

REMARKS OF HONORABLE BOB DOLE
KANSAS MOTOR CARRIERS ASSOCIATION
BROADVIEW HOTEL
WICHITA, KANSAS
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1969

TODAY WE LIVE IN AN AGE OF DIFFICULTIES, OF ORDEAL, OF CHALLENGE. BUT WE ALSO LIVE IN AN AGE OF ANSWERS AND SOLUTIONS.

THIS EVENING I WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS SOME OF THESE MATTERS WITH YOU: THESE CHALLENGES AND THESE ANSWERS. TO BEGIN, I WOULD SAY TO THOSE WHO ARE PESSIMISTIC, "LOOK AROUND YOU". OF COURSE, THERE IS MUCH TO CAUSE CONCERN. BUT THERE IS MUCH TO INSPIRE US. ALMOST ANY OBSTACLE CAN BE OVERCOME BY A NATION WHICH CAN MOVE FROM THE EARTH TO THE MOON IN LESS THAN A DECADE. IF THAT IS NOT INSPIRATIONAL, I CANNOT TELL YOU WHAT IS.

LET US LOOK AT SOME OF THE MAJOR PROBLEM AREAS CONFRONTING US.

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VIETNAM & ITS CRITICS

FIRST, THERE IS THE WAR IN VIETNAM. EACH DAY WE SEE TRAGIC LOSS OF LIFE AND VAST EXPENDITURE OF RESOURCES. WE HAVE PAID A TERRIBLE PRICE FOR NOT HEEDING GENERAL MACARTHUR'S WARNING AGAINST INVOLVEMENT IN AN ASIAN LAND WAR.

AFTER MANY YEARS OF PAYING THIS PRICE, WE FINALLY HAVE AN EFFECTIVE STRATEGY FOR PEACE. THE FRUITS OF THIS STRATEGY ARE ALREADY APPARENT. THE QUESTION IS NO LONGER WHETHER OUR DIRECT INVOLVEMENT IN THE WAR WILL BE LESSENER, BUT HOW RAPIDLY IT WILL BE REDUCED.

BUT AMERICANS ARE BEING ENGULFED THESE DAYS BY A WILD FLURRY OF STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES ACCUSING THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION OF FAILING TO END THE WAR IN VIETNAM.

I DID NOT COME HERE TODAY TO MAKE PARTISAN ATTACKS, NOR DO I INTEND TO DO SO. BUT I DO WANT TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS SOME OF THE CRITICISM IN LIGHT OF THE FACTS. THESE ARE NOT REPUBLICAN FACTS OR DEMOCRAT FACTS. THEY ARE NATIONAL FACTS, JUST AS THE WAR IS A NATIONAL WAR.

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I FIND IT HARD TO UNDERSTAND HOW ANY RESPONSIBLE SPOKESMAN FOR THE PARTY THAT SPENT EIGHT YEARS INVOLVING US IN A WAR COULD HAVE THE EFFRONTERY TO COMPLAIN THAT PRESIDENT NIXON HAS NOT ENDED IT IN 8 MONTHS.

I DO NOT SEE HOW THOSE CLOSELY ALIGNED WITH PRESIDENT KENNEDY, THE FIRST PRESIDENT TO SEND AMERICAN COMBAT TROOPS TO VIETNAM CAN COMPLAIN THAT PRESIDENT NIXON HAS NOT ACHIEVED AN AGREEMENT TO STOP THE SHOOTING. I FAIL TO DETECT ANY DEFENSIBLE BASIS FOR COMPLAINTS BY OPPOSITION PARTY SPOKESMEN, THE SAME PEOPLE WHO ACQUIESCED TO THE BUILDUP OF 550,000 AMERICAN TROOPS IN VIETNAM UNDER TWO PRESIDENTS OF THEIR PARTY, THAT PRESIDENT NIXON HAS NOT IN 8 MONTHS UNDONE WHAT THEY SPENT EIGHT YEARS DOING.

