

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE
PRINCIPALS-PRESIDENTS BANQUET
TOPEKA, KANSAS
SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1970

PTA - THE PULSE OF THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY

IT IS ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO DISCUSS CURRENT NATIONAL PROBLEMS AND ISSUES WITH A GROUP SUCH AS YOURS. HOWEVER, I HAVE PARTICULARLY ANTICIPATED BEING HERE TODAY BECAUSE THIS MEETING PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS A BASIC BELIEF IN THE PURPOSE AND ROLE OF PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS. ANYONE WHO RECOGNIZES THE SPIRIT OF THIS ORGANIZATION KNOWS THAT PTA, AS AN INSTITUTION, REPRESENTS A GUIDING FORCE WITHIN OUR COMMUNITIES AND THE WHOLE NATION.

IT IS APPROPRIATE AND HIGHLY BENEFICIAL THAT THE MEN AND WOMEN OF PTA SHOULD MEET TO DISCUSS THE BASIC ISSUES CONCERNING AMERICA, FOR YOU SHARE A RESPONSIBILITY FOR A BETTER AMERICA TOMORROW.

Topeka Speech

-2-

WE ALL BEAR PART OF THIS RESPONSIBILITY. HERE IN TOPEKA, THROUGHOUT KANSAS AND IN WASHINGTON, WE ARE ALL FACED WITH DECISIONS ON WHICH AMERICA AND THE NEW DECADE OF AMERICAN LIFE DEPEND.

NIXON AND THE CHALLENGE OF THE '70'S

IT WAS AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF VIOLENCE, DIVISION AND DISILLUSIONMENT THAT RICHARD NIXON WAS CALLED UPON TO BRING AMERICANS TOGETHER TO FACE THE CHALLENGE OF THE '70'S. HAVING RECEIVED A MANDATE FROM THE PEOPLE TO CONTINUE PROGRESS -- AND TO REINSTATE DOMESTIC TRANQUILITY -- PRESIDENT NIXON BEGAN TO RESTORE THE FAITH OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IN THEIR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES.

REFORM -- THE CENTRAL THEME

REFORM BECAME THE MAIN THEME OF THIS ADMINISTRATION. PRESIDENT NIXON, AS A REFORMER, REALIZES THAT THE QUALITY OF THINKING WHICH GOES INTO A SOLUTION IS OFTEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE QUANTITY OF MONEY SPENT ON IT. IN REGARD TO THIS FACT, THE PRESIDENT SAID: "WE CANNOT COUNT

-3-

ON GOOD MONEY TO BAIL US OUT OF BAD IDEAS."

IN DISCUSSING PRESIDENT NIXON'S APPROACH TO THE '70'S, LET US
FIRST CONSIDER THE NATURE OF HIS FOREIGN POLICY PROGRAM.

OUR FIRST PRIORITY -- PEACE IN VIETNAM

OUR FIRST PRIORITY MUST ALWAYS BE PEACE FOR AMERICA AND THE
WORLD. THUS THE IMMEDIATE GOAL OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY IS TO BRING
AN END TO THE WAR IN VIETNAM. THE PROSPECTS FOR PEACE TODAY ARE FAR
GREATER THAN A YEAR AGO.

PRESIDENT NIXON'S DOCTRINE OF VIETNAMIZATION HAS BEEN A MAJOR
FACTOR IN THIS ACHIEVEMENT. BUT AS PRESIDENT NIXON HAS POINTED OUT,
A LARGE PART OF THE CREDIT FOR THIS DEVELOPMENT MUST GO TO THE AMERICAN
PEOPLE WHO HAVE OVERWHELMINGLY SHOWN THEIR DESIRE FOR A JUST PEACE.

-4-

OUR FIGHTING MEN DENIED HANOI A VICTORY ON THE BATTLEFIELD. NOW THE ENEMY CANNOT LOOK FOR VICTORY THROUGH AMERICAN DISSENSION AT HOME.

THE GREATEST SIGNIFICANCE OF THE VIETNAMIZATION PROGRAM IS ITS PROGRESS TOWARD REALIZING OUR FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVE: TO ASSURE THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE THE BASIC RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION, FREE FROM OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE.

HISTORICAL LEGISLATION

THE NEW ADMINISTRATION REALIZES THAT IT IS ACTION, NOT PUBLICITY, WHICH COUNTS. AS AN EXAMPLE, LET US REVIEW TEN DAYS IN NOVEMBER, DURING WHICH PERIOD THE PRESIDENT, WITHOUT FANFARE OR NOISEMAKING, CONCLUDED THESE HISTORICAL EVENTS:

(1) THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS WERE OPENED IN HELSINKI INDICATING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION;

(2) A NEW FOREIGN TRADE POLICY WAS PROPOSED;

-5-

(3) THE OKINAWA REVERSION QUESTION WAS FINALLY SETTLED, PUTTING AN END TO AN ANTAGONISTIC ISSUE BETWEEN THE U. S. AND JAPAN AND ASSURING JAPAN'S CONTINUED PARTICIPATION AND COOPERATION IN ASIAN AFFAIRS.

