

The original documents are located in Box 132, folder “Rumsfeld, Donald, Jan.-June 1975 (2)” of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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March 4, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: RON NESSEN

Attached are the letters, editorials, and columns which have resulted from your recent travels around the country to explain the economic and energy programs.

TAB A	Highlights
TAB B	Letters, editorials and columns from the Atlanta trip
TAB C	Letters, editorials and columns from the Houston trip
TAB D	Letters, editorials and columns from the Florida trip

RN/cg

cc: Don Rumsfeld ✓



A

"I think everyone came away impressed with the President's forthrightness, sincerity, and determination to do something about our energy and economics crisis. It is quite refreshing to see an administration so open and so anxious to listen to the views of a cross section of Americans."

Letter to President from J. Carrol Dadisman
Executive Editor and Vice President
Columbus Ledger-Enquirer

"I am convinced that your extraordinary efforts to communicate to the news media in this kind of forum will be productive and fruitful, and I would hope that your office would continue to use this vehicle in your future endeavors."

Letter to the President from Edward V. Cheviot
Vice President and General Manager
KMOL-TV, San Antonio

"I think the President's candor, his emphasis on the big issues, his flexibility, and his essential modesty will go far toward restoring his public support.

"Incidentally, at no time did he behave like a man running for re-election. On the contrary, he seemed absorbed in issues far more important than the next election--which might be the smartest re-election strategy he could adopt."

Column by Edward H. Harte
Editor and Publisher
Corpus Christi Caller, 2/12/75

"I was impressed with President Ford's forthrightness and low-keyed excellence in presenting his ideas to the folks at the Houston breakfast meeting. I told him there and then I was for him 1000%--and I meant it."

Letter to Gerald Warren from
Pat Taggart, Publisher
Waco News-Tribune

"The Times commends President Ford for personally taking his energy program to the people, hearing their suggestions and responding to their criticisms. He, apparently, was pleased by the Houston reaction, describing it as 'excellent and wholesome.'

"And we are in full agreement that the time for action is now."

Editorial, Shreveport Times, 2/12/75

"This information will be valuable background for editorial and news purposes."

Letter to Ron Nessen from Lee Anderson
Editor
Chattanooga News-Free Press

"President Ford ate breakfast Tuesday with 60 of the South's top news executives and offered what was later depicted as a confident, self-assured presentation of his economic and energy proposals.

"Most of the newspaper, television and radio executives who attended the 90-minute session with Ford declined to discuss the meeting with waiting reporters. But the handful who did were virtually unanimous in saying they were impressed with the President, and, to varying degrees, supportive of his proposals."

Atlanta Journal news story, 2/4/75

The President's talk after the breakfast "was a pitch for his program and an explanation of why gas rationing wouldn't work and why we had to make ourselves independent in energy. It was interesting.

"It was pleasant. He impressed the audience with his sincerity and knowledge of these subjects, with the gravity of the current crisis and the need to get behind Gerald R. Ford and help solve it.

"He came here for this last reason I suppose and he made progress. If he came to reassure us that the presidency is in sound hands once more and that the President regards himself as something less than imperial and at the outside first among equals he also made progress and should continue meeting his constituency in this fashion."

Column by Jack Spalding
Editor
The Atlanta Journal, 2/6/75

"What emerged once again in the Atlanta meeting, however, is that President Ford indeed has a specific package of economic and energy proposals; the Democratic leaders in Congress do not. . . . The Congress has a responsibility to act promptly on President Ford's proposals. It is not a time for politics as usual, and most Americans understand that. President Ford has offered leadership in a difficult time. His energy and economic proposals will be debated fully, as they should be, but it is vital that the Congress move either to adopt the President's package or come forward with an equally comprehensive set of energy and economic recommendations."

Editorial, Atlanta Constitution, 2/5/75

"The President impressed us as being sincere and firm about the energy program he has sent to Congress. He admits he is willing to compromise to some extent with Congress but 'we will not fiddle while energy burns.' We support that program and believe the majority of the American people will support it."

Editorial, Atlanta World, 2/6/75

"The truth remains, of course, that the President has something, a recession-inflation-energy program that is cohesive and comprehensive, if not totally acceptable in its present form. The disunited Democrats scramble around with sundry ideas--including conservation, allocation, gasoline rationing, gasoline price increases, continue regulation of natural gas prices, repeal of percentage depletion, reduction of foreign tax credits for oilmen, extension of price controls with allocation rules, ad infinitum. . . ."

Editorial, Columbia Record, 2/24/75

"President Ford was every bit the salesman, the guy with a program he believes in so strongly he apparently does not intend to yield to his opposition.

"He talked as if he knew everyone in the room personally. It came freely. There were no notes. He knew his figures, his dates and his subjects. . .

"His breakfast with the news executives hit some high spots in the nation's need to gain, through conservation and expanded domestic production of gas, oil, and coal, independence in the energy field."

Column by Sam Wood, Editor
Austin American Statesman, 2/12/75

"The President, who talked and fielded questions immediately after the breakfast did a good sales job. . .

"You may not agree with the President's program (and I admit to serious reservations as to its inflationary effect on the economy), but you must admit to his argument that at least he HAS a program, while Congress has dilly-dallied on the matter. He's willing to compromise, and, as he told us in Houston, he is realist enough not to expect to get everything he asks."

Columns by Robert W. (Pete) Lee
Vice President and Editor
El Paso Herald Post, 2/13 and 2/14/75

"The Ford Administration has at least come up with an economic game plan. . . which is more than Congress has done. We think the President's plan should be given a chance to work, without being altered into an unrecognizable form which will give the critics a chance to say 'I told you so'."

