

REMARKS OF HONORABLE BOB DOLE

RENSSELAER COUNTY REPUBLICAN DINNER
AVERILL PARK, NEW YORK
SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 1971

IT IS A PLEASURE TO BE IN RENSSOLAER COUNTY TONIGHT. THE MAJOR STRIDES MADE BY THE GOP IN NEW YORK ARE DUE TO THE EFFORTS OF PEOPLE LIKE YOU, AND WE ARE COUNTING ON YOU AGAIN IN 1972. WITH ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL REPUBLICAN GOVERNORS IN THE UNITED STATES, NELSON ROCKEFELLER; TWO OF THE LEADING MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE, JACK JAVITS AND JIM BUCKLEY; AND AN OUTSTANDING DELEGATION OF REPUBLICAN LAWMAKERS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, NEW YORK IS A BASTION OF REPUBLICANISM -- WITH YOUR HELP WE CAN CARRY IT FOR RICHARD NIXON IN 1972.

ONE OF THE JOBS WE HAVE TO DO IF WE ARE TO BE SUCCESSFUL IS TO SEE THAT THE TRUE STORY OF RICHARD NIXON IS TOLD AND IS NOT OBSCURED BY HALF-TRUTHS AND UNFOUNDED ATTACKS.

THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES OF THE OTHER PARTY ARE VERY GOOD AT OBSCURING AND OBFUSCATING THE NIXON RECORD, WHETHER IT BE IN THE AREA OF PEACE ABROAD OR PROGRESS AT HOME.

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INDEED, IT APPEARS THAT SOME OF THE PRESIDENT'S HARSHTEST CRITICS HAVE HAD LONG PRACTICE AT DECEIVING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, IF WE ARE TO BELIEVE THE REVELATIONS OF THE SO-CALLED MC NAMARA PAPERS.

ONE OF THOSE CRITICS, YOU WILL RECALL, WAS A VICE PRESIDENT WHO IN 1964 JOINED IN THE CRY FOR PEACE WHILE PARTICIPATING IN PREPARATIONS FOR ESCALATION. HE LATER BECAME A FULL-FLEDGED HAWK, BUT HAS SINCE REVERTED AGAIN TO A ROLE AS A PEACE CANDIDATE.

ANOTHER IS THE BROTHER OF THE PRESIDENT WHO LED US INTO SOUTH VIETNAM AND THE BROTHER ALSO OF A MAN WHO SERVED AS COUNSELLOR AND ATTORNEY GENERAL IN TWO WARTIME CABINETS. HE, TOO, HAS GONE FULL CIRCLE.

STILL ANOTHER WAS A CANDIDATE FOR VICE PRESIDENT ON A PRO-WAR TICKET, ALTHOUGH HE NOW CLAIMS HE HAD SILENT RESERVATIONS ALL ALONG. IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT THESE MEN, AS WELL AS OTHERS, CAN CLAIM EITHER INNOCENCE OR IGNORANCE. IN EITHER CASE, CAN THE AMERICAN PEOPLE EVER HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THEM AGAIN?

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BUT, IN EITHER CASE, ANOTHER QUESTION ALSO REMAINS: WHO INDEED IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EVER-ENLARGING WAR OF THE MIDDLE 1960'S? WAS IT PRESIDENT JOHNSON, OR WAS IT THOSE WHO PLANNED AND BUILT AND ENCOURAGED THE WAR IN THE KENNEDY ADMINISTRATION AND THEN STAYED ON UNDER PRESIDENT JOHNSON?

THESE ARE QUESTIONS THAT HISTORY WILL EVENTUALLY ANSWER. BUT THEY ARE QUESTIONS WHICH, NOW THAT THEY HAVE BEEN RAISED, SEEM ALSO TO DEMAND ANSWERS NOW. WE KNOW THAT THIS WAR IS NOT NIXON'S WAR, JUST AS WE KNOW IT WILL BE NIXON'S PEACE; BUT PERHAPS WE SHOULD DETERMINE IF IT WAS REALLY JOHNSON'S WAR, OR IF IT WAS MC NAMARA'S, OR O'BRIEN'S, OR CLIFFORD'S OR KENNEDY'S.

