

REMARKS OF HONORABLE BOB DOLE

KANSAS FERTILIZER AND CHEMICAL INSTITUTE
TOPEKA, KANSAS
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IT IS A PLEASURE TO BE WITH YOU TODAY, FOR I KNOW THAT WE HAVE A COMMON INTEREST IN KANSAS AGRICULTURE AND, PARTICULARLY, KANSAS FARMERS.

IN TODAY'S WORLD WE HAVE BECOME SOMEWHAT ACCUSTOMED TO STEADY INCREASES IN THE PRICES OF NEARLY EVERYTHING WE BUY. WE SEE INCREASED PRICES IN THE SUPERMARKET, AND WE ARE NOT SURPRISED WHEN EVERY FALL THE CAR MANUFACTURERS ANNOUNCE THAT THEY WILL INCREASE THE PRICE OF THEIR NEW MODELS. TODAY, MOST EVERYBODY IS GETTING MORE FOR WHAT HE SELLS -- EXCEPT THE FARMER. YOU ARE ALL AWARE THAT THE FARMER IS STILL RECEIVING ABOUT THE SAME PRICE FOR A BUSHEL OF CORN OR WHEAT -- OR ANYTHING ELSE HE PRODUCES -- THAT HE DID 20 OR 30 YEARS AGO, A SITUATION THAT IS SERIOUSLY OUT-OF-STEP WITH THE REST OF THE AMERICAN ECONOMY.

-2-

INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY

ABOUT THE ONLY OTHER ECONOMIC SEGMENT FACING A COMPARABLE SITUATION OF STAGNANT PRICES THROUGH THIS PERIOD OF SPIRALING COSTS IS THE FERTILIZER INDUSTRY. IN THE PAST TWENTY YEARS, FERTILIZER PRICES HAVE INCREASED ONLY 8 PERCENT. FORTUNATELY FOR OUR COUNTRY, INCREASES IN PRODUCTIVITY THROUGH SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN THE USE OF FERTILIZERS HAVE ENABLED OUR FARMERS TO MAKE A LIVING AND TO CONTINUE FARMING. IT HAS ALSO MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE FERTILIZER INDUSTRY TO SURVIVE.

THE UTILIZATION OF TWO-AND-A-HALF TIMES AS MUCH FERTILIZER AS WAS USED IN 1950 IS ONE OF THE MAJOR REASONS FOR THE GREAT INCREASE IN FARM PRODUCTIVITY AND THEREBY THE FACT THAT ONLY 16.5 CENTS OF THE AMERICAN CONSUMER'S HARD-EARNED DOLLAR IS SPENT ON FOOD.

THIS IS BOTH AN ADMIRABLE AND A DEPLORABLE SITUATION FOR OUR NATION. ON THE ONE HAND, LOW FOOD COSTS INSURE THAT AMERICANS ARE THE BEST-NOURISHED PEOPLE IN THE WORLD'S HISTORY. BUT, ON THE OTHER HAND, IT IS INDEFENSIBLE THAT THE ECONOMIC SEGMENT SHOWING THE HIGHEST CONSISTENT PRODUCTIVITY INCREASES HAS NOT RECEIVED ITS PROPER SHARE OF GAIN IN REAL INCOME.

-3-

PLAN TO CONTROL INFLATION

BUT THE PRESIDENT HAS AN ECONOMIC PLAN TO END THE EVER-TIGHTENING SQUEEZE OF INFLATION ON FARMERS AND ON INDUSTRIES THAT CANNOT READILY INCREASE PRICES. IT IS WORKING, AND HAS ALREADY BEEN EFFECTIVE IN PUTTING THE ECONOMY ON AN EVEN KEEL. AND WITH THE SUPPORT IT DESERVES FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, IT WILL BE A COMPLETE SUCCESS -- TO THE BENEFIT OF OUR ENTIRE NATION.

I KNOW THE FERTILIZER INDUSTRY IS CONCERNED ABOUT PHASE II PRICING STRUCTURES -- AS ARE MOST OTHER INDUSTRIES. HOWEVER, THE FERTILIZER INDUSTRY'S CONCERN, AS I UNDERSTAND IT, HINGES ON A PROBLEM SOMEWHAT UNIQUE WITH IT AND A FEW OTHER INDUSTRIES, THAT IS, THE LACK OF A PROFIT PERIOD DURING THE YEARS 1968, 1969 AND 1970. AS YOU KNOW, THE PRICE COMMISSION GUIDELINES MAKE NO PROVISION FOR A FIRM IN A LOSS POSITION DURING THIS THREE-YEAR BASE PERIOD.

