIFE THAN

THE LIFE OF CRIME.

THE PLACE FOR THOSE PEOPLE IS NOT ON THE STREETS, BUT
IN JAIL. THE RIGHTS OF A LAW-ABIDING SOCIETY, THE RIGHTS
OF THE INNOCENT VICTIM OF CRIME, MUST BE FULLY PROTECTED.

AND FINALLY, WE MUST GIVE AMERICANS THE CHANCE TO
ENJOY AMERICA. I HAVE OUTLINED A 1.5 BILLION DOLLAR
PROGRAM TO EXPAND AND IMPROVE OUR NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM
OVER THE NEXT TEN YEARS.

THIS MEANS MORE NATIONAL PARKS, MORE RECREATION AREAS,
MORE WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES, MORE URBAN PARKS AND HISTORIC
SITES. LET'S MAKE THIS AMERICA'S BICENTENNIAL BIRTHDAY
GIFT TO ALL OF OUR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

TODAY AMERICA ENJOYS THE MOST PRECIOUS GIFT

OF ALL: WE ARE AT PEACE.

NO AMERICANS ARE IN COMBAT ANYWHERE ON EARTH, AND

NONE ARE BEING DRAFTED -- AND I WILL KEEP IT THAT WAY.

WE WILL BE AS STRONG AS WE NEED TO BE TO KEEP THE

PEACE, TO DETER AGGRESSION, AND TO PROTECT OUR NATIONAL

SECURITY.

BUT IF OUR FOREIGN POLICY IS TO HAVE PUBLIC SUPPORT,

IT MUST REPRESENT THE MORAL VALUES OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

WHAT IS MORE MORAL THAN PEACE WITH FREEDOM

AND SECURITY?

AS THE LEADER OF THE FREE WORLD, AMERICA HAS

A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY TO EXPLORE NEW PATHS TO PEACE FOR

ALL MANKIND.

IT IS A RESPONSIBILITY WE HAVE NOT SHIRKED.

WE HAVE BEEN A FORCE FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST,

NOT ONLY IN PROMOTING NEW AGREEMENTS, BUT IN BUILDING

A STRUCTURE FOR A MORE LASTING PEACE•

WE HAVE WORKED FOR PEACE WITH THE SOVIET UNION,

NOT ONLY IN RESOLVING OUR MANY CONFLICTS, BUT IN BUILDING

A WORLD WHERE NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS ARE BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL•

WE ARE WORKING FOR PEACE IN EUROPE, WHERE THE
ARMIES OF TWO MAJOR COALITIONS CONFRONT EACH OTHER.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO BUILD OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, WHICH CONTRIBUTES
IMPORTANTLY TO PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE WORLD.

NOW, IN THE FACE OF A NEW CHALLENGE, WE ARE
ON A MISSION FOR PEACE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

THIS IS THE FIRST ADMINISTRATION IN AMERICA'S
HISTORY TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE, AFFIRMATIVE AFRICAN
POLICY. THIS POLICY HAS WON RESPECT AND TRUST
ON THAT TROUBLED CONTINENT.

AT MY DIRECTION, SECRETARY KISSINGER IS NOW
ENGAGED IN AN INTENSIVE EFFORT TO HELP ALL THE PARTIES
BLACK AND WHITE - INVOLVED IN THE MOUNTING CRISIS IN
SOUTHERN AFRICA, FIND A PEACEFUL AND JUST SOLUTION
TO THEIR MANY AND COMPLEX DIFFERENCES.

THE AFRICAN PARTIES IN THE VERY GRAVE AND COMPLICATED
PROBLEMS OF NAMIBIA AND RHODESIA HAVE ENCOURAGED US TO HELP
THEM IN THE SEARCH FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE. WE ARE ALSO
BACKED IN OUR EFFORTS BY OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES WITH
TRADITIONAL BONDS TO THE AFRICAN CONTINENT. IN PARTICULAR
WE ARE WORKING IN CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM
WHICH HAS AN HISTORICAL AND LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY IN RHODESIA.

SUCCESS WILL DEPEND FUNDAMENTALLY ON THE COOPERATION

OF THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED. WE WILL NOT AND WE

CANNOT IMPOSE SOLUTIONS, BUT WILL DEPEND UPON THE GOOD WILL

AND DETERMINED EFFORTS OF THE AFRICAN PARTIES THEMSELVES

TO ACHIEVE NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENTS.