WHEN THE TRUTH IS OUT, IT WILL BE EASIER FOR US AS A NATION TO PROCEED WITH THE GREAT TASKS OF BRINGING PEACE AND MEETING NATIONAL NEEDS.

HOWEVER, DESPITE THE CONFUSION OF THE MOMENT AND THE DEMOCRAT OBSTRUCTIONISM OF THE LAST 2 1/2 YEARS, PRESIDENT NIXON HAS MADE PROGRESS, AS WE ALL KNOW.

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POSTAL REFORM IS NOW A REALITY, AFTER GENERATIONS OF DETERIORATION AND POLITICAL CHRONYISM.

WELFARE REFORM PASSED

JUST THIS WEEK, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PASSED H. R. 1, THE PRESIDENT'S WELFARE REFORM LEGISLATION THAT PUTS A DECENT FLOOR UNDER THE EARNINGS OF THE WORKING POOR AND PROVIDES WORK INCENTIVES FOR THE NEEDY. THE SAME LEGISLATION ALSO COMES TO THE AID OF OUR SENIOR CITIZENS -- NOT JUST THROUGH A ONE-SHOT INCREASE IN BENEFITS -- BUT BY ADDING A BUILT-IN, COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE THAT WILL PROTECT THEM FROM FURTHER RAVAGES OF INFLATION.

A VIGOROUS, CAPABLE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT CONTINUES THE DRIVE AGAINST ORGANIZED CRIME AND STREET CRIME -- AND AGAINST THOSE SELF-PROCLAIMED REVOLUTIONARIES WHO WOULD DESTROY OUR FREE FORM OF GOVERNMENT THROUGH VIOLENCE AND LAWLESSNESS.

HIGH COURT BALANCE

PRESIDENT NIXON'S APPOINTMENTS TO THE SUPREME COURT HAVE GIVEN THAT TRIBUNAL A NEW BALANCE IN FAVOR OF REASON AND CONSTITUTIONALITY, AFTER NEARLY A GENERATION OF ONE-SIDED RULINGS.

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THE PRESIDENT'S MASSIVE NEW ATTACK ON DRUG ABUSE, WITH \$371 MILLION WORTH OF PROGRAMS TO COMBAT THE ILLEGAL DRUG TRAFFIC, TREAT THOSE ALREADY ADDICTED, AND EDUCATE YOUNG AMERICANS TO THE DANGERS INVOLVED, POSES NEW HOPE FOR CONCERNED PARENTS AND EDUCATORS WHO HAVE SEEN THE DRUG PROBLEM DESTROY SO MANY OF OUR YOUNG.

YOUNG GIVEN A VOICE

RICHARD NIXON'S SIGNATURE OPENED THE DOOR TO THE 18-YEAR-OLD VOTE IN NATIONAL ELECTIONS, SO THAT YOUNG AMERICANS WHO ARE GENUINELY INTERESTED IN REFORM AND CHANGE NOW HAVE A LEGITIMATE VOICE IN NATIONAL AFFAIRS.

EACH OF THESE THINGS IS IMPORTANT. EACH IS A MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT THAT MARKS THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION FOR GREATNESS. BUT ALL OF THESE THINGS ARE OVERSHADOWED BY THE WAR IN VIETNAM.

CONCERN OVER WAR

WHEREVER I GO -- AND I HAVE BEEN TO EVERY REGION OF THE COUNTRY AND TALKED TO VOTERS OF ALL AGES AND FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE SINCE BECOMING NATIONAL CHAIRMAN -- I FIND THE SAME FEELING. ABOVE EVERYTHING ELSE,

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PEOPLE ARE CONCERNED WITH THE WAR.

SOME OF THEIR DOUBTS AND WORRIES HAVE ALREADY BEEN ASSUAGED. THANKS TO THE SUCCESS OF VIETNAMIZATION, AND THE PRESIDENT'S DRAFT REFORM MEASURES, FEWER YOUNG AMERICANS TODAY FACE THE PROSPECT OF SERVICE IN VIETNAM.