I DO KNOW THAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS AWARE OF THIS PARTICULAR SITUATION, AND THE PRICE COMMISSION IS CONSIDERING ALTERNATIVE PRICING GUIDELINES FOR FIRMS IN SUCH A LOSS SITUATION. IN FACT, THE COMMISSION HAS INDICATED THAT MORE SPECIFIC GUIDELINES ON THIS POINT WILL SOON BE ISSUED.

-4-

PATIENCE AND SUPPORT NEEDED

AS YOU KNOW, THE AMERICAN ECONOMY IS EXTREMELY COMPLEX. AND THE TASK OF REBUILDING IT -- EVEN THE TEMPORARY AND SHORT-TERM CONTROLS OF PHASE II -- TAKES TIME AND PATIENCE.

SO, I ASK FOR YOUR CONTINUED PATIENCE WITH THE ADMINISTRATIVE DIFFICULTIES OF PHASE II. THE DIFFICULTIES AND UNCERTAINTIES WILL BE IRONED OUT. BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY, I ASK YOUR SUPPORT FOR THESE POLICIES. PUBLIC CONFIDENCE AND BACKING ARE THEIR MOST IMPORTANT INGREDIENTS. AND THEIR SUCCESS WILL MEAN A STRONGER ECONOMY FOR ALL OF AMERICA AND A MORE SECURE FUTURE FOR ALL OF OUR CITIZENS.

PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP

THE PRESIDENT'S ECONOMIC POLICY HAS BEEN DECISIVE AND HARD-HITTING. BUT HE HAS ALSO MOVED WITH IMAGINATION AND HIGH RESOLVE IN OTHER DOMESTIC AREAS, AS HE SEEKS TO BRING GOVERNMENT CLOSER TO THE PEOPLE AND MAKE IT MORE RESPONSIVE TO THEIR NEEDS.

-5-

HE HAS GIVEN LEADERSHIP AND DIRECTION TO THE UNITED STATES THROUGH PROGRAMS AND BY HIS FIRM APPROACH TO THE CHALLENGES FACING AMERICA. HE HAS WORKED A REMARKABLE FEAT IN TAKING A DIVIDED, FACTION-TORN NATION, CALMING ITS FRAZZLED NERVES AND PUTTING IT BACK ON THE RIGHT TRACK TO GREATNESS.

SO I BELIEVE A PROGRESS REPORT ON AMERICA, AS IT STANDS IN THE CLOSING DAYS OF 1971 WOULD BE IN ORDER TODAY. AND THIS REPORT SHOULD PROPERLY BEGIN WITH A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND HIS ADMINISTRATION.

FIRST, IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP IN MIND THAT, WHILE WE ARE A NATION OF PARTISANS, WE ARE ALSO A NATION UNITED. AND WHILE WE CHOOSE A PRESIDENT BY PARTISAN MEANS AND IN PARTISAN CAMPAIGNS, THE PRESIDENT WE CHOOSE BECOMES THE PRESIDENT OF A UNITED PEOPLE WHO ARE RESIDENTS OF SEPARATE, BUT UNITED STATES. AND, LIKE EACH OF HIS PREDECESSORS, THIS PRESIDENT HAS AT HEART THE INTERESTS OF ALL THE PEOPLE.

-6-

A CENTRIST

LET ME MAKE ONE OR TWO POINTS REGARDING THIS PARTICULAR PRESIDENT. FIRST, HE IS A CENTRIST PRESIDENT, AND HE WON ELECTION AS A CENTRIST CANDIDATE, FOR TO THE LEFT OF HIM WERE THE LEADERS OF THE DEMOCRAT PARTY AND TO THE RIGHT OF HIM WERE THE FOLLOWERS OF GEORGE WALLACE.

THIS PRESIDENT WAS ELECTED BY THE GREAT MIDDLE BODY OF THE AMERICAN ELECTORATE TO DRAW OUR NATION CLOSER TOWARD THE CENTER--- FROM BOTH THE LEFT AND FROM THE RIGHT. AND AS THE YOUNG LADY'S SIGN IN THE CAMPAIGN SAID SO ELOQUENTLY, "TO BRING US TOGETHER."