Editorial, WRCB-TV
Chattanooga, Tennessee, 2/10/75

"It has been a pleasure to have had the President here. He certainly has left us with some better understanding of him and his programs. And we trust that he has found something worthwhile here which he cannot find in Washington--a better reading of the country."

Editorial, Houston Chronicle, 2/11/75
(Reprinted in part in The New Orleans Times-Picayune, 2/25/75)

"News executives attending the 'backgrounder' breakfast had kind words about the President's frankness and informality."

News story, Dallas Morning News, 2/12/75

"Part of the President's pitch to the public is his claim that Congress will neither back his plan of action nor produce a plan of its own. On Tuesday his claim sounded very convincing."

Editorial, The Dallas Morning News, 2/13/75

"The President impressed those with whom he conferred in Houston with his earnestness.

"His was a somber attitude which left no doubt of his understanding of the critical nature of the problem and that it is one which must be solved. He reinforced that impression with the fact of his comprehensive energy program when Congress has none. . .

"The President has laid down a challenge to Congress which it cannot ignore. The American people should demand of its Congress that it start prompt action on a bipartisan program with the President to solve our critical energy emergency. "

Editorial, Dallas Times Herald, 2/13/75

"President Ford's visit to Houston can be scored as a skillful exercise in public relations and political strategy to bring pressure on Congress to act on the energy crisis--even if it does not adopt his own controversial program, . .

"The most distinct impression this editor brought away from the Houston activities was that he has made his pitch and now stands ready to compromise. "

Column, Ed N. Wishcamper, Editor
Abilene Reporter News, 2/12/75

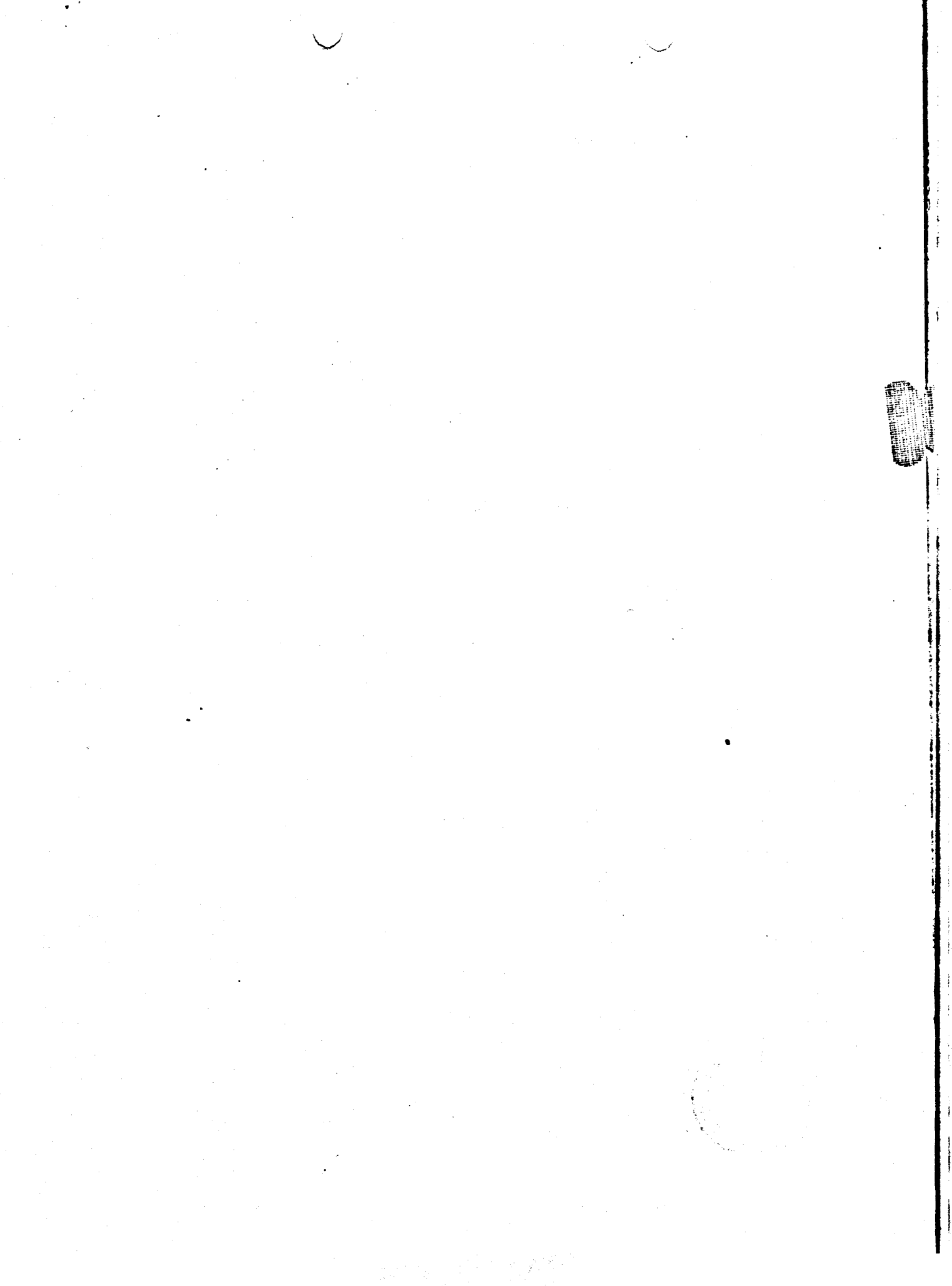
"The momentum, then, is with President Ford. His visit here, as elsewhere, has left an impression that this Chief Executive, blessedly, is a straightforward and honest man who may not have all the answers but is seeking them doggedly. Given a basis, a starting point, he can and will compromise with the Congress on the best course to pursue in a time that is increasingly perilous. And short. "

Editorial, "The Visitor Has His Itinery--Where Is Congress Headed?", The Miami Herald, 2/27/75

". . . President Ford talked at length over the breakfast with 36 heads of regional newspapers, newspaper chains and broadcasting companies. Many of the media heads later said they were impressed with his grasp of the energy and economic problems and his eagerness to hear all views. One can easily imagine these news executives going to lunch back home and bragging to their colleagues, 'and when I told the President'. . .

