

REMARKS OF HONORABLE BOB DOLE
JOHNSON COUNTY YOUNG PRESIDENTS DINNER
JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1970

IF THERE WAS ONE CONCERN IN AMERICA THAT COULD BE SAID TO CHARACTERIZE THE NATION LEADING UP TO THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN 1968, IT WAS THE GROWING SUSPICION AMONG THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THAT SOMEHOW GOVERNMENT WAS NOT WORKING PROPERLY.

THE GROWTH OF THE FEDERAL BUDGET, THE GROWTH OF THE FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY -- BOTH REFLECTED THE PROLIFERATION OF PROBLEMS ACROSS AMERICA, BUT NEITHER HAD ANY EFFECT ON THESE PROBLEMS. THE WAR IN VIETNAM EXPANDED ALMOST DAILY. THE CRIME RATE REACHED AN ALL-TIME HIGH. VIOLENCE BECAME AN ACCEPTED POLITICAL WEAPON IN THE HANDS OF RADICALS. OUR FIRST BIG-CITY RIOTS BEGAN AND WERE RATIONALIZED AND EXPLAINED AWAY TIME AND AGAIN IN THE HIGHEST COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENT. ONE OF THE CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT IN 1968 EVEN SAID HE COULD LEAD A "PRETTY GOOD RIOT" HIMSELF. DOMESTIC SPENDING WENT ON IN AN EFFORT TO BUY A GREAT SOCIETY, AND TO BUY DOMESTIC TRANQUILITY. IN AT LEAST ONE OF OUR LARGEST CITIES, YOUNG GANGSTERS WERE PERMITTED TO ADMINISTER THE GREAT SOCIETY POVERTY PROGRAM, AND TOOK THE TAXPAYERS FOR MORE THAN A MILLION DOLLARS BEFORE ANYBODY

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THOUGHT TO ASK WHERE ALL THE MONEY WAS GOING. ALL THIS SPENDING HAD HEATED THE ECONOMY TO THE BOILING POINT. WE WERE SAILING ALONG ON A SEA OF FALSE PROSPERITY, WAITING FOR SOMETHING OR SOMEBODY TO PULL THE PLUG.

IT WAS A FRIGHTENING TIME, AND ITS HALLMARK WAS A WIDESPREAD BELIEF THAT GOVERNMENT HAD EITHER DROPPED THE REINS OR WAS NO LONG CAPABLE OF HOLDING THEM -- AND IN ANY CASE WAS NO LONGER IN CONTROL.

DURING THE 1968 CAMPAIGN, RICHARD NIXON PROMISED TO MAKE GOVERNMENT WORK AGAIN, PROMISED TO MAKE GOVERNMENT RESPONSIVE TO THE PEOPLE AGAIN, PROMISED TO RE-ORDER PRIORITIES AND BRING THEM INTO LINE WITH THE REALITIES OF AMERICA'S NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS.

AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ELECTED RICHARD NIXON.

FOR NEARLY TWO YEARS PRESIDENT NIXON HAS WORKED WITH ALL OF THE RESOURCES AT HIS COMMAND AND ALL THE COURAGE HE POSSESSES TO DO THE JOB HE WAS ELECTED TO DO -- THE JOB THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANTED HIM TO DO. AND HE HAS HAD REMARKABLE SUCCESS.

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VIETNAM WAR

WE ARE NO LONGER SENDING MEN TO VIETNAM. WE ARE BRINGING THEM HOME. THE VIETNAMESE FORCES, TRAINED AND EQUIPPED BY THE UNITED STATES, ARE TAKING ON AN EVER-INCREASING SHARE OF THE BURDEN OF THEIR OWN DEFENSE. OUR CASUALTY FIGURES ARE AT THE LOWEST LEVELS SINCE BEFORE THE MASSIVE INFUSION OF U. S. FORCES. AND ALL THIS HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED WITHOUT CRIPPLING THE CREDIBILITY OF THE FORCES OF FREEDOM, EITHER ON THE BATTLEFIELD OR AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE.