SECOND, I THINK IT IS WELL TO KEEP IN MIND THE FACT THAT NO REPUBLICAN PRESIDENT IN 40 YEARS HAS BEEN ELECTED BY REPUBLICANS AND REPUBLICANS ALONE. MEMBERS OF OUR PARTY CONSTITUTE LESS THAN ONE-THIRD OF THE AMERICAN ELECTORATE WITH DEMOCRATS AND INDEPENDENTS MAKING UP THE REST. REPUBLICANS, WHETHER THEY BE DWIGHT EISENHOWER OR RICHARD NIXON, NEED THE SUPPORT OF DEMOCRATS AND INDEPENDENTS TO BE ELECTED TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

-7-

THIS IS WHY REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTS TEND TO BE CENTRISTS AND WHY THEY SEEK TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROADERS WHO MAKE UP THE BULK OF OUR POPULATION, RATHER THAN GIVE EXCESSIVE ATTENTION TO SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS ON EITHER FRINGE.

I BELEIVE A PROGRESS REPORT ON THIS PRESIDENT IS WORTHWHILE. NOT NECESSARILY BECAUSE HE IS A REPUBLICAN, BUT BECAUSE HE IS PRESIDENT OF ALL THE PEOPLE AND BECAUSE HIS ACTIONS AND HIS PROPOSALS SHAPE THE DESTINY OF THIS NATION.

A LOW EBB

I THINK WE CAN ALL AGREE THAT WHEN RICHARD NIXON WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT, THE COUNTRY WAS AT A LOW POINT IN ITS HISTORY. AMERICANS WERE FILLED WITH SELF-DOUBT AND CONFUSION AND DESPAIR. THERE WAS TURMOIL IN THE STREETS AND ON THE CAMPUSES, AND THERE WAS VIOLENCE IN THE AIR.

THE THREAT OF ATTEMPTED REVOLUTION BY FACTIONS SUCH AS THE WEATHERMEN, THE S.D.S., AND THE BLACK PANTHERS, WAS REAL. THERE WERE BOMBINGS AND BURNINGS OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND SCHOOL BUILDINGS, AND SCHOOLS WERE SHUT DOWN.

-8-

THE WORD WAS OUT THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT COULD BE HAD, THAT THE PRESIDENT COULD BE BROKEN, THAT GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS COULD NOT BE TRUSTED, AND THAT GOVERNMENT ITSELF WAS ON THE VERGE OF MAJOR MALFUNCTION.

YOU ALL REMEMBER THIS. HOW COULD WE FORGET? VIOLENCE AND TERROR, AS WELL AS THE THREATS OF VIOLENCE AND THE PROMISES OF ANARCHY FILLED THE AIRWAVES, THE TV SCREENS, AND THE NEWSPAPERS. AMERICA WAS IN TROUBLE.

A TIME OF CALM

BUT NOW, FOR THE MOST PART, THAT IS PAST -- SO MUCH SO THAT SOME AMONG US ARE A BIT UNEASY. THE GREAT MAJORITY OF AMERICANS SEE THE CALM AS THE CALM AFTER THE STORM. BUT OTHERS ARE DISCOURAGED. THEY SEE THE CALM AS THE SUFFOCATING SILENCE OF APATHY, AS A SURRENDER TO THE SYSTEM, AS A DEFEAT FOR IDEALIST ACTIVISM.

RECENTLY, ONE SENATOR LAMENTED THAT THE MOOD ON MOST CAMPUSES IS UNCOMFORTABLY REMINISCENT OF THE SILENT GENERATION OF THE '50's. IN HIS VIEW, "IT'S JUST TOO QUIET AROUND HERE," MEANING AROUND THE CAMPUSES.

-9-

IN ALL HONESTY, I FEAR THAT IS A FEELING HELD BY TOO MANY
IN HIGH PLACES -- THAT "IT'S JUST TOO QUIET AROUND HERE," -- THAT
IF WE ARE TO HAVE PROGRESS, WE NEED A NATION IN TURMOIL AND CONFUSION,
THAT A LITTLE VIOLENCE IS A GOOD THING, THAT ONLY BY REVOLUTIONARY
AND SEMI-REVOLUTIONARY MEANS CAN GOVERNMENT BE MADE TO ACT OR CAN
IT BE REMODED.

NO PLACE FOR TURMOIL

I DISAGREE WITH ALL OF THESE IDEAS. AND I TAKE ISSUE WITH
ANYONE WHOSE WORDS SEEMINGLY SEEK TO INSPIRE NEW REVOLTS, NEW VIOLENCE,
MORE MOBS AND MORE DEMANDS BY THE MOB.

