

STATEMENT OF HONORABLE BOB DOLE
KANSAS LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES
WICHITA, KANSAS
SEPTEMBER 27, 1971

IT IS A PLEASURE FOR ME TO BE A PART OF THIS MEETING OF THE KANSAS LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES. AS ONE WHO SUBSCRIBES TO A PHILOSOPHY OF GOVERNMENT WHICH RELIES ON INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT AND RESPONSIBLE LOCAL GOVERNMENT, I HAVE A STRONG APPRECIATION OF THE WORK THAT THE KANSAS LEAGUE HAS DONE -- AND THE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN PROVIDING GOOD GOVERNMENT TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS.

AT A TIME WHEN THE DEMANDS ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARE GREATER THAN EVER, AND WHEN THE FISCAL BASE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY ERODED, YOUR JOB IS NOT AN EASY ONE. BUT IT IS AN IMPORTANT ONE -- ONE THAT THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION IN WASHINGTON SEEKS TO ASSIST IN EVERY WAY THAT IT CAN.

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NEW AWARENESS

I BELIEVE THAT THE PAST FEW YEARS HAVE BROUGHT ABOUT A NEW AWARENESS OF THE PROBLEMS AND THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD MUNICIPAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS -- AN AWARENESS THAT GOOD GOVERNMENT MUST BEGIN AT THE GRASS ROOTS LEVEL -- NOT IN SOME REMOTE BUREAUCRATIC HAVEN IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

A VALUABLE LESSON

UNFORTUNATELY IN RECENT DECADES AMERICA SAW A DETERIORATION OF THE IDEA THAT THE CITIZENS OF STATES AND CITIES AND TOWNS AND THEIR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ARE THE BEST JUDGES OF WHAT THEIR PROBLEMS ARE AND HOW THEY OUGHT TO BE SOLVED. INSTEAD, THE TENDENCY WAS TO CONCENTRATE BOTH THE PROBLEM-IDENTIFYING AND THE PROBLEM-SOLVING AUTHORITY AWAY FROM THE PROBLEM AND AWAY FROM THE PEOPLE WITH PROBLEMS. THE RESULT WAS A HUGE, CONFUSING AND INEFFECTIVE BUREAUCRATIC TANGLE IN WASHINGTON, CREEPING PARALYSIS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AND FAR TOO FEW SOLUTIONS FOR THE PROBLEMS.

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THE SALESMEN OF BIG GOVERNMENT FAILED TO REALIZE THE PLAIN FACT THAT GRANDIOSE SCHEMES TO WIDEN THE ROLE OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AT THE EXPENSE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, BY THEIR VERY NATURE, WILL NOT WORK -- AND HAVE NOT WORKED. YOU CANNOT BUILD A VAST STRUCTURE ON A FOUNDATION OF QUICKSAND. YOU CANNOT CREATE A BETTER LIFE FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE BY CRUSHING THEIR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS UNDER AN OPPRESSIVE FEDERAL SUPER-STRUCTURE. YET THIS IS WHAT SOME OF THE ADVOCATES OF BIG GOVERNMENT TRIED TO DO OVER THE PAST 40 YEARS -- WITH PERHAPS THE BEST OF INTENTIONS BUT SURELY WITH THE WORST OF RESULTS.

UNBALANCED POWER MONOPOLY

IN RETROSPECT, IT IS SURPRISING THAT THESE MISDIRECTED EFFORTS LASTED AS LONG AS THEY DID, FOR THEY FLEW IN THE FACE OF BASIC AMERICAN BELIEFS. FROM THE FIRST, PEOPLE CAME TO THESE SHORES TO ESCAPE FROM THE DOMINATION OF OMNIPOTENT, UNBENDING CENTRAL AUTHORITIES AND THE DESPOTISM THAT INEVITABLY GROWS OUT OF AN UNLIMITED, UNBALANCED POWER MONOPOLY AT THE TOP.

