

REMARKS OF HONORABLE BOB DOLE

AMERICAN RETAIL FEDERATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.
TUESDAY, MAY 9, 1972

IT IS A PLEASURE TO BE HERE WITH YOU THIS AFTERNOON AND TO HAVE THIS CHANCE TO SHARE WITH YOU SOME OF MY THOUGHTS ABOUT THE COMING ELECTION AND SOME OF THE EVENTS WHICH ARE LIKELY TO AFFECT ITS OUTCOME.

AND, OF COURSE, THE ONE THING MOST ON THE MINDS OF ALL OF US TODAY -- THE ONE THING THAT HAS COMMANDED THE ATTENTION OF THE WORLD AND DOMINATED THE WORLD -- HAS BEEN THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO TAKE ACTION TO CUT OFF THE SUPPLY OF WAR MATERIALS TO THE ARMIES OF NORTH VIETNAM.

TOWARD AN END TO THE WAR

THIS WAR HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR EIGHT YEARS NOW. AS MANY OF YOU MAY KNOW, I HAVE CALLED FOR A FULL CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION OF ITS ORIGINS -- AN INVESTIGATION WHICH THE DEMOCRAT-CONTROLLED CONGRESS HAS NOT YET SEEN FIT TO BEGIN. BUT WHILE ITS ORIGINS MAY SEEM OBSCURE TO SOME, I BELIEVE THAT ITS TERMINATION -- AND WHO BROUGHT IT ABOUT -- IS GOING TO BE PLAIN TO ALL FAIR AND REASONABLE OBSERVERS.

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FOR IT IS THE TERMINATION OF THIS WAR THAT THE PRESIDENT SEEKS -- AND AN
END TO THE FIGHTING AND KILLING -- AND IT IS TO THAT END THAT ALL OF HIS POLICIES
SINCE HIS TERM OF OFFICE BEGAN HAVE BEEN DIRECTED.

THE HISTORY OF AMERICA'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE VIETNAM WAR OVER THE LAST
THREE AND A HALF YEARS HAS BEEN THE HISTORY OF OUR PURSUIT OF THE PEACE. THROUGH
VIETNAMIZATION, THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, THROUGH EVERY AVAIL-
ABLE MEANS, THIS COUNTRY THROUGH ITS PRESIDENT HAS SOUGHT TO ESTABLISH A LASTING
PEACE, AN HONORABLE PEACE FOR THE PEOPLE OF VIETNAM AND THE WORLD.

REDS COUNTER AMERICAN RESTRAINT

THE LATEST RESPONSE OF THE COMMUNISTS TO OUR EFFORTS HAS BEEN NO DIFFERENT
REALLY FROM ITS EARLIER ANSWERS, EXCEPT PERHAPS IN THE GREATER DEGREE OF ARROGANCE
THEY HAVE SHOWN IN RECENT WEEKS. FOR, AS YOU KNOW, THEIR MOST RECENT RESPONSE TO
OUR OFFERS OF PEACE HAS BEEN THE UNCONSCIONABLE INVASION OF SOUTH VIETNAM -- AN
INVASION WHICH THEY STILL DENY AND WHICH SOME OF THE PRESIDENT'S PARTISAN DOMESTIC
CRITICS STILL IGNORE -- BUT AN INVASION WHICH THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIETNAM AND
THIS PRESIDENT CANNOT IGNORE.

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IN THE EARLY MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, AS THE ENEMY PREPARED FOR HIS INVASION, WE SHOWED RESTRAINT.

WHILE HE BUILT ROADS THROUGH THE DMZ, WE CONTINUED OUR WITHDRAWALS.

WHILE HE MASSED HIS REGULAR TROOPS IN LAOS AND CAMBODIA, WE BOARDED OURS ON SHIPS AND BROUGHT THEM HOME.

EVEN WHILE HE INVADED THE SOVEREIGN TERRITORY OF THE SOUTH, WE CONTINUED OUR WITHDRAWALS AT THE RATE OF ALMOST A THOUSAND A DAY, COMMITTED TO SEEKING PEACE, NOT A WIDER WAR, TO ENDING THE FIGHTING, NOT INTENSIFYING IT.