Column "When Jerry Ford Seeks A Better Idea,
He Listens," Paul Healy, New York Daily News,
2/28/75





J. Carrol Dadisman
Executive Editor and Vice President
The Ledger-Enquirer
P.O. Box 711
Columbus, Ga. 31902

February 5, 1975

Mr. Ron Nessen
Press Secretary to the President
White House
Washington, D. C.

FEB 28 1975

Dear Ron:


Thank you again for the invitation to breakfast with the President yesterday morning.

It is a distinct honor, of course, to be in the President's company, particularly at so limited a gathering. We especially appreciate his conveying to us personally his ideas about how to deal with the great problems that confront all of us at this time.

I think everyone came away impressed with the President's forthrightness, sincerity, and determination to do something about our energy and economics crisis. It is quite refreshing to see an administration so open and so anxious to listen to the views of a cross section of Americans.

It was a pleasure to meet you and the other White House officials present. We hope you will come back to Georgia again.

Best wishes,



J. Carrol Dadisman

RECEIVED
FEB 17 1975
GENERAL FILES

CHATTANOOGA NEWS-FREE PRESS
February 5, 1975

Mr. Ron Nessen
Press Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Nessen:

Thank you very much for the invitation to meet the President at breakfast in Atlanta Tuesday, February 4, and attend the afternoon press conference.

It was a pleasure to be your guest and to have the benefit of hearing Mr. Ford express in detail and personally his views relating to the problems of our nation today and efforts to solve them.

This information will be valuable background for editorial and news purposes.

My thanks for fine hospitality on an important occasion.

Sincerely,

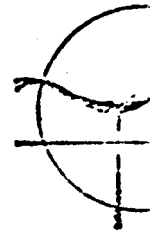


Lee Anderson
Editor

LA:fr

WRGB-TV 3 NB

RUST CRAFT BROADCASTING OF TENNESSEE, INC.
900 WHITEHALL ROAD, CHATTANOOGA, TENN. 37405
AREA CODE 615 267-5412



Presented by George A. Stevens, General Manager.
February 10, 1975

While Congress has had a grand time lately criticizing President Ford's economic and energy proposals and suggesting alternatives of their own, they don't seem to be concerned enough to cancel their usual February recess to stay in Washington and work on the serious problems facing this country. The House is already in recess and the Senate is about to be. And some members of the Senate, our own two senators among them, are getting a head start on the recess. Senator Bill Brock is home in Chattanooga while his Finance Committee was struggling to find enough members to do business. And Senator Howard Baker is off in California campaigning for the Republican presidential nomination. Meanwhile, the President's economic proposals are getting more criticism than they probably deserve. The problem with economics is that there are as many economic theories as there are economists, which makes it difficult to pick out which programs will work and which will not. The Ford administration has at least come up with an economic game plan...which is more than Congress has done. We think the President's plan should be given a chance to work, without being altered into an unrecognizable form which will give the critics a chance to say "I told you so." I'm George Stevens, General Manager of WRCB-TV.

THE MARIETTA DAILY JOURNAL

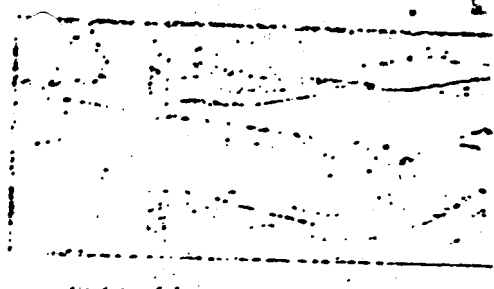
North Fulton South Cobb
TODAY/TODAY

and

NEIGHBOR NEWSPAPERS

530 FAIRGROUND STREET P.O. BOX 417 MARIETTA, GA.

404/428-9411



STEPHEN L. McMULLAN
Editor

5 February 1975

Ron Nessen
Press Secretary
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Nessen:

I want to personally thank you and the White House Staff for the invitation to the Tuesday morning breakfast with President Ford during his recent Atlanta visit.

It is indeed a pleasure to cover a Presidential visit, but the singular opportunity afforded editors, publishers and broadcast executives to meet with the President during the Tuesday morning breakfast was a great personal thrill to me.

I can speak only for myself, but I want you to know that I was very favorably impressed by Mr. Ford's presentation, his knowledge of our economic and energy problems, and his proposed solutions.

In addition, President Ford impressed me as a sincere and forthright man making an honest effort to move our nation forward.

You and your staff have created a mutually beneficial working relationship with the press, something we can all appreciate in light of the events of the recent past.

My very sincere thanks to you and President Ford for the consideration extended to me during your recent Atlanta visit.

Sincerely,

Steve McMullan

Bahakel Broadcasting

P O BOX 1000
CHARLOTTE NORTH CAR

February 21, 1975

Mr. Ron Nessen
Press Secretary to the President
White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Nessen:

Please excuse the delay, but I had intended to write to you earlier to express my appreciation for your kind invitation to attend the breakfast meeting with President Ford in Atlanta on February 4th. If you would, please convey to the President my gratitude for the opportunity to hear first hand some of his thinking concerning the serious problems facing the nation.