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THOSE WHO SEEK THAT KIND OF GOVERNMENT CAN FIND IT ALL GROWN AND UNDILUTED IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD -- IN RUSSIA, IN CHINA, AND, TO A LESSER EXTENT, IN THE SCANDANAVIAN WELFARE STATES WHERE TAXES AND SUICIDE RATES KEEP GOING UP AS INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM AND INITIATIVE ARE WORN DOWN IN THE NAME OF COMMON GOOD DEFINED, NOT BY THE PEOPLE, BUT BY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT BUREAUCRATS.

ROAD TO TOTALITARIANISM

A FEW YEARS AGO OUR COUNTRY WAS STILL HEADING DOWN THAT DISMAL ROAD TO THE CENTRALIZED WELFARE STATE. POLITICIANS STILL CALLED ON THE PEOPLE TO LOOK TO WASHINGTON FOR INSTANT SOLUTIONS TO EVERY PROBLEM. AND AS LONG AS THEY DID, THE PROBLEMS KEPT APPEARING AND GROWING, FASTER, AND THICKER.

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REVERSING POWER FLOW

BUT THEN IN 1968, WE SAW THE BEGINNING OF SOMETHING NEW. IN HIS CAMPAIGN FOR THE PRESIDENCY, RICHARD NIXON STRUCK A NEW NOTE IN THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE. HE SPOKE OF REVERSING THE FLOW OF POWER TO THE FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY AND RETURNING POWER AND GOVERNMENTAL RESOURCES BACK TO THE PEOPLE AND TO THEIR LEADERS ON THE STATE AND LOCAL LEVELS.

IN FEBRUARY 1968 WHILE SPEAKING IN NEW HAMPSHIRE HE SAID:

"LET'S HAVE A PROGRAM IN WASHINGTON IN WHICH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, WHICH HAS THE MAJOR TAX MONEY GRANTS BACK TO THE STATES AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, FUNDS THAT THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS SPEND WITHOUT STRINGS TO HANDLE THE PROBLEMS OF GOVERNMENT.

"IN THOSE AREAS WHERE GOVERNMENT HAS TO ACT, LET'S HAVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND STATE GOVERNMENT ACT, AND LET'S HAVE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT GET OUT OF THOSE AREAS WHEREVER WE POSSIBLY CAN. FIRST, IT WILL BE MORE EFFICIENT; SECOND, IT'S CLOSER TO THE PEOPLE; THIRD, IT AVOIDS THAT CONCENTRATION OF POWER WHICH THOMAS JEFFERSON SAID IS, IN THE END, 'THE GREAT ENEMY OF LIBERTY.'"

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NOW, IN REALITY, THAT IS A CONCEPT AS TESTED AND SOUND AS AMERICA ITSELF. BUT, AFTER THE TIDAL WAVE OF CENTRALISM THAT HAD ENGULFED OUR GOVERNMENT -- STARTING WITH THE NEW DEAL AND CONTINUING THROUGH THE GREAT SOCIETY -- IT SOUNDED TRULY REVOLUTIONARY.

THIS REVOLUTIONARY CONCEPT -- OLD THOUGH THE REVOLUTION MAY BE -- HAS TAKEN SHAPE IN A BOLD SERIES OF PROPOSALS WHICH HAVE BEEN PUT FORTH TO PROVIDE CITIES AND STATES WITH THE SUPPORT THEY NEED TO DO A BETTER JOB OF MEETING THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES.

REVENUE SHARING PLANS

TAKEN TOGETHER, THESE PROPOSALS ARE KNOWN AS THE PRESIDENT'S REVENUE SHARING PROGRAM. **SEPARATELY**, THEY CONSIST OF ONE GENERAL PLAN AND SIX INDIVIDUAL PLANS TO MEET THE MOST PRESSING NEEDS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

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IN ADDITION TO THE GENERAL REVENUE SHARING PLAN TO PROVIDE 5 BILLION DOLLARS OF UNRESTRICTED FUNDS TO THE STATES AND CITIES, SIX SPECIAL REVENUE SHARING PLANS HAVE BEEN PROPOSED FOR THE AREAS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT, EDUCATION, TRANSPORTATION, MANPOWER TRAINING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN BOTH RURAL AND URBAN AREAS.