NOW, THE SUCCESS OF THE VIETNAM OPERATION REFLECTS THE REALITIES OF AMERICAN POLITICS. FOR BY CONSTITUTIONAL MANDATE, THE PRESIDENT DIRECTS THE COURSE OF AMERICA ABROAD -- THE PRESIDENT MAKES FOREIGN POLICY. AND THIS ACCOUNTS FOR THE MILITARY SUCCESS THE PRESIDENT HAS HAD IN VIETNAM. IT ACCOUNTS FOR HIS ABILITY TO TURN AROUND A WAR NEARLY A DECADE LONG AND ENHANCE OUR ABILITY TO ACHIEVE A SATISFACTORY CONCLUSION TO THAT WAR, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME REDUCING TO THE BARE MINIMUM THE LOSS OF AMERICAN LIVES.

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DOMESTIC PROGRAMS

BUT WHILE THE POWER OF THE OVAL OFFICE BEGINS AT THE WATER'S
EDGE IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND IS VIRTUALLY EXCLUSIVE, THE PRESIDENT
IS DEPENDENT TO A LARGE EXTENT ON CONGRESSIONAL GRANTS OF POWER PLUS
THE PRESTIGE OF HIS OFFICE AND HIS OWN POLITICAL SKILL IN DOMESTIC MATTERS.

AND WITH NOTHING MORE THAN THE PRESTIGE OF HIS OFFICE, HIS OWN
POLITICAL SKILL, HIS OWN INDOMITABLE COURAGE, AND HIS OWN IMPLACABLE
WILL, RICHARD NIXON HAS SOUGHT TO KEEP HIS PROMISE TO THE AMERICAN
PEOPLE -- TO MAKE GOVERNMENT WORK, TO STEM THE TIDE OF LAWLESSNESS,
TO RETURN PEACE TO OUR UNIVERSITIES, LAW TO OUR CITIES, AND A NEW AND
PROPER ORDER TO OUR NATIONAL PRIORITIES. HE HAS SOUGHT TO COOL THE
DANGEROUSLY OVERHEATED ECONOMY -- TO CUT THE INFLATIONARY TREND AND
SUBSTITUTE SOLID GROWTH FOR AN ARTIFICIAL AND HYPER-INFLATED PROSPERITY.

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AND IN EVERY CASE, HE HAS HAD TO MOVE AGAINST THE WILL OF THE DEMOCRAT MAJORITY IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND A DEMOCRAT MAJORITY IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE. IN THE FACE OF THIS SHANDICAP, THE PRESIDENT HAS HAD GREAT SUCCESS. BY SIMPLE MORAL PERSUASION, HE HAD BROUGHT BEFORE EVERY AMERICAN AN UNDERSTANDING OF THIS NATION'S PERIL AT THE HANDS OF THE CRIMINAL.

ANTI-CRIME LEGISLATION

AS JUST ONE EXAMPLE, THE PRESIDENT PLACED SOME FOURTEEN BILLS BEFORE THE CONGRESS -- ALL AIMED AT STRENGTHENING THE FORCES OF LAW AND ORDER -- THE FORCES OF JUSTICE IN AMERICA. MONTH AFTER MONTH, THESE BILLS LANGUISHED IN THE DEMOCRAT CONGRESS. TRY AS WE MIGHT, WE COULD NOT PRY THEM LOOSE.

BUT THE PRESIDENT PERSERVERED. HE EXPLAINED TIME AND TIME AGAIN THE NATURE OF THE DANGERS FACING OUR NATION. HIS ATTORNEY GENERAL EXPLAINED TIME AND TIME AGAIN THE NEED FOR NEW LEGISLATION IN THE WAR AGAINST CRIME. AND BY AND BY, AS ELECTION TIME DREW NEAR, THE CONGRESS BEGAN TO SEE THE WISDOM OF THE PRESIDENT'S LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS, AND DO YOU KNOW THAT BEFORE THE CONGRESS ADJOURNED, IT PASSED AND SENT THE PRESIDENT SIX OF THOSE BILLS?