LET US LOOK FOR A MOMENT AT WHAT PRESIDENT NIXON HAS DONE IN THESE 8 SHORT MONTHS SINCE HE INHERITED THE VIETNAM WAR.

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HE HAS MADE THE FIRST SERIOUS AND EFFECTIVE EFFORT TO PROGRESSIVELY REDUCE LEVELS OF AMERICAN TROOP SUPPORT. HE WILL HAVE CUT THE NUMBER OF AMERICAN TROOPS IN VIETNAM BY AT LEAST 60,000 IN HIS FIRST 11 MONTHS IN OFFICE. AMERICAN CASUALTIES FOR THE FIRST 9 MONTHS OF THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION ARE LOWER BY ONE THIRD THAN IN THE COMPARABLE MONTHS OF THE LAST YEAR OF THE PRECEDING ADMINISTRATION. AND PRESIDENT NIXON HAS SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED THE ECONOMIC COST OF AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT IN VIETNAM.

PAST AND PRESENT POLICY

SOME ALLEGE THAT "THE VIETNAM POLICY OF TODAY IS THE DISCREDITED POLICY OF THE PAST". THIS IS NOT TRUE. THE PRECEDING ADMINISTRATION CONSTANTLY INCREASED THE SIZE OF AMERICAN FORCES IN VIETNAM. IT DID NOT REDUCE THEM. IT HAD NO INTENTION OF REDUCING THEM. THE PREVIOUS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SAID ON SEPTEMBER 25, 1968, "WE HAVE NOT YET REACHED THE LEVEL OF 549,000 (AMERICAN TROOPS) IN SOUTH VIETNAM. WE INTEND TO CONTINUE TO BUILD TOWARD THAT LEVEL. WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF LOWERING THAT LEVEL . . . AT ANY TIME IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE".

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SOME COMPLAIN THAT THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION HAS NOT BEEN TRYING HARD ENOUGH TO BRING ABOUT PEACE AT THE PARIS NEGOTIATIONS.

NOW, LET US REMEMBER THAT THOSE NEGOTIATIONS BEGAN IN PARIS EIGHT MONTHS BEFORE PRESIDENT NIXON ASSUMED OFFICE. THEY WERE CONDUCTED BY AVERELL HARRIMAN AND CYRUS VANCE. WHEN THESE TWO ABLE AND DEDICATED NEGOTIATORS WERE RELIEVED BY THE NIXON TEAM, THE SHAPE OF THE TABLE WAS THE ONLY AGREEMENT THEY HAD REACHED.

NO REPUBLICAN ACCUSED HARRIMAN AND VANCE OF NOT TRYING. NO REPUBLICAN ACCUSED THEM OF FAILING. ON THE CONTRARY, REPUBLICANS RECOGNIZED THAT THE ONLY REASON AN AGREEMENT TO END THE FIGHTING WAS NOT ACHIEVED DURING THE JOHNSON ADMINISTRATION WAS THE COMPLETE UNWILLINGNESS OF THE ENEMY TO GIVE ONE INCH ON ANY TOPIC OF NEGOTIATION. THE OBSTINACY OF HANOI IS STILL THE REASON FOR LACK OF PROGRESS AT PARIS.

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CERTAINLY PRESIDENT NIXON HAS GONE AS FAR AS ANY MAN COULD TO BRING AN END TO THE WAR THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS. ON MAY 14 HE PROPOSED A SPECIFIC EIGHT-POINT PROGRAM TO END THE FIGHTING. HIS PROPOSAL INCLUDED WITHDRAWAL OF ALL NON-SOUTH VIETNAMESE FORCES AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL SUPERVISORY BODY ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH SIDES TO VERIFY TROOP WITHDRAWAL, A CEASE FIRE, AND THE CONDUCT OF FREE ELECTIONS WITHIN SOUTH VIETNAM. THE ONLY POINT ON WHICH THE PRESIDENT IS UNWILLING TO YIELD IS THE RIGHT OF THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE TO DECIDE WHAT KIND OF GOVERNMENT THEY WILL HAVE AND WHO WILL GOVERN THEM.