In my brief chat with the President following the breakfast, I found him to be an affable and personable gentleman.

My best wishes to you and the President as you pursue your goals in meeting the needs of our nation in these difficult times.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

BAHAKEL BROADCASTING


Cy N. Bahakel

CNB/ml1

Some items in this folder were not digitized because it contains copyrighted materials. Please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library for access to these materials.

ATLANTA JOURNAL

2/4/75

IMPRESSED BY PRESIDENT

News Officials Meet Ford

By CHARLES HAYSLETT

"He was very forceful and had a rationale for what he is trying to do," Daddisman said.

...just say that the President was very impres-

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

For 106 Years the South's Standard Newspaper

James M. Cox, Chairman 1959-1957—James M. Cox Jr., Chairman 1957-1974

JACK TARYER, President



REG MURPHY, Editor

PAGE 4-A, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1975

Ford vs. Congress

THE ATLANTA JOURNAL
2/6/75

The President Visits Atlanta



JACK
SPALDIN

The Atlanta Journal

Covers Dixie Like the Dew

Since 1883

James M. Cox, Chairman 1939-1957—James M. Cox Jr., Chairman 1957-1974

Jack Tarver, President

• Jack Spalding, Editor

2-A

FEBRUARY 8, 1975

A Man of Balance

The Atlanta Journal

Covers Dixie Like the Dew

Since 1883

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• Jack Spalding, Editor

2-A

FEBRUARY 8, 1975

A Man of Balance

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

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James M. Cox, Chairman 1950-1957—James M. Cox Jr., Chairman 1957-1974

JACK TARVER, President



REG MURPHY, Editor

PAGE 4-A, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1975

A Bad, Bad Bill

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

For 106 Years the South's Standard Newspaper

James M. Cox, Chairman 1950-1957—James M. Cox Jr., Chairman 1957-1974

JACK TARVER, President



REG MURPHY, Editor

PAGE 4-A, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1975

A Good Vote

R · 3 MURPHY

Sunday, February 9, 1975 The Albany Journal and CONSTITUTION

The Presidential Race Has Changed

Pat Furgurson

Ford In Atlanta

ATLANTA — Wherever you are in this country, any time this month, that

Although he was pointing until lately in the opposite direction, and the full outlines of his program were sent to the Capitol only last week, he told them that now he had done his part, and it is up to Congress to act. And that is exactly what his audiences were saying after he had dinner with one group and breakfast with the other.

And George Wallace himself rolled in in his wheelchair, way past his normal bedtime, to tell reporters that Mr. Ford's session was "sort of history as far as I'm concerned."

Only when prodded a bit did each of them admit that he failed to see precisely eye-to-eye with Mr. Ford on every point in his program. Helshouser summed up its principal asset

ATLANTA DAILY WORLD
2/6/75

A Significant Conference

President Ford came to Atlanta Monday and

Under the price increase plan, energy taxes would produce about 30 billion of which 19 billion would go back to individuals of low income. The

ATLANTA DAILY WORLD
Sunday, February 9, 1975

More On Economics, Energy

Two important groups met here this week to confer about the economic and energy crisis. The White House and 15 local organizations sponsored a one-day affair on economics and energy. President Ford

THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS

2/17/75

Any Vandenberg Left?

In his recent speech about the troublesome relationship between Congress and the executive branch, Vandenberg acts so unheedingly of the true national interest in passing legislation affecting foreign policy.

THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS

2/20/75

Popular-Unpopular Choice

The Birmingham News

Clarence B. Hanson, Jr., *Publisher*

Victor H. Hanson, II,
Vice President, General Manager

Vincent Townsend,
Vice President, Assistant to Publisher

John W. Bloomer,
Managing Editor

James R. McAdory, Jr.,
Editorial Page Editor

Victor H. Hanson, *Publisher 1910-1945*

Thursday February 20, 1975

Impoundment Decision

The Birmingham News

Clarence B. Hanson, Jr., *Publisher*

Victor H. Hanson, II,

Vice President, General Manager

Vincent Townsend,

Vice President, Assistant to Publisher

John W. Bloomer,

Managing Editor

James R. McAdery, Jr.,

Editorial Page Editor

Victor H. Hanson, *Publisher 1910-1945*

Tuesday February 11, 1975

Schlesinger's Warning

COLUMBIA RECORD

2/24/75

RECORD'S EDITORIALS

Promises, Promises

The Augusta Chronicle

The South's Oldest —
Established 1785

An Independent Newspaper



A Prize-Winning
Newspaper
1974
Better Newspaper
Contests

"The history of liberty is a history of limitations of governmental power, not the increase of it. When we resist, therefore, the concentration of power, we are resisting the process of death, because concentration of power is what always precedes the destruction of human liberties."

Woodrow Wilson

Page 4-A Thursday, February 6, 1975

Double standard

... President Ford's ... mean the difference between

THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL

A Scripps-Howard Newspaper

GORDON LANNA, Editor

Published by The Memphis Publishing Co., 425 Union, Memphis, Tenn. 38101

JOSEPH R. WILLIAMS, Business Manager

Consolidated July 1, 1894

{ The Memphis Commercial..... Established 1889
The Appeal..... Established 1840
The Avalanche..... Established 1867

Page 6

Friday, February 14, 1975

The Roads To Prosperity

PRESIDENT FORD'S announcement that he is releasing \$2 billion in gold is an inconsistency in doing this at the same time we're trying to conserve

Editorial

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PUT POLITICS ASIDE

(Presented by Paul Raymon)

Monday, February 3, 1975

No one can truly assess the results of the President's visit to Atlanta. We doubt that will be possible for weeks or months to come.