DRAFT REVAMPED

WHEN PRESIDENT NIXON TOOK OFFICE, THE DRAFT SYSTEM IMPOSED SEVEN YEARS OF UNCERTAINTY ON YOUNG MEN. FROM THE AGES OF 19 TO 26, THEY WERE ELIGIBLE FOR THE DRAFT, AND THEY HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING WHEN OR IF THEY WOULD BE SELECTED.

I AM CONVINCED THAT THESE LONG YEARS OF UNCERTAINTY WERE ONE OF THE REASONS FOR THE RESTLESSNESS AND REBELLION ON OUR CAMPUSES AND ELSEWHERE. FEW YOUNG MEN COULD PREPARE FOR A POSITIVE FUTURE UNTIL THEY WERE CLOSER TO 30 THAN TO 20. THIS SITUATION HAD NEVER BEFORE EXISTED IN OUR HISTORY AND THE RESULTS, TO ME, ARE EVIDENT.

BUT SO ARE THE RESULTS OF THE PRESIDENT'S DRAFT REFORM. BY EXECUTIVE ORDER, HE DID TWO THINGS. HE LIMITED DRAFT ELIGIBILITY TO

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ONE YEAR -- THE 19TH YEAR -- OF A YOUNG MAN'S LIFE. AND HE INSTALLED A FAIR AND EQUITABLE LOTTERY SYSTEM THAT TELLS A YOUTH WITH SOME ACCURACY IF AND WHEN HE WILL BE DRAFTED.

DRAFT CALLS DOWN

THE PRESIDENT ALSO APPOINTED A NEW SELECTIVE SERVICE DIRECTOR, CURTISS TARR, WHO HAS PROVED THAT HE IS OPEN TO FRESH IDEAS AND WILLING TO HEAR OUT AMERICAN YOUTH. AND -- MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL -- THANKS TO THE PRESIDENT'S SUCCESSFUL VIETNAMIZATION PROGRAM, DRAFT CALLS HAVE BEEN SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED. WHEREAS, IN 1968, 343,300 YOUNG AMERICANS WERE DRAFTED INTO THE ARMED FORCES, PRESIDENT NIXON HAS DECREASED THAT NUMBER WITH EACH PASSING YEAR. IN 1971, THE MAXIMUM AUTHORIZED NUMBER OF DRAFTTEES IS 148,000 -- CONSIDERABLY LESS THAN HALF THE NUMBER IN 1968.

AND ONCE THE **WAR** IS WOUND DOWN, THE PRESIDENT IS COMMITTED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ALL-VOLUNTEER ARMY. SELDOM IN OUR HISTORY HAS ONE PRESIDENT DONE SO MUCH TO CHANGE A SYSTEM FOR THE BETTER -- YET SELDOM IN OUR HISTORY HAS THE PROGRESS BEEN MORE IGNORED BY PRESS AND PUBLIC, IN FAVOR OF THE SENSATIONAL.

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YET, I BELIEVE THAT DRAFT REFORM HAS HAD AN IMPACT ON YOUNG AMERICANS IN SPITE OF THE WAY THE MEDIA HAVE IGNORED IT. THE COMPARATIVE CALM ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES DURING THE PAST SCHOOL YEAR IS AT LEAST PARTIALLY DUE TO THE FACT THAT TODAY YOUNG MEN CAN LOOK TO THEIR FUTURES WITH MORE CONFIDENCE AND CERTAINTY -- AND THE MAN WHO DESERVES THE CREDIT FOR THIS IS RICHARD NIXON.

PEACE IS PRIME CONSIDERATION

BUT THIS IS ONLY ONE ASPECT OF THE PROBLEMS, AND THE SOLUTIONS, THAT HAVE BEEN GENERATED BY THE VIETNAM WAR.

THE OVERRIDING CONSIDERATION IS PEACE. AND PEACE IS A WORD THAT COMES EASILY THESE DAYS TO POLITICIANS ON THE OUTSIDE WHO WOULD LIKE TO UNDERMINE THE CREDIBILITY OF THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION. HARDLY A DAY GOES BY THAT ONE OF THEM DOES NOT COME UP WITH ANOTHER QUACK REMEDY -- ANOTHER INSTANT LEGISLATIVE PEACE PLAN THAT UNDERCUTS THE PRESIDENT'S NEGOTIATING STRENGTH.