WHAT DO CRITICS WISH?

WOULD THE CRITICS HAVE THE PRESIDENT THROW OUT THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT IN SAIGON AND LET THE VIETCONG AND NORTH VIETNAMESE REPLACE IT WITH A WAVE OF INTIMIDATION AND TERROR?

ONE CRITIC RECENTLY STATED "FOR MORE THAN HALF A DECADE THE VIETCONG AND THE VIETNAMESE OF THE NORTH HAVE BATTLED THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE ARMY AND THE UNITED STATES ONLY FOR THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION: WHO **SHALL** JOIN IN GOVERNING VIETNAM"?

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PRESIDENT NIXON HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT ANY GROUP THAT CAN GET ENOUGH VOTES FROM THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE CAN JOIN IN GOVERNING SOUTH VIETNAM. HE WILL NOT, HOWEVER, LET A COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT BE IMPOSED ON THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIETNAM BY EXTRA-ELECTORAL MEANS.

THIS RECENT FLURRY OF ACTIVITY BY THE INSTANT CRITICS BRINGS TO MIND THE FIRST PEACE PROPOSAL OFFERED BY THE DEMOCRAT SENATOR FROM MASSACHUSETTS. ON AUGUST 21, 1968 HE UNVEILED A FOUR-POINT PEACE PLAN. HE SAID WE SHOULD END THE BOMBING OF NORTH VIETNAM, NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT WITH HANOI FOR TROOP WITHDRAWAL, HELP THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE BUILD THEIR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STRUCTURE, AND DECREASE THE SIZE OF OUR FORCES IN SOUTH VIETNAM

WE HAVE DONE THREE OF THESE THINGS. WE HAVE EARNESTLY TRIED TO DO THE OTHER -- NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT ON TROOP WITHDRAWAL. BUT THE OTHER SIDE REFUSES EVEN TO DISCUSS THE MATTER.

THE FACT THAT THIS PEACE PLAN DID NOT PRODUCE PEACE DOES NOT, AND PERHAPS SHOULD NOT, DETER THE SENATOR FROM MASSACHUSETTS FROM SUGGESTING NEW PLANS, BUT HIS MOST RECENT PLAN AMOUNTS TO GIVING UP IN SOUTH VIETNAM.

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PEACE OR PROPAGANDA

I AM JUST AS CONCERNED WITH QUICKLY AND HONORABLY ENDING THE VIETNAM WAR AS ANY OF MY COLLEAGUES IN THE SENATE. THE SENATOR FROM MASSACHUSETTS HAS EVERY RIGHT TO CRITICIZE AND EVERY RIGHT TO SUGGEST ALTERNATIVES, BUT IN FAIRNESS HE AND HIS FELLOW FAULT FINDERS SHOULD CAREFULLY REVIEW THE CHRONOLOGY OF THE WAR AND THE SUPPORT IT RECEIVED. IN 1965, THE SENATOR FROM MASSACHUSETTS CHARACTERIZED THIS WAR AS "A COMMITMENT TO FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY" AND IN 1966 HE PRAISED THE POLICIES OF THE JOHNSON ADMINISTRATION TOWARD VIETNAM AS "CLEAR AND FIRM". THESE STATEMENTS WERE MADE AT A TIME WHEN THE WAR WAS BEING ESCALATED AND EXPANDED ON EVERY FRONT IN COMPLETE DISTINCTION TO THE NIXON POLICIES OF TODAY.

IF HE SINCERELY BELIEVED THESE STATEMENTS IN 1965 AND 1966,
DURING A PERIOD OF ESCALATION, IT IS DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND COMMENTS IN HIS RECENT BOSTON SPEECH THAT THE "WAR IS DIFFICULT TO JUSTIFY", AND IT IS "NOT WORTHY OF OUR LIVES AND EFFORTS".