I TAKE ISSUE AS ONE AMERICAN WHO BELIEVES WE CAN END WARS
WITHOUT WAR AT HOME, THAT WE CAN BUILD THIS COUNTRY WITHOUT FIRST
TEARING IT DOWN, AND THAT OUR YOUNG PEOPLE CAN FIND A PLACE IN OUR
SYSTEM WITHOUT SEEKING FIRST TO OVERTURN THE SYSTEM.

I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT A LACK OF TURMOIL MEANS A LACK OF
INTEREST OR A LACK OF DESIRE OR A LACK OF CHARACTER.

I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO BE NOISY TO BE
HEARD.

-10-

THE "SILENT GENERATION"

AND I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE SO-CALLED GENERATION OF THE '50's -- INCLUDING MANY OF YOU HERE TODAY -- FAILED OUR NATION IN THE '60's AND '70's. MANY MEMBERS OF THAT GENERATION WENT TO WAR FOR THEIR COUNTRY, JUST AS MANY MEMBERS OF TODAY'S GENERATION HAVE. AND THEY EXPERIENCED THE SAME FUTILITY AND FRUSTRATION OF KNOWING WAR WITHOUT VICTORY AND AN END TO FIGHTING WITHOUT AN END TO WAR.

I SALUTE THAT GENERATION OF THE '50's BECAUSE ITS MEMBERS HAVE LEFT THE PAST BEHIND AND GONE ABOUT THE TASK OF BUILDING OUR FUTURE. THEY ARE AMONG THE LEADERS OF TODAY, AND THEY WILL BE THE LEADERS OF MANY TOMORROWS, REGARDLESS OF PARTY OR POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY.

BUT, I DO NOT BELIEVE THE PRESENT QUIET ON THE CAMPUSES INDICATES APATHY OR DISILLUSIONMENT AMONG THE GENERATION OF THE '70's. BUT, IF TODAY'S CONDITIONS DO NOT INDICATE APATHY, DISILLUSIONMENT AND INDIFFERENCE, THEN HOW ARE WE TO ACCOUNT FOR THE CALM AND QUIET THAT SOME SEEM TO FIND SO UNSETTLING?

-11-

LEADERSHIP IS KEY

COULD IT BE LEADERSHIP? COULD IT BE ACCOMPLISHMENT BY THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES? COULD IT BE PEACE ABROAD AND ACTION
AT HOME LEADING TO REFORM AND TO PROSPERITY? COULD IT BE A
REASSESSMENT AND RE-EVALUATION OF OUR NATIONAL COURSE BY MANY AMERICANS,
BOTH YOUNG AND OLD? COULD IT BE THAT THE GOALS SO MANY HAVE SO
EARNESTLY SOUGHT ARE NOW IN SIGHT AND COMING NEARER?

I BELIEVE IT IS ALL OF THESE.

BUT THE OVERRIDING INFLUENCE HAS BEEN THE LEADERSHIP AND SOLID
ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PRESIDENT.

LET US LOOK AT SOME OF THE MAJOR SOURCES OF DISCONTENT THAT
FILLED OUR LAND DURING THE LATE 1960's.

WAR CAUSED DISCONTENT

ONE OF THEM WAS THE WAR -- A WAR THAT WE NEVER MEANT TO WIN,
BUT INSISTED THAT OUR YOUNG MEN FIGHT. AND ALONG WITH THE WAR, OF
COURSE, WAS THE DRAFT.

THE WAR, THOUGH IT AFFECTED INITIALLY THE YOUNG MEN, WOUND UP
AFFECTING AND DISAFFECTING ALL SEGMENTS AND AGE GROUPS IN OUR SOCIETY.
I THINK IT IS THE MAIN CULPRIT.

-12-

BUT THERE WAS ANOTHER INFLUENCE, TOO, AND I CITE IT WITHOUT INFERRING THAT IT IS NECESSARILY EVIL OR DISHONEST OR INACCURATE. AND THAT INFLUENCE IS THE MEDIA, ESPECIALLY TELEVISION BECAUSE OF ITS IMPACT AND ITS IMMEDIACY. IT BRINGS THE LIVING WORLD INTO THE LIVING ROOM.

THE TWO -- THE WAR AND TELEVISION -- ARE INTERTWINED. THIS IS THE FIRST TELEVISED WAR. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THE BLOOD AND THE GUTS AND THE HORROR OF WAR HAVE BEEN BROUGHT INTO THE HOME AND BEEN IMPRESSED ON THE SENSES OF MOST OF THE MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN OF THE NATION.