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NOW, I WOULD NOT FOR A MINUTE BE CYNICAL ENOUGH TO SEE ANY CAUSE AND EFFECT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TOMORROW'S ELECTIONS AND THE PASSAGE OF THOSE BILLS. I WOULD NOT FOR A MINUTE SUPPOSE THAT BECAUSE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WERE GETTING FED UP WITH THE MUGGINGS, AND THE RIOTING, AND THE BOMBING, AND SO FORTH, THAT THE DEMOCRAT CONGRESS DECIDED IT HAD BETTER DO SOMETHING -- I WOULD NOT SUGGEST THAT AT ALL. I THINK THE REASON PEOPLE LIKE HUBERT HUMPHREY AND TEDDY KENNEDY AND ED MUSKIE HAVE OVERNIGHT BECOME CONCERNED WITH LAW AND ORDER IS BECAUSE OF THE GENTLE AND PATIENT PERSUASIVENESS OF RICHARD NIXON. TRULY, THE PRESIDENT DID OVERCOME.

SINCE PRESIDENT NIXON CAME INTO OFFICE, THERE HAS NOT BEEN A SINGLE BIG CITY RIOT. SINCE THE PRESIDENT CAME INTO OFFICE, THERE HAS BEEN SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IN REDUCING THE GREAT INCREASE IN CRIME. IN WASHINGTON, D.C., THE SHAMEFUL BELLWETHER FOR THE PROGRESS OF CRIME IN AMERICA, WE HAVE SEEN A REVERSAL IN THE TREND OF EVER-UPWARD IN THE CRIME RATE.

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ECONOMY

IN THE SEA OF THE ECONOMY, THE PRESIDENT HAS FOUGHT SINCE TAKING OFFICE AGAINST THE SPENDING POLICIES OF THE DEMOCRAT CONGRESS. SOMETIMES, HE HAS SUCCEEDED. SOMETIMES HE HAS RESORTED TO THE VETO. AND, SOMETIMES, AS YOU KNOW, HIS VETO HAS BEEN OVERRIDDEN. BUT THE TREND IS POSITIVE. WE ARE NOW AT A POINT WHERE THE ECONOMISTS ARE ARGUING ABOUT WHAT THE INDICATORS INDICATE -- AND THAT IS ALWAYS A SIGN OF SUCCESS.

BUT LET ME TALK ABOUT THE ECONOMY FOR A MOMENT.

THE LIBERAL CRITICS SAY THAT UNEMPLOYMENT IS UP. OF COURSE IT IS. BUT LET US PUT ALL THE FACTS ON THE TABLE. AS THE VICE PRESIDENT HAS SAID ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION, THE DEMOCRATS' COMPLAINING ABOUT THE ECONOMY IS LIKE GERMS COMPLAINING ABOUT DISEASE. THEY WANT TO HAVE IT BOTH WAYS. THE LIBERAL CRITICS WHO POINT TO THE STATE OF THE ECONOMY ARE THE SAME PEOPLE WHO PUT IT IN THAT STATE.

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THOSE ARE THE SAME LIBERALS WHO GOT THE WAR IN VIETNAM HEATED TO A FEVER-PITCH -- UNTIL THE NATION WAS SICK OF BLOODSHED -- AND THEN TURNED AROUND AND CONDEMNED THE WAR, AND CONDEMN THE EFFORTS OF THOSE WHO ARE TRYING TO BRING THE WAR TO AN END. NOW THE WAR IS WINDING DOWN-- AND WHAT IS THE CONSEQUENCE OF THAT? WE HAVE MORE PEOPLE IN THE LABOR MARKET, WHILE THE ECONOMY SHIFTS FROM A WARTIME BASIS TO ONE FOUNDED ON PEACE.