I AM SURE YOU ALL ARE VITALLY INTERESTED IN EACH OF THESE PLANS. FOR YOU COULD ALL PROBABLY RECITE COUNTLESS EXAMPLES WHERE -- IF YOU HAD BEEN GIVEN THE INITIATIVE AND RESOURCES TO DEFINE YOUR PROBLEMS OF GOVERNMENT AND DIRECT YOUR OWN TAILOR-MADE APPROACHES TO THEM -- YOU COULD HAVE ACHIEVED BETTER SOLUTIONS THAN THE ONES YOU HAD TO PURSUE THROUGH THE MAZE OF FEDERAL BUREAUCRATIC RED TAPE INVOLVED IN THE PRESENT SYSTEM.

GENERAL REVENUE SHARING IN KANSAS

THE BASIC IDEA OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S GENERAL REVENUE SHARING PLAN IS TO MAKE A LARGE AMOUNT OF UN-EARMARKED MONEY AVAILABLE FOR APPLICATION IN AREAS AND IN AMOUNTS THAT LOCAL AUTHORITIES FEEL WILL BEST COPE WITH THEIR INDIVIDUAL NEEDS. AND IT WOULD BE ALLOCATED THROUGH FORMULAS WHICH RECOGNIZE AND REWARD THE EFFORTS MADE TO GENERATE REVENUES ON THE LOCAL LEVEL. SO THE STATE OR CITY, OR OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT THAT DOES MORE TO RAISE ITS OWN INCOME WILL RECEIVE GREATER AMOUNTS OF GENERAL REVENUE SHARING FUNDS.

THE PRESIDENT HAS PROPOSED THAT AN INITIAL SUM OF \$5 BILLION BE PROVIDED IN THE FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION.

TO THE STATE OF KANSAS, THIS MEANS SIGNIFICANT DIRECT BENEFITS AND ASSISTANCE TOWARD MAKING STATE -- AND ESPECIALLY LOCAL -- GOVERNMENT BETTER EQUIPPED TO MEET THE PEOPLE'S NEEDS. KANSAS' SHARE WOULD BE MORE THAN \$54 MILLION. BUT TO ASSURE THAT SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS REACH THE GRASS-ROOTS LEVELS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT -- FREE FROM EVEN STATE-DICTATED APPROACHES TO LOCAL PROBLEMS -- GENERAL REVENUE SHARING WILL PROVIDE FOR A "PASS THROUGH" OF 53% OF THE STATE'S ALLOCATION DIRECT TO THE COUNTIES, CITIES, AND TOWNSHIPS.

FOR EXAMPLE, THIS WOULD MEAN APPROXIMATELY \$186,000 TO ALLEN COUNTY, \$2.5 MILLION TO THE CITY OF WICHITA, \$11,000 TO SOLDIER TOWNSHIP IN SHAWNEE COUNTY. AND EVERY BIT OF THESE FUNDS WOULD BE SPENT ON LOCAL PROBLEMS IN WAYS THAT LOCAL OFFICIALS FEEL ARE MOST EFFECTIVE.

OF COURSE, THE STATE GOVERNMENT WOULD APPLY ITS 47%, OR \$25.5 MILLION, OF GENERAL REVENUE SHARING FUNDS IN PROGRAMS TO SOLVE PROBLEMS AFFECTING THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS, GENERALLY. AND IN THIS AREA, THE SAME PHILOSOPHY WOULD PREVAIL. IT WOULD BE STATE OFFICIALS WORKING OUT SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS OF KANSANS, WITHOUT ANY FEDERAL STRINGS AND RED TAPE TO GET IN THE WAY.