(4) A PRACTICAL, PROGRESSIVE NEW POLICY TOWARD COMMUNIST CHINA WAS INAUGURATED. THROUGH RESUMPTION OF OUR TALKS IN WARSAW WITH THE COMMUNIST CHINESE AND A RELAXATION IN TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS TO CHINA, THE U. S. GAINED AN OPPORTUNITY TO OBSERVE AND BETTER UNDERSTAND THIS GREAT POWER..... AFTER 20 YEARS OF TOTAL IGNORANCE ON DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN CHINA.

(5) THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS WAS SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT AND RATIFIED BY THE SENATE, MAKING THE U. S. A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO DISARMAMENT AND WORLD PEACE.

-6-

(6) A NEW POLICY WAS PRESENTED ON THE USE OF CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS THROUGH DENUNCIATION OF GERM WARFARE.

(7) MAJOR REFORMS IN THE SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM WERE SIGNED INTO LAW.

INFLATION

THE MOST DIFFICULT PROBLEM CONFRONTING PRESIDENT NIXON DURING HIS FIRST YEAR IN OFFICE HAS UNQUESTIONABLY BEEN THE STATE OF THE NATION'S ECONOMY.

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, MR. NIXON ATTEMPTED TO APPLY PERSISTENT BUT MODERATE POLICIES OF FISCAL AND MONETARY RESTRAINT TO SLOW THE GROWTH RATE OF OUR OVERHEATED ECONOMY. ACHIEVING A SLOWER RATE OF GROWTH WILL ASSIST IN THE NEXT IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT -- THE CURBING OF INFLATION.

-7-

TWO CHOICES

WHEN HE ASSUMED OFFICE, MR. NIXON HAD TO IMMEDIATELY CHOOSE BETWEEN TWO POLICIES OF ACTION: HE COULD HAVE CONTINUED THE "POPULAR" ECONOMIC POLICIES OF HIS PREDECESSOR IN AN EFFORT TO PLEASE VESTED INTEREST GROUPS AND THOSE WHO HAD BEEN LULLED INTO A SENSE OF FALSE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY BY THE PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATION'S SUPPORT OF A READILY AVAILABLE MONETARY SUPPLY.

ON THE OTHER HAND, PRESIDENT NIXON COULD HAVE ELECTED TO ADOPT MEASURES AGAINST AN IMMEDIATE AND SERIOUS ECONOMIC DOWNSWING. HE WISELY CHOSE THE LATTER COURSE OF ACTION, EVEN THOUGH IT CALLED FOR SOME MEASURES NOT CALCULATED TO ENHANCE HIS RATINGS IN THE POPULARITY POLLS.

HIS DECISION TO RETAIN THE UNPOPULAR INCOME TAX SURCHARGE AT A 5% RATE EXEMPLIFIES THE POINT.

-8-

A BALANCED BUDGET

A KEY TO CURBING THE INFLATIONARY SPIRAL IN THE MONTHS AHEAD LIES WITHIN A BALANCED FEDERAL BUDGET. ON JANUARY 22, PRESIDENT NIXON SAID: "MILLIONS OF AMERICANS ARE FORCED TO GO INTO DEBT TODAY BECAUSE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DECIDED TO GO INTO DEBT YESTERDAY. WE MUST BALANCE OUR FEDERAL BUDGET SO THAT AMERICAN FAMILIES WILL HAVE A BETTER CHANCE TO BALANCE THEIR FAMILY BUDGETS."

CREDIT, INTEREST RATES AND OUR GNP

THE TIGHTNESS OF CREDIT THAT RESULTED FROM MONETARY RESTRAINT APPLIED AGAINST UNUSUALLY STRONG CREDIT DEMAND DROVE INTEREST RATES ON BOTH SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM DEBT TO UNPRECEDENTED LEVELS. THE PRINCIPAL EFFECT ON ECONOMIC ACTIVITY WAS TO CHECK INCREASES IN CONSTRUCTION EXPENDITURES AND TO LIMIT SHARPLY THE NUMBER OF NEW PRIVATE HOUSING STARTS, ESPECIALLY IN SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES.

-9-

DESPITE HIGH INTEREST RATES, BUSINESS PLANT AND EQUIPMENT EXPENDITURES WERE REMARKABLY HIGH, CONTRIBUTING MUCH TO THE YEAR'S ECONOMIC EXPANSION. THIS PERSISTENCE IN EXPANDING PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY CAN BE INTERPRETED AS A RESPONSE BOTH TO THE NEED FOR PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS AND TO INFLATIONARY EXPECTATIONS. BASICALLY, HOWEVER, MOST BUSINESSES WERE CONFIDENT ABOUT THE CONTINUING WELL-BEING OF THE ECONOMY.