THE LIBERALS SUPPORTED THE EXCESSIVE GROWTH OF THE DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENT -- AND DESPITE ALL THE TALK ABOUT REASONED RESPONSE AND COST-EFFECTIVENESS RATIOS, THE DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENT GREW LIKE TOPSY. AND ALL OF A SUDDEN, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WONDERED IF WE NEEDED ALL THE HARDWARE WE WERE BUYING, AND ALL THE DEFENSE CONTRACTS WHICH WERE BEING LET, AND ALL THE JUICY COST-OVERRUNS. THE LIBERALS STUCK THEIR FINGERS UP TO TEST THE AIR, AND ALL OF A SUDDEN THEY WANTED A REDUCTION IN DEFENSE SPENDING. ALL OF A SUDDEN OUR PRIORITIES WERE ALL WRONG.

WELL, RICHARD NIXON KNEW THAT A LONG TIME AGO. AND HE BEGAN THE NECESSARY DEFENSE CUTBACKS -- AND HE BEGAN THE NECESSARY RE-ORDERING OF SPENDING TO ACCOMMODATE DOMESTIC PRIORITIES. HE PUT THE PENTAGON INTO LINE WITH NATIONAL NEEDS INSTEAD OF PRIVATE OR POLITICAL NEEDS. AND THIS

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MEANT A REDUCTION IN ALL THOSE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CONTRACTS AND THE ELIMINATION OF UNNECESSARY DEFENSE SPENDING. THIS AMOUNTED TO A VERY SUBSTANTIAL SHIFT IN THE STRUCTURE OF OUR ECONOMY. AND WHAT WAS THE IMMEDIATE CONSEQUENCE OF THAT? WE HAVE MORE PEOPLE IN THE LABOR MARKET. IN OTHER WORDS, AS OUR LIBERAL FRIENDS SO RIGHTLY POINT OUT, UNEMPLOYMENT IS UP INDEED.

UNEMPLOYMENT IS GOING TO REMAIN UP IN SOME AREAS FOR SEVERAL MORE MONTHS, UNTIL THE ECONOMY FINISHES RIGHTING ITSELF. THIS ECONOMY WAS BUBBLING FOR EIGHT YEARS. IN EIGHT YEARS, WE BROUGHT PROSPERITY ON CREDIT. YOU CANNOT DO THAT FOREVER. SOONER OR LATER, THE BILLS COME IN. YOU CANNOT SPEND YOUR WAY TO PROSPERITY. NOW, THE CRITICS WANT TO FAULT THE PRESIDENT FOR NOT TURNING THIS ECONOMY AROUND OVERNIGHT -- AND FOR AN ECONOMIC REVERSAL OF THE MAGNITUDE REQUIRED, TWENTY MONTHS IS OVERNIGHT.

IT CANNOT BE DONE. NOBODY PROMISED IT WOULD BE DONE. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE HEIGHT OF IRRESPONSIBILITY TO HAVE TRIED, BECAUSE -- AT THE VERY LEAST -- WE WOULD HAVE HAD ONE EXTENDED HAIR-RAISING RECESSION. BUT THE PRESIDENT HAS AVOIDED THAT. HE HAS AVOIDED SEVERE ECONOMIC DISLOCATION AND UPHEAVAL. WHEN THIS IS ALL OVER, THOSE WHO FULLY APPRECIATE WHAT IS INVOLVED IN THIS OPERATION, AS I KNOW YOU DO, ARE GOING TO BE VERY GRATEFUL TO THE PRESIDENT FOR WHAT HE HAS ACCOMPLISHED.

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BUT LET ME GIVE YOU A BRIEF LOOK AT THE POLITICS OF THIS MATTER, BECAUSE I WANT YOU TO FULLY UNDERSTAND JUST WHAT THE PRESIDENT IS DOING HERE -- WHAT HE IS RISKING, AND THE PRICE HE IS WILLING TO PAY TO DO THE RESPONSIBLE THING.