SPECIAL REVENUE SHARING IN KANSAS

IN THE SPECIAL REVENUE SHARING PROBRAMS, BROAD GUIDELINES WOULD APPLY IN AREAS REQUIRING A PARTICULAR NATIONAL EFFORT. BUT THE REVENUE SHARING THEORY WOULD REMAIN. MONEY WOULD BE PROVIDED TO ENABLE STATES TO WORK OUT THEIR OWN PROGRAMS AND APPROACHES TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE.

PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES INDICATE THESE AMOUNTS OF AID TO
KANSAS UNDER THE SIX SPECIAL REVENUE SHARING PLANS:

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| LAW ENFORCEMENT | \$ 4,639,000 |
| MANPOWER | \$15,520,000 |
| RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT | \$20,204,000 |
| URBAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT | \$16,284,000 |
| TRANSPORTATION | \$34,786,000 |
| EDUCATION | \$31,625,000 |

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THE VITAL INGREDIENT

I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENTS NEED IS MONEY TO IMPROVE ON THE JOB THEY ARE DOING FOR THE PEOPLE. THEY DO NOT NEED -- YOU DO NOT NEED -- MORE FEDERAL SUPERVISION, MORE FEDERAL RED TAPE OR MORE NARROW SINGLE-PURPOSE FEDERAL PROGRAMS. YOU HAVE THE TALENT, THE CAPABILITY AND, MOST IMPORANT, THE UNDERSTANDING ~~OF~~ LOCAL PROBLEMS TO PROVIDE MORE AND BETTER SOLUTIONS THAN ARE NOW POSSIBLE UNDER THE PRESENT WASHINGTON-DOMINATED SYSTEM.

AN IMPORTANT PARTNERSHIP

THE PRESIDENT SHARES THIS BELIEF, SO WE ALL ARE INVOLVED IN AN IMPORTANT PARTNERSHIP TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF GOVERNMENT IN AMERICA. PRESIDENT NIXON HAS OUTLINED THE FRAMEWORK OF THIS IMPROVEMENT WITH HIS REVENUE SHARING PLANS. THOSE OF US IN THE CONGRESS MUST NOW DO OUR PART BY ENACTING THE LEGISLATION WHICH WILL ENABLE YOU TO DO THE MOST IMPORTANT PART, THE ACTUAL REALIZATION OF OUR SHARED GOAL THROUGH YOUR WORK AND THE WORK OF THE STATE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS THROUGHOUT THE NATION.

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SUPPORT NEEDED

SO I URGE YOU TO MAKE KNOWN YOUR SUPPORT FOR REVENUE SHARING. THROUGH THE LEAGUE, YOUR PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, AND IN YOUR ROLES AS VOTERS AND PRIVATE CITIZENS, SPEAK OUT. FOR THIS IS NOT A MATTER OF NARROW SELF INTEREST ON YOUR PART. IT IS A MATTER OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO THE SURVIVAL AND GROWTH OF OUR SOCIETY. IN THE THIRD CENTURY OF AMERICA'S INDEPENDENCE WE MUST HAVE GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS AT ALL LEVELS WHICH ARE RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE.

REVENUE SHARING IS A MAJOR STEP TOWARD ASSURING THE VIABILITY OF OUR SYSTEM OVER THE LONG TERM. ONCE ENACTED, IT WILL NEED YOUR UTMOST DEDICATION AND HARD WORK TO ACHIEVE ITS PURPOSE -- BUT THAT WILL COME NATURALLY. WHAT IS NEEDED, AND NEEDED NOW, IS YOUR SUPPORT AND ACTION TO MAKE SURE IT IS PASSED INTO LAW AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE.

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INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

BUT PROVIDING GOOD DOMESTIC GOVERNMENT FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IS ONLY PART OF THE JOB REQUIRED OF A NATIONAL LEADER. IN ADDITION, A PRESIDENT BEARS A GRAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTAINING AN INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE IN WHICH A FREE SOCIETY CAN GROW AND PROSPER WITHOUT THREAT OF DOMINATION BY HOSTILE POWERS AND WITHOUT THE TRAGIC DRAIN OF WAR.