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1975

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Copy The State of Texas
Office of the Lieutenant Governor
Austin

February 13, 1975

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for the enjoyable and productive breakfast session in Houston. I think it greatly aided the understanding of your positions by all present.

Following up on our discussion of natural gas taxation, I must reiterate my opposition to the \$.37 across-the-board approach. This increased cost would be passed on to all consumers in Texas and elsewhere--through utility rates and through the cost of products derived from natural gas or produced at plants powered by natural gas. Our best estimates are that this excise tax would cost each person in Texas (not households) an additional \$127.56 per year. This is 3.8 times the proposed income tax rebate of \$33.48 per person for 1974, without including the cost of the excise tax on crude oil.

Although I agree with the need for stringent conservation, I feel that this tax would serve no other purpose than to feed inflation. Texans already are conserving as much as possible because natural gas prices have jumped enormously over the past 18 months. The State Board of Control, which operates our Capitol complex of offices, is now paying \$1.26/mcf, as compared to the Federal Power Commission's regulated price of \$.50/mcf for interstate sales. Even with the price increases, the Federal Power Commission has estimated that Texas will suffer curtailments of 208 million mcf this winter. These curtailments will slow production of petroleum and petrochemical products and of construction materials, all of which are needed to keep the economy running. Because of the unavailability of fuel, our utilities already are converting to nuclear and coal-powered plants. Three lignite plants are operating now, and three more are planned.

The President

-2-

February 13, 1975

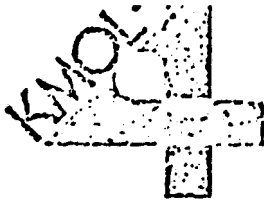
An alternative action that you and Congress might consider is the deferred imposition of an excise tax on natural gas used as a boiler fuel, to become effective some time in the future, such as 1982. This would provide an economic incentive for the utilities and other industries to convert before that time. The economic advantage of conversion would also help these industries to obtain financing of the conversion.

A more important and sounder conservation measure would be to require the extraction of a minimum percentage of the ethane from natural gas, which would ensure the supply of these high-BTU hydrocarbons for those markets dependent on them, including rural homes and schools for heating and cooking; farmers who use these fuels for drying crops; and the petrochemical industries who use these hydrocarbons as the raw material for making rubber, plastics, medicines, and fibers on which our economy is so dependent. The Texas Legislature is considering proposals in these areas at this time, but any action we take on the intrastate market cannot be effective unless similar steps are taken on the interstate market at the same time.

I want to express my appreciation for your willingness to propose action forthrightly for dealing with our energy problems. Of course, decontrol of the price of crude oil, at least from fields using secondary and tertiary recovery methods and preferably from all crude oil, by executive action is the one step that would move us closer to reducing our energy vulnerability than any other action available to you today. Although I disagree with some portions of your program, I am grateful for your leadership in trying to get America moving toward a rational national energy policy.

Sincerely,

WPHobby



EDWARD V. CHEVIOT
VICE PRESIDENT
AND GENERAL MANAGER

FEB 24 1975

February 20, 1975

Dear Mr. President:

I want to thank you for inviting me to participate in the briefing which you held in Houston for the southwest regional news media executives on February 11th.

I am convinced that your extraordinary efforts to communicate to the news media in this kind of forum will be productive and fruitful, and I would hope that your office would continue to use this vehicle in your future endeavors.

Your candor and your determination to "get the message out" to those of us who can transmit it to millions of Americans is a new approach that will help to enlighten the country as a whole.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'E. Cheviot', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Edward V. Cheviot

The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C.

bc: Ron Nesson
Press Secretary

Waco News-Tribune
WACO TIMES-HERALD
TEXAS

PAT TAGGART
PUBLISHER

February 27, 1975

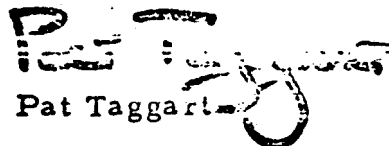
Gerald Warren, Deputy Press Secretary
THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Warren:

Thank you most kindly for sending me the
President's energy and economic proposals in documentary
form.

I was impressed with President Ford's forth-
rightness and low-keyed excellence in presenting his ideas
to the folks at the Houston breakfast meeting. I told him
there and then I was for him 1000% - and I meant it.

Sincerely,


Pat Taggart

PT/r

U The Report Journal

STANLEY R. TINER
EDITOR

February 20, 1975

Gerald L. Warren,
Deputy Press Secretary to the President,
White House,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Jerry:

Thank you so very much for the information which you sent to me concerning the President's economic and energy programs.

Those documents will be very helpful, as was the breakfast visit with the President in Houston. I think that his method of carrying his fight directly to the people at the grassroots level is very effective.

I am enclosing an editorial from the Journal of February 19 concerning the President's right to make such a grassroots presentation. I thought you might find it of interest.

One request please, Jerry: If you could possibly do so, would you see if you could track down a copy of Alan Greenspan's 30-page treatise on the economy? I should like very much to see it.

Thank you very much for your efforts in advance and for the information I received today.

Sincerely,



Stanley R. Tiner,
Editor.

SRT/nb

Arkansas Gazette.

LITTLE ROCK
ARKANSAS

HUGH B. PATTERSON, JR.
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

February 24, 1975

Mr. Gerald L. Warren
Deputy Press Secretary
to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Jerry:

I appreciate your sending the copies of the basic documents relating to the President's economic and energy programs.

I had intended before now to write and express my pleasure at visiting with you in Houston, but I have been extremely busy, and so I will just take this opportunity to say that our visit added considerably to the value of the Houston meeting for me.