PUBLIC REMEMBERS

OPPOSITION CANDIDATES MAY TALK ABOUT PEACE. THEY MAY TALK ABOUT WHAT THEY WOULD DO TO END THE WAR IF THEY WERE IN THE WHITE HOUSE. BUT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE REMEMBER WHAT THEIR LEADERS DID WHEN THEY WERE IN THE WHITE HOUSE -- AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE REMEMBER HOW MOST OF THESE

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SAME POLITICIANS FOLLOWED THE KENNEDY AND JOHNSON ADMINISTRATIONS DOWN THE PRIMROSE PATH WITHOUT EVER LOOKING BACKWARD UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE.

THOSE BITTER MEMORIES -- OF ESCALATION WITHOUT VICTORY; OF ENDLESSLY INCREASING COMMITMENTS OF MEN, MONEY AND MATERIEL INTO A SEEMINGLY BOTTOMLESS SINKHOLE -- THOSE MEMORIES OF PAST FAILURES CANNOT AND WILL NOT BE ERASED BY THE INFLATED, EMPTY RHETORIC OF THESE SAME MEN TODAY.

MANY CRITICS BACK TONKIN RESOLUTION

FOR MOST AMERICANS REMEMBER -- AND IT IS UP TO US TO REMIND THOSE WHO HAVE FORGOTTEN -- THAT NEARLY ALL WHO ATTACK PRESIDENT NIXON TODAY VOTED FOR THE GULF OF TONKIN RESOLUTION IN 1964 THAT COMMITTED US TO A FULL-SCALE WAR IN THE FIRST PLACE.

THEY REMEMBER EDMUND MUSKIE DEFENDING THE JOHNSON-BACKED VIETNAM PLANK AT THE DEMOCRAT CONVENTION IN 1968; THEY REMEMBER HUBERT HUMPHREY'S DOGGED SUPPORT OF LBJ'S ESCALATION-WITHOUT-VICTORY POLICY;

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THEY REMEMBER EDWARD KENNEDY SAYING IN 1965 THAT AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT IN VIETNAM IS "OUR COMMITMENT, OUR HERITAGE, OUR DESTINY...."

PEACE UNDER REPUBLICANS

WHAT SOME OF THEM MAY NOT REMEMBER, BECAUSE THEY ARE TOO YOUNG, OR BECAUSE SO MUCH HAS HAPPENED SINCE, IS THAT WHEN RICHARD NIXON LEFT OFFICE AS VICE PRESIDENT IN 1961, AMERICA WAS AT PEACE. NOW, HALFWAY THROUGH HIS FIRST TERM AS PRESIDENT, WE ARE CLOSE TO ACHIEVING PEACE ONCE AGAIN.

HOW FAR WE HAVE COME SINCE 1968. IN SEPTEMBER OF THAT YEAR, ONE OF THE MEN WHO NOW ATTACKS PRESIDENT NIXON FOR ALLEGEDLY PROLONGING THE WAR, WAS HIMSELF SECRETARY OF DEFENSE. AND IN 1968, HE COULD OFFER THE AMERICAN PEOPLE NO HOPE FOR A REDUCTION IN AMERICAN TROOPS IN VIETNAM.

CLIFFORD ESCALATED WAR

HERE IS WHAT CLARK CLIFFORD, WHO NOW FINDS IT SO EASY TO SNIPE AT PRESIDENT NIXON, HAD TO SAY ABOUT WITHDRAWING AMERICAN TROOPS IN 1968: "WE HAD NO PLAN TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF TROOPS IN VIETNAM AT ALL," CLIFFORD SAID. "WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF LOWERING THAT LEVEL...AT ANY TIME

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IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE." AND, INDEED, WHILE CLARK CLIFFORD WAS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, THE NUMBER OF AMERICAN TROOPS IN VIETNAM ACTUALLY INCREASED BY 36,000.