COMMITMENT TO PEACE -- WITH HONOR

BUT WE WERE ALSO COMMITTED TO KEEPING FAITH WITH THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIETNAM, WITH AN ALLY ALONGSIDE OF WHOM WE HAD FOUGHT FOR MOST OF A DECADE. AND AS LONG AS AMERICAN TROOPS REMAINED IN VIETNAM -- AND AT THE TIME OF THE LAUNCHING OF THAT INVASION, THERE WERE STILL OVER SEVENTY THOUSAND -- WE HAD TO REMAIN COMMITTED TO THEIR PROTECTION.

THAT EXPLAINS THE BOMBING OF THE NORTH, WHICH BEGAN ON THE 16TH OF APRIL. IT EXPLAINS THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION ANNOUNCED LAST NIGHT TO MINE THE HARBORS OF NORTH VIETNAM AND TO INTERDICT, AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, ALL SUPPLY ACTIVITIES TO NORTH VIETNAM FROM OTHER NATIONS.

IT DOES NOT EXPLAIN -- I HAVE YET TO FIND AN ADEQUATE EXPLANATION FOR -- THE REACTIONS OF SOME AMERICANS.

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NIXON CHOICE NOT EASY

THE PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF LAST NIGHT WAS A COURAGEOUS ONE. IT WAS NOT AN EASY DECISION. IT WAS NOT, I ASSURE YOU, EASILY MADE. THE DECISION TO MINE THE HARBORS, TO INTERDICT SHIPPING AND RAIL TRANSPORTATION OF THE WAR MATERIALS INTO THE NORTH, COULD NOT HAVE BEEN ANYTHING BUT A MOST DIFFICULT ONE. IT HAS LARGE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE SITUATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. IT INVOLVES, AS WELL, THE PROSPECTS FOR THE SUMMIT IN MOSCOW.

BUT IT WAS, IN MY VIEW -- AND I THINK WE WILL FIND IN THE VIEWS OF MOST AMERICANS -- A NECESSARY DECISION. THE PRESIDENT HAS MADE PLAIN HIS DETERMINATION TO HOLD TO HIS COMMITMENTS TO OUR ALLY. HE HAS ALSO MADE PLAIN HIS DETERMINATION TO SEEK THE KIND OF A PEACE IN VIETNAM THAT WILL LAST, NOT ONE THAT WILL ONLY LEAD TO OTHER VIETNAMS IN THE FUTURE. AND HE HAS MADE PLAIN THAT HE WILL TAKE RESPONSIBLE, FORCEFUL ACTION TO SEE TO IT THAT THOSE GOALS ARE MET.

AND IN SO DOING, HE HAS MADE ONE OTHER THING QUITE PLAIN. HE HAS MADE IT CLEAR TO FAIR AND REASONABLE MEN EVERYWHERE THAT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR EITHER KEEPING THE WAR GOING, OR FOR CONTINUING THE PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE IN THE WORLD THAT HAS BEEN MADE, RESTS PRIMARILY NOW WITH THE COMMUNISTS.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS MY SUPPORT. I BELIEVE HE NEEDS AND DESERVES THE SUPPORT OF ALL AMERICANS IN THIS DIFFICULT TIME. AND I DON'T THINK THAT I HAVE TO ADD ANYTHING TO THE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS OF LAST NIGHT TO CONVINCE ANYONE THAT THAT SUPPORT OUGHT TO BE FORTHCOMING.

THE PRESIDENT'S REASONS STAND FOR THEMSELVES.

WE MUST PROTECT AMERICAN SERVICEMEN WHO REMAIN IN VIETNAM. IN THE FACE OF THE BRUTAL COMMUNIST INVASION, WHAT IS THE ALTERNATIVE?

WE MUST DO WHAT WE CAN TO PROTECT THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION. AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF THE SACRIFICES OF THOUSANDS OF AMERICAN MEN AND OUR LONG AND INTIMATE INVOLVEMENT IN THEIR DEFENSE, WHAT IS THE ALTERNATIVE?