PRESIDENT NIXON HAS SET OUT TO COMBINE HIS GREAT DOMESTIC GOALS WITH A GOAL TO BE SHARED WITH ALL THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD: A FULL GENERATION OF PEACE.

HIS FIRST STEP IN SEEKING THIS GOAL HAS BEEN TO MOVE TOWARD ENDING THE UNITED STATES' INVOLVEMENT IN THE VIETNAM WAR. HE HAS MADE REMARKABLE STRIDES IN THIS EFFORT SINCE TAKING OFFICE. TROOP STRENGTH HAS BEEN CUT IN HALF.

AND I AM CONVINCED THAT LONG BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR, AMERICAN CASUALTIES IN VIETNAM WILL BE AT OR NEAR THE ZERO POINT, WITHOUT ENDANGERING THE SAFETY OF AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR AND MISSING IN ACTION OR ABANDONING OUR ALLIES TO THE ENEMY.

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AND THIS PROGRESS IS COMING ABOUT BECAUSE THE PRESIDENT HAS HELD CONSISTENTLY TO A PATH THAT LEADS TO PEACE WITH HONOR, PEACE FOR OUR GENERATION AND PEACE FOR OUR CHILDREN'S GENERATION.

A NEW CHINA POLICY

THIS EARNEST DESIRE FOR PEACE HAS LED THE PRESIDENT TO OPEN THE DOOR TO COMMUNICATIONS WITH MAINLAND CHINA. HE HAS REALIZED THAT SURELY, IF WE ARE TO HAVE THIS FULL GENERATION OF PEACE, THE CHANCES ARE BETTER IF CHINA IS ENCOURAGED TO VIEW THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA AS IT REALLY IS AND NOT FROM THE VANTAGE POINT OF ISOLATION AND SEPARATION FROM WORLD AFFAIRS.

IT IS FOOLISH TO BELIEVE THAT THE FREE WORLD CAN LIVE IN PEACE WITH THE WORLD'S LARGEST NATION FOR AN INDEFINITE PERIOD IF THAT NATION CONTINUES TO SIT APART FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD IN ANGRY ISOLATION. SO, RATHER THAN CONTINUE THIS ISOLATION AND TAKE A GRAVE RISK OF WAR, THE PRESIDENT HAS MADE AN EFFORT TO ESTABLISH COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN 800 MILLION CHINESE AND THE REST OF THE WORLD. HE HAS TAKEN A RISK FOR PEACE.

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THERE WILL BE MUCH SPECULATION IN THE DAYS AND MONTHS AHEAD ABOUT THE LONG AND SHORT RANGE IMPLICATIONS OF THE PRESIDENT'S CHINA POLICY IN REGARD TO OUR RELATIONS WITH OTHER NATIONS, OUR RELATIONS WITH RUSSIA AND OUR DEALINGS WITH NORTH VIETNAM.

I DO NOT INTEND TO JOIN IN THE SPECULATION, BECAUSE I DO NOT BELIEVE IT WILL BE HELPFUL TO THE PRESIDENT'S DEALINGS WITH OTHER NATIONS.

THE PROPER PERSPECTIVE

BUT I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE TWO POINTS THAT I BELIEVE WILL HELP KEEP THE NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN PROPER PERSPECTIVE.

FIRST, PRESIDENT NIXON HAS ALWAYS DEALT IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS FROM A POSITION OF STRENGTH. HIS APPROACHES TO WORLD PEACE AND TO PEACE IN VIETNAM HAVE BEEN CONCILIATORY, BUT THEY HAVE NOT BEEN TIMID OR WEAK. HE HAS NOT MADE THE MISTAKES OF SOME PAST PRESIDENTS IN OFFERING CONCESSIONS BEFORE THEY WERE SOUGHT OR WITHOUT ASKING SOMETHING IN RETURN.