WE SEEK NO SPECIAL ADVANTAGE FOR OURSELVES IN

THESE NEGOTIATIONS• WE SHARE WITH THE PEOPLE OF AFRICA

THESE FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVES: A PEACEFUL OUTCOME;

A FUTURE OF MAJORITY RULE AND MINORITY RIGHTS;

A PROSPECT OF WIDENING HUMAN DIGNITY AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS;

AND A UNIFIED AND AN INDEPENDENT AFRICA FREE FROM OUTSIDE

INTERVENTION OR THREAT•

THE PATH THAT LEADS TO THESE GOALS IS NOT AN EASY
ONE. THE RISKS ARE GREAT. BUT AMERICA'S INTERESTS
AND AMERICA'S MORAL PURPOSE SUMMON OUR EFFORT.

DESPITE THE RIGORS OF A GREAT NATIONAL ELECTION,

I HAVE PERSISTED IN CARRYING OUT THIS NEW POLICY TOWARD
AFRICA + NOT BECAUSE IT IS EXPEDIENT + BUT BECAUSE
IT IS RIGHT.

I PLEDGE TO YOU THAT UNDER MY ADMINISTRATION,
AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY WILL SERVE THE INTERESTS OF OUR
COUNTRY AND OUR PEOPLE -- IT WILL BE TRUE TO OUR GREAT
HERITAGE OF THE PAST, FULFILL OUR PURPOSES IN THE PRESENT,
AND CONTRIBUTE TO OUR BEST VISION OF THE FUTURE.

IT IS NOT ENOUGH FOR ANYONE TO SAY "TRUST ME."

TRUST MUST BE EARNED.

TRUST IS NOT HAVING TO GUESS WHAT A CANDIDATE

MEANS.

TRUST IS LEVELING WITH THE PEOPLE BEFORE THE ELECTION

ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO DO AFTER THE ELECTION.

TRUST IS NOT BEING ALL THINGS TO ALL PEOPLE,

BUT BEING THE SAME THING TO ALL PEOPLE.

TRUST IS NOT CLEVERLY SHADING WORDS SO THAT EACH
SEPARATE AUDIENCE CAN HEAR WHAT IT WANTS TO HEAR,
BUT SAYING PLAINLY AND SIMPLY WHAT YOU MEAN -- AND
MEANING WHAT YOU SAY.

I AM PROUD OF THE MATURITY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE
WHO DEMAND MORE HONESTY, TRUTHFULNESS AND CANDOR
OF THEIR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY OUR YOUNG PEOPLE,
CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO TAKE PRIDE -- OR EVEN PARTICIPATE --
IN A SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT THAT IS DEFILED AND DISHONORED --
WHETHER IN THE WHITE HOUSE OR IN THE HALLS OF CONGRESS.

PERSONAL INTEGRITY IS NOT TOO MUCH TO ASK OF
PUBLIC SERVANTS. WE SHOULD ACCEPT NOTHING LESS.

AS WE ENTER THE LAST SEVEN WEEKS OF THIS NATIONAL
ELECTION, A NEW POLL INDICATES THAT AS MANY AS 65 MILLION
AMERICANS WILL NOT VOTE IN NOVEMBER.

SOME PEOPLE HAVE SAID THAT THEY ARE NOT EXCITED

ABOUT ANY OF THIS YEAR'S CANDIDATES.

LET THEM BE EXCITED

↓↓↓
ABOUT AMERICA.

LET THEM BE EXCITED ABOUT THEIR OWN CAPACITY

TO GROW AND CHANGE -- ABOUT OUR NATION'S CAPACITY TO

GROW AND CHANGE -- AND EVEN ABOUT THE EVOLUTION,

WITH THEIR HELP, OF THE CANDIDATE OF THEIR CHOICE.

IN THIS YEAR OF 1976, I STAND BEFORE YOU AS THE LAST

PRESIDENT OF AMERICA'S FIRST 200 YEARS. BUT WITH YOUR

HELP, I ALSO INTEND TO BE THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF AMERICA'S

NEW GENERATION OF FREEDOM.

WORKING TOGETHER WE CAN BUILD AN AMERICA THAT

DOES NOT MERELY CELEBRATE HISTORY, BUT WRITES IT --

THAT OFFERS LIMITED GOVERNMENT AND UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITY --

THAT CONCERNS ITSELF WITH THE QUALITY OF LIFE -- THAT

PROVES INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY IS STILL THE KEY TO MUTUAL

ACHIEVEMENT AND NATIONAL PROGRESS.

AND WHEN THE HISTORY OF THIS ERA IS WRITTEN,

FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL LOOK BACK AT AMERICA IN 1976

AND SAY -- YES -- THEY WERE TWO HUNDRED YEARS OLD --

BUT THEY HAD REALLY ONLY JUST BEGUN.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

END OF TEXT