ENCOURAGING SIGNS

THERE ARE, HOWEVER, ENCOURAGING SIGNS THAT THE TIGHT MONEY POLICIES ARE PAYING OFF. THE NATION'S GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT WAS ABOUT \$932 BILLION IN 1969. THE INCREASE OVER 1968 WAS ABOUT \$66 BILLION OR SOME 7 3/4 PERCENT, AS COMPARED WITH A 9 PERCENT RISE THE YEAR BEFORE. THE 7 3/4 PERCENT GROWTH CAN BE EXPLAINED LARGELY BY A 4 3/4 PERCENT RISE IN PRICES. HOWEVER, WHILE THE RATE OF PRICE INCREASE WAS ACCELERATING, THE REAL GROWTH WAS SLOWING. THE 1969 INCREASE IN THE PHYSICAL VOLUME OF OUTPUT, AT LESS THAN 3 PERCENT, WAS SUBSTANTIALLY LOWER THAN THE 5 PERCENT GAIN IN 1968. THIS IS, OF COURSE, A GOOD OMEN FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST INFLATION.

-10-

HOWEVER, WE MUST BE REALISTIC. THE TASK OF RESTORING THE AMERICAN ECONOMY BACK INTO A SENSIBLE BALANCE WILL TAKE TIME. REGRETTABLY, A "TIGHT MONEY" POLICY MAY CONTINUE TO BE NECESSARY. AUSTERITY IN THE FEDERAL BUDGET WILL BRING ANGUISHED CRIES FROM THOSE WHO HAVE ENJOYED A PREVIOUS POLICY OF A WIDE OPEN TREASURY.

POLLUTION -- A NEW COMMANDMENT:
"THOU SHALT NOT BREAK THE LAND"

FINALLY, THE DECADE OF THE SEVENTIES MUST COME TO GRIPS WITH THE FUNDAMENTAL ISSUE OF SURVIVAL OF THE HUMAN RACE ON THIS PLANET. FOR COUNTLESS CENTURIES MAN HAS FOUGHT FOR SUCH SURVIVAL AND SEEMED TO ACHIEVE IT WITH THE ADVENT OF THE AGE OF TECHNOLOGY -- BUT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY HAVE ALSO DISTORTED THE DELICATE NATURAL BALANCES UPON WHICH OUR SURVIVAL DEPENDS. NOW WE HAVE BROUGHT ABOUT AN OVERLOAD ON THE NATURAL SYSTEM WHICH IS BEGINNING TO HAVE INCREASINGLY SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES.

-11-

TODAY, PEOPLE ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY ARE BECOMING DISTURBED ABOUT THE TOLL POLLUTION IS TAKING ON OUR ENVIRONMENT. TODAY, WE HAVE A PRESIDENT AND AN ADMINISTRATION VITALLY CONCERNED WITH ATTACKING THIS PROBLEM.

COURAGEOUS INITIATIVE AND REFORM ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROGRAM FOR THE '70'S. BUT ULTIMATELY, THE GREATNESS OF THIS NATION WILL BE MEASURED IN THE QUESTIONS ITS CITIZENS ASK THEMSELVES, AND IN THE ANSWERS WE GIVE.

LET US ALL, IN OUR ROLE AS AMERICAN CITIZENS, ASK THESE QUESTIONS:

DID I SHOW COURAGE?

DID I SHOW JUDGMENT?

DID I SHOW INTEGRITY?

DID I SHOW COMPASSION?

-12-

EACH OF US WILL FIND HIS OWN ANSWERS. BUT THE FUTURE OF
AMERICA RESTS ON OUR WILLINGNESS TO ASK THESE QUESTIONS AND APPLY
OURSELVES TO THE PROBLEMS WHICH WILL CONFRONT US IN THE NEW DECADE.

[Faint handwritten notes, possibly including "15" and "251"]

[Faint handwritten notes, possibly including "1934" and "1935"]

→ 37 tapes - 18 states - 95% of O.D.

1st yr. -- unusual events --
AMERICA RESTS ON OUR WILLINGNESS TO ASK THESE QUESTIONS AND APPLY
OURSELVES TO THE PROBLEMS WHICH WILL CONFRONT US IN THE NEXT DECADE.

* Counter - 4 - 125 subscribers

* → Hungry U.S.

- Armenia -- Beirut

- Argentina --

- Total Reform

- in the



Went to the U.S. - sent

~~to~~

P. Wash.

Agri

Pic

Chgo