I DO NOT THINK IT IS ANY SECRET HOW BADLY THE PRESIDENT WANTS A REPUBLICAN CONGRESS. I DO NOT THINK IT IS ANY SECRET THAT THE SUCCESS OF HIS LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM -- HIS ABILITY TO DO THE JOB HE WAS ELECTED TO DO -- RESTS IN SUBSTANTIAL MEASURE ON THE OUTCOME OF TOMORROW'S ELECTIONS. THE PRESIDENT HAS CAMPAIGNED AS HARD AS HE COULD, AND SO HAS THE VICE PRESIDENT, AND SO HAVE A LARGE NUMBER OF US IN THE CONGRESS. HE HAS GONE TO THE PEOPLE IN BEHALF OF REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES. HE HAS USED THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS. IN GOOD FAITH -- AS A RESPONSIBLE LEADER -- HE COULD DO NO MORE.

BUT LET ME TELL YOU WHAT HE MIGHT HAVE DONE.

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AS YOU KNOW, A MAJOR PART OF WHAT HAPPENS TOMORROW WILL DEPEND ON HOW PEOPLE RESPOND TO THE ECONOMIC CRISIS. THEY CAN PANIC BEFORE THE SCARE TACTICS OF THE DEMOCRAT CANDIDATES. OR THEY CAN TRUST THE PRESIDENT. IN ANY EVENT, THE ECONOMY IS A CRITICAL FACTOR AND WE ALL KNOW IT.

NOW NOBODY, TO MY KNOWLEDGE, EVER LOST AN ELECTION BECAUSE OF INFLATION. BUT PEOPLE HAVE LOST ELECTIONS BECAUSE OF AN ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN. THEY HAVE LOST ELECTIONS ON THE BASIS OF RECESSIONARY FACTORS IN THE ECONOMY. SO THE LESSON IS CLEAR. KEEP THE ECONOMY PUMPED UP AND YOU HAVE THE ECONOMIC ISSUE WRAPPED UP.

THE PRESIDENT COULD HAVE HAD THE ECONOMIC ISSUE WRAPPED UP. I DO NOT THINK I HAVE TO TELL YOU THAT THERE ARE MANY TOOLS AT A PRESIDENT'S DISPOSAL FOR SHORT-TERM MANIPULATION OF THE ECONOMY. OF COURSE, THERE ARE SOME OF THE MORE OBVIOUS WAYS -- HE COULD INSTITUTE WAGE-PRICE CONTROLS. BUT THIS INTERFERES WITH THE FREE PLAY OF THE MARKET, AND IN THE END, IT IS COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE.

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BUT THE EASIEST, THE MOST DRAMATIC, AND AT THE SAME TIME, THE SNEAKIEST AND THE MOST IRRESPONSIBLE WAY TO PUMP UP THE ECONOMY IS SIMPLY TO THROW A LOT OF MONEY INTO IT ALL AT ONCE. AND THERE ARE MANY, MANY WAYS A PRESIDENT CAN DO THIS. A PRESIDENT WOULD NOT, FOR EXAMPLE, WITHIN A YEAR'S TIME OF AN ELECTION, VETO BILLS HE CONSIDERED INFLATIONARY IF HE WANTED TO PLAY GAMES WITH THE ECONOMY. BUT RICHARD NIXON DID SO. HE DID SO, BECAUSE HE DID NOT BELIEVE HE COULD., IN GOOD FAITH AND AS A RESPONSIBLE LEADER, USE THE WELFARE OF AMERICAN CITIZENS AS A POLITICAL WEAPON AGAINST THEIR INTERESTS. THAT IS THE KIND OF PRESIDENT HE IS. THAT IS THE KIND OF MAN HE IS. BELIEVE ME, YOU CAN TRUST HIM. YOU TAKE THE GENERAL MOTORS STRIKE OUT OF THE PICUTRE AND LOOK AT THE ECONOMY. IT IS ON ITS WAY BACK TO SOUND, SOLID, HEALTHY GROWTH.