WE MUST LET THE WORLD -- FRIEND AND FOE ALIKE -- KNOW THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL LIVE UP TO ITS COMMITMENT TO ITS ALLIES, TO ITS COMMITMENTS TO FIND AN END TO THIS WAR, TO ITS COMMITMENT TO SEEK A LASTING PEACE WITH HONOR FOR OURSELVES AND WITH FREEDOM AND JUSTICE FOR OUR ALLY.

THAT IS WHAT THE PRESIDENT SAID LAST NIGHT. AND I NEED ADD NOTHING TO HIS REASONS TO JUSTIFY A CALL FOR SUPPORT OF THE PRESIDENT IN THE CHALLENGING DAYS AHEAD.

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HIS REASONS ARE GOOD AND SUFFICIENT. THEY ARE COMPELLING. AND MEN OF GOOD WILL EVERYWHERE SHOULD ACCEPT THEM AS SUCH.

AND I BELIEVE THAT THEY WILL. THE PRESIDENT'S ARGUMENTS MAKE SENSE. THEY MERIT THE SUPPORT OF US ALL. AND I AM CONFIDENT THAT THEY WILL GET THE SUPPORT OF ALL OF US EXCEPT THOSE WHO INSIST, IN SPITE OF ALL THE FACTS, THAT IT IS WE WHO ARE AT FAULT FOR THIS WAR.

THE PRESIDENT WILL HAVE THE SUPPORT OF ALL OF US EXCEPT PERHAPS FOR THOSE FEW, WHO LIKE SENATOR KENNEDY, APPARENTLY BELIEVE THAT IT IS "FOLLY" -- THAT IS THE WORD HE USED -- TO RESPOND TO THE INTERNATIONAL AGGRESSION OF THE COMMUNISTS. DOES HE SUGGEST IT IS "FOLLY" TO DEPRIVE THE COMMUNISTS OF THE WAR MATERIAL THEY HAVE USED WITH SUCH ABANDON IN FORCING OVER A MILLION REFUGEES TO FLEE FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE PAST FIVE WEEKS?

LIKE SENATOR KENNEDY, MOST OF THE OTHER DEMOCRAT CANDIDATES FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION HAVE QUICKLY EXPRESSED THEIR OUTRAGE OVER THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION.

GEORGE MCGOVERN, WHO LONG AGO PROPOSED THAT WE ADOPT THE COMMUNISTS' SEVEN POINT PROPOSAL FOR A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF THE CONFLICT -- AND WHO WOULD HAVE US CALL THAT KIND OF SETTLEMENT PEACE? -- SAYS THE PRESIDENT'S PLAN IS "RECKLESS, UNNECESSARY AND UNWORKABLE."

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HUBERT HUMPHREY, WHO SUPPORTED THE ESCALATION OF THE WAR FOR FOUR YEARS UNDER LYNDON JOHNSON, SAYS TODAY HE "CANNOT.....SUPPORT THE PRESIDENT'S ACTION."

EDMUND MUSKIE, WHO ONLY THREE MONTHS AGO TRIED TO MAKE HIS SEPARATE PEACE WITH THE COMMUNISTS -- ONLY TO FIND THAT THE COMMUNISTS HAD LONG SINCE REJECTED THE OFFERS HE SUGGESTED -- HAS THE TEMERITY TO TELL US THAT THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL FOR AN INTERNATIONALLY SUPERVISED CEASEFIRE AND A RETURN OF THE POW'S IS "NOT THE ROAD TO PEACE."

AS THE PRESIDENT SPOKE LAST NIGHT, AMERICAN PLANES TOOK OFF ON THEIR MISSION TO MINE THE HARBORS OF NORTH VIETNAM. EVEN THOSE MINES ARE SET NOT TO GO OFF FOR THREE DAYS. IN THE INTEREST OF FAIRNESS, THEY WILL NOT BE ARMED UNTIL THE SHIPS PRESENTLY IN THOSE HARBORS HAVE HAD A CHANCE TO GET OUT SAFELY.

I DO NOT THINK IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EXPECTING TOO MUCH TO ASK OF THE PRESIDENT'S DOMESTIC CRITICS A SIMILAR DELAY, IN THE INTEREST OF FAIRNESS. OR AT LEAST IN THE INTEREST OF REASON.