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I HAVE STATED MANY TIMES BEFORE AND REPEAT THIS EVENING THAT
IT IS HIGH TIME FOR THE INSTANT CRITICS TO UNITE AND SUPPORT OUR
PRESIDENT. IT IS HIGH TIME FOR THE INSTANT CRITICS TO LAUNCH THEIR
ATTACKS AGAINST THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AND THE VIETCONG. THEY COULD
VERY PROPERLY CONDEMN THE ENEMY FOR BEING UNRESPONSIVE TO THE
PEACE OVERTURES PROFFERED BY BOTH PRESIDENT NIXON AND PRESIDENT
JOHNSON. THE CRITICS FAILURE TO DO THIS OR TO BE OBJECTIVE IN
THEIR CRITICISM MUST BE ENCOURAGING AND COMFORTING TO HANOI. IT
MUST LEAD THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AND VIETCONG TO BELIEVE THEY CAN
ACHIEVE THEIR GOAL WITHOUT MILITARY VICTORY BY WAITING FOR THE
AMERICAN DISCIPLES OF RETREAT AND DEFEAT TO FURTHER DIVIDE OUR
NATION.

PARTISAN POLITICS

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DEMOCRAT NATIONAL COMMITTEE UNFORTUNATELY
IS RECENTLY QUOTED AS SAYING: "NOW IS THE TIME TO TAKE THE GLOVES
OFF ON VIETNAM". THIS IS INDEED A TRAGIC DEVELOPMENT. IT IS A
CLEAR AND BLATANT EFFORT TO EXPLOIT VIETNAM FOR PARTISAN PURPOSES.

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SUCH A DEVELOPMENT CAN ONLY IMPEDE THE PRESIDENT'S EFFORTS TO END THE FIGHTING WITHOUT SACRIFICING THE OBJECTIVE FOR WHICH WE HAVE BEEN STRIVING. SUCH A RESORT TO BASEST POLITICS IS A THREAT TO THE SAFETY AND THE MORALE OF THE AMERICAN TROOPS WHO ARE IN VIETNAM.

I THINK IT IS A CREDIT TO THOSE DEMOCRATS WHO RIGHTLY SEE VIETNAM AS A NON-PARTISAN ISSUE THAT SOME HAVE RENOUNCED THE TACTICS OF THEIR NATIONAL CHAIRMAN. FOREMOST AMONG THOSE WHO SPOKE OUT WAS MY DISTINGUISHED COLLEAGUE FROM IDAHO, SENATOR FRANK CHURCH.

HE SAID "...AN EAGER INJECTION OF PARTISANSHIP COULD EASILY DIVIDE US AND DISSIPATE OUR EFFORTS TO END THIS HORRID WAR. IT IS PLAINLY TOO SOON FOR DEMOCRATS TO USE VIETNAM AS A LEGITIMATE ISSUE AGAINST THE REPUBLICAN ADMINISTRATION. AFTER ALL, DEMOCRATS IN THE WHITE HOUSE LED THIS COUNTRY INTO VIETNAM. IF PRESIDENT NIXON FAILS TO LEAD US OUT, IT MAY BECOME HIS WAR, BUT IT ISN'T NIXON'S WAR YET. FOR EIGHT YEARS, WE DEMOCRATS BORE THE RESPONSIBILITY NOW WE MUST WEAR THE HAIR SHIRT LONGER THAN EIGHT MONTHS."

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IF MORE MEMBERS OF SENATOR CHURCH'S PARTY WOULD LOOK AT THE RECORD, AS HE HAS DONE, AND WOULD RESIST, AS HE HAS, THE URGE TO PLAY POLITICS WITH THE LIVES OF OUR FIGHTING MEN AT STAKE, OUR POSITIONS IN PARIS AND ON THE BATTLEFIELDS WOULD BE MUCH MORE SECURE AND THE OUTLOOK FOR PEACE WOULD BE BRIGHTER.