Sincerely yours,



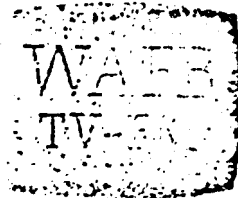
Hugh B. Patterson, Jr.

HBP:mmm

Guaranty Broadcasting Corporation

P. O. BOX 2671 BATON ROUGE, LA. 70821

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TELEVISION CH. 9 | FM 52.5 MC

February 24, 1975

Mr. Gerald L. Warren
Deputy Press Secretary
to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Warren:

I appreciated the invite to breakfast with President Ford and you and your associates in Houston. We were grateful for the frank comments and honest answers to the various questions.

Thank you also for enclosing the material with your February 13 letter. It has been handed, along with your telephone number, to our News Director for his use.

Thank you again for your cooperation.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'T. E. Gibbens'.

T. E. Gibbens
President & General Manager

• TEG/pa

Comment:

Corpus Christi Caller
2/17/75

Ford, though no charmer, seems sincere

By EDWARD H. HARTE

Editor and Publisher

HOUSTON — Charismatic, he isn't

sat down. I was assigned to the

President's table on J. There were gold

bordered place cards by our plates and

question, and he did not volunteer the

quote of the week.

EL PASO HERALD POST
February 11, 1975

'Asks Quick Action ^{2/11/75} On Energy

By ROBERT W. LEE

Herald-Post Editor

HOUSTON — President

Ford, announcing the U.S. energy

PRESIDENT FORD said it was estimated his program would cost the nation between \$20 and \$31 billion per year and would represent a 2 per cent increase in the cost of living. But, he said, that increased cost would be offset by the following provisions: state and local governments would get back some \$2 billion via Revenue Sharing; individuals which would experience an increased cost of some \$10 billion.

EL PASO HERALD POST
February 13, 1974



Editor's Corner

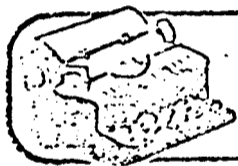
By PETE LEE

Whatever else President Gerald Ford may be, he certainly is one of our least pretentious Presidents.

I was standing in the Continental Room of the Shamrock Hilton Hotel in Houston Tuesday morning, chatting

A REACTION I heard from many people when the program was first announced went something like this: "Big

The question naturally arises: Why go through all this exercise if everyone is going to get back in taxes what they spent on increased fuel costs? Why not



Editor's Corner

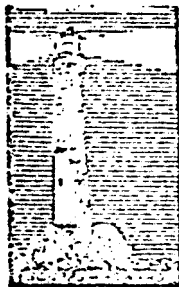
By PETE LEE

President Ford has been stumping the country to drum up support for his energy and economics program, and has an obvious feeling that he is making some headway.

Last Tuesday in Houston, this edi-

sitor would be a need to reduce reliance on imports.

He points to the fact that imports last year were around seven million barrels, as opposed to six million the year before. And he points to how much



El Paso Herald-Post

A SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWSPAPER

ROBERT W. LEE, Editor

Mills avenue and Kansas street

Phone 532-1661

SECTION B, PAGE 2

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1975

Ford's Energy Program

'Salesman' Ford at Ease, Friendly in Pushing Program

By SAM WOOD

Related Stories, Page 7

"let us reason together" style of Lyndon Johnson. At the stiff formality of Nixon was conspicuous by its absence.

AUSTIN AMERICAN STATESMAN

February 12, 1975

Editorials

Doing, and Not Doing

HOUSTON CHRONICLE
February 11, 1975

*Ford Discusses His Energy
Plans With News Executives*

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

Page 2, Section 4

Tuesday, February 11, 1975

Editorials

Getting out of Washington

...tive factors of the President's adminis-

Getting out of Washington

(Editorial in Houston Chronicle)

Regardless of what he might accomplish in the specific aim of sup-

glemindedly preoccupied with its sole industry — government — and so immersed in all its political and

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

Page 6, Section 7 Friday, February 14, 1975

Editorials

Ford shows understanding

HOUSTON POST
2/12/75

Ford continues energy campaign

By JANE ELY
Post Reporter

President Ford made one

...iar," an executive said. He
quoted the President as say-
ing of his Monday night din-
ner with the governors: "We

at the Congress, Ford also
got "in" some more licks
against the New England gov-
ernors, the editors reported.

The bottom line

Our unemployment picture is so confused almost any reasonable prediction—up or down—has some expert support.

Alan Greenspan, the chairman of

The President is releasing impounded funds for sewer treatment plants and highways, and that will provide help in due time. Public service jobs can provide aid, but to a very limited

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

Page 24, Section 3

Sunday, February 16, 1975

Editorials

An impatient nation

This is an impatient nation. It always has been. We have been impatient with distance, expanding westward

to carry coal or an oilman who wants to put a well down offshore often sits back amazed as the bureaucrats

HOUSTON CHRC CLE
2/20/75

We have promises to keep

The military experts tell us that both Cambodia and South Vietnam need more military assistance from the United States this fiscal year if they

is justification for Congress to approve at least a portion of the President's request.

Certainly, we have spent billions already in Indochina with discouraging

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

2/23/75

Booming federal business

One of America's fastest growing businesses, judging by the statistics, is the federal government.

The federal budget for fiscal year 1976 shows anticipated revenue of

chunk is the result of increased taxation—income taxes and other direct and indirect federal levies.