THE PRESIDENT DID NOT COME BY THIS DECISION OVERNIGHT. YET, OVERNIGHT, CERTAIN OF HIS OPPONENTS FEEL COMPETENT TO JUDGE IT. OVERNIGHT THEY FEEL QUALIFIED TO CHARACTERIZE IT IN MORAL TERMS. OVERNIGHT -- IT SEEMS -- THEY HAVE

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RESOLVED WHATEVER DOUBTS THEY MAY HAVE ENTERTAINED -- AND I WILL FOR THE SAKE OF ARGUMENT GRANT THAT THEY MAY STILL BE CAPABLE OF ENTERTAINING SUCH DOUBTS -- THAT THEIR KNEE-JERK NEGATIVE RESPONSE TO THE PRESIDENT'S CALL FOR UNITY MIGHT EVEN UNDERMINE THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION.

DOES IT OCCUR TO THEM, I WONDER, TO ASK WHY IT IS THAT THE COMMUNISTS HAVE REJECTED OUR REPEATED OFFERS OF PEACE -- OFFERS THAT THE WORLD, IF NOT THE DEMOCRATS, HAS RECOGNIZED AS FAIR?

DOES IT OCCUR TO THEM, I WONDER, TO THESE MEN WHO WOULD BE PRESIDENT, THE ENORMOUS RESPONSIBILITY THAT RICHARD NIXON BEARS -- AND DO THEY REALLY THINK THAT HE COULD TAKE IT LIGHTLY -- AS LIGHTLY, PERHAPS, AS THEY SEEM TO TAKE THE CHALLENGE THEY FACE AS CANDIDATES -- THE CHALLENGE OF RESPONSIBLE DISAGREEMENT?

TO SAY THAT THERE ARE NO RISKS IN THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION WOULD BE TO DENY THE FACTS. HE HAS RISKED THE SUCCESS OF HIS PLANNED SUMMIT TO MOSCOW.

KNOWING THAT THE POLITICAL RESPONSE TO HIS ANNOUNCEMENT MIGHT BE STRONGLY FAVORED BY THE PRESSURES OF AN ELECTION YEAR, HE RISKED SOME DOMESTIC POLITICAL SUPPORT -- AND PERHAPS EVEN HIS OWN REELECTION.

BUT THOSE WERE RISKS HE WAS WILLING TO TAKE. THEY WERE RISKS THAT HE HAD TO TAKE AND THE FACT THAT HE DID, MERITS HIM THE CREDIT AND RESPECT OF ALL RESPONSIBLE AMERICANS.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS MADE A GENEROUS BID FOR PEACE. ALL THAT IS REQUIRED OF THE COMMUNISTS IS AN END TO THEIR AGGRESSION, THEIR AGREEMENT TO A CEASEFIRE AND THE RETURN OF AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR. IF THEY MEET THOSE REQUIREMENTS, THEN THE PRESIDENT HAS PROMISED A COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN FORCES FROM THE REGION AND AN END TO ALL AMERICAN ACTS OF FORCE.

THERE ARE THOSE WHO HAVE FOUND THIS UNACCEPTABLE. THERE ARE THOSE WHO WOULD BE PRESIDENT, WHO FIND FAULT WITH THIS OFFER. LET THEM FOLLOW THEIR OWN COURSE.

BUT, FOR US, FOR THE VAST MAJORITY OF AMERICAN PEOPLE, I BELIEVE THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE COURSE OF ACTION. SUPPORT OF THE PRESIDENT IN HIS DETERMINATION TO SEEK AN END TO THE WAR. CALM, DELIBERATE, PRAYERFUL SUPPORT OF THE PRESIDENT.

SHARED GOALS

HE HAS EARNED OUR SUPPORT BECAUSE HE HAS FOUGHT SO HARD IN PURSUIT OF THE GOALS WE ALL SHARE. PEACE IS HIS GOAL. AND SURELY WE SHARE IT WITH HIM.

PROSPERITY BASED ON PEACE IS HIS GOAL. AND SURELY IT IS OURS AS WELL.