SUMMARY

LET ME SAY AGAIN THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE VIETNAM CONFLICT BEGAN WE HAVE A PRESIDENT WHO IS CONTRACTING NOT ESCALATING THE WAR. WE HAVE A PRESIDENT WHO IS BRINGING AMERICAN BOYS HOME -- ALIVE. WE HAVE AN AMERICAN PRESIDENT WHO IS WILLING TO GO THE LAST MILE FOR PEACE. WHILE EVERYONE IN THIS ROOM DESPISES THE WAR AND ITS TRAGIC CONSEQUENCES, I BELIEVE MOST WOULD AGREE THAT PRESIDENT NIXON'S TASK WOULD BE MUCH EASIER IF THE DISCIPLES OF RETREAT AND DEFEAT WOULD EITHER SUPPORT HIS EFFORTS OR DIRECT THEIR FIRE AT THE ENEMY.

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BALANCED DEFENSE

TO EFFECTIVELY PURSUE PEACE AND KEEP IT REQUIRES A BALANCED AND SUFFICIENT DEFENSE CAPABILITY, ONE WHICH DETERS BUT DOES NOT PROVOKE, ONE WHICH IS NOT ONLY POWERFUL, BUT ALSO MANAGEABLE AND EFFICIENT.

WE ALL AGREE THE MILITARY CANNOT SET OUR NATION'S PRIORITIES AND GOALS. WE ALL AGREE THERE ARE UNMET DOMESTIC NEEDS. BUT, IF AMERICA LACKS AN EFFECTIVE NUCLEAR DETERRENT DEFENSE, THE STABILITY OF WORLD ORDER WOULD BE SHAKEN, AND THE CHANCES FOR PEACE BROKEN. THE SENATE JUST COMPLETED A THOROUGH AND PAINSTAKING EXAMINATION OF THE MILITARY PROCUREMENT BILL. I FEEL THIS WAS A HEALTHY AND BENEFICIAL PROCESS. FOR TOO LONG, MILITARY EXPENDITURES WERE PASSED OVER LIGHTLY AND WITHOUT ADEQUATE SCRUTINY. NOW WE HAVE AIRED THE LINEN, SO TO SPEAK, AND EACH OF US IN THE SENATE HAS TAKEN A HARD LOOK AT THE PROPOSALS. THIS EXAMINATION AND EVALUATION PUT THINGS INTO PERSPECTIVE. I, FOR ONE, AM PLEASED WITH BOTH THE PROCESS AND THE RESULT. AND I LOOK FORWARD TO SIMILAR, WORTHWHILE DEBATES IN THE FUTURE.

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INFLATION

THE MOST SERIOUS DOMESTIC DIFFICULTY FACING THE NATION IS THE RAPIDLY INCREASING RATE OF INFLATION. AT HOME, THE CONSUMER SAW PRICES RISE 18 PERCENT IN THE LAST 5 YEARS; 26 PERCENT IN THE LAST 10 YEARS. A DOLLAR IS NOW REQUIRED TO BUY WHAT 38 CENTS WOULD HAVE BOUGHT IN 1939. ABROAD, THE STRENGTH OF THE DOLLAR HAS BEEN THREATENED AND OUR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DEFICIT HAS PERSISTED.

INFLATION HAS CAUSED SEVERE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DAMAGES. IT IS THE MOST REGRESSIVE TAX OF ALL, HURTING PEOPLE ON FIXED INCOMES MOST, AND THEY CAN LEAST AFFORD IT.