The tax bite has been especially noticeable for the middle income families during the inflationary period that

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

2/22/75

Don't gamble with defense

One of the tougher decisions facing Congress is what balance to strike between social programs and military

frontations of the cold war. Those changes came about, though, not because the United States was

DALLAS MORNING NEWS
2/12/75

Differences 'Resolvable,' Ford Contends

By CAROLYN BARTA

Political Writer of The News

HOUSTON—President Gerald Ford played down his differences with Gov. Dolph Briscoe over points in the gov-

FORD'S REMARKS ABOUT his meeting with Southwestern governors were in marked contrast to his description of a prior meeting with

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

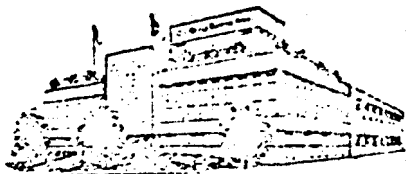
News, oldest business institution in Texas, was established in 1842
while Texas was a Republic

Joseph M. Dealey
President

Richard D. Blum
Vice-President

Robert T. Richardson
Treasurer

Tom J. Simmons
Managing Editor



James M. Moroney Jr.
Executive Vice-President

William C. Smellage
Vice-President
and Secretary

Sol Katz
Vice-President

Dick West
Editorial Director

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1975

'The Poorest Answer'

PRESIDENT FORD came to search for larger reserves of con-
Texas Monday with words that ventional and unconventional

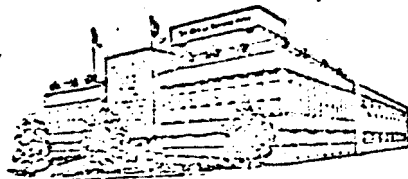
*The News, oldest business newspaper in Texas
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and Secretary

Sol Katz
Vice-President

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Editorial Director

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1975

A Propaganda Point

CONSERVATIVES usually champion the legislative branch in battles between the White House and Capitol Hill. But there are profitable operation and shutdown because costs exceed return. He also proposes a "plowback credit" on oil company income

The Dallas Morning News

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1975

'Help' From Congress

EVERYONE KNOWS, naturally, of Congress' ongoing attempts to give us all a tax cut and to block the President's energy program. But what else are our lawmakers doing up there to justify their \$42,500 annual sala-

benefits be extended to housewives.

With Miss Jordan's and Burke's basic premise—that we fail “to recognize homemaker services as a valuable contribution to the nation's economy”—there can be little quarreling. The home-

Energy action vital

THE ISSUE: President Ford's energy program and the obstructionist role of Congress without offering its own plan.

PRESIDENT FORD apparently didn't convince any of

Gov. Dolph Briscoe has said these measures would be a disaster to Texas. We agree with him. But even beyond Texas, the plan raises serious questions. For one thing, it is undoubtedly inflationary at a time when inflation is a continu-

The President impressed those with whom he conferred in Houston with his earnestness.

His was a somber attitude which left no doubt of his understanding of the critical nature of the problem and that it is one which must be solved. He re-

Keep the Fed free

THE U.S. HOUSE of Representatives is playing with economic and political fire in considering two bills to restrict the independence of the Federal Reserve

F Burns strongly opposes both bills, with good reason.

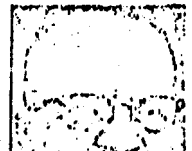
Burns warns that if Congress orders the Fed to lower interest

Ford's Visit an Exercise in Strategy

By EDN. WISICAMPER

Editor, Reporter-News

HOUSTON — President Ford's visit to Houston can be scored as a skillful exercise in public relations and political strategy to bring pressure on Congress to act on the energy crisis — even if it does not adopt his own controversial program.

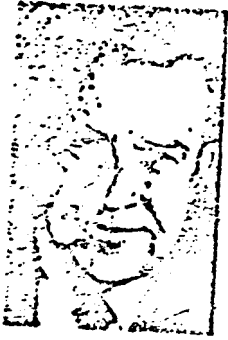


News Analysis

emergencies and for other purposes."

Then he held up another document at:

"Now I have in my hand here the bill the Congress has been working on since Jan. 14 — four pages — and let me read the title of what the Congressional action calls for: "To suspend, for a 90-day period, the



FELIX R. MCKNIGHT

The mission of two men

TWO MEN almost grimly tuned to their economy-energy mission—the President of the United States and his Interior secretary—have visited restless Texas these past few days and now have flown to other target areas.

General consensus? President Ford didn't score too many conversions, nor did he lose points simply because of his honey honesty in three appearances.

But he left behind for two days a free-swinging cleanup hitter in Interior Secretary Rogers Morton who has caused some second thinking among the oil industry and the media.

FIFTEEN POUNDS leaner, intent and preoccupied with the twin dilemmas of a dragging economy and little progress on solutions to the dollar-draining oil imports, President Ford swung heavily in presenting his program to 60 businessmen, five oil state governors and a small cluster of media executives.

He looked very much like the average concerned man standing there in blue shirt, muted red tie and dark business suit before the Houston breakfast group of newspaper and broadcast leaders. No small talk; no attempt at levity.

He came to oil-oriented Texas, he said, "to hear from editors and broadcasters outside of Washington." He had been in Congress long enough, he said, to know there would be disagreement but he would welcome input from the group.

NOT AS salesman, not as the over-

powering figure of a President, he patiently went through his outdated program of oil import tariffs that he knew had been editorially opposed by many he faced.

Not so patiently he took prodding swipes at the Congress for foot-dragging inaction. If Congress acted quickly with a substantive program, he said, he would remove the nettling tariff directive.

"If they don't—they stay on." And the bracing of his jaw indicated that he was ready to go down to the wire with them.

"We think we have the votes to sustain a veto"—if Congress votes, as it is, to impose a 90-day moratorium on his program while it molds its counter program.

HE WARNED that "we are getting in more and more trouble because of the whims and fancies of the foreign oil producers" and that if we do nothing to structure a definitive program for the next decade, "we will be in a highly dangerous, vulnerable position."