POSTAL REFORM

FINALLY, THE PRESIDENT HAS ACTED SIMPLY TO MAKE GOVERNMENT WORK -- AND TO RESTORE THE FAITH OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THAT IT CAN WORK AND WILL WORK. THE THEME OF THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN REFORM, RESTORATION AND RENEWAL. THE PRESIDENT HAS GIVEN A GREAT DEAL OF THOUGHT AND A GREAT DEAL OF TIME AND ENERGY TO THE PROBLEM OF MAKING THE BUREAUCRACY WORK, OF MAKING GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE TO THE PEOPLE, AND RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE.

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THE MOST DRAMATIC EXAMPLE OF HIS SUCCESS IN THIS AREA WAS THE PASSAGE LAST AUGUST OF THE POSTAL REORGANIZATION BILL. THAT LEGISLATION SUCCEEDED, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SOME TWO HUNDRED YEARS, IN REMOVING THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT FROM POLITICS -- AND BELIEVE ME, IT WAS A DIFFICULT THING FOR MANY REPUBLICAN POLITICIANS, AFTER SO MANY LONG YEARS, TO SACRIFICE THE PATRONAGE AND SUPPORT THE PRESIDENT AND THE POSTMASTER GENERAL ON THIS SCORE.

TODAY, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT HAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO MOVE FOR EFFICIENCY, TO ELIMINATE THE BILLION DOLLAR PLUS DEFICIT IT HAS CARRIED FROM YEAR TO YEAR, TO PROVIDE RAPID, EFFECTIVE SERVICE TO ITS CUSTOMERS, AND TO PROVIDE DECENT, REWARDING CAREERS FOR ITS EMPLOYEES. AND WHAT HAS BEEN DONE IN THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT -- NOW THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE -- IS TYPICAL OF WHAT THE PRESIDENT IS TRYING TO DO, AND IS, IN FACT, DOING ACROSS THE BROAD SPECTRUM OF GOVERNMENT.

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BUT LET ME STAY WITH THE POSTAL SERVICE AND THE POSTMASTER GENERAL FOR JUST A MOMENT, BECAUSE THIS BRINGS ME TO THE BURDEN OF WHAT I WANT TO TELL YOU TODAY. WINTON M. BLOUNT IS TYPICAL OF THE SORT OF MEN PRESIDENT NIXON HAS BROUGHT INTO GOVERNMENT. AND I MIGHT SAY, FOR YOUR INFORMATION, HE IS A FORMER MEMBER OF THE YOUNG PRESIDENTS ORGANIZATION.

BUSINESSMEN IN GOVERNMENT

I KNOW RED BLOUNT. HE IS A TOUGH, HARD-HEADED, NO-NONSENSE BUSINESSMAN WHO WENT OUT AND PARLAYED A TWENTY-FOUR THOUSAND DOLLAR INVESTMENT IN TWO BULLDOZERS INTO A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR A YEAR CONSTRUCTION BUSINESS THAT IS ONE OF THE BIGGEST IN THE WORLD. HE KNOWS BUSINESS FROM THE GROUND UP. RICHARD NIXON DID NOT PICK HIM ARBITRARILY TO CONVERT THE POST OFFICE FROM A GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT TO A GOVERNMENT BUSINESS -- HE PLUCKED HIM OUT OF HIS JOB AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. AND THE REASON I AM TELLING YOU SO MUCH ABOUT WINTON BLOUNT IS NOT BECAUSE HE IS ESPECIALLY UNUSUAL IN THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION, BUT BECAUSE, TO THE CONTRARY, HE IS QUITE TYPICAL OF THE SORT OF MEN RICHARD NIXON HAS BROUGHT IN TO HELP MAKE GOVERNMENT WORK AGAIN.