NEITHER IS AN EASY OBJECTIVE. BOTH ARE ALMOST WITHOUT PRECEDENT IN THIS CENTURY. THROUGHOUT MOST OF THE FIRST TWO THIRDS OF THIS CENTURY, THERE HAS BEEN WAR OR THE THREAT OF WAR. AND THE AMERICAN ECONOMY, THROUGHOUT THE SAME PERIOD, HAS BEEN EITHER GEARED TO SUPPORT OF A WAR EFFORT, OR GEARING UP OR DOWN FROM THAT SUPPORT.

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PEACE -- AND AN ECONOMY BASED ON IT -- ARE LARGE GOALS. ALMOST REVOLUTIONARY GOALS. BUT THEY ARE NOT BEYOND OUR CAPACITY. THE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS THIS PRESIDENT HAS ALREADY MADE IN BOTH PURSUITS IS TESTIMONY TO THAT.

HIS TRIP TO CHINA AND THE APPROACHING SUMMIT IN MOSCOW, ARE GOOD REASON FOR THE OPTIMISM I EXPRESSED AT THE START OF MY REMARKS. THE MIDDLE EAST TRUCE, THE BERLIN AGREEMENT, THE NUCLEAR ARMS PROLIFERATION TREATY -- ALL OF THESE SUPPORT MY OPTIMISM.

ECONOMY LOOKING UP

AND THE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ECONOMY ARE ENCOURAGING AS WELL.

THE LEADING ECONOMIC INDICATORS HAVE BEEN RISING STEADILY FOR THE LAST SEVENTEEN MONTHS AND ECONOMISTS ARE TALKING SERIOUSLY OF THE PROSPECTS FOR A COMING ECONOMIC BOOM IN AMERICA.

INFLATION IS COMING UNDER CONTROL. THE MARCH FIGURES SHOWED NO RISE IN CONSUMER PRICES -- THE FIRST TIME THAT HAS HAPPENED FOR ANY MONTH SINCE LATE IN 1966. EMPLOYMENT IS RISING. RETAIL SALES ARE RISING. INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT IS RISING.

YOU KNOW, JUST AS THEY HAVE TRIED TO MAKE AN ISSUE OF WAR, SOME OF THE PRESIDENT'S OPPONENTS WOULD LIKE TO MAKE AN ISSUE OUT OF THE ECONOMY. THEY LOOK

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UPON IT AS AN OLD STAND-BY ELECTION YEAR ISSUE AND WITH NO MORE REASON THAN THAT -- NO BETTER REASON REALLY THAN FORCE OF HABIT -- THEY ARE TRYING TO MAKE IT AN ISSUE AGAIN THIS YEAR.

NO DEMO ALTERNATIVES

BUT ONE ESSENTIAL POLITICAL FACT OF LIFE SEEMS TO ESCAPE THESE DEMOCRATS. THEY SEEM TO HAVE FORGOTTEN THAT THE ONLY WAY TO MAKE A CREDIBLE ISSUE OUT OF THE ECONOMY -- OR OUT OF THE WAR, OR FOREIGN POLICY OR EDUCATION -- OR REALLY ANYTHING FOR THAT MATTER, THEY HAVE TO PROPOSE CREDIBLE ALTERNATIVES TO THE POLICIES OF THE INCUMBENT. AND THAT THEY HAVE YET TO DO. THAT IS SOMETHING NONE OF THEM HAS YET COME UP WITH.

ALL THE CONCERN IN THE WORLD -- NO MATTER HOW SINCERE, NO MATTER HOW ELOQUENTLY STATED -- IS NOT GOING TO STOP INFLATION, OR END A WAR, OR DESEGREGATE SCHOOLS OR COMBAT DRUG ABUSE.

IT TAKES ACTION. INTELLIGENT, IMAGINATIVE THOUGHTFUL ACTION TO DO THAT. AND THAT IS WHAT WE HAVE UNDER THIS PRESIDENT.

FOR FIFTEEN YEARS AFTER THE SUPREME COURT'S DECISION IN THE BROWN CASE, OUTLAWING SEGREGATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS, THE GOVERNMENT STRUGGLED TO END THE DUAL SCHOOL SYSTEMS. FOR FIFTEEN YEARS. AND YET IN HIS FIRST TWO YEARS IN OFFICE, RICHARD NIXON AND HIS ADMINISTRATION DESEGREGATED MORE SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAN EVER BEFORE. MORE, IN FACT, THAN IN THE ENTIRE PREVIOUS POST-BROWN PERIOD.