IN ONE RESPECT, THIS MAY BE THE MOST IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION EVER MADE BY THE MEDIA. BECAUSE BY MAKING THE HORRORS OF WAR A LIVING REALITY FOR VIRTUALLY EVERY AMERICAN, TELEVISION MAY WELL HAVE PLANTED THE SEEDS OF A FIRM AND LASTING DETERMINATION THAT WAR SHOULD BE DONE AWAY WITH IN THE WORLD.

-13-

BUT ANOTHER POSSIBLE ASPECT OF TELEVISION'S INFLUENCE MAY HAVE BEEN TO HEIGHTEN AMERICAN IMPATIENCE FOR A SPEEDY END TO THE WAR AND A QUICK RESOLUTION TO OUR INVOLVEMENT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. UNFORTUNATELY, WARS AND HUMAN CONFLICT CANNOT BE SETTLED IN THE 30 OR 60 OR 90 MINUTES OF THE STANDARD T.V. FORMAT. AND, THE CONTINUING, NIGHT-AFTER-NIGHT FULL COLOR PRESENTATION OF THE WAR'S REALITY CERTAINLY DID NOT SQUARE WITH THE QUICK SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS FOUND ON "GUNSMOKE" OR "MARCUS WELBY." AND THIS MAY HAVE GIVEN RISE TO INCREASED IMPATIENCE WITH THE PACE OF THE WAR.

BUT THE WAR HAS BEEN DECISIVELY WOUND DOWN -- AND AT A SURE AND STEADY PACE BY THE PRESIDENT.

WINDS DOWN WAR

LET US SEE JUST WHAT HE HAS DONE. AMERICAN PARTICIPATION IN THE WAR HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO A VIRTUAL END. THERE IS LITTLE QUESTION BUT THAT AMERICANS WILL NO LONGER BE INVOLVED IN GROUND FIGHTING WITHIN A VERY FEW MONTHS. AND THIS MEANS THAT THE POLICY OF VIETNAMIZATION -- OF VIETNAMESE FIGHTING VIETNAM'S WAR -- IS WORKING.

-14-

IT MEANS THAT SOUTH VIETNAM HAS A CHANCE TO SURVIVE AS AN INDEPENDENT NATION WITHOUT SACRIFICING AMERICAN LIVES. IT MEANS THAT YOUNG AMERICANS NO LONGER WILL BE CALLED TO FIGHT AND DIE ON FOREIGN SOIL FOR WHAT SO MANY OF THEM THINK IS A FOREIGN CAUSE. IT MEANS THAT NOT SO MANY OF THEM WILL BE DRAFTED AND THAT MORE OF THEM WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO LIVE NORMAL LIVES. AND, THEREFORE, IT MEANS A RETURN TO THE REGULAR BUSINESS OF LIFE ON THE CAMPUS AND WHEREVER YOUNG PEOPLE HAPPEN TO BE.

DRAFT REFORMED

THE DRAFT, OF COURSE, IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE WAR. AS THE WAR HAS DIMINISHED, SO HAS THE DRAFT. BUT EQUALLY IMPORTANT, THE DRAFT HAS BEEN REFORMED DRASTICALLY, IN A WAY THAT HAS FAVORABLY INFLUENCED THE FUTURES OF OUR YOUNG MEN.

LET ME EXPLAIN. AT THE END OF 1968, EVERY YOUTH FROM 19 TO 26 WAS ELIGIBLE FOR THE DRAFT FOR SEVEN YEARS. EVERY YOUNG MAN HAD SEVEN YEARS DURING WHICH HE COULD NOT PLAN HIS LIFE AND HARDLY DARED RISK GETTING MARRIED OR STARTING A CAREER.

-15-

ABOUT ALL HE COULD DO WAS GO TO COLLEGE. THE AVERAGE YOUNG MAN WAS BITTER AND REBELLIOUS AND SO WAS HIS GIRLFRIEND. TODAY, THAT IS CHANGED. HE HAS TODAY JUST ONE YEAR OF DRAFT ELIGIBILITY, AND EVEN WITHIN THAT YEAR, HE KNOWS THROUGH A LOTTERY SYSTEM JUST WHAT HIS CHANCES OF BEING DRAFTED ARE. THUS, MOST YOUNG MEN NOW CAN PLAN AHEAD AND DECIDE ON JOBS, CAREERS, SCHOOLING, OR MARRIAGE. THE FRUSTRATION AND THE BITTERNESS ARE GONE. AND THERE IS CALM ON CAMPUS, THE CALM NOT OF WEARINESS AND DEFEAT, BUT THE CALM OF THOSE WHO ARE PLANNING AND PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE.