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SECONDLY, THE PRESIDENT HAS NOT MADE THIS MOVE AT THE EXPENSE OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF NATIONALIST CHINA. HE CONTINUES TO LIVE UP TO OUR NATIONAL COMMITMENTS AND SEEKS TO KEEP THE TAIWAN GOVERNMENT, WHICH REPRESENTS SOME 13 MILLION PEOPLE, PRESENT AND ACTIVE IN THE UNITED NATIONS.

I BELIEVE THAT HIS INITIATIVE HAS BROUGHT ABOUT MUCH BETTER CHANCES FOR WORLD PEACE AND STABILITY AND IS A REALISTIC APPROACH TO THE WORLD SITUATION AS IT EXISTS TODAY.

PEACE NOT ONLY GOAL

BUT, WHILE SEEKING AN HONORABLE AND LASTING PEACE IS THE GREAT ^RCONERSTONE OF THE PRESIDENT'S LEADERSHIP, IT IS NOT HIS ONLY ACHIEVEMENT.

FOR IN SEEKING PEACE, HE SEEKS THE OPPORTUNITY TO REBUILD THE AMERICAN SYSTEM FROM WITHIN -- THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVITALIZE AND RENEW THE CREATIVE FORCES OF AMERICAN SOCIETY, AND THE CHERISHED TRADITION OF GOVERNMENT OF, BY AND FOR THE PEOPLE.

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THAT IS WHY THIS ADMINISTRATION'S MAJOR DOMESTIC GOALS HAVE BEEN PROGRAMS THAT ARE AIMED AT HELPING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS DO A BETTER JOB BY GIVING THEM A FAIRER SHARE OF THE RESOURCES AND ASSISTANCE NEEDED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE.

GRATEFUL FOR LEAGUE SUPPORT

THE ENERGETIC SUPPORT OF THE KANSAS LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES FOR THESE PROGRAMS IS VITAL AND WILL BE APPRECIATED. YOUR GROUP, AND OTHERS LIKE IT, SHARE WITH THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION A DETERMINATION TO MAKE OUR SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT WORK -- TO MAKE GOVERNMENT ON BOTH THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS MORE RESPONSIVE TO THE LEGITIMATE NEEDS OF THE AVERAGE CITIZEN. FOR, AS YOU AND I WELL KNOW, GOOD GOVERNMENT BEGINS AT HOME, IN STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT. IF IT DOES NOT EXIST THERE, SOONER OR LATER IT WILL CEASE TO EXIST HIGHER UP THE LINE.

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NIXON STATES NEEDS

WHAT WE NEED TODAY -- AND WHAT I BELIEVE THIS ADMINISTRATION IS GIVING US -- IS THE KIND OF CLEAR-SIGHTED LEADERSHIP THAT WILL SEE US THROUGH A TURBULENT PRESENT TO A MORE SECURE FUTURE. THE PRESIDENT SUMMED THIS UP IN HIS OWN WORDS DURING HIS BROADCAST ON THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL.

"TO LOOK AT AMERICA WITH CLEAR EYES TODAY," HE SAID, "IS TO SEE EVERY REASON FOR PRIDE AND LITTLE FOR SHAME, GREAT CAUSE FOR GRATITUDE AND LITTLE FOR REGRET, STRONG GROUNDS FOR HOPE AND NONE AT ALL FOR DESPAIR. THE CRUCIAL CHALLENGE NOW IS TO HOLD THE HIGH GROUND OF CONFIDENCE, COURAGE AND FAITH THAT IS RIGHTLY OURS, AND TO AVOID THE QUICKSAND OF FEAR AND DOUBT."

THIS CAN BE DONE, AND, WITH THE HELP OF GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS LIKE YOU, IT WILL BE DONE.

BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE

WE CAN AND MUST STRENGTHEN PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT AT EVERY LEVEL, FROM THE WHITE HOUSE TO THE SMALLEST COUNTY OR VILLAGE COUNCIL.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE GOVERNMENT BETTER SERVE THE PEOPLE, AND IN SO DOING, WE WILL BE BUILDING A BETTER AMERICA AND A BETTER WAY OF LIFE FOR THIS AND FUTURE GENERATIONS.