TO COMBAT INFLATION, AN ECONOMIC POLICY OF "GRADUALISM" HAS BEEN ADOPTED. POLICY ACTIONS IN BOTH THE FISCAL AND MONETARY AREAS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO GRADUALLY SLOW THE RATE OF GROWTH IN THE ECONOMY WITHOUT UNACCEPTABLE LEVELS OF UNEMPLOYMENT. BILLIONS HAVE BEEN CUT FROM THE FISCAL 1970 BUDGET. THE SURTAX HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO SLOW THE ~~MONEY~~ SUPPLY'S GROWTH. A 75% REDUCTION IN FEDERAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS WAS INSTITUTED TO COMBAT RISING CONSTRUCTION COSTS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

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THE ANTI-INFLATION MEASURES WILL NOT TAKE HOLD IMMEDIATELY. WE HAVE ALLOWED INFLATION TO RUN UNCHECKED TOO LONG TO PERMIT QUICK RESULTS. IN SUCH A COMPLICATED, SOPHISTICATED, AND MASSIVE ECONOMY AS OURS, A RETAIL PRICE DECLINE WILL NOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL THERE HAVE BEEN TIME-CONSUMING READJUSTMENTS.

HOWEVER, HE STRESSED THAT THE EVIDENCE "IS NOT DRAMATIC". AND THERE IS STILL A "MARGIN OF UNCERTAINTY" THAT WE ARE ACHIEVING SUCCESS IN THE INFLATION FIGHT.

THERE ARE HOPEFUL SIGNS THAT THE NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS ARE TAKING PLACE. THIS WEEK, WILLIS W. ALEXANDER, PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN BANKERS ASSOCIATION, ALSO INDICATED THAT THE ECONOMY WAS STARTING TO COOL. HE VOICED HIS OPINION IN A NEWS CONFERENCE AT THE ABA'S ANNUAL CONVENTION. MR. ALEXANDER CHOSE NOT TO GIVE ANY SPECIFIC FIGURES, BUT HE DID PREDICT THAT INTEREST RATES WOULD DECLINE IN RESPONSE TO THE ADMINISTRATION'S ANTI-INFLATION PROGRAM WITHIN THE NEXT FOUR TO SIX MONTHS.

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LAST WEEK, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISORS REVEALED A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE INDEX OF CONSUMER SENTIMENT. THIS INDEX HAS BEEN A RELIABLE INDICATOR OF SUBSEQUENT SHIFTS IN DISCRETIONARY SPENDING, AN IMPORTANT COMPONENT OF THE OVERALL PRICE STRUCTURE. SPEAKING IN DETROIT, DR. PAUL MCCRACKEN NOTED THE APPEARANCE OF A SLOWLY EMERGING CONVICTION THAT THE EFFECTS OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES "ARE BEGINNING TO BECOME VISIBLE".

INFLATION MAY BE SLOWING, BUT IT HAS NOT STOPPED. HOWEVER, AS THE PRESIDENT SAID AT HIS NEWS CONFERENCE **FRIDAY**, SEPTEMBER 26 "ANYBODY WHO BETS ON CONTINUING INFLATION WILL LOSE THAT BET, BECAUSE OUR GOVERNMENT POLICIES ARE BEGINNING TO WORK; AND WE'RE GOING TO STICK TO THOSE POLICIES UNTIL WE CUT THE RISE IN THE COST OF LIVING".

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TAX SHARING

ANOTHER PROGRESSIVE REFORM PROPOSED BY THE ADMINISTRATION IS THE SHARING OF TAX REVENUE WITH STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. FOR A HALF CENTURY, WE HAVE SEEN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT GROW LARGER, BECOME MORE CENTRALIZED AND MORE BUREAUCRATIC. AS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BECAME LARGER IT BECAME LESS RESPONSIBLE WITH THE FUNDS AT ITS DISPOSAL AND LESS RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE. AS A RESULT, AMERICA'S ABILITY TO ACHIEVE SOCIAL PROGRESS HAS SUFFERED.

PREVIOUSLY, PRESIDENT NIXON PROPOSED TO TURN THE ADMINISTRATION OF MORE PROJECTS BACK TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. REVENUE SHARING WILL TURN BACK SOME OF THE RESOURCES NECESSARY TO FINANCE THESE PROJECTS. THIS WILL MEAN BETTER SERVICES FROM YOUR TAX DOLLARS.