YOUNG SEEK INVOLVEMENT

THERE IS A THIRD ELEMENT THAT ENTERS IN -- A VERY IMPORTANT ELEMENT. TODAY'S YOUNG PEOPLE WANT TO BE INVOLVED. THEY WANT TO HELP SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF CITY AND STATE AND COUNTRY. THEY WANT A CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SYSTEM AND TO IMPROVE THE SYSTEM. LITERALLY, THEY WANT TO DO WHAT THEY SEE DONE DAILY AND NIGHTLY ON TELEVISION.

-16-

TODAY THEY HAVE THAT CHANCE. A BILL GIVING EIGHTEEN-YEAR-OLDS THE VOTE WAS SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT. HAD THE PRESIDENT VETOED IT, I CAN ASSURE YOU HIS VETO WOULD HAVE BEEN SUSTAINED. BUT HE SIGNED IT.

TODAY, YOUNG PEOPLE NO LONGER MUST DEMAND THE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE. TODAY THEY HAVE THAT RIGHT. ANOTHER NEED -- OR THE EXCUSE -- TO REBEL HAS DISAPPEARED, AND ANOTHER INFLUENCE HAS BEEN PROVIDED TO CALM THE CAMPUSES AND BRING QUIET TO THE STREETS.

BUT YOUNG PEOPLE ARE NOT THE ONLY ONES WHO FEEL MORE CONFIDENT IN THEIR LIVES AND WHO NOW FACE THE CHALLENGES OF LIFE IN THE CLOSING THIRD OF THE 20TH CENTURY, WITH GROWING ENTHUSIASM, SERENITY AND A SENSE OF NEW-FOUND OPTIMISM.

THE VERY FACT OF MORE TRANQUIL TIMES WITH OUR YOUNG PEOPLE HAS HEARTENED AND ENCOURAGED THEIR ELDERS.

BUT THE PRESIDENT'S LEADERSHIP HAS ALSO PLAYED AN IMPORTANT PART IN SHAPING THEIR ATTITUDES.

-17-

YEARS OF REFORM

THE LAST THREE YEARS HAVE BEEN YEARS UNEQUALLED FOR THE RECORD OF REFORMS AND PROPOSED REFORMS WHICH THIS PRESIDENT HAS INITIATED. REFORMS IN GOVERNMENT THROUGH GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND REVENUE SHARING, REFORMS IN WELFARE, ECONOMIC REFORMS, REFORMS IN THE POSTAL SYSTEM, REFORMS IN FEDERAL-STATE RELATIONS AND, YES, REFORMS IN THE DIRECTION OF THE SUPREME COURT THROUGH THE APPOINTMENT OF MEN WHO BELIEVE THE CONSTITUTION MEANS WHAT IT SAYS.

UNREASONABLE OPPOSITION

THESE ACCOMPLISHMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN EASILY WON, NOR WILL THE FUTURE GOALS WHICH HAVE BEEN SET FORTH. ALL TOO OFTEN, THE SINCERE EFFORTS OF THIS PRESIDENT HAVE BEEN MET WITH A RESISTANCE AND AN OPPOSITION THAT EXCEED THE REASONABLE BOUNDS OF OUR PARTISAN TRADITIONS.

-18-

CONCLUSION

BUT, I SUGGEST THAT AMERICANS -- ALL AMERICANS -- LOOK AT THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE LAST THREE YEARS, NOT AS PARTISANS, BUT AS AMERICANS; NOT IN THE CONTEXT OF WHO IS IT THEY WANT AS PRESIDENT, BUT IN THE CONTEXT OF WHAT ONE PRESIDENT HAS ACCOMPLISHED ON BEHALF OF ALL AMERICANS.

SERIOUSLY AND IN ALL SINCERITY, I BELIEVE THAT IF AMERICANS WILL DO THAT, IF THEY WILL JUST COMPARE TODAY TO THIS DAY IN 1968, THEN THE CAMPAIGNS OF 1972 WILL BE WAGED ON A HIGH PLANE, A POLITICAL PLANE TO BE SURE, BUT ALSO A POSITIVE PLANE WHERE CANDIDATES AND VOTERS ALIKE WILL BE ABLE TO SEEK AND ENDORSE WAYS TO ENHANCE THE PEACE AND TO BUILD THE NATION. AMERICANS CAN BE GRATEFUL THAT THE FOUNDATION FOR THESE THINGS HAS ALREADY BEEN LAID.