IT TOOK A NEW PRESIDENT, RICHARD NIXON, AND A NEW SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, MEL LAIRD, TO STOP THIS DRIFT TOWARD DISASTER. THANKS TO THE VIETNAMIZATION PROGRAM THAT MEN LIKE CLARK CLIFFORD HAVE ATTACKED SO HYPOCRITICALLY, PRESIDENT NIXON HAS BEEN ABLE TO DO WHAT CLARK CLIFFORD FAILED TO DO. HE HAS BROUGHT THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS HOME, AND HE HAS DONE SO WITHOUT BETRAYING OUR ALLIES OR AIDING OUR ENEMIES.

300,000 AMERICANS WITHDRAWN

TODAY THERE ARE 300,000 FEWER AMERICANS IN VIETNAM THAN WHEN PRESIDENT NIXON INHERITED THE WAR FROM THE JOHNSON-HUMPHREY ADMINISTRATION. AND THAT TOTAL WILL BE CUT BY ANOTHER 60,000 BY THIS DECEMBER 1. AMERICAN COMBAT CASUALTIES THIS YEAR ARE RUNNING AT A RATE ALMOST 90 PERCENT BELOW THAT OF 1968, AND I HAVE GONE ON RECORD PREDICTING THAT OUR COMBAT CASUALTIES WILL BE AT OR NEAR THE ZERO POINT IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

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THE COST OF THE WAR HAS ALSO BEEN CUT. TODAY IT COSTS THE UNITED STATES LESS THAN HALF WHAT IT DID BEFORE RICHARD NIXON TOOK THE HELM.

RAPID CLOSE OF WAR

IN OTHER WORDS, THE AMERICAN ROLE IN THE WAR IS DRAWING TO A RAPID AND ORDERLY CLOSE. DESPITE THE OPPOSITION OF THOSE WHO BROUGHT US INTO THE TRAGEDY OF VIETNAM IN THE FIRST PLACE, RICHARD NIXON HAS FOUND US A DECENT, HONORABLE WAY OUT.

THE PRESIDENT IS LEADING US OUT OF THIS WAR AND TOWARD A FULL GENERATION OF PEACE. HIS RECORD OF CONTINUED ACCOMPLISHMENT IS THERE FOR ALL TO SEE AND TO HAIL. AND THAT RECORD, I AM CONFIDENT, WILL BE EVEN BETTER BY YEAR'S END.

A YEAR FROM NOW, THOSE WHO SOUGHT TO MAKE THIS NIXON'S WAR WILL HAVE TO CONTEND WITH NIXON'S PEACE. THE ISSUE THEY CLING TO SO FONDLY TODAY WILL BE OUR ISSUE AND THOSE WHO SEEK TO RUN AGAINST THE PRESIDENT'S RECORD WILL BE SADDLED WITH THAT RECORD.

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AND I BELIEVE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL JUDGE THEM ACCORDINGLY.

PRESIDENT NEEDS HELP

BUT IT WOULD BE A SERIOUS MISTAKE TO ASSUME THAT THIS WILL HAPPEN BY ITSELF IF WE SIMPLY SIT BACK AND LET EVENTS TAKE THEIR COURSE. THE PRESIDENT CAN SUCCEED, BUT HE CAN ONLY DO SO WITH OUR HELP.

THAT IS WHY IT IS SO IMPORTANT FOR EACH OF US TO DO OUR PART IN THE MONTHS AHEAD. SMALL MEN WITH BIG POLITICAL AMBITIONS MUST NOT SUCCEED IN WRECKING THE PROGRESS FOR PEACE -- LASTING AND HONORABLE PEACE -- THAT RICHARD NIXON HAS MADE.

NOW, I DO NOT CRITICIZE THOSE WHO SINCERELY CRY OUT FOR PEACE, FOR WE ALL WANT PEACE. BUT, STILL, I BELIEVE IT IS PROPER TO LOOK ASKANCE AT THOSE IN THE CONGRESS WHO INTRODUCE SO-CALLED PEACE AMENDMENTS ONLY SO THAT THEY CAN SHARE THE CREDIT FOR PRESIDENT NIXON'S PEACE OR ESCAPE THE BLAME FOR THE KENNEDY-JOHNSON-HUMPHREY WAR.

FOR SURELY THERE IS NO OTHER REASON TO SEEK TO TIE THE HANDS OF A PEACE PRESIDENT.