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WELFARE REFORM

PRESIDENT NIXON HAS TAKEN A COURAGEOUS STEP WITH HIS WELFARE REFORM PROPOSAL. AS THE ECONOMY HAS GROWN AND JOBS HAVE INCREASED, THE WELFARE ROLLS HAVE GROWN LONGER. FOR YEARS, THE WELFARE SYSTEM HAS BECOME THE NATIONAL SCANDAL IN AMERICA. THE EASY WAY WOULD HAVE BEEN TO PROPOSE A GUARANTEED ANNUAL WAGE. INSTEAD, PRESIDENT NIXON PROPOSED A MINIMUM LIVING CEILING WITH INCENTIVES TO GET RECIPIENTS OFF OF WELFARE ROLLS AND ON THE PAYROLLS. HE HAS OFFERED FINANCIAL INCENTIVES TO THOSE ON WELFARE, TO UNDERGO TRAINING, AND SEEK JOBS. HE HAS OFFERED THEM THE OPPORTUNITY TO STEP ~~STAIRS~~ UP TO DIGNITY.

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TRUCKING INDUSTRY

I AM PROUD OF THE MOTOR CARRIER INDUSTRY. FEW SEGMENTS OF OUR ECONOMY HAVE DEMONSTRATED SUCH A CONTINUING REGARD FOR THE PUBLIC INTEREST. YOU HAVE CONSISTENTLY STRIVEN FOR HIGHER STANDARDS OF COMPETENCE AND SAFETY WITHIN YOUR INDUSTRY. AND THE TRAFFIC SAFETY RECORD OF YOUR PERSONNEL IS ONLY ONE OF THE DIVIDENDS THE PUBLIC RECEIVES.

YOUR SAFETY CONVENTION AND SPONSORSHIP OF SAFETY RODEOS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY BRING YOUR SAFETY MESSAGE DIRECTLY TO THE PUBLIC. THE EFFECTS OF YOUR CAMPAIGN ARE FELT RIGHT HERE IN KANSAS. WITH NORMAN REEL, THE NATIONAL ~~ROAD~~^{ROADED} CHAMPION IN THE 5-AXLE VAN CLASS DRIVING OUT OF ELWOOD, KANSAS CAN BE CONFIDENT OF THE HIGHEST COMPETENCE AND DEDICATION IN THE ENTIRE INDUSTRY.

YOUR DEDICATION TO IMPROVEMENT IN SERVICE HAS LONG BEEN DISPLAYED THROUGH THE EMPLOYMENT OF THE MOST MODERN EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES. THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PIGGY-BACK CONCEPT STARTED A REVOLUTION IN THE SHIPMENT AND HANDLING OF FREIGHT. AND NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN CONTAINERIZATION AND PALLET-SHIPPING WILL PRODUCE STILL HIGHER EFFICIENCY AND BETTER SERVICE FOR THE AMERICAN PUBLIC.

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KANSAS IS FORTUNATE TO HAVE SUCH AN INDUSTRY AS YOURS.

CONCLUSION

I SAID EARLIER THAT OUR AGE IS ONE OF DIFFICULTIES AND CHALLENGES. THIS IS TRUE IN EVERY ASPECT OF OUR LIVES. BUT THERE ARE ALSO SOLUTIONS AND ANSWERS.

TEDDY ROOSEVELT WAS ONCE ASKED WHAT AN ORDINARY CITIZEN COULD DO TO HELP THE COUNTRY.

T. R. REPLIED, "DO WHAT YOU CAN, WITH WHAT YOU HAVE, WHERE YOU ARE, BUT DO IT."

WE NEED THIS SENTIMENT TODAY. IF EACH OF US WILL DO HIS PART, WITH HIS TALENTS AND NOW, WE WILL FIND OUR ANSWERS AND DISCOVER OUR SOLUTIONS.

Hand signed. - - Ben Mah - Butler
Sergeant - - - - -

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