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ACCORDING TO AMERICAN POLITICAL LORE, THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IS THE BIG-BUSINESS PARTY. I SUPPOSE THAT MAY HAVE BEEN TRUE ONCE. IT IS NOT NOW. THIS PARTY REPRESENTS A VERY, VERY BROAD SPECTRUM OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. BUT THE REASON PRESIDENT NIXON HAS TURNED TO BUSINESS SO FREQUENTLY TO ASSIST IN RUNNING THE GOVERNMENT IS BECAUSE BUSINESSMEN POSSESS, IN GREATEST ABUNDANCE, THE TALENTS NEEDED TO MAKE GOVERNMENT WORK.

IT NEEDS THE TALENTS OF MEN LIKE MAURICE STANS, SECRETARY OF COMMERCE -- HE IS A BUSINESSMAN; DAVID KENNEDY, SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY -- HE IS A BANKER; SECRETARY HICKEL OF THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT -- HE IS A BUSINESSMAN -- A BUILDER. GEORGE ROMNEY, AT HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT -- HE IS A BUSINESSMAN. SECRETARY VOLPE, AT TRANSPORTATION. JOHN VOLPE IS ANOTHER BUILDER. HE STARTED HIS EMPIRE WITH FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS, TWO HUNDRED OF WHICH HE BORROWED. FORMER SECRETARY OF LABOR, GEORGE SCHULTZ -- HE IS IN THE WHITE HOUSE RIGHT NEXT TO THE PRESIDENT NOW -- HE IS NOT A PRACTICING BUSINESSMAN -- HE IS A BUSINESS PROFESSOR.

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AND YOU CAN LOOK ALL THROUGH THE UPPER ECHELONS OF THIS ADMINISTRATION AND YOU WILL FIND MEN BROUGHT TO WASHINGTON BECAUSE THEY HAVE THE ABILITY TO MAKE THE KIND OF HARD-HEADED DECISIONS THAT DETERMINE MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY, MAXIMUM EFFECTIVENESS, MAXIMUM OUTPUT AT MINIMUM COST --THAT DETERMINES WHAT KIND OF GOVERNMENT THE PEOPLE ARE GETTING FOR THEIR MONEY. THESE ARE THE SKILLS OF THE BUSINESSMAN.

AND THESE MEN HAVE COME FROM ALL AREAS TO HELP MAKE GOVERNMENT WORK AGAIN -- TO MAKE IT CREDITABLE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AGAIN. WE HAVE MANAGEMENT SKILL IN WASHINGTON -- MEN PRIVATE INDUSTRY COULD NOT TOUCH FOR LESS THAN 300 - 500 THOUSAND DOLLARS A YEAR. AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE GETTING THEM FOR 50 - 60 THOUSAND DOLLARS A YEAR.

I WANT TO STRONGLY URGE YOU TO PLAN ON JOINING THESE PEOPLE IN POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT.

AND I AM NOT TALKING ABOUT THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH ALONE. WE HAVE TO HAVE GOOD MEN AND MEN WITH BUSINESS TALENT IN THE CONGRESS AS WELL. BECAUSE CONGRESS RUNS THE SHOW. CONGRESS CONTROLS THE PURSE-STRINGS, AND THAT IS WHERE THE POWER TO SAY "YES" AND "NO" REALLY BEGINS.

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FINALLY, BUSINESS MUST BE PREPARED TO ASSUME MORE AND MORE OF THE BURDENS WHICH GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN ON ITSELF OVER THE YEARS. THIS ADMINISTRATION, AND FUTURE ADMINISTRATIONS, -- WHICH I HAVE NO DOUBT WILL BE REPUBLICAN FOR SOME TIME TO COME -- ARE GOING TO BE WORKING TO DECENTRALIZE, TO PUT POWER AND RESPONSIBILITY OUT WHERE IT BELONGS -- WITH THE PEOPLE. NOTHING IS MORE ESSENTIAL THAN THE SUCCESS OF THIS OPERATION, AND NOTHING IS MORE VITAL THAN THE ROLE OF BUSINESS IN ACHIEVING THIS SUCCESS.