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IT IS WELL TO REMEMBER THAT MANY OF THE SUPER PEACEMAKERS OF TODAY WERE THE SUPERPATRIOTS OF YESTERDAY, WARHAWKING THEIR WARES TO THE ENTIRE FREE WORLD.

IT WAS ONLY AFTER THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WEARIED OPENLY OF A WAR WITHOUT END OR VICTORY, AND VOTED IN A PRESIDENT WHO PROMISED PEACE, THAT MANY OF THEM CHANGED THEIR PRINCIPLES AND THEIR POSITIONS. I CAN NAME THEM FOR YOU -- KENNEDY, MUSKIE, HUMPHREY, O'BRIEN, JOHN GARDNER, AMONG MANY.

SEIZING THE OPPORTUNITY, AND UNHAMPERED BY ANY LOYALTY TO THE CAUSE THEY ONCE EAGERLY SUPPORTED, THEY HAVE SOUGHT TO REINGRATIATE THEMSELVES WITH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE BY MAKING INSTANT PEACE THE ISSUE IN PLACE OF LASTING PEACE.

UNFETTERED BY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF OFFICE, THEY FIND IT EASY TO GET OUT IN FRONT AND CALL "PEACE NOW, PEACE NOW", KNOWING THAT NO PRESIDENT TRUE TO HIS OATH CAN GIVE THEM PEACE NOW, BUT KNOWING ALSO THAT THE GLIB CRY OF "PEACE NOW" HAS A MIGHTY APPEAL TO ALL WHO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY IN THIS WAR.

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PRESIDENT NIXON HAS SAID MANY TIMES IT WOULD BE POLITICALLY EXPEDIENT TO SETTLE FOR PEACE NOW, AT ANY PRICE, BUT THAT IN THE LONG RUN, THE CAUSE OF WORLD PEACE, AS WELL AS THE VERY SOUL OF AMERICA, WOULD SUFFER IRREPARABLE HARM FROM SUCH A DECISION.

HE IS NOT WILLING TO MAKE THAT DECISION AND PAY THAT PRICE, EVEN THOUGH SOME, SUCH AS SENATOR KENNEDY, HAVE SOUGHT TO CHARGE HIM WITH PLAYING POLITICS WITH THE WAR. THAT CHARGE HAS FAILED, AND I PREDICT IT WILL COME BACK TO HAUNT THE MAN WHO MADE IT, FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE AN INSTINCTIVE AVERSION TO THIS KIND OF POLITICAL GAMESMANSHIP.

THE REAL CAUSE OF PEACE IS ONLY HURT BY THIS KIND OF ATTACK. AND THOSE WHO STOOP TO IT MUST NOT SUCCEED.

STORY MUST BE TOLD

AND THEY WILL NOT, IF EACH OF US STARTS WORKING NOW FOR VICTORY IN NOVEMBER OF 1972. THE STORY OF THIS ADMINISTRATION, OF ITS PROPOSALS, ITS ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AND ITS ASPIRATIONS FOR A BETTER AMERICA

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MUST BE TOLD. THE WORD MUST BE PASSED ON. AND THE JOB IS OURS.

ONCE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE THE FACTS -- ONCE THE TRUTH IS HEARD OVER THE AIMLESS NOISE AND EXTRAVAGANT CLAIMS OF WOULD-BE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES -- I AM CONFIDENT IN THE JUSTICE OF THEIR DECISION.

SO LET THE CAMPAIGN BEGIN, AND LET IT BEGIN HERE AND NOW. THE FACTS ARE ON OUR SIDE. TIME IS ON OUR SIDE. AND WE HAVE A GREAT NATIONAL LEADER AT OUR HEAD.

WITH ALL THESE THINGS GOING FOR US, WE WILL HAVE ONLY OURSELVES TO BLAME IF WE FAIL.

AND WITH THE NATION'S WELFARE AT STAKE, AND THE PROSPECT OF A GENERATION OF PEACE HANGING IN THE BALANCE, FAILURE IS A LUXURY WE CANNOT AFFORD, FOR OUR PARTY OR FOR OUR NATION.