The challenging mood became even more obvious when he switched to the harassing of energy-dependent Northeastern states now stalling federal offshore drilling programs.

He detailed the "vigorous opposition" of the Atlantic coastal states. "They don't want refineries, they fight nuclear power projects. Many oppose offshore drilling efforts and they strongly oppose changes in the Clean Air Act that would

permit orderly change from oil to coal fuels. It makes you wonder what they do want . . ."

Not so gentle in fast-swinging trips to major Texas newspaper editorial rooms was Secretary Morton.

A massive man of six feet, six inches whose persuasiveness is as overwhelming as his physical frame, Sec. Morton laid it out in the delicate cross between a Phi Beta Kappa scholar and a Texas range wrangler.

IF YOU DIDN'T get the Ford economy-energy program from his scholarly walk-through of the President's 167-page plan (which he did adequately in 10 minutes) he could brief the opposition with:

"Dammit, let's put it this way. Most of the guts, the individual initiative, are located between the two mountain ranges of this country—the Rockies on the West and the Appalachians on the East. The other people are opposed to everything. They don't want to do much of anything . . . You Texans ought to know what I'm talking about."

The Ford-Morton tandem slept little in Texas. It went that way for 48 hours while much of the Congress was out on brief vacation.

The "take-it-to-the-people" crusade was brittle and relentless. At week's end, the senators and the representatives were scurrying back to Washington.

(Felix R. McKnight is vice chairman of The Times Herald.)

BEAUMONT ENTERPRISE

On The Road

Even critics — and there are many — of President Ford's economic and energy proposals must admit that it takes courage for him to take his ideas to the people, as he did Monday and Tuesday in Houston.

It takes courage because many of the people Ford has been talking to are critics of various aspects of his proposals.

The President has met with more than a

2/12/75

Ford Gives In

President Ford and Congress are going to be battling each other enough over economic and energy proposals without getting into a fight over Ford's plan to make the poor pay more for food stamps. 2/15/75

That realization — coupled with the fact Congress might have overridden a veto —

SHREVEPORT TIMES

2/12/75

'Get Moving on Energy'

Mr. Ford in Houston

President Gerald Ford believes in his administration's energy proposals, and feels strongly enough about their value that he is making the modern - day equivalent of "whistle - stop tours" to take his message to the people of the United States.

Reactions to the administration proposals in Houston were not as favorable as the response the President received in Atlanta, which was to be expected, according to one administration official. By coming to Houston, the President headed straight to the heart of America's oil and gas in-

did not like his program it should be prepared to solve the energy crisis with a program of its own.

The Texas and Louisiana news officials, who have seen their state's offshore oil developments supplying much of the nation's

Will Win the Battle

Interior Secretary Rogers Morton, who accompanied the President to Houston, described the eastern states' attitude in much the same way as the President had. Morton also indicated that, one way or another, offshore drilling in the Atlantic will be accomplished. "I feel we are going to win this battle, even if we have to go to the courts to do so," Morton said.

A sideline topic of the conference dealt with administration

SHREVEPORT TIMES, 2/15/75

'Dog-in-the-Manger Bill'

Blocking the Oil Tariff

"This is a dog - in - the - manger bill," said Rep. John B. Anderson, R-Ill., in opposing a

These major problems are inextricably linked together and the Executive and Legislative branches are at loggerheads in their

Jackson's plan suggests price controls on domestic oil and gas gives standby authority for price and income controls and offers

2/19/75

SHREVEPORT JOURNAL

Why Shouldn't He Travel?

The State Journal

a page of opinion

Thursday Evening, February 13, 1975

Life is the game that must be played; This truth at least, good friends, we know.
So live and laugh nor be dismayed, as one by one the phantoms go. — Edwin A.
Robinson, American Biblical scholar.

Let's rally behind President



D

NY DAILY NEWS
February 28, 1975

When Jerry Ford Seeks a Better Idea, He Listens

PAUL HEALY

Washington, Feb. 27—"Jerry Ford is the comment about

President." But in troubled times like these people are not all that shy.

Ford talked shop with 15 mayors from seven Southern states for nearly three hours Tuesday night in Hollywood, Fla. Several of the mayors after-

men to beam when the mayor then promised: "We are going to encourage our congressional leadership from the South to really get some action in Congress."

The next morning, P. J. ... Ford

reporters are given equal time v White House correspondents during questioning. Ford's bland answers seldom make hot news, but then he doesn't spend much time preparing for the quizzes, either.

The Miami Herald

JOHN S. KNIGHT, Editorial Chairman

JAMES L. KNIGHT, Chairman

LEE HILLS, Publisher ALVAH H. CHAPMAN, Jr., President DON SHOEMAKER, Editor BEVEPLY R. CARTER, Gen. Mgr.
GEORGE BEEBE, Associate Publisher LARRY JINKS, Executive Editor JOHN D. PENNEKAMP, Associate Editor
RON MARTIN, Managing Editor

6-A

Thursday, February 27, 1975

The Visitor Has His Itinerary -- Where Is Congress Headed?

PRESIDENTIAL visits to South Florida are nothing new, really. But Mr. Ford's personally led task force has wound up its two-day maneuver with a wondrously warm

seemed to be getting close to doing something.

(Perhaps: almost as soon as it surfaced, the 16-cent provision was shot

THE MIAMI HERALD
February 27, 1975

SOFT EGGS, SOFT ROLLS, SOFT WORDS

Just a Simple Breakfast

With the President

By DON SHOEMAKER
Editor of The Herald

dent of the United States will be 62
on July 14.

LYNWOOD Wilton Herbert

He is the new picture of physical

MISSISSIPPIAN PAGE