IN HIS BOOK, THE AGE OF DISCONTINUITY, PETER DRUCKER SAYS THERE IS MOUNTING EVIDENCE THAT GOVERNMENT IS BIG RATHER THAN STRONG; THAT IT IS FAT AND FLABBY RATHER ~~THAN~~ POWERFUL; THAT IT COSTS A GREAT DEAL, BUT DOES NOT ACHIEVE MUCH. THERE IS MOUNTING EVIDENCE ALSO THAT THE CITIZEN BELIEVES LESS AND LESS IN GOVERNMENT AND IS INCREASINGLY DISENCHANTED WITH IT. INDEED, GOVERNMENT IS SICK -- AND JUST AT THE TIME WHEN WE NEED A STRONG, HEALTHY AND VIGOROUS GOVERNMENT.

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DRUCKER ARGUES THAT PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS THE UNIVERSITY, PUBLIC CORPORATIONS AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, MUST ASSUME THOSE NATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES THAT GOVERNMENT HAS REPEATEDLY SHOWN ITSELF INCAPABLE OF HANDLING.

SO THE NEED IS THERE, AND WITH THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION IN WASHINGTON, THE OPPORTUNITY IS THERE, AND THE TIME IS RIGHT NOW. YOUR TIME IS NEEDED, YOUR TALENT IS NEEDED, AND MAY I SAY, SINCE THIS SEEMS AN APPROPRIATE TIME, THAT YOUR VOTES ARE NEEDED -- BUT THAT'S A LITTLE THING -- NOW, PERHAPS, MORE THAN EVER WE NEED THE CONTRIBUTIONS THAT BUSINESSMEN CAN MAKE TO THE SUCCESS OF THIS GOVERNMENT AND THIS NATION.

OVER IN OSAWATOMIE, JUST A BIT MORE THAN SIXTY YEARS AGO, -- IT WAS AUGUST 31, 1910, IN FACT -- THEODORE ROOSEVELT MADE A SPEECH, AND IN IT HE SAID, "THE HISTORY OF AMERICA IS NOW THE CENTRAL FEATURE OF THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD, FOR THE WORLD HAS SET ITS FACE HOPEFULLY TOWARD OUR DEMOCRACY; AND, OF MY FELLOW CITIZENS, EACH ONE OF YOU CARRIES ON YOUR SHOULDERS NOT ONLY THE BURDEN OF DOING WELL FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR OWN COUNTRY, BUT THE BURDEN OF DOING WELL AND OF SEEING THAT THIS NATION DOES WELL FOR THE SAKE OF MANKIND."

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THE LANGUAGE MAY SEEM A BIT ANTIQUATED NOW. BUT TODAY, SIXTY YEARS LATER, THE HISTORY OF AMERICA IS STILL THE CENTRAL FEATURE OF THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD. THE FREE WORLD, AND THE OPPRESSED PEOPLE STILL LOOK TO US, AND TO OUR EXAMPLE -- STILL CERTAIN THAT FREEDOM IS THE WAVE OF THE FUTURE. I DO NOT THINK WE CAN LET THAT WAVE SPEND ITSELF USELESSLY ON THE BARREN BEACHES OF BUREAUCRACY. I THINK WE HAVE A MORAL OBLIGATION TO DO ALL WE CAN TO INSURE THE SUCCESS OF FREEDOM IN THE WORLD, AND THE BULWARK OF FREEDOM IS A STRONG GOVERNMENT, RESPONSIVE TO THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE. BUSINESS MUST BE IN THE FOREFRONT OF THE EFFORT OF THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION TO RECREATE AND SUSTAIN SUCH A GOVERNMENT.