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IT IS THE SAME WITH THE ECONOMY. IT IS THE SAME IN FOREIGN POLICY.
PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE AND TOWARD REAL PROSPERITY ROOTED IN PEACE.

AND WHAT HAVE THE OPPOSITION CANDIDATES TO OFFER AS ALTERNATIVES? IT
IS PART OF MY JOB TO LISTEN TO WHAT THEY HAVE TO SAY, AND TO DATE I HAVE SEEN
NOTHING THEY HAVE HAD TO OFFER BY WAY OF PROMISES THAT CAN COMPETE WITH THE
PROVEN PERFORMANCE OF THIS PRESIDENT.

RAPID CHANGE AND ITS PROMISE

THINGS CHANGE FAST THESE DAYS. I AM SURE NO ONE KNOWS THAT ANY BETTER
THAN YOU WHO HAVE WATCHED YOUR OWN INDUSTRY CHANGE AND GROW SO RAPIDLY OVER
THE COURSE OF THE LAST TWO DECADES.

FOR A WHILE, I THINK, THIS COUNTRY WAS DISORIENTED BY THAT CHANGE AND
BY ITS RAPID PACE. FOR A WHILE, THERE WAS THE FEELING IN THIS COUNTRY THAT
OUR INSTITUTIONS, THAT OUR GOVERNMENT, COULD NOT KEEP UP WITH THE CHANGES.
THAT THE SOCIETY ITSELF WAS FALTERING.

BUT TODAY THERE IS PROMISE. I HAVE SEEN THE CHANGE IN THIS COUNTRY.
I AM SURE YOU HAVE AS WELL -- THE CHANGE FROM DESPERATION TO HOPE, FROM AGO-
NIZING FRUSTRATION OVER OUR PROBLEMS TO A QUIET CONFIDENCE THAT WE COULD --
AND WOULD -- FIND THEIR SOLUTION.

THERE IS PROMISE TODAY. AND I THINK IT IS IN NO SMALL WAY DUE TO THIS
PRESIDENT -- TO HIS PROGRAMS AND POLICIES, TO HIS VISION AND INSIGHT -- TO
HIS LEADERSHIP IN THESE TROUBLED TIMES.

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HE HAS RESTORED TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE A SENSE OF THEIR OWN EFFICACY --
A SENSE OF THEIR OWN CAPACITY TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF TODAY.

LARGE VISION

AS ONE OF THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISERS SAID IN 1970, UNDER THIS ADMINISTRATION,
"A LARGE VISION OF AMERICA HAS BEEN PUT FORTH." IT IS RICHARD NIXON'S VISION
OF AMERICA. AND I BELIEVE THAT DURING THE LAST THREE AND A HALF YEARS, THE
MAJORITY OF AMERICANS HAVE COME TO ACCEPT THAT VISION AS THEIR OWN. THEY HAVE
COME TO REJECT, WITH THE PRESIDENT, THE "NARROW VISION OF THOSE WHO WOULD TELL
US THAT....ALL THE SWEAT AND TOIL AND SACRIFICE THAT HAS GONE INTO THE BUILDING
OF AMERICA WAS FOR NAUGHT BECAUSE THE BUILDING IS NOT YET DONE."

AND WITH HIM, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE READY TO SET ABOUT THE TASK OF FIN-
ISHING THE BUILDING. AFTER A DECADE OF SELF DOUBT AND DISORIENTATION, THERE ARE
STRONG SIGNS THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE REGAINED A SENSE OF CONFIDENCE IN
THEMSELVES AND IN WHAT THEY CAN ACCOMPLISH.

THIS IS SO, CERTAINLY, BECAUSE OF THE NATURE OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THEM-
SELVES. BUT IT IS DUE, AS WELL, TO THE NATURE OF THE LEADERSHIP THEY ENJOY.

IT IS THE KIND OF LEADERSHIP THAT DESERVES SUPPORT.

IT IS THE KIND OF LEADERSHIP THAT MERITS A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN NOVEMBER
AND DESERVES ANOTHER FOUR YEARS TO CONTINUE THE PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN SO WELL
BEGUN IN THE LAST THREE AND A HALF.